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Club kayakers light up World Championships

Brooke Winger and Jacob Selander earn success at the World Freestyle Kayaking Championships

Jon Roetman

Freelance Sports Reporter

Brooke Winger and Jacob Selander traveled to Graz, Austria, in late May to represent the Oregon Club kayaking team at the World Freestyle Kayaking Championships. And represent they did.

Winger was crowned the World's Women's Rodeo Kayak champion and Selander finished seventh in the men's squirt boat competition.

Winger found herself in third place after the first round of competition, but climbed into first place in the next round and wouldn't relinquish her position, eventually edging Deb Pinniger of Great Britain for the win. Winger, 25, is a professional kayaker and has won more medals than anyone in the history of freestyle kayaking.

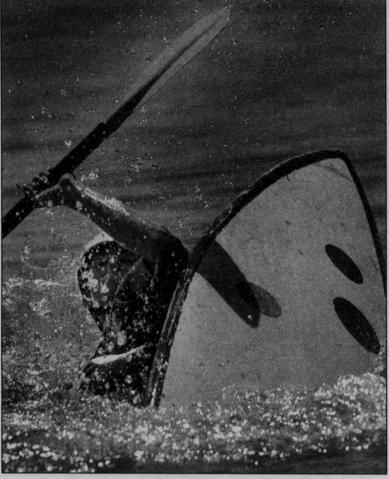
Selander, a senior who was making his first trip to the world championships, joined fellow Americans Clay Wright and Dustin Urban in the top 10 of the squirt boat competition.

"The squirt boat competition went off big time today, probably the best display of squirting artistry ever," Selander said in a May 27 report from Graz on www.usfka.com. "Everyone in the top of the men's class had huge rides.

Eugene kayaker Jay Kincaid, who graduated from Thurston High School in 1996, won the World's Men's Rodeo Kayak championship, edging fellow American Andrew Holcombe.

Oregon Crew members to train in Seattle

Five members of the Oregon Club crew team will be training in Seattle this summer along with competing in the United States Rowing Association National Championships June



Jacob Selander took seventh in the squirt boat portion of the world championships.

22-27 in Camden, N.J.

Nicole Sherey, Julia Hill, Melissa Johnson, Lauren Wylie and Kim Mandilag will begin training at the Pocock Rowing Center on June 16. From there it's on to the national championships, where the Ducks will compete for the first time after a long absence.

"It will be a really great experi-ence for all of us," Sherey said. After the world championships, the

Ducks will travel to Canada for the Royal Henley Regatta August 5-10.

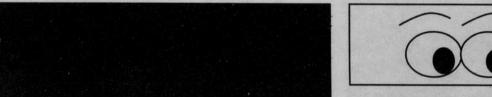
Wylie, a sophomore rower, will be

transferring to Texas next year after receiving a crew scholarship. Hall, also a sophomore, plans to study abroad in Russia next year. Johnson, a junior rower, will take over club coordinator duties next year.

The Ducks hope the summer will continue to build on the success they experienced this year.

"It's been really awesome," Sherey said of the year. "We met a lot of our expectations."

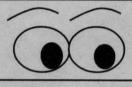
Jon Roetman is a freelance writer for the Emerald.





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