



Winter 2004

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Letter

Football Brunch

Senior Orientation
Pizza Party

M Club's 90th
Anniversary

Member Spotlight

2004 Camp Contest

Winter Event
Registration

EVENT SCHEDULE

HALL OF HONOR

February 7, 2004

WINTER EVENT

February 22, 2004

M DAY

GOLF/ANNUAL MEETING

June 5, 2004

LETTERWINNERS

M CLUB

M NEWS

A PUBLICATION FOR
GRADUATE LETTERWINNERS

2004



Tunnel of Victors- Football Alumni representing Eight decades of Michigan football returned to Ann Arbor for 100th Michigan – Ohio State Game and The 2nd Annual Chili & Cornbread Tailgate.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Congratulations to the men and women athletes of Michigan for an outstanding fall season of competition.

M Club members everywhere have reason to celebrate Michigan's continuing tradition of excellence.

Coach Lloyd Carr and the Michigan football team earned a Big Ten championship and a trip to the Rose Bowl to face the top ranked USC Trojans.

In an unprecedented show of support for the team, an estimated 500-600 former football letterwinners formed a "Tunnel of Victors" to escort the team onto the field in the championship-clinching game against the Buckeyes. Coach Carr spoke of the emotional reunion of current and former **M** men: "I'm so appreciative of all the former players, coaches, managers and support staff who came back. Don't think for one minute that that didn't have an impact on our players, because it did. It was an unbelievable feeling." A very special thanks to **M** Club Board members Mike Leoni and Tim Wadhams for organizing and sponsoring the second annual Chili & Cornbread Tailgate held for the returning football alumni.

Conference championships were not limited to football, as the women's field hockey team captured its fourth Big Ten title in five years. In her eighth season as head coach, Marcia Pankratz led Michigan to its fifth straight NCAA Tournament appearance and a semifinal qualification for the third time in the last five years.

Our Club's fall events were very successful. The annual Homecoming Football Brunch was possibly the best attended brunch in Club history. The event featured our award of honorary memberships to three well-deserving honorees: Shelly Kovacs, Frank Beckmann and Harry McLaughlin. We are privileged to welcome these individuals into our Michigan family.

In addition, on November 3, the Board once again welcomed senior studentathletes to our Club at the Senior Orientation Pizza Party. The event was well attended by our coaches and nearly all senior-athletes.

Looking to future events, on February 7th our Club and the Athletic Department will again co-host the induction ceremonies for the Michigan Hall of Honor.

Also, be sure to finalize your plans to attend the Club's annual Winter Event on Sunday, February 22nd when the men's basketball team will take on Wisconsin. A limited number of tickets will be made exclusively available to Club members attending the outing.

See page 11 for the Winter Event registration form.

The **M** Club welcomes Dan Sygar (baseball 1983) as a new member of the Board. Dan replaces Rod Payne, who stepped down because of a career change. We wish Rod all the best and thank him for his service on the Board and many contributions to the Club.

Your **M** Club Board remains committed to the task of keeping you connected to both Michigan athletics and each other as graduate letterwinners. The Club's new On-line Membership Directory, accessible to all dues-paying members, is now populated with current contact information for thousands of Michigan letterwinners. If you have not yet done so, be sure to **log on to** www.letterwinnersmclub.com and update your individual profile. If you have any questions about accessing the Directory, please call Pam Stevens at 734.647.1208.

GO BLUE!

Tom Dixon, President

**DID YOU KNOW DUES-PAYING
M CLUB MEMBERS WERE GIVEN
PRIORITY IN PURCHASING
ROSE BOWL TICKETS?**

FOOTBALL

Brunch-2003

LETTERWINNERS

M

CLUB

An overflow maize and blue crowd of **M** Club members and their guest attended the annual Football Brunch Homecoming weekend at Crisler Arena, preceding the Illinois Game on October 18th.

Highlights of this year's buffet style brunch included the presentation of the 2003 **M** Club Awards, a performance from the Men's Glee Club and a Silent Auction that raised \$3,200 to help offset the event's cost.

The event kicked-off with a welcoming address by the President of the Letterwinners **M** Club Tom Dixon.

Next on the program was the presentation of the 2003 **M** Club Awards. Board members Lynn Evans, Jim Betts and Jessica Forsyth introduced the 2003 Honorary **M** Awards recipients.

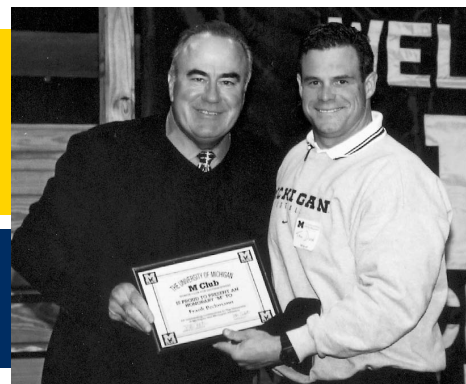
Honorary **M** memberships were presented to WJR's Frank Beckmann, the radio play-by-play voice of Michigan Football and Basketball; Shelly Kovacs and Harry McLaughlin, from the Division of Kinesiology, who have been involved in many aspects of supporting the education of student athletes over the years.

The 2003 Ufer Award recipient current Michigan Athletic Director Bill Martin was unable to attend due to his involvement with United States Olympic Committee.

The event concluded with a performance by the Men's Glee Club who sang three Michigan favorites, The Yellow & Blue, Varsity and The Victors.

Football Brunch Chairperson Jessica Forsyth and her committee greatly appreciated everyone who attended this year's event. We had a wide range of former letterwinners, their families and guest in attendance helping to make this year's event a success. We hope to build on this year's program to make future events even more fun-filled and attractive.

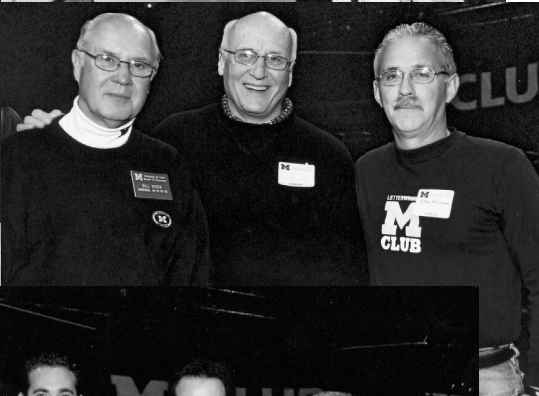
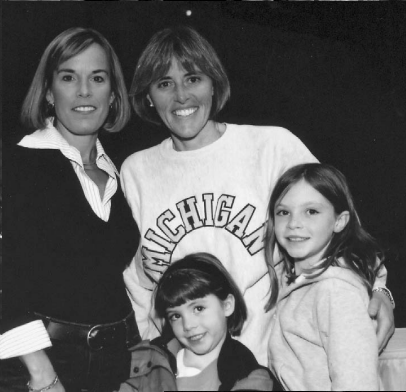
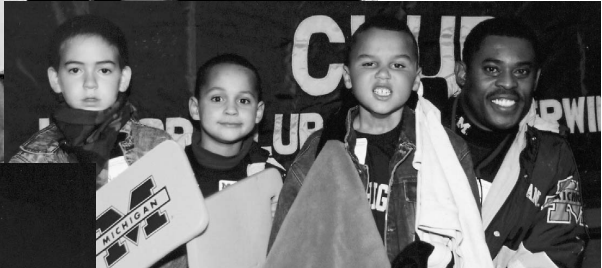
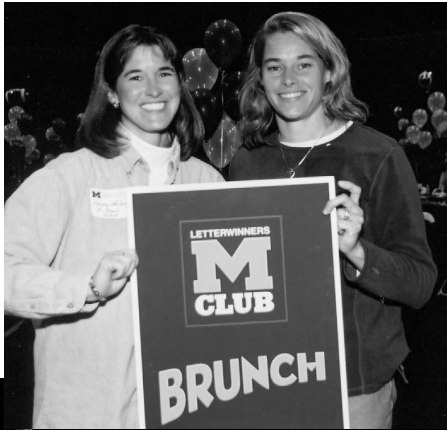
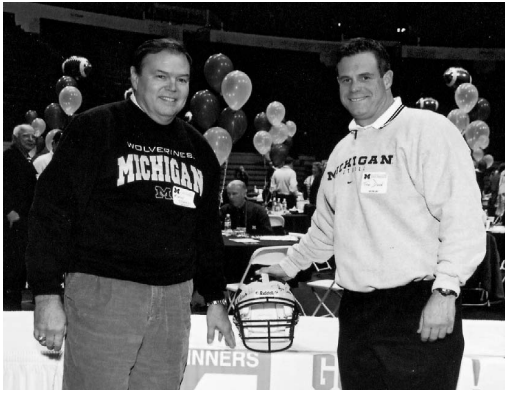
If you could not attend this year's event, plan on attending the 2004 Football Brunch preceding the Homecoming football game.



Visit Our Website at www.mgoblue.com/clubs/letterwinners



2003 FOOTBALL BRUNCH



Visit Our Website at www.mgoblue.com/clubs/letterwinners



SENIOR ORIENTATION PIZZA PARTY NOVEMBER 3, 2003

On Monday, November 3rd, the Letterwinners **M** Club held the annual Senior Orientation Pizza Party in the **M** Room. Over 70 Senior Athletes representing 24 of the 25 Varsity Sports attended along with 15 Head and Assistant Coaches.

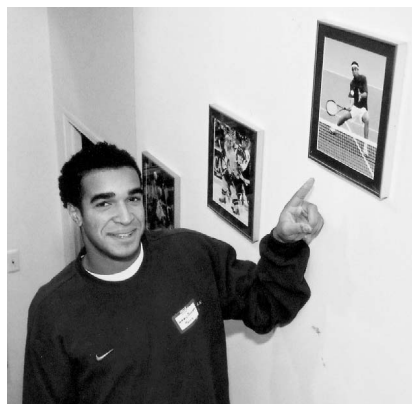
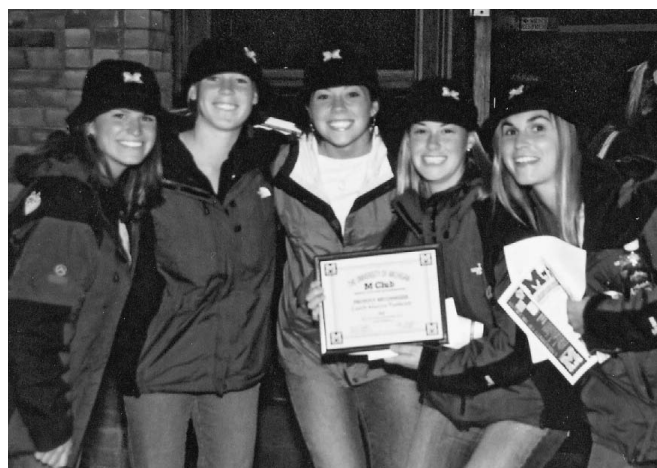
M Club President Tom Dixon and Event Chairperson Laura Melvin welcomed the Senior Athletes, Coaches and Associate Athletic Director Warde Manual. Tom and Laura acquainted them with the **M** Club's role in Michigan Athletics and invited each Senior Athlete to become an active club member upon graduation.

Each **M** Club Board member shared some of their experiences while competing for Michigan, as well as some thoughts about the **M** Club and the importance of future participation with the Club on the part of the current athletes.

A special recognition plaque celebrating the **M** Club's 90th Anniversary was presented to the Club by Maya Mandel, one of two Student Athlete representatives to the Department of Athletics Leadership Committee.

Board member Bill Mogk presented **M** Club Certificate's acknowledging 2002-2003 Big Ten Team Championship to representatives of the Women's Field Hockey, Gymnastics, Cross Country, Indoor & Outdoor Track, Rowing and Men's Swimming teams. The Men's Hockey team received a certificate recognizing their 2003 CCHA Tournament Championship.

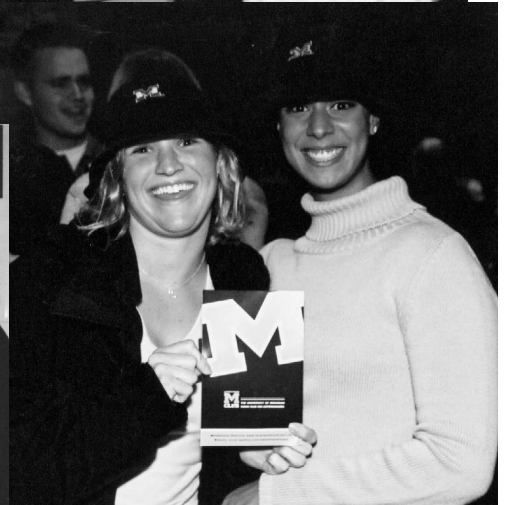
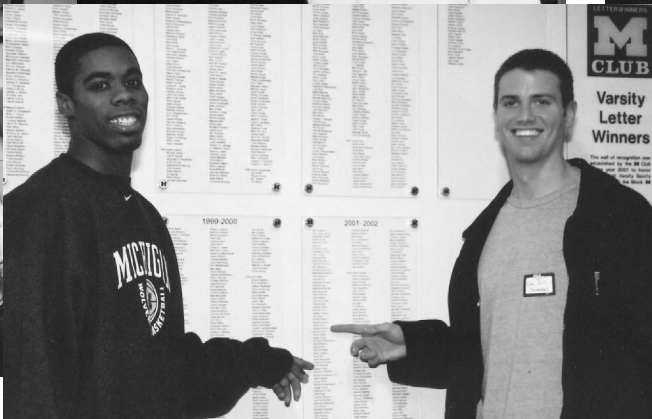
The highlight of the evening was the introduction of each of Senior-Athlete's. Each of the athletes shared their future plans following graduation and received an **M** Club hat and pin.



Visit Our Website at www.mgoblue.com/clubs/letterwinners



2003 PIZZA PARTY



Visit Our Website at www.mgoblue.com/clubs/letterwinners





M CLUB CELEBRATES 90TH ANNIVERSARY

This year marks our Club's 90th anniversary. We share in a tradition worth celebrating.

Founded in 1913, the Letterwinners **M** Club is an association of varsity **M** award winners and individuals elected as Honorary members who have joined together for a specific purpose – to maintain tradition and to support and assist in the continuation of athletic and academic excellence at the University of Michigan.

Earning a Michigan varsity letter, the Michigan **M**, is a prestigious honor that has been bestowed on Michigan athletes and managers for more than one hundred and forty years. Over 8000 men and women share the honor of being a Michigan Varsity Letterwinner and countless more will share this privilege in the years to come.

As an **M** Letterwinner, you played an important role in developing the tradition that is Michigan Athletics. Preserving that legacy for our future Wolverine athletes is the important role of the Letterwinners **M** Club.

Membership dues, gifts, and other revenue from the Letterwinners **M** Club are used for many purposes, such as the expansion of student-athlete services and benefits for **M** Club members. Help us ensure that each generation of Wolverines will have the best opportunity for success both athletically and academically.



Homer L. Heath

HISTORY OF THE M CLUB

On Friday, November 14, 1913, a meeting of all the men who had won a Michigan varsity letter, the Michigan **M**, prior to the school year 1913-14, was called by Homer L. Heath (Track '1907). Thirteen varsity letterwinners were present. The meeting was called to discuss the advisability of founding a club to which only Michigan athletes would be eligible. After some

discussion a temporary organization was formed, and it was the unanimous opinion of those present that the club should become a permanent one. Temporary officers were elected whose duty it was to secure lists of the names of all men who had in the past won the Varsity **M**, and to communicate with these men, with the object of securing their co-operation in the drawing up of a constitution and By-laws for the club, which was to be known as the **M** Club. Homer L. Heath was made temporary chairman and Floyd Rowe (Track '1908) was made temporary secretary. The committee on the constitution consisted of Ralph Craig, George P. Codd, and Charles Widman.



Henry J. Killilea

The first annual reunion was held June 23, 1914, with fifty-five **M** men present. The personal of the first elected administrative body was as follows: President, Henry J. Killilea (Football '1885); Football Vice President, Edwin Denby (Football '1896); Baseball Vice-President, Edward Shields (Baseball '1896); Track Vice-President N. A. Kellogg (Track '1904); Secretary, Floyd A. Rowe (Track '1908); Treasurer, Homer L. Heath (Track '1907).

The first membership campaign was of the chain variety, each new member writing to his teammates.

Become a Dues-Paying Member!!

LETTERWINNERS

M CLUB

PRESIDENT

Thomas M. Dixon, '84

VICE PRESIDENT

Laura Melvin, '90

SECRETARY-TREASURER

William C. Mogk, '53

EXECUTIVE BOARD

To June, 2004

Thomas M. Dixon, '84

Lynn R. Evans, '59

Jessica Forsyth, '95

John R. Ghindia, '86

Dan Sygar, '83

Fritz Kellerman, '62

To June 2005

Michael Amine, '89

Jim Betts, '70

J.D. Carlson, '95

Michael C. Leoni, '80

Laura Melvin, '90

Tim Wadhams, '70

To June, 2006

Craig C. Dunaway, '83

Dugan Fife, '96

Edward J. Hood, '86

Frank L. Legacki, '62

Martha A. Maugh, '83

William C. Mogk, '53

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

William C. Martin, '65

Become a Board Member!

Board members are elected to a three-year term. If you would like to participate on the "M" Club Board, please submit your name to:

"M" Club Office

1000 State Street

Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Hall of Honor 2004

Ten members of the University of Michigan athletic family will be honored Saturday, February 7th with induction into the Michigan Hall of Honor. The inductees will be honored at halftime of the Michigan - Purdue game at Crisler arena.

Inductees in the 18th Hall of Fame ceremony include, Jim Abbott, baseball; Sue Foster, cross country and track & field; Dave Gillanders, swimming; Jarrett Hubbard, wrestling; Reggie McKenzie, football; Vicki Morrow, softball; Chuck Ortmann, football; Allen Wahl, football; Robert White, hockey; and Henry Wilmore, basketball.

Established in 1978, this biennial event recognizes those persons who have made significant contributions as athletes, coaches or administrators to the tradition of our Athletic Department and have enhanced the image and reputation of the University of Michigan. The M Club has sponsored this program since 2002.

M ROOM BUILDING FUND

The renovation of the M Room to make the portrayal of Michigan Athletics current, inclusive of all Varsity programs (from the beginning) and give honor and recognition to legends and heroes of the past has been a major financial undertaking.

We need your help to complete our investment in refurbishing your M Room. Your financial contributions are encouraged and welcomed.

Please send your contributions to the Letterwinners M Club, attention:

Pam Stevens

1000 S. State St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48109

We Need Your Help!



Visit Our Website at www.mgoblue.com/clubs/letterwinners



MEMBER



The 1953 BIG TEN and NCAA Championship Baseball team had their 50th Anniversary reunion over the weekend of September 25. The team won the 21st Conference Baseball Championship for Coach Ray Fisher and won the 1st National Baseball Championship for the University as well as for the BIG TEN.

The team lead the BIG TEN with a .288 batting average and lead the league in 9 other categories. Bruce Haynam and Paul Lepley earned All American Honors while Don Eaddy and Frank Howell were named to All Conference teams. The National Championship was won by beating Texas 7-5 and Coach Fisher was named National Coach of the Year. All team members graduated from the University which lead to a highlight of the reunion. The team met with Coach Maloney's current team and shared with them what it meant to look back on being an athlete at Michigan and to have the degree from the University. The overriding theme was that each player was proud to bring their talents to the University and to represent the University in the manner in which they did. In return, the University provided them the education and tools with which to pursue successful careers. Coach Maloney said he hoped his teams would internalize these values as that is what he is striving for. The reunion participants were very thankful that of the 18 players that went to the College World Series, 15 are still alive and 13 attended the Reunion.

1953 BIG TEN & NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP BASEBALL TEAM CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION



LEFT TO RIGHT - DICK LEACH, PAUL FARCHER, GIL ABUCO, RAY PAVICHEVICH, FRANK HOWELL, PAUL LEPLEY, BOB WOSCHITZ, BILL MOGK, JACK CORBETT, JACK RITTER, MERV WISNIEWSKI, GARBY TADIAN



2nd Annual Football Alumni Chili & Cornbread Tailgate

Football Alumni representing Eight decades of Michigan football returned to Ann Arbor for 100th Michigan - Ohio State Game and The 2nd Annual CHILI & CORNBREAD TAILGATE on Saturday, November 22nd.

A new Michigan tradition was established when several hundred former players, coaches, managers and football staff formed a Tunnel of Victors stretching out onto the field to the **M** Club Banner and beyond to greet the current group of Wolverines when they entered Michigan Stadium.

The event was sponsored by your teammates. If you would like to make a Donation to help fund this event - Send your checks to: Michael C. Leoni President, Four Star Transportation CO., 2947 Greenfield, Melvindale, MI 48122, 313.386.0100 ext: 233, email: mleoni@fourstartrans.com

✓ **3RD ANNUAL CHILI & CORNBREAD TAILGATE - 2004 MSU GAME**



Bring-Em All Back

SAVE THE DATE

**REUNION OF CHAMPIONS
ALL CLASSES**

PLAYERS, COACHES, TRAINERS, MANAGERS

If interested in planning,
E-Mail mleoni@fourstartrans.com

**MAY 21ST AND 22ND 2004
SCHEMBECHLER HALL**

1953 and 1964 NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP HOCKEY TEAMS RETURN TO CELEBRATE 50TH AND 40TH ANNIVERSARY REUNIONS



1953 NCAA Champions.

The 1953 Wolverines, behind the coaching of Vic Heylinger, captain John Matchefts two goals and the goaltending of Willard Ikola, beat Minnesota 7-3 to win the NCAA hockey championship for a record third consecutive year.

Coach Renfrew's 1964 team, behind the leadership of captain Gordon Wilkie and by Mel Wakabayashi's two goals, beat Denver 6-3 in their home arena to capture the programs seventh NCAA title. With the win Al Renfrew also became the first person to play on a NCAA Championship College Hockey team and later coach a National Champion.

On Friday, October 24th there was a national championship atmosphere at Yost arena during the Northern Michigan game, and it had nothing to do with the players that were skating on the ice.

Members of the 1953 and 1964 NCAA Hockey Championship teams returned to Ann Arbor to celebrate the 50th and 40th – anniversary reunions of their respective title runs. The 1964 team, led by their coach and past **M** Club President Al Renfrew, were brought onto the ice during the first period intermission, and the 1953 team was showcased after the second period. Fans gave each group a standing ovation, as the hockey pep band played "The Victors".

Both teams were also recognized on the field at the October 25th Purdue Football game in Michigan Stadium.



1964 NCAA Champions.

RACHAEL GEISTHARDT TOWNSEND MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED



Twenty-nine year old Rachael Geisthardt Townsend, a four-year record setting goalie for the UM field hockey team from 1992-95 and the wife of **M** Club member Brian Townsend, suddenly passed away due to mitral valve prolapse on Sunday, October 12, 2003 after finishing the Chicago Marathon.

Moments after crossing the finish line with a time of 3:40.33, Rachael, who had been an athlete all her life collapsed. Doctors immediately rushed to her side, but were unable to revive her.

After completing her undergraduate degree in 1996, Rachael taught and coached soccer at Saline High School. She led the school's women's varsity soccer team to their first of 6 consecutive league championships in school history.

In addition, to being an excellent leader on the soccer field, Rachael received numerous awards, including the prestigious Sports and Athletics Leader of the Year Award the Michigan Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance in 2002. Most recently, Rachael completed her Masters in History from Eastern Michigan University in 2003.

When Brian accepted a job as assistant coach for Ohio University's men's basketball team, Rachael moved with him, agreeing to become physical education instructor at the University.

A memorial scholarship in Rachael's name has been established with the Ann Arbor Community foundation. Donations may be made to the Ann Arbor Community Foundation, c/o Rachael Townsend Memorial Scholarship Fund, 201 S. Main, Suite #501, Ann Arbor, Mi 48104.



DON'T FORGET TO LOGIN!

www.letterwinnersmclub.com



SEND YOUR CHILD TO CAMP CONTEST 2004

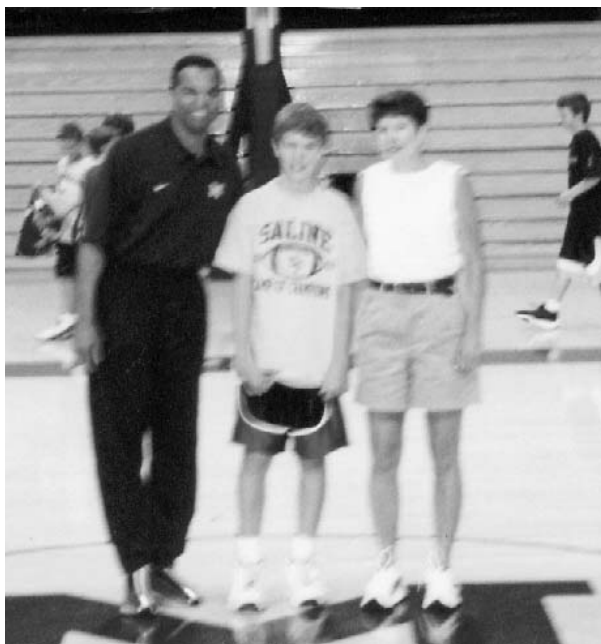
Would you like to send your son or daughter to a University of Michigan summer sports camp for **FREE**?

The **M** Club will award one dues paying member free registration for their child to attend a sports camp for any athlete who has not entered their 9th grade year of school. (Pending availability.)

Please fill out the application by April 1, 2004 and return it to Pam Stevens at 1000 S. State St., Ann Arbor MI, 48109 or via email at pmsteve@umich.edu. The winner will be contacted by May 1, 2004. For camp info: mgoblue.com

APPLICATION

M Club member _____ Sport _____ Year of Grad. _____
Child _____ D.O.B. _____ Current Grade _____
Sports camp desired option 1 _____ option 2 _____
Address _____
Email _____ Phone _____



CONGRATULATIONS KYLE PRATT 2003 CAMP CONTEST WINNER

The **M** Club sent Kyle Pratt, son of **M** Club member Ann Slade-Pratt (Softball '78) to Coach Tommy Amaker's 2003 Summer Basketball Camp. Would you like to send your son or daughter to a University of Michigan summer sports camp for **FREE**? (see above information.)



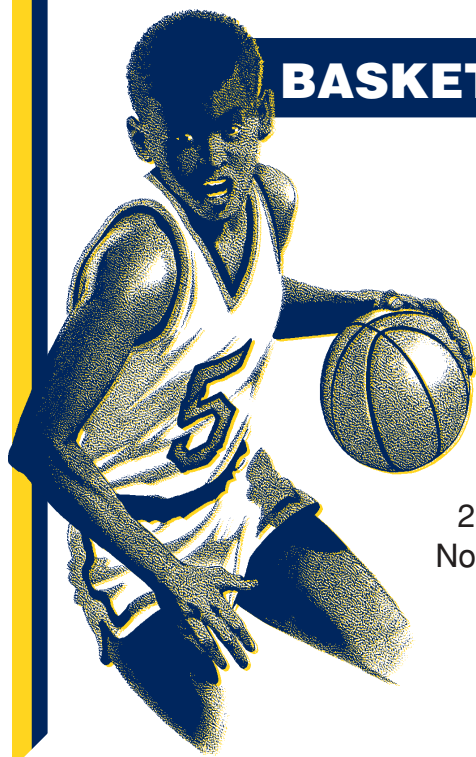
**Get Connected – Stay Connected
To Your M Club**



11th Annual

Letterwinners M Club

WINTER EVENT



BASKETBALL - MICHIGAN VS. WISCONSIN

SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 22, 2004

Come join us for good food and Michigan Fun!
Attendance is not limited to **M** letterwinners.
Please feel free to invite your friends and clients.

11:00 AM Doors open at the UM Golf Course Clubhouse

11:30 AM Brunch & Silent Auction Begin

2:00 PM Tip-Off against **WISCONSIN** (Tickets are available)

No Tickets will be mailed - you may pick them up at the Brunch



WINTER EVENT FEBRUARY 22, 2004 11:00 AM U-M GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE

Name: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

There will be _____ adults attending @\$20/each \$ _____

There will be _____ children 12 and under @ FREE

Basketball Game Tickets _____ @\$18/each \$ _____

Total Amount (payable to Letterwinner's **M**Club) \$ _____



Make checks
payable to the
Letterwinners
M-Club

Brunch is FREE for children under 12

Send to: Letterwiners M Club - Pam Stevens 1000 S. State Street Ann Arbor, MI 48109



LETTERWINNER'S **M** CLUB
1000 South State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

In Homes By: January 15, 2004

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ANN ARBOR PRINTING
AND MAILING SERVICE
ANN ARBOR, MI

**DID YOU KNOW DUES-PAYING M CLUB MEMBERS WERE GIVEN
PRIORITY IN PURCHASING ROSE BOWL TICKETS?**

Become a Dues-Paying Member!!

WE NEED YOUR HELP! SUPPORT YOUR M CLUB

M Club Annual
WINTER EVENT

FEBRUARY 22ND, 2004



Gather up your friends and family to attend the
M Club Winter Event

✓ **BASKETBALL TICKETS AVAILABLE!**