



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
Shackamaxon Golf Pro Michael Kierner

## Shackamaxon Pro Explains How to Hit a Bunker Shot

By MICHAEL KIERNER  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

How many times have you swung and the golf ball stayed in the bunker or you hit the ball and it flew over the green? This is probably because you don't know the correct concept to hit a bunker shot properly.

The club will never hit the ball, it only hits the sand. The club should enter the sand behind the ball and then slide through the sand until well past the ball. This type of idea will help you create a shallow entry angle of the club into the sand.

Now let's enter the bunker for some practice. The first thing you will need to do is to dig your feet into the sand as deep as possible so you have good footing. Next, start to take some practice swings and make sure you are hitting the sand. Make big enough practice swings so you hit the sand out of the bunker. Now your swing

should feel quite long but try to keep these swings smooth. Try to perform this same motion with a golf ball. Try to hit sand behind the ball and continue to a full finish. The ball should now gently fly out of the bunker and land softly on the green.

There is a great drill to help you with this shot; it is called the Rake-Line Drill. Make two lines in the sand about six inches apart. Take a swing and make a divot in the sand from the back line to the front line. This drill will help create a shallower swing and hit the sand out of the bunker onto the green. Remember, if the sand is hit onto the green, the ball will be hit out of the bunker onto the green.

Michael Kierner is the Director of Instruction at Shackamaxon Golf and Country Club. For more information about lessons, please call (908) 233-3989.

## St. Bart's Men's League Holds Annual Softball Player Draft

On April 18, the St. Bart's Men's Softball League held their 28th annual player selection draft. The draft allotted 15 players to each of the 10 teams. Approximately half of the league's players attended the event. The teams, captains and sponsors are listed by division:

**ANGELS DIVISION:**  
St. Anne, Joe McEvoy, Sideline Sports  
St. Nicholas, Nick Dinizo, Kingpin Thoroughbred  
St. Anthony, Tony Perconte, Fanwood Clipper  
St. Blaise, Tom Sherwin, Greenkeepers  
St. Stephen, Howard Bialos, A Wireless Home

**SAINTS DIVISION:**  
St. Mark, Mark Romaine, Mark DiFrancesco Paving  
St. Aloysius, Joe Romash, Family Investors  
St. Luke, Luke Fugett, Brian's Discount Liquors  
St. Joseph, Dean Talcott, Rossi Funeral Home  
St. Jude, Tony Perfilio, Standard Pest Control

Based on the outcome of the draft, league pundits have prognosticated that St. Blaise and St. Stephen in the Angels Division and St. Mark and St. Luke in the Saints Division are headed for successful seasons.

### WF 'Y' to Offer Kindergarten Hoops

The Westfield Area Y is planning a kindergarten basketball league for boys and girls. Sessions will be held at the Robert & Virginia Bauer Family Branch, 422 East Broad Street, and will be rotating times between noon and 5 p.m. The program runs from May 7 to June 25.

Everyone gets to play. As in all YMCA programs, the development of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility will be stressed. This program is open to both members and non-members. Children must be registered by this Friday, April 28.

For more information, call or e-mail Jennifer Hessberger, sports director, (908) 233-2700, extension no. 258 or e-mail [jhessberger@westfieldnj.org](mailto:jhessberger@westfieldnj.org). Also, volunteer coaches are needed. Anyone interested in coaching should call Jennifer at the above number.

On Friday, May 5, at 6:30 p.m., the first game of the season will be played at Scotch Plain's Brookside Park and will pit St. Anthony against St. Joseph. Admission is free for the first 500 fans. Come early and stay late. Another wild and crazy St. Bart's season is about to get started.

For more information about the league, visit the league's website at [www.stbartssoftball.com](http://www.stbartssoftball.com) which was created by Howard Bialos.

### WTA Men's Singles Tennis Ladder Told:

The 2006 WTA Men's Tennis Ladder will kick off Monday, May 1. The WTA is looking forward to an active 2006 on the newly renovated court at Tamaques Park. Last year's playoff winners were Gary Wasserman in the A Division and Mike Gonella in the B division.

Sign-ups are still taking place. Please visit the WTA website at [www.westfieldnj.com/wta](http://www.westfieldnj.com/wta) for your application. Applications, along with membership dues, can then be sent to the WTA at P.O. Box 125, Westfield NJ 07091. Questions regarding the ladder or the WTA can be directed to Richard Pardo at [rpardo531@mn.com](mailto:rpardo531@mn.com).

- FINAL 2005 STANDINGS:**
- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Gary Wasserman    | 20. Ross Errazo     |
| 2. Robert Errazo     | 21. Brian Anderson  |
| 3. Chris Conley      | 22. Tom Bigosinski  |
| 4. Melvin Diep       | 23. Joe Donnolo     |
| 5. Tuyen Diep        | 24. Adam Krell      |
| 6. Vince Camuto      | 25. Ethan Krell     |
| 7. Weldon Chin       | 26. Jeremy Krell    |
| 8. Mike Gonella      | 27. Todd Krell      |
| 9. Richard Pardo     | 28. Dewey Rainville |
| 10. Steve Parker     | 29. Mike Valente    |
| 11. Chris Wendel     | *Chris Blaise       |
| 12. Dan Siegel       | *Nia Bouchouev      |
| 13. Andrew Cohen     | *Ryan Brown         |
| 14. Paul Mouton      | *Chris Farella      |
| 15. Steve Satkin     | *Mike Manders       |
| 16. Jon Eisenberg    | *Chris Miller       |
| 17. Alex Winnicker   | *Paul Newsome       |
| 18. Vollbrechthausen | *Steven Shane       |
| 19. David Ferio      | *Joshua Suri        |
- \*Denotes new members for 2006

### WTA Men's Masters Tennis Ladder Told:

The Westfield Tennis Association will be starting its 2006 ladders on May 1. This includes the Men's Masters singles ladder for men over 50. Other ladders sponsored by the WTA include men's singles and doubles, women's singles and doubles, and mixed doubles. There was an active season last year for Men's Masters singles.

Check the website [www.westfieldnj.com/wta](http://www.westfieldnj.com/wta) or find applications around town at locations, including the library, and send your \$20 signup sheet indicating your phone, email, and ladders you want to sign up in. Also, check for upcoming men's singles and doubles tournaments on May 6-7 and June 24, respectively, and women's singles and doubles tournaments on May 27-28. For questions about Men's Masters singles, you can also contact Mike McGlynn, ladder coordinator, at [mike987654@comcast.net](mailto:mike987654@comcast.net), or call Mike at (908) 654-1651.

- 2005 Final Standings:**
1. Mike McGlynn
  2. Henry Williams
  3. Don Dohm
  4. Hank Koshler
  5. Chris Wendel
  6. Jeff Connolly
  7. Joe Donnolo
  8. Dewey Rainville
  9. George Sincox



All-American Gymnast Ted Brown on the Pommel Horse

## Westfield's Ted Brown Earns All-America in Gymnastics

University of Illinois senior Ted Brown finished runner up for Pommel Horse Champion in the 2006 NCAA Men's Gymnastics Championship Event Finals hosted by the University of Oklahoma at Lloyd Noble Center in Norman on April 8.

Brown scored 9.312, second only to California's Timothy McNeill (9.350). Ted also competed on April 7, contributing to the Fighting Illini team's finish in second place to Oklahoma, defending national champion.

Brown received his gymnastics training and competed on the team at Surgents Elite in Roselle Park. He struggled with major medical problems in high school, which interrupted his career as an all-around gymnast.

As a walk-on, Brown competed for the team at Springfield College in Massachusetts as a freshman. He was the New England Pommel Horse Champion and was awarded Springfield's Courageous Athlete of the Year (2003). Also in 2003, Brown was awarded Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference Rookie of the Year as well as USAG Collegiate All American.

As a sophomore, Brown transferred to University of Illinois, where he is a sports management major. In 2005, he was Big Ten Conference Pommel Horse Champion. He qualified for 2005 USA National Championships and Winter Cup Championships in Las Vegas 2005 and 2006.

## WF U14 AAU Wizards Beat NJ Elite, NJ Storm Cagers

After loosing to the host Crusaders, last year's U13 NJ State Champions, the Westfield Wizards girls basketball team defeated the NJ Elite, 39-27, and the NJ Storm, 41-35, at the Crusader Classic Tournament on April 23 at West Orange High School.

Point guard Tara Handza was aided by off-guard Noelle Hynes and small forward Cyndel Matthew in turning back the Elite pressure defense. The trio collected six, four and two assists, respectively. Lauren Harry pulled 12 rebounds, Gab Jakub had eight, Cassie Simcox had six and Gerianna Pinto had three. Handza

led all scorers with 15 points. Harry and Hynes netted 10 points each. Jakub sank four points and Simcox had two.

Against the Storm, Handza hit three 3-pointers and led all scorers with 17 points. Forwards Harry and Simcox collected a combined total of 23 rebounds, while Matthew and Pinto combined for 11 rebounds. Cyndel Matthew picked up three assists on fast break passes and Handza, Jakub and Simcox combined for eight assists off skillful entry passes into the high and low post. Harry fired in 10 points, Jakub had eight and Pinto, Simcox and Matthew netted two each.

The Wizards travel to East Stroudsburg University in Pennsylvania on May 4-5 to play in the Big Bounce Tournament, where they will encounter some Regional competition.

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The Westfield Young Artists' Cooperative Theatre, Inc. admits young people of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to young people in the company. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic and national origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other company-administered programs.  
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