Birmingham Unified claims 1st boys state crown

BIMP WHITER

Birmingham Unified's boys lacrosses squad made history Saturday afternoon.

The Bulldogs defeated Birmingham Brother Rice, 11-10, at the Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood oval in front of a large crowd to claim the Class A state championship.

It is not only the first state title for the Birmingham Unified boys lacrosse team, but also marks the first state championship for a public school-based team in the Michigan Scholastic Lacrosse Association's top division since it began sponsoring sion since it began sponsoring state tournaments back in 1980.

state tournaments back in 1980.
"This was our third time playing at that oval (in a state title
game) and, in our previous two
games, we walked away as runners-up," said Birmingham Unified coach Acron Frank. This
year we walked away with the
trophy and that was terrific.
"This is something I've
dreamed about for a long time.

LACROSSE

When I started this program in 1990 I had visions of us reaching this lovel. I've pictured holding that state championship trophy up a thousand times in my mind

up a thousand times in my mind over the past 13 years. "To see that happen is really amazing. I'm really happy for all these guys," he said. "There were high expectations this season and it was just an awesome end-ing."

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Birmingham split with arch
rival Brother Rice in their two
previous meetings this season.
The Bulldogs defeated the Warriors in a regular-season game,
but the Warriors later rebounded to defeat Birmingham for the
prestigious Midwest Lacross
Association crown in Ohio.

They were the state's top twe
cams all season and were destined to meet in the MSLA
championship game.

Brother Rice, the two-time

defending state champions, qualified for the finals with a victory over Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood. Top-seeded Birmingham Unified advanced to the championship match with a triumph over Novi.

Birmingham threatened to make the state championship game a rout, taking a 5-1 lead after the opening 12 minutes, an 8-1 halftime lead and all to 2-devantage after three quarters.

The Warriors, however, staged an eight-goal fourth-quarter rally-many of them with a man advantage - to make the final secore respectable.

When we beat (Birmingham) for the Midwest title, we were able to control the tempo of the game and we played good defense against them," said Brother Rice coach Rob Ambrose, whose team finished with a 20-4 overall record. "We knew (coming into the state title game) they'd be looking for revenge and we knew it would be a tough game for us.

"We let this game get away from us. We got on a roll in the second half, but it was a little bit too late," he said. "But Birming-ham is a good team with a lot of seniors and they deserved to

seniors and they deserved to win."
Senior Adam Kadre, the game's offensive most valuable player, led Birmingham with four goals and three assists. Ryan Connery and Kevin Demorest each scored twice and Branden Moore, Jim Constan-tine and Paul Trahan netted one

goal apiece.

Birmingham goalie Ryan
Demorest made 14 saves and
was named the game's defensive
most valuable player.

"There were two keys for us,"
said Frank, whose team's 23 victories tied a record for most wins
in one soason by a Michigan
Scholastic Lacrosse Association
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shots that Ryan had no business stopping - and he did. Plue Adam Kadro was the quarter back of our offense and he really set the pace for us. He played with trempadous character.

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"Ryan Demorest was unbelievable. Rice had some good opportunities and some point-blank"

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"And so is the 2002 state championship trophy." with tremendous character.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

ccc SPONSORS HOOP CAMP

The Oakland Community College women's basketball team will have a basketball camp for kids in the third through eighth grades 5-8 p.m. Monday, June 27, through Thursday, June 20, at the Highland Lakes Campus. The cost of the camp is \$40 per person. Each camper will receive a-T-shirt for attending the camp, which will be run by OCC women's head coach Mary Allen and assistant coach Christine

and assistant coach Christine Nordstrom.

For more information or to receive an entry form call (248) 942-3179 or (248) 942-3170.

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C'VILLE VOILEYBALL CAMPS

"-Livenia Clarenceville coach
Alisha Love is offoring two sessions of summer volleyball
camps for incoming grades 5-12
from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday
through Friday, June 17-21, at
Clarenceville (cost \$50), and July
15-19, at Beechwods in South
field (cost \$50), and July
16-19, at Beechwods in South
field (cost \$60).

*Clarenceville will also b
hosting a high school volleyball
league for girls in incoming
grades 9-12 the week of June 24
through Aug. 4 (with an addi-

tional playoff week).
The cost is \$250 per team (eight players per team).
For more information on either the camps or the lengue, call (248) 872-8926.

(248) 872-8926.
FHHA REGISTERING PLAYERS
FARMINGTON Hills Hockey
Association is accepting registrations for new players for the
2002-2003 fall/winter senson.
Registration forms are available
at the information desk at Furmington Hills Ice Arena on Eight
Mile Road. For more information
call (248) 478-8193.
SCHOOLERAFT HOOP CAMP

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SCHOOLCRAFT HOOP CAMP

Schoolcraft coach Carlos Brigga and assistant Steve Norgrove
will conduct a boys basketball
instructional camp for boys in
incoming grades 1-12 from 9
n.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through
Friday, Aug. 5-9, at the school's
gym. The cost is \$126 per person.

For more information, call
(734) 462-4400, Ext. 5254. Schooleraft coach Carlos Briggs and assistant Steve Norgrove will conduct a boys basketball instructional camp for boys in incoming grades 1-12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Fridny, Aug. 5-9, at the school's gym. The cost is \$125 per person.

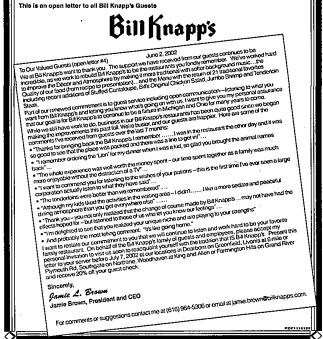
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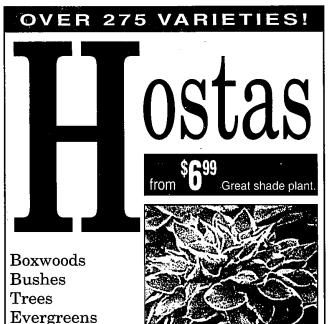
STINGRAY SWIM SIGNUP

The Farmington Family

TMCA Stiorary swim team is registering swimmers for its summer long course season, a

competitive swim program that runs through Thursday, Aug. 1.
Team participation is open to anyone between the ages of 6 and 18. Participants are required to be a YMCA member. Depending on ability, participants will swim either at the YMCA or local high school pools. After June 12, swimmers in the two higher-level groups will swim at an outdoor 50-meter pool.
For more information, call Cathy Warnick at (248) 553-2076 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.
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