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Red Bank resident and RBR junior sixteen-year old Josue Madriz-Picado won a bronze medal in his weight division at the C.R.A.S.H.-B World Indoor Rowing Championships, which took place at Boston University on February 20. Josue is committed student and athlete who achieved this amazing feat after rowing for only two years. Josue was recruited to the sport by Red Bank youth advocate David Prown on behalf of Navesink River Rowing whose members sponsored his initial rowing experience through their R.O.A.R. program. Josue joined the independent Navesink Indoor Program to further his ability in the sport.

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 2, 2011

RBR Student Takes Home Bronze Medal in World Indoor Rowing Championships

Little Silver: On February 20th, sixteen-year old Josue Madriz-Picado, a Red Bank resident and Red Bank Regional (RBR) junior, competed in the 30th annual C.R.A.S.H.-B World Indoor Rowing Championships. Josue rowed 2,000 meters on an erg machine in 7 minutes and 23 seconds, capturing the Bronze medal for his lightweight Coxswain division (130 pounds or lighter.) Coming in ahead of Josue were a college student from Yale and a gentleman from Germany. The C.R.A.S.H.-B. event took place at Boston University's Agganis Arena with over 2,000 competitors and is recognized as the premier indoor rowing regatta in the world.

Two years ago, Josue, had no knowledge of the community rowing club at the foot of his town's beautiful Navesink River. Josue, a Costa Rican native, was a soccer player and English Language Learner student still mastering English. Several community kindnesses were bestowed upon Mr. Picado which he pursued without abandon. On behalf of Navesink River Rowing (NRR) Red Bank, youth community advocate David Prown presented Josue, and other Red Bank youths, with a magnanimous opportunity to participate in the NRR Reach Out and Roar (R.O.A.R) program. NRR members donations cover Red Bank youth participation in R.O.A.R.

From the beginning, the hard-working, driven Josue was the model to his fellow Red Bank NRR R.O.A.R. participants. He would hit the weight room hard after school each day and run to build his endurance. He was able to make the traveling club in his first year, a noteworthy accomplishment.

"I love the rowing experience," Josue comments, "It gave me a lot of new friends and made me so happy to be in the quiet beautiful river. It is a full body workout, but it doesn't feel that way because of the beautiful environment that surrounds you."

Josue rows in the R.O.A.R. program in the spring and fall seasons. This year, he added the winter erging to his schedule, which takes place at the Shrewsbury Fire House under Coach John Crilly's direction. John Crilly, a Notre Dame Championship rower and the NRR youth coach, decided to establish the independent Navesink Indoor Rowing Club to aid rowers in improving their time and conditioning for the regular rowing seasons.

Josue would bike most days to the Shrewsbury Fire house for practices at 5:50 am before school. With Coach Crilly's encouragement he entered the satellite regatta, the Main Line Slide at

Villanova University where he came in first place to qualify for the world championship. The rest is history.

He is so excited about his medal stating, “I felt really happy being third place in the world. Every morning I wake up and see my medal near my bed and a big smile comes across my face.”

Coach Crilly comments on Josue’s World Championship performance, “I am very proud of the hard work Josue put in during the last three months and how he represented Navesink Indoor Rowing.”

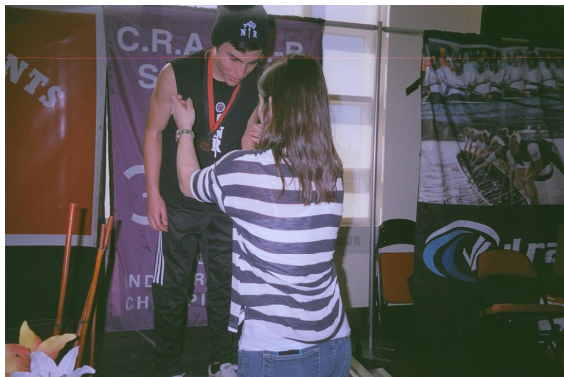
Josue an avid soccer player for RBR, had originally thought that crew would be a good body conditioning for soccer. At this stage in their high school careers, most student athletes concentrate on one major sport a season at a time. Josue has been able to juggle both along with a demanding academic schedule. He is an RBR pre-engineering student, takes AP Spanish and is a member of the National Technology Honor Society (NTHS) where he participates in pre-engineering competitions.

His NTHS advisor and pre-engineering teacher Kathryn Hawley comments, “I am very proud of Josue. He is a student who is very involved in school and actively participates in almost any competition that is suggested to him. It is no surprise that he won the Bronze in rowing. He has a very competitive nature both in and out of the classroom and excels in almost every area of the curriculum.”

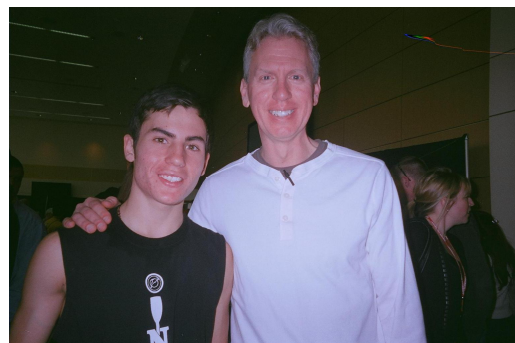
Josue was recently given another wonderful opportunity. He was just selected as one of RBR's five Project EPIC scholarship winners which will allow him to study this summer at a University of his choice in a career exploration program. Josue is most appreciative of his mentors, teachers and coaches who have guided him to seek opportunities upon which he seized and capitalized. He has a very special affection for David Prown who, working with the NRR, first brought him the opportunity of rowing.

David Prown is mutually complementary of Josue stating, “Though small in stature, Josue has the drive like no other. He simply outworks virtually all around him in the classroom, on the athletic fields, in the gym, in a rowing a scull or even at his part-time job. He gets it that hard work will take him to wherever he wants to go. So he sets a very high bar and achieves it without excuses. A most impressive young man that is incredibly modest, unassuming and appreciative. In a sport filled with pain (erging), he smashes thru that barrier with an amazing focus and drive to now excel at a world class level...and he’s only 16 – wow!”

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Pictured (left) is RBR student Josue Madriz-Picado of Red Bank receiving his bronze medal at the C.R.A.S.H.-B World Indoor Rowing Championships. (right)



He is pictured with his Indoor Rowing coach,

John Crilly, the founder of Navesink Indoor Rowing in Shrewsbury, NJ, at the indoor rowing championship.