Girls lacrosse UA to play for state title Friday, May 30, 2008 10:58 PM By <u>PAUL BATTERSON</u> ThisWeek Staff Writer

The Upper Arlington High School girls lacrosse team beat Hudson 10-7 in a Division I state semifinal Friday.

UA improved to 20-2 overall and will play Cincinnati Sycamore or Chagrin Falls in the final at 1 p.m. Saturday.

"We're so excited to be back in the finals," said first-year coach Lynda McCandlish, whose team lost to Sycamore 9-7 in the final last year. "I don't think we're completely satisfied with the way we played tonight. We're glad we get another chance to play tomorrow."

Nancy Baker scored four goals and Kelly Mason had two goals and an assist to lead the Bears. Lindsay Godard had one goal and an assist and Elizabeth Narwicz, Erin Junk and Caitlin Oberlin scored goals. Adriane Ghidotti had an assist.

The Bears held a 5-3 lead at halftime before the Explorers, who finished 19-2, opened the second half by scoring four of the first five goals to take a 7-6 lead.

Goalie Kevyn Harer, who had 11 saves, said she was pleased with the way her team regrouped after Hudson's surge.

"I got real frustrated," she said. "I kept thinking, 'What could I have done to prevent those goals?' I was so nervous. I felt like it was starting to slip away."

After scoring the next four goals, UA went into a stall.

"The slowdown is something we've worked on all year and have used in every game," McCandlish said. "You have to have great patience to use it, but these girls have great maturity and they do a great job with it."

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