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ABC Recognizes Sacramento State Women's Rowing Team for "No Alcohol" Pledge and Successful Season

Sacramento – California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control Director Jerry Jolly today congratulated the Sacramento State Women's Rowing Team for their effort to help curb the problem of underage drinking and their excellent performance this rowing season.

The Director hand delivered a Certificate of Appreciation and Letter of Commendation to the team for taking a "No Alcohol" pledge during the long rowing season and for successfully winning multiple regattas including the Western Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championship that was held on April 29 & 30, 2006.

"These young women have taken a bold and courageous step by saying no to alcohol and then following through together with a successful season on the water," said ABC Director Jolly. "Their message is very strong and comes at a time of the year when many young people will be celebrating with graduation and end of the school year festivities. We hope their example spreads far and wide among underage youth throughout California."

Sacramento State Athletic Director Terry Wanless said "I'm very proud of the stand against alcohol the team has taken this year. The rowing team is a model that we would like other athletics programs at Sacramento State to look at and follow."

Sacramento State Women's Rowing Coach Mike Connors said "I am proud of the rowers for making this commitment to the team and each other. We have talked the last couple years about the importance of limiting alcohol intake and the need to stay 'dry' during race season. Our sport is very training intensive, so in order to achieve peak performance, the rowers must keep their mind and bodies sharp at all times. The rowers decided it was important to find a way to show their support of this team policy and the results we achieved this season are certainly reflective of their hard work and discipline."

Senior Co-Captain Laura Harder said "Our team did an amazing job this year by making the team goals a priority and I am extremely proud of all of my teammates for their desire, drive and determination to make this season successful." The team says all of its members have been wearing bracelets for the entire season and that has helped forge a strong bond and is one of the reasons for their success this year. The Hornets will be participating in the Pacific Coast Rowing Championship May 13 and the Pacific 10 Rowing Championship on May 14 which will provide their toughest test of the season.

ABC Director Jerry Jolly said regardless of this weekend's outcome, it is important to recognize young leaders. ABC is responsible for licensing and regulating California's alcohol industry which includes enforcement of laws regarding sales of alcohol to minors. ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.