

THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Ron Kashlak Captures UC Match Play Title

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

Senior Ronnie Kashlak completed his Westfield High School golf career by capturing the Union County High Schools Match Play Championship. Kashlak overcame a -3 deficit to defeat Mike Occi of Cranford High School by one.

Kashlak began his trip to the finals by defeating John Cosmas of Scotch Plains-Fanwood +1 in the first round, then won +2 in the quarterfinals over Kevin Hutchinson of Roselle Catholic. In the semifinals, Kashlak went +3 over Blue Devil teammate Jeff Weber. After receiving a bye, Occi defeated Blue Devil Andrew Osborn in the quarterfinals, then topped Blue Devil Brent Brannick in the semifinals.



David B. Corbin for The Leader and The Times
Blue Devil Ronnie Kashlak

The always calm, Kashlak found himself in dire straits by going down three after the first three holes.

"I was not ready yet, but I was not rattled," replied Kashlak. "I knew that I could come back."

The pair played even in the fourth, sixth and seventh holes, but Kashlak won the fifth and eighth holes to close to within one. After halving the next two holes, he birdied the par 4, 300-yard 11th to even the match.

"That hole kind of charged me up," pointed out Kashlak.

He drilled his drive to the left ruff then hit a great wedge shot over a tree and landed just 15 feet from the cup. A great putt gave Kashlak his birdie.

Kashlak won the 13th to go one up, but Occi knotted the match by winning the 14th. The short par 4, 15th hole was won by Kashlak with a birdie. He hit a two-iron onto the green and routinely two-putted for the birdie.

Both golfers had trouble on the par 3, 16th and wound up with bogies. The 17th was quite exciting and could have been a disaster for Kashlak. After hitting his tee shot into a water hazard, he nailed his third shot and halved the hole by sinking an eight foot putt.

"It was a big hole for me," commented Kashlak. "I made a clutch putt and drained it."

With a plus-one lead, strategy came into play on the par 3, 18th. Playing about 220 yards into the wind, Kashlak hit a two iron to the right and Occi hit his driver just short of the green. Kashlak chipped to within eight feet and Occi's approach rolled to within 10 feet.

"He needed to sink his putt but missed it for a bogie and I just played safe for the win," explained Kashlak.

Summing up his composure, Kashlak said, "I have a lot of tournament experience and just kept playing to get back into the game."



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
SLIDING SAFELY INTO THIRD BASE...Hunter's Kevin Ewing slides safely into third base as third baseman Doug Heintz grabs the ball. Ewing went three-for-three and Heintz became the defensive player of the game.

KELLY 'KLOBBERS' GRAND SLAM IN 8-RUN FOURTH

Shady Lane Proves Difficult; Survive Hunter's Attack, 10-9

By DAVID B. CORBIN
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Counting on the deceptive pitching style of newcomer Neil Kamler, the Shady Lane boys held off a late surge by the Hunter Avenue predators to come up with a 10-9 victory in Fanwood Old Men's Softball Association action at La Grande Park in Fanwood on June 16. Shady slugger Sean Kelly clobbered a grand slam home run which touched off an eight-run explosion in the fourth inning.

The Shady Laners also got a

superb defensive effort from third baseman Doug Heintz who snagged everything which came his way. Heintz was involved in eight smooth fielding plays which included a slick double play, a great backhand stab, a fine catch of a foul ball and a tag to nail a runner attempting to steal third.

Rob Denner led off the first inning with a sharp triple off the screen in left field, then scored on Kevin Flipski's sacrifice fly to center to give Shady Lane a 1-0 lead. Hunter came back with a run in the bottom of the

inning when Paul Ewing rapped a single to right-center, Steve Kamins singled to left and Phil Wein whacked an RBI sacrifice fly to center. During that inning, Heintz caught Kamins attempting to steal third.

In the bottom of the second Dave Roth of Hunter ripped a leadoff single to right, but Heintz smothered a stinging liner off the bat of Scott Rossy and fired it to first in time to catch Roth leaning off first. Kevin Ewing followed with a single to center which would have scored Roth had it not been for the heads-up play by Heintz.

In the bottom of the third, Heintz made a fabulous backhand stab of a steaming grounder off the bat of Al Manzi and tossed the ball to first for the out. Then, Shady Lane returned to the plate in the fourth to touch off its big, eight-run inning.

Ironically, it was Heintz who got the ball rolling with a leadoff single over third. Kevin Malony zipped a single past third and John Cholankeril plopped a single over short to load the bases. Kelly dug in his cleats at the batter's box, then stunned the Hunters with his home run to deep center. Mark Fallner and Kamler followed with singles, then Denner dumped an RBI single to right-center. Phil Manno stepped to the plate and bashed a shot down the right field line which eluded the outfielder. In the meantime, three more runs scored.

Shady Lane relished its 8-1 lead and enjoyed another great catch by Heintz of a foul ball in the fourth, then Hunter struck with five runs in the bottom of the fifth. Wein singled to center, Rossy drilled an RBI ground rule double into the net in left and

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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
PLAYER OF THE YEAR...Raider senior Blair Woodward has been named the Union County Boys Track Player of the Year.

Raider Woodward Selected County Player of the Year

Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School senior Blair Woodward has been selected as the Union County Player of the Year in boys track and field by the *Star Ledger*. Woodward excelled in the high jump, long jump and the 110-high hurdles.

During his senior year, Woodward had the state's best leap in the long jump with a distance of 23'5" and later, at the Meet of Champions, he finished second with a leap of 22'6.75". He cleared 6'10" in the high jump and later placed sixth in the Meet of Champions in the event with a height of 6'6". At the state Group 3 meet, he placed fifth in the 110-hurdles with a time of 14.44.

Woodward was selected to the First Team All-Group 3 in the long jump and the high jump and to the Second Team All-State in the long jump. He will attend the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill where he will compete in track and field.

The Raiders were recognized as being the Union County Team of the Year for winning their fourth county track title in five years. Raider Coach Rich McGriff was named Union County boys Coach of the Year for leading his team to its third-straight county title, its ninth-straight Watchung Conference National Division crown and its sixth North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 title in the past seven years.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
NORTHEAST U. S. COACH OF THE YEAR...Westfield High School girls swimming Head Coach Bev Torok was recently named Section 1 (Northeast United States) Girls Swimming Coach of the Year.

Devil Coach Torok Receives Coach of the Year Award

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

Westfield High School girls swimming Head Coach Beverly Torok recently received a major honor from the National Federation of Interscholastic Coaches Association (NFISCA). She was chosen as the Section 1 (Northeast United States) Girls Swim Coach of the Year.

The inscription on her plaque read: "In grateful appreciation of outstanding service and unselfish devotion to interscholastic athletics."

Describing the magnitude of the award, Torok explained, "The NJSIAA nominated me and I was chosen for all the northeast states from New Jersey up through Maine."

The Blue Devil girls overcame injuries and obstacles early in the season to become the New Jersey Group B Champions. As the underdogs, the ninth-ranked Blue Devils sank fifth-ranked Rumsen-Fairhaven, 88-82.

"We were definitely the underdogs. It was still predicted to be close, but nobody expected us to win," said Torok. "The girls really focused and came through. Every race was a strong race. Every girl did something that they had to do to get us there. It was a total team effort which is just in-

dicative of my philosophy that everybody is important."

Torok added, "We had some obstacles this year. Some kids were not on the team and other pertinent people were injured and weren't able to swim."

Earlier in the season, the Devils girls captured their seventh-straight Union County Crown, swam away with the Watchung Conference title and won the state sectionals to advance to the state championships.

It was truly a much deserved award for Coach Torok.

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D'ORIO, B. HARCOURT, KAMINS 'KONNECT' FOR HRS

Merciless Chaos Mesmerizes Dazed Charlie Brown's, 21-3

By DAVID B. CORBIN
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Chaos showed no mercy as it sent a procession of players across home plate and mesmerized poor Charlie Brown's, 21-3, in Westfield Softball League action at Tamaques Park in Westfield on June 18. Much power was displayed as John D'Orio, Bill Harcourt and Steve Kamins of Chaos and Chuck Dashiell and Chris Curty on Charlie Brown's each blasted home runs.

Charlie Brown's got off to a good start scoring two runs in the top of the first. Jay Hrudowsky ripped a single, then Curty clouted his two-run homer.

Chaos wasted no time blanketing Charlie Brown's with confusion.

Chuck Harcourt walked, D'Orio and Matt Smith both reached base safely on infield errors, then Kamins knocked an RBI single to left. Kevin Lonergan followed with an RBI sacrifice but a throwing error allowed two more runs to score. Finally, Jeff Kole's RBI sacrifice fly to right gave Chaos a 5-2 lead at the end of one inning.

With his blazing speed, Dashiell beat out an infield single; however, Charlie Brown's failed to score in the second. Scott Rossy ripped a single and Lance Wildenstein whacked a ground rule double, then D'Orio hit an RBI sacrifice fly to up Chaos' lead to 6-1.

Again, Charlie Brown's was

muffed by its Linus blanket and failed to score in the third. Chaos spoke up with Bill Harcourt's solo homer to left in the bottom of the inning.

After going down in order in the fourth, Charlie Brown's muttered, "Good Grief!" But, they were left speechless after Chaos added seven runs in the fourth to take a 14-2 lead. Al Rabinowitz bashed a double to left, Rossy dribbled an RBI single past short, Wildenstein looped a single over third and Chuck Harcourt loaded the bases with a walk.

D'Orio tapped an RBI single over third and Smith smacked a two-run double to left. Kamins positioned himself in the batter's box and

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