



Photos by Patricia O'Blenes

Fraser High senior John Hoopingarner, top, and junior teammate Joey Ball compete during the 500-yard freestyle at the Macomb County swimming and diving championship meet at Macomb L'Anse Creuse North Feb. 7. The Ramblers finished in ninth place in the final team standings. Visit our Web site at www.candgnews.com and click on the Sports link for more photos from the event.

Making a splash

County's best perform at top level at swim meet

BY JON MALAVOLTI
 C & G Sports Writer

The top local boys high school swimmers and divers brought out the best in each other at the Macomb County championship meet Feb. 7 at Macomb L'Anse Creuse North.

Romeo High won the title, besting more than 20 schools while racking up 281 points in 12 events. Clinton Township Chippewa Valley came in second, scoring 246 points, and Macomb Dakota took third with 217. All three teams, along with fourth-place Fair Haven Anchor Bay (196.5) and fifth-place Utica Ford II (161), flirted with first place throughout the day.

Chippewa Valley coach Jeff Lepler said the chase for the title was close, as expected.

"The field was wide open, and the upper scores were very close



Clinton Township Chippewa Valley junior Brodie Hargis competes in the 500-yard freestyle at the county meet. Hargis finished in 27th place in the race while helping the Big Reds take second place overall in the team standings.

because no one team dominated this year," Lepler said. "Each team had strengths and weaknesses."

A pair of record-setting relay finishes set Romeo ahead. The Bulldogs set county and LCN pool records in the 200-yard medley relay and the 200 freestyle relay.

The all-senior lineup of Tyler Laurain, Mike Glinski, Devon Compeau and Max Hensel got

things started on the right track for the Bulldogs with a record-setting time of 1 minute, 40.79 seconds in the 200 medley relay.

Laurain, Compeau and Hensel would team up later again, along with junior Matt Ruman, to lead Romeo to victory and history in the 200 freestyle relay with a time of 1:32.27.

And while those marks were

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