



FIRST ON THE ICE...The Cranford Hockey Club Squirt A division (ages 9-10), which has five individuals from Westfield, placed first in The Congressional Cup tournament in Reston, VA on March 16-18. They also placed first in the Spring Screamer Tournament in Hackensack on March 9-11) and were undefeated in both tournaments. Pictured, left to right, are: bottom row; Matt Fitzgerald, Danny DoCampo, Joe Sarni, Marc Johnstone (tournament MVP), Joe Lomeli, Ryan Cagide, MJ Christiano and Alex Ballas; second row, Brian Shaunessy, Joe Farley, Ryan O'Malley, Sean Conheeny, Andersen Eckert, Drew Hopper, Coleman Schultz and Joe Manganello; back row, Coaches: Dan Lomeli, John Sarni, John O'Malley, and Bill Schultz. Not shown: Don Hopper, Bruce Eckert and Jay Cagide.

WF U9 Wanderers Top Piscataway Soccer Girls

Catherine Korth drove a ball past an outstretched Piscataway keeper to record the go-ahead goal and lead the Westfield Wanderers to a season-opening victory at Conackamack School field in Piscataway on March 26.

In a well-played first half, Wanderers goalkeeper Maggie Ahern made several sharp saves to keep the score close. Grace Pettit continued her solid defensive performance in front of the Westfield goal by stopping the early Piscataway offensive pressure. Midfielder Abby Demers played a smart transitional game, while feeding Emma Hoffman and the Wanderers frontline, which saw two goal performances by both Megan Melillo and Morgan Nitti.

Forward Hannah Haar turned the pressure up on the Piscataway defense by using the open field to create scoring opportunities. Forward Molly Bandelli made several long runs in the offensive zone to open the fourth quarter. Piscataway turned up the pressure but the speedy defensive play of Sarah Broughton, Jessica Guan and Catherine Serratelli stepped up to preserve the win.

WF's Kandigian Wins NJ Butterfly Crown

Jill Kandigian, 14, of Westfield, a member of the Westfield High School swim team and who also swims for the Berkeley Aquatic Club, placed first in the 200-yard butterfly with a time of 2:10.71 (fastest New Jersey time for the age group this season) at the New Jersey Junior Olympic Championships held March 16-18 at Rutgers University.

Jill also placed second in 100-fly at 1:42. She was fourth in 200-free (1:57.52) and 10th in 500-free (5:19.67). She finished fifth overall in the 400-IM at 4:46, 13th in the 200-IM and first as a member of the 400-free relay team (3:41.35). Jill earned 10th place for the High Point Award.

In February she qualified to attend the Speedo Champions Eastern Zone Sectional Meet at Harvard University on March 8-11 and recorded a time of 2:11.37 in the 200-fly.

WF's Musacchia Belts Home Run for TCNJ

EWING - The College of New Jersey softball team defeated Haverford College, 6-5, in eight innings in the first game of a double-header on March 24. Lauren Musacchia of Westfield belted a solo home run to left center to help in the winning effort. Musacchia also rapped an RBI single in a 10-5 victory over Salisbury University on March 25.

Raider Softball Girls Rebuild, Excited to 'Get the Job Done'

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ball up," said Covert. Junior Courtney Bifani and sophomore Kristina Kalkstein are also vying for the "hot spot" at third, while sophomores Alison Hagan and Corinne Walker will focus on second and short, respectively.

Sophomore Kelly Cianciotta, a fine gymnast, will use her athletic ability and range to cover centerfield. Junior Rachel Parker is a prime candidate for leftfield. Sophomore Katie Cornacchia and senior Jess Khan are expected to play right field.

"Our outfield is almost even stronger than what we've had in years past," Covert said. "We have some girls who can move and make the catches. It's almost like having three Kelli Kaskiws, maybe not as good, but they are getting there. They play with heart."

Because of their speed, Cianciotta and Colineri are expected to bat 1-2 (interchangeable) in the lineup.

"Our first two are our fastest! Kelly plays club ball. She is an experienced player even at her young age. She's

smart and she's not afraid to move on the bases. And Nicole's smart and she will get around the bases as well," commented Covert.

Although the order has not yet been established, Goines, Mineo and Lusk are expected to hit in the 3-4-5 spots. Mahoney, Parker, Cornacchia and Hagan, along with the remainder of the girls will hit in the 6-7-8-9 spots.

"We can bunt and we do have some kids who can hit. I'm very optimistic. It's kind of fun to rebuild and see what we've got coming," said Covert. "Everyone knows they have a job to do."

WF PAL Wrestling Video Available:
on www.goleader.com
Click Video - up top
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Click Video on Left:
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WORKING ON 'SMALL BALL'...Raider Kelly Cianciotta works on bunting drills as catcher Nikki Mineo braces for the pitch.

WF's Moryan Swims For Washington & Lee

LEXINGTON, Va. - Junior captain Collette Moryan (Westfield, N.J./Mount Saint Mary Academy) had a strong season for the Washington and Lee women's swimming team. The Generals took second place at the Old Dominion Athletic Conference/Atlantic States Championships on February 18.

Moryan finished third in the 200-fly with a time of 2:18.96. Moryan

has the third best time on the team in the 100-fly (1:03.07) and the fifth best time in the 1000 free (12:22.72). Moryan was a 2004-05 All-ODAC selection and placed second in the 100-butterfly at the 2005 ODAC/Atlantic States Championships as a freshman.

Washington and Lee concluded its 2006-07 season with a 7-9 overall record and will return all but one swimmer to its roster in 2007-08.



LEADER VIDEO STARS...Several members and two coaches of the Westfield PAL wrestling team, which qualified eight matmen for the state tournament, relax with host Dave Corbin (Assistant Publisher/Sports Editor) after a video taping at The Westfield Leader and Times office on March 22. The video can be viewed on www.goleader.com/video.

WBL to Hold Parade, Opening Ceremonies

The Westfield Baseball League (WBL) will hold its fourth-annual Opening Day Ceremonies and Parade for all children in kindergarten through ninth grade who are registered to play baseball or T-ball with the WBL on Saturday, April 14. The parade will commence at 10 a.m. at Mindowaskin Park and end at Gumbert Field, where there will be a carnival for the kids including moonwalks, obstacle course and mazes.

WBL clothing and other items will be on sale, as well as hot dogs, sandwiches, ice cream, cotton candy, etc. The rain date is Saturday, April 21.

St. Helen's Girls Win March Madness Tourney

The St. Helen's sixth grade girls CYO basketball team swept three straight games to win the St. Augustine's March Madness Tournament in Kendall Park. Defense was the key as St. Helen's held their opponents to 32 total points in three games as all 11 girls on the St. Helen's team contributed on both ends of the court in each victory.

St. Helen's Championship team was made up of Courtney McGovern, Tara Reardon, Veronica Murphy, Erica Davis, Jenna Perrotta, Katelyn Kelly, Sarah Freer, Sophia Barry, Emily Brucia, Halsey Urban, and Megan McCusker.



MADNESS CHAMPS...St. Helen's sixth grade girls basketball team won the St. Augustine's March madness Tournament. Pictured, left to right, are: front row; Meagan McCusker, Courtney McGovern, Erica Davis and Jenna Perrotta; second row, Halsey Urban, Sarah Freer, Katelyn Kelly, Tara Reardon, Emily Brucia and Sophia Barry; back row, Coach Jim Reardon, Veronica Murphy and Coach John Perrotta.

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