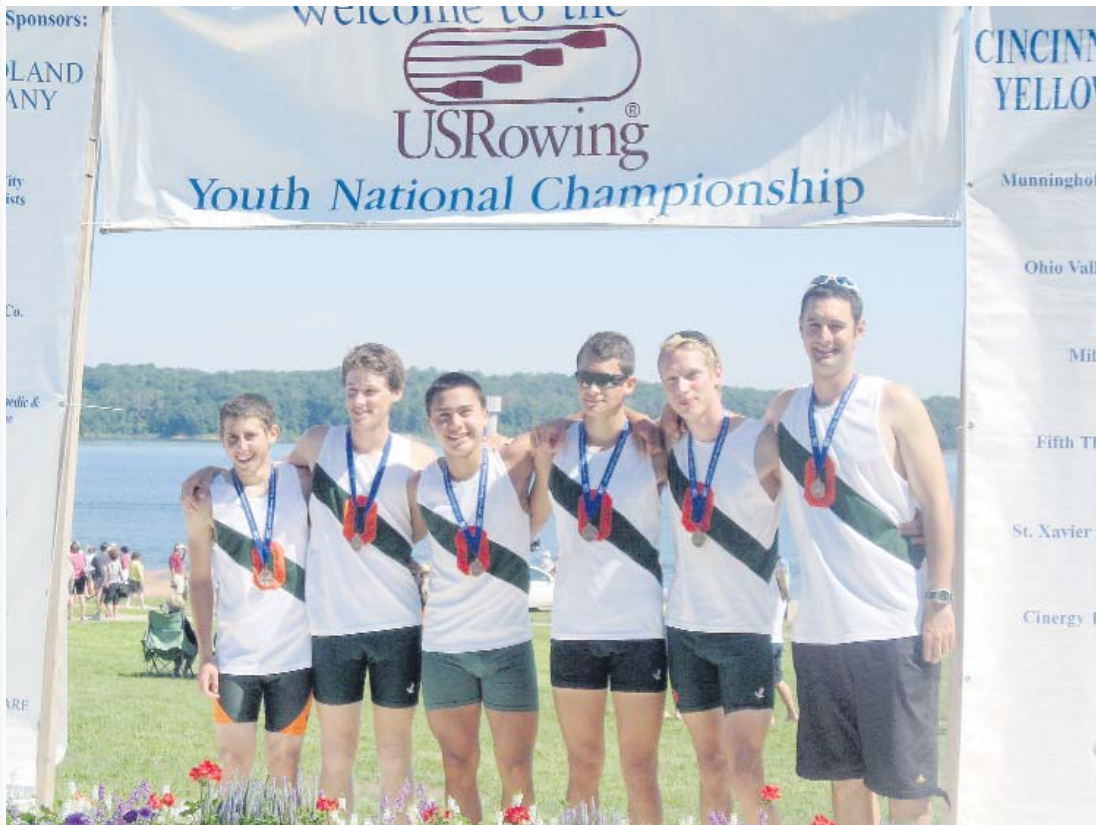


## Oakland Strokes Medal in 2008 USRowing Youth National Championships

Submitted by IRENE GESSLING



2008 Lightweight Men's 4+ bronze medal winners. Dan Migdale, coxswain, Garrett Bell, Andrew Ramos (Stroke), James Lenczowski, Will Provost, and Coach Ivan Smiljanic

Photo submitted

Four Oakland Strokes boats made it to the final day of competition at the 2008 USRowing Youth National Championships on Harsha Lake outside of Cincinnati, Ohio. Hosted by Cincinnati Junior Rowing Club, this weekend's regatta featured more than 1,300 participants.

Oakland Strokes men's lightweight four-plus took the bronze medal with a time of 6:46.63, just 0.49 seconds behind the silver medal winner, and four seconds behind first place. The Oakland Strokes crew consists of coxswain Daniel Migdale (Miramonte), stroke Andrew Ramos (Alameda), Garrett Bell (Las Lomas), James Lenczowski (Bentley), and Will Provost (Albany). San Diego Rowing Club took silver. Lake Union Crew crossed the finish line in a 6:42.60 to take the gold.

The Strokes men's four-plus took ninth place with a time of 6:49.24. The Strokes crew consists of coxswain Leila Pakawongse (Berkeley High), stroke Chad

Swenson (Skyline High School), Patrick Stolke (Berkeley High), Jack Howerton (Miramonte), and Cole Williams (Campolindo). Cincinnati Junior Rowing Club took the gold.

In the women's eight-plus, the Oakland Strokes boat, coxed by Leslie Chou (Miramonte) placed ninth overall. The crew includes stroke Kelly Bauer (Miramonte), Nikki Dahlberg-Seeth (Miramonte), Dana Walsh (Miramonte), Ally Weiland (Northgate), Dara Dickson (Acalanes), Claire Grover (Miramonte), Piper Akol (Miramonte), and Ali Mittelberger (Head-Royce). Marin Rowing Association defeated Los Gatos Rowing Club by a little more than three seconds to win the gold medal. Marin finished with a time of 6:33.66, while Los Gatos crossed the line in a 6:36.93. Phillips Exeter Academy won the bronze medal in a 6:37.39.

The Oakland Strokes women's lightweight eight-plus, with coxswain Molly

Fehr (Miramonte), stroke Mary Sophia Motlow (Piedmont), Rosie D'Orazio (Bishop O'Dowd), Anne Hofinga (Miramonte), Mollie Roark (Marin Academy), Erin Mullin (St. Joseph's), Sarah Goldman (Piedmont), Ayla Koenig (Berkeley High), and Sarah Coppock-Pector (Bishop O'Dowd) took 12th place overall. Los Gatos Rowing Club finished with a time of 6:53.45 to take the gold, with Community Rowing, Boston, taking the silver medal in a 6:57.66. West Side Rowing Club won the bronze medal with a time of 7:00.82.

Four members of the Strokes team have been invited to this year's Junior World Championships selection camp where they will compete for a spot on the U.S. National Team scheduled to race at the end of July in Austria. They are James Lenczowski (Bentley), Dana Walsh (Miramonte), Leslie Chou (Miramonte), and Dara Dickson (Acalanes).