Soccer

This spring the Spartan Soccer Team wanted to compete with any team in the state and very nearly did. Ten consecutive shutouts is a rare achievement, but winning the Gator Classic Soccer Tournament and defeating several strong 4A public schools in the process is an even greater accomplishment. Kris Thapoung was a commanding force at midfield and controlled the tempo of the games. James Bakker, Eckerd O'Herron, Eric Jukna, Matt Hamilton, and goalkeeper Tyson Young comprised the "Iron Curtain" defense. Leading the offense were Ali Alrumaih and Aiden Hanlon, who were able to find the net often. The Spartans finished 14-3 with a top ten ranking by The State newspaper. Winning awards were Kris Thapoung, MVP; Eric Jukna, Coach's Award; Ali Alrumaih, Most Valuable Offensive Player; James Bakker, Most Valuable Defensive Player; and Karl Kakadelis, Most Improved Player.



In this first year of Spartan Lacrosse, the goals were to learn the basics of the game, have fun, exhibit outstanding sportsmanship, and give 100%. All goals were met. "This was the most motivated and enthusiastic team that I have been a part of in all my years at CMA," said Coach Austin. He is proud of the team's dedication, commitment, and hard work. Seth Dell scored the first goal ever by a CMA Lacrosse team, but Ryan McDonald was the season's leading scorer with 3 goals. Senior Collin Higgins was outstanding on defense, especially in the second game against Charlotte Latin. Ray Terry and Matt Amendola were consistently strong on both the offensive and defensive sides of the field. All players made significant contributions to the team effort. The 2001 season was an exciting and promising start for CMA Lacrosse. Award winners were Ryan McDonald, MVOP; Collin Higgins, MVDP; Helgi Olafson, Coach's Award, and Matt Amendola, MIP.



Spartans: TA Hardy, WI Coltharp, KE Thapoung, A Alrumaih, BT Hancock Row 2: CE Martin, KJ Markey, CC Charping, DR Sheriff, KM Kakadelis, EM Harrill, SC Ardoline, JT Wiggins, AJ Tossey, Coach Hewitt Row 3: AS Durkalec, EL Edwards, DK Douglas, GH Neither, JT Kennedy, SE Kilkuskie, AE Berstler, ME O'Herron, EM Jukna, JF Bakker, MC Hamilton, HN Birnbrich, SW Meyer, AB Hanlon, TC Young



MVP Kris Thapoung controls the ball. He was a dominant force at midfield all season.



MVOP Ali Alrumaih found the net with great frequency this season.



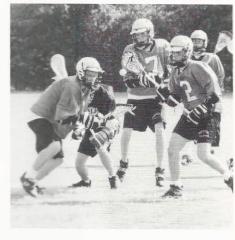
MVDP James Bakker led the Spartan's renowned "Iron Curtain" defense.



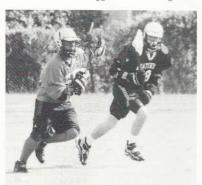
Eric Jukna, Coach's Award winner, captures the ball after a scuffle.



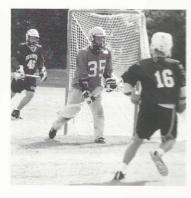
Spartans: MR Amendola, RG Terry, RJ McDonald, RL Riner Row 2: Coach Austin, RC Sjodin, JM McKenna, SM Milana, CM Hayes Row 3: DB Cook, HS Olafson, SW Dell, TJ Owens Row 4: MT Martin, BM Landers, JW Michaud, SB Burnette, BA Miller Row 5: CM Higgins, KA Harrington



Rob Riner and Charlie Hayes fight for the ball as Matt Amendola and Seth Dell come in to assist.



Leading scorer Ryan McDonald drives to the goal.



Senior Collin Higgins alertly anticipates a shot.



Jarad McKenna clears the ball and heads toward the goal.