

Rowing takes second in state championships

BY KAREN KENNY · FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2010

To borrow a quote from Henry Ford, "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." The Bromfield/A-B crew team personified that brilliantly this season, creating some memorable moments for the 72 team members and their four coaches. It all culminated in the spectacular team performance at States last weekend on Lake Quinsigamond in Worcester, when the team earned a second place in the overall standings. The boys varsity 8+ took gold, beating rivals Wayland-Weston for the first time ever, and the boys second varsity took a bronze. The girl scullers rowed to gold-medal finishes in the 4X and 2X boats, and had second- and fourth-place wins on the 1X boats. The first and second girls varsity 8+ boats each earned silver medals, and the novices remained undefeated, taking first place on the girls 8+.

That was the frosting on the cake of a stellar season, which opened with strong performances at the Tail of the Fish Regatta in Saratoga, N.Y., a meet that sent many on the team home with medals. Girls 2X and Boys Novice 4+ brought home gold; Boys 2X and Boys V8+ scored silver; and the Girls 1X and Girls V8+ carried the bronze. The very next day, four boats were sent for the first time to the Green Mountain Regatta in Putney, Vt., and each boat took third place.

The Textile River Regatta in Lowell was next, where both Varsity 8+ and Novice 8+ girls came in third against some fierce rivals.

The Head of the Connecticut followed. This was a new regatta for the team and the competition was stiff. Bromfield/A-B managed to pick up gold in Women's

Double (two minutes ahead of the nearest competition), Men's Double (also two minutes ahead of the next closest team), Women's V8+ and Women's Novice 4.

Then came the Head of the Charles, where Bromfield/A-B entered two 4+ boats. Both men and women held their own on a tough and crowded river, with the women scoring high enough (ninth out of 75) to guarantee an entry in the Youth 4+ event next year.

Despite its small size, Bromfield Rowing remains a formidable contender at the regattas and has muscled its way to the top in a field dominated by larger schools and clubs.