

CORSI 6-HITS MILLERS; HRYNKIEWICZ 3 HITS, 2 RBI

GL Grinds Miller Nine, 9-5, Grabs 'Phil Krug' Memorial

By FRED LECOMTE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Mountainside residents Anthony Corsi and Brian Wyratt combined with strong pitching performances to lead the No. 18 Governor Livingston High School baseball team to a 9-5 victory over previously undefeated (6-1) Millburn to win the Phil Krug Memorial title in Millburn on April 14.

Corsi yielded five earned runs, struck out eight, walked one and scattered six hits through five and two-thirds innings. Wyratt pitched perfect ball the remainder of the way and contributed a hit to earn his first save.

Millburn starter Dan Berkowitz allowed four hits, fanned one, walked five and hit a batter, while being tagged for four runs in three innings. Reliever Mike Gastry ceded four runs on seven hits and hit a batter in two innings and Kevin McCarver allowed one run on two hits, struck out two

Miller bashed an RBI triple, Mountainsider Justin Quaglia doubled and Adam Bergman added a single and a two-run double.

Jeremy Gordon (2-for-4) scored three runs for the Millers. Mike Dash tapped an RBI single and Josh Camitta launched a solo homer in the second inning.

"It was real important for our kids to jump out to a good start, which we did. We hit the ball and we played defense. You're going to make a couple of errors. We did but we bounced back," said Highlander Head Coach Chris Roof. "We had a big pickoff play from our catcher (Dugan) when they were threatening late in the game. I thought Berkowitz, Millburn's number one pitcher did a really good job but we were able to jump on his fastball. We always want to try to keep our momentum in our dugout and I think we did that. Corsi, our ace, did an awesome job. Wyratt,

center. Dugan singled, scoring George, and Miller clocked an RBI triple to center. Millburn cut the deficit to one in the bottom of the inning. Camitta blasted a leadoff homer and Luke Geller tripled and scored on a well-executed squeeze play.

The Highlanders added a run in the third on a bases-loaded sacrifice fly ball by George. The Millers immediately matched that feat when Dash got tagged by a pitch and scored on Gordon's double.

Two Highlanders scuffed the plate in the fourth and two more scored in the fifth to take an 8-3 lead. In the fourth, Miller walked. Wheaton tripled and scored on Hrynkiewicz's double. Dugan ripped a two-run single in the fifth.

"What's really great about our team is that, one through nine, anyone can drive the ball," said Hrynkiewicz. "I got a fastball that I put a good swing on and put into leftfield for a triple."

Millburn loaded the bases and scored two runs in the fifth inning. Camitta and Dash each punched RBI singles. G.L. added a run in the seventh on bases-loaded walk.

"It was just about throwing low strikes and letting them hit the ball and, for the most part, they did," said Corsi. "We threw a lot of curveballs, which they could not hit, so we just kept on throwing until they could prove us wrong. We went with lots of outside fastballs, which were slapped out to right field for outs."

"When I got out there, the key was pretty much to throw strikes, let them hit and see what happens," added Wyratt. "Having bases loaded is tough. You don't want to walk any kids and that's what it came down to."

When asked what the key to good pitching was, catcher Dugan said, "With Anthony (Corsi), it was to let him throw strikes, keep him relaxed and keep him down in the zone. They kept the ball in play and we kept on getting them out. Brian, it was pretty much the same story. He threw a lot of curve balls and got ahead of the batters."

Gov. Livingston 031 220 1 9
Millburn 021 020 0 5



PART OF A VERY DANGEROUS SCORING CREW...Blue Devil attacker Harry Bernstein, No. 9, scored two goals and had three assists in a 12-3 victory over West Essex. He is part of a very strong offensive front.

YARUSI NETS 4 GOALS; SIMONE 2 GOALS, 4 ASSISTS
Blue Devil Laxmen Bombard West Essex Knight Boys, 12-3

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

Seniors Ryan Yarusi and Joey Simone, junior Harry Bernstein and freshman Tim Werner led a furious offensive assault, while a stubborn defensive crew held tight in a 12-3 Westfield High School boys lacrosse team victory over West Essex at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield on April 14.

The 4-1 Blue Devils' first-string defensive crew shutout the 0-4 Knights in the first half and limited them to just one goal in the second half before being relieved by the reserve defensive squad. Blue Devil Chris Mattes won 12 of 15 faceoffs and scooped nine of the Blue Devils' 40 ground balls. Yarusi scooped six. West Essex totaled only 15 ground balls. Blue Devil goalie Ben Thomas made seven saves.

"Overall, our defense has a lot of continuity, coming back over the last two years," said Blue Devil Head Coach Gerry Benaquista. "It shows! I think we are getting better each game. There's still room to improve but this year our goals against average is around three goals per game. When you say defense wins championships, I believe it. If we are going to go far

later in the year, it's going to be on our defensive back."

"Our defense is playing unbelievable! We only lost one starter from last year," stated Yarusi. "On the off-season, they were all doing what they had to do to get better. They are playing aggressive and they are pressuring a lot. Our kids are a lot more physical than the last couple of years."

The Blue Devils pelted Knight goalie Chris Miller with 40 shots (19 in the first half). Yarusi, a midfielder, scored four goals and attacker Simone added a pair of goals and four assists. Bernstein also scored a pair of goals and contributed three assists, while

Werner scored twice and had an assist. Senior midfielders Luke Baran (1 assist) and Peter Cornell each netted a goal.

The Blue Devils were extremely successful setting up an inside penetration style offensive in the first half with Simone and Bernstein assisting from behind the net and Yarusi, hovering from 20-yards out, while Werner slipped near the goalie's circle. Within the first two minutes, Werner, assisted by Simone, ripped in the first goal. Two minutes later, the same combination made the score, 2-0. With 3:30 left in the first quarter, Yarusi, on an assist from Bernstein, made his charge and fired in the third goal. With 1:51 left, Werner made a smooth left-to-right pass to Bernstein who upped the score to 4-0.

With 10:25 on the clock in the second quarter, Yarusi scooped a ground ball at midfield, charged forward and scored unassisted. With 2:17 left of the half, Yarusi slam-dunked a left-handed score unassisted. Thirty seconds later, Simone, assisted by Bernstein, made the score 7-0 at the half.

Simone returned the favor to Bernstein early in the third quarter

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Fred K. Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times
NOT THEFTY ALLOWED...Highlander catcher M.J. Dugan fires the ball to first baseman Justin Quaglia who slaps the tag on a Miller. GL won the crown, 9-5.

batters and walked three.

The entire Highlander lineup combined for 13 hits, including three hits and two runs from Nick Hrynkiewicz. Mountainsiders, M.J. Dugan lashed two singles and an RBI and Kevin Wheaton bashed an RBI triple. Designated hitter Tyler George whacked a double and had two RBI. Brooks

our number two pitcher, came in at the end and did an outstanding job as well. If you get pitching, you're going to win. The kids just did a great job. They were very resilient today."

The 3-1 Highlanders jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the top of the second inning. Hrynkiewicz tripled to center and scored on George's double to

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