

News Release

Media Contact:

Mark Alley

517-755-7902

malley301@comcast.net

FIRST ANNUAL "CAPITAL CITY SPRINTS" ROWING REGATTA FEATURES FORMER OLYMPIAN VERSES HEAD OF CHARLES CHAMPION

Lansing, MI – The <u>Lansing Rowing Club</u> is proud to sponsor the first annual <u>Capital City Sprints</u> rowing regatta on Saturday, August 17, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the Grand River at Grand River Park, 3001 W. Main Street, Lansing, MI 48917.

There are over 140 entries from 14 rowing clubs across Michigan and Ohio. "We are excited about the wonderful response we are getting from rowing clubs all over the states of Michigan and Ohio," said Tim Fisher, President of the Lansing Rowing Club. "In addition to college, high school, experienced and novice rowers there is an exciting match-up between a former rowing Olympian and the 2011 Head of the Charles Champion," Fisher said. The featured race of the day will pit 2000 and 2004 Olympic Rower Kelly Salchow MacArthur against 2011 Head of the Charles Champion and former Michigan State University Rower Lisa Weise in the Women's Open Singles race at 10:45 a.m.

The regatta is a 1,000 meter sprint race between the Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd Bridge and the Michigan Princess. "The Michigan Princess is partnering with us and will be open for spectators to view the finish from the boat," said Ed Timm, Secretary of the Lansing Rowing Club. The Michigan Princess will also be offering beverages and snacks for sale to the hungry rowers and their families. "This section of the river offers a multitude of viewing options of the race, but watching the finish from the Michigan Princess is priceless," said Timm.

"The Lansing Rowing Club has been planning this regatta for the past 5 months and with over 50 volunteers this event has been set-up for success," said Mike Price of the Greater Lansing Sports Authority. The Greater Lansing Sports Authority has been an active partner in making the Capital City Sprints a success for Lansing by securing discount hotel rooms and meals for regatta participants. "We are excited to be involved and have dedicated a website for this regatta with discounts for the rowers and spectators," said Price.

As for the showdown between champion rowers Salchow MacArthur and Weise, "it should be a race to remember," said Dave Trumpie, Lansing Rowing Club Treasurer.

Salchow MacArther, a member of the Ann Arbor Rowing Club and Art, Art History, and Design Professor at Michigan State University said, "I am looking forward to racing Lisa on Saturday. We are good friends and it always fun to compete against her."

"Having an opportunity to race a two time Olympian is a thrill," said Weise. "Kelly is a great competitor and I am looking forward to seeing her on Saturday."

Viewing of the regatta races is free.