



THE BACKSPLASH

W&M CLUB ROWING

UPDATES | MATCHING METERS | LOOKBACK | SENIOR SENDOFF

Hello parents, alumni, and friends!

We are excited to update you on all the work our rowers have dedicated to practices and mock regattas this past school year! With the COVID-19 pandemic, our squads have not been able to row since our last spring break trip in March 2020, but that has not stopped the determination and passion our rowers have for this sport! Two semesters of only erg practices allowed us to get stronger, more determined, and grow closer as a team. Our squads even grew in size with our incredible novice class who jumped on the ergs eager to work hard and learn each practice! We fill up the entire MAC Court now at our full-squad practices, making use of all our new ergs!

Keep reading for updates about our Matching Meters campaign, a lookback from our rowers on erging during a pandemic, and a sendoff for our seniors!



MATCHING METERS!

In case you missed it, the results of our Matching Meters campaign were released at the end of March and a clear winning class for meters rowed was decided: the sophomores won with 505,519 meters rowed! Along with bragging rights, the sophomores also won the right to pick a workout for a Saturday practice - thankfully they picked a hike around Lake Matoaka instead of sprint pieces on the erg!

Our senior Sam Mosquera deserves recognition for his dedication this semester, especially during our campaign for single-handedly rowing over 180,000 meters!

Together, our team rowed over **1.4 MILLION** meters this March, and we are so proud of the work all our rowers put into their workouts! Row Tribe Row!

Thank you to everyone who donated during our campaign - every gift, no matter how small, makes an impact with WMRC and we are so appreciative for all the support! As always, the link to donate to the team is on our website (wmrowing.org) where you can contribute by clicking on the 'DONATE' button at the top of the page if you want to further support our rowers!



Keep up with us on our website and our Instagram [@wm_rowing](https://www.instagram.com/wm_rowing)!

MOCK REGATTAS

Since we could not be on the water for regular 2K regattas this spring, we connected the ergs on sliders and brought in a projector to set up boat races in the MAC Court! These mock regattas were a great way to get into a competitive mindset and push ourselves outside of regular practice!



A LOOKBACK ON OUR YEAR!

Our year was filled with erging, lifts, and tough workouts, but we fought through as a squad! We grew closer as a team and welcomed many new novices rowers through lots of post-practice lunches at the Caf and cardio party practices every Saturday morning! To share how this past year has been for our squad, rowers wrote a sentence or two about what rowing meant to them this year!

This semester was all about building for me. Getting us in slider lines has greatly improved my skills in terms of staying in sync with my teammates. Pulling the 2k pair with Chad was a great way to see my work pay off. - Cory Brower '23

I loved getting to know the novices and having lunch with them every week! As captain, it was important to me to have good team bonding opportunities (especially during COVID) and I feel like these weekly lunches were a really fun way to do that! - Anisha Vanka '22

I loved being able to meet and welcome new novices! - Matt Hill '21

This semester was a great way for me to improve at rowing, but it's also been so much more. Whether it was laughing over crew stories at Caf after Saturday practice, meeting our Boat Buddies, or enjoying ice cream in CW, I got to meet people who I wouldn't have otherwise - and those people are all wonderful to be around. Being on the team this semester was an awesome antidote to the stresses and isolation of COVID. Thanks for continuing through this challenging year! - Leo Murphy '24

I got to meet a ton of new people and see people be introduced to my favorite sport! - Abby Fitzsimmons '22

This semester made me a lot stronger and got me excited for the next racing season. - Jimmy Anglim '23

Although it has been tough to stay motivated this semester, I know that I will be a better rower because of it. - Neel Tambe '23

I loved being part of a team and working towards a common interest. My favorite part of the season was having team lunch after Saturday practice! - Grace Morales '24

Camaraderie was at the fore this semester. Every time the world turned upside down, I was uplifted by the chance to go crazy on the ergs with a good group of people. - Ian DeHaven '23

This semester was definitely challenging with no water practices and erging with masks, but I'm so proud of how well the team was able to bond this year despite the challenging circumstances. - Jay Ford '22

SENIOR THOUGHTS

One of our seniors, Madison Allen, took the time to write a bit more about what W&M Club Rowing has meant to her...

"Rowing has been the most important part of my time at William & Mary and will easily be the thing I miss most from my four years here. During my time on the team, we've gone through several coaches, several launches, and even a boat or two. But I wouldn't change a part of my time on this team, even the past year of zero water time and hours of erg time. After my first practice, which ended with Sarah and me having to be towed back to the dock, the rest of the novice women thought I probably wouldn't come back. I think I mainly came back out of spite, but from that moment on I have spent almost every morning or afternoon of my time at William & Mary with this team. I have made some of my best friends through this team, pushed myself beyond my physical limits, won medals, lost medals, and learned a lot about myself and who I wanted to be along the way. The Spring Break trip my freshman year was when I truly felt the long spoken motto "You Belong Here." Since then, I have made endless fond memories and some not so fond memories, like when my spleen almost burst or when my foot stretchers ripped off the Covin in the first 200 meters of the ACRA final my sophomore year. I am not sure what my college experience would have been like without this team and for that I am forever grateful."



Madison Allen '21

PHOTOS FROM OUR 2021 BANQUET

We were not able to have a regular spring season or boathouse banquet like we are used to, but we still found a way to celebrate our seniors in a COVID-safe banquet! We held a socially-distanced banquet on a W&M sports field to celebrate and hand out our awards! Our seniors were sent off with miniature W&M Rowing oars and water from the Chickahominy River - when the water in the jars dries up, that means it is time for a visit back to our boathouse! Enjoy these photos from our spread out and masked-up banquet!



Our socially-distanced 2021 banquet!



BANQUET AWARDS

Most Valuable Oarswoman. = Madison Allen '21

Most Valuable Oarsman = Sam Mosquera '21

Walker Award = Cory Brower '23

Ehrlich Award = Abby Fitzsimmons '22

CHECK OUT OUR SENIORS!

We are so proud of our incredible seniors and all the work and passion they have poured into Tribe Rowing the past few years! We'll miss having them at practice and in our boats but know they are all off to do great things - plus we will see them at a homecoming alumni row soon! Check out what all of our seniors are off to do next year below...



Madison will be working at Amazement Square in Lynchburg, Virginia as an Exhibition and Programs Assistant!



Ella is graduating with degrees in Government and Public Policy and is planning to work next year before pursuing her Masters in Public Policy!



Caroline will be a James C. Gaither Junior Fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace next year!



Grace will be a research fellow at the MESDA Summer Institute and then pursue her MA in Material Culture at the University of Delaware where she will be a Lois F. McNeil fellow at the Winterthur Museum!



Matt is excited to move to D.C. and start with his job in September where he will be doing auditing for PwC!



Meg is excited to begin her job as a defense consultant at Booz Allen Hamilton on their Aerospace Team in Arlington next year!



Lydia is graduating as a joint William & Mary - St. Andrews scholar and is excited to head to Cornell Law School in the fall!



Sam will be attending the William & Mary School of Education, getting his Masters in Secondary Social Studies Education!



Johanna is graduating with a BA in Linguistics and is excited to move to NYC this summer!



Delaney will be a camp counselor this summer and is excited to intern next year while applying to med school in the spring!



Madeleine is excited to do public sector consulting in D.C. and hang out with other Tribe rowers next year!

