



## Mid-Atlantic 2011: Breaking the Record

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### MEDIA ALERT

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### **WORLD RECORD HUNKS IN SEATTLE MAY 1 TO FLEX FOR OPENING DAY ON THE WATER**

#### Daring Local Ocean Crossers to Lead Parade of Boats

Seattle, WA - They conquered wind, waves and whales when they crossed the Atlantic Ocean...in a rowboat. So they think they can handle the Montlake Cut.

Atlantic Ocean Rowing Race veterans Jordan Hanssen and Greg Spooner, as well as Olympic Gold Medalist Adam Kreek and former UW rower Richard Tarbill are available for media interviews and/or photos Saturday, May 1 in Seattle.

Hanssen and Spooner were half of the first team to ever row unassisted across the Atlantic from mainland U.S. to mainland U.K. They will attempt another world-record crossing with Kreek and Tarbill replacing two previous team-members.

The record-setting men and the actual craft that made the trip will lead the parade of boats immediately following the Windermere Cup on Saturday, May 1st, Opening Day of boating season. The team and their boat will be available from 8:30a until 10a at West Montlake Park (on the corner of E Shelby St. and W Park Dr E... by the Windermere Cup finish line).

They can discuss 30 foot waves v. a 29-foot rowboat, losing 45 pounds in 72 days on the open sea, things that go bump in the night (they're sure it was a shark)...and why Jordan and Greg want to do it all over again.

Somehow they convinced Adam and Richard to join them for a Mid-Atlantic race in December 2011. Their epic journey will benefit *Right to Play International*.

The boat itself, the James Robert Hanssen, is a piece of maritime history, as it is the first rowboat to cross from mainland U.S. to mainland U.K.

OAR Northwest ... Row *your* ocean.

### VISUALS

- \* Four strapping, young rowers (all of whom have agreed to remove their shirts if prompted)
- \* The historic rowboat leading a parade of boats

### ABOUT OAR NORTHWEST

Founded in 2005, OAR Northwest connects with partners to reach its expedition fundraising goals, while propelling businesses to their own extraordinary achievement. The crew for its next Atlantic crossing: Guinness World Record Holders and North Atlantic Ocean Rowing Race veterans Jordan Hanssen and Greg Spooner, Beijing Olympic Gold Medalist Adam Kreek and National Level Lightweight Rower Richard Tarbill. Jordan and Greg rowed 3,200 nautical miles across the North Atlantic in 72 days from the USA to the UK without assistance. This Pacific Northwest-based 501(c)3 organization is currently raising awareness and funds for their 2011 Mid-Atlantic rowing race, benefiting Right to Play International. OAR Northwest proves that solid teams faced with extreme challenges can inspire excellence. For more information visit <http://www.oarnorthwest.com>.

### ABOUT RIGHT TO PLAY INTERNATIONAL

Right to Play (RTP) is committed to every child's right to play. Children are given a chance to become constructive participants in society, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, social background or religion. Through games and sports, RTP helps create social change in communities affected by war, poverty and disease. A team of top athletes from more than 40 countries supports Right to Play. Each week, more than 688,000 children take part in regular sport and play activities and a combined total of more than 1 million children attend regular programming and special sports events and festivals. This is made possible by more than 15,000 local Coaches, Teachers and Leaders.