

Fall 1996 Results Summaries

September 14th: Varsity Men and Women beat Old Dominion University in a benefit exhibition row. Many thanks to Crestar Bank for its generous donation.

September 28th: All the crews put on a show for the parents. The men's novice squad did a best-of-three series of 250 meter races in front of the docks. "Early" won the first race by a lot, "Late" won the second by a lot, and the third was almost too close to call, with "Late" claiming victory by inches (but without a finish-line judge, we'll call the result "disputed"). All the guys went away grinning - they'd only learned to feather and row all eight the day before, yet nevertheless both crews did quite spectacularly. Meanwhile, Kim was scaring the parents by describing bizarre injuries that can occur in what is essentially a pretty safe sport. Everyone devoured the bagels and cream cheese and went off to spend some quality time away from the river (what? Is there such a thing as quality time away from rowing?).

October 13th: Congratulations to the Women's Varsity Lightweight 4+, winners at the Occoquan Chase. Being the Fall Break here, only a handful of varsity squad rowers made the trip (a women's lightweight 4+, a women's pseudo-"heavyweight" 4+, and the men's heavyweight 4+), and all three crews raced well.

October 19th: An exciting and successful day out for William and Mary Rowing at the Head of the Lafayette. We won in the following events: men's varsity 4+, women's varsity 8+, men's novice 8+ (first ("Early") and second ("Late") - with only 13 seconds separating "Early" from "Late" over the 5000-meter course, as the two crews continue their epic struggles), women's novice 8+ (first (the heavyweights in the "Zander"), second (in the "Tom," close behind), and third), and women's novice 4+. The women's varsity 4+ finished second. Conditions were dreadful - the original 5000-meter course had to be abandoned because of high seas and replaced by a race which started into the wind, did a turn around the halfway buoy, and then rowed back with the tail wind. Whitecapped waves were crashing everywhere, but all crews survived with their nerves intact. A good first race for the novices and a good experience for all crews.

November 2nd: A cold day out at the Head of the Occoquan provided the expected excitement. The best William and Mary finish of the day belonged to the novice women's heavyweights, who finished fourth in the women's novice eight. The women's varsity lightweight eight also placed a close fourth (albeit with fewer competitors in its event). The novice men placed fifth and sixth (less than four seconds apart, advantage to "Early") in the men's novice eight, and the women's varsity heavyweight 4+ placed sixth in the championship 4+ event. The day dragged on longer than it needed to, when Catholic University decided to appeal to the USRA judges about an incident involving the Catholic novice women and one of our novice women's crews. Coming round a turn on the course, Catholic's cox decided to spear the Heidi, breaking off about four feet of Catholic's bow. Catholic's protest that we impeded them was denied by the USRA judges, and we finally got to go home.

November 23rd: The First Annual Colonial Challenge (Williamsburg to Jamestown and back) was won by the men's novice "Early" crew.

1997 Spring Season in Review

The 1997 season was the William and Mary Rowing Club's most competitive ever, and its first full season in the mid-Atlantic region. Tribe crew had previously competed mostly in the South, but made the shift in order to allow the full squad to compete at more races and in order to find a higher level of competition that would help propel the Tribe upwards in the world of US collegiate rowing.

Nine different crews raced with great success throughout the spring. The squad was dominated by an enthusiastic and hard-working freshman class, upon whom we hope to build the program over the next few years.

William and Mary did not attend the Mid-Atlantic championships this year because of exam conflicts which made travel that weekend impossible. While this was without doubt the right choice, it was a frustrating decision to make because many crews would have performed well. In particular, the women's varsity heavyweight four, men's freshman heavyweight eight, and men's freshman lightweight eight would all have been favorites to win their events.

The season started at home, hosting **Old Dominion, Richmond, and Towson State**. Tribe crews swept the day's races, with highlights including the two freshmen men's crews defeating the visitors' varsities. The following weekend, **Virginia Tech and American** came to Williamsburg and provided some very exciting races, the Tribe winning the women's varsity and three men's frosh events.

At the **Occoquan Sprints** in Fairfax on the following weekend, the Women's Varsity Heavyweight Four again showed its dominance, destroying the field of mid-Atlantic opposition. The Women's Novice Heavyweight Four and the Men's Varsity Four also won by large margins, while the other crews also gave their larger opponents something to worry about. The majority of the eighteen programs at the Occoquan were established long before William and Mary had crew, and some had achieved varsity-status within their college athletic departments. The Tribe's performance marks its arrival on the serious rowing scene despite its youth and lack of funding.

One week later, the Tribe traveled to DC for the **George Washington Invitational Crew Classic**, the highest level event at which William and Mary Crews have ever competed. The crews performed admirably, and the trip gave the team a taste of where it could be heading over the next few years. The Women's Varsity Heavyweight Four came in highest placed, finishing third behind only national powers Virginia and Tennessee. Tribe crews successfully handled the Dad Vail-level competition, with the men's Freshman Lightweights even giving Georgetown's heavyweights a scare.

At the **Crawford Bay Crew Classic**, William and Mary added its name to the team trophy alongside previous year's winners such as Navy, Georgetown, and Virginia, winning all but one of the events entered. The Women's Varsity Lightweight Four and Women's Novice Four had the largest margins of victory, coming in, respectively, 56 and 50 seconds ahead of the second place crews.

After having to skip the Mid-Atlantics, the season concluded at the **Dad Vail National Championship Regatta** for small collegiate programs. The time off from racing and the sheer enormity of the Dad Vails, attended by 99 colleges, produced overwhelming proportions for the inexperienced squad. While the results from Philadelphia were disappointing, all crews can be credited with having rowed their hardest against strong competition. In some cases, the heat draw was tough - the Men's Freshmen Heavyweights were narrowly pipped at the line in their heat, although they would have gotten through easily in the other heats (crews with times over 20 seconds slower got through). The Women's Novice Heavyweights were eliminated by the eventual gold and bronze medalists. The three men's crews were eliminated by a combined total of 2.5 seconds.

All crews could take great pride in their fantastic results from the whole season. William and Mary crews now know what the standard is, and can come back in 1998 prepared to raise the bar, to work a little harder, and to be ready to set the examples for the next group of freshmen. The foundations laid by 1997's competitors will serve the program well as William and Mary Rowing grows into a competitive program.

22 March 1997

Old Dominion, Richmond, Towson State at William and Mary

1000 meters (+/-), on College Creek, Williamsburg Virginia

ROWING

William & Mary Men's and Women's Crew swept all events against Old Dominion, Richmond, and Towson State on March 22. Among other triumphs, these results included victories by the W&M freshman men over their opponents' varsity crews.

After a week of flat water, a fierce wind made conditions on the James River racecourse unrowable for Saturday's race. Consequently, the rowing took place on a shortened, roughly 1000 meter course on College Creek. Weather being what it is, however, the wind swung around as racing progressed, causing a strong cross-wind and choppy water on the Creek while the James River returned to its calm of the previous week.

William & Mary's crews captured victories in each of the eight divisions reported. The closest race of the day was between the W&M men's freshman lightweight eight and Old Dominion University's varsity heavyweight eight. ODU led slightly most of the way, but with twenty strokes to go, the feisty W&M freshman lightweights stormed through to win by a third of a length.

W&M's men's freshman heavyweight eight made short work of the University of Richmond's varsity team, winning by several lengths in a quick time. The Tribe's men's varsity four and all women's crews won comfortably.

Most crews handled the conditions well. The exceptions were the Richmond and ODU Novice Women, who boated last as conditions were deteriorating and got into trouble with the conditions shortly into the warm-up and returned to the dock without racing.

On this course and under these conditions, racing took place with only two boats abreast (except for one division of varsity women). Most events were therefore split into divisions; Men's Varsity was rowed in heats and finals.

Men's Varsity Fours:

Heat 1		Heat 2		Final	
Towson	2:59	W & M	2:36	W & M	2:54
ODU	3:27.5	UR	2:43.6	Towson	3:02.4

Men's Eights:

Division 1		Division 2	
W & M Freshman Heavyweights	2:23	W & M Freshman Lightweights	2:42
UR Varsity	2:32.9	ODU Varsity	2:43.8

Women's Varsity Fours:

Division 1		Division 2	
W & M Varsity	TNT	W & M 2nd Varsity	3:21
Towson Varsity	+:04.7	ODU Varsity	3:47
UR Varsity	+:12.7		

Women's Novice Eights:

Division 1		Division 2	
W & M Novice Heavyweights		W & M Novice Lightweights	3:06
UR Novices	DNR	Towson Novices	3:20.1
Division 3			
W & M 2nd Novice Heavyweights			
ODU Novices	DNR		

29 March 1997

Virginia Tech and American University at William and Mary

1000 meters (+/-), on College Creek, Williamsburg Virginia

Conditions: For the second week in a row a nasty south wind appeared suddenly on Saturday morning, making the James River course unrowable, and moving the racing to College Creek. The wind got stronger as the racing progressed, turning from a strong tailwind to a downright nasty one. The last race of the day, women's varsity eights, was canceled due to the sudden appearance of lightning. Skies were partly cloudy and temperatures rose into the 70s.

Men's Varsity Fours:

Va Tech 2:38
W & M 2:47

Men's Freshman Eights:

W & M 2:35
Va Tech 2:36.5

Men's Second Freshman Eights:

W & M (lightweights) 2:39
Va Tech 2:53

Men's Freshman Fours:

W & M (lightweights) 2:42
Va Tech 2:44

Women's Varsity Eights:

canceled (lightning)

Women's Varsity Fours:

W & M 3:15
W & M (2nd Varsity) 3:28
Va Tech 3:32

Women's Novice Eights:

American 2:52
W & M 3:00
Va Tech 3:12

Women's Novice Lightweight Eights:

American 3:00
W & M 3:18

Women's Second Novice Eights:

Va Tech 3:17
W & M 3:49

Women's Novice Fours:

Va Tech 3:23
W & M 3:31

6 April 1997

Occoquan Sprints at George Mason University

2000 meters, Occoquan Reservoir, Fairfax, VA

conditions: slight tailwind, overcast, scattered drizzle, warm temps

ROWING: MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CREWS EXCEL

The William and Mary Rowing Club traveled to northern Virginia on April sixth to compete at the Occoquan Sprint Regatta. Hosted by George Mason University, this regatta included eighteen strong collegiate programs from the mid-Atlantic region. William and Mary came away with its most successful performance in the club's history, capturing three gold medals and placing high in several other events.

The Women's Varsity Four won its event in spectacular style to remain undefeated on the season. They blew away their nearest competitors, the University of Maryland, by nearly three boat-lengths. The Men's Varsity Four also won its event by several lengths over the second place University of North Carolina to get its season back on track and to become the first Tribe men's crew ever to win this prestigious event. The Tribe's Women's Novice Fours finished first and second in their category.

Other successful crews included the Men's Freshman Heavyweight and Lightweight Eights. The heavyweights finished a strong fourth behind only Marietta, Drexel, and Villanova and far ahead of such traditional powers as George Mason and Delaware. The Tribe was gaining steadily on the leaders in the last strokes of the race, but ran out of time before the finish.

For lack of a lightweight event, the men's Freshman Lightweight Eight had to compete against heavyweight crews, and finished a strong third in the second heavyweight event, behind only Drexel and Villanova.

The Women's Novice Heavyweight Eight finished sixth in the first women's heavyweight event, and the Women's Novice Lightweight Eight fifth in the second. The Women's Varsity Lightweight Four placed sixth in the same heavyweight event won by the Varsity heavyweights.

The majority of the programs represented on Sunday were established long before William and Mary had crew, and some have achieved varsity-status within their college athletic departments. The Tribe's performance marks its arrival on the serious rowing scene despite the College's refusal to fund the program. This weekend, William and Mary will travel to DC to face several fully-funded Varsity-status programs with decades (and, in some cases, over a century) of tradition, in what promises to be an even tougher race. National Championships will take place in Philadelphia on May ninth and tenth, and the crews hope to keep their learning curves rising through the next month.

In the men's and women's first varsity and first freshman eights, heats and finals were rowed. In other events with more than six entries, crews were randomly split into two equivalent divisions, both of which counted as finals. Events with fewer than six entries were direct-to-finals.

Men's Varsity 8+:

Heat A:

Villanova 6:13.75
Marietta 6:19.38
Lafayette 6:25.22
Old Dominion 7:01.99

Heat B:

Drexel 6:08.91
George Mason 6:11.79
North Carolina 6:27.48

Grand Final:

Marietta 6:05.17
Drexel 6:06.80
George Mason 6:10.80
Villanova 6:11.20
Lafayette 6:22.30

Petit Final:

North Carolina 6:26.76
Old Dominion 7:08.59

Men's Second Varsity 8+:

Villanova	6:08.91
Drexel	6:23.55
Marietta	6:34.15

Men's Varsity 4+:

Division One:		Division Two:	
William & Mary	7:03.00	Virginia Tech	6:55.42
North Carolina	7:12.94	Marietta	7:01.62
Towson State	7:14.77	North Carolina (B)	7:06.67
Loyola	7:23.25	Richmond	7:12.13
Franklin & Marshall	7:30.77	Penn State	7:17.00
George Mason	7:39.55	Maryland BC	7:22.22

Men's Freshman 8+:

Heat A:		Heat B:	
Villanova	6:23.01	Drexel	6:18.97
Drexel 2nd 8+	6:30.59	Marietta	6:26.39
George Mason	6:32.17	William & Mary	6:31.25
Virginia Tech	6:32.27	Loyola	7:02.66
North Carolina	6:35.38	Delaware	7:04.63

Final:

Marietta	6:12.49
Drexel 1st 8+	6:17.86
Villanova	6:22.40
William & Mary	6:24.52
Drexel 2nd 8+	6:35.04
George Mason	6:36.97

Men's 2nd Freshman 8+:

Drexel	6:24.73
Villanova	6:37.09
William & Mary (Itwt)	6:39.30
Virginia Tech	7:08.07

Men's Freshman 4+:

Division One:		Division Two:	
North Carolina (B)	7:12.42	North Carolina (A)	7:12.98
Loyola (A)	7:18.69	American	7:23.71
George Mason	7:36.26	Virginia Tech	7:51.42
Franklin & Marshall	7:40.50	Old Dominion	7:54.26
Loyola (B)	8:16.84	Maryland BC	8:07.83
Penn State	8:29.39		

Women's Varsity 8+:

Heat A:		Heat B:	
Marietta	6:58.48	Delaware	7:00.47
Drexel	7:00.01	Virginia Tech	7:09.31
North Carolina	7:00.37	Loyola	7:14.79
George Mason	7:06.34	Maryland BC	no time

Finals:

North Carolina	6:49.30
Delaware	6:49.90
Marietta	7:01.00
Drexel	7:06.60
Loyola	7:14.14
Virginia Tech	7:15.60

Women's Second Varsity 8+:

Delaware	7:09.04
North Carolina	7:16.43
George Mason	7:17.86
Marietta	7:26.37
Richmond	7:51.62

Women's Varsity 4+:

Division One:

William & Mary (hvw)	7:49.06
Maryland BC (A)	8:01.92
Maryland BC (B)	8:12.98
Franklin & Marshall (A)	8:20.50
Richmond	8:21.86
William & Mary (ltwt)	8:43.78

Division Two:

Towson State	7:58.36
North Carolina	8:09.49
Penn State	8:36.81
Virginia Tech	8:37.31
Franklin & Marshall (B)	8:38.36
Old Dominion	9:03.78

Women's Novice Eights:

Heat A:

Villanova	7:11.20
North Carolina	7:31.57
Delaware	7:50.93
Towson State	8:03.22
Loyola	8:03.64

Heat B:

American	7:11.06
George Mason	7:17.56
William & Mary	7:38.29
Maryland BC	7:50.96
Virginia Tech	8:03.21
Old Dominion	8:25.49

Finals:

Villanova	7:06.75
American	7:14.66
George Mason	7:16.37
North Carolina	7:23.80
Delaware	7:41.62
William & Mary	7:45.13

Women's Second Novice 8+:

North Carolina	7:25.98
George Mason	7:26.47
Villanova	7:27.47
Delaware	7:36.77
William & Mary (ltwt)	8:02.72
Virginia Tech	8:32.72

Women's Novice 4+:

Division One:

Loyola (A)	8:39.56
Loyola (B)	8:51.31
Franklin & Marshall	9:21.44
Maryland BC	9:48.91
Virginia Tech (A)	10:09.25
North Carolina	breakage

Division Two:

William & Mary (A)	8:52.80
William & Mary (B)	9:16.94
Virginia Tech (B)	10:27.96
Penn State	no show
St. Mary's	no show

12 April 1997

George Washington Invitational at George Washington University

four-lane racecourse, 2000 meters, Potomac River, Washington DC

conditions: overcast, rain, calm water in the morning heats raced against the tide, moderate cross-wind and slightly bumpier water raced with the tide in the afternoon finals.

ROWING: CREW COMPETES WELL AT HIGH-LEVEL MEET

The Rowing Club traveled to DC on April twelfth to participate in the George Washington Invitational Crew Classic, the Tribe Crew's first-ever appearance at such a high-level event.

At many colleges, crew is a long-established and fully-funded varsity sport. The Rowing Club at William and Mary was founded in 1988 and only has club-status. This made the Tribe crew the youngest and least-funded program of the thirteen colleges at the regatta. Although William and Mary regularly competes against older and better-funded programs, this is the highest level event the club has ever attended, and the crews performed admirably.

The Women's Varsity Four turned in the best performance of the day, finishing third behind only Tennessee and Virginia. The Men's Varsity Four was eliminated in its heats by powerful crews from the US Naval Academy and Virginia, but took consolation in defeating St. Joseph's handily.

The Tribe's freshman crews raced hard once again this week. The Men's Freshman Lightweight Eight, the only men's lightweight crew at the regatta, mounted a fierce challenge to the Georgetown heavyweights, but fell just short in its heat. The Freshman Heavyweight Eight finished seventh in the finals, nipping at the heels of midwestern power Ohio State, but was the highest placing crew from a non-funded program. On the women's side, GW and Columbia proved too tough for the Novice Heavyweight Eight in its heat, while the Novice Lightweight Eight was eliminated by Columbia and Georgetown.

Although they failed to bring home any medals this week, the crews gained enormously from their experience racing against first division opponents, and the club gained valuable exposure to high-level rowing for the first time. Preparations continue for next month's division three national championships.

Men's V8+:

Heat A:		Heat B:	
Navy	5:56.49	GW	6:00.66
Mason	6:10.42	G'town	6:03.25
UVA	6:12.20	Ohio State	6:06.07
St. Joe's	6:13.78		

Grand Final:		Petit Final:	
Navy	6:01.10	Ohio State	6:12.34
G'town	6:04.35	St. Joe's	6:19.21
GW	6:10.27	UVA	6:20.08
Mason	6:24.48		

Men's 2V8+:

Heat A:		Heat B:	
Navy	6:02.30	G'town	6:07.00
Ohio State	6:17.29	St Joe's	6:12.06
UVA	6:21.14	GW	6:16.80

Grand Final:		Petit Final:	
Navy	6:06.71	GW	6:24.00
G'town	6:12.34	UVA	6:29.11
St. Joe's	6:13.26		
Ohio State	6:28.86		

Men's V4+:

Heat A:		Heat B:	
Navy	6:55.40	Hopkins	6:59.12
UVA	7:13.71	G'town	7:11.23
W&M	7:24.51	UMBC	7:22.84
St Joe's	7:43.26	Mason	7:34.99

Grand Final: (no petit)

Navy	6:44.79
Hopkins	6:56.53
G'town	7:01.05
UVA	7:21.39

Men's F8+:

Heat A:		Heat B:		Heat C:		
Navy	6:00.67	GW	6:13.30	UVA	6:06.14	
St Joe's	6:03.03		OSU	6:21.02	G'town	6:07.81
Delaware	6:48.40		Mason	6:38.30	W&M	6:31.56

Grand Final:

Navy	6:11.50
St Joe's	6:13.46
UVA	6:14.06
GW	6:22.30

Petit Final:

G'town	6:17.51
OSU	6:29.56
W&M	6:38.10
Mason	6:47.34

Men's 2F8+:

Heat A:		Heat B:	
Navy	6:13.93	UVA	6:20.80
OSU	6:28.96	G'town	6:38.94
GW	6:34.35	W&M Itwt	6:42.89
		Delaware	scratch

Grand Final:

(no petit)

Navy	6:16.70
UVA	6:24.53
OSU	6:27.83
G'town	6:36.81

Women's V8+:

Heat A:		Heat B:	
UVA	6:33.50	GW	6:46.90
G'town	6:49.22	Columbia	6:55.56
Delaware	6:58.02	Mason	7:07.37
St Joe's	7:16.55		

Grand Final:

UVA	6:38.83
G'town	6:44.04
GW	6:48.07
Columbia	7:01.44

Petit Final:

Delaware	7:06.60
Mason	7:15.80
St. Joe's	7:17.93

Women's VL8+:

Direct-to-Final:

UVA	7:05.09
GW	7:10.09
G'town	7:11.89
Tenn	7:27.00

Women's 2V8+:

Heat A:		Heat B:	
UVA	6:50.29	Columbia	7:00.65
GW	7:07.66	G'town	7:01.67
Mason	7:23.56	Delaware	7:07.11
		St Joe's	7:38.90

Grand Final:		Petit Final:	
UVA	6:55.88	Delaware	7:20.30
GW	7:07.83	Mason	7:27.98
G'town	7:11.68	St. Joe's	8:03.47
Columbia	7:14.60		

Women's V4+:

Heat A:		Heat B:	
UVA	7:47.15	Tennessee	7:51.46
W&M	8:04.03	Hopkins	8:03.62
	UMBC		8:15.87

Final:

Tenn	7:33.10
UVA	7:38.12
W&M	7:57.87
Hopkins	8:00.54

Women's VL4+:

Heat A:		Heat B:	
UVA	7:59.43	St Joe's	8:06.80
UMBC	8:33.42	GW	8:16.04
Hopkins	no time	W&M	9:06.39

Grand Final: (no petit)

UVA	7:54.40
St Joe's	8:00.47
GW	8:19.98
UMBC	8:43.10

Women's N8+:

Heat A:		Heat B:		Heat C:	
UVA	6:57.69	G'town	7:05.20	GW	7:03.13
Mason	7:21.27	Tenn	7:06.83	Columbia	7:07.49
St Joe's	7:21.71	Delaware	7:28.66	W&M	7:38.80

Grand Final:		Petit Final:	
UVA	7:01.90	Columbia	7:14.05
Tenn	7:14.32	Mason	7:24.71
G'town	7:18.84	St Joe's	7:27.93
GW	7:31.76	Delaware	7:43.48

Women's 2N8+:

Heat A:		Heat B:	
UVA	7:08.11	Columbia	7:29.99
GW	7:56.43	G'town	7:30.35
Delaware	scratch	W&M Itwt	8:07.01

Final:

UVA	7:04.14
G'town	7:27.76
Columbia	7:37.53

GW

7:49.07

Flat Hat, 25. April 1997

ROLLIN' ON THE RIVER

by Steve Mencarini, Sports Editor

A developing squad such as the William and Mary crew team can run into many problems. After its creation in 1988, the team is finally finding a niche in the athletic lives of students.

One dilemma in the past has been getting members to commit for the entire year. After fall semester, many people usually drop off the team.

"There is more dedication in this team," junior Danielle Abate said. "This team is willing to work harder."

"In the past, after freshman year, people rarely came back. It [the crew team] never offered enough to make it worthwhile," men's head coach Charles Ehrlich said.

Funding is another huge problem for the sport. Since crew is classified as a club sport, the team receives little aid from the school. The club raises a majority of its money through a row-a-thon, raffle, car washes and participation fees of \$200 per semester.

Because crew is a club sport, a board of students control the team. The board is in charge of hiring coaches, paying the coaches' salaries, arranging transportation, choosing the races, voting on equipment and paying the bills. Right now, the team is paying off two boats and is looking to buy more boats at a cost of \$10,000 to \$20,000 each. "It's like running a business," vice-president Tara Eng, a junior, said.

This year, the crew team consists of 62 men and women. A vast majority of the squad is made up of freshmen. This makes for an inexperienced team, as most of the freshmen do not have the rowing experience from high school.

"I thought it was a pretty sport. I wanted to be part of a team that works hard," Abate, who started to row crew as a freshman, said.

"Our biggest goal is to keep people on the team and build the varsity," Eng said.

Racing against larger schools has given the freshmen a taste of what it's like to row at a high level.

"One of the nice things about the sport," Ehrlich said, "is that it gives students that normally wouldn't play a sport in college the opportunity to compete with an inter-collegiate schedule."

As the crew team expands, the number of races the squad rows in also increases. The board redesigned the spring schedule to row in larger races against more-funded opponents. The team will travel to Philadelphia for the season finale at the Dad Vail Championship Regatta. About 50 schools will row in this big event. The crew is in Division III and will face other schools including Villanova, Delaware, George Mason, Purdue, Marietta, Drexel, Temple, and Florida Tech.

"We've competed against some of the bigger schools like UVa. and Virginia Tech, so I think that we should do all right," junior Josh Wolfe said.

Hard work and dedication are key characteristics of rowers. The crew teams practices six days a week for about two hours on College Creek and the James River. In the off-season, a strict training schedule is maintained.

So far, the practice has paid off and other schools are starting to recognize W&M's potential. "Our teams are starting to get respect," freshman Joann Atallah said. "It is something we can work on."

"We have the potential to become a really good team," Eng said. "But we have to raise our own money. We have only five raceable boats and it's hard to build a team without equipment."

However, under new leadership and with a brand new crop of freshmen, the team is looking to build on a solid foundation.

26 April 1997

Crawford Bay Crew Classic

2000 meters, 4-lane course, Elizabeth River, Portsmouth VA

Conditions: 70s, hot sun, headwind, swells and mysterious wakes

This regatta was supposed to be held in late March. As a result of the changed date, many of the usual competitors decided not to come. In addition, many of the colleges which were still planning on coming scratched some or all of their entries. As a result, this rapidly turned into an exhibition event for William and Mary crews.

The regatta organizers assure us that the regatta will be held on its proper date next year, and we very much hope that the competition will return. We would very much like to see strong mid-Atlantic and southern

crews come to this part of the world, as well as any crews from the northeast and mid-west that will be passing through on Spring Break. The organizers offered extreme hospitality to non-local crews – free accommodation and food. Exams necessitated that this be a quick day-trip for us.

Men's Eight:

William & Mary (Frosh Heavyweights) 6:31.90

William & Mary (Frosh Lightweight) 6:44.46

Old Dominion (Varsity) 7:10.97

Men's Varsity Four:

Towson State 7:18.97

William & Mary 7:24.28

Catholic 7:31.07

Men's Novice Four:

Old Dominion 7:58.64

St Mary's (2nd Varsity) 8:10.78

Mary Washington (mixed sex) 8:23.05

Catholic 8:34.84

Women's Varsity Four:

Heat One:

Old Dominion 10:23.4

Mary Washington 10:23.9

Catholic 11:05.1

Heat Two:

William & Mary 9:09.5

Towson State 9:47

St Mary's 10:02

Final:

William & Mary 8:00.96

Towson State 8:17.30

Old Dominion 9:02.89

Mary Washington 9:02.96

Women's Second Varsity Four:

William & Mary (Lightweights) 9:16.40

St. Mary's 10:12.15

Women's Novice Eight:

William & Mary (Heavyweights) 7:48.87

Towson State 8:19.23

William and Mary (Lightweights) 8:22.29

Old Dominion 8:32.67

Women's Novice Four:

William & Mary 9:15.6

Catholic 10:05.6

Mary Washington 10:41.4

9-10 May 1997

Dad Vail National Championships

2000 meters, Schuylkill River, Philadelphia PA

While the results from Philadelphia were disappointing, all crews can be credited with having rowed their hardest against strong competition. In some cases, the heat draw was tough - the men's freshmen heavyweights were narrowly pipped at the line in their heat, although they would have gotten through easily in the other heats (crews with times over 20 seconds slower got through). The women's novice heavyweights were eliminated by the eventual gold and bronze medalists. The three men's crews were eliminated by a combined total of 2.5 seconds. These were frustrating results, to say the least.

On the other hand, the crews can take great pride in their fantastic results from the whole season. William and Mary crews now know what the standard is, and can come back next year prepared to raise the bar, to work a little harder, and to be ready to set the examples for next year's freshmen. The foundations laid by this year's competitors will serve the program well as William and Mary Rowing grows into a competitive program.

Crew Line-ups for the Dad Vail National Championships 1997

MEN

Coach: Dr CE Ehrlich

	FH8+	FL8+	VH4+
B	AD Ayers '00	NJ Valvanis '00	
2	AT Leback '00	SR Harmon '98	
3	PR Pierce '98	AT Eskola '00	
4	JA Ehrenfeld '99	AL Burgoyne '00	
5	MK Chakraborty '00	TG Lee '00	JT Wolfe '98
6	DV Smith '00	AR Dvarskas '00	ND Stump '99
7	MS Fitzpatrick '00	BP Tighe '00	KT Stier '98
S	MS Kearney '00	BM Hagan '00	TA Kovacs '98
C	CL Davis '00	ME Holt '00	KT Crouch '99

HEAVYWEIGHT WOMEN

Coaches: GC Livingston (V4+, N8+), BR Brunelle (N4+)

	V4+	N8+	N4+
B		EE Grant '00	
2		CM Howard '00	
3		AS Wilkinson '00	
4		AC Carpenter '00	
5	TL Eng '98	JY Atallah '00	PE McInturff '00
6	DM Abate '98 (capt)	CA DiSalvo '00	SK West '00
7	N Hiteshue '98	NE Clancy '00	SA Santillo '00
S	SMA Spink '99	KE Roche '00	AE Haines '00
C	RK Drea '00	JP Saks '00	SM Kane '00

LIGHTWEIGHT WOMEN

Coaches: JL Woodward, BR Brunelle

	V4+	N8+
B		KE Link '00
2		JL Hajinlian '00
3		LJ Hoipkemeier '00
4		SK Stolpe '99
5	SM Jardin '99	MR Steele '00
6	BA Ashworth '97	LM Orth '00
7	EC Gledhill '00	MN Gilliam '00
S	JL Bresler '98	MC Raffo '99
C	CL Cox '00	CL Brownlee '00

