



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
A BASE TOO FAR...Blue Devil Jacob Boyle gets tagged out at the plate in the fourth inning by Farmer catcher Luis Alvarado.

Hilltoppers Stop Blue Devils

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do. We see each other usually twice a year. We were prepared as were they. When you have those games, they are tight like that. Back and forth! We responded, they responded. It was very clean all around. Players hustled their butts off. Our whole thing was to come out with a ton of energy, and we kept that energy throughout the game," said Coach Tuohy.

The Blue Devils took the early initiative, and on their first possession Decker, on an assist from Flaherty, scored the first goal. Three minutes later, Hilltopper Meier assisted Menning on a goal. Midway through the second quarter, Flaherty, assisted by Webb, stuffed the net for the go-ahead goal.

The Hilltoppers knotted the score, 2-2, when Menning fed Herman with 3:42 left in the half. Midway through the third quarter, Carbone assisted Menning on a goal to give the Hilltoppers a 3-2 lead.

Summit took a 4-2 lead in the fourth quarter, with Corduroy's goal. From that point on the Blue Devils controlled, and with five minutes remaining, Huber launched a laser past the keeper.

"We played 110 percent, and that was all that the coaches asked for. We executed well. They got a couple more bounces than we did, definitely could have gone either way. We both executed man up, we both killed man up, we both played in between the lines, getting ground balls, face-offs were even," Huber said.

"They put in two goals off of my assists. Our defense played great; Summit has one of the best offenses throughout the state. Garrett held to four goals, which is unbelievable. We're looking to meet up with them again in the county final," said Webb.

"We started the second half, man down. When that happens, we're happy we did not give up a goal early. We

were able to stop a penalty there, and that can be a real momentum swinger. Our guys stood up to the challenge. Really proud of that defensive group! Garrett definitely made some huge stops and gave us an opportunity to stay in that game. We did go down, 4-2 at one point, but the kids did not hang their heads. They were resilient. They believe they can win. We're not settling for anything less every time we step on the field," Coach Tuohy said.

"We knew it was going to be a battle, and we came out here to fight. We knew we had to be tough as a team, as a unit. We played together on offense and defense, and that's what we're made of. We don't have any individual players. We played well, did what we had to do but came up short. What the defense does is play our game and do our job better than they do their job, which I thought we did for the majority of the game. Garrett played awesome, a lot of huge saves and he kept us in the game," said senior co-captain/defenseman Christian Burgdorf.

"The defense did a great job controlling the guys. They didn't allow low angle shots, they made me see the ball real well, so it was all defense and I can't take credit for that. Coach Tuohy told us he wants us to be really physical and we did that today," Williamson said.

Westfield	1	1	0	1	3
Summit	1	1	1	1	4

Blue Devils Defeat Raider Netmen, 4-1

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recently experienced tough losses to Summit and JP Stevens.

"They know they are close. They know they are playing well. Summit is very good. Scotch Plains is very good. It's going to be a very interesting year in the counties," Coach Kapner said.

First singles: Rogers (S) d Thompson, 6-3, 6-2
Second singles: Greene (W) d Rosenheck, 6-4, 6-3
Third singles: Roth (W) d Leischner, 6-0, 6-2
First doubles: Cafiero and Cymbala (W) d J & A Ozdamar, 6-3, 6-2
Second doubles: Osment and Siegel (W) d Lopez and Haas, 6-4, 7-6 (8-6)

Summit Netmen Upset Blue Devil Boys, 3-2

The struggle for dominance in Union County got tighter when the Summit High School Hilltoppers boys tennis team upset Westfield, 3-2, on April 3. Blue Devil Tyler Roth won 6-4, 6-1, at third singles. Justin Cafiero and Ben Cymbala won 6-4, 7-5, at first doubles.

Raider Netmen Stop Pingry Boys, 4-1

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys tennis team defeated Pingry, 4-1, on April 1. Jeffrey Rogers won, 6-4, 6-0, at first singles. Andrew Leischner won, 7-6 (7-4), 6-2, at third singles. Jesse and Alex Ozdamar won 6-2, 6-2 at first doubles, and Josh Lopez and Matt Haas won, 6-2, 6-3, at second doubles.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
VERY CRAFTY HITTER...Blue Devil Chrissy Ferraro lays down a bunt single in the second inning then bopped a double in the fifth against the Cougars.

Blue Devils Beat Cougars, 4-3

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came in on me, so I just hit it over them," Ferraro said.

Her action sparked a two-run rally with back-to-back RBI singles from Seitz and Chambliss to put Westfield back in front, 3-2.

The Cougars had a threat that was muffled in the sixth. Salinaro was on second base and tagged up on a fly ball to right for the first out, but the umpire ruled her out for leaving base too soon. But the Cougars knotted the score in the seventh when Verrelli singled Wischusen home.

In the ninth, Scarano survived the swarm of teammates just after she stepped on home plate to complete her round-tripper.

"I am so proud of the team. We scored first, answered back immediately when Cranford took the lead in the fifth inning and battled to the end. Chrissy's hitting was huge for us, especially with her two runs scored. Julia Criscuolo came up big with an RBI and three hits. Cali had a crucial

RBI and Sarah Seitz got it all started with a leadoff hit to start the game and an RBI later in the game," Coach MacDonald said.

"We have been waiting for this game. We knew it was going to be tough. The first seven innings were tough, and my defense absolutely held. Everything was working well, and we truly answered back when we needed to," Scarano said.

"Cranford played an incredibly sharp game, it could have gone either way. We know they'll be ready to play us again later on in the season and maybe in the county tournament. They are a very talented and well-coached team. We know they'll be tough competition again in the future," Coach MacDonald said.

"Everybody stuck together. It was a team effort, absolutely," Scarano said.

Ferraro added, "It was awesome!"

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Westfield	001	020	001	4

Raider Nine Tops Blue Devils

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Westfield. Such an eventful game, especially since we lost in extra innings last year. We had a great sophomore pitcher on the mound; he just threw a great game. I then came in, closed the game for him, got on base on a little cheap hit but it works, right? My last out; I mean it was exciting and it's great to beat your high school rival," D'Angelo said.

"I tried to stay composed while I was pitching. I try to find the strike zone, although I had too many walks. Matt (Ridge) and I have a great chemistry. I like him catching because he knows how I throw, where I hit my spots and how I function. It works well," Gibbons said.

"A couple of guys top of their lineup are good strike hitters, good fastball hitters, so I wanted to start low; umpire had a low strike zone. Towards the third, fourth inning, they started to smash first-pitch fastballs, so I tried pitching up, off speed, and they hit. It was a good game though. I was proud in the way I pitched; threw

strikes," Galasso said.

"Kevin's pitch count was great. He did not throw a lot of pitches because he was in the strike zone. If we had made some plays, there would have been less pitches. One inning, there were literally six outs we gave them. But that's what happens when errors are made," Coach Brewster added.

"Too many strikeouts looking especially killed us. We just got to be aggressive and hopefully get more men on base. Personally, I'm looking fastball, first pitch, usually that's what I'm trying to swing at and if not, trying to keep my hands back and hit the ball the other way," Arena said.

"Scotch Plains got hits when they needed them. Their ace came in and shut us down. We had the tying run on base, we just need that one big hit, but you can go through the whole game like that. As we get a little more experienced, we'll be better, I'm sure," Coach Brewster said.

Sc. Pl.-Fanwood	000	210	02	5
Westfield	001	101	00	3

Farmer Nine Top Blue Devils, 5-2

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Zimmerman tapped an infield single and added a two-run single in the fifth inning. Will Sangster had an RBI double and scored once.

The Blue Devils scored first with a run in the bottom of the first. Arena and Ionta tapped singles then Arena scored when the shortstop's throw on a double play attempt sailed past the first baseman.

The Union second inning began with a walk, followed by an error on a grounder at third base. Next, Sangster drilled an RBI double to left and Brignoni followed with a two-run double to center.

Westfield made the score, 3-2, in the third when Greenberg drew his bases-loaded walk with Arena on third. In the fourth, Blue Devil Jacob Boyle reached first on an error, stole second and attempted to score after another error, but he was gunned down at the plate to end the inning.

Three straight errors and Zimmerman's two-run single gave the Farmers a 5-2 lead in the fifth. The Blue Devils led off the sixth with Greenberg's single. Androconis reached first on a force out then Storcks ripped a single to center. Androconis rounded second, took a stutter step before reaching third and headed for home, only to be nailed at the plate.

With one out in the seventh, Arena and Ionta each singled, but Meola grabbed a chopper back to the mound, threw the runner out at first and fanned the final batter.

"This is a good team. Mark my word! They have ability. Right now, they are not believing they can do it. We have been in every game. Playing as poorly as we've been, we are still in the game," Coach Brewster said.

Union	030	020	0	5
Westfield	101	000	0	2

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