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Press Release

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Vermont Commons Repeats as State Champions in Ultimate



The Vermont Commons School Flying Turtles won the 2009 Vermont state title in Ultimate on Saturday, beating CVU in the finals by a score of 15 – 10. This marks the second straight year that the small independent school in South Burlington has captured the title -- and the first school ever to repeat as Vermont state champs. “It feels great!” says coach Chance Cardomone-Knewstub. “It’s a validation of all the hard work our team have put in over the years.”

Four years ago, the small, independent school in South Burlington had a very different experience at State’s. According to their coach, “We were literally the worst team in the tournament. We’ve come an amazingly long way since then.” Cardomone-Knewstub attributes his team’s success over the past four years to a very strong group of seniors. “Two in particular, Will Hayden and Ian Hollyer are the strongest players I’ve ever coached,” notes Cardomone-Knewstub. “I think we really maximized our ‘championship window’ with these seniors.” He also credits the parents, faculty, students and alumni in the Vermont Commons community. “Their support at our games makes the experience much richer.”

The other teams in this weekend’s Ultimate tournament included South Burlington, CVU, Spaulding, St. Johnsbury, and the Compass School. VCS got off to a rough start in the first game against Compass when one of VCS’s players, Patrick McGowan, broke his collar bone during an on-field collision. But Patrick and his family went to the emergency room and returned an hour later to root the Flying Turtles on. Despite being down one player and by far the smallest school in the tournament, Vermont Commons



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breezed through pool play, trailing only once against CVU. “CVU proved to be a wonderful and spirited opponent,” notes Cardamone-Knewstub. “I’m really impressed with how much their team improved this year.”

About Vermont Commons School: Vermont Commons School is an independent day school for students in grades 7 – 12. The school offers a rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum that includes a focus on community service and experiential education. The mission of the Vermont Commons School is to provide a vision of education that crosses traditional boundaries and develops ecological citizenship, with the goal of empowering students with the knowledge, character, skills, and moral vision necessary to become responsible, pro-active members of the world community. For more information, please visit www.vermontcommons.org.

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