

## **NCAA Rowing Championship Quotes**

### **Women's Coach Bob Ernst**

#### **Summing up the row on Saturday?**

I would say it's a pretty tough day. We're working really hard to rebuild this program. And you have to compliment the top-level performers here, because they're really, really good. There are 4-5 elite-level programs here right now. As much as I'm in a hurry to get the Huskies back to the top tier in women's rowing, if you're not on your game, these (crews) will let you know right away. I'm sure a lot of the student-athletes are disappointed. Particularly the varsity crew, things didn't go their way this weekend.

#### **What happened during the row?**

Not having a very good start. It's something you do a 1,000 times every year in practice. And when you get here you have to be able to put your chips on the table when it's time. So not having a good start in the National Championships is not good. You have to perform when it's time. All you can say at this point is that we'll address that.

#### **What's encouraging to you?**

As we grow the program, I have to say I'm really encouraged by the varsity squad as a whole, because there's a lot of young kids in the program. There's only three seniors in the varsity boat. And there are two freshman in the varsity boat. We're going to get a lot of those kids back next year, but even when they come back they have to be ready to compete.

### **Assistant Coach Collin Sykes**

#### **On prepping for the Grand Finals**

I've been reminding them, to win a championship race at the NCAA level, is a test of wills," Sykes said. "It's how willing they are able to go, and push themselves individually for each other. They've established how much they'd like to perform tomorrow. They're getting on the right page and committing to each other.

#### **On their race in the semifinals**

(Cal) went out and took control into the race. They turned semifinal into a dual and controlled it," said assistant coach Colin Sykes. "We were looking to execute some part of the race we could use in the final. We worked the course the way we wanted to. It gives (the student-athletes) the confidence to win going forward.

### **Student-athlete Victoria Nenchev**

**On tomorrow's Grand Finals**

I think our head's in the game right now. We're in a good position because tomorrow if we execute the plan that we know we can execute, then it will be to our advantage. We have an opportunity tomorrow and we will value that.