



ON THE ATTACK...Blue Devils Joceyn Puschel, No. 29, and Meghan Corbett, No. 16, successfully repel an attack from the Hopewell Valley girls' lacrosse attackers. Westfield defeated Hopewell Valley, 13-3, on April 3.

Blue Devil Girl Laxers Split; Lose to Blair, Beat Hopewell

By MEGHAN CORBETT
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

The Westfield High School varsity girls' lacrosse team opened its season last week with a loss and a win to give them a .500 record. The Blue Devils traveled to Blairstown and Hopewell. They lost a close, 15-10, game to Blair Academy on April 1, then came out victorious against Hopewell Valley Central on April 3 by a score of 13-3.

Against Blair Academy, sophomore goalie Libby Schundler stepped up to play for the varsity team and made 19 saves. Senior Tri-Captain Kit Simons played in goal against Hopewell. She made nine saves and only allowed three goals.

Senior defender Amelia Hanley said, "Kit did a fantastic job in goal. Hopewell's attack had some great shots, but she stopped them. I feel very confident with Kit playing behind me."

Hanley continued, "In general, the defense of the entire team was what helped us win our game against Hopewell. When the attack lost possession, they recovered the ball more than sixty percent of the time. Our defense did a good job of stopping any breakaways or runs Hopewell tried."

In both games seniors Meg Corbett, Pam Lygate and Hanley solidly held the defensive line together. Corbett, Lygate and senior defender Jessica Brewster each tallied one goal against Hopewell.

Senior Tri-Captain Kelly Korecky said, "The defense did not give up in both games; they enabled the team to stay in the game against Blair. When Libby filled in at goal against Blair, she really became a key factor in keeping the game close. She did an outstanding job and made some amazing saves."

At midfield, defense wings sophomore Aubrey McGovern and senior Jessica Humphreys controlled the transition. Attack wings sophomores Julia Gates and

Leigh Kendrick and senior Joscelyn Puschel started the attack's runs. Gates tallied two goals in the game against Blair, helping to shorten their lead over the Blue Devils.

Senior Tri-Captain Meghan Hely notched two goals against Blair and one against Hopewell Valley. Her fluid, skillful play combined with the tenacious play of Korecky and sophomores Marina Powell and Kristin Salmond pulled Westfield ahead of Hopewell and drew the Devils closer to Blair. Against Hopewell, Salmond scored a hat trick, Korecky and senior Megan Clarke each had two goals, and Puschel scored once.

Hely said, "Both games gave us the experience of playing against two different levels of lacrosse. For us to come close to Blair, shows how much we have improved since last season and gives me a great insight as to how good we could be by the end of this season." Hely added, "Our work is cut out for us, in that we have had a chance to see some of our defensive and offensive weaknesses, mainly in transitional play. Our team shows great potential and talent, we just need to learn how to connect and play together, as a whole."

'Fearless' Bostwick Will Lead Raider Netmen

By DAVID B. CORBIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Finishing with a 17-3 record last year, the 1998 Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys' tennis team have quite a challenge ahead of them to match or surpass that achievement. The Raiders have lost several starters, but returning this season will be their ace first singles player senior Mike Bostwick. In addition, two more Raiders, who have experienced varsity action last year, are returning.

Gone are second singles player Jared Duvoisin, John Phillips at third singles and Rex Lee and Jim Ray who spent most of last year at first doubles. Returning with Bostwick will be junior Dave Hassan and sophomore Chris Schlegel who spent most of last year at second doubles.

Duvoisin had a marvelous season, finishing at 18-5, and compiled a 56-15 career varsity record. Phillips had an equally fantastic season, finishing with a 20-3 record and being selected as a Raider Most Valuable Player. Ray finished at 15-5 and Lee had a 13-7 record.

Last year, Bostwick had a 17-7 record, placed fourth in the county tournament and was voted as a Raider Most Valuable Player. Bostwick will most likely remain at first singles and will be a

major contender to seize the Union County Title. With the graduation of Blue Devil Dan Matro, who won the title last year, the road to the championship will be much easier.

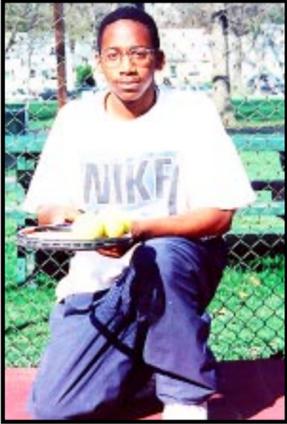
Hassan finished with a 12-7 record last year, placed seventh in the county tournament at first doubles with Lee and will fill the second singles position. Schlegel, who finished with an impressive 12-2 record last year, will fill the third singles slot.

Raider Boys' Tennis Head Coach Dave Blackman will be using a senior, two sophomores and two freshmen to fill in the slots at first and second doubles. Presently Coach Blackman plans to start sophomores Shawn Lefkowitz and Paul Sweedlund at first doubles. Freshmen John Corbin and Doug Gillie may rotate with senior Ian Doeberber at the second doubles position.

"We lost five starters and will have a very young team this season," stated Blackman. "Our difference is that they are such a young team, but they play very well in practice. My concern is, that because they are very young, will they be able to transfer their ability and intensity to the game situations."

When asked about his feelings of Bostwick's chances this year, Coach Blackman pointed out, "Mike is playing very well this year and has taken his game to another level. He will be very tough. He is definitely one of the top players in the county."

Coach Blackman, in his 12th year as Raider boys' tennis Head Coach, has amassed a 203-44 career record and will be seeking to improve upon that great record.



David B. Corbin for The Leader and The Times
FIRST SINGLES...Senior Mike Bostwick may be the man to beat at the Union County Tennis Tournament.

Area High School Tennis Results:

April 3:
Westfield 5, Shabazz 0
1st Singles - Josh Warren (W) d. Julius Robinson, 6-0, 6-0
2nd Singles - Chris Benson (W) d. Keyon Lassiter, 6-0, 6-0
3rd Singles - Sam Fleder (W) won by default
1st Doubles - Tom O'Connell and Peter Lau (W) won by default
2nd Doubles - Jeremy Chilknick and Adam Kendler (W) won by default

New Providence 5, Johnson 0
1st Singles - Todd Kraft (NP) d. Paul Sersen, 6-0, 6-1
2nd Singles - Steven Edwards (NP) d. Paul Silva, 7-5, 6-1
3rd Singles - Ted Niedzelski (NP) d. Ron Wesloski, 5-7, 6-4, 6-1
1st Doubles - Tom Sparano and Alberto Abrio (NP) d. Mark Turner and Nirau Patel, 6-0, 6-1
2nd Doubles - Jason Shao and Brian Jones (NP) d. Jason Wollenberg and Joe Signorella, 6-1, 6-2

Union Catholic 5, Rahway 0
1st Singles: Ken Soriano (UC) d. Jay Baluyot, 6-1, 6-2.
2nd Singles: Tom Werner (UC) d. Jose Bedoya, 6-3, 6-1
3rd Singles: Jimmy DiCarlo (UC) d. Jonathan Ferrell, 6-4, 7-5
1st Doubles: Martin Flemming and J. T. Wilkinson (UC) d. Jason Reverendo and Michael Coroso, 6-0, 6-2
2nd Doubles: Bill Cuartas and Luke Partyka (UC) d. Francesco Ventura and Jim Lenkiewicz, 6-4, 6-4



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
OUT AT FIRST...Blue Devil first baseman Stephanie Flynn catches the softball to record the third out of the inning against the Cougars. The Cranford High School girls won 6-5 in Cranford.

Cranford Softballers Stop Blue Devil Girls' Rally, 6-5

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B-1

left-center to bring home Leonardis. Francz scored the second run of the inning on a fielder's choice.

Again, the Blue Devil offense struck viciously in the top of the fourth, scoring two runs to narrow the Cougars' lead to only one run. Stephanie Flynn started the rally by slashing a single to right-center. Wagner laid down a bunt and reached first safely as Flynn flew to second.

With Colleen Ryan at the plate, the Blue Devils successfully pulled a double steal, putting runners in scoring position.

Then, Ryan tapped a grounder to the pitcher who threw her out at first as Flynn sailed home for the first run of the inning. With Wagner on third, Phillips dug in at the plate and slashed a single to center to bring home Wagner for the next run. The Cougar defense tightened up and stopped any further scoring.

In the remaining two innings, both teams' defenses held and the Cougars breathed easily after the last Blue Devil was called out.

Westfield	001	220	0	05
Cranford	024	000	0	06

DEADLINE INFO.

Sports deadlines are: All sports that take place during the week MUST be submitted by FRIDAY, 4 P.M. Weekend sports ONLY will be accepted up till Noon on Monday. Articles must be typed, double spaced, upper and lower case and no longer than 1-1/2 pages. NO EXCEPTIONS



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
SCHOLAR ATHLETE AND SPONSOR...Westfield High School senior Mike Baly, left, stands with Glenn Kehler outside Kehler's Athletic Balance. Baly was the Westfield Leader's Scholar athlete for the month of February. The Mattress Factory in Garwood, The Leader Store, Taylor and Love Century 21, Hershey's Giant Subs and Kehler's Athletic Balance are the Sponsors of the Scholar Athlete of the Month. A plaque with Baly's name and picture will be placed at Kehler's Athletic Balance for approximately three weeks.

The Complete Internet Guide to Happenings in Westfield

www.quintillion.com/westfield

- See Your Local Merchants On-Line
 - Hours • Specials • Coupons • Sales
- See Local Restaurant Menus On-Line
- Keep Track of Upcoming Events with Community Calendar
- Current Event Information for Local Clubs and Organizations
- See the Latest Updates to the Westfield Public School Calendar

If you would like to find out how your business or community group can participate in Next Stop Westfield, contact Nancy at (973) 360-8627 for a **FREE** basic listing!