

Black Cat Racing News

June - September 2003

This is the latest publication of Black Cat Racing News. The focus is to provide updates to friends, family and sponsors of Black Cat Racing on Lori Jorgenson's competitions and training.

Summer of 2003 Races:

Whew! The summer has flown by. The last few months I have lived my own version of "Planes, Trains and Automobiles". In June, I set off with 11 other women for Australia to compete in the 20th Annual Hamilton Cup. This by invitation only event consists of four days of racing around Hamilton Island – a very beautiful island. I was a part of a crew made up of 6 women originally from Canada and six from the US. The name of our crew was fitting – "Scatterchicks." (we were from all over and never raced together before). For a crew that had not paddled together we did great placing 1st in the masters category in the 16K and 4K races and 4th in the 42K race. It was definitely one of my top accomplishments.

In August I set forth with 10 other paddlers from Portland to Poznan, Poland for the World Dragonboat Championships. Twenty hours after leaving PDX by planes, trains and buses we met up with the rest of our crew of 9 paddlers from Philadelphia. All twenty of us represented the USA as a coed crew competing in 250 and 500 meter races against 13 other countries such as South Africa, Canada, Germany and Russia. The competition was tough. We gave it our all but could not keep up with the Germans and Canadians. We placed 3rd. Everyone had a great time and it was, as always, a great learning experience.

After returning to Portland on September 2nd, it was time to head for California on the 5th. I had to kick it into a different gear coming from sprinting to doing long distance racing in The Catalina Crossing. I was fortunate to paddle with a world-class women's crew, called "Offshore" (in order to race with them you have to be invited to do so). This was a change-out race (where racers take turns paddling, changing out every 20-40 minutes) for approximately 30 miles, the distance from Newport, CA to Catalina Island. We were hard-pressed by Outrigger Canoe Hawaii all the way but kept them at bay long enough to win the race.

With only a couple races remaining, the season is winding down. The rest of the year I will work on improving my speed.

A Big Thanks

I would like to give a big thanks to all Black Cat Racing sponsors. Without your support I would not be able to set out and shoot for my dreams. I look forward to continuing to work with you and support your company.

To stay updated on events please refer to my website at: www.blackcatracing.com