



The beauty of 'The Boys in the Boat' movie

A deep dive into UW's Olympic rowing team

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Staff Reporter

Golden sunlight bounces off the water, birds chirp while hopeful soft music settles the audience into a relaxed state. An uplifting piano plays over shots of young boys rowing while older Joe Rantz, played by Callum Turner, wistfully watches over a rowing team. Rantz surveys as his grandson practices to make the rowing team and is transported back, along with the audience, to when he made the University of Washington JV rowing team in 1934 eventually making it to the 1936 Olympics in Berlin.

The opening scene of 2023's "The Boys in the Boat," directed by George Clooney, builds hope and anticipation for the triumph of the story on which this movie is based. The movie was adapted from the book "The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics," written by Daniel James Brown, was published in 2013, which in turn inspired this movie.

"The Boys in the Boat," cinematically, was beautiful. And it knows it. The movie is crafty with its juxtaposition of warm and cool tones, with scenes overflowing with warm tones. Sunlight plays the main role for lighting in most of the film. Yet Clooney skillfully adds cool-toned scenes. When the JV rowing team has been selected, training starts, and the dark blues and grays ramp up with the blood, sweat, and tears the boys put in and are in full effect when the team is drained causing the audience to share the feeling of the boys. The sparing use of these colors puts the audience on edge successfully ushering us along the highs and lows of this story.

The movie's incredible major score flows through viewers with each wave of emotion that washes over the plot going from soft,

gentle piano and string instruments in scenes of calm to, roaring horns during scenes of the races. With each powerful pull of each boy's oar the sound design of this film booms through the screen rattling in the bones of the audience. The viewers feel when each oar is in line with the rest when the boys are one with each other. Then with a quick cut, the audience is left empty with the silence of the next scene, taking the viewers right along with the quick, sharp turns of the film.

The actors sunk into their characters producing memorable performances. One

of the performances that resonated with me the most was Jack Mulhern's portrayal of Don Hume. Endearingly awkward and quiet, Hume, even with a few lines, exhibits the audience's com-

passion to where we are rooting more for him than the protagonist, Rantz. Even with such few lines I found myself feeling and rooting more for Hume than I did the protagonist, Joe Rantz. Hume tears at our heartstrings when he falls ill during the Olympics. Then floods the audience with triumph as we reach the end of the final race.

Many fans of the book may have a nostalgia for the story and therefore a fondness for the movie before seeing it. I, however, came into this movie blind, having no previous knowledge of the story. But after watching the film, it is easy to feel a similar love and nostalgia.

Under Clooney's expert directing, the viewers feel as though they are a part of the team. Each victory and each loss is felt by the audience, producing an odd type of bond with each character.

In some incredible way, the audience just might feel as if they just won the Olympics.



Drip or Drown

Brushing clothes aside, let's focus on hair

Sophia Sisneros
Staff Reporter

Self-expression through clothes isn't the only way that students at Shorewood express their unique style. From hair dyeing to different hair textures, every student has a unique aspect to their style that makes them stand out. Everyone's styles and relationship with hair are different, and some students here share their insights on this.

How would you describe your styles?
Does your hair contribute to that?

Jelene Eliassen (12): "I would say I have an androgynous style, it really depends from day to day. My hairstyles definitely add to the gender."

Rhyanna Washington (12): "I feel like in a unique way, my hair is naturally styled and is like an accessory in a way. It adds a lot to the outfit."



Finn Bachler (10): "I would describe it as colorful."

How does your hair help you express yourself?

Eliassen: "It helps me find new ways to just show others how I've changed. I've had a lot of gender questioning and it helps show how I want to be seen."

Washington: "It's definitely a big part of my identity. It shows off my personality, and as I get older, I have more pride in my hair, it's like a living part of my ethnicity even though I don't know my African culture very well. It's existing through me through taking care of my hair."

What is your favorite hairstyle?

Eliassen: "My favorite hairstyle is a fade. I have a bit of a fade I try to do, and it doesn't always happen, but I really like fades."

Washington: "I like having my hair down, because when it's down it's really nice, defined, and held in place."

Bachler: "Probably a mullet."

Who or what do you get your inspiration from?

Washington: "I learn more about myself when I watch videos about hair care. I really like Manes by Mell on Youtube. I have learned about curly hair through her and I get bits and pieces from different hair Youtubers and influencers."

Bachler: "My sister, she tells me what looks good and what doesn't."

What is one hairstyle that you want to try in the future?

Eliassen: "I kind of want to go back to doing a bob actually, I feel like that would be cool."

Washington: "I would love to dye it."

Bachler: "I would dye my hair a color and get a buzz cut. Or I would maybe do like, blue smiley faces."

What is your hair care routine?

Eliassen: "I don't do a lot, but sometimes it's a bit messed up in the mornings so I use some water to blow dry it into place."

Washington: "I start off with a deep conditioning mask, wash it, detangle it, put in leave-in conditioner, and curling jelly because my hair really likes gel. I also like to use different serums and oils."

Tell me a little about your hair journey?

Eliassen: "After trying the bob, I decided to chop all of that off, and since then, I have refined what I wanted. Now I sort of have curtain bangs, and well my hair is pretty short."

Washington: "Growing up, people would tell me I had unique hair, but as I would get those compliments, I had no idea how to take care of my hair. I appreciate that my relationship with my hair has skyrocketed in the last few years because I know how to take care of it. Hair is important."



Photos by Noah Falley