

# 1986



## Pats' key players

The Concord-Carlisle lacrosse team's hopes for a successful season hinge on the play of Patriots (front, L-R) Stephen O'Neil, David Griffith, Chris Graham, David Moreau, Bob

Champey, plus (back, L-R) Colin Mara, Bob O'Neil, John Francini, and Steve Garnett.

(Sun photo by Bob Wallace)

## Concord-Carlisle

**Last Year:** 9-9.

**First Game:** April 4, at Framingham No.

**Key Graduates:** Chip Twitty, Curry College; John McNeil, Westfield State.

**Returning Lettermen:** John Francini, sr., att.; Dave Griffith, sr., g; Steve Garnett, sr., def.; Chris Graham, sr., mf.

**Promising Newcomers:** Michael Cain, soph., att.; Nick Boynton, jr., att.; Ricky Mullins, jr., def.; Sean Fitzsimmons, jr., def.; Mike Duggan jr., mf; Chris Champey, sr., mf.

**Outlook:** Based on the pre-season performance of the Patriots, their 9-9 mark has the possibilities of being improved upon.

A young crowd of attackers give the Patriots an extra added punch on offense, but defensively they may lack the numbers needed to keep the score within range.

Over 100 kids went out for the team, which projects favorably for Concord-Carlisle's long-range forecast.

### Coach Jim McClellan (19th Year)

"We've got a real strong junior class. This will be a rebuilding year. We should be pretty good. We've got good depth and we've got a couple of new kids that will help."

"We went to a jamboree in Connecticut last week and we did really well. There were a lot of New York schools there and I was impressed with them (the Patriots). We have pretty much the same team as last year but a year older. The whole Eastern Mass. league is improved over last year, though. Lincoln Sudbury and Newton North should be good and the Framingham (North and South), Brookline and Billerica should be up there."

June 1, 1986

Concord-Carlisle earned the right to face Weymouth North with its victory over Lexington. The game-winning goal was notched by Greg Mueller with 2:59 left. His goal came nine seconds after Lexington's Eric Arnold tied the game, 7-7. Weymouth North

# McClellan's kids have branched out far and wide

By DAVID PEVEAR  
Sun Staff

CONCORD - Even without adding up wins and losses the overwhelming success of the Concord-Carlisle lacrosse program that Jim McClellan started in 1968 is easily detected.

Few schoolboy coaches have as much difficulty as McClellan does remembering all his former athletes who have gone on to play in college. There have been *that* many.

And perhaps that is the greatest indicator of a great high school coach.

"The best part is seeing the kids continue loving the game and wanting to play in college, and also the friendships that develop," says McClellan, who is in his 19th spring coaching C-C lacrosse. "We had Justin Shay playing at Notre Dame with a kid who was captain of Lincoln-Sudbury when Justin was captain here. They were bitter rivals then and now they're best of friends."

The University of New Hampshire lacrosse team was once captained by former Concord-Carlisle players for seven consecutive years, the most notable being two-time All-America John Fay. "He was probably the foremost lacrosse player ever to come out of New England," says McClellan.

Last year there was a Tufts-Bowdoin game in which seven former Concord-Carlisle players

accounted for all the scoring.

Scott Angell and Mark Robinson were outstanding defenders at New Hampshire. Defenseman Chris Wickwire started as a freshman last year for national power Johns Hopkins. Barry Cain was an All-America defenseman at UMass. Paul Paglia recently broke the Tufts lacrosse scoring record set a few years ago by his brother Rich. Dan O'Neil is an outstanding goaltender at Ohio Wesleyan. Chris Painter is an attackman and brother Chip a midfielder at Denison University in Granville, Ohio. Midfielder Glenn Stephens and attackman/midfielder Patrick Cain are playing at UMass.

All are former C-C players, and still there are so many more former Patriots who played or are playing college lacrosse.

"You always forget somebody," says McClellan, whose emphasis on winning and losing is secondary to passing on his love for lacrosse to as many students as possible.

## They've gone to Australia

"There is no pro lacrosse so a lot of the kids continue playing on club teams after college and that allows them to travel," says McClellan. "We've had kids go to Australia to play. They love the game that much."

Each year McClellan schedules at least one

game against a college jayvee squad so his players visit New England's finest schools.

The Patriots lost to the Middlebury College jayvees during the recent April school vacation, but in recent years C-C has fared well against collegiate competition, counting Dartmouth and Bowdoin among its victims.

After a 9-9 rebuilding season in 1985, Concord is 9-2 this season, including a victory over Tabor Academy, a prestigious prep school in Marian that boasts a quality lacrosse program. C-C's only 1986 losses have been to the Middlebury jayvees and a shocker to Lexington High.

McClellan's Patriots also traditionally fare well in preseason tournaments against rigorous competition from New York and Connecticut.

"We have the kids here who can play with the kids in New York and Connecticut," says McClellan, a former midfielder at Holderness (N.H.) High and Springfield College. "We just don't have as much depth."

Concord has advanced to several state championship games during McClellan's reign, but only in 1982 did the Patriots knock off Massachusetts perennial champion Longmeadow.

Despite this success, McClellan forever defends his sport against aggressive budget cuts and ignorance of the game.

(Continued on Page 42)



Jim McClellan gives lacrosse a good name

## McClellan...

(Continued from Page 39)

"In Massachusetts the game needs more good young coaches but Proposition 2½ took a lot of them away," he says. "You always seem to be fighting city hall for silly reasons. People think lacrosse is going to hurt track or baseball because you need a lot of kids to play. But look how many kids are in the school.

"If you're a good athlete, it's an easy game to learn. And it doesn't matter how big you are as long as you're quick. It takes the best aspects of other sports. But for some reason people think it's a dangerous game, even though we've had so few injuries. And they think it's an expensive sport, which it isn't."

The most severe injury suffered by a Concord lacrosse player this year occurred yesterday when Patriots leading scorer Nick Boynton broke his ankle. He slipped in the locker room while hurrying out to practice and is lost for the season.

"Even though we have a lot of seniors, we're still young," says McClellan. "We have a lot of juniors playing important roles."

## Lacrosse

**CHRIS GRAHAM,  
GREG MUELLER,  
DAVE MOREAU  
Concord-Carlisle**

The Patriots find themselves in a familiar position - Eastern Mass. Tournament finalists, thanks to a dramatic 8-7 victory over nemesis Lexington High in the tourney semifinals last week.

Graham, a senior standout headed for Dennison next fall, was his usual scarpny, overpowering self when it came to controlling the faceoffs. He started a couple key fast breaks that resulted in Patriot goals.

Junior Mueller deposited the all-important winning goal, snapping a 7-7 deadlock with just over two minutes left to play.

Senior Moreau, whom coach Jim McClellan calls Concord's most consistent midfielder this spring, assisted on Mueller's game-winner and finished the tournament contest with one goal and four assists.

## C-C set to battle for EMass crown

LOWELL - After a one-year hiatus, Concord-Carlisle is once again fighting it out for the EMass Division I lacrosse title.

The Patriots, who won the State and EMass title in 1982 and then repeated as EMass champs

### Lacrosse

in '83 and '84, will play top-seeded Weymouth North for the championship tomorrow at 5 p.m. at a site yet to be determined.

Despite beating Weymouth 11-10 (they were up 11-7 before clearing the bench), earlier this season third-seeded Concord-Carlisle will have its hands full.

"They can handle the ball," C-C coach Jim McClellan said. "They also have strong goaltending and a strong defense. We'll have to concentrate and stick with the basics." The Patriots have lost three top offensive players in recent weeks with injuries, including the League's third-leading scorer Mickey Boynton, attackman Brian Stout and midfielder Matt Baker.

"We've had a lot of injuries," McClellan said. "We haven't been scoring a lot lately, we're just hanging in there."

On the brighter side, the Patriots have had several players come on in the latter part of the season to pick up the slack.

Sophomore attackman Mike Cain has tallied 57 points on 32 goals and 25 assists, senior midfielder Dave Moreau has 13-13-26 and the Patriots have also gotten scoring from midfielder

## McClellan to take leave

CONCORD - Jim McClellan, coach of EMass Division I lacrosse tournament finalist Concord-Carlisle, will take a one-year leave of absence at the end of the school year.

McClellan who has taught physical education and coached lacrosse at C-C for the past 19 years, has accepted a position to be the headmaster of the Killington Mountain School Ski Academy next year.

Greg Mueller and outstanding face-off work from Chris Graham.

"Our offense is not powerful," McClellan said, "but we're improving with every game and (Weymouth) can't key on any particular person. We have a balanced attack."

Defensively, the Patriots have junior Rick Mullins and senior Steve Garnett along with long stick midfielders John Miller and sophomore Alex McMaster. These four form a solid unit in front of goaltenders Dave Griffin, Alex Allen (who was in net in Saturday's 8-7 win over Lexington) and Chris Mara, whom McClellan has been platooning all year.

"We have to concentrate," McClellan said, "on coming in from midfield and play better defense. We've been getting more goals from the midfield which is good. I'm optimistic but cautious. You have to respect these other teams."

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**EMASS LACROSSE**

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# Weymouth North conquers Concord

By Jeff Horrigan  
Contributing Reporter

Top-seeded Weymouth North avenged its only loss of the year, rallying from a 5-0 deficit to overtake Concord-Carlisle, 8-5, yesterday in Weymouth and capture its first Eastern Mass. Division 1 lacrosse title.

"We were 17-1, and they were the one," said Weymouth North coach Tony Manzelli. "It was nice to clean the slate."

Concord-Carlisle (13-4) jumped out to a 4-0 lead after one quarter on two goals each by sophomore attacker Mike Cain and senior Bob O'Neil. Cain made it 5-0 at 31 seconds of the second quarter.

"We were down, 0-5, and I thought we were in trouble," Manzelli said. "But our offense is high-powered; it's just a matter of time before we get going."

When Weymouth got going, Concord-Carlisle was as good as gone. For the second consecutive tournament game, Weymouth North responded with eight unanswered goals to claim the victory. The hosts exploded in the second and third quarters, nullifying Concord's offense while taking control of the scoring.

Senior attacker Bill Sepeck

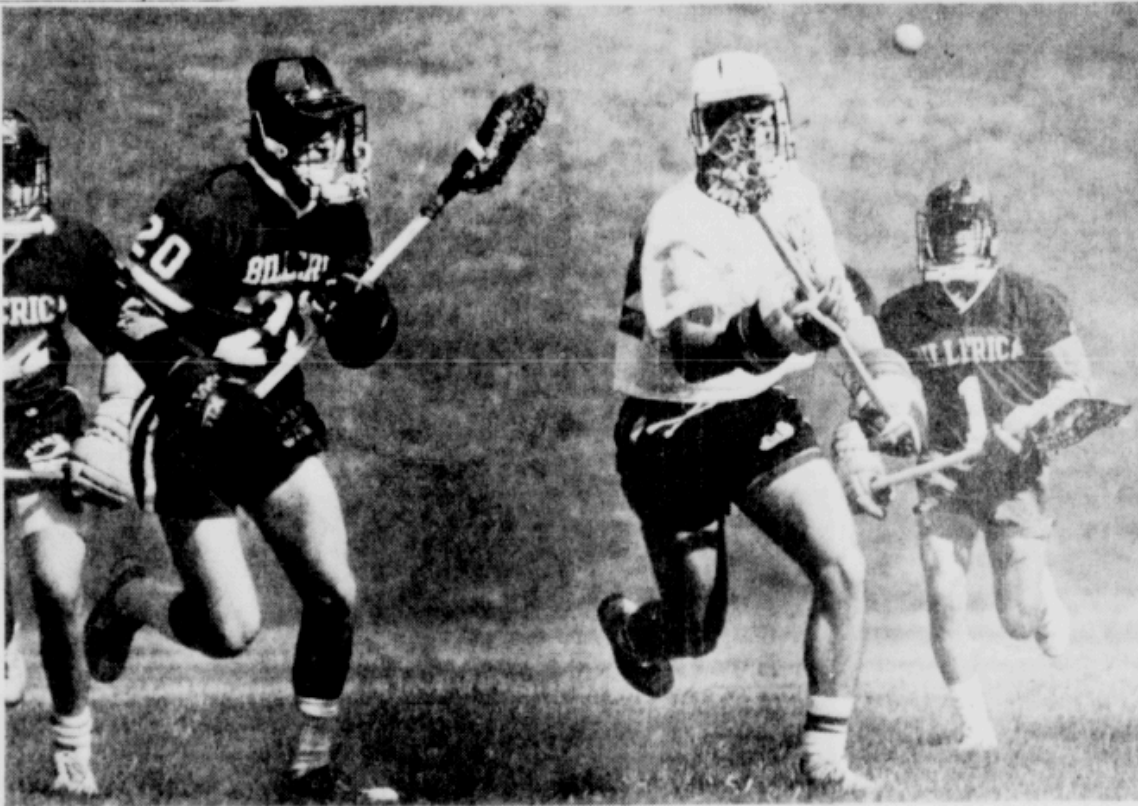
started the barrage at 8:51 of the second as he took a feed from Brian McDonald and slung it past Concord goalie Alex Allen. Midfielder Jamie Jackson cut the lead to 5-2 with just under two minutes remaining before halftime as he blasted one off the turf on a short hop from 15 yards out into the net. Sophomore David Donovan tallied with two seconds left in the quarter.

"When we were up, 5-0, I thought we should've been behind, 5-3," said Concord-Carlisle coach Jim McClellan. "They had a couple of pipe shots."

But the luck didn't last long as Weymouth dominated the final two quarters. With Concord-Carlisle a man down because of successive slashing calls, Sepeck and Jackson scored power-play goals, tying it up, 5-5, going into the fourth quarter.

Weymouth will take on perennial champion Longmeadow in the state final.

In the EMass Division 1 girls' semifinals, Maura Naughton had five goals and Katie Connelly added four as Needham sent Concord-Carlisle home with its second lacrosse defeat, 15-11.



## The race is on

BillERICA's Ralph Laundry (L) and Concord-Carlisle's Adam Kaufman (R) chase after loose ball during play in yesterday's lacrosse match, won by Concord-Carlisle, 15-2. (Sun photo by Dave Brow)



## Patriots' day

Concord-Carlisle players celebrate as BillERICA's Brian Healy (R) walks away after C-C goal in the Patriots' 15-2 win yesterday over the Indians. (Sun photo by Dave Brow)

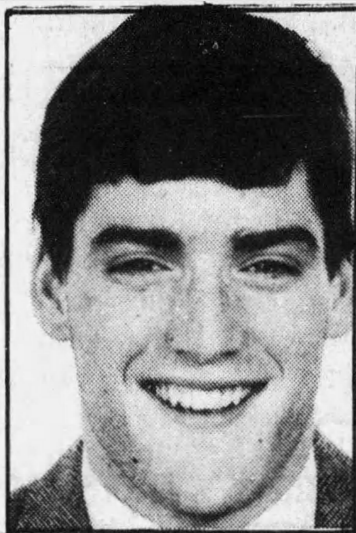


## It was one of those days

Concord-Carlisle lacrosse player Chris Graham walks dejectedly off the field following yesterday's EMass. Championship game in Weymouth. The Patriots had a 5-0 lead

in the game, but lost to Weymouth North, 8-5. Story Page 39.

(Sun photo by Bob Whitaker)

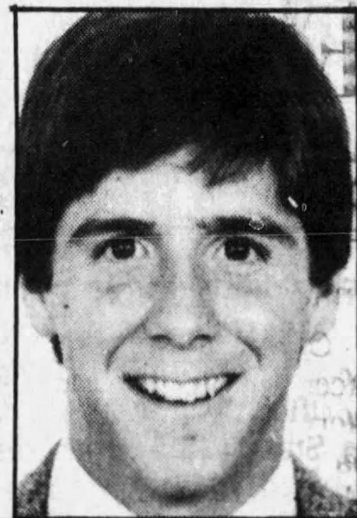


### **CHRIS GRAHAM ..... CONCORD-CARLISLE**

Possessing tremendous speed, Graham is almost unbeatable on the faceoff. This season he won 310 of 366 faceoffs at midfielder. Graham also scored four goals and added an assist. Graham played football and was a utility back on the Concord-Carlisle team that came within a hair of making the Division 3 Super Bowl. The physical player enjoys wrestling.

### **JOHN FRANCINI..... CONCORD-CARLISLE**

The senior attacker rebounded nicely from a broken leg that prohibited him from playing half of last season. This year, he scored 26 goals and added 24 assists, despite missing six games with a severely sprained ankle. Francini scored 66 goals and 58 assists in his varsity career. The two-time Division 1 lacrosse all-star is also a talented football player. Assuming the monsterback position on Concord-Carlisle's successful football team, he was selected to play for the North squad in the Shriners' Football Classic. Francini will prep at Andover Academy.



June 8, 1986

JOHN FRANCINI  
Player-of-the-Year  
Concord-Carlisle

After sitting out half of last season with a broken leg, Francini came back this season to score 26 goals with 24 assists despite missing another six games with a badly sprained ankle. Over his career, the senior has scored 66 goals and assisted on 58 others. In addition, Francini has been named to the Division I All-Star team twice.

"He's a clutch ballplayer," said coach Jim McClellan adding that Francini scored the winning goal in Concord-Carlisle's sudden-death victory over Lincoln-Sudbury this season.

"He's a fleshy kid and he is a good leader. His scoring is a good indication of what he could do if he played the whole season."



CHRIS GRAHAM  
Concord-Carlisle

Graham scored four goals and added an assist but the senior's real strength lies in his ability to win faceoffs. Of a possible 366 faceoffs, Graham won 310 - an 82-percent success ratio.

"He did an outstanding job on faceoffs," said coach Jim McClellan. "He's full of spirit and very competitive. He's the perfect roll player. When he is given a roll he does it. He's a hustler, really fast and he does his job."

A player who is blessed with tremendous speed, Graham also played football for C-C.



JIM MCCLELLAN  
Coach-of-the-Year  
Concord-Carlisle

The Patriots' 8-5 loss to Weymouth North in the Division I State Finals should in no way overshadow the accomplishments of this season's squad.

McClellan led his troops through a superb 14-5 campaign after coming off last season's 9-9 record, the worst season mark C-C has had since fielding a team.

This season the Patriots had exciting wins over Tabor Academy, this season's best prep school squad, Pinkerton (NH) Academy, which was 22-0 over the past two years, and Lexington in the semifinal round of the state tourney after losing to the Minutemen twice in the regular season.

