

Wichita State University Rowing

April 20-21, 2013

Melton Lake Oak Ridge, TN

Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championships

The Shockers competed in three events: Men's Varsity 4+, Women's Varsity 8+ and Men's Varsity 8+. Last year the team only sent one crew, Men's Varsity 8+, to the regatta. The crew finished 17th of 27.

First race of Saturday was the Men's Varsity 4+. Unfortunately, the men did not finish high enough in their heat to advance to the semi-finals.

The Women's Varsity 8+ was the next race of the day. The women's event was unusual in that the two varsity 8+ events were run combined. While the crews raced together, separate medals would be awarded for the highest finishers in both events. This allows NCAA DI programs to be in a separate event from the other programs. The women were ranked 8th out of the 24 crews at the start of the regatta. The heat saw the Shockers advancing easily to the semi-finals with a second place finish over U of Florida, U of Ohio, William & Mary U. The women finished with the 6th fastest heat time of the round of the 24 crews.

The Men's Varsity 8+ also advanced from their heat to the semi-final round with a third place finish ahead of Tulane and Ohio U. The men finished with the 11th fastest heat time of the round of the 27 crews.

Evening semi-finals started with the Women's Varsity 8+. This was a tough draw for the women as it saw four of the six fastest crews from the heats in the same semi. Since only three would advance to the grand final, this was a challenging race. The women finished 4th, ahead of Florida Tech and Georgia Tech.

The men also had a tough semi draw with the overall top seed and three ranked ACRA crews. The men finished 5th, ahead of Tulane to qualify for the C final.

Sunday morning saw the men regroup and come out strong with a second place finish and their best time of the weekend. Overall they finished 14th with a time of 6:19.8 and ahead of U of Colorado (6:23.6), Tulane (6:28.0), Kansas State U (6:28.5), and LSU (6:56) so an improvement from 2012.

The last race of the regatta for the team was the Petite final for the women. This race saw the Shockers learn from their disappointing finish in the semi to run away from the field in a time of 6:56.0 with an open water victory over Emory (6:59.1), U of Florida (7:02.5), Florida Tech (7:04.9), Jacksonville U (7:06.7) and Georgia Tech (7:09.6). As the highest finisher in their event the women were also crowned SIRA champions.