

**Coach Brewster Wins No. 500**  
See Photo on Page 14 & Story on April 12

# THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section  
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## CUSICK, GRETSKY, WEISSE HEAD OFFENSIVE PUNCH

### Blue Devil Lady Laxers Prep To Take Game to Next Level

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

Leapfrogging from a 10-10 record in 2010 to 14-6 in 2011, this year's Westfield High School girls lacrosse team has been preparing to take its game to the next level, and its schedule will definitely give the Lady Blue Devils their opportunity.

"Moving up a division, I feel this is a great opportunity for our program to continue to grow. I think we will have to persevere through tough times. This is going to help us in the long run to get our program to where we want it to be, which is against state champions. The two toughest teams that we will face will be Chatham and Summit. They have a lot of great players. However, all the teams that we face are pretty much going to be ranked. When I did the numbers, 11

out of the 16 games are against ranked opponents. We have to take the step to the next level, and I think my girls are ready to do that," Blue Devil Coach Jackie Behrens said.

Although very experienced and talented, the Lady Blue Devils are going with 14 girls on the varsity squad, so conditioning is very important.

"I feel we are in tip-top shape. The girls worked hard in the off-season to get their bodies in shape. We also work with strength and conditioning," Coach Behrens explained.

One Blue Devil, who is in tip-top shape, is junior midfielder Liz Cusick, who led the team last year with 80 goals and won 60 draw controls.

"Elizabeth is our center, and she really leads the way in creating a lot of opportunities off the draw controls. She's very strong with her stick

skills, and she's able to grab it out of the air, so we can push the transition on fast breaks," Coach Behrens explained.

Junior attacker Courtney Weisse, who flicked in 46 goals last year, and senior midfielder Emily Gretskey, 38 goals last year, will add a lot of fuel to the offensive fire.

"Emily is an all-around player, who contributes to our attack. Courtney is explosive around the eight-meter and the goal circle," Coach Behrens said.

In addition to the treacherous threesome of Cusick, Gretskey and Weisse, several girls could be dangerous when near the net with sophomores Mary Randazzo and Anna Tanji (midfielder).

"We have a lot of talented players, including Mary Randazzo and Anna

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TRYING TO STOP THE SHOT...Blue Devil defenseman Jack Simcox, No. 21, and goaltender Alex McHugh, No. 22, prepare to stop Hilltopper Tom Celmer, No. 5, from getting off a good shot.

## O'LEARY SCORES 2 GOALS; ROSENBURGH 1, WEBB 1 Hilltoppers Down Blue Devils In Boys Lacrosse Opener, 10-4

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

Opening day seemed more like a playoff game in a showdown between the Westfield High School boys lacrosse team and the perennial top-three ranked powerhouse Summit Hilltoppers at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield on March 31.

Both teams were delivering physi-

cal messages, both teams were relatively even in ground balls, face-offs won and shots on goals, but in the end, it came down to accuracy, and the Hilltoppers had it to record a 10-4 victory.

"The score is not indicative of how well we played and how hard fought of a game this was. They took advantage of their scoring opportunities,

and we did not. We had some great looks in the first half. If we had capitalized on those, it would have been a different ball game," said Blue Devil Head Coach Marc Silbergeld, who added, "These two teams love to play against each other. They bring out the best in each other. It was very competitive well-played lacrosse game."

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BLUE DEVIL VARSITY LADY LAXERS...Pictured, left to right, are: front row; Samantha Paoletti, Mary Randazzo, Elizabeth Cusick and Una Heinzerling; second row, Natalie Brennan, Courtney Weisse, Emily Gretskey, Lauren D'Amico and Alexis Kardis; back row, Rebecca Kraus, Bell Hutchins, Alyssa Cox, Mallory Weisse and Betsy Crossland.

## VETERANS BURKE, CASTORE LEAD POWER EVENTS

### Raider Boys Appear Loaded With Youthful Track Talent

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

Many events need to be filled, but this year's Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys track & field team appears to be loaded with youthful talent, and it should be just a matter of time before the Raiders will begin to reap the benefits.

"They are very young but a very talented group. I am looking at the kind of guys like back in the days like Blair Woodward and Carl Jennings type of talent. When you watch these guys jump, it's Wow! It's not like, 'that's very nice'. They have that ability and I think they can be at that level," Raider Head Coach Rich

McGriff said.

Two of those "Wow" boys are sophomore Quayree Bull and freshman Quincy Sanchez.

"You watch Quayree jump, his ability to jump is as good as anybody I've ever had. Maybe better! Quincy also with his ability to jump is pretty outstanding," Coach McGriff noted.

Sanchez will compete in the hurdles and the jumps. Bull will focus primarily on the jumps. Another workhorse will be senior Antonio Casterlow, who will work the hurdles and 400 meters.

"Antonio, this year decided to take track & field seriously. He has been a strong quarter miler for me and he

will be a strong hurdler for me," Coach McGriff said.

"I feel very strongly about the freshmen, who have come out. I feel we will be very strong, and I am excited for this year," Casterlow said.

Senior Billy Schauer should also be quite effective in the hurdles, along with junior Zach Brenconson, and the high jump. Junior James Masback will compete in the triple jump. Senior Joe Desiato will compete in the pole vault.

"Looking at the team last year, the hurdles team was really good. The new hurdles team and the addition freshmen on the sprints is really go-

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READY FOR A GOOD SEASON...Pictured, left to right, are: Chris Burke, Antonio Casterlow, Billy Castore, Jon Kerby and James Masback, who feel it will be a good season for the Raider boys track & field team.



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