



Fred K. Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times

PHYSICAL AND AGGRESSIVE...Raider junior guard Loni Kaye, No. 13, rolls past a Roselle Ram. Despite her four assists, Scotch Plains-Fanwood lost the game, 47-39, in the Union County semifinals.

**ZAZZALI SCORES 15 PTS., MAINS, LAW SCORE NINE**

**Roselle Lady Cagers Shock Raiders, 47-39, in UC Semis**

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

In a game that featured 14 lead changes, the third-seeded Roselle Rams put it all together at the end by dominating the glass and scoring final nine points, for a 47-39 victory over the second-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls' basketball team in the semifinal round of the Union County Tournament at the Dunn Center on February 22.

Junior guard Allie Zazzali inflicted most of the damage on the Rams and led all scorers with 15 points, including a net burner from three-point range. She also snagged five rebounds and swiped four steals. Junior guard Lauren Mains (7 rebounds, 3 steals) and freshman forward Jackie Law (9 rebounds, 6 assists, two steals) hit for nine points each. Senior forward Lauren Benovengo bucketed three points and freshman guard Raychel Kruper connected from beyond three-point range. Senior guard Loni Kaye finished with four assists and swiped one basketball.

Roselle senior forwards Femi and Taiwo Oyelola, who captured the majority of rebounds, each scored 13-points.

The Raiders opened the game with an 8-1 run in the first quarter. Law and Zazzali each poured in six points and Mains bucketed two to take a 14-11 lead.

In the second quarter, missed opportunities, 11 turnovers and the absence of Law and Kaye, who were

sidelined with foul problems, chilled the Raiders as their lead slipped to 21-20 at halftime. Kruper hit a net burner from three-point range. Kaye and Mains each added two points.

The lead seesawed in the third quarter. Zazzali sniped nine of the Raiders' 10 points and kept her team alive as the Rams took the lead, 32-31.

"We did come out very strong, I felt. But as soon as we had that lead we let our guard down. I suppose we thought that we were winning now, so we really don't have to play that hard," said Zazzali. "We started out rebounding well but then suddenly it was just gone. It did not help that Jackie or Loni were in foul trouble while our other big girl, Kaylan Jaichon did not play due to illness. We got outplayed in the fourth quarter and that happens sometimes."

The Raiders took the lead on three occasions in the fourth quarter, however, playing with a distinct size disadvantage under the glass when Law was sidelined with her fifth foul. Still, the Raiders maintained their momentum when Mains swiped the ball and scorched the net with a 3-pointer. Benovengo swished in a 2-pointer and Law added three points to give Scotch Plains a 39-38 lead with 3:15 left.

Unfortunately, the well went dry and Roselle grabbed the lead for good, beginning with a basket by Washington. Turning the ball over and unable to box out, the Raiders resorted to long-range shooting, but all missed

their target. Maintaining their composure, the Rams streaked down on the Raiders with a nine-point run.

"They were a good team, we never overlooked them and knew it was going to be a rough game," said Mains.

"With the number of turnovers committed, we were taken advantage of a little bit; however, we definitely played well and hung around the whole time. Down by four and you see that there are 35 seconds left, you are going to get down a little bit no matter how hard we tried to fight it. Unfortunately it was the end result that it was, but we gave it our all."

"We fell short but we still have states to look forward to, so we'll keep pushing," added Benovengo.

Roselle	11	9	12	15	47
Sc. Pl.-Fanwood	14	7	10	8	39

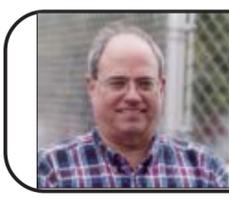
**Raiders Capture Third In UC Girls Hoops**

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls basketball team rebounded from its semifinal round loss to Roselle by defeating Union, 42-36, in the third-place consolation game of the Union County Tournament in Roselle on February 24.

Lauren Mains sank 10 points and grabbed seven rebounds for the 17-7 Raiders and Allie Zazzali put up nine points. Jackie Law and Loni Kaye each netted eight points.

Union	11	6	6	13	36
Sc. Pl.-Fanwood	6	13	16	7	42

**Devil's Den**  
**And the winner (?) of Brie Bowl I Is Westfield ... After Controversy**



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

Last week we had the playdowns for the first annual Brie Bowl, matching the two yuppier, most BMW-driving, ascot-wearing, silver spoon-fed, Republican-type towns in 16 New Jersey counties. The final two teams standing were hardly surprises: Moorestown (from Burlington County) and Westfield.

Moorestown had the tougher road to the title matchup, having to eliminate Haddonfield, Ridgewood and Rumson-Fair Haven, as fathers wearing sport jackets with patches on the sleeves and golf caps smoked their pipes and cheered them on by clapping their pinkies.

Westfield's opponents were Summit, Ridge and Princeton — whose beaten opponents headed to the nearest Abercrombie and Bonwit Teller to soothe their beaten souls.

Here is the sport-by-sport breakdown of BBI, deciding which New Jersey school of bon vivants has the better overall program (historically, not just recently):

Westfield (13): boys soccer, girls soccer, boys cross country, girls cross country, volleyball, girls swimming, bowling, baseball, softball, boys track, girls track, golf, boys lacrosse.

Moorestown (3): field hockey, girls basketball, girls lacrosse.

Too close to call (6): boys basketball, football, girls tennis, boys swimming, boys tennis, wrestling.

And the winners is ... Westfield. (Somewhere, former WHS coaches Les Zorge or Norm Koury are telling stories about the Westfield cake-eaters, I'm sure.)

It should be noted that, moments before the final results were about to be posted, The Den got a rude, snotty e-mail from a reader in Mountain Lakes who for some strange reason had been googling "bon vivants, spoon-fed elitists, elbow-patched sports jackets, and ascots." He/she wanted to know how we could've picked Chatham or Mendham as a Morris County representative over Mountain Lakes, where the servants' quarters lodgings have been known to list for \$500,000!

Mountain Lakes definitely ranks high among NJ's snob cities, and is a Group 1 sports powerhouse, so The Den decided to honor that reader's request — he/she took time out from watching the stock market ticker to write, after all — and consider a special playoff between Westfield and Mountain Lakes. OK, we considered it, and you lose Mountain Lakes! Go watch the polo ponies.

**GONE, NOT FORGOTTEN**

The recent "perfect day" column continues to bring in e-mails from old-time Westfielders, now living in faraway places. The latest came from Charlie Felter, and it was a good news-bad news deal.

Charlie, an outstanding baseballer in the early 1960s, recalled the White Diamond on North Ave., Hubie Brown coaching the Cranford junior varsity team, the bowling alleys at the Westfield Y and many other things. He also brought the sad information that his

younger brother, Bob, had passed away a couple years ago in Texas.

Bob was a 6-foot-5 forward, a three-year starter in 1963-64-65, one of three WHS boys to score more than 1,000 points in their career — Bob King had 1,329; Felter 1,094, and Boo Bowers 1,002 — and the only WHS basketballer to start on two county champion teams (1963, 1965). With his trademark "Elvis" hairdo, the pencil-thin Felter was a force on the boards, could handle the ball like a guard and played tough defense, too.

The Den was not around when Chris Rupp, John Miles and Mike Comandini were playing for WHS, but I got to play plenty of ball with Dicky Myers, King, Felter, Tom Scott and Tim Goski, and saw most of the other great ones — Bowers, Spud Monroe, Brian Ciemniacki, Dan Deserio and Jan Coccoziello. And if I were picking a team of former Blue Devils, Bob Felter would be my No. 1 pick. He was the best I ever saw.

**A LEGEND PASSES**

Former Lawrenceville School football coach Ken Keuffel died last week. Keuffel was a devotee of the single wing offense, writing several books on the subject. Keuffel attended Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass., with former president George W. Bush Sr., and in college kicked the winning field goal when Princeton upset Penn 17-14 in 1946.

Keuffel coached 31 years at the famous prep school in Lawrence Township, Mercer County, posting an overall 150-92-7 record in three stints, from 1956-60, 1967-82 and 1990-99.

Ironically, his replacement as coach from 1961-66 was Jack Reydel, a former WHS football and baseball standout under Spittin' Joe Freeman. Reydel's six Lawrenceville teams went 36-8-1, including a 7-0 team in 1962.

**WRESTLING UPDATE**

Congratulations to junior Colin MacKay and junior Mark Boyd, who last Saturday became WHS's 169th and 170th district wrestling champions, taking gold medals home from District 11 at WHS. They, along with John Barnes, Sam Reichbach, Matt Kamel, Andrew Shaffer and Steve Cruikshank, qualified for Region 3, which started Tuesday.

**SWIMMING UPDATE**

One of these years, perhaps as soon as next winter, the WHS girls are going to get over the final hump and bring back a state Public A swim title. Sunday they fell short against powerful Cherry Hill West, a team ranked second in the state. Although they've won nine state championships, the most recent was 1999 when the school completed in B Division (Group 3); the last 10 times WHS has reached the A or Public A final, it has fallen short.

Still, considering the graduation of eight solid seniors last year — including standouts like Kirsten Selert, Amanda Dickson and Jackie DeLaFuente — to win the Union County title from archrival Scotch Plains-

Fanwood and to reach the state final again was quite an amazing effort by coach Jaime Ruzsala's club.

And they didn't roll over and play dead, either. In the opening medley relay the foursome of Lauren McCurdy, Katie Morgan, Brittany Reyes and Liz Hawkins went 1:53.87, the third fastest time in school history, and the fastest since 1987! Alexi Kuska's 1:58.55 in the 200 free was fifth fastest ever, as was Kylie Fraser's 2:14.99 in the 200 IM.

They were cheered on by over 20 members of the WHS boys swim team, who made the trip down and painted their chests with "Hydrochicks" and other assorted things. The boys' season ended the previous Monday when they lost a second-straight heartbreaker in the North 2 Public A final to Bridgewater, falling on the final relay. But showing amazing sportsmanship, the WHS boys stayed around Sunday after the WHS girls meet and cheered wildly for Bridgewater, which edged Cherry Hill West for the title by again winning the final relay!

The Den also would like to congratulate the Scotch Plains-Fanwood girls, after they won their second straight Public B Division championship last Sunday with an 88-82 win over a very solid Haddonfield team. And the Raiders of coach Jess Hulinik will continue to be a state threat, with almost its entire roster returning, led by juniors-to-be Jillian Murphy and Melissa Helock.

**BASKETBALL UPDATE**

With both the boys and girls basketball qualifying for the state tournament in North Section 2 Group 4, The Den got to wondering when the last time that happened was. Amazingly, the answer is 1990, around the time that many of this year's varsity players were born!

The 1990 boys team won its opener over Morristown, 84-62, before falling to Weequahic, 78-65. That team finished 14-11 under coach Joe Soviero and was led by double-figure scorers Eric Lyght, Ron Shovlin, Jeff Suto and Mike Kelly.

The 1990 girls team under coach Dave Shapiro also won its state opener, topping Roxbury, 56-26, before falling to Irvington, 57-47. That team went 19-6 and was led by Marcie Williams, Claudia Carnevale, Kim Kumpf, Rene Stevens and Tameeka Dixon.

The boys qualified again in 1992 and 1996, and have been in states four (2002, 2004, 2005, 2006) of the last five years. The girls reached states in 1997, 1998 and 1999, but this year is the first time since then.

The WHS boys were seeded 10th in the section but lost Monday, 74-64, to No. 7-seed Bridgewater-Raritan. The girls were seeded sixth and visited No. 3-seeded North Hunterdon last night.

The Devil's Den appears Thursday in The Westfield Leader during the scholastic sports season. Contact us with comments, suggestions or trivia questions at [bj1019@aol.com](mailto:bj1019@aol.com). Go Devils!

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