

= The Boat Race 1994 =

The 140th Boat Race took place on 26 March 1994 . Held annually , the Boat Race is a side @-@ by @-@ side rowing race between crews from the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge along the River Thames . Cambridge won by six @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half lengths . The race saw the first competitors from Norway in the history of the race , in brothers Snorre and Sverke Lorgen . It was also the first time that both competing coxes had previously won the event .

In the reserve race , Cambridge 's Goldie defeated Oxford 's Isis , while Cambridge won the Women 's Boat Race .

= = Background = =

The Boat Race is a side @-@ by @-@ side rowing competition between the University of Oxford (sometimes referred to as the " Dark Blues ") and the University of Cambridge (sometimes referred to as the " Light Blues ") . First held in 1829 , the race takes place on the 4 @-@ 2 @-@ mile (6 @-@ 8 km) Championship Course on the River Thames in southwest London . The rivalry is a major point of honour between the two universities and followed throughout the United Kingdom and broadcast worldwide . Cambridge went into the race as reigning champions , having won the 1993 race by three @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half lengths , with Cambridge leading overall with 70 victories to Oxford 's 68 (excluding the " dead heat " of 1877) . The race was sponsored by Beefeater Gin for the eighth consecutive year .

The first Women 's Boat Race took place in 1927 , but did not become an annual fixture until the 1960s . Up until 2014 , the contest was conducted as part of the Henley Boat Races , but as of the 2015 race , it is held on the River Thames , on the same day as the men 's main and reserve races . The reserve race , contested between Oxford 's Isis boat and Cambridge 's Goldie boat has been held since 1965 . It usually takes place on the Tideway , prior to the main Boat Race .

In preparing for the race , Cambridge had defeated crews from both Leander and Molesey . Meanwhile , Oxford lost out to London Rowing Club 's lightweight crew , but narrowly defeated the University of London Boat Club . They went on to secure victory in the Reading Head of the River race before head coach Richard Tinkler and his assistant Tim Bramfitt were removed from their positions . Fred Smallbone was installed as finishing coach for the Dark Blues whose build @-@ up concluded with a loss to Leander . Cambridge were coached throughout by Harry Mahon , John Wilson and Sean Bowden .

= = Crews = =

The crews weighed @-@ in at The Hurlingham Club five days prior to the race . Oxford weighed an average of 14 st 7 lb (91 @-@ 6 kg) per rower , 2 pounds (0 @-@ 91 kg) more than their opponents . Oxford 's crew featured two Norwegian brothers in Snorre and Sverke Lorgen , the first rowers from their country to participate in the Boat Race , both of whom had participated in both world championship and Olympic races . Oxford Boat Club president Kingsley Poole referred to them as " Herdy and Gerdy " . He noted : " They 've got some kind of kin thing where they can just switch on and go nuts " . Cambridge welcomed back five former Blues while Oxford saw three return in the form of Michels , Poole and Chick .

= = Race = =

Cambridge were considered to be pre @-@ race favourites . Oxford won the toss and elected to start from the Middlesex station . After a poor start , which Oxford 's cox Chick referred to as " a bit ropey " , Cambridge took an early lead and were five seconds ahead at the Mile Post . They extended their advantage to eight seconds by Hammersmith Bridge and sixteen by Chiswick Steps . Poor steering from Haycock combined with determination from Oxford to stay in touch kept the Cambridge from moving too much further ahead ; the Light Blues passed the finishing post in 18

minutes and 9 seconds , six @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half lengths and 20 seconds ahead of the Dark Blues . It was Cambridge 's first back @-@ to @-@ back victory since 1973 . The race was umpired by former Cambridge Blue John Garrett .

In the reserve race , Cambridge 's Goldie won by thirteen lengths over Isis , their seventh victory in eight years . Cambridge won the 49th Women 's Boat Race a week earlier , a 2 @,@ 000 metres (2 @,@ 200 yd) race at Henley @-@ on @-@ Thames , by one length in a time of 6 minutes and 11 seconds , their fifth victory in six years .

= = Reaction = =

Cambridge 's boat club president Jon Bernstein said " it does not get any better than that . " The Cambridge number four , Richard Phelps , was more descriptive : " It was a bitch of a race . We never cruised . "