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THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
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HURLING THE ELEMENTS...Raider Kyle Rowbotham, center, also had to hurdle the elements to place second in his heat in the 110-hurdles with a time of 15.2 but the sixth-placed time to qualify for the MOC was 15.06.

ALLEMAN GETS 2ND IN SHOT, VIKING BOYS GET 6TH, VIKING GIRLS 7TH

Blue Devil Jeff Perrella Wins 1600, 3200 At Group 4 Track/Field Championships

By DAVID B. CORBIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Senior Jeff Perrella earned all of the Westfield High School team points by winning the 1600-meter and 3200-meter races at the Group 4 championships at Silver Eagle Stadium in Egg Harbor on June 3. At Frank Jost Field in South Plainfield, the Union Catholic boys and girls qualified several athletes for the Meet of Champions (MOC) while the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys qualified two athletes.

The Blue Devils finished in eighth place in their group with a team total of 20. The Viking boys placed sixth in the Non-Public A meet with 35 points and the Viking girls placed seventh with a total of 25. The Raider boys finished in a five-way tie for 18th in the Group 3 meet with 10 points. On June 2, Perrella out-paced Ridgewood's Michael Cator in the final lap to cross first in the 1600 with a time of 4:18.66, two seconds slower than his personal-best of 4:16.3, which he ran at the North Jersey, Section 2,

Group 4 meet on May 27. North Hunterdon's Dale Taylor finished third at 4:22.02. However, on June 3, Perrella cut eight seconds off his winning time in the sections to easily cross first in the 3200 with a time of 9:18.41. Cator finished second at 9:23.69, followed by Rudy Belko of Triton at 9:27.92. Perrella expected his stiffest competition in the MOC, which was held on June 7, to be Chatham's Ben Massam who won in Group 2 at 9:14.55 and Colt Neck's Craig Forsys who won in Group 3 at 9:14.85.

"Jeffrey, for the most part, led from start to finish. He was well within himself from start to finish. His final 600-800 in both races was fast. He ran in control and he is looking forward to the MOC. He is the first since Andy Jacob in 1984 to win both at Group 4," commented Blue Devil Head Coach Jack Martin.

Raider sophomore Mike Alleman placed second in the shot put with a shove of 55'5.75" behind Lacey's Vinnie Elardo at 56'1". Alleman also competed in the discus but his toss of 135'7" was not enough to place him in the top-6 to qualify for the MOC. John Badala had a toss of 122'9" in the discus. Raider Max Carow had one of his best efforts to place fifth in the pole vault with a height of 13 feet. Raider junior Kyle Rowbotham,

SCIALABBA, MATTHEW EACH WHACK RBI SINGLES

Blue Devils Nipped in 8th, 3-2 By Lions for Sectional Crown

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

"I'm so proud of these girls the way they played, the way they have built on their season and by getting stronger and stronger as the year went on. When you look at this game, I see a sophomore hitting the first run in, I see a freshman knocking in the next run and these kids, from the youngest to the oldest, are just fantastic. They all played like varsity players. I could not be more proud of them," said Westfield High School softball Head Coach Tara Pignoli after her team lost, 3-2, in a dramatic eight-inning thriller to top-seed North Hunterdon (25-3) in the finals of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 champion-

ship before a crowd of 600 in Clinton Township on June 1.

The six seeded Blue Devils tagged pitcher Allison Freedman (18-0) for eight hits and two walks and were led by sophomore third baseman Erin Scialabba and freshman designated player Cyndil Matthew (2-for-4) who each banged RBI singles. Kristina Fietkiewicz and Jess Moskowitz each went 2-for-4 and Mary Kate Flannery chipped in with a base hit.

In her six innings of stellar pitching, junior left-hander Lindsay Brown tossed a three-hitter, sat down seven and walked one. Freshman right-hand pitcher Alyson Moskowitz (3-3), in two innings of relief, rose to the occasion by striking out two batters and walking one.

"Fietkiewicz, as a senior leader at shortstop, made some great plays and certainly hit the ball hard every time at bat. Flannery, another great senior leader, was on base every single time," said Pignoli. "Brown really pitched a beautiful game. She kept batters off-balance. We felt they were getting on her a little bit and we were ready to make a change, since we have just as much confidence in Moskowitz. She was put into a most difficult position a pitcher can be, bases loaded, the four hitter is up, and here she is, a ninth grader striking that kid out. I

did not expect her to do any better than she did. She pitched just great."

The 14-10 Blue Devils opened took a 1-0 lead in the top of the second inning when leftfielder Jess Moskowitz reached second on an infield miscue and darted home on a single by Scialabba. The Blue Devil girls applied more pressure on the Lions in the third, fourth and fifth innings. Freedman, however, found ways to work out of the jams. The Blue Devils' threat in the fifth came when Flannery drilled a ball past third and was awarded second on a ground-rule double. Catcher Jillian Olsen advanced Flannery to third. Next, Jen Urciuoli drilled a sharp liner to short that sent Flannery flying amidst a cloud of dust across the right side of home plate. In a very controversial call, the umpire ruled that Flannery's hand missed touching the plate, while catcher Jamie Stephens recovered and made the tag for the out.

The Blue Devil girls kept the scoreboard open and fans on the edge of their seats by taking a 2-0 lead in the sixth. Fietkiewicz slashed a hard single to center, reached second on perfect sacrifice bunt off the 'metal stick' of first baseman Jenny La Spata, swiped third and skidded across the dish on Matthew's sharp single to

who qualified for the Group 3 meet in four events, had a tough run on the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



BATTLING A LION...Blue Devil freshman pitcher Alyson Moskowitz gets down and dirty in an attempt to snag Lion Kate Smyser from scoring. Despite a great effort, the ball came loose registering the winning run in the eight inning for the sectional championship.



David B. Corbin (Group 4 Section meet at South Plainfield) for The Westfield Leader and The Times **WINNER OF THE 1600 AND 3200...**Blue Devil Jeff Perrella won the 1600-meter and the 3200-meter races at the Group 4 meet in Egg Harbor to qualify for the MOC, although he competed only in the 3200 at the MOC.

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Westfield Baseball League Sign Up For Summer 2006 Season

Due to overwhelming response for Summer Baseball, the Westfield Baseball League will sponsor a summer-in-town recreation league. All children entering Kindergarten through 5th grade in September are eligible to play.

K-3rd Grade League will run - June 26 - July 27
4th - 5th Grade League will run June 18th - July 30th
K-3rd Grade - Games weekdays - 5 pm or 6:30 pm at Jefferson School - FEE \$ 45
Grades 4 & 5 - Games Sunday - 10 am or noon - Gumpert Field - Fee \$ 55
Please visit our website www.WestfieldBaseball.com to register and submit all applicable fees. Team T-shirt and Hat included
Online Registration Deadline: June 16, 2006

For More Information E-mail the WBL at: westfieldbaseball@hotmail.com

Two Great Weeks Blue Devil Lacrosse Camp

Boys Grade 3 to 9
June 26th to June 30th
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Tamaques School

July 10th to July 14th
9:00am to 1:00pm
Kehler Stadium

For More Information:
908-347-4644

Ask For Gerry Benaquista -
Westfield Head Lacrosse Coach
westfieldlacrosse@gmail.com

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For more information please email tbaylock@spfk12.org

Raider Basketball Camp
The Weeks are June 26 to June 30 and July 17 to July 21
For more information please contact kewing@spfk12.org

All Camps are run by Scotch Plains Fanwood High School Coaches and Coaches from Surrounding Communities