

Devil's Den

Old Chinese proverb: Must be in it to win it



By BRUCE JOHNSON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

It would've been easy late Saturday afternoon to plop in an old Doors greatest hits CD and listen to Jim Morrison singing "no time to wallow in the mire... try now we can only lose... and our love become a funeral pyre."

After all, the WHS football team lost big-time in its sectional semifinal at Phillipsburg on Friday night, and less than 18 hours later the WHS girls soccer team dropped a heartbreaking overtime game to Lenape in the state Group 4 final.

Rationalizing that "you've gotta be in it to win it" helped. I mean, how many schools in the entire state had teams playing in the football semis, the state soccer finals and running at the cross-country Meet of Champions last weekend? Three? WHS, Haddonfield and Mountain Lakes. Earlier this fall, WHS won a state tennis title, reached the county finals in boys soccer and had a state-ranked gymnastics team.

Then around 10:30 Saturday night came an e-mail from Faithful Reader Lynchnd. He had been watching a regional TV network and saw that the Massillon Tigers, my semi-adopted team, had "upset" archrival Canton McKinley, 10-7, in the Ohio playoffs. This coming three weeks after McKinley won, 35-21, in the 118th meeting of their storied rivalry. The 10-3 T-I-G, E-R-S advanced to the state quarterfinals to face Cleveland Glenville.

Ahh, life does, indeed, go on!

The final result of Friday night's game will never take away the memory of the electric evening at the mecca of N.J. football, as two of the state's all-time winningest teams (P'burg No. 1, WHS No. 5) met for the first time. The crowd was reported between 7,000 and 8,000 people, and Westfield had at least 3,000 of that number. There were hundreds of alumni from as far back as the '40s and '50s, and several busloads of WHS students, organized by Sean Scrudato and Max Bryk.

Watching under-sized Phillipsburg, with just a handful of well-executed plays - a simple dive and counter-trap, a quick pitch, and play-action passes - was like watching grainy old 35-millimeter film of WHS games in the '60s under coach Gary Kehler. That's how old-school P'burg coach Bob Stem does

it, even down to the full team singing the school song with their fans after the game.

There is no doubt in my mind that WHS can play with, and beat, Phillipsburg. But not the way the Devils played on Friday night. With several fumbles and shabby tackling, they looked more like the team that showed up - and lost - against Watchung Hills back in the second week than the team that had steamrolled SP-F, Montgomery, Linden, Union and Columbia by a combined 166-33 the previous five weekends.

Maybe watching P'burg run a simple off-tackle play for nine yards on a third-and-eight on the opening series was a portent of things to come, but the real game-changing event took place late in the first half. P'burg was up 13-0 - on a touchdown following a long punt return and a 70-yard touchdown run by former Westfield resident Dana Lee - but WHS put together a sweet drive. Dan Kerr hit Hugo Nolasco for a couple of nice gains, and WHS had a first-and-goal at the P'burg eight with plenty of time. On first down, however, the handoff was bobbled and P'burg recovered. The Liners then marched 91 yards and scored on the final play of the half. Since WHS was receiving the second-half kickoff, a potential six-point halftime molehill had become a 21-0 mountain.

Still, it was truly a happening, a night that will long be remembered. Perhaps the spirit of the event, and of being a true alum of your town's high school, was shown by Jimmy Wilday ('61). He spent late Friday afternoon visiting a friend at a hospital in Livingston and, when he finally left, could have easily just headed the 90 miles down the Garden State Parkway to his home on Long Beach Island.

But the captain of the 1961 WHS baseball team, the youngest of the three athletic Wilday brothers after Pete ('58) and Dave ('60), instead got on Route 78 West and drove 60-plus miles to Maloney Stadium. He didn't get there until after halftime, and now faced a drive home of closer to 130 or more miles. Not a problem.

"It was worth it, coming out to see the old high school team," Wilday said.

WHS-PHS CV
The 105th meeting of the Westfield

and Plainfield football teams will take place tomorrow, 11 a.m., at Kehler Stadium. The Blue Devils lead the series 53-44-7. This is the 66th time the game was scheduled for Thanksgiving Day, the first being in 1944.

The Cardinals come into the game with a 2-7 record, but have won their last two, beating Elizabeth 7-6 in double overtime and Edison 13-7 in a state consolation game.

WHS is 7-3 and with a win would continue the rebuilding process of coach Jim DeSarno, whose first three teams went 6-4, 7-4, 7-3.

Westfield, which has won its three Turkey games under DeSarno, won six straight games under coach Ed Tranchina from 1986-91. WHS also put together a 15-game winning streak over Plainfield from 1968-81 (including a playoff win in '76).

Dan Kerr's 233 yards passing against Columbia ties Joe Monninger (1970 vs. Plainfield) for third best single-game total on the all-time list, trailing only Dave Brown's 239 (1987 vs. Irvington) and Roger Brewster's 234 (1982 vs. SP-F). And Pat Gray's 199 receiving yards against Columbia is believed to be a school one-game record.

GIRLS SOCCER UPDATE
A wonderful season came to a heart-breaking end on Saturday when the girls soccer team lost to three-time champion Lenape, 1-0, in overtime in the state Group 4 final. WHS allowed only four goals on the season, including two in nine tournament (three county, six state) matches.

Under first-year coach Alex Schmidt, WHS equaled the school record with 21 victories - matching the clubs of 1987 and '88. The team allowed just four goals (two each by Meg Brody and Gabby Gold) to set a school record, the former mark being five by the '96 team.

WHS will graduate goalie Brody, defensive standouts Grace Mackenzie, Becca Kape, Katie Elser and Julia Spiridigliozzi, forwards Amanda Markowski and Meg Freudenheim, and midfielders Robyn Knapp, Kathy Davidson and Molly Maher. But Sam Costello, Katie Ponce, Hannah Kronick, Martina Landeka, Emma Franks, Anne Maguire, Catherine Kerr and Alexandra Tinfov will provide plenty of firepower, and Gold will be tough in goal.

HALL OF FAME UPDATE
The names of the 10 individuals, two teams and one coach that will comprise the ninth induction class of the Westfield Athletic Hall of Fame will be announced very soon. But the Hall of Fame committee is also starting to prepare for the Class of 2012 and needs more information (especially college and beyond) for the following candidates: Claudia Carnevale, Joey Deer, Clint Factor, Dennis Powers, Beth Rennicks, Buddy Robinson, Dick Stotler, Lamont Turner and Natalie Urciuoli. If anybody can provide verifiable information - all-America, all-state, all-county, all-conference, captaincy, school records, etc. - contact me at bj1019@aol.com.

BOOK REVIEWS
One of the best books I've read in years is "Fading Echoes" by Mike Sielski. It's about a couple of intermediate school football teammates, who in the late '90s become team captains at rival high schools in Doylestown, Pa. After college, both end up fighting in Iraq. Whether or not you believe in this war (or any war), you would have to be heartless to not cry during the epilog.

Finally got around to reading Mark Harris' "Bang the Drum Slowly" and it has to rank among the best baseball books ever, though it's not just about baseball. Can't wait to get the DVD of the 1973 movie, with a young Robert DeNiro as ill-fated catcher Bruce Pearson, Michael Moriarty as pitcher/roommate Henry (Author) Wiggen, the book's storyteller, and Vincent Gardenia as Dutch Schnell, manager of the New York Mammoths.

TOP ATHLETES VOTING
Voting for WHS's Best Athletes of

PUBLIC NOTICE
BOROUGH OF FANWOOD PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby given that the PLANING BOARD OF THE BOROUGH OF FANWOOD after public hearing on October 28, 2009 granted variance approval from the requirements of 184-115 E. minimum side yard setback, for property owned by David and Barbara Harris at 36 Kempshall Terrace, Fanwood, New Jersey, being Block 97 and Lot 7.

Documents pertaining to this application are available for public inspection at Borough Hall during normal business hours.

Mr. & Mrs. David Harris
36 Kempshall Terrace
Fanwood, New Jersey 07023
1 T - 11/26/09, The Times Fee: \$17.34

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF WESTFIELD PLANNING BOARD

Notice is hereby given that the Westfield Planning Board at its meeting on October 5, 2009 adopted the following resolution.

PB 09-10(V) Arpino Assoc., LLC, 560 Springfield Avenue, Block 1701, Lot 10.01. Applicant sought Preliminary and Final Site Plan approval with c variances to construct an addition of ± 3,990 square feet, a minor enlargement of the front entrance; the construction of a new freestanding sign and site improvements including reconfiguration of the parking area. Applicant sought variance relief for a front yard setback of 12.57 feet where 75 feet is required, for 141 parking spaces where 154 parking spaces are required, for a zero foot setback for a freestanding sign where five feet is required, for a sign area of ± 44 square feet where 10 feet is allowed, for a sign height of 12 feet where 8 feet is allowed and for horizontal and/or vertical dimensions of 7.66 feet where 6 feet is allowed for a freestanding sign. Application approved with conditions.

Kris McAloon
Secretary, Planning Board
1 T - 11/26/09, The Leader Fee: \$25.50

Devils of the Week
Brody, Elser, Kape,
Mackenzie, Spiridigliozzi
Girls soccer

Each Decade ('60s, '70s, '80s, '90s, '00s) continues for three more weeks, until December 17. In the first two weeks, nearly 270 votes have been e-mailed, for more than 60 different athletes! To know more about the contest, go to goleader.com and find the November 5 Devil's Den on page 12. Remember, you can vote all nine categories (males for all five decades, females for the last four decades) or just whichever one or two you feel most comfortable. But keep those votes coming to bj1019@aol.com.

IN PASSING
Dickie Peterson, bassist and lead singer for the late '60s San Francisco-based band Blue Cheer, died of prostate cancer last month at the age of 63. Blue Cheer, named after a brand of LSD, not the detergent, did a mean version of Eddie Cochran's "Summer-time Blues" on their debut Vincebus Eruptum album. (My two, or was it three, years of Latin under Sam Bunting at WHS taught me that translates, roughly, to "control of chaos," which is fitting.)

DEVIL OF THE WEEK
This week's winners of a free sub, from Mike the new owner at Westfield Subs (261 South Avenue East), are goalie Meg Brody and defenders Grace Mackenzie, Katie Elser, Becca Kape and Julia Spiridigliozzi, who allowed just four goals all season, a school record.

The Devil's Den appears Thursday in The Westfield Leader during the school year. Contact me with comments, complaints and suggestions at bj1019@aol.com. Win or not, WHS4EVR!

Westfield/Plainfield Rivalry
Westfield 53, Plainfield 44, Tie 7

1900	—	Westfield	26-0	1958	—	Plainfield	21-0
1901	—	Westfield	NA	1959	—	Plainfield	7-0
1903	—	Plainfield	15-0	1960	—	Westfield	13-7
1905	—	Plainfield	24-0	1961	—	Westfield	13-6
1907	—	Tie	6-6	1962	—	Plainfield	27-7
		Westfield	11-0	1963	—	Westfield	14-12
1908	—	Plainfield	12-6	1964	—	Plainfield	13-7
		Plainfield	5-0	1965	—	Westfield	21-0
1909	—	Plainfield	35-6	1966	—	Plainfield	33-12
1910	—	Westfield	6-0	1967	—	Plainfield	12-7
1911	—	Plainfield	37-6	1968	—	Westfield	25-21
1912	—	Westfield	19-7	1969	—	Westfield	45-0
1913	—	Westfield	20-6	1970	—	Westfield	49-6
		Westfield	26-7	1971	—	Westfield	12-6
1914	—	Plainfield	19-0	1972	—	Westfield	27-6
1915	—	Plainfield	7-0	1973	—	Westfield	20-0
		Westfield	6-0	1974	—	Westfield	31-14
1916	—	Tie	0-0	1975	—	Westfield	9-6
		Plainfield	7-3	1976	—	Westfield	34-0
		Plainfield	39-0			Westfield	14-0
1917	—	Plainfield	6-0	1977	—	Westfield	38-0
1919	—	Plainfield	28-0	1978	—	Westfield	6-2
1922	—	Plainfield	19-0	1979	—	Westfield	3-2
1923	—	Westfield	3-0	1980	—	Westfield	14-0
1924	—	Plainfield	18-0	1981	—	Westfield	28-6
1925	—	Plainfield	7-2	1982	—	Plainfield	21-3
1926	—	Plainfield	20-0	1983	—	Plainfield	14-6
1931	—	Westfield	21-0	1984	—	Plainfield	14-0
1932	—	Westfield	13-6	1985	—	Tie	0-0
1933	—	Tie	0-0	1986	—	Westfield	27-14
1934	—	Westfield	7-6	1987	—	Westfield	35-6
1935	—	Plainfield	7-0	1988	—	Westfield	7-6
1936	—	Tie	0-0	1989	—	Westfield	14-7
1937	—	Tie	0-0	1990	—	Westfield	21-6
1938	—	Plainfield	13-0	1991	—	Westfield	28-0
1939	—	Westfield	20-0	1992	—	Plainfield	14-9
1940	—	Westfield	13-0	1993	—	Tie	0-0
1941	—	Westfield	1-0	1994	—	Westfield	20-7
1944	—	Westfield	12-6	1995	—	Westfield	28-20
1945	—	Westfield	12-0	1996	—	Plainfield	38-7
1946	—	Plainfield	6-0	1997	—	Westfield	22-7
1947	—	Westfield	32-12	1998	—	Plainfield	21-7
1948	—	Westfield	14-6	1999	—	Plainfield	20-14
1949	—	Plainfield	19-6	2000	—	Westfield	42-25
1950	—	Plainfield	33-7	2001	—	Westfield	24-21
1951	—	Plainfield	14-6	2002	—	Westfield	14-6
1952	—	Plainfield	27-14	2003	—	Plainfield	9-7
1953	—	Plainfield	25-6	2004	—	Plainfield	40-0
1954	—	Plainfield	6-0	2005	—	Plainfield	9-0
1955	—	Plainfield	21-0	2006	—	Westfield	17-7
1956	—	Plainfield	19-6	2007	—	Westfield	28-27
1957	—	Plainfield	19-12	2008	—	Westfield	21-19

Stateliners Sideline Blue Devils, 35-6, in Sections

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second half. Wide receiver Pat Gray was kept in check for any big plays and finished with four receptions for 35 yards.

"Once they get you down, and they can zone in on your best player, I don't think anybody can touch them," coach DeSarno added.

Wide receiver Hugo Nolasco had a pair of receptions, resulting in 41

yards for the TD with 9:20 remaining in the third quarter and used a pair of trick plays to engineer a 76-yard scoring drive that ended with Lee's three-yard TD run with 8:48 on the clock. P-burg's final TD came

in the end zone with eight seconds left of the half. Ringo added a two-point conversion reception to make the score, 21-0.

P-burg went for the kill immediately in the third quarter and used a pair of trick plays to engineer a 76-yard scoring drive that ended with Lee's three-yard TD run with 8:48 on the clock. P-burg's final TD came



END OF A GREAT SEASON...The Blue Devil boys cross-country team completed its season by placing fifth at the Meet of Champions in Holmdel Park. It was the Blue Devils' best showing since 1996.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF WESTFIELD
NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE FOR NON-PAYMENT OF TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS

Public notice is hereby given that the undersigned, The Collector of Taxes of the Town of Westfield, Union County, New Jersey, will sell at public auction on the 11th day of December, 2009 in the Tax Collector's office in the Municipal Building, 425 East Broad Street, Westfield, New Jersey, at ten o'clock in the morning, the following described lands:

The said lands will be sold to make the amount of Municipal liens chargeable against that same on the 11th day of December, 2009, together with interest and cost of sale, exclusive however, of the lien for taxes for the year 2009.

The said lands will be sold in fee to such persons as will purchase the same, subject to redemption at the lowest rate of interest, but in no case in excess of eighteen percent (18%) per annum. Payments for the sale shall be made by cash or certified check before conclusion of the sale or the property will be resold.

Any parcel of real property for which there shall be no other purchaser will be struck off and sold to the Municipality in fee for redemption at eighteen percent (18%) per annum and the Municipality shall have the right to bar or foreclose the right of redemption.

The sale will be made and conducted in accordance with the provisions of Article 4 of Chapter 5 of Title 54, Revised Statutes of New Jersey, 1937, and amendments thereto. At any time before the sale the undersigned will receive payment of the amount due on the property, with interest and costs incurred up to the time of payments, by certified check or cash.

Industrial properties may be subject to the Spill Compensation and Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10-23.11 et seq.), the Water Pollution Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10A-1 et seq.) and the Industrial Site Recovery Act (N.J.S.A. 13:1K-6 et seq.) In addition, the municipality is precluded from issuing a tax sale certificate to any prospective purchaser who is or may be in any way connected to the prior owner or operator of the site.

In the event that the owner of the property is on Active Duty in the Military Service, the Tax Collector should be notified immediately.

The said lands so subject to sale, described in accordance with the tax duplicate, including the name of the owner as shown on the last duplicate and the total amount due thereon respectively on the 11th day of December, 2009, exclusive of the lien for the year 2009 are as listed below:

Location of Property Address	Owner	Block & Lot	Amount Due Dec. 11, 2009
1. 24 Barchester Way	Berry, Glenn & Sally	308/1	\$11,799.40
2. 304 Woods End Road	Primavera Parkview, LLC	401/13	\$ 9,293.67
3. 769 Lenape Trail	Buontempo, Joseph & Genevich, Jean	603/9	\$ 7,202.95
4. 760 Prospect Street	Rapuano, Samuel & JoAnn	603/43	\$ 8,556.30
5. 254 Seneca Place	Genevich, Jean	701/38	\$ 9,400.77
6. 874 North Avenue West	Fecokay, Marie	906/37	\$ 8,396.69
7. 209 Sunset Avenue	Genevich, Jean	1902/15	\$11,833.27
8. 888 Winyah Avenue	Jordan, Charles N. Jr.	2103/9	\$18,300.93
9. 201 Baker Avenue	Buontempo, Anthony	2212/6	\$11,795.23
10. 203 Chestnut Street North	O'Donnell, Maureen	2301/3	\$17,027.93
11. 728-734 South Avenue West	Buontempo, Joseph, LLC	2510/5.01	\$11,813.12
*12. 404 West Broad Street	Centennial Lodge #4001 IBOP Elks	2512/27	\$ 1,091.07
13. 1020 South Avenue West	Buontempo, Joseph	2606/10	\$ 8,412.19
14. 1016 South Avenue West	Buontempo, Joseph	2606/11	\$ 7,574.20
15. 536 Cumberland Street	Black, Edward C.	2706/20	\$ 7,280.23
16. 530 West Broad Street	Thompson, Mintum	2708/36	\$ 1,424.57
17. 603 Shadowlawn Drive	Caldora, James & Beverly	2906/1.01	\$ 8,658.44
18. 412 Elmer Street South	Mormile, Antonio & Mary Ann	3207/6	\$ 3,878.87
19. 151 Windsor Avenue	Gaiter, Leslie M.	4001/28	\$ 1,997.90
20. 228 Windsor Avenue	Henry, Lois	4001/61	\$ 5,375.55
21. 774 Westfield Avenue	Morrissey, Roy B.	4205/10	\$ 2,699.17
22. 1010 Seward Avenue	Isbrecht, Richard	4604/2	\$11,615.15
23. 820 Carleton Road	Buontempo, Anthony	4707/4	\$ 7,422.57
24. 8 Manchester Drive	Metz, Lillian D. Est Of	5004/37	\$10,363.75
25. 454 Otisco Drive	Genevich, Jean M.	5105/13	\$ 9,676.18
26. 30 Genesee Trail	Buontempo, Anthony	5112/26	\$ 7,426.54
27. 12 North Wickom Drive	Gabriel Estates, LLC	5203/13	\$ 5,943.25
28. 101 Surrey Lane	Genevich, Jean	5205/17	\$ 8,779.30
29. 619 Kimball Avenue	Khedr, Christine & Gadzera, Irene	1206/23	\$ 1901.88

*prior lien held
4 T - 11/12, 11/29, 11/26 & 12/3/09, The Leader Fee: \$473.28



TRYING TO ELUDE THE DEFENSIVE BACK...Blue Devil Hugo Nolasco, No. 2, attempts to elude P-burg's Alex O'Leary, No. 23, after receiving a pass from quarterback Danny Kerrin in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 semifinal game at Maloney Stadium in Phillipsburg on November 20.

yards; Aiden Scanton had a six-yard reception, and A.J. Murray, who had a six-yard reception, carried nine times for 35 yards. Running back Joe Ondi had five carries for 21 yards and had the Blue Devils' only TD with a 40-yard interception off reserve quarterback Jason Bohem late in the fourth quarter.

The Blue Devils' defense held P-burg on their first series, but a bad snap over the head of Kerr gave the Stateliners a second chance. Once again, Westfield's defense held but so

in the first half. Pat Gray tipped the point after attempt.

The Blue Devils' best drive of the game came next. Starting from their own 13, the Blue Devils marched 79 yards on 12 plays to get a first and goal at the P-burg eight. A bad exchange from Kerr to Jhakyse Williams caused a fumble that P-burg recovered.

"It was a bad exchange," coach DeSarno explained. "It hit him on the shoulder pad. We were trying to make a setup with A.J. coming back inside the next play. We never got there."

The Stateliners answered with a 14-play, 92-yard drive that ended with John Ringo's three-yard reception

four minutes later on Gerald Vandercuz's one-yard bash.