

For Immediate Release

## Four Shocker Rower Boats Get National Recognition

April 4, 2012

American Collegiate Rowing Association (ACRA) polls were released with four Wichita State Rowing boats receiving votes, the women's eight ranking 8<sup>th</sup>. The boats are the Men's Varsity Eight, Women's Varsity Eight, Women's Novice Eight and Men's Novice Eight. Polls are weekly until ACRA Nationals, which this year are May 26 and 27. Voters are coaches from ACRA schools who examine current season race results, ranking from last year and placement at 2011's National Championships. Only those four eights are ranked: none of the fours, lightweight or smaller boat events are.

This is the first time since the ACRA was established in 2008 that all four Wichita State boats have received votes. In 2011, the women's eight which finished 7<sup>th</sup> overall at Nationals was ranked 8<sup>th</sup> going into the Championships having tied for 13<sup>th</sup> at the beginning of the season. The other three eights did not receive votes throughout most of the 2011 season.

So far this season, the Varsity Men's eight won beat KU, KSU, St Thomas and Texas among others the past two weekends while the Varsity Women beat Drake, St Thomas and St Olaf last weekend making them both strong Plains Region contenders.

Shocker Rowing next races April 21. Eight of the Shocker men will race in Oakridge, Tennessee at the Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Regatta. They will face 8 of the top 10 ranked men's eights including University of Virginia (1), Grand Valley (3), Purdue (5) and Georgia Tech (9).

The women and the remainder of the Shocker Rowing team will race Nebraska at the Tornado Alley Sprints on Lake Afton on April 21. Lake Afton is a new venue for Shocker Rowing.

For more information on ACRA polls, see <http://row2k.com/polls/index.cfm?cat=college&ID=347&type=American> Collegiate Rowing Association Poll or contact: