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Oklahoma City Camp Attendees Qualify to Row for Team USA at Under 23 World Championships in Belarus July 22-25

OKLAHOMA CITY – June 25, 2010 Two athletes who attended the USRowing Under 23 camp held at the Oklahoma City National High Performance Center earlier this month qualified in the Men's Light Weight Pair (2-) today to represent the USA at the Under 23 World Championships in Brest, Belarus, July 22-25.

Christian Klein, who rows for Princeton, and Michael Kerrigan, who rows for the United States Naval Academy, rowed the 2-kilometer race course at Lake Mercer, New Jersey, with a time of 6:48:386, edging out camp teammates Michael Nucci (Columbia) and Tyler Nase (Princeton) by four seconds to secure the spot. Jeremy Ivey, USRowing assistant coach at the OKC National High Performance Center, has been named as coach for this crew and will prepare them for competition in Belarus.

"To have athletes who attended the OKC training camp advance to the highest level is something we're very proud of," said John Parker, USRowing Coach, Lightweight Coordinator and Director and Head Coach, Oklahoma City National High Performance Center. "With more camps taking place throughout the summer, the incoming athletes can build on the energy and momentum at our training center."

The Under 23 World Championships event has been in existence for nearly thirty years. Held for the first time in 1976 in Macon, France, under the title "Seniors Match" it eventually became the "Nations Cup" in 1992. FISA, the international federation of rowing associations, voted to upgrade the World Rowing Under 23 Regatta to World Rowing Championship status in 2005.

With the annual participation of approximately 40 countries and 600 athletes, the world of rowing is looking forward to watching Under 23 rowers prepare for the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

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