

**LIPSHITZ, RIDGE RAP DBLS; GREENBERG HOMERS**

# Raiders' Doubles in 8th, Nip Blue Devil Baseballers, 5-3

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

Zach Lipshitz and Matt Ridge each hit doubles in the top of the eighth inning and pitcher James D'Angelo recorded two strikeouts in the final inning to lift the visiting Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School baseball team past Westfield, 5-3, in their season opener on April 2.

Raider starting pitcher Chris Gibbons recorded three strikeouts and allowed two runs on six hits, including a home run, before being relieved in the fifth inning. D'Angelo yielded three hits and a run, struck out two and walked one. Blue Devil senior right-hander Kevin Galasso tossed eight innings, struck out four, while yielding eight hits and no walks.

"The young guys really stepped up their game today. Gibbons threw a great four innings. Ridge and Lipshitz

their first varsity game. They don't want to make a mistake, but there is a fine line between being aggressive and doing stupid things. We didn't do stupid things. We just weren't aggressive. There were a couple of balls hit in the infield, just out of our reach. We make those plays, it changes the game around," Blue Devil Head Coach Bob Brewster said.

The Blue Devils took a 1-0 jump in the third when Matt Storcks worked a walk, swiped second, moved to third on an overthrow and scored on Chris Arena's single. In the fourth, the 2-0 Raiders responded with two runs. Kevin Maxwell plopped an infield single, Lipshitz trotted to first on an infield bobbie and Matt Marino drilled a two-run double to centerfield.

Blue Devil Jake Greenberg answered in the bottom of the inning with a solo homer over the leftfield

fence. The Raiders regained the lead in the fifth when Christian Zazzali tripled to right and scored on Kevin Raszka's sacrifice fly. Westfield tied the game, 3-3 in the sixth when Arena crossed the plate on Jacob Boyle's single into right.

In the eighth, D'Angelo punched a single, Lipshitz lashed his RBI double and Ridge slashed an RBI double to center.

"It was a fastball, high and inside and I turned on it. As soon as I hit it, I felt very excited, very thrilled; however, it's not just about hitting, your defense has to be there and it was. Everyone played great defense today," Lipshitz said.

Arena and Greenberg rapped one-out singles in the eighth, but D'Angelo fanned the next two batters.

"We always have great games with

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Fred Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
CHECKING THE OUTCOME OF THE SHOT...Raider Jack Cunningham, No. 10, and three Pioneer defenders take a look at the flight of ball. The Pioneers defeated the Raiders, 10-7.

**CUNNINGHAM NOTCHES 2 GOALS, WEBER NINE SAVES**

# Pioneer Laxers Notch, 11-7, Victory Over Raider Boys

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

A run-and-gun attack that unloaded a 49-14 edge in shots yielded just seven goals for the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys lacrosse team that suffered an 11-7 defeat to the hosting New Providence Pioneers on April 3.

Jack Havey scored four goals and had two assists, and Jonathan Ebert netted three goals with two assists to lead the Pioneers. Senior attacker Jack Cunningham led the Raiders with two goals and one assist. Midfielders Kevin Charos, Zachary Erickson, Jack Gerrity and Matt Greenberg each scored one goal. Attacker Kevin

Kerby had four assists and midfielder Thomas Walker contributed one assist. Goalkeeper Cole Weber finished with nine saves.

"It's tough. We gave them a 3-0 lead. Tough to come back when you dig yourself into a hole. We cut it to within one goal, always kept on claw

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Fred Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
SLIDING HOME FOR THE SCORE...Raider Christian Zazzali tripled then slides home for the score in the fifth inning on Kevin Raszka's sacrifice fly. The Raiders beat the Blue Devils, 5-3, in eight innings.

at the end getting a couple of big RBI hits. Then what can you say about James? He's our best pitcher; he's our leader, our No. 1 guy. We were hoping if we could get four or five innings out of Gibbons and then to go to James for the last couple of innings; that would be the formula that could win it. Everything worked out exactly how we planned it, except for having to go to the eight to finish it. This was something we couldn't do last year, was winning the close ones," said Raider Head Coach Tom Baylock.

"I like to put pressure on teams and play the game with aggression. Today, we were extremely tentative. But I'm going to chalk that to the fact that we have a lot of guys; this was

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