



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

OUT NUMBER 2...Blue Devil second baseman Lamont Turner fires the ball to first baseman Greg Freisen, No. 31, during the first inning of the baseball game with the tough Cranford High School team on April 3 in Westfield.

Blue Devils Recover After Loss to Mighty Cranford

By STEVE ABELES

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

After suffering an 8-1 opening day blow out to Cranford on April 3, the Westfield High School varsity baseball team has been making great strides in the right direction. On April 5, the Blue Devils surged past Malcolm X Shabazz in a 21-0 and 12-0 double header romp.

The Blue Devils suffered the first loss of the season to county rival Cranford. The Blue Devils threatened in the bottom of the first inning when left-handed Phil Orsini sliced a single to left in the first inning, then stole second. Lamont Turner walked, putting runners on first and second with only one out; however, a pop out to first and a ground out prevented any scoring.

The Blue Devils surrendered a two run homer to junior shortstop Rob Seager in the bottom of the fourth inning which put them behind 5-0.

Senior Co-Captain Bobby Baykowski scored the lone run of the game for the Devils when he blasted a home run to deep left field at the top of the fifth inning. The game was halted in the sixth inning due to darkness.

POSTERS

The Westfield Leader and The Times have the capabilities of making large color posters (24x18 and smaller) of sports photos or any photos you may wish to be reproduced. Prices are reasonable. Call David Corbin at (908) 232-4407 or e-mail Dave for information at dave@goleader.com.

Men's 30+ League Basketball Results:

Park Middle School Gym hosted the playoff game in the Scotch Plains 30 & Over Basketball League. Campbell Construction defeated C&C, 70-65 and Swan Motel beat Team Five, 70-65. Tom Ruby hit two consecutive three-pointers that broke open a hot game enabling Swan Motel to avenge its only loss of the season which was to Team Five. John Krotulis tied Ruby for scoring honors with 16 points while Chris Robertshaw and Jamie Robertson each scored 10 for the Team Five team.

striking out six and walking two. Blue Devil pitcher Matt Williams was tagged for 10 hits. Williams walked five and struck out two.

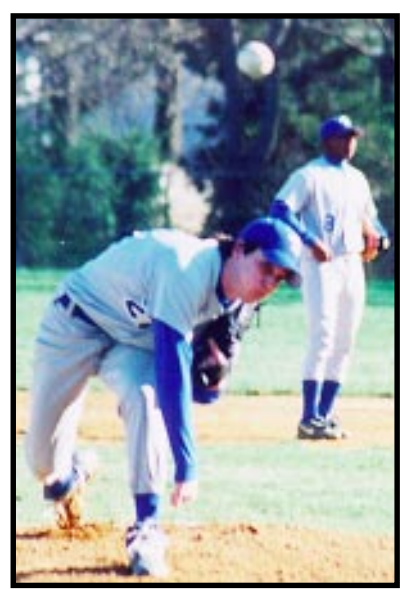
Head Coach Bob Brewster, "The loss to Cranford was only one out of the 25 games in the season and whether we win or lose we can't rest the whole season on it. [The team] realizes one game doesn't make the season."

Senior pitcher Greg Freisen pitched a stellar five-inning perfect game, striking out 11 Shabazz batters in the first game of the double-header. Senior catcher Dave Koye also aided Westfield's offensive onslaught with four R.B.I. Jay Merritt went 3-for-3 and Freisen thumped a triple, drilled a double and slashed a single to contribute to the Blue Devils' 18-hit attack.

During the second game, senior Greg Theil and junior Brandon Doerr combined to pitch a three hitter as the Blue Devils cruised to a 12-0 win. Senior third baseman Christian Fagin and junior Luke Mistretta each ripped home runs. Orsini bashed a double and slapped a single to drive in two runs and Turner connected for a triple. Doerr and Matt Rosenhouse each added a double.

Senior Captain Baykowski said, "It felt really good to get back on track after losing to Cranford. Against Shabazz we played exceptionally well as a team and a lot of players stepped up and played great."

Scoreboard table with columns for team, score, and inning status.



David B. Corbin for The Leader and The Times THE PITCH...Matt Williams delivers the pitch against a Cougar batter.

Westfield High School Spring Sports Schedule:

Varsity Girls Softball schedule table with dates, opponents, and times.

Varsity Golf schedule table with dates, opponents, and times.

Varsity Volleyball schedule table with dates, opponents, and times.

Varsity Boys Lacrosse schedule table with dates, opponents, and times.

Varsity Boys Baseball schedule table with dates, opponents, and times.

Varsity Boys Tennis schedule table with dates, opponents, and times.

Varsity Girls Lacrosse schedule table with dates, opponents, and times.

Girls Varsity Track schedule table with dates, opponents, and times.

Boys Varsity Track schedule table with dates, opponents, and times.

SPORTS DEADLINE Please refer to the deadline box on Page One for sports deadlines. Deadlines will be ADHERED to with NO EXCEPTIONS. Articles will be accepted by e-mail at: sports@goleader.com



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

DEFENDING THE GOAL...Blue Devils Matt Krug, No. 21, and goalie Steve Abeles successfully repel a shot on goal by the Columbia High School attackers.

Blue Devil Boy Laxers Offer Strength, Size, Skill, Seniors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B-1

rience to that position. "I definitely want to make it further in the state tournament than we did last year. We want to beat a lot of the teams that we did not beat last year. A lot of people seem to be working to their ability," stated Abeles. "We have a lot of size and muscle with Hickey, Gates and Baly. It's always good to have some size in lacrosse. Baly is just outstanding this year. We are going to look to him when we need a goal," concluded Abeles.

"What we are gaining this year is a large group of experienced seniors. I believe we have 12 or 13 seniors," stated Blue Devil Lacrosse Head Coach Gerry Benaquista. The whole starting attack is seniors; Mann, Mansfield and Gates. "The starting midfielders, Andrew Cambria, Kassarjian and Baly, are all seniors," mentioned Benaquista. Even

though we lost a good defender in Juelis, I believe we also will gain with Abeles having one more year of experience. He will make up the difference in defense," added Benaquista.

"But we still have Matt Krug who I think will be one of the best defensemen in the state. We also will move Dan Todd and Brendan Hickey out there," commented Benaquista. "We have a little beef with Hickey and a little speed. I like my defense quick, but defensemen need the size too," explained Benaquista.

When asked what else he would be looking for in his team, Benaquista implied, "I need some of the younger guys to step in and add depth to the midfield line.

The Blue Devils scrimmaged Columbia High School on March 28 at Tamaques School and came up with quite a pleasing performance.

Area High School Varsity Girls' Softball Results:

APRIL 3:

Softball results table for April 3, listing teams and scores.

the end of the first inning; however, afterwards, the rest of the offense came from the Cougar bats as they mounted a 14-hit assault in Scotch Plains.

Lori Polito thumped a three-run double to spark a seven-run third inning for the Cougars. Samantha Marano tossed a two-hitter, silencing the Viking bats after the first inning. Joanne DeVito added two doubles while Lauren Salvaggio and Debbie Noble had one double each.

Cranford upped its record to 2-0 as Union Catholic slid to 0-2.

Scoreboard table for April 3.

New Providence 25, Brearley 19

There was no pitchers' duel in this game as the Pioneer girls out-slugged the Bears, 25-19, in Kenilworth. Pioneer Sharra Hill went 6-for-6 with two home runs and three RBI and Julia Eagan crushed a grand slam, ripped a double, slashed a single and drove in five runs.

Melissa Jeans tripled, singled and scored two runs for Brearley which fell to 0-2. New Providence evened to 1-1.

Scoreboard table for New Providence vs Brearley.

APRIL 4:

Scoreboard table for April 4.

Governor Livingston 6, Watchung Hills 5

Vicki Guida burned Watchung Hills, going 4-for-4 with an RBI triple. The Highlanders jumped in front with three runs in the first inning and stayed ahead throughout the game. Jenny Calabrese ripped a double to add to the Highlanders' 12-hit attack in Warren.

Sophomore pitcher Gina Turturiello picked up her third win, striking out two and walking only two as the Highlanders boosted their record to 3-0. Watchung Hills fell to 1-1.

Scoreboard table for Governor Livingston vs Watchung Hills.

Cranford 13, Union Catholic 2

The Vikings jumped to a 2-0 lead by

Scoreboard table for Cranford vs Union Catholic.