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Blue Devil Head Coach Kapner on Verge Of Win Number 600 in Boys Tennis:

See Bruce Johnson's Devils Den



(May 2017 files) Courtesy of a Friend of Westfield Times

RETURNING UNION COUNTY TOURNAMENT FIRST SINGLES CHAMP...Blue Devil Damien Ruparel defeated Hilltopper Tom Shurg, 6-3, 6-2, for the UCT first singles crown last year.

Blue Devils to Compete at High Level in V-ball

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went to play club, it's more about nailing down the technique. For the other half that is picking up the sport for the first time is still technique but it's also rules of the game, strategy and how to utilize their skill sets and understanding their positions," said Coach Cook, who added, "Some are used to playing Phys Ed where it's I stay in one position and play everywhere. Now it's specified that you are a middle blocker, you are an outside hitter and understanding what those are. That's where having coach Tarullo and Grace too is great because we can divide and conquer and take six, seven kids at a time instead of 14 kids."

Some of the club players are: junior outside hitter (OH) Julian Trott, sophomore setter Doug DeFigueiredo, junior outside hitter Alfredo Cardenas-Caceres and sophomore setter/defensive specialist (DS) David Broughton to name a few.

"Julian Trott played for Atlantic Valley as well as Doug DiFigueiredo, Alfredo Cardenas-Caderes and David Broughton have all taken the initiative and and got better. They really improved their skills from last year. It's made a huge difference. The goal is hopefully we get 10 kids who want to play club because they go from not knowing anything to it becoming a matter of reacting," Coach Cook explained.

Others on the roster vying for positions are: middle blockers (MB) seniors Cory Billings and Sam Outten, sophomore Liam Jackson and fresh-

man Benton Cummings. Defensive specialists are junior Alan Souza and sophomores Danny Andrade, Alex Joseph, Colm Slevin and Elijah Soh. Opposites (right side hitter) are seniors Mike Leniart and Ben Outten and sophomores Tyler Devitt and Alan Solovey. Setters are junior Miguel Gallego-Carvajal and Etan Zeller-MacLean. Freshman Dan Shakal will be an outside hitter.

The Blue Devils performed well in a recent scrimmage, winning two of three games, but an unavailability of practice locations due to weather has impeded progress.

"We have really taken a lot of strides

since Day 1 of practice. Unfortunately with the weather being what it has been, our first day of practice was cancelled then we had three days of practice cancelled in between then. We are struggling with that but every day they come, they are willing to learn and are giving us a whole lot of effort. I certainly think that will help us then we will see what the competition is like around the county," Coach Cook said.

The Blue Devils open their season with an away trip on Tuesday, April 3, to face the Summit Hilltoppers at 4 p.m. Their home opener will be against Scotch Plains-Fanwood on Thursday, April 5, at 4 p.m.

SPF Lady Raider Laxers Envision Better Days

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Bretz, an aggressive player, sets up as the top returnee in a very strong midfield position. She will be joined by DiLollo, who tallied 36 goals and scooped up 32 ground balls to give the Raiders a formidable scoring combo. Frias rounds out the talent at the position. Frias scored 14 goals and had one assist last season.

While the midfield is loaded with talent, the Raiders can boast of veteran experience at the attack positions. Senior Erica Paprocki (18 goals, 4 assists) and Kerry Regan (7 goals, 1 ground ball) return, along with junior Anna Ciarrocca (7 goals, 3 assists). Sophomores Catherine Buren and

Brigit Jacob also figure prominently at the position.

The defense will be led by Mehorter. As a junior Mehorter won 28 ground balls on her way to All-Conference recognition. Juniors Kate Jackmin and Abby Saperstein will join Mehorter on the defense. Junior Libby Daniskas will set up in goal for Scotch Plains-Fanwood this season. As a sophomore, Daniskas gained valuable experience in posting a 1-1 mark, while recording 16 saves and allowing three goals. Daniskas appears ready to step into the full time role as lead goal-keeper this season.

Weber helped establish some ba-



Devil's Den

Could Cant Coach? Yes, Cant Could

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

Jim Lincoln was the starting center on the 1963 WHS football team, and a better-than-average swimmer, finishing third in the state in the 100 butterfly and swimming on a state champion relay for the 1964 state champions that winter.

But there was a time when he considered diving as his sport. He was among the dozens of Westfield, and area, kids who came under the influence of Bill Cant, the Westfield Y's diving coach from the mid-1950s into the 1970s. Lincoln even dove in some meets for WHS as a sophomore in 1962.

"He was my first coach in any aquatic event," Lincoln said via email last week after learning that Cant had passed away at age 95 on March 16. "I always felt that coach Cant was the first mentor I had who truly cared about his athletes. He made them not only better divers but better young men as well."

Among those who stayed in constant contact with their old coach was Steve McCoy, a two-time state champion who graduated in 1965. As Cant's condition deteriorated over the years, McCoy and former teammates Bruce McLay and Don Mutz visited their old coach in Texas. McCoy last saw him in February 2017.

"He'd been in poor condition for a long while, so he's on to a better place," McCoy said. "His daughter Barbara said that my last visit was one of the last times he really seemed in good spirits."

"It's a sad day," Mutz said.

Back in another lifetime, McCoy was part of a quartet of Cant's divers who almost won the 1965 Eastern Interscholastic Championships by themselves. On Friday of the two-day meet, McCoy, Terry Gass, Mike Ward and Jeff Schaub finished an unheard-of 1-2-3-4, giving WHS's swimmers a huge

jump start in their eventual 40-point victory the next day.

And that was not the only sweep for Cant's crew at a major competition. They swept the top three places at states in 1965 (McCoy, Gass, Schaub), 1966 (Mutz, McLay, Schaub), 1967 (Mutz, McLay, Ward), and 1976 (Steve Schramm, Ron Posyton, John Krakora).

And in 1968, WHS's Mutz and Eric Van Leuven were 1-3 with Berkeley Heights' Rob Collins (who trained with Cant) second. Again in 1975, Schramm and Krakora were 1-3 and Plainfield's Bob Hone (another Cant protégé) was second.

"Bill was the best fundamental coach I ever had," said Schramm, a

KAPNER ON THE BRINK

George Kapner will pick up a historic victory soon. The veteran boys tennis coach should get his 600th tennis win either next Tuesday at Summit, next Wednesday at Mountain Lakes or a week from today against Scotch Plains in the home opener at Tamaques Park.

The only other WHS coach with 600 coaching W's in one sport is baseball's Bob Brewster, who passed that milestone last spring and brings 611 wins into this season, his 36th.

Since starting the girls soccer program in the fall of 1980, Kapner has become the winningest coach in school history with 1,157 W's in five sports over 69 seasons. In addition to



Westfield Y diving coach Bill Cant instructs Bob Schreck at the Rooke Poole. Schreck was the 1961 Union County champion and finished second in the state. Also pictured (from left) are future standouts Jeff Schaub, Don Mutz, Kip Reed, Rob Collins, Steve McCoy, Tom Smith and Mike Ward.

three-time state champion. "Bill's daughter Barbara and I are Facebook friends. The Cants actually lived directly behind our house."

The list of high-caliber divers coached by Cant is staggering. The following WHS divers were coached for at least part - if not all - of their career by Cant, and placed top three at counties and/or states:

Pete Wilday ('58), county runnerup Jack Smart ('59), county runnerup Rick Wells ('60), state and county champ

Bob Schreck ('61), state runnerup and county champ

Steve McCoy ('65), two-time state and county champ; Y National champ

Terry Gass ('65), two-time state and county runnerup

Jeff Schaub ('66), county champ and two-time state third place

Gibby Gibson ('66), county runnerup

Bruce McLay ('67), Eastern runnerup, two-time state runnerup; Y National champ

Mike Ward ('67), two-time county champ

Don Mutz ('68), three-time state champ; Y National runnerup

Eric Van Leuven ('70), county champ and state runnerup

Morgan Harrison ('70), two-time county runnerup

Ham Riddle ('70), state champ

Bruce Cant ('72), two-time county champ and state runnerup

Steve Tourtelotte ('73), county champ and state runnerup

Glenn Buttermore ('75), county runnerup

Chab Betz ('75), county third place

Steve Schramm ('76), three-time state champ; Y National champ

John Krakora ('77), state champ and two-time county runnerup

Ron Posyton ('78), state champ and two-time county champ

Mike Smith ('79), county champ and state runnerup

Doug Brugger ('81), county runnerup

McCoy, Mutz and Schramm are in the Westfield Athletic Hall of Fame as individuals. Gass, Schaub, Gibson, McLay, Ward, Van Leuven, Harrison, Riddle and Bruce Cant are all on teams that are in the WAHOF (or will be after the Nov. 19 induction of the 1969 and 1970 teams).

Cant coached 12 divers who won state championships. That's on a par with Hall of Fame wrestling coach Gary Kehler, who had 11 state champions.

The 1-meter diving boards in the YMCA's Rooke and Wallace pools are long gone, as is the 3-meter diving tower in Wallace. That's where Cant spent thousands of tireless, after-work hours fine-tuning a generation of divers for competition all over the Eastern seaboard. Sadly, he is unknown to current WHS sports fans, and long forgotten by most others. There are literally hundreds of people who have attended meets at the Y since the boards came down that have no idea the diving powerhouse that WHS and WY was; they were truly the lords of the boards.

But Bill Cant, who moved into Westfield the year after Bob Clotworthy took WHS diving to the ultimate - an Olympic gold medal in Australia - continues to be on the minds of those he coached. "I'm sure all of Bill's divers will forever be indebted for all he did for us," McCoy said. "He truly shaped our lives."

599 in boys tennis, he has 280 in boys soccer, 194 in girls soccer, and 42 each in girls basketball and boys swimming.

This will be Kapner's 28th boys tennis team. They've won five state Group 4 titles, including a magical run from 2007-10, when they won 121 of 127 matches, captured four straight Group 4 titles, and reached four straight MOC finals, winning twice. Last year's team was 24-3.

Damien Ruparel, a battle-tested senior with two years at No. 2 singles and a strong junior year at No. 1, will lead this year's squad. Matt Bartok, who played first doubles as a freshman but missed last year with an injury, is battling Matt Su, Jacob Tananbaum and freshman Sebastian Wroe for the other two singles spots. The doubles lineup will definitely include veterans Rob Faktor and Dave Sprung, with Jai Sharma and Brad Hornbeck in the mix.

"This team expects to repeat as sectional champions and believes it can recapture the Group 4 title," said Kapner, whose most recent Group 4 title was in 2016.

MURRAY RETIRES

AJ Murray's dream of being a major leaguer ended last month after he was released by the Biloxi Schuckers of the Class AA Southern League. He is now working in New York City's Flatiron District.

After playing four years at Georgia Tech, he was signed as an undrafted free agent by the Minnesota Twins in 2015. He was released by the Twins after the 2017 season and picked up by the Milwaukee Brewers. After only playing three games last summer, he was reassigned to the Schuckers and released earlier this month.

He was a Midwest League All-Star in 2016, hitting a home run in the all-star game. Murray had a three-year minor league batting average of .244, with 14 home runs.

A four-year starter at WHS for coach Bob Brewster, Murray graduated in 2011 with a career .461 batting average. He set school records for runs (52), hits (54) and home runs (9) in a season, and runs (125) and doubles (39) for a career. (Most of the other school hitting records were set by his older brother Mike.)

AJ was all-state three years in baseball, including New Jersey Player of the Year as a senior, and also first team all-state in football.

NEW SPORT DEBUTS

The first-year boys volleyball team will play its first varsity game next Tuesday at Summit. The first home match for coach Jay Cook's guys is a week from today against Scotch Plains; first serve is at 4 p.m.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS NOTICE OF PENDING BOND ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY ORDINANCE NO. 2018-11

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, on March 20, 2018. It will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of the Township Council to be held at its meeting room in the Township Hall, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, on April 17, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. During the week prior to and up to and including the date of such meeting copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

TITLE: BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW ADDITIONAL OR REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY, NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT, NEW ADDITIONAL FURNISHINGS AND NEW AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLES, INCLUDING ORIGINAL APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$1,811,000 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

The purposes, appropriations and bonds/notes authorized in this multipurpose bond ordinance are as follows:

SCHEDULE OF IMPROVEMENTS, PURPOSES AND AMOUNTS

A. Undertaking of the following improvements: (i) planning and design phase for road improvements and (ii) the 2018 Road Improvement Program at various locations, as set forth on a list on file with the Township Clerk and hereby approved and incorporated herein by this reference thereto. Depending upon the contract price and other exigent circumstances, and upon approval by the Township Council, there may be additions to or deletions from the list referred to in clause (ii) of the preceding sentence. It is hereby determined and stated that the roads being improved are of "Class B" or equivalent construction as defined in Section 22 of the Local Bond Law (Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, as amended; the "Local Bond Law").

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Appropriation and Estimated Cost (\$585,000), Down Payment Appropriated (\$27,860), Bonds and Notes Authorized (\$557,140), and Period of Usefulness (10 years).

B. Undertaking of electrical system improvements at Town Hall in order to allow for use of generator power. It is hereby determined and stated that said public building being improved is of "Class B" or equivalent construction as defined in Section 22 of the Local Bond Law.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Appropriation and Estimated Cost (\$33,000), Down Payment Appropriated (\$1,575), Bonds and Notes Authorized (\$31,425), and Period of Usefulness (15 years).

C. Acquisition of new automotive vehicles, including original apparatus and equipment, for the use of the Department of Public Works ("DPW") consisting of (i) a dump truck with plow and (ii) a pickup truck with plow.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Appropriation and Estimated Cost (\$220,000), Down Payment Appropriated (\$10,500), Bonds and Notes Authorized (\$209,500), and Period of Usefulness (5 years).

D. Acquisition of new additional or replacement equipment and machinery for the use of the DPW consisting of (i) an air compressor, (ii) a tractor with brush mower attachment and (iii) a heavy duty mower.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Appropriation and Estimated Cost (\$215,000).

PUBLIC NOTICE

Down Payment Appropriated \$ 10,250 Bonds and Notes Authorized \$ 204,750 Period of Usefulness 15 years

E. Acquisition of new traffic calming signs and signals, and undertaking of traffic calming improvements at various locations, for pedestrian safety.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Appropriation and Estimated Cost (\$31,800), Down Payment Appropriated (\$1,515), Bonds and Notes Authorized (\$30,285), and Period of Usefulness (10 years).

F. Undertaking of the following building improvements: (i) Southside Fire House - HVAC and building security improvements, interior renovations; and (ii) Northside Fire House - building security improvements, interior renovations. It is hereby determined and stated that said public buildings being improved are of "Class B" or equivalent construction as defined in Section 22 of the Local Bond Law.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Appropriation and Estimated Cost (\$100,000), Down Payment Appropriated (\$4,765), Bonds and Notes Authorized (\$95,235), and Period of Usefulness (15 years).

G. Acquisition of new additional or replacement equipment and machinery for the use of the Fire Department consisting of (i) extrication equipment and (ii) self-contained breathing apparatus equipment.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Appropriation and Estimated Cost (\$194,000), Down Payment Appropriated (\$9,240), Bonds and Notes Authorized (\$184,760), and Period of Usefulness (10 years).

H. Acquisition of new information technology equipment and new additional furnishings for the use of the Fire Department consisting of (i) computers, (ii) office furniture and (iii) printers.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Appropriation and Estimated Cost (\$25,000), Down Payment Appropriated (\$1,900), Bonds and Notes Authorized (\$23,100), and Period of Usefulness (5 years).

I. Installation of a prefabricated bathroom building at Brookside Park. It is hereby determined and stated that said public building being installed will be of "Class B" or equivalent construction as defined in Section 22 of the Local Bond Law.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Appropriation and Estimated Cost (\$143,600), Down Payment Appropriated (\$6,840), Bonds and Notes Authorized (\$136,760), and Period of Usefulness (30 years).

J. Undertaking of the following park and recreation improvements: (i) construction of pathways and parking lot improvements at Frazee House Park and (ii) installation of an ADA-compliant playground area at Brookside Park.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Appropriation and Estimated Cost (\$263,600), Down Payment Appropriated (\$12,555), Bonds and Notes Authorized (\$251,045), and Period of Usefulness (15 years).

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Aggregate Appropriation and Estimated Cost (\$1,811,000), Aggregate Down Payment Appropriated (\$87,000), and Aggregate Amount of Bonds and Notes Authorized (\$1,724,000).

Grants (if any) Appropriated: \$-0- Section 20 Costs: \$112,600 Useful Life: 12.60 years

This Notice is published pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-17. BOZENA LACINA, RMC Township Clerk Township of Scotch Plains County of Union State of New Jersey Fee: \$220.32