

Three Great Britain champion rowers defeated on Thames

Three of Great Britain's world champion coxless four rowers experienced a rare defeat at the Head of the River Fours on the Thames when Cambridge University coxed four of German and Great Britain internationals beat their Leander crew by five seconds.

World rivals at sculling Mahe Drysdale of New Zealand and Great Britain's Alan Campbell were in the Tideway Scullers quad that claimed the overall win.

Slovenian rower Iztok Cop and Britain's Mike Hennessy were also on board and they overtook a Leander crew featuring world bronze medallists Matthew Wells and Stephen Rowbotham in the time trial event.

Entries from Oxford University, who were rowing under the name Isis, finished in third and fourth positions in the coxed fours but the dark blues defeated Cambridge in the coxless category.

The event is run between Mortlake and Putney and is an early form guide for the 2007 varsity event, which is held on 7 April.