

Lady Blue Devils Trip Up Linden Tiger Cagers, 51-47

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points in the quarter.

The Blue Devils, however, adjusted well, covering Deeb. Also, Slodyczka made her presence known while adding three points and Venezia put in four as Westfield went on a 17-8 run to take a 27-23 lead at the half.

"She was a sharp shooter. We went to a top-gun defense where we put someone out there to make sure that she doesn't get an open shot," Blue Devil Head Coach Joe Marino said of Deeb. "Stephanie got in. I was trying to rotate my big girls to keep them fresh because I knew they were going to get banged up under the boards. Stephanie had some good looks."

The Tigers' physical play continued to give them an advantage in rebounding but they did commit several fouls, which the Blue Devils did take advantage of in the second quarter but they hit only one of eight from the strip in the third quarter. Deeb and Miller each nailed a 3-pointer and a lay-up but the

Tigers narrowed the Blue Devils' lead to 37-35 by quarter's end.

Linden immediately tied the score early in the final quarter but Miller hit two free throws and Handza created a steal and converted. The Tigers came back to make the score, 43-42, but O'Leary sank a free throw, Miller made her momentum-shifting steal and El Koury sank a free throw to spread the score to 47-42.

"It was very important, a close game, one point. She turned things around for us as quickly as possible. We got the momentum back on our side. Linden was coming out with a little momentum. They were very aggressive and physical," said Marino. "We didn't quit. We settled down. If we could be patient, good things were going to happen. They came out and tried to push us around and our girls stood up to it. I was pleased with their hustle."

Linden	15	8	12	12	47
Westfield	10	17	10	14	51



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

DEFINITELY GETTING INTO THE ACTION...Blue Devil Erin Miller, center, made three steals and scored 22 points against the Tigers. Stephanie Slodyczka, No. 21, sank five points and had two rebounds.

TOWN OF WESTFIELD 2007 CURBSIDE COLLECTION SCHEDULE BY GREAT NORTHERN RECYCLING

	WARD 1 (Mondays)	WARD 2 (Tuesdays)	WARD 3 (Wednesdays)	WARD 4 (Thursdays)
January	1*, 15, 29	2, 16, 30	3, 17, 31	4, 18
February	12, 26	13, 27	14, 28	1, 15
March	12, 26	13, 27	14, 28	1, 15, 29
April	9, 23	10, 24	11, 25	12, 26
May	7, 21	8, 22	9, 23	10, 24
June	4, 18	5, 19	6, 20	7, 21
July	2, 16, 30	3, 17, 31	4*, 18	5, 19
August	13, 27	14, 28	1, 15, 29	2, 16, 30
September	10, 24	11, 25	12, 26	13, 27
October	8, 22	9, 23	10, 24	11, 25
November	5, 19	6, 20	7, 21	8, 22*
December	3, 17, 31	4, 18	5, 19	6, 20
January 2008		1*	2	3

* January 1st is a holiday. The pickup for Ward 1 will be on Wednesday, January 3rd.

* July 4th is a holiday. The pickup for Ward 3 will be on Friday, July 6th.

* November 22nd is a holiday. The pickup for Ward 4 will be on Friday, November 23rd.

* January 1, 2008 is a holiday. The pickup for Ward 2 will be on Wednesday, January 2, 2008.

Retiring a Football Jersey: What No. Should Go First?

By BRUCE JOHNSON

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times



A couple of weeks ago, first-year football coach Jim DeSarno had a question, before he ordered a complete new set of jerseys for next season. "Does Westfield have any retired numbers," he asked.

Given the amazing history of football at WHS, with the second most wins in state history, with more unbeaten seasons than any other school in New Jersey, and with a long list of All-State honorees, it was a reasonable question.

The answer was "no" but it got me to thinking that maybe it's time to start considering some numbers being put forever into mothballs. There are some really good ones, and here's just a partial list of names/numbers from the years I was able to find programs with roster numbers, or

from my so-called memory. These are senior year numbers, unless noted otherwise, and players are listed chronologically, from oldest to most recent. Please let me know any names and/or numbers that were missed, overlooked or forgotten, and we'll definitely get them in a future Den:

1: Lamont Wallace, Matt Daly.

2: Mike Catenacci, Mark Nelson (junior year).

6: Lee Waring, Ryan Yarusi.

8: Steve Cheek, Lamont Turner, George Cornell.

10: Bobby Dougherty, Dave Brown.

11: Dom Sisto, Alfie Edge, Dave Townley, Pel Brown, Drew Vigilanti (sophomore year), Rob Shovlin.

12: Ted Vreeland, Loren Rodewig, Ross Mannino (junior year), Dwight Davies, John Brown, Joe and Tom Della Badia, Todd Prybylski, Lou Rettino.

13: Floyd Beane, Jack Walther, Charlie Schroppe, Pete Dorcchek, Clint Factor, Chris Infantino.

14: Dom Urciuoli, Gerry McGinley, Bill Clarke, Bob Brewster, Joe Monninger, Bruce Jester (sophomore and junior years), Matt McDonough, Kevin Morris, Roger Brewster, Brian Butts, Pete (Snapper) Antonelli.

15: Bud Mueller, Dick Stotler, John Davis, Mike Lasher, Todd Graf, Brandon Doerr.

16: Arch Bracher, Chuck Hood (junior year), Bob Davis, Dean Boylan, Steve Bodmer, Jay Juelis, John Fox.

20: Bill Heinz, Sam Mitchell.

22: Doggie Porst, Jim Lambert, Harry Beane (junior year), Jerry Hendershott (junior year), Charlie Clark, Kenny Blackwell, Tim Green, Owen Brand, Dondi Chambliss, Billy Byrne, Doug Kehler, Chuck Mueller, Mark Nelson, Dave Duels, Kevin Dowling.

24: Jim Turpin, Bob Schmitz, Bill Bryant, Rudy Brown, Chuck Hood, Mike Henry.

27: Jack Hahn, Rudy Lantz, Rich Ventimiglia, Jim Kovacs (senior year), Jim Marino, Mike Gandy.

29: Dawson List, Ron Hall, Paul, Bob and John Byrne, Leroy Gallman Jr.

32: George J. Wilson, Bob Hoffman, Eddie Galauski (junior year), Jeff Davies, Brad Brewster, Ed Morton, Dean Jajko, Bob Hermiston, Mike Mitchel.

33: Bob Lowe, Jim Kane, Karney Scioscia, Herm Fisher, Dave LiSooye, Jim Catron, Mike Stagaard, Marc Dowling, Malcolm Allen.

34: Dan Pearce, Joe Goski, Drew Vigilanti (junior year), Frank Kelly, Paul Leifer, Paul Goski.

36: Pete Kitson, Buddy Redd, Tom

Nelson, Leroy Gallman Sr., Ron Hall (junior year), Doug Murphy, Frank Jackson, Fred Kessler.

40: Rick McGinley, Bob Wolfgang, Dwight Winn, Dan Hely, Craig Stein, Lamont Wallace (also wore 1), Pat Daly.

41: Jack Rogers, Al Eichhorn, Charlie Brandt, Dick Morash, Dave Reitze, Bill Backus.

42: Ted Conover, George Clarke, Dave Wilday, Ross Mannino, Butch Woolfolk, Drew Keehn.

43: Dave Reitze (junior year), Scott Ellis, Glen Kehler.

44: Bob Nelsen, Joe Wiendl, Jerry Hendershott, Todd Dowling.

45: George Clarke, Jim Leitz, Marty Howarth, Bob McNally, Rick Elliott.

50: Tom Mannino, Spencer Foote, Dave Anderson, Jim Kovacs (sophomore and junior years), Jim Minno, Bob Thiel.

57: Charlie Widmer, Dave Harvey, Will Harbaugh.

58: Bob Adelaar, Greg Weiss, Buzz Hedden, Rick James, Bob Harvey, Harry Bourque, Scott Richardson.

60: Jim Tyson, Dave and Dan Morash, Steve Hoppin, Gerry Glassey.

61: John Kerr, Mike Fenlon.

66: Cliff Beardslee, Bill Dunham, Greg and Paul Harbaugh, Rick Sampson, Skip Bode, Ron Mammeno (junior year).

71: Chris Vejnoska, Tom Polman, Chris Harvey, Lowell Higgins.

74: Kip Kindregan, Bret Schundler, Chris Drabin, Ron Nobile, Jim Howard.

77: Bob Urciuoli, Charlie Miller, Geoff Mann, Mike Schundler, Don and Mark Ciliotta, Pat and Tom Norton, Andy Kendeigh, Cowles Stewart.

81: Dan Goodfriend, Pump Vella, Neil Chamberlin, Jim Mozoki, Jason Yarusi.

85: Joe DiFrancisco, Bill Napier, Chip Danker, Bruce Jester, Jimmy Tyler.

88: Frank Ritter, Kent Baldwin, Dan Brady, David Jackson.

There are definitely some great possibilities. It sure looks like a great case could be made for No. 22! But the Den will go with No. 14, which includes current Westfield Athletic Hall of Famers McGinley and Monninger. Urciuoli is under consideration for the Hall of Fame and Bob Brewster will likely be inducted the year after he retires from coaching.

WEEKEND UPDATE

What did we learn last weekend, when the basketball and wrestling seasons opened, and when the Westfield Y's Wallace Pool rocked like a Van Halen concert during a

Devils of the Week Suzanne Lemberg Alexi Kuska Girls Swimming

swim meet against Scotch Plains-Fanwood.

First, the WHS girls swim team put on a performance that stamps them, for now, as the state's top public school team. They'll face Mount St. Mary next month to decide which team will be ranked No. 1. In what most people figured to be a toss-up meet, WHS spanked SPF 106-64. Even more amazing, the girls power-pointed 4,488, an almost unheard of total. Freshman Suzanne Lemberg anchored two winning relays, and won two individual events, including a school record 54.36 in the 100 freestyle that broke Anne Burkett's 15-year-old record. But the co-swimmer of the meet was junior Alexi Kuska, who had sizzling wins in the 200 (1:56) and 500 (5:11) freestyles, pulled out the 200 free relay with her anchor leg and swam a 54.41 leading off the 400 free relay, also under Burkett's old mark, but .05 behind Lemberg's earlier time. They were the headliners, but every girl coach Jaime Ruszala entered did fast times. And it wasn't like SPF wasn't swimming fast, with Jillian Murphy winning the 100 fly in 59.52, and Mary Henkels and Becca Fox each winning a race. This could be the strongest girls' team ever at WHS, which has won nine state championships, but none since 1999.

The WHS boys rang up 3,787 power points (slightly better than in their opening upset of Mountain Lakes) to handle SPF 115-55. P.J. Harley won a pair of races for WHS, while Mike Miller had both of SPF's firsts (in the 50 free and 100 fly).

It sure looks like Linden is going to be the team to beat in Group 4. After a 39-point win over a pretty good WHS team, the Tigers may be the state's premier public school. WHS got 17 from Tommy Bonard, 13 from Mike Venezia but just 16 from the rest of the team.

The WHS girls, meanwhile, knocked off Linden 51-47. Erin Miller had 22 points and made a key defensive steal late in the game, but she got support from nine different teammates. That's this team's best chance for a banner season, getting something from everybody. Seniors Katie Cronen and Casey El Koury led in rebounds, and junior Steph Slodyczka had five points after missing all of last year due to a knee injury. The girls hit the road today for another toughie, Malcolm X Shabazz.

HOCKEY UPDATE
In the first 12 years of WHS ice hockey, the Blue Devils posted a total of seven shutouts in 284 games; two in 1997, one in 2002, and four in 2005.

Last week, senior Adam Becker, with lots of help from his defense, nearly posted back-to-back shutouts in the Cron Tournament. After limiting A.L. Johnson to one tally, he blanked Old Bridge through regulation and overtime before losing 1-0 in a penalty-shot shootout.

DEVILS OF THE WEEK
It'd be impossible to pick between Suzanne Lemberg and Alexi Kuska after their four-victory efforts in Saturday night's huge swim win over SPF. Lemberg broke a 15-year-old record in the 100 freestyle (54.36), then Kuska also went under the old mark leading off a relay (54.41). For their efforts, Lemberg and Kuska are the Devils of the Week, and earn a free sub from Al the Owner at Westfield Subs (261 South Avenue).

The Devil's Den appears Thursday in The Westfield Leader during the scholastic season. Contact us with comments, complaints, story ideas or note-type items at bj1019@aol.com. GO DEVILS!

Westfield Keglers Beat East Side, SPF Raiders

The Westfield High School varsity bowling team defeated Eastside, 3,112-1,701, on December 12 then topped Scotch Plains-Fanwood, 3,149-2,720, on December 14. Both matches were 7-0 sweeps.

Against East Side, Blue Devil Alex Wronski had a high game of 259 and a high series of 687. Eric Curialle had a 255 game and a 628 series. Junior Jesse Embry shot games of 234, 211 and 202 for a 647 series. Junior Arley Rojas had a 224 game and a 598 series. Senior Co-Captain Harrison Mercado had a high game of 223. Junior Patrick Clancy bowled his first varsity game and turned in a 212 to help the team to victory.

The junior varsity continued its unbeaten record by winning by a

2,725-1,439 score. Junior Brett Ettinger had a 224 high game and a 620 series. Co-Captain Bryan Elsasser had a 243 high game and a 616 series.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders entered the match with a perfect 3-0, conference record for both their varsity and JV teams. Mercado led the keggers with games of 223, 235 and 256 for a high series of 714. Raider Ken Wasserman had a 267 game and a 619 series. The victory gave the Blue Devil varsity a perfect 6-0 record.

In the JV match, Westfield won, 2,911-2,159, for their 27th win in a row over the undefeated 5-0 team. Ettinger had games of 225, 264, 214 for a 703 series. Elsasser had games of 203 and 212, along with a 603.



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Happy Holidays

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