



FRED K. LECOMTE FOR THE WESTFIELD LEADER  
**NO STOPPING THIS GUY...COMING IN HARD TO THE PLATE AND SCORING IS BLUE DEVIL KEN WICHOSKI. ADDITIONALLY, THE BLUE DEVIL RIGHTFIELDER CRACKED A FASTBALL OVER THE 352-FT SIGN FOR A THREE-RUN HOMER.**

**BLUE DEVIL NINE FINISH 16-7 MAY BE EVEN BETTER IN 2005 SEASON**

**BY DAVID B. CORBIN**  
 The 2004 Westfield High School baseball team made huge strides from last year's 12-10, team finishing 16-7 and sharing the Watchung Conference National Division crown with Scotch Plains-Fanwood. Even with the huge strides, next year's team may be even better.

"We felt we made big strides from last year," stated Blue Devil Head Coach Bob Brewster. "The guys who came in this year more than proved themselves. Overall, as a team, we did well."

The Blue Devils had one of their best team batting averages (BA) in memory, finishing .349. Although featuring several fine seniors, the six returning starters in the lineup finished with an incredible .369 average, so that statistic combined with a Junior Varsity team that won the Union County title should promise a very successful 2005 season.

Two sophomores, catcher Mike Murray and shortstop/pitcher Tom Ricciuti, came up 2-3 in BA, with respective averages of .400 and .395.

**WF BLUE DEVIL GIRLS CAPTURE COUNTY TRACK RELAY CROWN**

**BY DAVID B. CORBIN**  
 The Westfield High School girls track and field team attained one of its goals by capturing the Union County Relay crown at Hub Stine Field in Plainfield on May 1. Westfield, with a total of 80.5 points, placed in every event but the pole vault and won two events to beat out a highly improved Summit team that placed second with 57 points.

That "across the board" talent made the

difference, since Summit performed very well in the middle and long distance events but struggled in the field.

Blue Devils Caroline Sheridan, Alison Petrow and Christina Henry took second in the team shot put at 94'7.75"; Sheridan, Nicole Simone and Olena Borkowsky placed second in the javelin at 265'6"; and Amanda Nehring, Britany Mironovich and Emily Perry tied for fourth in the high jump at 14 feet— all WHS records.



DAVID B. CORBIN FOR THE WESTFIELD LEADER  
**BEGINNING THE FINAL LEG...BLUE DEVIL DEENIE QUINN, LEFT, BEGINS THE FINAL LEG OF THE DISTANCE MEDLEY RELAY AFTER RECEIVING THE BATON FROM ANNIE ONISHI.**

**BLUE DEVIL BOYS LACROSSE**



DAVID B. CORBIN FOR THE WESTFIELD LEADER  
**IN A BATTLE FOR BALL CONTROL...BLUE DEVIL MIKE PATELLA, NO. 21, GETS THE BALL KNOCKED AWAY BY A MENDHAM MINUTEMAN LONG STICK. NO. 16 MENDHAM DEFEATED THE BLUE DEVILS, 5-3, IN WESTFIELD ON APRIL 21.**

**BLUE DEVILS CAGE HAWKS, 12TH FOR SECTION CROWN**



FRED LECOMTE FOR THE WESTFIELD LEADER  
**NORTH JERSEY, SECTION 2, GROUP 4 CHAMPS...THE BLUE DEVIL GIRLS REJOICE AFTER DEFEATING J. P. STEVENS, 1-0, IN 12 INNINGS FOR THE NORTH JERSEY, SECTION 2, GROUP 4 SOFTBALL TITLE AT WHIPPANY PARK.**

**WESTFIELD BLUE DEVIL GIRLS WERE AMONG SWIMMING ELITE**

It was definitely a weekend of "Fast Times at Westfield High" for the Westfield High School (WHS) girls swim team.

Coach Jaime Ruzala's team, ranked No. 4 in the state, took on perennial state tournament rival West Windsor-Plainsboro South on February 25 in the Public A Division semifinals at The College of New Jersey in Ewing. With best times in just about every

getting a very rare 1-2-3 sweep over the Fighting Clan in the breaststroke. In the end, Vineland had too many guns and took a 105-65 decision.

"We swam really well," Ruzala said. "I'm proud of the girls. They didn't just show up to get hammered."

A South Jersey newspaper got the feisty coach riled up after the meet when they asked her how it felt to be going up against an elite team like Vineland. "I just said, 'We're an elite team, too,'" she said. "And we are."

The WHS girls finished the season with a 12-3 record, losing only to Vineland, Immaculate Heart Academy and Mount St. Mary, the top three teams in the state. Westfield shared the Union County championship with Scotch Plains-Fanwood, which captured the state Public B title last weekend, and also was second to Mount St. Mary at the 26th Pirate Invitational.

Ruzala loses eight strong seniors to graduation: Amanda Dickson, DeLaFuente, Selert, Lauren Winchester, Liz Trimble, Christine Clark, Neda Semaika and Lisa Zhang. But there is a very strong nucleus returning, with Reyes, Fraser, Morgan, Liz Hawkins, Alexi Kuska, Darrell Ann Smith, Julie Cederth, Isabella and Callie Meserole, among others.



JIM O'CONNOR (NJSPORTPIC.COM) FOR THE WESTFIELD LEADER  
**LAST MEET FOR FRIENDLY RIVALS...RAIDER AMANDA CAMERON, LEFT, BLUE DEVIL JACQUELINE DELAFUENTE, CENTER, AND UNION CATHOLIC'S ERIN O'CONNOR WHO HAVE BEEN FRIENDS AND RIVALS FOR YEARS POSE AT THE UNION COUNTY**

event and more than 4,000 power points, the Blue Devils advanced to Saturday's final with a 92-78 victory.

The opponent in the final was Vineland, ranked No. 1 in the state and the three-time defending Public A champions. WHS came to swim, power pointing just under 4,100 and

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