



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
DRILLING A SINGLE TO RIGHT...Blue Devil Justin Olsen, who went 3-for-3 and scored twice, sank a one-out single into right in the third inning.

Shapiro Fires 'Perfect' Game, In 6-0 Devil Win Over Summit

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"He went to a three-one count two batters in-a-row and he got one out on a changeup and one out on a curveball, both ground balls," said Brewster. "I said to Evan, 'you got to shake the hands of your infielders.' They made some great plays all day. Kevin, the last play of the game, the ball kicks back on him. He got it with his bare hand. Instead of panicking, he took his time and made a good clean throw." The 12-4 Blue Devils totaled 12 hits and scored their first three runs in the third inning and the other three in the fifth inning. Justin Olsen, who went 3-for-3 and scored twice, sank a one-out single into right in the third and his pinch runner Rick Passananti scooted to second on a passed ball. Shapiro followed with a sharp RBI

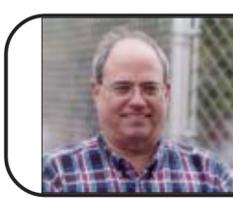
double to right. Cappiello (2 runs, RBI single) reached first on a fielder's choice then stole second. Shapiro's courtesy runner, Matt Laughlin, scored on a passed ball then Antonelli (3-for-3, RBI) brought Cappiello home with a single that deflected off the tip of the pitcher's glove. Olsen drew a leadoff walk in the fifth. Joe Vall-Lobera lashed an RBI double to left and Cappiello hopped his RBI single to right. Antonelli plopped a single over the second baseman's head, moving Cappiello to third and Mike Mellillo slapped an RBI single to right. Designated hitter Dan Mellillo tapped a single in the second inning.

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Lady Blue Devils Rout Kardinal Track Girls

The Westfield High School girls track and field team routed Kearny, 119-21, in Kearny on May 1. The Lady Blue Devils swept eight of the 13 events that they won and placed 1-2 in the other five. Tessa Schaaf led a sweep in the 400 hurdles with a time of 1:10.2, followed by Marlena Sheridan at 1:13.8 and Neha Limaye at 1:16.2. Schaaf also led a sweep in the 200 meters with a time of 28.2, followed by Jacqui Snyder at 29.7 and Christina Obiajulu at 30.2. Sheridan (17.5), Limaye (19.5) and Jessica Harmer (19.7) swept the 100 hurdles. Ayn Wisler led a sweep in the 800 with a time of 2:23.1 followed by Rose Driscoll at 2:31.4 and Aileen Grogan at 2:32.8. Erica Ammermuller at 15'7", Harmer at 14'5.5" and Amanda Garfinkel at 13'11" swept the long jump. Lisa Nehring (5:40.2),

Cat Cognetti (5:40.8) and Megan Pulliam (5:46.2) swept the 1,600 meters. Christa Ricci with a height of 4'10", Emily Perry at 4'10" and Obiajulu at 4'6" swept the high jump. Obiajulu (1:02.5), Garfinkel (1:06.6) and Ricci (1:07.6) swept the 400 meters. Ammermuller at 13.4 and Garfinkel at 13.6 finished 1-2 in the 100. Ammermuller at 30'5" and Meredith Kender at 27'4" placed 1-2 in the triple jump. Claire Stevens-Haas with a height of eight feet and Vicky Attanasio at 7'6" placed 1-2 in the pole vault. Colleen Psomas at 67'8" and Ariel Burns at 63'8" placed 1-2 in the javelin. Bridget Grogan at 13:04.3 and Kim Legones also at 13:04.3 placed 1-2 in the 3,200 meters. Attanasio at 70'3" and Burns at 67'6" placed 2-3 in the discus. Burns placed third in the shot put with a shove of 24'1".



Devil's Den For WHS Coach Turnbull, It's a Little Bit of Deja Vu

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

This is the busy time of the season for high school golfers, and that is especially true for coach John Turnbull and his WHS team. The Watchung Conference Championships were this past Tuesday (too late for deadline). The Union County Tournament is today at Echo Lake. Monday will be the sectional tournament at the prestigious Alpine Country Club up in Demarest, Bergen County. And Tuesday, May 15, is the annual showdown with archrival Scotch Plains-Fanwood, this year at Shackamaxon.

The WHS-SPF rivalry has an interesting twist this year. Back in 1976, Turnbull was a senior and No. 1 man on a SP-F team that didn't lose a match during his scholastic career, and won that year's Tournament of Champions. WHS's No. 1 player in those days was either Jeff Campbell, one of those rare guys who played football and golf, or Nick Sidorakis. (In 1976, as a senior offensive tackle on a 10-0-1 WHS football team, Jeff Campbell had all-state tackle Bret Schundler on his right — fittingly — and to his left was guard Rick Sampson, who would make all-state the following year.)

Fast-forward to 2007, and Turnbull has become the most successful coach in the amazing history of golf at WHS. And the No. 1 player at SP-F this year ... a young man named Colin Campbell, Jeff's son. And like his dad, Colin is a footballer golfer. "We've talked about that quite a bit. It's really weird," Turnbull said. "When (SP-F) won the Tournament of Champions my senior year, we set a record for the lowest score. Two years ago when (WHS) won the Tournament of Champions, we actually had the same score (307) as my SP-F team, and it's still the third best score ever."

WHS and SP-F have dominated the county for most of the past 40 years, with Cranford occasionally breaking up their parade. This year SP-F, on paper, appears to have the talent and depth to rule the roost. But you never know with Turnbull, whose team has only lost twice this year, on back-to-back days against unbeaten Ridgewood. This year, WHS has its first female captain, Caroline Steller (Erin Cochran was a co-captain in 2002). And Dan Liebowitz, Nick Livolsi and Tim Jacob give Turnbull three more solid veterans. The golf rivalry between WHS and SP-F goes way back, and includes some of the lowest scores in both school's record books. That was es-

pecially true whenever the match was held at Scotch Hills, the rustic par-33 course on Jerusalem Road that was formerly the Shady Rest Country Club, the country's first all-black golf club. Weekends there in the 1930s and '40s would often include performers like Ella Fitzgerald, Cab (Minnie the Moocher) Calloway, Count Basie, Jimmy Lunsford, Chick Webb, Earl Hines and Lionel Hampton, among others. Turnbull is just the fifth WHS golf coach in the past 78 years (and one of them, John Lay, only coached the 1958 season). Walt Johnson (1930-57), Gary Kehler (1959-84) and Joe Soviero (1985-98) preceded him. All had success, but Turnbull has brought the team to another level, winning three state titles in eight years and playing a schedule that includes just about every top team in the state.

The list of golf championships won by WHS is huge: 26 county championships, 27 Watchung Conference titles, 11 sectional/district crowns to go with four state championships. And twice has had three individual state champions: Bob Wilkinson (1935), Danny Williams (1941) and Dan Brady (1948).

A MAGIC MOMENT
 To put junior Evan Shapiro's pitching performance Saturday against Summit in the opening round of the Union County Tournament in perspective: WHS has played approximately 2,000 games since it began playing baseball over 100 years ago, and there is no record of anyone pitching a seven-inning perfect game. Prior to Shapiro's 6-0 masterpiece, that is. Shapiro, whose father Gary played for ex-WHS coach Norm Koury at Cranford, only struck out six. But he didn't need any spectacular defensive plays to save him. There were a couple hard-hit balls that centerfielder Sean Ferro had no problem with, and a last-out grounder that took a weird bounce but was handled by second baseman Kevin Hennessey.

There have been 17 no-hitters, including one other "perfecto": a five-inning 15 up, 15 down by Greg Friesen in 1998 against Shabazz. And lefty Bob List tossed a pair of them in 1955, including a 10-strikeout gem against Union in the UCT quarterfinals — a game in which List also was 4-for-4 with a grand-slam homer. Of the 17 no-hitters, nine have come during coach Bob Brewster's 24+ years, though he never caught one at WHS despite handling guys like Donny (Big D) Anderson, Frank Tokash, Jimmy Howarth and John Bednarz.

Here is a complete list of all the known no-hitters thrown by WHS: Dudley Green, 1910 vs. Roselle; Eli Britten, 1926 vs. Red Bank; Jim Chambers, 1945 vs. Irvington Tech; Bob List, 1955 vs. Cranford; Bob List, 1955 vs. Union (UCT); Dennis Burke, 1963 vs. Thomas Jefferson; Skeeter MacCloskey, 1970 vs. Roselle Catholic; Tommy Anderson, 1972 vs. Hillside; Jim Charlesworth, 1991 vs. Summit; John Rassa, 1991 vs. Plainfield; Kris Williams, 1998 vs. Union Catholic; Greg Friesen, 1998 vs. Shabazz (5-inning perfect game); Brandon Doerr, 1999 vs. Shabazz (5 innings); 5 players, 2004 vs. Shabazz (5 innings); 5 players, 2005 vs. Shabazz (5 innings); 4 players, 2007 vs. Irvington (5 innings); Evan Shapiro, 2007 vs. Summit (UCT) (7-inning perfect game)

NAI JINX
 Can't you just see coach George Kapner's sigh of relief when Kevin Shallcross won the clinching third point in Sunday's 3-2 victory over Moorestown in the final of the Newark Academy Invitational. "Thank God," he had to be thinking. "I'll never have to read about us not winning this tournament in the Devil's Den ever again!"

After beating Montgomery 4-1 on Saturday, WHS beat Millburn for the third time this spring 4-1 in Sunday's semifinals before taking on a very strong Quakers team. But WHS was clearly on top of its game, with Ravi Netravali dominating (6-0, 6-0) at second singles, Dean Thompson and Akis Evangelidis continuing to look like one of the state's top doubles combines (6-4, 6-1), and then Shallcross (6-1, 6-3) clinching things with his first tourney win after two losses. Even the non-winners in the final played well, with James Chu losing in three sets at No. 3 singles, and freshmen Graeme Stahl and Jason Snyder going down 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 at second doubles.

This was the 34th year of the tournament and WHS has competed at just about every one of them, losing nine times in nine previous finals. Several of those losing NAI teams went on to win the state All-Groups title, so Sunday's win was bigger than big. **THIS AND THAT**
 The state Group 3 lacrosse tournament is shaping up as a survival-of-the-fittest contest, which became apparent after Randolph's wild comeback from behind 7-6, triple overtime victory over visiting WHS Saturday night. Those two teams plus Ridgewood (a 12-8 winner over WHS two weeks ago) should produce some of the best contests of the post-season. Amazingly, despite Chris Mattes winning 14 of 19 faceoffs, WHS went

scoreless after the third period! If you don't think timing is everything, just ask WHS softball coach Tara Pignoli. Her team played Union twice last week. The Farmers won 1-0 in the regular-season matchup, but the Devils won 2-1 in Saturday's Union County Tournament. Erin Schilabba singled and scored on Katie Kiefer's double. Kiefer then scored on Emily Tebbetts' single in the second inning, and lefty Lindsay Brown made those runs stand up.

(Pignoli's club will play Linden back-to-back this week, Monday in the regular season and yesterday (too late for deadline) in the UCT quarterfinals.) It looks like the track rivalry between WHS and SP-F is definitely back. The Raiders had won 10 years in a row prior to WHS's 71-69 victory last week that ended their archrival's 20-year, 100-plus meet win streak. SP-F came back last weekend to win the Union County Relays by an 88-78 margin over the Devils, with outstanding performances by many athletes on both teams.

Speaking of WHS track, has there ever been a cooler T-shirt than the one they wear, with a picture on the back of coach Jack Martin in winter weather gear and under the photo is one word: JACKED. Are there any XXL shirts available?

AROUND THIS DATE
 May 11, 1949: Frank Piscopo hits a school-record three doubles against Edison Tech of Elizabeth.
 May 12, 1997: Liz McKeon, batting out of the No. 9 slot, hits three home runs and drives in eight runs against Irvington.
 May 13, 1947: Ron Roth strikes out 15 in a win over Edison Tech.
 May 13, 1949: Dick Hruza shoots a 77 to win medalist honors at the Union County Golf Tournament.
 May 13, 1972: Tommy Anderson pitches a no-hitter against Hillside.
 May 15, 1973: WHS graduate Jeff Torborg catches the first of Nolan Ryan's seven career no-hitters.

DEVIL OF THE WEEK
 This week's free sub from Al the Owner at Westfield Subs (261 South Avenue East) goes to Evan Shapiro. The junior right-hander pitched the first seven-inning perfect game in WHS history on Saturday, beating Summit 6-0 in the first round of the Union County Tournament. Mixing his pitches well, Shapiro needed just 70 pitches to retire 21 batters in a row. *The Devil's Den appears Thursday in The Westfield Leader during the scholastic season. Contact us with comments, complaints and story ideas at bj1019@aol.com. GO DEVILS!*

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