



**HOOPS MVP...** At last Saturday's NJSIAA state championship Non-Public A Final, which was won by Seton Hall Prep (SHP), 56-45, Scotch Plains resident and SHP junior Ashton Gibbs was selected the game MVP. On February 15, Gibbs scored his 1,000th point in leading SHP to a victory over Randolph, making him the 10th player in SHP history to do so. He was recognized with the game ball, presented by his coach Bob Farrell, his father Temple, his mother Jacqui and SHP Headmaster Msgr. Michael E. Kelly.

## Westfield PAL Sends Eight To Wrestling Youth States

Eight of Westfield's PAL wrestlers qualified for the New Jersey Youth State Tournament. This has been the greatest number of kids that Westfield has sent in recent years and two wrestlers, Tony Pafumi and Troy Skibitsky placed in the elite top eight.

In order to get into the state tournament a competitor must place first, second or third in one of eight qualifying tournaments. Christian Barber (intermediate eighth grader), Matt Albano (intermediate eighth grader), Helen Delpopilo (intermediate eighth grader), Erik Godzieski (intermediate eighth grader), Pafumi (intermediate seventh grader), Skibitsky (junior seventh grader),

Mike Kalimtzi (junior seventh grader) and Matt Barber (midget fifth grader) all won bids to enter into the competition.

Pafumi, Skibitsky and Barber battled to the medal rounds. Skibitsky wrestled in one of the most competitive weight classes. In most cases, the bouts between medal winners were decided by three points or less and Skibitsky earned an eighth place medal. Pafumi, who also had a heavily stacked weight class, grappled his way to the semifinal before losing to a highly rated opponent, 4-2. Pafumi grappled his back in the wrestlebacks and earned a third place medal. Barber placed fourth.



**ONE OF THE TOUGHEST...** Senior basketball guard and soccer goalie Lauren Mains, one of the toughest athletic competitors, will be missed by the Raiders.

## Lady Raider Cagers Complete Very Impressive, 17-9 Season

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Sophomore center Kaylan Jaichon led the team with 228 rebounds and 27 blocked shots. She bucketed 194 points and had 15 steals.

"Once we do a better job of getting the ball to our big people, it will lead to better numbers for Kaylin," said Davis.

Coming off the bench, sophomore guard/forward Laura Degnan shot the ball well off the dribble, followed up her shots and hauled in rebounds. Sophomore guard Saxony Nielson viewed as, "The next Mains," according to Davis. "Showed very athletic abilities. She is quick, tough and fearless, runs the floor well and defends with a vengeance."

Freshman guard Kathryn DeCataldo

possessed good basketball skills, handled the ball well and shot the threes well. Nicole Mineo, according to Davis, "Shows great spirit, always smiles, is a joy to have around, possesses an excellent touch from deep and shoots quickly when open."

"I'm looking forward to next season," said Davis. "The front line looks solid with Jackie, Kaylin and Emily, along with a mostly new backcourt. The real key will be who steps up and takes over the scoring, the ball handling, the hustle and the heart that my seniors gave. We have the ability to be right back in the mix next year. Who knows, maybe it will be five out of six!"

## Westfield Renegades Capture March Madness Hoops Title

The Westfield Renegades fourth grade boys traveling basketball team captured the North Brunswick March Madness Tournament U-10 Boys Championship by defeating North Brunswick, 37-36, in a thrilling final game.

Westfield won five games in the tournament in order to best a field of 10 U-10 teams, including hard fought victories over the East Brunswick Hurricanes (28-26) and South Brunswick (35-32) in the quarterfinals and semifinals.

In the final game, Danny Mitchell (11 points) and Sean Elliott (8 points) led the Renegades. Tournament officials named Elliott the MVP for his all-around outstanding play. Neilan Dolan scored five points, including a big 3-pointer in the second half to give Westfield a lead in the seesaw battle.

Although, Westfield trailed, 22-20, at halftime, the Renegades, using unselfish ball passing, got important baskets from Lillian Scott, James Goldberger and Matt Catanzaro to stay in the game. The Renegades took the lead for good when Kevin Irving nailed a jumper from the right elbow with 50 seconds remaining.

The Renegades benefited from an all-around team effort, including outstanding defensive play and rebounding, which frustrated an athletic North Brunswick team. Tyler Bansky, Jack Bunting and Aaron Tabak forced jump balls with their aggressive play. Eli Wirtshafter and Colin Dursee were dominant on the backboards, pulling down many rebounds in traffic, which sparked numerous fast break opportunities.



**TOP SKIER...** Michelle Goldberg, a Scotch Plains resident and freshman at Kent Place School in Summit, has qualified for the J111 Junior Olympics, a JUSA sponsored event for the top skiers in the country. J111 skiers are born in 1992 or 93. Goldberg also qualified for the Eastern Regional Series and was named to the Vermont State Alpine Team for the second consecutive year.

## F-SPY 'C' Gymnasts Succeed, Win Tri-Meet, Improve to 3-0

On March 10, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Y (FSPY) 'C' gymnastic team improved its record to 3-0 by winning a tri-meet over the Somerset Valley and South Mountain Y teams.

9U age group: Paige VanBuskirk placed second on vault. Danielle Scheu earned fourth on vault and fifth on balance beam.

10-11 age group: Lauren Lockfeld captured first all-around, first on vault, uneven bars and floor exercise, as well as fifth on beam. Tessa DeMaria tied with Lockfeld to share fifth on beam. Briana Lolo grabbed second in the all-around competition, placing first on beam, third on bars and fourth on vault. Marissa DiBella placed third all-around, second on floor, third on vault and fourth on uneven bars. Abigail Fontana tied with DiBella for second on floor and took second on beam. Meghan Yessman captured second on vault, while Marissa Lamastra took fourth on floor. Rachel Butler earned fourth on beam and fifth on vault.

12U: Michelle Rogoff won the all-around and placed first on vault, beam, and floor. Leya Quinones captured second all-around, first on uneven bars, second on beam and floor, and fourth

on vault. Joelle Pisauro took second on vault and the third on beam. Jamie Rubenstein placed second on bars, third on vault and fourth on beam.

Kelsey Milo, Heather Mullen and Danielle Rosenblatt also delivered strong performances. The team's next home competition will be on Saturday, March 24 at 3:30 p.m.



**MADNESS CHAMPS...** The Westfield Renegades won the March Madness Tournament in North Brunswick this past weekend. Pictured, left to right, are: front row; Lillian Scott, Matt Catanzaro, Aaron Tabak, Tyler Bansky, James Goldberger and Kevin Irving; second row, Eli Wirtshafter, Sean Elliot, Neilan Dolan, Jack Bunting, Danny Mitchell and Colin Dursee; back row, Head Coach Mark Mitchell, Assistant Coaches Rich Dursee and Dave Wirtshafter.

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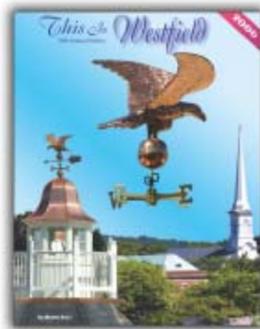


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## Open House, Sunday March 25, 1:00—4:00 PM



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