



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **24<sup>th</sup> Annual Bayada Regatta Brings Together Disabled Athletes in the Spirit of Competition**

September 1, 2005 – Philadelphia, PA – The Philadelphia Rowing Program for the Disabled (PRPD) and Bayada Nurses are proud to announce the 24th annual adaptive-rowing event, the Bayada Regatta, will take place on Saturday, September 10th, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The event will be hosted on the Schuylkill River near the Strawberry Mansion Bridge on Kelly Drive (East River Drive).

Bayada Regatta is the oldest adaptive-rowing regatta in the world. The event attracts some of the top adaptive rowers from around the globe, and some World Rowing Championship rowers are expected to be participating in this year's event.

Scott Brown, a four-time Dad Vail Regatta winner in his fifth consecutive year of participation, credits the sport for igniting his will to live and for supplying him with an overwhelming satisfaction of body, mind and soul. At the age of twenty, a severe auto accident claimed portions of both his legs. "If it hadn't been for the accident, I would have never become an athlete."

More than 50 participants—classified according to their abilities, age, and experience—will compete in approximately 15 mixed and single events designed for novice, veteran and youth rowers. Rowers may have a number of disabilities, including blindness, visual impairment, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, post-polio problems, paraplegia, or quadriplegia.

Admission is free, and the event will feature something for all ages, including music, clowns, balloons, and free soft drinks and pretzels. The rain date is Sunday, September 11, 2005.

The Philadelphia Rowing Program for the Disabled (PRPD) provides recreational and competitive rowing opportunities for the physically disabled. For more than a decade, PRPD has been a leader in the movement to make the sport of rowing available to everyone. For more information on PRPD or the Bayada Regatta, call 215-765-5118.

Founded in 1975, Bayada Nurses is an independently owned home health care agency that employs more than 10,000 RNs, LPNs, home health aides, and therapists working from more than 130 offices in 15 states. For more information on Bayada Nurses, visit [www.bayada.com](http://www.bayada.com).

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