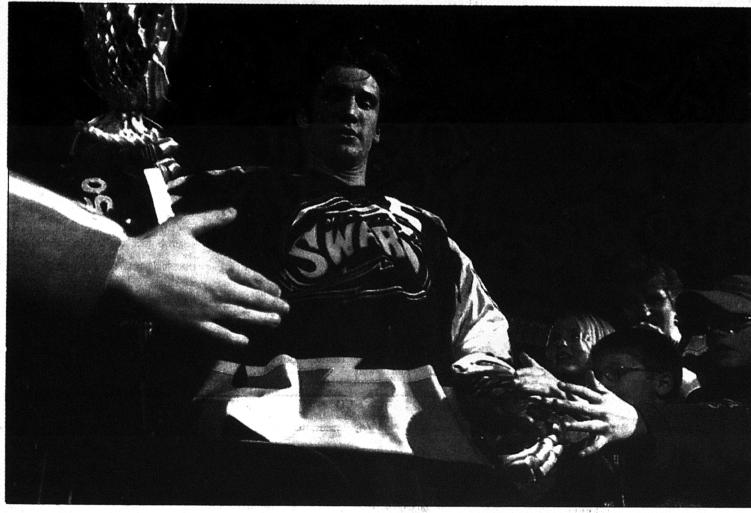
## NATIONAL LACROSSE LEAGUE A wild and crazy debut



BEN GARVIN, PIONEER PRESS Fans greet Swarm player Ryan Cousins as he makes his way through the aisles to the field during pregame introductions Friday night at the Xcel Energy Center.



BOB SANSEVERE

## Big crowd seems to like its first date with lacrosse, Swarm

Todd Seefeldt pointed a finger at his 17year-old son, Jon, and said, "We've got holes in the garage wall from him whipping lacrosse balls into it."

Seefeldt and his wife, Cheryl Anderson, and Jon and daughter Michelle watched lacrosse balls get whipped Friday night, but this time not into the garage wall of their Maple Grove home. They were at the Xcel Energy Center for an exhibition lacrosse game between the newly minted Minnesota Swarm and a team from Colorado known as the Mammoth.

If you don't know lacrosse from lasagna, here's a quick primer:

The roots of lacrosse can be traced to a time when the only Americans were Native Americans. We're talking many hundreds of years ago. Then, as now, it was played with a stick and a ball. Then, unlike now, the ball could be made out of wood, stone, baked clay or even deerskin stuffed with hair. Games could involve a thousand players on each side, and the playing field could stretch for miles.

**BOB SANSEVERE, 8D**