

Area stores that carry The Westfield Leader and The Scotch Plains - Fanwood TIMES

Westfield Tobacco & News
108 Elm St. (Leader)

7-11 of Westfield
1200 South Ave., W. (Leader/Times)

7-11 of Mountainside
921 Mountain Ave. (Leader)

Westfield Mini Mart
301 South Ave., W. (Leader)

Quick Mart Food Store
190 South Ave. (Times)

Mountain Deli
2385 Mountain Ave. (Times)

7-11 of Garwood
309 North Ave. (Leader)

Shoprite Supermarket
563 North Ave. (Leader)

King's Supermarket
300 South Ave. (Leader)

Baron's Drug Store
243 E. Broad St. (Leader)

Scotch Hills Pharmacy
1819 East 2nd St. (Times)

Wallis Stationery
441 Park Ave. (Leader/Times)

Krauszer's
727 Central Ave. (Leader)



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
MAKING A RETURN...Raider Brendon Glickstein makes a return in his first singles opening round match against Cranford Cougar Miller Schullman.

UCT CHAMPIONSHIP PITS WESTFIELD WITH SUMMIT

Blue Devils Advance All Five To UCT Tennis Final Round

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

As expected, the Westfield Boys tennis team with all five of the top seeds, advanced all of its flights to the

Glickstein, seeded eighth at first singles, defeated Cranford Cougar Miller Schulman, 6-2, 6-2, in the opening round then after losing to Chris Kang (New Providence — NP) shifted



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
REACHING FOR A LOW ONE...Cougar Miller Schullman reaches to make his return during his first singles match with Raider Brendon Glickstein.

championship round of the Union County Tournament (UCT) that was shifted to be contested at Don Van Blake Courts in Plainfield on May 1 (too late for the May 3 edition of The Leader/Times) due to consistently poor weather conditions. The UCT that was originally slated to be held on April 25 and 26 would pit all five Blue Devil flights with all five Summit Hilltopper flights.

Blue Devil senior Damien Ruparel, seeded No. 1, at first singles after receiving a bye, glided to the championship round with a 6-1, 6-0, win over SPF Raider Brendon Glickstein and a 6-3, 6-2, win over Leonte Wilder (Plainfield) to face Hilltopper Tom Shung.

to play off for seventh place. After receiving a bye at second singles, top-seeded Blue Devil Matt Su blanked his Oratory opponent, 6-0, 6-0, then stopped Dave Schwartzman (Governor Livingston — GL), 6-3, 6-2, to advance to the finals to face second-seeded Alex McDonald (Summit).

Seeded third at second singles, Raider Brett Strung received a bye then defeated his NP opponent Sho Ogino, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, in the quarterfinals to face McDonald, who prevailed 6-2, 6-1. Strung then was to face Schwartzman for third place. Cougar Ian Bauman was defeated in the opening round by Logan Guarino (AL Johnson).



Alex Lowe for The Westfield Leader and The Times
HEAVILY COVERED...Blue Devil Devon McLane, left, is heavily covered by Raider Alex Oslislo in the game at Scotch Plains on April 26.

Blue Devil Boys Topple Raiders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Blue Devils a 7-4 lead. Though Westfield was dominating possession, the Raiders were not without chances. Costanzo got off a pair of shots on goal in the third period but each one was turned away by Westfield goalkeeper Theo Dardia (5 Saves). Wornow extended the Blue Devil lead to 8-4 with a goal at 4:07.

The Westfield run continued into the final period with Bond and Wornow scoring goals at 10:02 and 9:15 to stretch the advantage to 10-4. The Raiders finally ended their scoring drought on a goal by Alex Oslislo with 6:58 to play. The Raiders had gone 27 minutes without a goal. Bond finished out the scoring for Westfield with his third goal of the game at 5:35 giving the Blue Devils an 11-5 lead.

Rittendale had two goals and added an assist for Westfield. Engelke scored a goal. McLane recorded three assists. First half goalkeeper Jack McCauley stopped five shots. Costanzo led all Raiders with two goals. Brady, Guma, Oslislo and Jus-

tin Fletcher each contributed a goal. Porter had three assists. Goalkeeper Tom Bruckman recorded 14 saves.

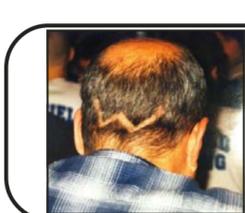
Despite the impressive performance to close out the contest, the Westfield players were anything but satisfied with the victory.

"Tomorrow in practice we have to get right back to it," said Bond. "This was not our best game. We've got counties and states just ahead and there was a lack of communication on defense at different times today. We need to tighten that up as well as some other things."

Wornow agreed. "We haven't even tapped into our potential yet," said Wornow, who is bound for Yale. "When we do, you'll see the kind of team we can be."

Westfield heads into the Union County Tournament as the number 2 seed behind Summit. Scotch Plains-Fanwood earned the number 3 seed ahead of New Providence.

Westfield	1	3	4	3	11
Sc PI-Fanwood	3	1	0	2	6



Devil's Den

Book Shows Baseball From Another Time

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

There used to be a ballpark ...

More than 100 years ago Westfield had a state-of-the-art ball yard with a covered wooden grandstand. The field was located at Recreation Park (now the site of Gary Kehler Stadium), which back then was a wide-open area like Tamaques Park today. Home plate was located just east of where Lincoln School now stands on Westfield Ave. If you want to see what it looked like, the town library, the

Town Book Store and the historical society all have the 1903 aerial map of Westfield — the field is located in the lower right corner.

And did you know that in October 1903, two major league Hall of Fame pitchers — Eddie Plank and Christy Mathewson — pitched there, two weeks apart?

Those are just a couple of the many interesting things you'll discover if you add "Covered Wooden Grandstands" to your summer reading list. Already sold out through a first printing and two reprints, it was recently reprinted a third time.

If you're a serious baseball fan, or you know one, this is a great read. In fact, it's been selected for the electronic library (ABNER) of the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, N.Y.

The book's main focus is on the old Tri-County League, a semi-pro organization that existed from 1937-76. Most of the league's teams were from towns in the farm lands of Hunterdon and Warren counties, among them Alpha, Belvidere, Clinton, Flemington, Glen Gardner, Hackettstown, Hampton, High Bridge, Lambertville, Phillipsburg, Riegel Ridge, Washington and Whitehouse. At different points in time, there were also teams from Sussex, Somerset, Union and Middlesex counties in Jersey, plus Northampton and Monroe counties in Pennsylvania.

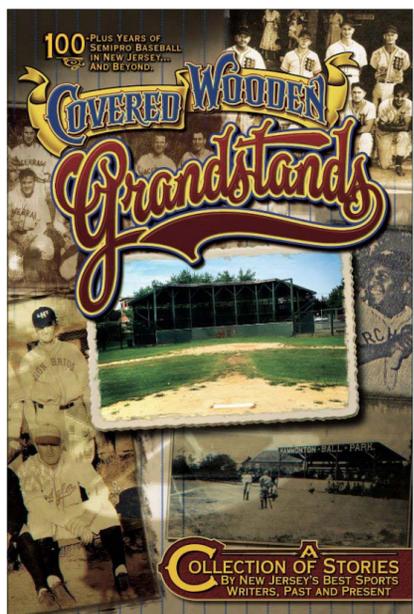
The players drove or hitch-hiked to the fields where huge weekend crowds packed those town's covered wooden grandstands ... until television ruined the era of town ball. There were county leagues on weekends and twilight leagues on week nights. Many players in those days turned down professional baseball careers because they could make more money working a day job and getting paid (under the table/bench) by these town teams.

Westfield had a long history of semi-pro baseball, from the Colts and Cubs playing at Drake Park (on Park Street, between the Boulevard and Summit Ave.) in the late 1890s and early 20th century, to the Hawks at Recreation Park and later Tamaques Park from 1928-58, to the Merchants from 1961-84. And in those days of segregation, Westfield had the Colored Bombers in the 1940s — featuring Don Newcombe, the future Brooklyn Dodgers ace, who was born in Madison and attended Thomas Jefferson

High in Elizabeth. In the '50s, there were the Aces and the Clippers, which included Russ Baytop, Earl Christmas, Jimmy Mason, Haywood Newton, Robert Turner, and members of the Braxton, Coleman, Graves and Johnson families, among others.

There is a chapter devoted to professional teams — both major league and the Negro leagues — that "barnstormed" through New Jersey and played local teams on their train trips to their next league game.

There is a funny story on Robert Turner, the Westfield Merchants' colorful player-manager. And there's a story about the Linden Athletic Association's improbable title at the



Four of the writers involved with the semipro baseball book "Covered Wooden Grandstands" are graduates of Westfield High School. The book is available at the Town Book Store.

1939 National Semipro Tournament — the "Amateur World Series" — in Battle Creek, Mich.

There is one chapter devoted to New Jersey's other 19 counties, with an emphasis on Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth, Morris and Ocean, where I spent most of my professional career. Another chapter has stories of teams and leagues in Connecticut, Georgia, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Among the project's outstanding writers and editors were (alphabetically): Phil Anastasia (Philadelphia Inquirer), Dan Castellano (Morristown Daily Record), Bob Decker (Morristown Daily Record), Hugh Delano (Plainfield Courier News), Paul Franklin (Plainfield Courier News), Keith Groller (Allentown Morning Call), John Harper (Morristown Daily Record), Hob Johnson (Asbury Park Press), Fred Kirsch (Bergen Record), Bob Klapisch (Bergen Record), Ed Laubach (Easton Express);

Joe Mason (Burlington County Times), Steve Merrill (local historian), Bruce Moran (Star Ledger), Jack Prather (North Jersey Herald), J.B. Raymond (Plainfield Courier News, Morristown Daily Record, Asbury Park Press, Burlington County Times), Lori Riley (Hartford Courant), Bus Saitt (Trentonian), Gary Schnorbus (Trenton Times), Lowell Snare (Hunterdon Review, Hunterdon Democrat), Joe Sullivan (Morristown Daily Record) and Dave Zangaro (Burlington County Times).

No less than four of those writers are WHS graduates — Raymond ('63), Sullivan ('70), Merrill ('71) and Moran ('76).

The book, which sells for \$25, is

Cougars Halt Raiders In UCT Softball, 5-2

The sixth-seeded Cranford High School softball team defeated the 11th-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders, 5-2, in the opening round of the Union County Tournament at Adams Field in Cranford on April 28. Sarah Gluck went 2-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored for the Cougars. Winning pitcher Brenna Dolan had a pair of singles and Erin Schwerdfeger doubled and scored once. Mia Markase and Taylor Reitzel each had a single and an RBI. Jayna Mallon and Elizabeth McCaffery both singled and scored once. Juliana Lufano singled and Ava Manfra scored once.

Zoe Cardenas doubled and singled for the Raiders. Meghan Duthie went 2-for-2 and scored once. Hannah Lyman and Angie DiGiacomo each singled and had an RBI. Amanda Venezia singled and scored once, while Sarah McEvoy and Cassidy Novello each singled once.

Sc PI-Fanwood	001	000	1	2
Cranford	100	211	x	5

Cougars Edge Summit In UCT Baseball, 8-7

Too close for comfort was the situation when the eighth-seeded Cranford Cougars needed to score five runs in the bottom of the seventh inning and did to squeeze by the ninth-seeded Summit Hilltoppers, 8-7, in the first round of the Union County tournament at memorial Field in Cranford on April 28. Jamie Shriner carried the heaviest artillery for the Cougars going 3-for-5 with a home run, three RBI, two runs scored and two stolen bases.

Tyler Szczech went 2-for-3 with a double, an RBI and a run scored. Mike Murphy singled, scored once and had an RBI, and Connor Katz singled and scored twice. Gordon Graceffo went the distance on the mound for the Cougars. Dan Israelowitz went 3-for-4 with a double, two RBI and two runs scored for the Hilltoppers. Andrew Miller scored twice and had an RBI.

Summit	200	011	3	7
Cranford	200	001	5	8

Cranford Boys Dominate GL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

that they were able to begin removing starters so early.

Governor Livingston finally got on the board when Andrew Cahill scored with :24 remaining in the second period which sent the Cougars to the break with a 10-1 lead. To their credit, the Highlanders fought back in the third period with Kyle Wahlers and Cahill each scoring a goal to close the deficit to 10-3. But this game was never going to be in doubt as Blazek scored his fourth goal a minute into the final period for an 11-3 lead.

Blazek had four goals and two assists for Cranford. Echevarria added a goal. Halpin scored a goal and won 10 faceoffs. Cahill scored three goals for the Highlanders. Governor Livingston goalkeeper Kyle Merz made 12 saves.

The win improved Cranford's season mark to 8-3 and put them in line for a second round showdown at number four seed New Providence on May 1.

Blue Devil Boys Sting Hunt. Cent. Laxers

The Westfield High School boys lacrosse team got five goals from Jake Wornow and two goals and two assists from Nicky Bond in a 9-8 victory over the hosting Hunterdon Central Red Devils on April 30. Matt Rittendale had a goal and an assist and Jake Engelke added a goal. Matt Angelo won nine of 21 faceoffs and Eric Knauss scooped six ground balls. Goalkeepers Theo Dardia and Jack McCauley made three and five saves, respectively. Sean Parker netted two goals and two assists for the Red Devils.

Westfield	4	1	3	1	9
Hunterdon Cent.	0	4	3	1	8

available at independent book stores in New Jersey — the Town Book Store in Westfield, the Calinon Book Shop, the Clinton Book Shop, the Book Garden in Frenchtown — and in Pennsylvania — Delaware River Books in Easton and the Doylestown Bookshop. For more information, contact me at bj1019@aol.com or 267-307-7138.

The first international sale of "Covered Wooden Grandstands" recently took place when Ben Holt ('06), a former WHS swimmer who loves both local history and baseball, purchased a copy. Ben is currently living in Lyon, France, where he earned his Master's degree. This summer he has got a job teaching waterskiing and French at a private school in Switzerland called Institut Le Rosey. In the fall he hopes to start a "real" career, working with renewable energy, transportation or technology.

ENDY IS SECOND
WHS freshman Grace Endy finished second in the High School Girls 5K Racewalk on Saturday morning at the Penn Relays. Her time was 25:24.78, trailing just a girl from Beavercreek, Ohio, outside Dayton.

IN THE (E-)MAIL
We received two responses after our recent Den on "the Great Pyramid of WHS athletes."

One was from Bill Monninger in Kamas, Utah, a former Trustee of the Westfield Athletic Hall of Fame and longtime member of the Westfield Boosters. Bill is the older brother of Joe Monninger, the best of Gary Kehler's quarterbacks.

"Can't leave off the Schmalz brothers (Rob and Greg) and, of course, I'm partial to Joe. Since 1961, how many quarterbacks have been named (all state) first team all-groups? It's got to be a short list." (And only 11 players were named in those days.)

Also, Bruce Baker of Westfield wrote, "If football is the marquee sport in Westfield and the essence of winning football is who blocks and tackles better, then the best blocker and tackler in Westfield history should be at the top of the pyramid. That would be pulling guard and linebacker Pete Braun, the only two-time all-state first teamer from Westfield. He was also a star linebacker and defensive captain at Army. And if not for a five-year military commitment after graduation, I'm sure he would have had a good pro career too."

"And Michele Mollard ... the best player on the best girls soccer team ever, and a three-time all-state sweeper."

DEN TRIVIA ANSWER
Last week's question: Who was WHS's first four-time Union County tennis champion in singles competition? Damien Ruparel was trying to become the second on Monday in the rain-delayed tournament. The answer is Brad Jankowski ('96), who won at third singles in 1993, and second singles the other three years, with Dan Matro at No. 1 singles those years.

ON THIS DATE
1963: Jeff Torborg was 3-for-3 and scored three runs as Rutgers beat Princeton 7-3.

AROUND THIS DATE
May 1, 2015: Kyle Rittendale and James Bohlinger each had two goals and Toby Burdorf made 10 saves as WHS's lacrosse team defeated Summit after losing the previous 12 meetings.

May 2, 1952: Bob List pitched a one-hitter and struck out 17 as Roosevelt Junior High beat Rahway 19-3. List also had 11 RBIs, with two singles, a triple and a pair of home runs.

May 4, 1977: WHS beat visiting Scotch Plains 82-49 in a boys track meet, but the big story was the 220-yard dash. The Raiders' Skeets Nehemiah (21.4) edged Blue Devil stars Butch Woolfolk (21.8) and Frank Kelly (21.9) in what had to be the fastest dual-meet 220 ever!

Lady Blue Devils Rout Kent Place in UCT

The third-seeded Westfield High School girls lacrosse team routed sixth-seeded Kent Place, 14-3, in the quarterfinals of the Union County Tournament in Westfield on April 30. Paige Radice notched five goals and Olivia Shields put in four goals. Natalie Bond, Ellie Kate Brown, Mikaela Buscico, Carley Farella and Kellie Leuthold each netted one goal.

Westfield	2	1	3
Kent Place	8	6	14

Pioneers Nip Raiders In UCT Girls Lax

Kaitlyn Cumiskey fired in six goals and added a pair of assists and Sadie Miller scored four goals to lead the fourth-seeded New Providence girls lacrosse team past the fifth-seeded Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders, 12-11, in the quarterfinal round of the Union County Tournament in New Providence on April 30.

Amber Bretz scored four goals, Maggie Lapolla had three goals and an assist, and Sabrina DiLollo had a goal and two assists for the Raiders. Kelly Mehorter, Erica Paprocki and Anna Ciarrocca each scored once.

Sc PI-Fanwood	7	4	11
New Providence	7	5	12