

ZAZZALI SCORES 10, LAW GRABS 15

Raider Hoopsters Rout St. Dominic Girls, 60-19

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

The entire Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls' basketball team got into the act and demonstrated their ability to fray the net by routing St. Dominic of Jersey City, 60-19, in Scotch Plains on December 22.

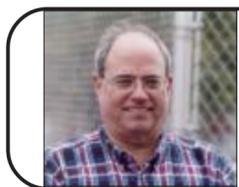
Senior guard Allie Zazzali led the offense with 10 points, including two 3-pointers, and six assists. Sophomore forward Jackie Law demonstrated physical dominance in rebounds with 15, rolled in eight points and added three assists in three quarters of play. Senior guard Lauren Mains connected for seven points, including a 3-pointer. She also grabbed three rebounds and had one assist. Junior forward Emily Meehan had six rebounds, two blocks and six points and junior guard Molly Meehan fired in nine points, including a 3-pointer.

Sophomore guard Saxony Nielson, who Raider Coach Bruce Davis visualizes as a Mains-type of a player, came off the bench to score eight points, including one from downtown,

and grabbed four rebounds. Sophomore center Kaylan Jaichon pulled down seven rebounds and scored three points while sophomore Laura Degman had six rebounds and scored a basket. Sophomore guard Nicole Mineo registered her first four points as a varsity player and freshman guard Kathryn DeCataldo contributed two points. Brianna Character went one-of-two from the foul line. Avelia Natalie and Stephanie Philips led the St. Dominic Blue Devils with six points each.

"We came out strong, pushed the ball up the floor and when we did, we got points out of it," said Molly Meehan. "We've been working on rebounding and, in the game, rebounding was really the big key. Our strategy was to move the ball quickly around the key. We made cuts and screens and looked for the open shot."

In the first quarter, the 3-1 Raiders' choking defense and long range attack proved devastating as Mains and Molly Meehan each hit from downtown, while Zazzali hit the target on



Devil's Den
**The More Things Change,
The More I Stay the Same**

By BRUCE JOHNSON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**Devil of the Week
Colin Mackay
Wrestling**

It was sometime in the mid-1970s that I first got turned on (literally, and figuratively) to the music of Scottish folkie Al Stewart. Thirty years later, his words and amazing guitar work still have me hooked. Last year I actually got to see him play at a converted movie house in Metuchen.

The first album of his that I heard was *Past, Present and Future*. It was during a night of, well, debauchery that ended up at the house of Terry Hurley, then the wrestling coach at Gill St. Bernard's, or Delbarton, who remembers? The song that really haunted me was "Nostradamus," a 9-minute, 46-second epic about the famous 16th century French scientist and seer into the future.

The one line still gets me, "Oh, the more things change, the more they stay the same."

Now I suppose that's a truism. And who am I, who has been fired six times while working at almost every newspaper in New Jersey, to doubt Al Stewart, who has put in over 40 years in

a job without ever getting fired once. But it did get me to thinking. Things are always changing. A recent drive up to the old Hurley abode in Morristown proved that. Almost nothing was the same as it was back then, different businesses, buildings torn down and replaced by newer buildings.

And yet here am I, stuck in the '50s, or '60s, maybe the '70s, but definitely an outcast in the '00s. I still wear the same style of clothes I wore when attending WHS. I still eat and drink the same junk food as back then. And I still believe in the same values, or lack thereof, that I believed in back then. If the Beat Generation ever makes a comeback, I'll be right there with Kerouac, hitch-hiking across America.

So, how much exactly has changed in my world over the years? As we head into 2007, let's take a look:

Then: Athletes like Dave Morash, Chris Campbell, Jim Kovacs, Dick Stotler, Chuck Hood, Pete Braun, Marty Howarth, Dwight Davies, Eddie Thorne and hundreds of others made it into college without a personal coach, and without ever playing on a travel team.

Now: I'm told — by personal coaches and travel team coaches — that it is no longer possible to get into a good college without their services. And forget making the next Olympic team!

Then: Kids found a way to get to practice — whether it was 5:30 a.m. at the Y or for a Pony League practice at Tamaques Park — without their parents' assistance, and without starting up an automobile.

Now: They don't.

Then: If you saw chocolate candy in an orange wrapper, it was two of those yummy Reese's peanut butter cups.

Now: If you see some chocolate candy in an orange wrapper, it's one of the half dozen or more Reese's products, all similar but none superior to the original (although the upcoming peanut butter and banana crème

cups for the 30th anniversary of Elvis' death could change my mind).

Then: The stands were packed for all WHS athletic events, with students, families and alumni.

Now: Thank God for families and alumni.

Then: I wore flannel shirts, T-shirts or Madras shirts, with jeans or khakis, and desert boots or sneakers (Chuck Taylors).

Now: I wear flannel shirts, T-shirts or Madras shirts, with jeans or khakis, and desert boots or deck shoes.

Then: Only geeks wore black socks with sneakers or while playing sports.

Now: Many athletes, perhaps attempting to aid Nike's support of the "thug" look, wear black socks.

Then: You went to a pro or college athletic event and actually saw a game.

Now: You still get the game, but with rock music being blasted at you, with waste-of-time TV and commercial timeouts, and with some giant screen telling you when to cheer.

Then: Morons booed professional players, coaches and officials.

Now: Morons boo professional, collegiate and scholastic players, coaches and officials.

Then: The game ended and that was that.

Now: The game ends and there's days and weeks of analysis by Monday morning quarterbacks on the radio and in newspapers.

Then: The officials made a call and that was it.

Now: We have 10- to 15-minute delays to watch a gazillion replays that may or may not get the call correct.

Then: People checked the box scores in the Sporting News every week to see how players around the league were doing.

Now: People download Fantasy League stat packages into their computers to follow their Fantasy teams, pitch by pitch! They even get upset when a manager sits one of "their" players. Imagine the nerve.

Then: There were four college football bowl games — Orange, Rose, Cotton, Sugar. And the bowls didn't have those idiotic advertiser's names in front of them (note: an exception is granted for any future Sonic Sugar Bowl, Waffle House Orange Bowl or Dr Pepper Peach Bowl).

Now: It seems like there are four bowl games a day for the next two weeks.

Then: Players scored touchdowns and handed the ball to the official.

Now: Players plan different idiotic things to do — to "have fun" they say — so they can be shown ad nauseam on TV sports shows.

Then: Hoods or greasers wore their shirt or jacket collars turned up.

Now: Yuppie millionaires wear their Izod shirt collars turned up.

Then: Downtown was filled with "mom and pop" stores.

Now: Unless your mom and pop are Mr. Starbucks, Mrs. Victoria's Secret, Mr. Banana Republic, etc., they're no longer downtown.

Then: Nobody accused Westfielders of walking around with their noses in the air or having silver spoons elsewhere.

Now: They do. But the people they're talking about are the ones who send their kids to private schools, with the other silver-spooners.

Then: The best music was rockabilly, doo-wop and folk (American).

Now: The best music is rockabilly, doo-wop and folk (American and British).

STREET BEAT

Strange isn't it, how Mike Venezia signing to play college hoops at Colgate could start up an entire new section of the Den, which we will now call "Street Beat." When Mike signed, we had Bob



CONTROLLING THE BOARDS... Raiders Lauren Mains, No. 21, Jackie Law, No. 44 and Kaylan Jaichon, No. 32 had little trouble with St. Dominic's offense. The trio combined for 25 rebounds.

Fred K. Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times

UC Viking Cagers Skin Pioneer Boys, 67-66

Kevin Riehl rolled in a lay-up at the buzzer to give the 4-0 Union Catholic High School boys a 67-66, overtime victory over host New Providence on December 22. Junior forward Mike Buczynski, who finished with 25 points, hit a 3-pointer to push the game to overtime.

Kristian Cortizo netted 17 points and Riehl finished with 13. Steve Siracusa put in 20 points and had 12 rebounds for the 2-1 Pioneers and Dan Bucher sank 11 points.

Union Cath.	6	15	20	13	13	67
New Prov.	13	13	14	14	12	66

Blue Devil Girls Edge BRH2O Swimmers

The Westfield High School girls swim team touched first and third in the final event, the 400-meter relay, to edge host Bridgewater-Raritan, 86-84, on December 21. Julia Cederoth, Liz Hawkins, DarrellAnn Smith and Suzanne Lemberg touched first in the event at 4:12.25, while Brittany Reyes, Emily Budnick, Lauren McCurdy and Meredith Smith took third with a time of 4:14.9.

50 free: Casey Stahl (B) 28.77
100 free: Stahl (B) 1:04.13
200 free: Erin Dahl (B) 2:16.59
500 free: Rachel Greway (B) 6:07.65
100 breast: Catherine McGuire (W) 1:20.69
100 fly: Hannah Gonzalez (B) 1:10.11
100 back: Lauren McCurdy (W) 1:11.51
200 IM: Liz Hawkins (W) 2:33.22
200 free relay: B (Dahl, Gonzalez, Alex Enny, Stahl) 1:56.26
400 free relay: W (Cederoth, Hawkins, DA Smith, Lemberg) 4:12.25
200 medley relay: W (McCurdy, Kate Heffernan, Lemberg, Reyes) 2:11.59

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two baseline jumpers to lead their team to a commanding, 16-4 lead.

The Blue Devils answered with more offensive success, scoring some easy buckets to win the second quarter, 9-8. In the third quarter, the Raiders seized control of the boards and spread the margin to 43-16. Zazzali and Nielson each scorched the net with 3-pointers and Law netted six points.

The Raiders finished off the Blue Devils in the fourth quarter, as the post combination of Emily Meehan, Nielson, Mineo and Degman combined for 16 of the 17 points.

"Our goal was to try to get every player into the game because everyone wants the opportunity to play and everyone did today," said Emily Meehan. "Defensively, we played a tight two-three and it worked well and stopped most of their points. Despite the tough loss against Shabazz, we looked at it as an opportunity to find out what we needed to work on. Against Linden, we played a lot stronger, won, 56-45, and it showed up once again in the game today."

"The whole team was telling me that maybe I could get on the board, so that helped my confidence. It felt pretty good," said Mineo.

St. Dominic	4	9	3	3	19
Sc. Pl.-Fanwood	16	8	19	17	60

Raider Boys Demolish Canuck Cagers, 63-37

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys basketball team demolished host North Plainfield, 63-37, on December 21. Greg Bayard led the 2-1 Raiders with 17 points and hit seven in an 18-8 first quarter run. Brian Dougher sank 11 points.

Sc. Pl.-Fanwood	18	14	18	13	63
North Plainfield	8	7	4	18	37

BR Panther Boys Top Blue Devil Swimmers

The Bridgewater-Raritan High School boys swimming team took first in nine of the 11 events to top Westfield, 91-79, in Bridgewater on December 21.

50 free: Mike Randall (B) 25.39
100 free: Frank Cuzzola (B) 55.98
200 free: Ernesto Daset (B) 2:06.08
500 free: Daset (B) 5:52.09
100 breast: Randall (B) 1:09.91
100 fly: Andrew Frank (B) 1:00.98
100 back: David Yao (B) 1:03.72
200 IM: Frank (B) 2:16.89
200 free relay: W (Chris DeLaFuente, Phil Anton, Mike Oster, Matt Green) 1:46.53
400 free relay: W (Matt Morgan, Max Blum, Luke Baron, Oster) 4:01.74
200 medley relay: B (Frank, Randall, Josh Klitenick, Cuzzola) 1:53.05

**TOWN OF WESTFIELD
2007 CURBSIDE COLLECTION SCHEDULE
BY GREAT NORTHERN RECYCLING**

	WARD 1 (Mondays)	WARD 2 (Tuesdays)	WARD 3 (Wednesdays)	WARD 4 (Thursdays)
January	1*, 15, 29	2, 16, 30	3, 17, 31	4, 18
February	12, 26	13, 27	14, 28	1, 15
March	12, 26	13, 27	14, 28	1, 15, 29
April	9, 23	10, 24	11, 25	12, 26
May	7, 21	8, 22	9, 23	10, 24
June	4, 18	5, 19	6, 20	7, 21
July	2, 16, 30	3, 17, 31	4*, 18	5, 19
August	13, 27	14, 28	1, 15, 29	2, 16, 30
September	10, 24	11, 25	12, 26	13, 27
October	8, 22	9, 23	10, 24	11, 25
November	5, 19	6, 20	7, 21	8, 22*
December	3, 17, 31	4, 18	5, 19	6, 20
January 2008	1*	2	3	

* January 1st is a holiday. The pickup for Ward 1 will be on Wednesday, January 3rd.
* July 4th is a holiday. The pickup for Ward 3 will be on Friday, July 6th.
* November 22nd is a holiday. The pickup for Ward 4 will be on Friday, November 23rd.
* January 1, 2008 is a holiday. The pickup for Ward 2 will be on Wednesday, January 2, 2008.

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