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THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
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JONES, ADAMS, ROSSI SWEEP 1-2-3 IN SHOT, DISCUS

Raiders Capture 3rd Straight In Union County Girls Track

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

Carlaya Jones, Lauryn Adams and Erin Rossi swept the top-three spots in the shot put and discus to catapult the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls to their third straight title at the Union County Track & Field Championship at Hub Stine Field in Plainfield on May 19. The Raiders totaled 92 points to clearly out-point the Cranford girls who finished second at 62 points. Union Catholic took third at 51.5 and Westfield placed sixth with 31 points.

Rossi displayed the true spirit of athletics, overcoming the adversity of an injured foot to place second in the shot put with a shove of 36'5"

behind Jones who had a push of 39 feet. Adams took third with a shove of 35'6.75". In the discus, Jones, Adams and Rossi took 1-2-3 with respective tosses of 125'2", 112'5" and 105'8". Rossi was really put to the test in the javelin, but placed fourth with a personal-best (PB) throw of 91'9".

"About three weeks ago, I was throwing discus and I stepped on the ring. I twisted my foot and ankle, strained a tendon and fractured my foot," explained Rossi. "I was very surprised. I've only started practicing javelin like two days ago. I just came out. I knew that I had to do whatever I could, so I just tried to forget about it and do the best I could."

In the track portion, Union Catho-

lic Viking Alisa Harris crossed first in the 400-hurdles with a time of 1:05.7 followed by teammate Genesis Fulmer at 1:07.4. Blue Devil Tessa Schaaf crossed fourth at 1:08.1. Raider Bridget Cornwell placed second in the 800 meters with a time of 2:24.4 and teammate Brittney Veeck crossed second with a PB 5:10.3 in a very fast 1,600-meter event that was won by Oak Knoll's Katie McCafferty in 5:08.3.

"I just tried to stay on her and keep up with her lead," commented Veeck who added, "He (coach Jeff Koegel) was telling me to go at 800 (meters) and I tried too but she went too (also)." Blue Devils Lisa Nehring and Ayn

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A VERY TOUGH PAIR TO BEAT...Blue Devil Akis Evangelidis, shown, and his first doubles partner Dean Thompson have not lost a set all season.

BLUE DEVIL BOYS CAPTURE 17TH SECTION CROWN

No. 1 Blue Devil Netmen Win NJ Section 2, Group 4 Crown

By DAVID B. CORBIN
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One year in the waiting, but the showdown between the No. 1-ranked Westfield High School boys tennis team and No. 7 Bridgewater-Raritan finally came to pass with the Blue Devils winning, 5-0, to become the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 champions on May 21 in Westfield. Last year, after being felled, 4-1, in a regular-season match, the Panthers shocked the Blue Devils, 3-2, for the title then went on to stun Cherry Hill East and West Windsor-Plainsboro South to win the Group 4 title.

The 17-3 Panthers entered the championship match by blanking Columbia, 5-0, in the quarterfinals and by topping Watchung Hills, 4-1, in the semifinals. The 25-0 Blue Devils, winners of 17 sectional titles, blotted Phillipsburg, 5-0, in the quarters on May 14 then shutout J.P. Stevens, 5-0, in the semis on May 17.

Earlier in the season, the Blue Devils had little opposition in a 5-0 victory over J.P. Stevens and, with first singles player Kevin Shallcross back in the lineup after spending time working on his national ranking, the confidence level of the team was quite high during its semifinal faceoff. Shallcross fit right in and rolled easily to victory in two sets, 6-0, 6-1,

over Howard Telson.

"I have always felt part of the team even though I missed a few matches. It's been easy to mesh well. All these guys are really close to each other. It feels good to get back with the team and continue on our quest to win a state championship," said Shallcross.

Ravi Netravali did his thing at section singles by downing Dennis Ai, 6-1, 6-0. Netravali appeared to be quite relaxed and would sometimes pause to see how the rest of his teammates

were faring.

"Their (J.P. Stevens) lineup got all messed up because two players got injured. It was unexpected but when you play a backup lineup it gives you a cushion," commented Netravali.

Looking ahead to Bridgewater-Raritan, Netravali said, "This year we have the upper edge. To defend the title, we have nothing to lose. The talent we have compared to last year is a lot more. They lost a couple of

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COMPETING DESPITE THE ADVERSITY OF INJURY...Raider Erin Rossi puts the pain behind her as she tosses the javelin. Despite an injured foot, Rossi placed second in the shot put, third in the discus and second in the javelin.

BERGO WINS HIGH JUMP WITH PERSONAL-BEST 6'6"

Raiders First, Blue Devils 2nd In Union County Boys Track

By DAVID B. CORBIN
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Seniors Kyle Rowbotham and Tom Pennella and junior Mike Alleman reaped plenty of team points to lead the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys to their second straight Union County Track & Field Championship at Hub Stine Field in Plainfield on May 19. The Raiders totaled 87 points and the Westfield Blue Devils, who received outstanding performances from Adam Bergo and Brandon Heroux, placed second with a total of 68.

Rowbotham, who placed second in the triple jump on May 18 with a leap of 45'1.5", won the 110-hurdles with a personal best (PB) 14.4 and Pennella placed third with a PB 14.6. Rowbotham and Pennella also finished 1-3 in the 400-intermediate hurdles with respective times of 54.3 and 57.2. Roselle's Rahdel Savage broke Rowbotham's 2006 triple jump meet record of 46'0.5" by leaping 46'5.75". Blue Devils Bergo and Malcolm Allen placed 4-5 in the event with respective distances of 42'11.75" and 40'8.25". Rowbotham also an-

chored the third-place 4x400 team that finished in 3:25.6.

Alleman had his best series of shoves to date to win the shot put with

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GOING FOR THE GUSTO...After clearing 6'6", Blue Devil Adam Bergo just misses 6'8" in the high jump.

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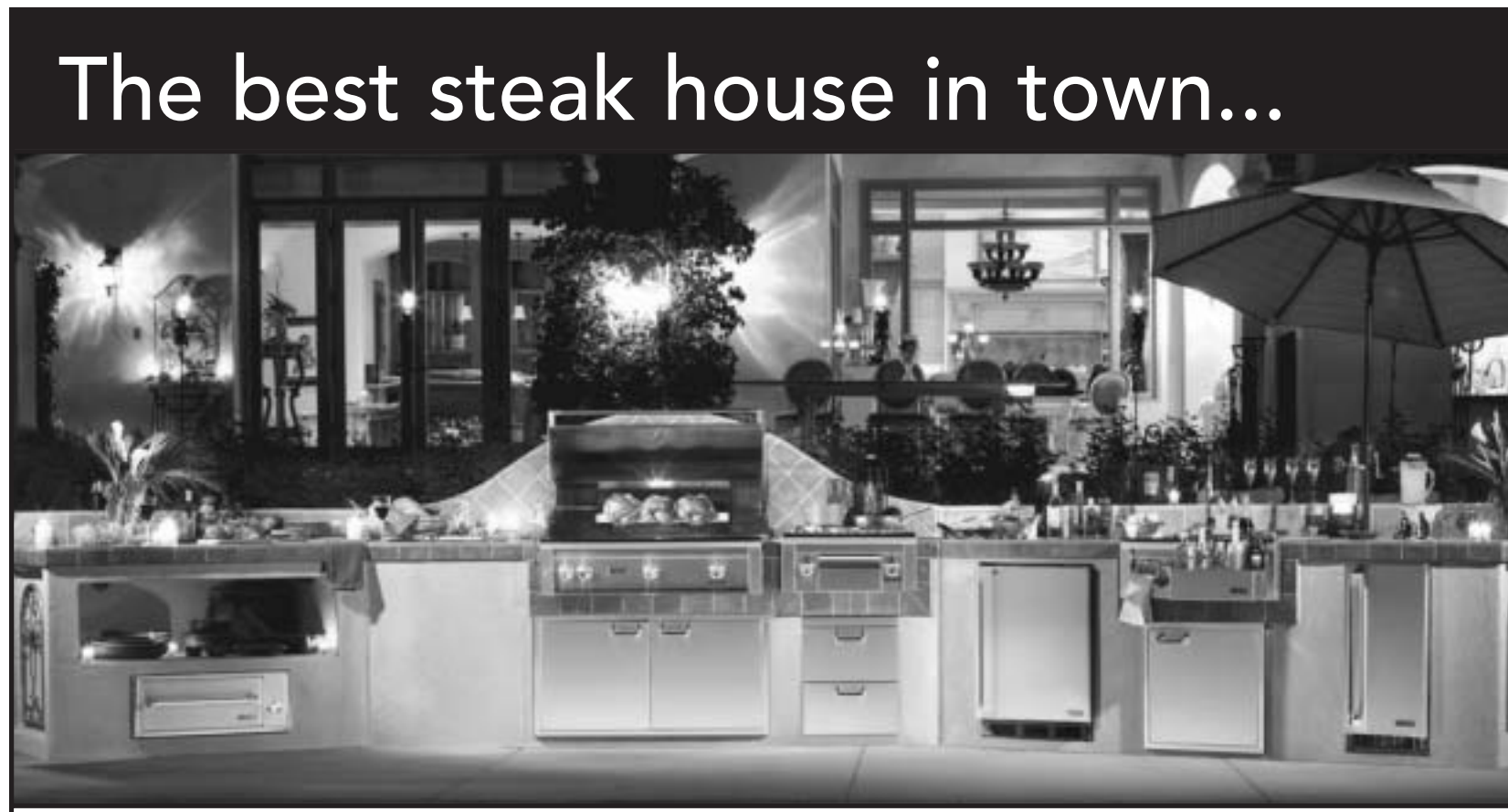
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Camp will be run by Coaches from SPFH and Union County

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For more information please email: kewing@spfk12.org

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