



David B. Corbin (September 2006 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times
ONE OF THE TAILBACKS... Blue Devil Ryan Yarusi, No. 6, bursts through for a TD in the opening game against Linden. See picture on page 17.

Blue Devil Footballers Turned Season Around, Finished 6-4

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to lead the team with 62 points. "From a defensive standpoint, we didn't change anything but the offense was a complete change. Everything was different, the way we numbered plays, the way we nicknamed positions. It was going to take time. Once we got accustomed to our strengths, then Tommy could be a threat to run the ball and throw it a little bit. Then our line just getting used to new blocking," said DeSarno. As a tailback, junior Malcolm Allen rumbled 774 yards on 135 carries and had six TDs. His biggest day came when he rushed 204 yards and had two TDs against Shabazz. Ryan Yarusi had 150 rushing yards and two TDs and Ricardo Johnson had 123 rushing yards, resulting in two TDs. Hard-running fullback George Cornell rushed 527 yards and had two TDs. "We ran three tailbacks this year. Ryan Yarusi ran the first three games and sprained his ankle. Then Malcolm ran really well. Then in spurts, we ran Ricardo Johnson. The key to their running is that they all ran hard and George Cornell ran hard," noted DeSarno.

Tight end CJ Patella had 14 receptions for 110 yards, including three TDs and Ferro had eight receptions for 120 yards and two TDs. Peter Antonelli had 11 receptions for 79 yards. The offensive line consisted of Patella, tackles JT Sheehan and Tom Wansaw, guards Harbaugh and Nardi, and center Joe Schurig. "Because it was a new system, we still struggled with some of the intricacies but we did a great job all year, getting a push up front," said DeSarno. In special teams, Johnson stunned onlookers when he had kickoff returns of 92 and 91 for TDs against Union on October 7 in Westfield. "Hopefully, people will kick to him," chuckled DeSarno. "He's special. He's got speed but he's tough too. He's got opportunities to get on the field a lot for us next year." Looking ahead, DeSarno said, "If we want to improve on 6-4, we have a lot of work to do. The kids got to spend time in the weight room in the off-season and we have to have another great summer conditioning in preparation. I think our kids are excited for it and so am I."

Blue Devil Swim Girls View Season of Stiff Competition

By J.B. RAYMOND
 Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Except for a stretch in the early 1990s, when they had five different coaches in five years, the Westfield High School girls swim team has been one of the premier programs in New Jersey.

But there probably hasn't been this much excitement prior to a season since 1988, when Hall of Fame coach Marilyn Diamond was leading what would probably be her most powerful team to the state A Division championship. That team included Kerry Hertel, Lynne Cassidy, Christina and Mei-Mei Caroe, Val Gude, Anne Burkett, Lara Weber, Melissa Wells and Brandeis Wright. It was a powerhouse.

Fast-forward to 2006-07. The coach is Jaime Ruzsala, who was in grammar school back in 1988. None of this year's WHS girls were even born when Diamond's group steamrolled Lenape to win the state title. But there is a chance that the 2007 team could eventually be mentioned alongside the '88 squad when it comes to comparing the school's best teams.

While the '88 team was top-heavy with standouts, the '07 team is deep, maybe even the deepest team — in terms of quality depth — of any WHS swim team ever, boys or girls. That's on paper, potential.

After opening last Friday with a surprisingly-easy victory at Mountain Lakes, the girls will get their first test of the season a week from Saturday night, when they host Scotch Plains-Fanwood at the Wallace Pool. First gun is at 7:15, but you should arrive by 6 if you want to get a good seat in the balcony.

And this is the first of what figures to be three amazing matchups between the Blue Devils and Raiders. There's also the county meet, which WHS won on the final relay last year after the teams tied for the title in '05. And there's the likely sectional final matchup, since the two-time defending state Public B champion Raiders have been moved up to Public A this year, where WHS has been in six of the last seven state finals.

This year's Blue Devils feature loaded senior and freshman classes, with solid junior and sophomore groups. While there are only a couple of individuals at the highest level, the incredible depth in every event should make formidable.

Captains are Julia Cederroth, Katie Morgan, Caitlyn Oster and Brittany Reyes. Morgan (breaststroke) and Reyes (butterfly) have flirted with their respective school records since they were freshmen. Cederroth and Oster swim freestyle. And there's Kylie Fraser (IM, fly, back) and Lauren McCurdy (back), who have also been close to school marks. Darrell Ann Smith is very dependable, while both Ilene Goodman and Chrissy Isabella have swum individually in state finals before. And that doesn't include Emily Bregman, Beth Budnick, Nicole DiBenedetto and Erika Kettleton.

The junior class is only four swimmers, but that includes two of the team's best — Liz Hawkins (free, back, IM) and Alexi Kuska (anything).

Annie O'Neill and Cathryn Winchester are also battle-tested.

There are another 11 girls in the sophomore class, with Stephanie Albright, Alice Li, Catherine Maguire and Lauren Sullivan all having swum in big meets before. Michelle Ball, Erin Cahill, Alexis Constantine, Aileen and Bridget Grogan, Abigail Ryan and newcomer Nicole Rosenberg round out the group.

That brings us to the freshmen, with no less than eight of them figuring highly in Ruzsala's plans. Suzanne Lemberg is the big name in the group, but Elaine Anderson, Emily Budnick, Kate Heffernan, Kyle Higgins, Jill Kandigan, Meredith Smith and Kelsey Wilson will all be heard from this winter. And Lindsay Anderson, Megan Boersig, Melissa Crosta, Leslie Holt and Lauren Hughes are all working hard to contribute in the near future.

"We do have a lot of very talented girls," Ruzsala said. "We're hoping to have a good season. This is a really good team."

Remember 12-7-1941 Pearl Harbor Day!



Raiders Eye Great Swim Season

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in our depth and our versatility," said coach Hulnik.

The Raider boys also had a memorable season by advancing to the NJ Section 2, Public B finals. The Raiders defeated Caldwell, 95.5-74.5, in the quarterfinals then silenced Chatham, 91-79, in the semifinals.

Senior Co-Captains Mike Miller (butterfly, sprints) and Matt Miller (distance) will lead the Raider charge. Other seniors include Andrew Haggan (breaststroke), Dan Nieto (butterfly, sprints) and David Regal (backstroke, distance).

The juniors are Brian Pesin (breaststroke, IM), Matt Plagge (breaststroke), Sean Dolgin (distance) and sprinters AJ Horowitz and Dennis Ruiz. The Raiders have a large group of sophomores, which include Zach Peart (backstroke), Eric Walker (butterfly, distance) and sprinter Jon Kosenick. Newcomers include Mike Henkels, Zach Koch and Andrew Van Haastever.

The Raider boys expect to be strong in the distance freestyle, butterfly and breaststroke.

Although both teams are very strong, the challenge will be even stiffer because the Raiders will be competing in the Public A tournament, which includes powers Bridgewater-Raritan and rival Westfield. Montgomery has also jumped from Public B to Public A.

The Raiders' first real test will be a showdown with Westfield on December 16 at 7:15 in Westfield.

"Our goals are the same this year as they are every year, try to win counties and try to win states. Our dual meet with Westfield, as always, should be very competitive and a lot of fun," said Hulnik.

Other very tough opponents include Bridgewater, Oratory Prep, Pingry and Immaculate Heart Academy.

Local High School Tennis Honors Given:

Nikki Reich, Lindsay Goldberg and Kim Morawski, members of the Westfield High School girls tennis team, have been selected to *The Star-Ledger* All-Union County First Team. The Blue Devils, winners of the Union County Tournament, finished with a 15-3 record and received an eighth ranking in the state.

Goldberg and Morawski also made the Second Team All-State and the All-Group 4 First Team. Reich was named to the All-Group 4 Third Team. Lane Maloney was named to the All-Union County Second Team.

Blue Devil Swim Boys Begin Tough Season with Big Win

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while Mike Kane and Mike Rediker are both veterans. First-year Luke Grandstrand looks like he'll be solid in the backstroke while Josh David rounds out the class.

This year's sophomores have a year of pressure-packed meets under their belts, and are expected to play important roles. Chris DeLaFuente won the county butterfly title as a freshman and gives Knight a versatile guy in whatever event he's entered. Matt Morgan and Max Blum were solid as frosh, and both look much improved this winter. Justin Lo figures to help in the sprints, and Evan Paulin is solid in sprints and backstroke, while Pat Fringer, Ryan Gradel, Chris Joyce, James Kazazis and Jake Lang have all gotten better. And Rich Polini, a

transfer from St. Peter's Prep, will likely provide butterfly help when he becomes eligible on Jan. 1.

To top it off, Knight gets one of the more solid freshman groups in a while. Matt Meserole and Mike Oster were four-event swimmers against Mountain Lakes last Friday and produced one lifetime best time after another. Andrew Cordeiro and John Taylor both were thrown into the fire last Friday and came out with best times in their races. Yixiao Wang has shown versatility in practice, while Trent Gabriel and Adam Metz are improving.

The team once again faces a brutal schedule. "We're Westfield, and we expect to swim against the best teams," Baran said. "These meets get us ready for the big meets in February."

After facing Plainfield and Kearny this week, WHS takes on defending No. 1 team St. Joseph of Metuchen next Tuesday, 3 p.m., at the Westfield Y. On December 21, WHS travels down Route 22 to face defending state Public A champion Bridgewater-Raritan in what is always a wild meet. That's three 2006 state champion opponents in December!

January will have WHS visiting Pingry (January 11), swimming at the Pirate Invitational (January 13), hosting 2005 state Public A champion Hillsborough (January 18) and traveling to face seven-time state Prep A champion Lawrenceville (January 27). There is also a possibility of a January meet with Bishop Eustace, the favorite to win the state Non-Public B title this winter.

And the pre-state tournament part of February has the county championships (Feb. 3) and a trip to Hightstown to take on national power Peddie (Feb. 8).

"That's the way we like it," said Harley, whose dad Pete swam on WHS teams in the mid-1970s whose schedule included Cherry Hill East, the Princeton freshmen, St. Joe's and Lawrenceville. "You swim better against the better opponents. We like facing all the top teams."

Kimberley Aslanian Haley

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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 14th day of December, 2006 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 14th day of December, 2006 together with interest and cost of sale, exclusive however, of the lien for taxes for the year 2006.

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.

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 14th day of December, 2006, exclusive of the lien for the year 2006 are as listed below:

Location of Property Address	Owner	Block & Lot	Amount Due Dec. 15, 2005
*1. 731 Mountain Avenue	Decker, Scott & Megan	1202/5	\$ 592.10
2. 821 Grant Avenue-REAR	Unknown owner	1304/30	\$ 21.54
3. 827 Grant Avenue-REAR	Unknown owner	1304/31	\$ 21.54
4. 835 Grant Avenue-REAR	Unknown owner	1304/32	\$ 21.54
5. 847 Grant Avenue	Unknown owner	1304/38	\$ 21.54
6. 515 St. Marks Avenue	Donohue, John & Kathleen	2309/10	\$11,371.35
7. 782 Hancock Street	Unknown owner	2702/5	\$ 21.54
8. 227 Florence Avenue No.	Unknown owner	2703/2	\$ 21.54
**9. 221 Hazel Avenue	Delpopolo, Joyce & Dominick	2802/24	\$ 461.88
10. 434 Summit Avenue	Cohen, Janice E.	3003/16	\$ 5,457.11
11. 515 Trinity Place	Rowland, Cheryl	3010/160050	\$ 3,431.33
12. 629 Ripley Place	Sela, Zeev	4003/21	\$ 4,362.31
13. 625 Ripley Place	Caldora, Frank & Gloria	4003/22	\$ 751.00
14. 229 Windsor Avenue	Winsor, Barbara Franklin	4004/43	\$ 3,352.80
15. 1010 Seward Avenue	Isbrecht, Richard W.	4604/2	\$10,162.99
16. 4 Max Place	G.M.Harb Enterprises, LLC	4702/62.02	\$ 3,311.26
17. 1 Max Place	Harb, George M.	4702/64.02	\$ 2,204.13
18. 74 Tamaques Way	Bruder, Richard D.	5201/52	\$ 4,424.65
19. 154 Summit Court	Kania, Joseph & Suzanne	5504/17	\$ 6,010.28
20. 1717 Boulevard	Snider, A. Est of c/o Denman	5607/21	\$ 7,825.51

*sidewalk assessment ordinance #2000
 **sidewalk assessment ordinance #2085
 4 T - 11/16, 11/23, 11/30 & 12/7/06, The Leader
 Fee: \$412.08