

Indiana High School Athletic Association

9150 North Meridian Street, Box 40650, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240-0650

Phone: 317-846-6601 | Fax: 317-575-4244 | Website: www.ihsaa.org

Blake Ress, Commissioner

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FORT WAYNE BLACKHAWK WINS CLASS A CHAMPIONSHIP

Fort Wayne Blackhawk Christian scored two runs in the third and exploded for five more in the sixth inning and went on to post a 7-0 shutout of Hauser in the Class A state championship baseball game at Loeb Stadium in Lafayette.

It was the second baseball state title for the Braves who also won the small school title to end the 2002 season. The loss snapped a 12-game winning streak for Hauser (21-9) which was making its first team appearance in an IHSAA state finals event in school history.

Blackhawk Christian, which also finished 21-9 this campaign, picked up a pair of runs in the third inning, the first when freshman Jordan Friesen scored from third on a throwing error and the other on a sacrifice to right field by senior Logan Nussbaum which brought in junior Brandon Young.

Hauser had a chance to score in the top of the fourth with runners at second and third and one out, but a line drive right at the shortstop and a throw over to third that caught the runner ended the threat.

The Braves left little doubt to the game's outcome when they plated five runs on four hits in the bottom of the sixth inning. The biggest play came on sophomore Jon Ringenberg's 2 RBI single to center that scored Friesen and Mark Rinehart with one out. Ringenberg went 2-for-4 with a Class A championship game record 3 RBI.

Young also went 2-for-4 and scored twice. Nussbaum (8-2) picked up the win on the mound for the Braves going all seven innings scattering four hits and striking out six. The Braves also were walked five times in the game which tied a Class A game record.

Blackhawk was coached by second year leader Mark Harmon, while Hauser was led by Jerry Schoen.

Hauser's Jacob Miller Named Winner of L.V. Phillips Mental Attitude Award

Members of the IHSAA Executive Committee selected Jacob Miller of Hauser High School as this year's winner of the L.V. Phillips Mental Attitude Award in Class A Baseball.

Academically, Miller ranked sixth in his class of 66 students. He plans to pursue studies in computer technology at Indiana University-Purdue University-Columbus. Athletically, Miller has earned nine varsity letters during his high school career — three in basketball and two each in baseball, tennis and track.

He has been a member of the National Honor Society, the Spanish Club and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at his school. He's also served as coach and a referee in the Future Jets Elementary Basketball Program.

He is the son of Tom and Sandy Miller of Hope.

The award is presented at the conclusion of each championship game to an outstanding senior, nominated by his principal and coach, and who best demonstrates mental attitude, scholarship, leadership and athletic ability in the sport. The award is named in honor of the second commissioner who served the IHSAA from 1945-62.

Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance, the corporate partner of the IHSAA, presented a \$1,000 scholarship to Hauser High School in the name of Miller.