November 5, 2012

Wichita State University Rowing team completed another successful day of rowing at yesterday's Frostbite Regatta hosted by the city's own Wichita Rowing Association. Races were held on the Little Arkansas River in Riverside in Wichita, KS on the winding course of just under 2500 meters. 24 different entities entered the several race events throughout the day and the area was filled with rowing shells and fans alike. The regatta holds races not just for collegiate athletes but also for Junior rowers, or those in middle and high school, but also for rowers older and no longer in in the Masters events.

WSU started the racing day off at 8:40am with the Men's Novice Four, entering two boats that placed third and fourth behind two crews from the University of Colorado. The time between the third and fourth place boats was one one-hundredth of a second. For the Men's Novice Eight event later in the day, WSU entered three boats that placed second, fourth, and sixth with the fastest of them finishing the course with a time of eight minutes and 42 seconds.

The Women's Varsity Eight placed third behind two University of Central Oklahoma boats with a finish time of 9.39 minutes, while the Men's Varsity Eight placed second with a finish time of 8.11 minutes behind a University of Colorado boat. The University of Colorado originally had three boats entered in that race, however one of the boats hit the bridge at the start line due to some bad steering by their coxswain and they were unable to finish their race due to damage done to the boat.

In addition to racing the usual eights and fours, the Varsity men and women were broken down into small boats to race. Two WSU boats raced in the Men's Open Pair event. The pair with seniors Christian Kindel and William Calderwood placed second while the other pair with Paul Brink and Aaron Hold placed fourth. Rowers Michael Sullivan and Patrick Harms competed in the Men's Open Double event and placed second behind Topeka Rowing Association.

One of the most exciting results from the day was the Women's Novice Eight securing first place just as the last year's novice women were able to do at the 2011 Frostbite as well. Coxed by sophomore Rebecca Baltzell with a time of 10.05 minutes, the women beat out eight other crews in their race.

Other gold winners of the day include sophomores Bethany Hesse and Logan Vincent racing in the Women's Open Double with a finish time of 11.27 minutes. In all WSU Rowing medaled in twelve events, three of which were gold winning, and two events even medaled two different WSU boats.