

Rowing...



At the

University

of

Wisconsin



Naval Department

MORRIS F. FOX, Commodore
EARL B. ROSE Vice-Commodore
E. L. JORDAN, Captain
ANDREW M. O'DEA, Coach

University of Wisconsin



Athletic Association.

C. H. KILPATRICK, Graduate Manager.

EVER since the arrival of Mr. Andrew O'Dea as coach in 1895 rowing has been one of the most popular of the athletic sports at the University of Wisconsin.

When Mr. O'Dea first came here it was with great difficulty that he was able to secure enough men to make up a first and a second "Varsity" eight-oared crew.

This year over 150 men have been competing for places on the 'Varsity and Freshmen Crews.

Early in the fall Mr. O'Dea issues a call to candidates for positions on the Freshman boat and usually about 125 respond. These men are formed into squads and put to work a half hour each day on rowing machines in the Gymnasium where they learn the form of the stroke, the use of sliding seat, how to row in unison, and in addition receive physical training, valuable because of its regularity, its slow but steady increase in quantity, and its entire

absence from liability to accident or strain. Until the weather becomes too cold an occasional tryout is made in "shells" on the water.

This kind of work is continued until December when the men are given a rest until the first of January. At this time a second call is issued for Freshmen and this is the last chance for any fellow to put in an application who wishes to make a try for a place on the Freshmen Crew. The work on the machines, with the addition of certain prescribed gymnasium work and running on the track, is continued until about the first of March. The squad is then cut down to about fifty.

Toward the first of February a call is issued to all the veterans from the Freshmen and 'Varsity squads of previous years, to begin work for places on the 'Varsity Crew.

About March fifteenth the Yahara river usually opens so that the freshmen may there be instructed, in pair-oared gigs, on the use of the blade, the form, etc. In two weeks or less Lake Mendota is open and both the 'Varsity and Freshmen, first and second eights are taken for a two hour's row every day,



1903 Varsity Crew in Practice on Mendota

Mr. O'Dea accompanies them in the coaching launch "John Day" (named after a former Varsity oarsman who was drowned), from which he carefully observes the rowing of each squad and criticizes the individual and collective work of its men.

This work continues with unceasing regularity and care up to the close of school in June.

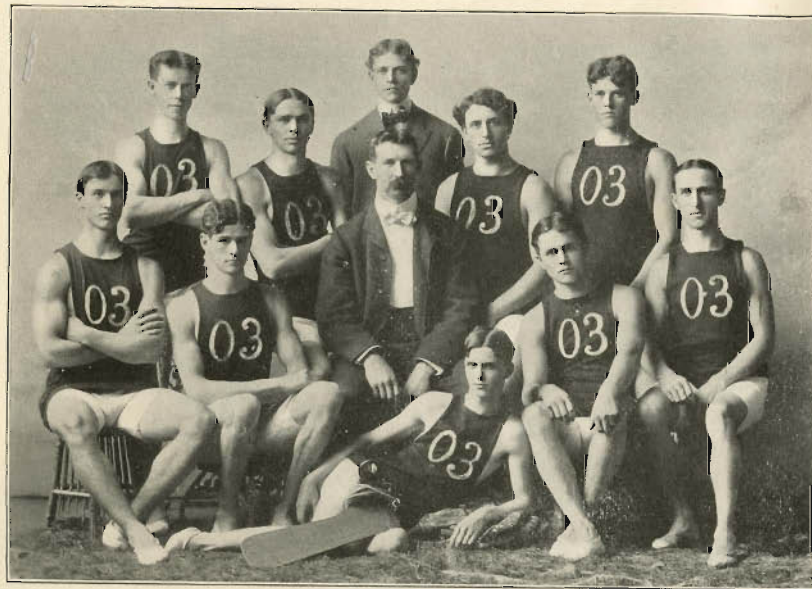
A race is held each spring on Memorial Day between the Freshmen Crew and the St. Johns' Military Academy which the Freshmen have always won by several lengths.

There are as yet no other university crews in the middle west against whom Wisconsin may measure her strength and skill.

SINCE 1896 Wisconsin has sent one or more crews to Eastern regattas and since 1899 her crews have competed annually in the big Inter-Collegiate races at Poughkeepsie-on-the-Hudson, N. Y. These races are participated in by crews representing Cornell, Columbia, Pennsylvania, Syracuse, Georgetown and Wisconsin Universities. Here Wisconsin is matched against the best crews in the United States.

The odds against which Wisconsin crews have worked are tremendous and can hardly be appreciated by one not familiar with the conditions. Owing to the ice on the Madison lakes, our crews are often a month later than our eastern competitors in getting onto the open water. We have no one near by with whom we can measure our speed or strength before going East. Yet in spite of the short season on the water, and the long trip East, Wisconsin crews, side by side with the best in the United States, have won one Freshman race, all but won a 'Varsity race, and have always made a very creditable showing.

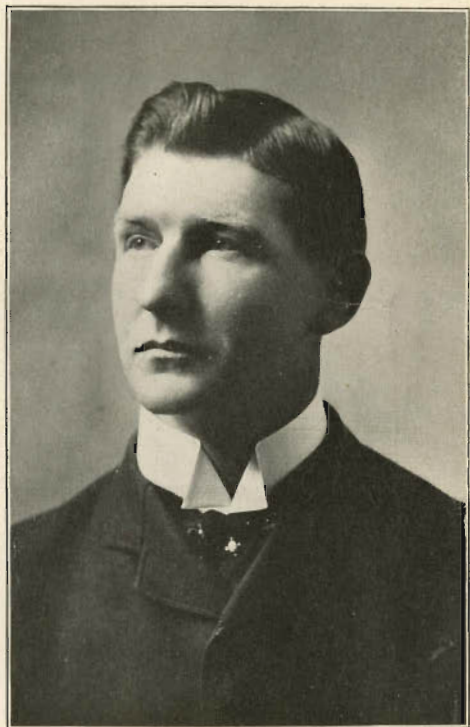
It will thus be seen that those elements of professionalism sometimes presents in other forms of athletics are entirely absent in rowing. No oarsman can be picked from the graduating classes of our preparatory schools, and no man can secure his seat in a boat until he has been in



Quigley	Gaffin	Murphy (Com.)	Stevenson	Levisce
Armstrong (Capt.)	Murphy	O'Dea (coach)	Trevvarthen	Werner
			Sawyer	

Freshman Crew in 1900, who Won the Freshman Race at Poughkeepsie college nearly a year. If he be a poor student, he is dropped from the list in April, if not already "conned" out of the University. When a man makes one of the boats in his freshman year, he almost invariably continues to row for his entire four years.

When we stop to consider that nearly 150 men receive



ANDREW M, O'DEA, Coach



"Pa" JORDAN, Captain 1904 'Varsity Crew

training in the naval department for four months and at least fifty men for six months, we realize, in comparing the crews with other forms of athletics, how much greater

versity than are the other departments of athletics.

The Crews are the University's and the State's greatest athletic advertisers. Wisconsin is known all over the East,



The 'Varsity Crew in 1901

a proportionate share they are performing in the building up of strong bodies, and strong minds too, at the Uni-

better than in her own state, for her boat crews.

The eastern crews consider us very seriously whenever

we are entered in their races, and the first question an Easterner will ask of a Wisconsin man is, "How are your crews this year?"

The following is a brief history of Rowing at Wisconsin, written by Coach Andrew M. O'Dea:

of Mr. Marsden, of Cornell. Two races were rowed and the 'Varsity split even, they having defeated the Delaware Boat Club of Chicago and being defeated six lengths by the Minnesota Boat Club.

The following year, 1895, I came to Wisconsin as coach



Squad of 'Varsity Candidates, .97

The University of Wisconsin was first represented by a crew in 1893. But one race was contested this year, that being with the Chicago Navy which resulted in a victory for the 'Varsity.

In 1894 Wisconsin secured its first coach in the person

and the 'Varsity again defeated the Delaware Boat Club and lost to the Minnesota Boat Club by one-third of a length, they being forced to lower the two-mile record.

In 1896 the 'Varsity made its first eastern invasion and returned home after overwhelmingly defeating Yale Fresh-



Gaffin (5) Mather (3) Stevenson, Capt. (4) McComb, Stroke Bartelt (2)
 Miller (7) Moffatt, Bow Sawyer, Coxwain Jordan (6)

The 1903 'Varsity Crew at Poughkeepsie, June, 1903.



The Freshman Crew in 1903

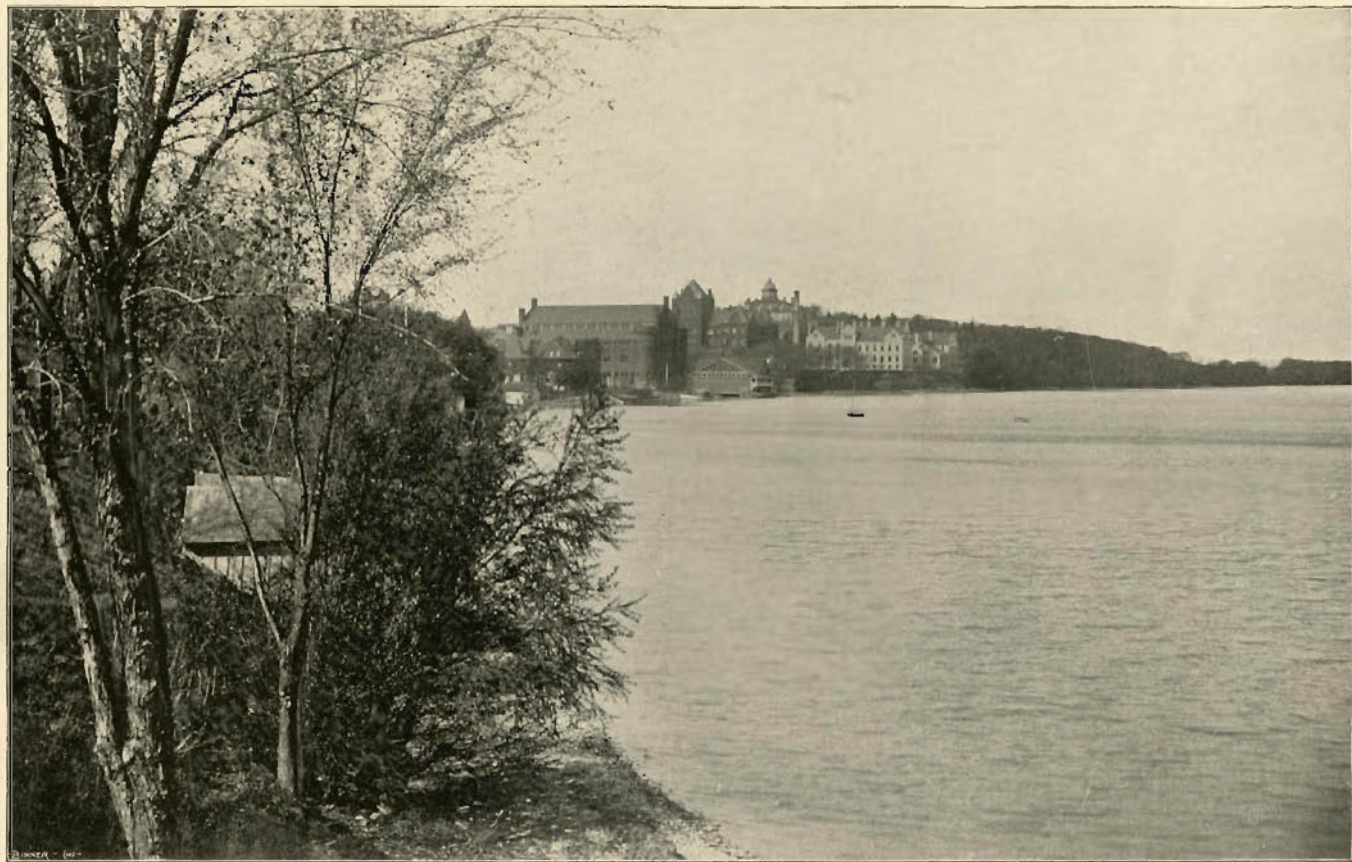
men by over ten lengths. This year they also defeated the Minnesota Boat Club for the first time.

In 1897 we were defeated three lengths by the Yale 'Varsity at Lake Saltonstal.

In 1898 we made our third journey East and competed

in the first open Inter-Collegiate Regatta held on Saratoga Lake. In this race Wisconsin got third place. Pennsylvania winning, Cornell getting second. Cornell had previously beaten Yale and Harvard.

In 1899 we took second at the Poughkeepsie Regatta



University Hill from Lake Mendota.



Crew Entering Shell.

and were it not for the berry crate we would undoubtedly second in the 'Varsity. In 1901 we got third place. In have won. In 1900 we won the Freshmen race and took 1902 we got second place. In 1903 we got third place.



'Varsity Four, 1903.



POSITION	NAME	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT
Bow	A. H. Christman	24	5 ft. 9½ in.	160
2	A. B. Dean	19	5 ft. 11¼ in.	174
3	M. N. Bodenbach	19	5 ft. 11¼ in.	164
Stroke	A. J. Quigley	25	5 ft. 10 in.	146

Four Oared Race.



Poughkeepsie, N. Y., June 26, 1903.

Cornell	First	Time, 10:34
Pennsylvania	Second	Time, 10:35½
Wisconsin	Third	Time, 10:55½
Columbia	Fourth	Time, 11:14

Course two miles; conditions favorable.



Squad of 'Varsity Candidates in- 1902.

