

“Cinderella, Welcome to the Ball”

Keelhaulers earn National Top 20 ranking

10 March, 2008; They're in their second season and have only played 37 games ever. Where only 7 teammates have previous water polo playing time on a campus of 700 known more for nautical miles than athletic prowess the CMA Keelhaulers have achieved “the impossible dream” In the latest weekly poll from the Collegiate Water Polo Association, the Keelhaulers have hit the big-time with a first-ever ranking in the National Top 20 poll, at 18th place.

The ranking came after the team competed in the Cal Poly SLO invitational. The team faced four nationally ranked teams, and even though they didn't notch a win in the tournament, they were within four seconds from tying #12 ranked Fresno State at the end of the game, and shut out #3 University of Notre Dame in the second half of their game.

“We are extremely excited about the ranking and recognition that we have received. Our students have worked especially hard, and we have a lot to overcome to be able to compete. This is a great day for our program and our school” according to Coach Timm Torchiana.

About Cal Maritime:...Cal Maritime is a campus of the California State University system, located in Vallejo, CA. The school has an enrollment of 700 students, of which only 120 are female.

About the program:...This is the second year of the program. The team competes in the Collegiate Water Polo Association, the governing body for over 260 collegiate water polo teams. In 2007, co-captain Kristen Swader was named to the CWPA All-America team. Swader and co-captain Megan Braun were both named Player of the Week in 2007. Braun has also earned a Player of the Week award in 2008.

Coming up:...The Keelhaulers travel to Rohnert Park on Friday, March 14th to face Sonoma State for the second time this season. Maritime dropped a one-point game on Wednesday, February 13th to the Seawolves.....The Keelhaulers are set to invade Tobacco Road over the week-end of March 22-23 as they will participate in the Tarheel Invitational to be held at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.