

**DEVIL SHALLCROSS, RAIDER SPRUNG EACH FIRE 40**

# Unbeaten Blue Devils Edge Raider Golfers, 164-173

By FRED LECOMTE  
*Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

A very experienced and solid Westfield High School golf team remained in its groove to win its 16th consecutive dual match by defeating an excellent Scotch Plains-Fanwood team at Shackamaxon Golf and Country Club in Scotch Plains on May 5. The Blue Devils shot 164 to finish nine strokes better than the Raiders. The win streak now set at 38 began nearly two years ago when the Blue Devils suffered a loss against Morristown.

"Westfield has not lost against Scotch Plains in 24 years, however we were a bit nervous because it is a strong Raider team that did very well in the Watchung Conference competition at Shack, plus their kids looked for it and wanted to beat Westfield," said Blue Devil Head Coach John Turnbull.

Despite battling aerated greens, Ryan Shallcross led the Devils with a score of 40, including seven pars and two double bogies. Scott Calendar

and Chris Tropeano each shot 41.

"I'm hitting the ball very well today except for two holes," said Shallcross. "The greens were not in the best of shape which gave everyone trouble and it reflected in the scoring. In general, I'm building up my confidence as my putting is getting better which in turn will bring down my scores."

"I have been playing all right however not up to my potential," said Tropeano. "Asked what concerned him most, Tropeano explained, "I need to keep it straight off the tee, keep it in play and I'll be alright."

Jimmy Arbes finished with a 42. "Today, that was a very poor score for both teams. Last week, Westfield shot a 152 against the number three team in New Jersey, Christian Brothers," said Turnbull. "When you have play-

ers like Shallcross or an Arbes who are two of the top players in New Jersey, no matter what they shoot, they are always going to be mumbling about how they could have done



Fred Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**GOOD DRIVE...Blue Devil Scott Calendar finished with a 41 at Shackamaxon.**

better. I'm very happy with Calendar. Here's a kid that is the sixth or seventh player, broke into the lineup because of Tommy DelDuca's shoulder injury and has been playing very well and very steady for us."

The 12-1-1 Raiders countered with Mike Sprung who shot 40 and teammates Jack Davis and Andrew Goldberg each came in with a 44. Clayton Balch rounded out the quartet with a score of 45.

"Fortunately, my game is getting back to the level where I like it to be," said Sprung. "Playing against a good team like Westfield creates a lot of pressure, however I came through by making many of my puts. My drives were helping me in most of the holes and I was hitting my irons."

"The most important part of the golf season is ahead of us. We have the county tournament, the Tournament of Champions and the state finals, all within a two week period," concluded Turnbull. "The good teams, it's how you perform in the state sections and the state finals. That's what all players are geared for. You may have an unbelievable duel meet record, as we did last year; however, the kids really fell apart and did a very poor job in the state final and it cost us in the state rankings."

Any former WHS swimmers interested in joining the fun are asked to contact Lauren Winchester at winnie1912@comcast.net or call her at (908) 233.2455 (home) or 908.377.4873 (cell).

**NO. 1 FOR A WHILE**  
Records, they say, are made to be broken. But will anybody ever catch George Kapner as the winningest coach at WHS?  
By the time this spring ends, Kapner should have over 750 career wins. To achieve that number—which will end up much larger if Kapner stays around to coach soccer and boys tennis (with current freshmen Kevin Shallcross, Ravi Netravali and Evan Eisenberg, who wouldn't?)—a one-sport coach would have to average 25 wins a year for 30 years; a two-sport coach would need about 38 combined victories each year over 20 years. That's a lot of winning, and a lot of years.  
To put it in better perspective, trailing Kapner and Gary Kehler (739) on the WHS victory list are Walt Clarkson (466) and Carol Donner (428).  
When you consider that coaches don't generally stick with the job as long as



Fred Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**CHIPPING ONTO THE GREEN...Raider Jack Davis hits a good chip shot onto the green in his match with Westfield.**

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## Devil's Den Ex-WHS Swimmers Sought For Alumni Meet/Senior Project

By BRUCE JOHNSON  
*Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*



So, what did you do for your senior project in high school?

I don't even remember if I did a senior project. The thing I remember most about my senior year (1963) was going to Willie Mays Night at the Polo Grounds instead of the prom.

Anyhow, WHS senior Lauren Winchester, a co-captain of this year's girls swim team, has come up with an interesting senior project—she's attempting to hold an alumni swim meet! The date will be Saturday, June 11, from 1 to 3:30 p.m., at the Westfield Y's Wallace Pool. Getting swimmers for the current team isn't too much of a problem, since they're all still in school and living in town. But the alumni team, well, that's a different situation.

"Winnie" is spending many of her waking hours trying to contact swimmers from 1960 through 2004 using the 2003 Westfield High School Alumni Directory. It's a great source, but people move, and not everybody is listed in the directory.

For sure there's still semi-local ex-WHS swimmers like Aaron Weber, Don Mutz, John Ketcham, Max Wunderle, Ted Ritter, Brendan Lechner, Dan Morgan and Joe Wilson, just to name a few of the guys who could make Winchester's project into an A+ effort. And Dr. Chris McFadden is down in the Philadelphia area. On the female side, there's Kerry Hertell, Christina Caroe and Elizabeth Cummings, among others.

The alumni swim meet was a staple of the WHS swim season for nearly two decades, starting in the mid-1960s. It's a wonderful tradition that would be a welcome addition. And it's all for fun. Ms. Winchester, a very competitive person, has promised that this will be a "fun" afternoon for all.

My co-coaches will be Joe (The Mailman) Wheatley and Pat Papaccio, with Charlie Hanson as, "The Scorekeeper."

**TOP FIVE**  
We encourage readers to contact us with their "top five" of anything. We will print them, as space permits. This week, we present our Top Five softball pitchers at WHS:

5. (tie) Caitlin MacDonald: The current assistant WHS coach was a three-year regular (2000-02), with a career mark of 35-20 with eight no-hitters and four perfect games. She set a school single-season record with 217 strikeouts in 2002.

5. (tie) Bonnie Bell: With a super-solid team behind her, Bell wasn't a big strikeout pitcher, but she pitched WHS into three straight UCT title games and to a sectional title as a sophomore. Her three-year stats: 54-11 record, with 272 strikeouts in 403 innings.

4. Meiko Saito: A flame-thrower of the first degree, Saito's three-year (1989-91) record was 50-14, but she took 454 batters for a ride on the K-Train in 423 1/3 innings. She had seven career no-hitters, 14 one-hitters and 22 shutouts, including a school record 16 in 1990.

they used to, it would appear Kapner will be at the top for a long time.

Ironically, Kapner is not the winningest coach at WHS in any of his sports:

Girls basketball: Kapner has 42 wins; Dave Shapiro's 73 is the most.

Girls soccer: Kapner has 194 wins; Pete Giordano's 210 is the most.

Boys soccer: Kapner has 174 wins; Walt Leonow's 211 is the most.

Boys tennis: Kapner has 288 wins; Tony Berardo's 312 is the most.

Boys swimming: Kapner has 42 wins; Bruce Johnson's 143 is the most.

**DEN TRIVIA**  
What was Westfield's tennis lineup in 1988, the last year the Blue Devils captured a state championship?

**COMING SOON**  
Last fall we got people talking when we picked our 1960-2005 All-WHS Football Team. It was so well received that we will now unveil the 1960-2005 All-WHS Baseball Team next week. The team will have a 16-man roster, with eight position players, one designated hitter, four pitchers and three utility players.

Since I never got to see them play, guys like DH Bobby Dougherty, SS Chick Miller, CF Sam Mitchell, 1B Jim Turpin, 3B Rudy Stanzel, 2B Mount Howarth, RF Dave Townley, C Jeff Torborg, LF Marty Burke, P Bob List (not a bad batting order, eh?)... P-3B Lee Waring, P Steve Banyasz, C-OF Frank Ketcham, OF Junie Frye, OF-IF Sam Arbes and P Charley Frankenbach will not be included. They would fall into the 1900-1960 era. And right there is a pretty darn good ballclub, wouldn't you say?

And remember, this will just be the 16 guys I would take to play some other school's All-Team. They may not be the best in everybody's opinion, but they're the guys I'd bring to the ball field.

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3. Jill Dame: The diminutive Dame pitched three years (1986-88) and went 67-13, pitching WHS to a UCT title (1986) and two North 2 Group 4 crowns (1986, '88). She logged 521 innings with 430 strikeouts.

2. Nancy Kasko: Best known for her 27-3 mark with 177 K's and a 0.47 ERA in 1985, Kasko was a four-year starter and ended up 65-15, with a school record 473 strikeouts in 504 innings. She had six career no-hitters and two perfect games.

1. Jacki Booth: With All-Stater Brenda Bentley in the circle, Booth played wherever coach Carol Donner needed (catcher, shortstop, outfield) her first two years (1976-77). Then her senior year (1978) Booth took the mound and went 21-1 with 153 strikeouts and an 0.89 ERA. She pitched WHS to the UCT title and North 2 Group 4 title, before falling to Woodbridge 3-1 in the state final. She had six no-hitters and one perfect game in 1978.

**REMEMBER WHEN ...**  
May 13, 1947: Ron Roth fans 15 in a 12-1 win over Edison Tech.

May 13, 1949: Dick Hruza shoots a 77 to win medalist honors as WHS wins the Union County Golf Tournament.

May 15, 1973: Tom Anderson pitches a no-hitter in a 10-0 victory over Hillside.

May 15, 1973: WHS graduate Jeff Torborg is the catcher as Nolan Ryan pitches the first of his seven no-hitters, a 3-0 win over Kansas City.

May 15, 1992: The WHS lacrosse team outlasts Hunterdon Central 7-6 in five overtimes, winning on Matt Connell's goal.

May 16, 1958: The WHS golf team, which went 15-0 under first (and only) year coach John Lay, loses the Union County Tournament to Pingry.

May 17, 1945: Jim Chambers pitches a no-hitter in a 10-0 win over Irvington Tech.

May 17, 1958: Thomas Jefferson's Gary Morit eliminates WHS from the Union County Tournament with an 11-strikeout no-hitter.

May 17, 1965: The WHS boys track team edges Scotch Plains-Fanwood 58 2/3-58 1/3 to end the Raiders' 50-meet win streak.

May 17, 1999: The first 16 batters scores eight goals during a lacrosse win over Columbia.

**TRIVIA ANSWER**  
At singles were Joe Deer, Jeff Kopelman and Glenn Kiesel. Kiesel had an injured ankle during states and played second doubles, with Mark Pizzi at third singles. Doubles teams were Adam Sherman and Brennan Smith, and Pete Asselin and Ross Rosen.

Devil's Den appears Thursday in The Westfield Leader. Contact me with comments or suggestions at [bj1019@aol.com](mailto:bj1019@aol.com).

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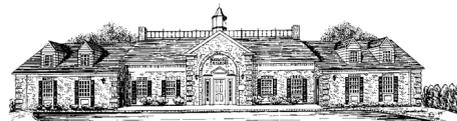


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