

The Voice in Munich. Keep up with the worlds: regular results, forecast, tips, news and views. Rowing Voice live from the world championships continuing all week.

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The quad qualify for the Olympics with Vernon at stroke. But Grainger was back in the back seat by next morning
Photograph: Peter Spurrier/Intersport Images

Quad arrives in Beijing

Race by race: where the GB crews finished and where they're going next, by Christopher Dodd and Rachel Quarrell.

Women's quadruple sculls

Qualified direct to final - CHN, GBR

GB crew - Katherine Grainger/Debbie Flood/Fran Houghton/Annie Vernon

A brilliant opening performance which kept the Germans in their place and was faster than the other heat winners, China, put the Anglo-Scottish Camelot GB quad into the 2008 Olympics. They and the host country are the first two crews to secure boats for Beijing (although the line-up can change in the next year). They have the rest of the week off. Germany (Kathrin Boron, Manuela Lutz, Britta Oppelt, Stephanie Schiller) were less than half a length behind at the line, the Brits' time being 6:30.87. The Chinese (6:32.90) were chased by Ukraine and France, with Romania nowhere.

GB result - first

Next racing - final on Sunday

Qualified for Olympics 2008

Lightweight women's singles

Qualified direct to semifinals - Benedicte Dorfman (FRA), Maria Perl (DEN), Jen Goldsack (USA), Mirna Rajle (CRO)

GB crew - Andrea Dennis

Unfortunately, perhaps, Dennis drew the toughest heat. It contained the title holder, Marit Van Eupen of the Netherlands and the only-just American sculler Jen Goldsack, late of Wallingford and GB Rowing. Only the first earned a passage to the semifinal, and the Canadian Melanie Kok was leading after 500 metres. Dennis was third at 1000 metres, but the drama was being played out in front between Van Eupen and Goldsack. Van Eupen moved very fast in the third quarter but the American stamped on the threat with the fastest finish. Her time was 7 minutes 41.61 seconds, eight seconds faster than the next fastest heat. So Dennis still has a chance of reaching a semifinal. **GB result** - fourth

Next racing - repêchages on Tuesday

Number to Olympics - 0

Lightweight men's single sculls

Qualified direct to semifinals - Ivan Baldychev (USA), Lorenzo Bertini (ITA), Takahiro Suda (JPN), Duncan Grant (NZL)

GB crew - Alasdair Leighton-Crawford

Leighton-Crawford has come a long way since finishing last in the Amsterdam A-final nearly quarter of a minute behind Duncan Grant of New Zealand, the fastest lightweight sculler of the World Cup Regatta series. This time the Briton

Repechage system, 2007 version:

7-8 entries: two heats (1 from each through to final), then rep (4 through), final.

9-12 entries: two heats (1 through), two reps (2 through), final.

13-15 entries: three heats (3 through), one rep (3 through), semis, final.

16-18 entries: three heats (2 through), two reps (3 through), semis, final.

19-20 entries: four heats (2 through), two reps (2 through), semis, final.

21-24 entries: four heats (1 through), four reps (2 through), semis, final.

25-30 entries: six heats (top 24 through), four quarters (3 through), semis, final.

31-36 entries: six heats (top 24 through), quarters, semis, final.

Updated weather forecast:

From day to day the forecast is changing quite quickly. This is the latest.

Tue 28: 18deg, cloudy, 7 mph NE winds.

Wed 29: 11deg, rain showers early, then cold and cloudy, 7.5 mph NE winds.

Thu 30: 12deg, cooler with 5 mph NE winds.

Fri 31: 21deg, rainy, 5 mph NNE winds.

Sat 1: 17deg, cloudy, 4 mph N winds.

Sun 2: 18deg, cloudy, sunny intervals, 4 mph N winds.

Champs on UK TV:

BBC: Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 September on BBC interactive, various times. Some live and recorded coverage on BBC 2 and Five Live radio.

Eurosport:

Thu 30 August 08:45-11:30

Fri 31 August: 13:30-15:00

Sat 1 and Sun 2 September: live coverage.

was only six seconds and one place back at the line, and clearly saved his energy once losing the only qualification spot was inevitable after the first 500 metres. His speed and sculling were much improved since the start of the summer, and approaching the line he raced Canada's Timothy Coulson well, finishing strongly in second. Beating Grant was always unlikely but Leighton-Crawford should be looking to win his repêchage now. In the other heats Baldychev was faster but in a tight scrap with Dutchman Jaap Schouten, so Grant still looks like the most likely gold medallist at the moment, which further improves the appearance of Leighton-Crawford's result.

GBR result - second

Next racing - repêchage on Tuesday

Number to Olympics - 0

Women's single sculls

Heat winners going into the quarterfinals

- Michelle Guerette (USA), Zhang Xiuyun (CHN), Rumyana Neykova (BUL), Ekaterina Karsten-Khodotovich (BLR), Mirka Knapkova (CZE), Sophie Balmay (FRA).

GB crew name - none. We'll follow it anyway since it's an important Olympic event.

Since the retirement a couple of years ago of Katrin Rutchow-Stomporowski (much in evidence around the boat area at these champs) Ekaterina Karsten has had it pretty much her

own way. She, the Chinese sculler and Neykova posted virtually the same times in their heats, but with everyone saving their beans for the obligatory quarterfinals it's anyone's guess how that ranking is going to develop - other than that Karsten will probably be miles in front. GBR's policy of not putting in entries who don't have sufficient speed has paid off, since Atlanta St John, who was being considered for a racing spare (and thus like Alasdair Leighton-Crawford would have competed) has been able to help the women's quad out while Katherine Grainger recovered from back trouble. St John was part of the GB under-23 quad which won bronze in Strathclyde, and has hugely impressed the GB selectors - team manager David Tanner said the quad didn't go appreciably differently with her in.

Next racing - repêchages on Tuesday

Number to Olympics - 9

Men's single sculls

Heat winners going into the quarterfinals

- Alan Campbell (GBR), Lassi Karonen (SWE), Ondrej Synek (CZE), Santiago Fernandez (ARG), Marcel Hacker (GER), Mahe Drysdale (NZL)

GB crew - Alan Campbell

Honorary Brit - Mahe Drysdale (Tideway Scullers)

More or less the same top six have been vying

for medals throughout a fascinating World Cup series, so the only surprise was in heat four when Argentina's finest, Fernandez, beat Olympic champion Olaf Tufte. Campbell's race developed in predictably calm fashion: he was chased hard by Ralph Kreibich in the first couple of minutes, but kept his cool and soon saw the Austrian drop back. The margin never moved out to clear water, but with Campbell at 29 there's no denying who was in charge. Various games with rate and effort were played by the rest of the big boys: Karonen won in a much faster time but apparently also going much harder, perhaps to avoid specific scullers in the quarterfinals. Synek dawdled home ahead of the surprisingly excellent Valentinos Sofokleous from Cyprus (13th at the world under-23s for the last two years), while world champion Drysdale and Germany's darling Hacker won their heats competently and were never led.

GBR result - first

Next racing - quarterfinals on Tuesday

Number to Olympics - 11

Women's pairs

Qualified direct to semifinal - AUS, BLR, GER; CAN, CHN, DEN; NZL, ROU, USA

GB crew - Beth Rodford/Natasha Page

Rodford and Page were unfortunate to draw the first three crews in the Lucerne world cup final.

It duly turned into the fastest race duly reflected it. The three qualifying places were taken by the Kiwis Juliette Haigh and Nicola Coles, the Romanians Georgeta Damian-Andrunache and Vlorica Susanu and the Americans Portia McGee (née Johnson) and Anna Mickelson. The British crew was changed just before Munich when Beth Rodford was brought in for Natasha Howard who is feeling twinges of tinosinovitis in her right forearm. It was felt prudent to switch her to the eight and bring Rodford in to join Page. With luck, this will turn out to be one of those occasions when a repêchage gives them a chance to find form. They are not complete strangers to each other, having come second together at final trials. The American pair, meanwhile, was a good medal prospect, but McGee was brought in the day before because Megan Cooke is injured. The name of their game now, like the Brits, is to get in the top eight to secure a boat in Beijing 2008.

GBR result - fourth

Next racing - repêchages on Tuesday

Number to Olympics - 8

Men's coxless pairs

Qualified direct to semifinal - GBR, NZL, AUS, FRA

GB crew names - Colin Smith/Matt Langridge
Another British crew in the fastest heat of the

event, though in this case not by much. Smith and Langridge hit the world cup in the first round, the "Laurel and Hardy" of pairs. They began their roller-coaster by winning in Linz, winning again in Amsterdam as part of the "supereight", and bombing to eleventh in the pair again in Lucerne. On Sunday there they bounced back, although they made it exciting by leading at 500, lying fourth at 1000, second at 1500 and first with clear water over the Americans Jason Read and Kyle Larson at the finish. The former champions Sinisa and Niksa Skelin (Croatia) were leading at 1500 but disappeared into fourth place behind the Canadians. The current champions, Drew Ginn and Duncan Free of Australia, had an easy time. Kiwis Nathan Twaddle and George Bridgewater who have had a good season also had an easy time, and so did the French winners of the fourth heat, Erwan Peron and Laurent Cabot.

GB result - first

Next racing - semifinals on Thursday

Number to Olympics - 11

Women's double sculls

Qualified direct to semifinal - GBR, NZL; CHN, ROU; ITA, GER

GB crew - Elise Laverick/Anna Bebington
To the rest of the world, Laverick and Bebington are dark horses, an injury for Bebington having kept them out of racing until Lucerne. Time to put them straight, and the Brits did it the stylish way, getting quickly ahead of the former world and current Olympic champions New Zealand - the Evers-Swindell twins - and tussling all the way down the course with them. The Kiwis got back in front briefly with a few hundred metres to go, but the Brits put their foot down and robbed them of a victory New Zealand clearly wanted. Both qualify for the semis, but it was not hard to see which was the happier double. Rightly, the girls pointed out that New Zealand may not be the in-form crew: the Chinese and Italians, the other heat winners, were both able to slacken off at the end. A confidence-boosting start though, and our girls are well in the mix with the top boats.

(W2x continued)

GB result - first

Next racing - semifinals on Thursday

Number to Olympics - 8

Men's double sculls

Heat winners going into the quarterfinals

- SLO, FRA, GER, EST, GBR, CHN

GB crew - Matt Wells/Steve Rowbotham

The 'new Matt and Steve', this eminently classy double act have everything it takes to match or improve on their bronze medal of last year. Throughout the season they've irritated everyone else in the event with their medal-winningly fast second thousand, plus a tidy starting minute when things go right. However they've been annoyed in their turn by Estonia, whose evergreen veteran Jueri Jaanson added experience and race-nous to his young partner Tonu Endrekson's brawn to win the second and third world cups. There was nobody to touch the Brits in their opening heat, so unsurprisingly they sailed through, more importantly posting halfway times as good as all but the Slovenes and French. Nobody had a really hard race here, apart from Hungary's Akos Haller and Tibor Peto (former world champions, 4th in the GBR heat), who later withdrew citing medical problems for Peto.

GB result - first

Next racing - quarterfinals on Tuesday

Number to Olympics - 11

Men's coxless fours

Qualified direct to semifinal - GBR, CZE, NED, NZL

GB crew - Steve Williams/Peter Reed/Alex Partridge/Andy Triggs Hodge

As always, the fours have been exciting. GB lost their unbeaten record in Lucerne, with Tom James subbing for Alex Partridge, although a drubbing from New Zealand and then the Netherlands - both heat winners on Sunday - was hardly James's fault. Only just re-joining the squad after finishing his final year at Cambridge, he fitted in well. But everybody is ratcheting up. Here in Munich it was plain



Keep your shirt on.... Britain's four blast off the blocks

Photograph: Peter Spurrier

Voices off in Munich

Off to a flying start

Mariya Filimonova avoided punishment when she arrived late on the start for her heat of the single sculls. Officials delayed the race while the Kazakhstan sculler was whisked from Munich airport to the start, where her boat awaited her having been rowed up by her coach. Among those waiting for her was the Olympic champion Ekaterina 'Choco' Karsten, who duly won the heat, while the Kazakh finished fourth and should be in time for her repechage on Tuesday.

Shouts and murmurs

Amaud Pornin of France was relegated to last place in the lightweight sculls because his boat was underweight. The Iraqi lightweight sculler Hamza Jaber, was not allowed to race when he failed the weight test. Meanwhile, the Lithuanian entry withdrew for medical reasons before the competition started and necessitated a change in the progression system to four heats and four repêchages instead of quarterfinals. A similar situation arose in the open men's sculls when the Egyptian El Hussein Abd El Hady withdrew before the heats to sub into his country's quad. The Iraqi open sculler Haydar Rashid turned up with no equipment and was lent a boat by FISA and blades by GB Rowing. Jaroslav Hellebrand of Greece did not meet the classification criteria for the arms-only men's single sculls. The Hungarian men's double withdrew from the E final because Tibor Peto is ill. The German legs trunk arms mixed coxed four was relegated to last place because the boat did not meet the minimum weight requirement. The men's eights had to be re-drawn after the first attempt put all the best ones in the same heat.

Seat-swapping

It's musical seats for some of the biggest names here in Munich. On Monday Katherine Grainger was extolling the benefits of being at bow in the GBR W4x only to switch back for Tuesday morning's training session. "We'll just have to keep guessing", said coach Paul Thompson when drawn on whether Grainger would stay at stroke. Meanwhile the Australians and Americans have had the same idea: get your born racer in the stroke seat. AUS M8+ moved Jimmy Tomkins to stroke after losing in Lucerne, to good effect. Yesterday the USA M4- moved Bryan Volpenhein up to stroke, Beau Hoopman back to bow, and the others up a notch. Expect fireworks: Olympic champion stroke Volp is known for his massive sprints.

If you can't win, emigrate

Jen Goldsack is not the only GBR national to have changed allegiance after discovering that the rowing establishment didn't value evident talent. Former Tideway Sculler Rod Chisholm pushed off Down Under after failing to make it through the GB trials system, and now sits at bow in the very fast Australian LM4, a potential Olympic crew. What did we miss?

Haining, McCarthy on the move

I hear that Peter Haining has parted company with Oxford Brookes, and Simon McCarthy likewise with the London Regatta Centre. What a dialogue there will be if Haining should happen to flag down a black cab and find that McCarthy, in his latest incarnation, is the driver.

Hammer Smith

Send title and tattle to
voice@rowingservice.com

The Maple Leaf Rag

Mike Spracklen, Canada's men's coach and sometime coach to Redgrave & Pinsent, Silken Laumann, India, GB and the US, will celebrate turning 70 with a lecture on his life's journey from Marlow, England, to Victoria in British Columbia at the River & Rowing Museum, Henley-on-Thames, on Saturday 8 September. Book now! Tickets and further info from www.rmm.co.uk.

that the lesson of losing had been learned: GB went off at 46 but were soon led by France and Ireland. Meanwhile, the threat of Canada with Barney Williams at stroke was not realised - or has not been realised yet. The Brits were leading at the 1500 metre mark and the next three over the finish line were Ireland, France and Canada. Incidentally, there was a bit of a following breeze during this, the last event of the day. The Czechs won the second heat, pressed by Australia to a time close to the British heat. The Slovenians pressed the Dutch in heat 3, and the Kiwis could see the German and American crews all the way in heat 4. The Americans may not have shown the hand that is revealed in the crew roster and by rumour of performance.

GB result - first (eventually)

Next racing - semifinals on Thursday

Number to Olympics - 11

Lightweight men's pairs

Qualified direct to final - ITA, AUS

GB crew - Matthew Beechey/Daniel Harte
Beechey and Harte met their match in Ross Brown and Michael McBryde (Australia) who had a lead over the Brits of 6 secs by halfway in the heat. The Italians Andrea Caianiello and Armando Dell'Aquila were stylish and faster in the other heat. But the Brits should qualify for the final through the repêchage.

GB result - second

Next racing - repêchage on Wednesday

Number to Olympics - 0

Lightweight women's quads

Qualified direct to final - AUS, GBR

GB crew - Sophie Hosking/Laura Greenhalgh/Mathilde Pauls/Jane Hall

The British women gave themselves the dream ticket to Sunday, becoming the first in the team to qualify via racing for the A-finals when they won their heat. However, it was a harder yet slower race than the other heat, in which the Chinese (half last year's world champion crew) gave up the ghost halfway when they found they couldn't best Australia at the first time of asking. GB by comparison had to fend off the USA right down the course, yet were still a length slower than the Aussies. Great racing, but it doesn't mean a gold is in the bag yet.

GB result - first

Next racing - A final on Sunday

Number to Olympics - 0

Lightweight men's quads

Qualified direct to final - FRA, ITA

GB crew - Simon Jones/Rob Williams/Chris Bartley/Dave Currie

If you had to draw anyone for your first quads race, you might prefer it not to be Italy, whose 2006 world champion crew has probably been strengthened by the inclusion of legend Leon-

ardo Pettinari (nine world and one Olympic medal, mostly gold) in the bow seat. No surprise that the Brits could not do better than second, which means a repêchage, but they had a very similar race profile to that of Germany, second in the other heat. That means the medal zone beckons, as long as nobody else in the heats has massive but hidden speed. A good first race, and rowing effectively but well inside themselves in the second half, but that wasn't the real fight.

GB result - second

Next racing - repêchages on Wednesday

Number to Olympics - 0

Lightweight women's doubles

Qualified direct to semifinals - Finland, China; Greece, Denmark; Australia, Germany.
GB crew names - Helen Casey/Hester Goodsell

Casey and Goodsell were in a great tussle for two qualifying places. While Amber Halliday and Marguerite Houston (Australia) sowed up the front spot, the Brits, after a slow start, had a great tussle with the Germans Berit Carow and Marie-Louise Draeger for the second. In the end it was 7:11.22 for Germany and 7:11.26 for GB. A place in the semis is likely through the rep. In the first heat the Finns Sanna Sten and Minna Nieminen came from fifth to win ahead of Dongxiang Xu and Haixia Chen (China) in 7:11.32. Qualifiers from the second heat were Chrysi Biskitzi and Alexandra Tsiavou (Greece) in 7:08.51 and Katrin Olsen and Juliane Rasmussen (Denmark). Niamh Ni Cheilleacher and Sinead Jennings (Ireland) were fourth.

GB result - third

Next racing - repêchage on Wednesday

Number to Olympics - 8

Lightweight men's doubles

Heat winners going to quarterfinals - AUS, GBR, GRE, HUN, FRA, DEN.

GB crew - Zac Purchase/Mark Hunter
Purchase and Hunter are in good company after winning their heat and reaching the quarterfinal round. Heats were uneventful because the first three or in some races four went to quarterfinals. Reigning world champions and fastest ever boat in light doubles Mads Rasmussen and Rasmus Quist (Denmark) won in 6:33.59, with China unable to catch them. second all way with fastest last 500. other heat winners were Sam Beltz and Tom Gibson (Australia), Dimitrios Mougios and Vasileios Polymeros (Greece), Zsolt Hirling and Tamas Varga (Hungary), and Fabrice Moreau and Frederic Dufour (France).

GB result - first

Next racing - quarterfinal on Wednesday

Number to Olympics - 11

Lightweight men's fours

Heat winners going to quarterfinals - CHN, EGY, AUS, CAN, GBR, FRA

GB crew - Richard Chambers/James Lindsay-Fynn/Paul Mattick/James Clarke

The boys made beating Germany and Japan look easy, but that's partly because they are flowing so well together. In such a crowded event, they're going to be tested every other day until the weekend, but deal with pressure pretty capably. They didn't take long to get a lead and lose the first-race nerves. With three through, Germany and Japan weren't trying once they had a clear length over South Africa. Heat 3 was won by Australia, whose bowman is Rod Chisholm, another former Brit with dual nationality. They look to have picked up speed recently. China, defending world champions, are the ones nobody has beaten yet, and apparently loitered around, posting an exceptionally slow time with quickly lengthening splits, which can't be explained by wind. Things get serious on Wednesday's quarterfinals, in which the Brits have drawn Canada, whom they beat comprehensively in Lucerne.

GB result - first

Next racing - quarterfinals on Wednesday

Number to Olympics - 11

Men's quads

Qualified direct to semifinals - POL, EST; GER, FRA; CZE, UKR; ITA, RUS

GB crew - Simon Fieldhouse/Sam Townsend/Alex Gregory/Ian Lawson

There's a real battle on for this crew to reach its qualifying place. A slow start gave the quad the problem of coming through wash from the back of the field, but they steadily hacked away at it and by 1500m gone were in just about touch with second-placed France, although clear water down on Germany. The two leaders obviously had plenty in the bag, though, so there was no avoiding the repêchage.

GB result - third

Next racing - repêchages on Wednesday

Number to Olympics - 11

Women's eights

Qualified direct to final - ROU, USA

GB crew - Carla Ashford/Baz Moffat/Alice Freeman/Louisa Reeve/Natasha Howard/Alison Knowles/Katie Greves/Jess Eddie/cox Caroline O'Connor

GB go through the rep after finishing fourth after US, Australia and Canada. They finished in an echelon of half-length gaps, the winning time being 6:12.79 and Britain's 6:18.90. This was the faster heat, the other being won by Romania ahead of Germany and China in 6:14.46.

GB result - fourth

Next racing - repêchage on Wednesday

Number to Olympics - 5

Men's eights

Qualified direct to semifinal - GER, NED; CAN, AUS; RUS, CHN

GB crew - Tom James (sub)/Tom Stallard/Tom Lucy/Tom Solesbury/Josh West/Ric Egington/Robin Bourne-Taylor/Al Heathcote/cox Acer Nethercott

What a race. With season leaders Canada in their heat GB starts brilliantly, never losing overlap. Relative to Canada it was beautifully paced, but the spanner in the works was Australia, stroked by their version of Redgrave, Jimmy "nine golds" Tomkins. This 42-year-old is bullying the young Aussie eight into rowing his way from the stroke seat, and launched an insane final 500m which saw them claw back a length on GB and snatch the second qualifying spot a few bare metres from the line. Fortunately the plan never relied upon avoiding the repêchage, so the British eight will turn extra racing to their advantage and get on with it.

Fly in the ointment may be signs of cracks appearing under the Australian pressure in the last minute, but GB's time would have had them winning let alone qualifying, in either of the other heats, so it's not all doom and gloom.

GB result - third

Next racing - repêchages on Wednesday

Number to Olympics - 7

Arms-only women's singles (1000 metres)

Qualified direct to final - Liudmila Vauchok (BLR), Claudia Santos (BRA)

GB crew - Helene Raynsford

Raynsford had an asthma attack during her race and was assisted off the course after finishing fourth. She has recovered, but there has to be a question mark over her starting in Tuesday's rep. Her heat was won by Liudmila Vauchok (Belarus), and the other qualifier the final was Claudia Santos (Brazil), behind whom Svitiana Kuprijanova (Ukraine) and Martyna Snopek (Poland) were split by a third of a second for 2nd and 3rd.

GB result - fourth

Next racing - repêchage on Tuesday

Number to Paralympics - 12

Arms-only men's singles (1000 metres)

Qualified direct to semifinal - Tom Aggar (GBR), Pierre Morel (CAN); Eli Nawi (ISR), Dominic Monypenny (AUS); Ronald Harvey (USA), Patrick Laureau (FRA)

GB crew - Tom Aggar

Aggar led his heat by miles, and the Frenchman Morel was well clear of the rest for the second qualifying place. Other winners were Eli Nawi (Israel) in the fastest time, beating Australia's double world champion Dominic Monypenny

What they said

"That was quite a good race. They certainly put up more of a fight than the Kiwis did today" – **Zac Purchase, :GBR LM2x, on dead-heating with the GBR W4x during training camp**

"I would have liked us to win by more. But we knew the pressure of racing the home champions" – **Paul Thompson, coach of the GBR W4x**

"Whatever way round we sit we bring things to the boat. It's different, but we go fast whichever way round we row" – **Debbie Flood, GBR W4x**

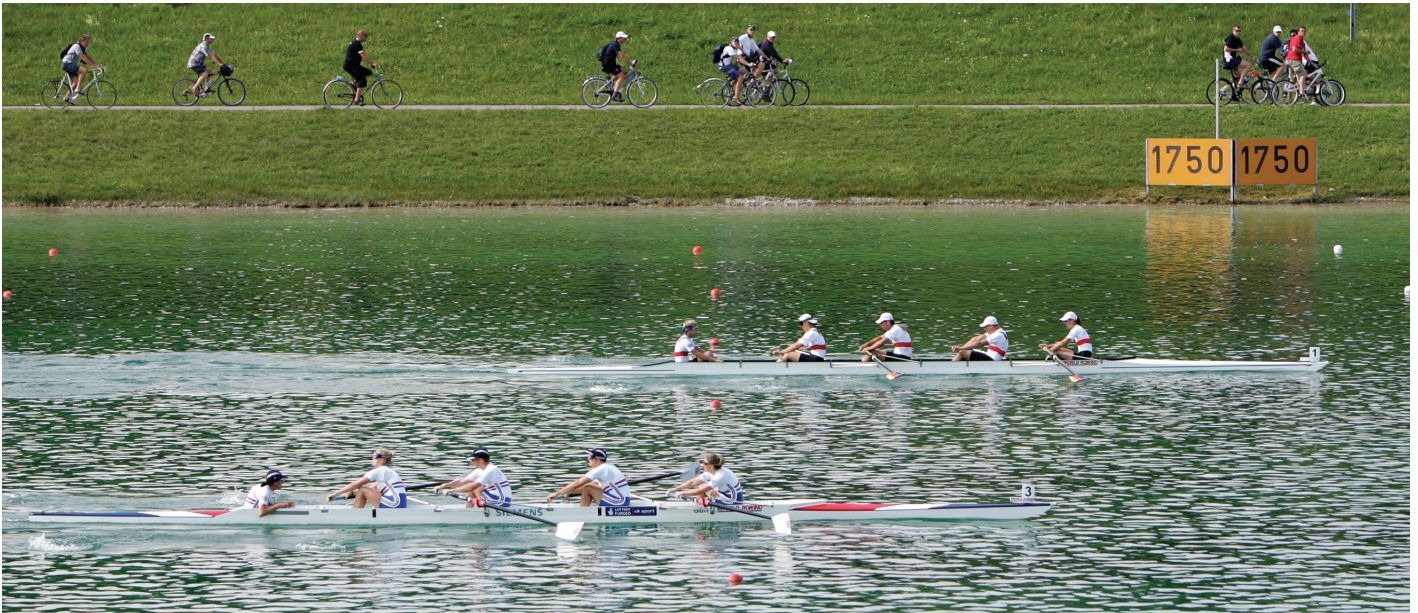
"There was no holding back in the race, certainly not with the back. I'm stronger than an ox" – **Katherine Grainger, GBR W4x**

"Yes I like the stroke seat. It's really different in how the boat feels and really different in the roles I have. It's been quite a sharp learning curve for me. At bow when we get out quite quickly I feel quite isolated up there. Now you feel much more in the action." – **Annie Vernon, GBR W4x, 16 hours before being switched back to bow for training.**



"If you're still with us at 400m to go you're going to have to pay the price" – **Colin Smith, GBR M2-**

"It's really easy to turn rowing into a zen metaphysical sport and forget it's about rowing long strokes and pushing hard" – **Colin Smith, GBR M2-**



German mixed adaptive four beats GB... but was relegated for underweight boat.

Photograph: Sybrand Treffers

"You don't often get the chance to row world champions to a standstill" – Ian South, coach of USA LW1x Jen Goldsack (formerly in the GBR LW2x in 2005)

"They had a go at us and took the rate up" – Anna Bebington, GBR W2x, on the Germans

"With all the hard training we've done we've got to be positive" – Peter Reed, GBR M4-

"That we were able to win like that gave us confidence" – Steve Rowbotham, GBR M2x

"The biggest problem with the world championships is that boredom does set in quite badly" – Alan Campbell, GBR M1x

"It's very fun being in the team at the moment. There are high expectations, mostly from the athletes, but now we have the muscle to back them up" – Alan Campbell, GBR M1x

"The heat's going to be hard, well good. They perform well when they're challenged" – team manager David Tanner before the GBR W4's first race

"Breizac was a wonderfully hard camp: we managed to drive ourselves into the ground pretty well" – Zac Purchase, GBR LM2x

with a ferocious sprint, and Ronald Harvey (US). A place in the semi-final guarantees that Britain will have a single sculler at the Beijing Paralympics, with Aggar heading the list to be selected.

GB result - first

Next racing - semifinal on Thursday
Qualified for Paralympics 2008

Trunk/arms mixed double

Qualified direct to semifinals - ITA, USA; CHN, GRE; BRA, AUS

GB crew - Karen Cromie/James Roberts

Last of all the GB crews to be selected, Cromie and Roberts had the toughest race, dropped into fourth early on and never able to get back on terms. The surprise of the heats was Americans Scott Brown and Angela Madsen, who have won this event all four times it has been raced at the championships, being slapped into second by Italy. There are rumblings of discontent among the team managers about classification for all the adaptives: perhaps this result will add the USA's voice to those clamouring for an improvement before the Paralympics.

GB result - fourth

Next racing - repêchages on Tuesday
Number to Paralympics - 12

Leg/trunk/arms mixed fours

Qualified direct to semifinals - GBR, RUS, UKR; ITA, NED, BRA; CAN, USA, ISR

GB crew - Vicky Hansford/Alan Crowther/Alistair McKean/Naomi Riches/cox Alan 'Woody' Sherman

Britain has a fair grasp on this event, champions for the last three years, and all of this crew involved at least once. The Paralympic classes are developing fast though, and other countries are catching up fast. Germany, possibly the only other crew bar the Netherlands who can

stay in contact with GB, gave them a nasty shock, nipping into a slight lead and resolutely staying there. GB weren't rowing their best, and their first loss ever will have made them think again about how to beat the home crew. Ironically, an hour after the race Germany was relegated officially to last after their boat weighed light, so GB win the heat after all. Nobody else bar these two has much chance at the gold medal. Oh, and they have already qualified for the Paralympics.

GB result - second, then moved to first

Next racing - semifinals on Thursday
Number to Paralympics - 12

Racing schedule

Tuesday - Group A reps/qfinals

9:30 W4- race for lanes
9:38-9:42 M2+ reps
9:48-10:06 LW1x reps
10:12-10:30 LM1x reps
10:36 LM8+ race for lanes
10:42-11:00 W1x quarterfinals
11:06-11:24 M1x quarterfinals
11:30 W2- rep
11:36-11:54 M2- reps
12:00-12:06 W2x reps
12:12-12:30 M2x quarterfinals
12:36-12:54 M4- reps
14:00-14:10 AW1x reps
14:20-14:30 AM1x reps
14:40-14:50 TA2x reps
15:00 LTA4+ rep

Wednesday - Group B reps/qfs

9:30 M4+ rep
9:36 LW4x rep
9:42 LM4x rep
9:48-9:54 LW2x reps
10:00-10:18 LM2x quarterfinals
10:24-10:42 LM4- quarterfinals
10:48-10:54 M4x reps
11:00-11:06 W8+ reps
11:12-11:18 M8+ reps