Rowsers return national trophies

Trophies symbolizing the national prominence of F.I.T.'s crew team were returned to the university following the Dad Vail Regatta at Philadelphia — the nation's small college rowing championship.

The Engineers finished a close-second in overall points despite first-place finishes in three rowing categories, leading Coach Bill Jurgens to commend his athletes on "a very good year."

The season finale was on the Schuykill River, where 2,000-plus rowers were joined by more than 25,000 spectators.

In the history of F.I.T. rowing, the success of the 1983 squad has been surpassed only by last year's crew team — which managed to capture the national small college championship. That season, the coach said, was "a remarkable year."

The overall honors went this year to Georgetown University, which earned 46 varsity eight in third place, and the men's varsity eight — the squad that fell in the Dad Vail since 1975, and the men's lightweight varsity four (which held off a surge by Jacksonville University, a squad that beat them in Florida competition).

The men's varsity eight — the squad that competes for the "Wad Vail Trophy" which the Engineers captured in 1982 — fell in the finals to Temple University. "It was a nip and tuck fight, then they just outpowered us at the end," Jurgens said.

Jurgens said other team points included those earned by the women's varsity eight with an in-nilplace finish, the women's junior varsity eight in third place, and the men's freshman-four in sixth place.

F.I.T. graduate lands promising career

For one F.I.T. graduate, the job training through F.I.T.'s Cooperative Education program has helped pave the way to a promising career.

"The job experience opened my eyes to what the working world is like for engineers," said Nancy Jean Walker. She explained that working engineers have duties beyond application of skills learned in the classroom.

"They have many supervisory responsibilities which go beyond working with electronic gadgets," said Walker.

Walker explained that her co-op experience helped her prepare. "Through my job, I knew exactly what I wanted to learn. So, I did not hesitate to ask questions in class," said Walker.

The Melbourne, Florida native must have both added the right questions and provided her professors with the right answers.

She was the recipient of F.I.T.'s Faculty Scholarship Award during Winter Con
genium. The award is presented at each commencement to one bachelor's degree Ad
dents with a 3.8 or greater grade point average. Walker earned her degree in elec
trical engineering with a 3.866 average out of 4 possible.

She also worked full-time for seven quarters with Harris Corp. as a junior engineer, and for NASA refurbishing design engineers and scheduling cargo facilities in support of future Space Shuttle flights. She later worked part-time for Western Technology writing video games.

"Just as you got tired of school, you had to go to work. And when you got tired of work, you would go back to school," she explained.

Although Walker had nine job offers upon graduation, she chose to work for DBA Systems Inc. as an analyst program
mer.

"I am working on a data base manage
ment system for all of DBA," said Walker.

She explained that the system will contain personnel files on DBA employees to be used by corporate headquarters and project managers.

She plans to return to F.I.T., in the fall and pursue a master's degree in business administration.

"I would like to move into upper management and be president of a company someday," said Walker.

While attending F.I.T., she was active in several organizations. She was president of Eta Kappa Nu electrical engineering honorary society; president of Tau Beta Pi engineering honorary fraternity, and member of the Co-op Advisory Board.

She was also a member of Blue Bay National Honor Society, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, and the Society of Women Engineers. She was selected for inclusion in the publication "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities," for 1982-83.

Currently, Walker is a registered engineer in training in the state of Florida. She plans to apply for her professional engineer's license after she has acquired five years experience in the field.

Dr. John C. Hozier, director of F.I.T.'s new Medical Genetics Laboratory, has been awarded a $245,000 EPA contract for the three-year study aimed at developing such a test system.

The research project is being conducted in collaboration with scientists at the EPA's Health Effects Research Laboratory in North Carolina.

The development of a test system to screen for chemical compounds potentially hazardous to man is not new to Hozier. Last year the EPA awarded Hozier a $270,000 contract to develop a different test system for a similar purpose.

"We already developed a system for testing cells grown in the laboratory which were exposed to potentially cancer-causing chemical compounds," said Hozier.

Unlike the previous test system, de
igned to test cells grown in the artificial environment of the laboratory, the present study will involve a system for testing cells grown in live animals," Hozier added.

The researcher explained that more than one such test system is needed to help make the results of animal studies more indicative of the risk involved when humans are exposed to potentially hazardous chemicals in the environment.

Chromosomes are the microscopically rod
shaped bodies in a cell which carry the genes that determine hereditary characteristics. In humans there are 46 chromosomes.

During the first stage of the study, a test system will be created to measure the ex
genetic material between different chromosomes. That process is believed by scientists to be an important indicator of agents which damage chromosomes and can result in human disorders such as cancer or birth defects.

During a second stage, the test system itself will be tested, by exposing animals to various compounds and determining closely their response relates to increased cancer risk in humans from those compounds.

The researcher noted that about 30 per
cent of the grant money will go toward salary support of scientists and technicians involved in the development of the test system. The remaining grant money will be used for supplies and equipment.

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Henry (Hank) Hadley, B.S., Physics, has obtained his doctorate and now resides in Elkon, MD. He is employed by Solar Energy Systems, Inc., of Newark, Del.

Ferdie C. Schwartz, B.S.-Space Science, who received an MS from Ohio State University in 1971, is one of 54 mid-career executives from the U.S., and was selected as Alfred P. Sloan Fellow by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Currently he is chief, Systems Engineering and Management Division, Deputy for B-1B, Aeronautical Systems Div. of the Air Force, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH. (See story on Mr. Schwartz in this Update.)

James W. M. Pryde, B.S.-Mgmt. Sci., is a senior field engineer with Data General Services, Inc., of Columbus, OH. He moved from Colorado in 1979 and now lives in Wrightington with his wife and four children. Rachel (12) Janie (4), and twins Abigail and Sarah (2).

George T. Nicholos (MS-Cont. & Proc.) lives in Evangeline, LA, and serves as supervising procurement analyst, Hdg. U.S. Army Armament Materiel Readiness Command, Rock Island, IL. He has assumed the chief, Review and Compliance Division of Policy and Plans Office and was selected by National Academy of Management as a Fellow. He is considered an expert on national military disability retirement benefits. Company USA in New Orleans serves as a fellow to a consideration of the American Association of Retired Persons. He is a fellow to the American Business Association, and has served for six years on the Iowa Governor’s Committee for Employment of the Handicapped.

Binendra Sahiwani (BS-EE) in May of this year received an M.B.A. degree from Widener University, Chester PA.

Kenneth B. Taylor, B.S.-Air Comm./Flt. Tech. who received his B.S.-Flt. Tech degree in 1973, received his MBA from Western New England College in May 1983.


Steven J. Johnson (BS-Air Comm./Flt. Tech.) who received his B.S.-Flt. Tech degree in 1973, received his MBA from Western New England College in May 1983.

Joseph Lombardi (BS-COE) works for Eastern Air Lines in New Orleans as senior engineer on Eastern’s grayed tower project. He received his MSOE from M.I.T., is married and has two children. Joey (3) and SARA (6) months.

Kenneth R. Potts (AS-Flt. Tech.) is an airline pilot for Piedmont Airlines at Smith Reynolds Airport, Winston-Salem, NC. Kenneth and his wife Susan live in Advance, NC, and proudly announce the birth of their third child.

Whit Cotten (MBA) recently moved from Washington, DC, to Winter Park, FL, to accept a new position as director of engineering with Stromberg-Carlin in Longwood, FL.

Capt. Craig J. McCormack, USA (MBA) who is assigned as ILS coordinator at ARRADOM, Dover, N.J., announces the birth of daughter Kristina last December 21.

Beth Ann McGraw-Leaf (BS-Psych) lives in Moline, IL, and announces the birth of son Carl Alexander on January 8.

Charles E. Syken (BS-Bi. Sci.), received his BS-Bi. Sci. from Drexel University in Philadelphia in 1982. He and his wife live in Chester, PA, where he is in second year of University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, and also serving as veterinary assistant at Medi Veterinary Hospital.

Roy Joseph Almeida (MS-Sys. Mgmt.) in May 1980 received an MS in microeconomics from the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio.

John V. Maddox (MBA) who has resided in Papago Park, VA, has been promoted to senior operations improvement analyst by the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. He transferred to the industrial engineering department (capital programs section) in Philadelphia.

James P. Wyly (MBA) recently accepted the position of regional vice president of Micalease, a division of the Management Improvement Corp. of America (MIC/Air). Durham, NC. Micalease provides financing for government, and Micalease insures all of its leases and sales as risk-free instruments.

Roy E. Aungst (BS-Comp. Eng. and Lori Lee (Dean) Aungst (BS-Comp. Eng. 1982) were married in Palm Bay, FL, in January and now live in Vernon, CT. Both are employed as software engineers at Princeton, New Jersey. The couple have two children, Carter and Kate.

Mary F. Osborne (BS-Bio. Ocean.) lives in Redlands, CA. She is locally employed as a professional and striving to find something associated with her education.

The president of the Alumni Association, Mr. Schwartz, who has recently progressed up their organization's ladder and has expanded their growth in the local community, made a personal appearance at the Blue Key National Honor Society event. The president of the Alumni Association, Mr. Schwartz, who has recently progressed up their organization's ladder and has expanded their growth in the local community, made a personal appearance at the Blue Key National Honor Society event.

Alumni Association members welcome

As will be seen in separate article, a number of our alumni have accepted the invitation of the F.I.T.-Alumni Association to make the F.I.T. Southgate Apartments their home base for a summer vacation in Central Florida. From here they can enjoy the many nearby attractions - EPCOT Center, Sea World, and Wild Animal Kingdom, on the liner "Sea Escape." We hope this is just a start in bringing more and more of our alumni and families back to their alma mater for an enjoyable vacation adventure.

This is the new 1983-84 Fiscal Year for the F.I.T. Alumni Association. The Association decided to give all new graduates a year-one free membership as a graduation gift. So, all of our June graduates here, at Jensen Beach, and Off-Campus facilities are now active voting members of their Alumni Association.

For those alumni who took out membership last year and those who have not yet paid the 1983-84 alumni tax-deductible dues, it is now time to renew their active voting memberships or to answer this call for the first time.

Below is your membership renewal/application form which can be used to acquire active voting membership. Use of this form will save the Alumni Association the cost of postage in mailing out individual notices.

Arthur A. Kimball
Learning Center helps students help themselves

More than 250 students per week take advantage of the "free" tutorial services offered at F.I.T.'s Individualized Learning Center (ILC).

"We grew out of a general concern to aid in the retention of freshman students on campus in 1978," said Mary B. Mullins, director of the ILC. She added that the university's FRESH (Freshman Retention by Enhancement Services) program was also started at the same time and for similar reasons.

Mullins said that the ILC is open during the day and evenings and employs 22 tutors as well as three faculty members besides herself. The tutors provide help for any student needing further instruction in basic undergraduate courses, including math, physics, chemistry, English and computer science.

In addition, "self-help" materials are also available for the students to use.

We have both audio tapes and workbooks for undergraduate-level math and English courses approved by F.I.T. faculty for the students to use," said Mullins.

Mullins noted that the major reason students are attracted to the ILC is that the services offered are free. Tutorial services are also immediately available to the students.

"Many students just walk in and request help in the basic math, English or science courses. We are able to match them immediately with one of our tutors, all of whom hold a 3.0 or better grade-point-average," said Mullins.

She also noted that students are very appreciative of the help they receive from their tutors and often return after exams to personally thank them.

Mullins has 15 years prior teaching experience as an English instructor for undergraduate-level courses. She holds both bachelor's and master's degrees in English and drama from Louisiana State and Memphis State Universities respectively. Prior to her recent appointment as director of the ILC, she served for three years as an English and speech instructor for F.I.T.'s Humanities Department.

Grad merges art, therapy

(Pictured from "The Trentonian" newspaper.)

While an art education major at the Moore College of Art in Philadelphia, Marcia Taylor became aware of using art to change troubled children.

Since then, she has continued in the field of art therapy and is on the faculty at Trenton State College. She has also served as a professor at Moore College of Art, Philadelphia, since 1976.

Taylor received her master of science degree in mental health sciences with a major in art therapy from the Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia, where she said the first degree was given in art therapy.

Art therapy is a human service profession which offers an opportunity to explore personal problems and potentials through verbal and nonverbal expression, and to develop physical, emotional and learning skills through therapeutic art experiences.

Ms. Taylor now has her doctorate in behavioral science from the Florida Institute of Technology ('83), after studying in Switzerland.

She has worked in private and public schools as well as mental hospitals for clinical experience.

A branch of the mental health sciences, art therapy is also used "with artists who have developed creative blocks" helping them to get back to work, "so said Ms. Taylor who enjoys teaching as well as working with clients.

Working with clients makes you a better teacher, and being a teacher keeps you on your toes," she added. "I would like to go back to doing some of her own art work, which is watercolors.

Originally from Reading, Pa., Ms. Taylor lives in Brooklyn with her husband, Ray, and their two children.

Taylor has also taught art therapy at Moore College of Art and is pursuing a doctoral degree in human services.
Plastic reefs draw food for Caribbean islanders

Small man-made reefs located in Bahamian inshore waters are attracting large numbers of fish, and could soon provide an economical food source to supplement the diet of local islanders, an F.I.T. researcher has found.

Over the past year, Dr. William S. Alevizon has directed a team of F.I.T. biologists who have installed and monitored 14 artificial reefs at various locations near Deep Water Cay. The study site is located at the east end of Grand Bahama Island, about 60 miles east of Freeport.

The study tested the feasibility of establishing artificial reefs throughout the Caribbean region to provide a high protein food source in locations convenient for islanders.

The research effort marked the first study in which artificial reefs were used as a means of concentrating and harvesting specific species of fish — grunts and snappers. The reefs, constructed of PVC pipe and concrete blocks, were of varying shapes and installed in different types of nearshore habitats. Reef size also varied from a single unit to several units.

"Reef size, shape or location, did not appear to greatly affect the recruitment of the targeted fish. Each reef attracted large numbers of grunts and snappers," said Alevizon. Other marine life attracted to the reefs included over 30 species of fish and spiny lobster.

Alevizon said that the reefs have already paid for themselves. The reef materials for each unit cost only about $60. Each reef unit has already yielded about 35 to 50 pounds of fish at an estimated wholesale value of $70 to $100.

"Large numbers of these reefs installed at selected inshore habitats in the Caribbean could yield hundreds of tons of fish per year," said Alevizon. He noted that this could help provide an economical, high protein food source for Bahamians and other islanders.

The main thing we need to do now is determine the best harvesting method that will yield the maximum number of fish per reef unit," Alevizon said. "We also plan to slightly modify the design of the reefs to make them more durable and productive," said Alevizon.

Shipbuilders provide 'real world' classes at F.I.T.

Ingalls Shipbuilding, Division of Litton Industries in Pascagoula, MS, offered during the Spring Quarter a series of seminars on the Methodology of Shipbuilding Design to graduate and undergraduate students enrolled in ocean engineering. The seminars are to continue in the fall.

The seminars were presented by Ingalls engineers as lectures within the "Ocean Engineering Systems Design" course. That course is required for all ocean engineering students.

We are trying to close the gap between our educational training and the hands-on job experience these students receive once they go to work for the shipbuilding industry," said Dr. John C. Sainsbury, chairman of F.I.T.'s ocean engineering program.

He helped organize the Ingalls seminars.

Sainsbury explained that Ingalls is providing F.I.T. students with the mechanics of how work is actually done at the shipyard.

Ingalls is the third largest shipyard in the country with 10,000 employees. A prime government defense contractor, Ingalls produces and overhauls combat ships for the Navy. A variety of off-shore oil drilling rigs have also recently been constructed at the shipyard and sold commercially.

"We are teaching students the methodology of shipbuilding design, which includes everything from the conceptual to the detailed design phases of shipbuilding," said seminar instructor Robert H. Slaughter, of Ingalls Advanced Technology Division.

Slaughter explained that students learn how ship design specifications are developed. The seminars also provide insight into "state-of-the-art" computer applications.

"We initiated the pilot program at the request of F.I.T. students," said Slaughter. He added that such programs help the company recruit engineers.

Currently about 14 F.I.T. graduates are employed at Ingalls. We are very impressed at the thoroughness of these F.I.T. graduates in their jobs. They never presume they cannot do something. No matter how difficult the task is, they figure out how to do it and get the job done," said Slaughter.

Story by Mary Deese