

One Vision: California Lightweight Crew

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WOMEN'S NOVICE 8+ WINS DAD VAILS Jessica Dzubnar

The Dad Vail Regatta was the culmination of our journey as a novice team. Through love for the sport and each other, all of the right pieces fell into place for this epic conclusion.

Our 8+ was hardly conventional. Our gaiety at the start line, though some would call a lack of focus, served as our best offense—we threw our opponents off of their game and enhanced ours. I have never had a bet-

ter row. I drove to my threshold every stroke. Not only did we want to win for us, but for all who have worn the Cal Lightweight unisuit. It was about pulling for the girl in front of you and knowing they were doing the same.

I look back on Dad Vails with reverence and nostalgia for the women and the program that changed my life. No medal or merit could justify my pride because I found true friends

and reassurance that no opportunity should be wasted. What happens on the water stays on the water, but what you learn out there stays with you for life.



MEN'S VARSITY 8+ WINS SAN DIEGO CREW CLASSIC Cal Trembath

The 2008 San Diego Crew Classic brought a revival of the Men's Collegiate Lightweight Event after a hiatus of five years. More signifi-



cantly, it brought the resurgent Cal Lightweight Men, and they made a name for themselves by winning the Secretary of the Navy Cup for the first time in decades. After a dramatic weigh in that came down to a tenth of a pound and garnered a triumphant picture splashed across the pages of the San Diego Tribune, the 8+ hit the water, confident of their speed, but wary of their competition. After winning the heat, the

Lights battled Texas through the first 1500 meters in the final, before pushing away in the last quarter to win by a margin of three and a half seconds. The victory earned them gold medals, a trophy, and a slew of tanks from around the country. More importantly, it focused their training into the second half of the season, exposing weak spots and highlighting strengths to push them into national contention for the first time in years.

A COX'S PERSPECTIVE Jjean Li

They often say that identity is everything. What identifies a team more than the name on the front of a uniform? One of our sport's more enduring traditions is the exchange of shirts after a hard fought race. To present your uniform to the guy who defeated you is one of the most humiliating experiences, but to receive that shirt is one of the most rewarding. My first year of collegiate rowing has allowed me to experience both sides of the exchange. In a normal sport, the loser can go hide in the locker room; in rowing, an unspoken rule requires a competitor to present himself to the victors with shirt in hand and

pride in his back pocket. On the flip side, a collection of shirts represents hours of painstaking labor before the sun rises and accomplishment in conquest. In my experience at Cal, the shirt exchange often leads to a dialogue between two competitors and ends with an expression of mutual respect. Knowing what I had gone through to earn my seat and the right to represent the Cal Lightweights on that day, I feel humbled when I realize that my opponent went through something quite similar. Because there is little to no glory in rowing, the journey is just as important as the result.

This is what makes rowing so special.

SPRING SEASON OUTLOOK Varsity Coaches Morgan Allen & Rich Wendling

This spring, the men's lightweight team will race heavyweights at the Pac-10 Challenge (Windermere), San Diego Crew Classic, and WIRAs. To prepare, we have been developing a high level of base fitness, and based on our erg times, we should field a faster crew this season. This, combined with our hard work on the water, gives us tremendous amounts of hope that we can win the Varsity Lightweight 8+ at Dad Vails in May.

The women's team is just coming off of their winter training week, where we focused on conditioning and technique. Our core group is back from the most successful season in team history. This year's squad understands that they will need to train harder and with greater determination to build on last year's success. They are gaining more confidence in their abilities as a competitive team every day. This year's team has great

potential and a lot of energy; they are poised to have another good season.

Upcoming Races: (both squads)

Sac State Invite 3/14

Windermere 3/28-3/29

San Diego CC 4/4-4/5

WIRAs 5/2-5/3

Dad Vails 5/8-5/9

PCRCs 5/16



ALUMNI UPDATES (see cal-lightweights.org for complete version)

Chris Ling '02 is working at Solaria; **Andres Davidovits '96** is getting married; **Jeremy Fish '84** is running marathons; **Eric Scriven '85** is living in Napa; **Emily Matienzo '04** is applying for a PhD; **Winston Tseng '02** is out of shape in NYC; **Robert Benun '84** won an Academy Award; **Jim Evart '74** is a professional pilot; **Paul Kommer '88** is coaching basketball; **Ronald Sjostedt '82** is teaching in Morgan Hill; **Evan Morris '02** bought

his first Harley; **Melissa Schwab '04** is living in Jerusalem; **Joshua Shapiro '97** is potty training his daughter; **Benjamin Sae-Tang '00** still ergs; **Carl Tharp '05** is skiing; **Dirk Van Vuren '72** is teaching wildlife biology at UC Davis; **Roger Yu '00** is moving to Boston; **Greg Moe '05** is getting a Master's degree; **Raymond Chetty '05** is working at the Carnegie Institution for Science; **Mike Daniel '87** is trading with Credit Suisse; **Nicholas**

Ware '79 is working in Singapore; **Charles Griffin '86** is a "jungle gym" for his 3-year-old; **Stephanie Hutsell '03** is rowing with the Carolina Masters; **Ian Formigle '95** is a CEO; **Farid Tamjidi '84** owns an architecture firm in SF; **Jonathan Davidorf '87** is playing tennis; **Daniel Diaz '91** is awaiting his second child; **Rich Lee '95** is a perinatologist in LA.

See more on
cal-lightweights.org



CAL LIGHTWEIGHTS: ON THE HORIZON Bruno Mehech

With the Oakland Strokes boathouse nearing completion, the men's team will have a home again and be able to take proper care of their equipment. We are starting to fundraise to replace equipment that has been stored outside over the last few years. Our first goal is to buy a new set of oars and an 8+ racing shell. To help do this, donors can give to our 'Boat Gifts' fund, where we will reserve donations for that purchase. If you wish to donate to either the Boat Gifts fund or the Martz fund (our endowment), please use the forms included with this letter. Thank you!



If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to your team, you can:

- Go to www.cal-lightweights.org and follow the link at the bottom of the Alumni page
- Mail the attached form and a check payable to "UC Regents" to the address below

We appreciate your continued support!

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