

# Examiner Sports

## Prevailing Wins in Putnam!



## Mahopac, Putnam Valley Breeze to Putnam/ Northern Westchester Regional Hoops Titles

RAY GALLAGHER/BILL KENNEDY PHOTOS

A brutally cold and wildly unusual winter hoops season ended with a bang Saturday when top-seeded Mahopac and No.2 Putnam Valley were each crowned regional champions after their respective victories in the Putnam/Northern Westchester large and small school girls' basketball tournaments. The Class AA Indians ran wire-to-wire in a 77-39 victory over second-seeded Class A Brewster while the Class B Tigers used a fourth-quarter surge to knock off top-seeded Class A Walter Panas, 52-40, before a madcap celebration... see Girls' Hoops Notebook



# Mahopac, Put Valley Snag P/NW Regional Crowns

*Brewster, Panas, Byram Hills, Pleasantville, White Plains Ousted in Finals*



Putnam Valley players pose with the P-NW regional title plaque after knocking off Panas, 52-40, in Saturday's regional final.

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor @Directrays  
& Rob DiAntonio @RJD\_Photos

In a year unlike any other in Section 1 history, there was plenty to be thankful for when Championship Saturday commenced and concluded in the culminating events that saw a slew of Examiner-region teams compete in their respective regional championships. COVID-19 restrictions forced the Section 1 Executive Committee and athletic directors to scramble all season and had forced most parents and fans to watch the games from their laptops and viewing stations. Within the final week of the season, though, Section 1 allowed the parents of senior players to watch the action live, adding the element of fanfare, which players and coaches genuinely enjoyed throughout the eight locally regionalized tournaments.

## Putnam-Northern Westchester Small School

No. 2 **PUTNAM VALLEY** (11-2) and top-seeded host **WALTER PANAS** (13-2) know each other inside-out, having played CYO and AAU ball together and building the relationships that come with competition. While the mutual respect was evident throughout Saturday's championship, nothing mattered more than the W, especially when defending Section 1 Class B champion PV took over in the fourth quarter of a 52-40 win over the Class A Panthers.

Behind a suffocating defense and a ripped second half from sophomore G Eva DeChent (game-high 22 points, 11 rebounds) and senior F Arianna Stockinger (21 points, 8 caroms, 2 blocks), the Tigers took control in the fourth quarter and eased their way to a second-straight title after never winning one previously.

"That's just typical Putnam Valley defense," said the Pace-bound Stockinger, who hit 11 of 14 from the charity stripe. "Our thing is defense, even when things aren't going our way. We play Putnam Valley defense for four quarters and today it showed. We made the most of this mini season and played today just like it was a gold ball game and to beat a Class A team



Putnam Valley players celebrate their second title in as many years after beating Panas 52-40 for P-NW small school regional title Saturday.

like Panas is just such a great feeling."

A dual defensive battle ensued throughout the first half before PV's relentless pressure and superior rebounding wore the Panthers down.

"Both teams really played a great defensive first half," PV Coach Kristi Dini said. "I told my girls at halftime that we just held a championship-caliber team to 20 points, but we've got to start putting the ball in the basket. We had to match our offensive effort with our defensive intensity on the other end. But we got big stops when it counted instead of trading baskets. I'm just

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Put Valley junior G Amanda Orlando hoists the hardware after Tigers took P-NW Small School regional title over Panas Saturday.



Putnam Valley sophomore G Eva DeChent took over in second half of Tigers' 52-40 P-NW title win over host Panas Saturday.



# Girls Hoops Notebook



Panas eighth-grader Cadence Nicholas scores two of her 17 points in No.1 Panthers' 52-40 P-NW title loss to No.2 Putnam Valley Saturday.

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happy that they stepped up.  
"I told Eva at halftime that we are going to win this game only if you step up and take over," added Dini, who has mentored DeChent since the first grade. "She took over beyond expectations; she went to the rim, took threes with a hand in her face, dominated the boards. That's the division one basketball player that we know and love."

Tigers Amanda Orlando (4 points, 7 boards), Natalie Mazza (8 boards, tough D) and Nai Torres (5 4th-quarter points) added some clutch shots and/or prime minutes.  
"Torres plays basketball year round," Dini said. "Sometimes, offensively, we're relying on the same three girls, and I told her you don't need to score 20, you just need to play team basketball and hit the open shot when it presents itself."

Panas might have been blown out if not for a monster effort from eighth-grader Cadence Nicholas, who dropped a team-high 17 points. Panas senior G Kristen Cinquina added 12 points for Panas but was a point of emphasis in the fourth quarter before both

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Putnam Valley G Eva DeChent closes out on Panas G Kristen Cinquina in Tigers' 52-40 P-NW title win over host Panthers Saturday.



Panas senior G Cailen Nolan's Panthers had a rough time scoring in 52-40 loss to Putnam Valley in P-NW small School title game Saturday.



Pace-bound PV senior Arianna Stockinger split Panas defenders all day for two of her 21 points in Tigers P-NW title win over Panthers.



Mahopac F Caitlyn O'Boyle takes tough shot on Brewster's Grace Galgano and Alexis Mark (22) in No.1 Indians' 77-39 P-NW title win over No.2 Bears Saturday.



Mahopac senior G Mia Klammer goes up for two of her game-high 18 points in No.1 Indians' 77-39 P-NW title win over No.2 Brewster Saturday.





Mahopac G Lauren Beberman goes up for shot on Brewster's Alexis Mark in No.1 Indians' 77-39 P-NW title win over No.2 Brewster Saturday.

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she and Stockinger fouled out to end their tremendous high school careers.

"Arianna is a top five player, at least, in Putnam Valley history," Dini said. "She's always given us 12-13 points a game and been the best defensive player on the court, but this year she's had seven, eight games with 20-26... to think that I'll never be on a sideline with her again is crazy. The kid is just so special, even the coaches we play against just talk about her class. She's the first kid to help an opponent off the floor and the first kid to get hyped if a teammate makes a good play. I'm bad cop and she's good cop, and we reiterate the same message, just differently. That's a leader, and, trust me, she is going to have an unbelievable career at Pace."

When Panas lost point guard Alex Sudol to a knee injury early in the third quarter, the Panther seemed a bit discombobulated. The effects were evident.

"I do think Sudol getting hurt definitely emotionally hurt us," Panas Coach Matt Evangelista said. "That is definitely not to take away from PV. They found another gear in the late third and fourth quarters. DeChent became much more aggressive. We were doing a pretty good job on her until she became much more assertive during that time. She made lots of clutch shots. Torres stepped up and hit those two big shots in the fourth as well. Stockinger was so tough the whole game. She single-handedly got three or four of our players in foul trouble."

En route to the title, Panas avenged its only regular-season loss in a 70-40 semifinal win over No.4 **LAKELAND** last Thursday. Nolan scored 23 points to pace the Panthers. Cregan posted a double-double (12 points, 12 rebounds) and Cinquina dropped a dozen. Eighth-grader Cadence Nicholas chipped in with 10 points and five rebounds for Panas. Lakeland's Hannah Devane scored 14 points and Tyler Hormazabal, who scored the game-winning buzzer-beater in the quarters, finished with 10.

In the opening round, Lakeland beat No.5

**CROTON-HARMON** at the buzzer, 62-61. Hormazabal had the heroics going and finished with 15. Amanda Cole (13 points, 9 boards), Nichole Ljuljic (12 points) and Sarah Pinkowski (9) also chipped in for the Hornets.

"It was just an amazing all-around effort from both squads," Lakeland Coach Miranda Mangan said. "Everyone really left it all on the court."

Emma Windrum led Croton with 23 points and Lucia Thoreson added 17.

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Mahopac G Julie DeBrocky has inside step on Brewster F Grace Galgano in No.1 Indians' 77-39 P-NW title win over No.2 Bears Saturday.



Mahopac junior G Julie DeBrocky drains one of four clutch 3's in No.1 Indians' 77-39 P-NW title win over No.2 Bears Saturday.



Mahopac G Kristina Rush eyes a 3-ball on Brewster's Carly DeLanoy in No.1 Indians' 77-39 P-NW title win over No.2 Bears Saturday.





Somers' Ava Giudice pushes the pace while Fox Lane's Cara Drapala defends in Tuskers' opening-round playoff win over Foxes.



Fox Lane senior Natalie Pence broke the Foxes' all-time scoring record and finished her career with 1,239 points.



Somers' Natalia Rukaj blocks the shot of Fox Lane's Quoya Schnell in Tuskers' quarterfinal playoff win over Foxes.

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In Putnam Valley's 51-31 semifinal win over No.3 **BRIARCLIFF**, Stockinger hit for 27 points, one off her career high. DeChent went for 15 points.

Briarcliff Coach Don Hamlin concluded a storied coaching career last week. Hamlin finished with over 400 wins, numerous section final appearances and a state and Federation title.

Briarcliff cruised past sixth-seeded North Salem 60-30 in Wednesday's quarterfinals. Jordan Smith (20 points) and Cat Carrafiello (14 points) led the way.

The Bears finished 5-3 in Hamlin's final season.

"Many thanks to all in Section 1 and New York State that made this journey amazing," Hamlin wrote on Twitter. "You will always be in my heart. I feel incredibly blessed to have shared this journey with you all. To my Bears family, I love you."

In PV's 56-46 opening-round win over then-defending Class A champion Hen Hud, DeChent was a menace, scoring 27 points, five blocks and five steals in a well-rounded effort. Orlando had 16 points. No.7 Hen Hud was led by eighth-grader Kaitlin Raguso (20 points), who has one heck of a bright future, as do many promising youngsters in the region.

### Putnam-Northern Westchester Large School Group

There were more than just Putnam County bragging rights on the line when No. 2 **BREWSTER** (9-4) visited No.1 **MAHOPAC** (12-1) in Saturday's regional championship, and Mahopac grabbed those rights and more behind an impressive 77-39 wire-to-wire regional title win.

Mahopac's senior duo of Mia Klammer (18 points, five assists) and Caitlyn O'Boyle

(16 points, 10 rebounds, 5 blocks) shined in their final high school game. Mahopac cruised to a 23-7 lead against an improving Brewster program and never looked back.

"It really was a great feeling to win like that," the Tufts-bound O'Boyle said. "I wouldn't have wanted my last game to go any other way. It was a great season, even with all the changes, and I'm just so grateful we got to play at all. It was all-around a great day for us, and it was really nice to leave the court with the seniors like that: A perfect ending. I'm looking forward to seeing what the team will accomplish over the next coming years, they're definitely a great group."

Mahopac Coach Chuck Scozzafava had seen this quick start before, ignited by his two shining seniors and a complementary cast that could have challenged for a Section 1 Class AA title in a normal season.

"It was a great year and I am so proud of everyone," the veteran coach said. "Caitlyn and Mia set the tone for how we played and both had great years. Caitlyn was just dominating on the boards and just protecting the paint. Caitlyn averaged 12 rebound and 2.5 blocks. Mia's defensive play was excellent again this year. She's the type of player who can make an impact on a game and she doesn't have to score. We always put her on the best player. She led the team in scoring with 11.5 points per game as well as 3.3 assist per game and 3.1 steals."

"It was great to see the seniors go out as regional champs during this shortened season," Coach Scozz continued. "Lauren Beberman was big for us all year averaging 10.5 PPG as well as 2.3 assist and two steals per game. Julie DeBrocky did a great job as a first-year starter averaging just around 10 PPG. Mel DeMeo did a great job running the point averaging 7 PPG and 3.5 assists. Kristina Rush did a good job coming in off the bench to get us some instant offense, while improving defensively."

Brewster F Grace Galgano capped an incredible junior season with 15 points, 10 rebounds and three blocks in defeat. Bear seniors Alexis Mark and Carly DeLanoy each had nine apiece in their finale.

"It was the worst case scenario for us," Brewster Coach Mike Castaldo admitted. "Mahopac did not miss, we got in foul trouble and turned the ball over. I was really surprised how we played. We had such great energy in warm-ups but it did not carry over into the game. Mahopac just hit us in the mouth and we never recovered. They are an unbelievable team and proved they deserved the 1 seed and the championship. However, I am so proud of our girls. We won so many close games this year, and we had two huge wins in the playoffs. We just lost to the best team."

Galgano ended the season with eye-popping numbers (17.5 PPG, 15 RPG, 5.2 BPG) while Mark finished the season with 11.3 PPG and 8.5 RPG.

En route to the title, Mahopac handed **OSSINING** its worst playoff defeat in over a decade, an 83-49 setback that left Pride Coach Dan Ricci in a bit of awe as the Indians hit their highest scoring total of the season against a traditionally stingy defense.

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"Mahopac had real good balance throughout the lineup," Ricci said. "They were a very cohesive unit."

Beberman had the game of her life, scoring a career-high 26 points and DeBrocky (14 points) hit four critical 3's in a fiery start to the game. 'Bebes' added seven assists, six rebounds and four steals.

DeMeo added eight points and seven assists at the point. O'Boyle scored just four points but snagged 11 caroms. Klammer was everywhere, finishing with nine points, four boards and four dimes. Rush was instant energy off the bench, scoring a dozen.

The Pride (7-7) made one key run to keep it close (at 48-34), but the Indians smothered Ossining hotshot Tyler Dendy, holding the senior guard to just nine points, 21 off her season average. Ede Walker led the Pride with 12 points.

In Mahopac's 81-25 opening-round win over No.8 **CARMEL**, DeMeo and Debrocky each scored 12 points while Beberman added 11.

In Brewster's 40-31 win over No.6 **SOMERS**, the Bears used a 17-4 third-quarter run for a double-digit lead going into the fourth quarter.

"We never looked back after that," Castaldo said. "Somers is so tough, and well coached. It means a lot to beat a team like that, especially in the playoffs."

Galgano posted game-high in points (14), boards (19) and blocks (7). Mark added nine points while Dakin had eight. Somers was led by Ava Giudice (8 points). The Tuskers advanced to the semis after knocking off **FOX LANE** in the quarters.

In Brewster's 53-45 opening round win over John Jay, Galgano posted one of the most impressive triple-doubles in school history, dropping game-highs in points (28), rebounds (15) and blocks (11). Mark added 10 points and eight boards and Madison Dakin added eight points.

"It looked like we would cruise to an easy win when we built a 15 point third quarter lead, but John Jay was able to turn us over and get easy layups and eventually cut the lead to two," Casraldo said. "Galgano hit a huge 3-pointer with just over a minute to go for a 51-45 lead and we held on to win."

No.3 **FOX LANE** staged (8-5) a furious rally but came up short in a 43-38 loss to sixth-seeded Somers in the quarterfinals of the Putnam-Northern Westchester large school tournament last Wednesday.

Fox Lane senior Natalie Pence left her mark on the program, surpassing the school's all-time scoring record last week. Pence finished her career with 1,239 points. She surpassed the record when she dropped 23 points in a 66-46 loss to visiting Walter Panas last Tuesday. Pence also had 12 rebounds, four assists, three steals and two blocks.

"Natalie's legacy is going to be etched in stone right up there with the other greats who helped Fox Lane emerge from irrelevance," Foxes coach Kris Matts said. "Fox Lane has always been a small program but the hearts of the girls who built it are not small at all. Natalie fits right beside them."

The history making bucket came late in the first half on a drive to the hoop and left-handed finish to surpass previous record holder Maria Violante.

"She will leave a gaping hole in leadership,



Pleasantville celebrates a hard-fought 53-51 semifinal win over perennial power Irvington.

offense, defense and poise," Matts said of Pence. "But she also helped plant the seeds of the next generation to fill that hole. Every girl that saw how hard she played and how hard she worked will know what it takes to succeed, what it means to be a Fox Lane basketball player. It is a high standard, but that is Natalie Pence."

Pence was a five-year varsity player and came off the bench as an eighth-grader. Violante was a mentor for Pence and took her under her wing as an eighth-grader. Pence, in turn, did the same for an eighth-grader on this season's Fox Lane team in Cara Drapala.

### Southern Westchester Group 3

A quarterfinal blowout loss two years ago at Irvington was on the minds of **PLEASANTVILLE** players when the Panthers were matched up with the Bulldogs in the Southern Westchester Group 3 regional playoffs.

Pleasantville wanted revenge.

They found it when senior guard Jenna McAllister was fouled on a drive and hit two free throws with one second left to propel second-seeded Pleasantville to a thrilling 53-51 semifinal win over No. 3 Irvington on Thursday.

"A lot of us were on the team two years ago when I was a sophomore and we played Irvington," McAllister said. "They completely crushed us. Our whole motto this whole time has been that we want revenge. We were like, 'This is our game to win.' We were down so we really had to step it up in the second half."

The teams traded the lead back and forth in the fourth quarter. Julia O'Reilly, who finished with 10 points, hit her second 3-pointer of the quarter to give the host Panthers a 51-47 lead with 1:30 to play.

Irvington answered with a bucket then

Grace Thybulle tied the game at 51-51 with 19.2 seconds left.

Pleasantville coach Dillon Clark called a timeout, setting the stage for McAllister's late-game clutch free throws.

"I was really nervous (at the foul line) but my teammates really reassured me," McAllister said. "They were like, 'Hey, no matter what we've got your back. We'll get them in OT then.'"

Overtime wasn't needed.

"Jenna's the smartest basketball player in the school and has been for a couple years," Clark said. "She made a winning play because she's a winner."

Irvington, which is two years removed from a Class B state championship, had a towering height advantage over the Panthers, led by Thybulle, a 6-foot-2 Yale-bound senior. Pleasantville's tallest player stands well under 6-feet tall but the scrappy Panthers make up for the lack of height with heart and hustle.

"Our main game plan was just to crash in on them and try to



Pleasantville's Reilly Byrne takes a shot in the paint over Irvington's Grace Thybulle in the semifinals.



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get a body on them," McAllister said. "We knew they were going to get some offensive rebounds. We just had to deal with that and hope our offense was better and in the end it was."

McAllister led the Panthers with a team-high 15 points while Mary Grace O'Neill added 13 points. Thybule had a game-high 22 points for the Bulldogs.

"It's a tremendous win for the program," Clark said. "It just shows how committed these girls have been. We did Zoom workouts over winter break and didn't know if we were going to have a season but they persevered. The mantra was always, whatever opportunity we were blessed with that's what we were going to do."

Pleasantville advanced to the championship game but fell to top-seeded Hastings 68-52 on the road on Saturday. The Panthers trailed 36-16 at halftime.

O'Neill (15 points), McAllister (13 points) and Tina Matica (9 points) paced the Panthers, who finished the season with a 10-3 record.

"We've been close forever and I feel like our hustle is always there," McAllister said when asked what made the Panthers a special team this year. "I feel like we always know where each other is on the court. We

know who's hitting shots and who's doing well on defense."

### Southern Westchester Group 2

Top-seeded **BYRAM HILLS** reached the Southern Westchester Group 2 regional final, but fell to second-seeded Rye, 59-57, in a thrilling game that went down to the wire.

The host Bobcats got off to a slow start and trailed 31-16 at halftime but battled back in the second half behind Beth Corelli, who finished with a game-high 19 points. She also had eight rebounds, four assists and three steals.

"At halftime, our message to the team was to fight back with heart and that we needed more effort from everyone," Bobcats coach Tara Ryan said. "We knew that Rye had the advantage with height so we needed to do the little things to help us get more rebounds and steals. Once we started working as a team in the second half, we played like the Byram Hills we know we are."

Grace Corelli was fouled on a 3-pointer with 2:48 to play and made all three to tie the game up at 54-54. The Garnets went up 57-54 but Beth Corelli's left wing three tied the game up again with a minute left.

Amanda Latkany, Rye's star forward, grabbed her own rebound and finished with

13 seconds to go to give the Garnets a 59-57 lead. Rye, a much taller squad, consistently hurt the Bobcats on the offensive glass.

"The first half really hurt us with our lack of rebounding," Ryan said. "During the final minutes, we did the best we could against Amanda. You can't teach height."

Byram was unable to score on its next possession but the Bobcats forced a turnover with under 10 seconds to go. Olivia Picca passed ahead to Grace Corelli, who found sister Beth Corelli but she missed a left-handed layup. Olivia Barry grabbed the rebound and was fouled with a second remaining. She missed the first and intentionally missed the second shot, but Rye grabbed the rebound and the clock struck zero.

"Our press really rattled them and we had some great shots and steals down the stretch that tied the game and we had two opportunities to win," Ryan said. "The ball just didn't fall for us, that's how sports go. It was a fantastic and fun comeback."

Barry notched nine points and five rebounds while Grace Corelli and Picca (8 rebounds) added eight points each.

In a 49-40 win over fourth-seeded Harrison in Thursday's semifinals, Beth Corelli (12 points, 8 boards, 4 assists, 3 steals), Grace Corelli (13 points, 4 assists, 4 steals) and Picca (7 points, 12 rebounds) paced the Bobcats.

"The Corelli sisters are just a force to be reckoned with on defense and just feed off each other on offense," Ryan said. "It's a sister bond that you just can't teach."

Byram routed Edgemont 70-22 in the quarterfinals on Wednesday behind 13 points from Barry. Beth Corelli added 11 points and Kiley Blackman had 10.

It was an impressive season for a Bobcats team that got off to a 6-0 start and finished with an 8-2 record.

"I think we are one of the most underrated teams this season," Ryan said. "We had terrific returners along with new players that gave our team amazing grit. We have one of the best guards in the section, Beth Corelli, and amazing hustle and skill out of seniors Olivia Picca and Gabby Ripka. I am completely impressed with what our team did in the short five weeks. We had eight days in quarantine, lost three key starters (from last season) and had a 20 point comeback in the finals with an opportunity to win. I couldn't ask for a better group of young women and coaching staff to go on this journey with."

### Southern Westchester Group 1

Third-seeded **WHITE PLAINS** made an impressive run to the Southern Westchester Group 1 championship game but ran into a buzzsaw in top-seeded Ursuline. The Tigers fell to the host Koalas, 84-45, and had a six game winning streak end.

Notre-Dame bound Sonia Citron ended her career with Ursuline, tallying 27 points, 20 rebounds and seven assists. Ursuline, last year's Section 1 Class AA champion, won its 38th consecutive game.

White Plains sophomore Aliya McIver sparked the Tigers with a team-high 16 points. She also had five rebounds and three assists. Freshman Ineivi Plata added nine points for a young White Plains team, which ended the season with a 7-4 record after a slow start.



The historic Don Hamlin era at Briarcliff ended with a playoff loss at Putnam Valley.

"We increased the skill work and conditioning," White Plains coach Benji Carter said of the Tigers' improvement from the beginning of the season. "We had an honest conversation about what they lacked because we were getting out-worked by teams with lesser talent. The coaching staff pushed them to build up a strong mentality. We needed them to master their emotions so that productivity can increase. It led to us going on a six-game win streak and playing Ursuline in the championship. I love their progress and growth."

In the semifinals, White Plains avenged a regular season loss to Scarsdale, handily disposing of the second-seeded Raiders, 57-34.

"After having my team watch film, it showed how not to take any team for granted moving forward," Carter said of what they learned from the first meeting. "We had to increase our energy knowing that Scarsdale had ambition to beat us again. I kept preaching we were the better team and needed to stay motivated and execute for 32 minutes. We didn't have time to come up with excuses anymore. They understood and fought back for a smooth victory."

Senior Katie McAteer paced White Plains with a game-high 16 points. Plata (15 points) and McIver (13 points, 12 rebounds, 7 assists) were also key contributors.

"Katie McAteer was a spark plug," Carter said. "She came in the game making defensive plays and knocked down three threes and hit a half-court shot going into the half. The team was motivated from her energy and we needed that leadership from our senior captain. It was fun to watch. Ineivi Plata has been putting up good numbers along with her energy and toughness she brings to every game. She's a warrior. Aliya McIver started off slow but found her groove in the second quarter."

White Plains crushed sixth-seeded Port Chester 81-36 in the quarterfinals on Wednesday. Plata (21 points, 6 assists) and McIver (13 points, 12 assists) led the way.

The Tigers also came from behind to defeat host Byram Hills, 67-64, in their regular season finale last Monday. Plata (22 points, 6 assists), McIver (18 points) and Sequoia Layne (13 points) sparked the offense.



Pleasantville G Mary Grace O'Neill puts up a tough runner in semifinal win over Irvington.



# Fox Lane, Lakeland, Byram Hills, Westlake Snag Regional Titles

By Ray Gallagher

Examiner Sports Editor @Directrays  
& Rob DiAntonio @RJD\_Photos

The championships for Examiner-area teams were inevitable, given the number of local teams representing in the culminating regional events in this abbreviated 2021 boys' hoops campaign, which concluded on Championship Saturday with the likes of **FOX LANE**, **LAKELAND**, **WESTLAKE** and **BYRAM HILLS** all being crowned in the respective regional groupings. The COVID-19-induced shortened season, though far from what we're used to in Section 1, still delighted players, coaches and fans, who were thrilled with the opportunity to compete and strut their stuff.

## Putnam / Northern Westchester Large School Group

After a mediocre 2019-2020 season, **FOX LANE** was hoping for a turnaround season in 2021. The Foxes did just that and then some.

Top-seeded Fox Lane capped off a 14-1 campaign with a 57-48 win over No. 2 **MAHOPAC** in the championship game of the Putnam-Northern Westchester large school regional tournament on Saturday.

"Right after the season ended last year, we knew it wasn't where we wanted to be," Fox Lane junior Aidan Giannelli said. "We really got in the gym almost immediately. Even with COVID, we tried to social



Behind those masks, Fox Lane players and coaches were all smiles after defeating Mahopac for P-NW large school title Saturday.

distance as much as we could. But we were still practicing and getting up shots every day. We kind of just built a bond. We've been playing together, honestly, since middle school."

Giannelli led the Foxes with a game-high 18 points and added five rebounds. James DiBiasi (11 points, 7 rebounds), Aidan Hicks (12 points, 6 rebounds), Oliver Shevick (9 points, 5 assists) and Charles Shevick (7 points) also sparked Fox Lane.

"It's all the work we've put in during the offseason and it's just the leadership," DiBiasi, a senior captain, said of the

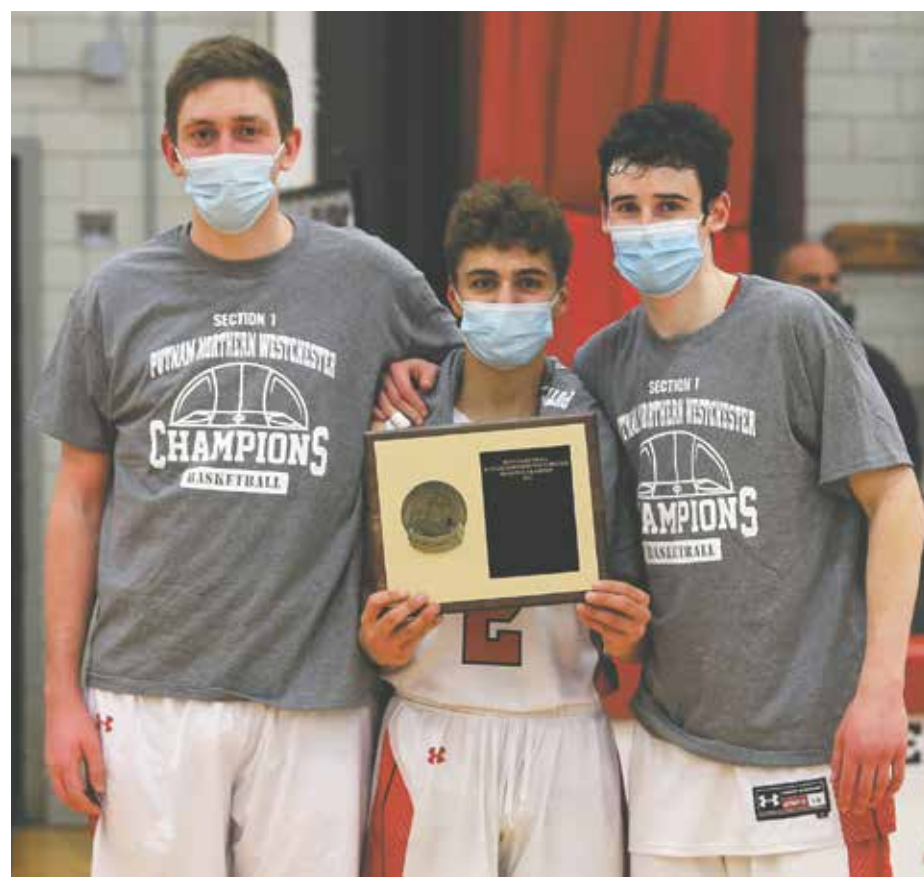
turnaround from last season. "Last year, not to bash, but we didn't have the greatest leaders. But this year, with the three captains I think we did a great job leading."

Fox Lane was in control for most of the game but a deep three from the left wing from Mahopac's John Cosentino trimmed the Foxes' lead to 47-41 with 3:15 to go.

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Fox Lane players rejoice after knocking off Mahopac for the Putnam-North. West. large school regional title Saturday.



Fox Lane senior captains James DiBiasi, Aidan Hicks and Oliver Shevick pose with P-NW large school regional title plaque after defeating Mahopac Saturday.



# Boys Hoops Notebook



Mahopac's Colum Ranaghan soars in for a shot while Fox Lane's James DiBiasi defends in Indians' P-NW title loss to Foxes.



Mahopac's Ryan Reilly takes a shot inside while Fox Lane's James DiBiasi goes for the block in Indians' P-NW title loss to Foxes.



Fox Lane's Aidan Hicks attacks the basket on Mahopac's John Cosentino in Foxes' win over Indians in P-NW large school finals Saturday.



Fox Lane's Oliver Shevick celebrates after knocking down a three in second half of Foxes' regional final win over Mahopac Saturday.



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A minute later, DiBiasi answered with a tough finish through contact. He missed the free throw but 30 seconds later Giannelli converted a three-point play to squash Mahopac's momentum and give the Foxes a 52-41 lead.

"We've got really great senior leadership and we've got guys that play hard," Fox Lane coach Mike Tomassi said. "Those two possessions I think put the nail in the coffin for them. As much as it was kind of back and forth, I think that was the backbreaker. We've got tough kids and the guys really wanted it. The effort was fantastic today."

Oliver Shevick, a senior captain, and Giannelli made four straight free throws after that and it was academic from there. Hicks heaved the ball high into the air as the final buzzer sounded and the Foxes celebrated their championship.

"We've just worked hard. Last year we were very young and we're still pretty young," Tomassi said. "We just really worked hard this offseason. Even during the shutdown throughout the spring and summer, these guys worked on their own. Luckily, we were able to get in the gym in early November. I think we deserved to be in this game and this team had something to prove because they weren't happy with the way last year went. I'm really proud of them."

The ball never sticks with one player in the Fox Lane offense and when a teammate is having an off night, the rest of the squad picks him up.

"That's our No. 1 asset," Tomassi said. "We've got five or six guys that can really score and also want to move the ball. It makes us very tough. It's hard to scout us because you can't take one or two guys away."

Giannelli concurred.

"It's huge," Giannelli said of the team's chemistry on offense. "I've had times throughout the year when I was struggling or another player was struggling. But we have a ton of shooters so we just keep moving the ball. Then we get open looks and get a shooter going."

After a slow start offensively, Hicks put the Foxes on his back, scoring their first

*continued on next page*



Briarcliff's Brett Lachtman drives by Panas' Cameron Nicholas in Bears' semifinal win over Panthers.



Lakeland senior G Rob Nardelli refused to let Hornets lose in P-NW small school regional playoffs.



Lakeland senior F Aidan Welcome's huge second half of the season helped propel Hornets to P-NW title.



Panas' Alex Tavarez puts up a high floater over Briarcliff's Luke McCann in last Thursday's semifinals.



Briarcliff's Luke McCann goes up for two over Panas' Dillon Chenard in Bears' semifinal win over visiting Panthers Thursday.



# Sports

## Boys Hoops Notebook

*continued from previous page*

10 points on the strength of two 3-pointers. Giannelli capped the quarter with a corner three to put the Foxes up 18-10.

"I think he willed us those first couple of minutes," Tomassi said of Hicks, a senior captain who is committed to RPI for baseball. "Championship game, some nerves here and there and I think he kind of settled us in a little bit and we got into a groove in the first half. He's been huge all year and he's just a gamer."

Junior G Patrick McMahon scored 12 to lead the Indians while C Ryan Reilly added 10 points for No. 2 Mahopac (11-2), which advanced to the finals after Thursday's 51-43 win over visiting Somers. Mahopac, John Cosentino paced the Indians with 13 points against the Tuskers and McMahon added 10 for the Indians.

"Give all the credit to Mike (Coach Tomassi) and his guys at Fox Lane," Mahopac Coach Tom McMahon said. "They are well-deserving champions. They forced their will upon us and made it difficult for us to get the ball where we wanted to get it."

"Even though we came up short of the ultimate prize, I am so happy that our players were able to have a season and win a league championship and play for a regional championship," McMahon added. "It's not about the end result, but more the journey. I'm really happy for our seniors: Vin Bastone, Miles Buckley, Chris Clark, John Cosentino and Luke Syku that they were able to have a senior year and tremendously thankful to them for all that they have given to our program."

The Foxes cruised past fourth-seeded John Jay-Cross River, 65-35, in Thursday's semifinals. Hicks tallied a game-high 23 points and dished out five assists. Giannelli (13 points, 9 rebounds) and DiBiasi (11 points, 12 rebounds) were clutch contributors.

Fox Lane defeated eighth-seeded

### HORACE

**GREELEY**, 53-37, in the quarterfinals. Oliver Shevick (18 points, 4 assists, 6 rebounds), Hicks (11 points, 7 rebounds), DiBiasi (9 points, 6 rebounds) and Charles Shevick (6 points, 4 assists, 5 rebounds) helped stuff the stat sheet.

"When one person's off, the other four are on," DiBiasi said of the Foxes' offense. "We rarely have scoring droughts."

Connor Melis (13 points) and Zach Eichenberg (10 points) led Greeley, who finished 1-11 after winning the Section 1 Class AA title last season.

Mahopac knocked off No.6 **SOMERS** in the semis, 51-43. Cosentino had 13 points and McMahon, who came on strong in the second half, added 10 for the Indians. Somers crushed No.3 **YORKTOWN**, 87-64, in the opening round when Robert Repp (21 points) and Bennett Leitner (20 points) caused major issues for the Huskers. Jared Faivre scored 16 points to lead Yorktown while Eddie Brucaj (11 boards) and Antoine Coles had 14 points each. Tony Granitto added 11 points and 11 boards for Yorktown, which failed to finish strong, losing three in a row.

### Putnam / Northern Westchester Small School Group

Nobody saw No.5 **LAKELAND'S** 52-42 win over No.2 **BRIARCLIFF** coming after Coach Steve Fallo's Hornets (9-6) opened the season at 0-5, but this talented group of multi-sport athletes were not to be denied despite the Bears' overwhelming size advantage.

"These kids never doubted themselves," Fallo said. "They believed in our system and knew they could beat anybody if we just played unselfish, team basketball."

Which is what the Hornets did throughout the tournament, beginning and ending with senior Rob Nardelli, who had 17 points in the win over the Bears and a refuse-to-lose attitude since Lakeland got hot and finished the season having won 9-of-10.

"Rob's a big-time, All-Section player, no doubt," Fallo said of Nardelli, who closed the season strong, including 26- and 27-point games. "He simply would not allow us to lose. This was a great defensive effort all around."

Lakeland senior F Aidan Welcome (14 points) and senior G Marc Cummins (9 points) enabled the Hornets (9-6) to establish and hold the lead throughout much of the game. Briarcliff finished the season 11-2 and never found its flow. Jayden Larregue led the Bears with 13 and Aidan Murnane added 10,



Westlake's G Carter Falkenberg hangs in air for two of his 14 points in Wildcats' regional championship win over Bronxville.



Westlake's Evan O'Brien attacks the basket in Saturday's regional final win over Bronxville.

but Lakeland posed some problems for all.

"They were very athletic, and hats off to them for being the better team yesterday," Briarcliff Coach Friedman said. "To their credit, we cut it from 12 to one late in the third and they didn't panic and hit a couple of big shots."

"We had an incredible year, led by our seniors," Friedman said. "We'll always have to wonder what a normal season would have been like and what could have been, but I

do feel in our heart we know what we were capable of. Our kids are champions of our league, went undefeated in Class B and made the phrase 'Today's Not Cancelled' real. We are very proud of what we accomplished and will continue to build our program on the backs of this year's seniors. Thank you to Aidan Murnane, Brett Lachtman, Jacob Zednik, Spencer Safian, Sean Dy and the

*continued on next page*



Briarcliff's Brett Lachtman and Panas' Dillon Chenard battle for a board in Bears' semifinal win over Panthers Thursday.



Somers' Bennett Leitner soars in for a shot over Yorktown's Justin Price in Tuskers' 87-64 quarterfinal rout of Huskers.



# Sports

## Boys Hoops Notebook

*continued from previous page*

best commentator in Section 1, Eli Makaron. We'll be back. Bears keep coming!"

The Bears defeated third-seeded Walter Panas 56-42 in Thursday's semifinals behind 15 points from Jayden Larregue and 10 points from Zednik. Friedman added that Blake Smith was "huge off the bench defensively."

Briarcliff bested No. 7 **PEEKSKILL** 48-40 in the quarterfinals on Wednesday. Larregue led the way with 18 points while Luke McCann added 12 points.

Lakeland advanced to the finals behind a heroic come-from-behind win over **HALDANE**, 51-50 triumph of the top-seeded host Blue Devils (10-1). Cummins banked home the winning shot with 1.5 seconds left as the Hornes overcame a 12-point, fourth-quarter deficit. Again, Nardelli was insane, particularly in the fourth, going for 26 in all.

Matteo Cervone scored 19 for Haldane in the loss, while Dan Santos added 12 and Soren Holmbo finished with 10. Haldane also had its hands full in a 78-61 opening-round win over No.8 **PUTNAM VALLEY** (2-7), which fought back from a big-time deficit to make it a six-point game (67-61) with 2:50 left. In the end, Cervone, who scored a career-high 31 points, was unstoppable.

### Southern Westchester Group 3

Behind a dominant second-half effort, top-seeded **WESTLAKE** pulled away for a 56-37 win over second-seeded Bronxville in the Southern Westchester Group 3 regional championship game on Saturday.

"I couldn't be more happy with the way our season ended," Westlake senior guard Carter Falkenberg said. "Finishing my high school career with a championship is all I ever wanted since working with my teammates since eighth grade, some since third grade."

The host Wildcats led just 25-24 at halftime and actually trailed 14-2 to start the



Somers' Robert Repp glides in for a late layup over Yorktown's Eddie Brucaj in Tuskers' 87-64 quarterfinal rout of host Huskers.



Byram Hills players hoist hardware after 63-45 win over Sleepy Hollow in S. West. regional final.

game.

"We made some adjustments defensively in the second quarter that really helped and carried into the rest of the game," Westlake coach Chad Charney said. "We were down 14-2 early in the first quarter, we called a timeout and we were extremely calm and collected in the timeout. We have all seen some teams panic and add pressure to the situation. We came into the game knowing that if we shared the ball, we would get open shots, which we did."

Justin Silva, a junior, scored nine points in the third quarter including two three-point plays in the final 1:16. The Wildcats outscored the Broncos 20-4 in the pivotal quarter, which was capped off by an Evan O'Brien right wing three to give them a commanding 45-28 lead as the bench erupted.

"We just made sure to keep our energy high because we know basketball is a game of runs," Falkenberg said, "and that if we kept playing our hardest we would come out on top."

Westlake defeated Bronxville 59-54 in overtime just five days prior to close the regular season.

Silva (16 points), Falkenberg (14 points), Hamad Azhar (11 points), O'Brien (10 points) and Jure Maglic (5 points) led Westlake's offense.

"The sharing of the basketball and the team concept has been key for the success the last two years," Charney said of the balanced scoring. "When you have 3-4 guys that can dribble, shoot and score consistently, it allows you to be balanced and not have the pressure of one guy to carry the load."

Westlake finished the season 12-2, a year after graduating a slew of key players from last season's Section 1 Class B semifinalist.

"We had a lot of players work hard in the

offseason to get bigger roles this year than they had last year," Falkenberg said. "It was extremely important for us to have multiple threats from beyond the arc and inside the paint. Our team is special because we have very good chemistry and even though we may not be the biggest, we leave it all out on the floor. When me and my teammates dive for a loose ball, I know we are playing with intensity that no other team can match."

The Wildcats' two losses came at the hands of **BRIARCLIFF**.

"Of course we would love to see Briarcliff again in the County Center for the championship if it was a normal year," Charney said. "But we are extremely proud and honored to be the regional champ. This group of seniors are a special group that all root for each other, are all really good friends off the court and they have been playing together since middle school and junior Wildcats. When you have a group that sticks together for all five years since I took over at Westlake, we knew we would have a special group."

Westlake defeated fourth-seeded **VALHALLA**, 55-43, in the semifinals. Silva and Falkenberg tallied 13 points each while O'Brien (10 points) and Matt Pierro (8 points) chipped in.

Valhalla edged fifth-seeded Irvington 71-61 in Wednesday's quarterfinals behind Rashean Melvin (17 points), Basiacka Butcher (15 points) and Mahari Davis (12 points).

Third-seeded **PLEASANTVILLE** fell to Bronxville 52-30 in the semifinals of the Southern Westchester Group 3 regional playoffs.

### Southern Westchester Group 2/1

After graduating their starting five from



Byram Hills' Matteo Sinon scored game-high 21 points in Bobcats' 63-45 win over Sleepy Hollow in small school Southern Westchester regional final.

last season, **BYRAM HILLS** began the 2021 campaign slowly, but caught fire down the stretch. The third-seeded Bobcats won the Southern Westchester Group 2 regional title, defeating fourth-seeded Sleepy Hollow 63-45 on Saturday.

"Something happened when the playoffs started where we really started clicking," Byram Hills coach Ted Repa said. "Tonight, we fed off our defensive intensity and the enthusiasm from our bench. We were able to get a little lead and finished it out."

Lightning quick senior point guard Matteo Sinon led the charge, dropping a game-high 21 points while dishing out seven assists. Bobby Chicoine (14 points, 15 rebounds), Bobby Karp (12 points) and Ben Dreilinger (8 points) helped lead the balanced scoring Bobcats to the win.

"Everyone did their part and it was a great team win," Sinon said. "It's easy for defenses to key in on one guy but if everyone can do their part like everyone did today, we're a hard team to beat."

"This is great and I've been trying to do this since my freshman year (win a championship). It's awesome to win my last high school game, especially with everything that's been taken away from us as seniors."

Host Byram Hills used its suffocating defense to force turnovers and lead to easy buckets in transition. They jumped out to a big first half lead and went into halftime up 36-20.

"Our trainer said at halftime, 'Is everybody playing well?' It was one of those nights, at least in the first half, where everybody played well," Repa said. "The second half was like a slugfest."

Sinon picked up his third foul and headed to the bench midway through the third quarter. But Byram wouldn't let the momentum slip away and held firmly to the lead, going into the fourth quarter with a commanding 49-32 advantage.

"This isn't the first time they've done that. I've gotten in foul trouble a couple times this year," Sinon said. "They always hold it down for me. I know they've always got my back and I've always got their back."

*continued on next page*



# Sports

## Boys Hoops Notebook

*continued from previous page*

Sinon, who battled an ankle injury throughout the playoffs, used his explosive first step to get past Sleepy defenders for pull-up jumpers or to get to the rim. When the defense collapsed him, he found open Bobcat teammates for easy layups.

"Matteo obviously does everything for us," Repa said. "I think he showed everybody how valuable he is to us and was great throughout the playoffs. The practice before playoffs started, he rolled his ankle really bad and we didn't think he was going to play. He's been icing and taping it up every single game. It's been beautiful to watch.

"The thing that we talk to Matteo most about is because he's so talented sometimes he tries to do too much. Maybe even the rolled ankle made him trust his teammates a little bit more. He gets so many open shots for his teammates and then that opens it up for him."

Byram grinded out a 52-47 road win over Ardsley in semifinals behind 15 points and 15 rebounds from Chicoine. Sinon (7 points, 12 assists), Karp (9 points) and Justin Gordon (8 points) were key contributors. Karp and Daniel Ahern led the defensive effort as the Bobcats held Ardsley to just 10 points in the first half.

The Bobcats, who finished the season 8-4, beat Edgemont 58-45 in the quarterfinals. Sinon (17 points), Chicoine (15 points, 19 rebounds), Karp (11 points) and Gordon (11 points) led the way.

"I did not think this was going to be one of our stronger years," Repa admitted. "For these kids to win their last game, especially these seniors, it's a pretty unique thing. We tried to view this season as an opportunity and to be grateful for it. And I think they took that approach, especially once the playoffs arrived."

Fourth-seeded **WHITE PLAINS** fell to fifth-seeded Scarsdale, 53-44, in the quarterfinals of the Southern Westchester Group 1 regional playoffs.



Fox Lane's Aidan Giannelli, who scored game-high 18 points, fires a corner three over Mahopac's Michael Callahan in Foxes' win over Indians.



Westlake's Justin Silva soars in for a shot against Bronxville in Wildcats' regional final win over Broncos Saturday.



Byram Hills and coach Ted Repa flexed out and overcame a slow start to the season to win a regional title.



Byram Hills' Justin Gordon glides in for shot in South. West. regional title win over Sleepy Hollow.



Byram Hills' Brady Karp skies for rebound in South. West. regional title win over Sleepy Hollow.



# Greeley Comes Up Short Against John Jay-CR in Finals



Horace Greeley players pose with P-NW runner-up title plaque after Quakers were knocked off by John Jay, 5-1, Saturday at the BIA.

By Rob DiAntonio @RJD\_Photos

After defeating John Jay-Cross River in their second meeting during the regular season and playing to a tie in the first game, **HORACE GREELEY** was confident heading into the Putnam-Northern Westchester regional championship game.

But the top-seeded John Jay Wolves took control from the start and went on to hand the third-seeded Quakers a 5-1 loss on Saturday at Brewster Ice Arena.

"We did a better job in the two regular season games of staying out of the penalty box," Greeley coach Dan Perito said. "I thought we had a good start but then took three penalties in the first (period), which took us out of the rhythm we were starting to establish. I thought John Jay did a good job of preventing second-chance opportunities and when we did get on the power play, they were able to kill all of our opportunities."

John Jay had its 2-0 lead cut in half when Ben Cohen scored an unassisted breakaway goal with 8:55 left in the second period. But the Wolves had the answer, scoring just two minutes later to make it a two-goal game again.

Arye Wolberg and Ben Madden combined for 31 saves for the Quakers, who finished their season with a 6-4-1 record.

"I told the team after the game last night I couldn't be prouder of this team and we could go on to win 10 straight sectional titles, I still would hold this team at the top," Perito said. "Everything that we sacrificed to make sure we had a full season and had a chance to get to the finals is a true testament to their character and dedication to our program."

Greeley gained an early lead and cruised past No. 2 **MAHOPAC** 9-3 in the semifinals on Thursday.

*continued on next page*



Greeley's Jared Rothman looks to get a shot off while Mahopac's Chris Stiller defends in Quakers' 9-3 semifinal win over Indians.



Greeley's Gabe Adams slips a shot past Mahopac's Mike Horan for a third-period goal.



Quakers celebrate an early goal in semifinal win over Mahopac.

ROB DIANTONIO / RICH MONETTI PHOTOS



Greeley's Ben Cohen skates past Mahopac's Nick Biagini in Quakers' 9-3 win in the Putnam-Northern Westchester semifinals.



Mahopac's Ryan Caraher makes his move while Greeley's Charlie Spar defends in Indians' 9-3 semifinal playoff loss to Quakers.



# Lipstick on a Pigskin!

## Long Awaited Section 1 Grid Season Kicks off Friday

### Friday's Action

Pleasantville at Putnam Valley, 6 p.m. (Perennial power Panthers take aim at rebuilding Tigers)  
Carmel at Fox Lane, 7 p.m. (Legendary Coach Cayea back on Rams sideline after crazy off-season)

### Saturday's Action

Haldane at Dobbs Ferry, 1:30 p.m. (Blue Devils visit traditional Class C powerhouse Eagles)  
Bronxville at Valhalla, 1:30 p.m. (Last time we checked Vikings were reigning Section 1 Class C champs, still are!)  
Westlake at Byram Hills, 1:30 p.m. (Introductions not

necessary, but say hi to Bobcat RB Matt Weiler as he sprints by... a doozy on tap)

Sleepy Hollow at Panas, 1:30 p.m. (Panthers coming off a rough year)

Horace Greeley at Lakeland, 1:30 p.m. (Hornets, Quakers both on the uptick, not much wiggle room for losses)

Peekskill at Poughkeepsie, 1:30 p.m. (Two rebuilding programs)

Edgemont at Briarcliff, 1:30 p.m. (Remember when Edgemont was Edgemont at the turn of the century, been a long time)

Nanuet at Hen Hud, 5 p.m. (Sailors drop down in class, expect to contend)

John Jay at Yorktown, 7 p.m. (League title could be on the

line in Week 1 in a mighty clash of Class A titans)

Somers at Mahopac, 7 p.m. (DeMatteo vs. DeMatteo vs. DeMatteo vs. DeMatteo; a highly anticipated family affair that could be settled by Somers RB Jack Kaiser)

Beacon at Brewster, 7 p.m. (Bears better figure out a way against struggling Bulldog program)

BY RAY GALLAGHER



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR -- Somers Coach Tony DeMatteo (L) and Tusker assistant Anthony (R) will be forced to match wits against Mahopac Coach Dom DeMatteo, plus Tony's grandson and Jr.'s nephew, Anthony (the Mahopac QB), in what should be a wild Week 1 showdown.

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## Ice Hockey Notebook continued

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"We did a great job of establishing our forecheck and forcing turnovers," Perito said, "and countering off those turnovers to create scoring chances."

Gabe Adams and Cohen paced the Quakers with three goals and an assist apiece. Ilan Laurence notched a goal and three assists. Jared Rothman added a goal while Dylan Mutkoski had two assists.

Wolberg made 24 saves.

Ryan Caraher netted two goals to lead the Indians. Jake Roberts had one goal while Mike Horan made 33 saves in net.

Greeley easily disposed of sixth-seeded **MOUNT PLEASANT**, 8-1, in the quarterfinals on Wednesday.

Adams and Rothman (1 assist) each had two goals to lead the Quakers. Charlie Spar had a goal and two assists while Joe Lamb

added a goal and an assist. Jacob Rothman and Ethan Stogsdill each added a goal. Ben Madden made 30 saves.

Robert Criscuolo scored the IceCats goal on a feed from Matt Labriola. John Sarfaty made 29 saves in net.

Sixth-seeded **WHITE PLAINS** fell to No. 3 Rye 11-2 in the quarterfinals of the Southern Westchester tournament.

John Myers and Daniel Cardozo had a

goal each for the Tigers. Anna Chochrek (32 saves) and Sean Keenan combined for 45 saves.

No. 4-seed **BYSNS** (Brewster/Yorktown/Somers/North Salem) saw senior G Matt Gergley stand on his head to make saves (39 in all) until John Jay pulled away in the third period for a 5-2 semifinal win. The Herd gave the Wolves all they could handle and should be proud of a terrific season.



# Welcome to Titledtown!



REBECCA DISISTO PHOTO

After starting the season 0-5, fifth-seeded Lakeland players and coaches pose with Putnam-Northern Westchester Small School regional title plaque after defeating second-seeded Briarcliff, 52-44, Saturday.



ERIN LOCASCIO PHOTO

Top-seeded Westlake players pose with the Southern-Westchester Group 3 regional title plaque Saturday after the Wildcats blew past No.2 Bronxville, 56-37, to finish the season at 12-2.

## Fox Lane Snags P-NW Large School Title; Lakeland Upsets Briarcliff for P-NW Small School Crown; Westlake Cops S. West. Group 3 Chip; Byram Hills Storms S. West. Group 2



ROB DIANTONIO PHOTO

Members of the top-seeded Fox Lane team bask in the championship glory of the Foxes' 57-48 win over No.2 Mahopac last Saturday in the Putnam-Northern Westchester Large School regional championship.



ROB DIANTONIO PHOTO

Third-seeded Byram Hills got hot when it had to and went on to hoist the hardware after the Bobcats' 63-45 thrashing of No.4 Sleepy Hollow in Saturday's Southern-Westchester Group 2 regional championship.