



From left: Quist, Whitmore, Nockleby, Martin, Payne, Schnettler

Rowing against the odds

They were the little guys. The small fry. Underdogs with a capital U.

But — when the figurative smoke had cleared, the Lawrence University women's varsity lightweight-four crew had left the heavily favored crews in their wake. Competing against the nation's elite teams at the Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championships on June 1, Lawrence placed third in the finals on the Cooper River in Camden, N.J.

The lightweight-four team of Kristina Nockleby '07, Stephanie Martin '09, Heidi Quist '10, Megan Whitmore '08, and coxswain Rachel Payne '10 were the first Lawrence rowers invited to compete at the IRA regatta.

"I couldn't be happier with the way the season turned out," says Lawrence coach Bryan Schnettler '04. "These five

women put in so much effort to get to where they did, I can't put into words how proud I am of them."

Princeton University and the University of Wisconsin finished 1-2 in the event, and Lawrence placed ahead of Duquesne University, Georgetown University, and Radcliffe College.

"Our expectation was to go out there and row the best race we could," says Nockleby, the team captain. "We had an early lead off the start, but we settled into our race pace, and that is when Princeton and Wisconsin pulled ahead. We pulled as hard as we could and finished in third. I was very pleased with our race because I could feel everyone pulling their hearts out."

Crew is a club sport at Lawrence, but this wasn't the first time a Lawrence crew had gone head-to-head against Division I scholarship teams. Lawrence

earned its berth in the IRA regatta after a second-place finish at the Dad Vail Regatta, the largest collegiate regatta in the country, in Philadelphia, Pa., in May. It marked only the second time and the second consecutive year Lawrence had earned a medal at the Dad Vail.

"Although we did not expect to win, this group of women has raced with the confidence that whenever they pull up to the starting line, they feel they are in contention to win," Schnettler says. "I think that is part of the reason we've been as good as we have been, and this race was no different. Ultimately, I think they were really hoping to beat at least a couple of the big schools, to prove we belonged there and hopefully bring home a medal."

In addition to gaining respect and visibility, both Schnettler and Nockleby hope the other result of the appearance at the IRA Championships is to raise awareness of crew on campus. **JVA**

Notes from the locker room

Baseball Pitcher Kevin Kangas '08 turned in a stellar senior season for the Vikings and was one of four Lawrence players to earn first-team All-Midwest Conference (MWC) honors. Kangas, outfielders Brad Hauser '07 and Tim O'Toole '07, and designated hitter Ben Webster '08 all made the first team, with pitcher Chris Clouthier '07, first baseman Tommy Schmidt '08, and second baseman Hawk Haiduke '09 earning second-team honors. Kangas finished 4-3 on the season with a school-record 2.53 ERA. Kangas struck out 71 and walked 23 in 57 innings. Schmidt earned a national honor, as he was the only player from the MWC to be named the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association Player of the Week in 2007. Lawrence finished the season with a 12-21 record and finished third in the North Division of the conference with a 6-10 mark.

Golf Ryan Knox '07 earned all-conference honors to pace Lawrence at the MWC Championships. Knox carded rounds of 85, 76,

and 78 on the par-72 layout at Aldeen Golf Club in Rockford, Ill., for a total of 239. The Vikings carded a team score of 1,001 to finish in sixth place in the 54-hole tournament.

Softball Freshman utility player Alex Goodson '10 turned in a phenomenal rookie campaign and earned All-MWC and All-Great Lake Region honors. Goodson, who was a first-team all-league pick and second-team all-region selection, hit .420 with 10 doubles and four triples, and she set school season records with seven homers and 43 RBIs. She finished third in the nation at 1.59 RBIs per game and was 14th with an .864 slugging percentage. Third baseman Jenna Reichel '09 was named to the first-team all-conference team and was a third-team all-region pick. She led the Lawrence team with a .426 batting average and had a pair of doubles and 11 RBIs to go with her team-high 36 runs scored, which was sixth-best in the nation in runs per game. She also swiped 15 bases in 16 tries this season. Pitcher Catherine Marinac '08, outfielder Toren Johnson '07, and

shortstop Carrie Van Groll '08 also earned all-conference accolades. Lawrence finished with a 15-12 record and took third place in the MWC North Division.

Men's tennis The Vikings finished seventh at the MWC Championships and won one consolation title in singles and another in doubles. Lawrence finished the season with a 4-10 dual-match record, including a 2-2 mark against league opponents.

Track and field Tatiana Bulat '09 led the Vikings, as she claimed the title in the triple jump at the MWC Championships. Bulat took the crown with a leap of 34 feet, 11.75 inches. It was the first title for the women since 2004, when Courtney Miller '04 won the 800 and 1,500 meters. Both the men's and women's teams placed eighth in the team standings. Earlier in the season, Stephanie Kramer '08 broke her own school record in the hammer throw, with a toss of 117-10 at the Wisconsin Private College Championships. **JVA**