



**Captains Report by Michael Croteau '15, Charlotte Williamson'15, Lizzy Hamilton '15:**

This was a great season for the Polar Bears and we achieved our highest ever national rankings – 14<sup>th</sup> for the co-ed team and 2<sup>nd</sup> for the women's team! Competition was as intense as ever, with every regatta pushing us to improve. Our new players have added a great dynamic and we have a really close team this year. We have a talented group of first-years with sailing experience from California, the Midwest, the Mid-Atlantic, and New England.

The women's team had a banner season! We qualified for the Atlantic Coast Championship and finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place, the best ever for Bowdoin. The coed team had best-ever finishes at multiple regattas like the Harry Anderson and the Sherman Hoyt trophies as well. The depth of our team has been apparent this fall and we are looking forward to capitalizing on that in the spring. The team has had a lot of fun both on and off the water.

We really enjoyed spending the entire fall season in our new boat house – the dedication and the Barnett regatta made for a fun start to our season. President Barry Mills and Ashmead White Director of Athletics, Tim Ryan '98, led the dedication ceremony and the team really enjoyed seeing the many Bowdoin alumni who came to show their support for the team. Frank Pizzo continues to be an amazing coach and we are lucky to have Tom Peabody '14 as our assistant coach.



Michael Croteau '15,



Charlotte Williamson'15,



Lizzy Hamilton '15

### Recreational Sailing Report by Dana Bloch '17 and Hunter Moeller '17:

This fall, as in the past, the team ran a recreational sailing program through the Bowdoin Outing Club to teach sailors of all levels and to connect students with Maine's beautiful coast. We taught the basics of rigging the boats, the points of sail, and simple maneuvers such as tacking and jibing. Despite several occasions of light wind, we had many enthusiastic participants who returned for the friendly seals, clear skies and fiery sunsets. Over the course of five weeks, students gained confidence skippering and crewing and grew an appreciation for a very unique sport.



Dana Bloch '17



Hunter Moeller '17

### Leighton Dedication:

What an awesome weekend at Bowdoin and at the Coastal Studies Center for the Leighton Sailing Center dedication. President Mills led a lovely dedication of our new facilities and the Leighton family was on hand to check out the new boathouse and facilities. The Polar Bears also hosted the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Nicholas J. Barnett Trophy the same weekend. The Barnett family continues to be tremendous supporters of the program. The alumni and parent support at the regatta was outstanding and the Polar Bears won the event!



**Coaches Report:**

Friends of Bowdoin Sailing:

A memorable fall in the books! The team enjoyed a wonderful season at our new home at the Leighton Sailing Center. Our new boathouse serves as a great platform for our team off the water and Harpswell Sound has proven to be a tremendous training venue. There is more open water and current than in Quahog Bay and there are more options for where we can run practice.

Eight first years joined the team this fall and infused a great deal of talent and enthusiasm into the squad. The team hosted its annual Polar Bear Open for high school sailors, then hosted the Bowdoin Women's Invite, and the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Barnett Trophy. We plan to host the Staake Trophy this coming spring which serves as a qualifier for our New England Team Race Championship. We are excited to continue to host top regattas for NEISA.

It is exciting to be part of the rapidly expanding programs at the Coastal Studies Center. Every day at practice, we see biology lab groups going out to check on crab traps to study the invasive green crab, students studying the critters and creatures that live in the eel grass off the docks and Environmental Studies classes filming the coastline. Many of our sailors are in these classes and it is great to have such overlap.

The number of students enjoying the Maine coast in a sail boat is also increasing. In addition to the twenty-six sailors that are on the varsity roster, we had twenty students participate each week in our recreational sailing program. Furthermore, we had a sailing orientation trip this year which was led by current Bowdoin sailors and allowed twelve first-year students to enjoy sailing and the Maine coast. We plan to continue to expand the sailing opportunities we offer in the coming years.

We need to thank the small army it takes to run our team. Our strength coach, Neil Willey, pushes the team hard in the gym. Megan Thompson continues to serve as our athletic trainer and does a terrific job putting the team back together after injuries. Tom Peabody '14 has been a great addition an assistant coach and we are fortunate to have him working with the Polar Bears. We also need to thank the Croteau family and Williamson family for housing the team at various regattas this fall. The support is very much appreciated and contributes to the team's success.

December is a bit of a quiet month for the team but January begins an important time for training in the gym. The team should be back on the water in early March, and this year we are heading out to the west coast to train at Stanford during spring break. This trip will allow the team to train in both FJs and the Z420s in breeze to prepare for our spring New England Championships. We can't wait to get back on the water.

Have a great winter,

Frank Pizzo '06



## Spring 2014 Schedule

(Please note that regattas are subject to change)

- March 14-15 Team Race Invite at Tufts
- March 21-22 Geigor Trophy at MIT
- March 21-22 Veitor Trophy
- March 21-22 St. Mary's Women's Interconference at St. Mary's
- March 28-29 Duplin Trophy Team Race at Tufts

### March 28-29 Staake Team Race at Bowdoin

- March 28 Central Series at BU
- March 29 FJ Invite at BU
- Apr 4-5 Dellenbaugh Trophy at Brown
- Apr 4-5 Marchiando Team Race at MIT (alt)
- Apr 4-5 Barque Eagle Team Race at Coast Guard (alt)
- Apr 4-5 BU Trophy at BU
- Apr 11-12 Emily Wick Trophy at Coast Guard
- Apr 11-12 NE Team Race Champs at Harvard
- Apr 11-12 Mystic Lake Team Race
- April 18-19 Navy Spring at Navy
- April 18-19 President's Trophy at BU
- April 18-19 Oberg Trophy at Northeastern
- Apr 25-26 Admirals Cup at Kings Point
- Apr 25-26 Reed Trophy at Boston College
- Apr 25-26 Boston Dinghy Cup
- May 2-3 New England Dinghy Champs

### SAVE THE DATE:

Alumni Regatta Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Leighton Sailing Center. More details to follow, but we hope to run a great event to introduce former Polar Bears to the great sailing on Harpswell Sound.

Please consider supporting the Sailing Team through the Polar Bear Athletic Fund. To make a gift, please go to [GoUBears.com/makeagift](http://GoUBears.com/makeagift).