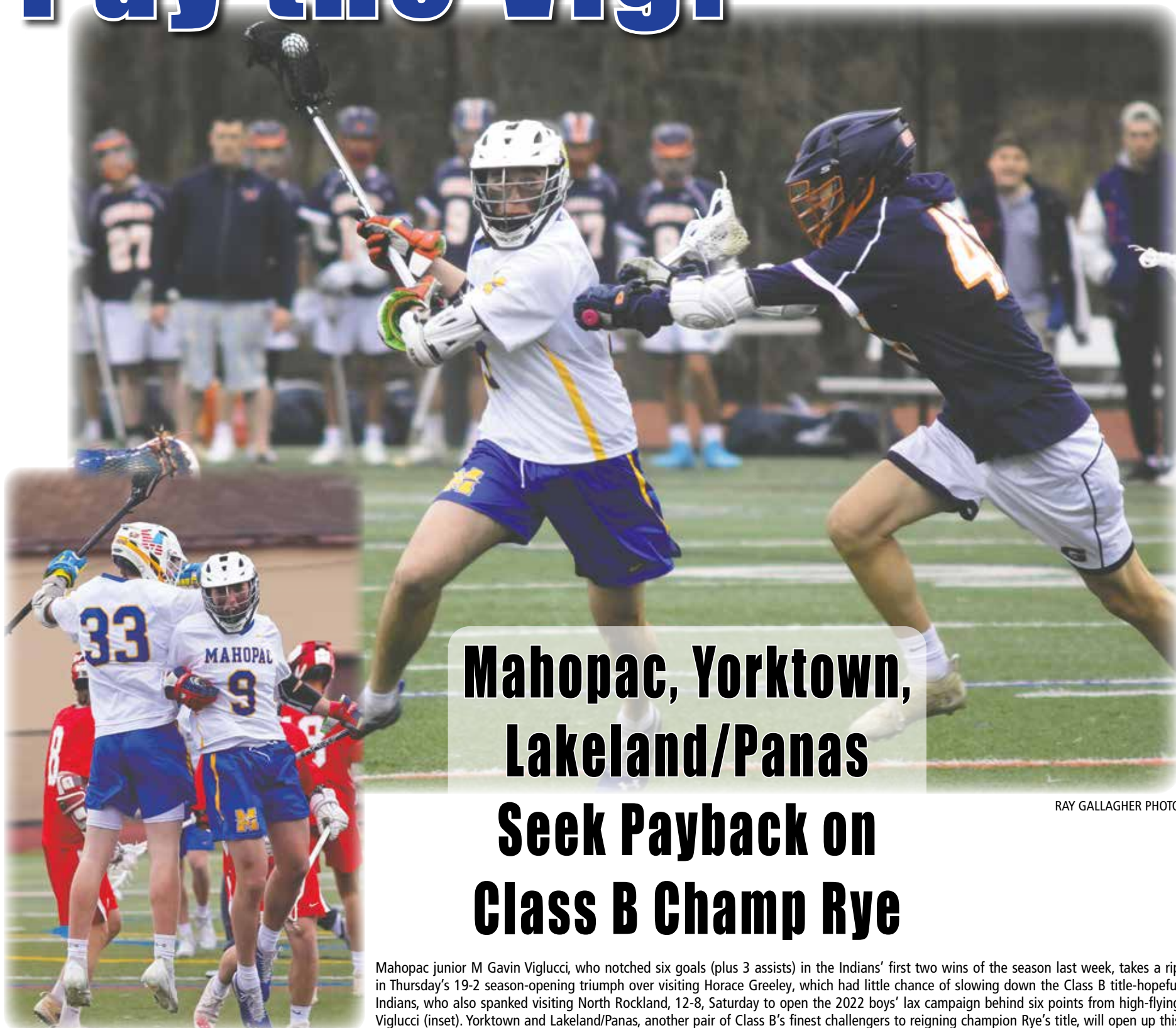


Examiner Sports

**2022 N.West/Putnam
Boys' & Girls' Lax
Preview Edition**

Pay the Vig!



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Mahopac, Yorktown, Lakeland/Panas Seek Payback on Class B Champ Rye

Mahopac junior M Gavin Viglucci, who notched six goals (plus 3 assists) in the Indians' first two wins of the season last week, takes a rip in Thursday's 19-2 season-opening triumph over visiting Horace Greeley, which had little chance of slowing down the Class B title-hopeful Indians, who also spanked visiting North Rockland, 12-8, Saturday to open the 2022 boys' lax campaign behind six points from high-flying Viglucci (inset). Yorktown and Lakeland/Panas, another pair of Class B's finest challengers to reigning champion Rye's title, will open up this week with the rest of Section 1... see Boys' Lax Previews

GIL MCMAHON PHOTO

Sports

NWE/Putnam Boys Lax Notebook

Yorktown Seeks Return to Prominence, Mahopac has Firepower

N. Westchester/Putnam Lax Teams Will be Challenged Throughout Section 1 in 2022

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor @Directrays

Nobody in their right mind could have predicted three-straight Section 1 championship losses for seven-time NYS and 40-time Section 1 champion **YORKTOWN** High dating back to 2018, but that is indeed the dry spell first-year Yorktown Coach Tim Schurr is hoping to end for his alma mater. Schurr, who orchestrated two of those two championship setbacks in 2018-19 as the former John Jay CR boss, now inherits a blueblood program that will live and die in an attempt to stop what is widely considered a freefall in and about the streets of Yorktown, despite appearing in 41 straight title games.

Schurr, a fixture on Section 1 sidelines the last three decades, has been a winner, whether it be at Somers, where he and Jim Donohue orchestrated the Tusker heydays from 2000-07 (five sectional titles), or John Jay CR, where he and now Husker-assistant Jeremy Guski, took Jay to unprecedented levels. Coming home, where he once coached as an assistant under legendary Husker Coach Jim Turnbull, was a no-brainer for the former All-World long pole.

The Cornhusker faithful are getting ancy, though, praying that Schurr can restore the

luster, hoping that he can push the nuclear button on the rest of Class B. Morale is said to be kite-high at Yorktown this spring. But the fact of the matter is: Class B is absolutely loaded, so Yorktown is anything but a lock to end the skid that has the collective Cornhusker lax family scratching its head. The classification includes defending champion Rye, which knocked the Huskers off last year, 11-7, and returns a ton of talent across the field, including five of its six All-Section honorees. Most coaches were quick to put the Garnets at the top of the class for 2022, and most, in a candid moment, would admit the Garnets are the favorites to rep in the state tourney.

Yorktown does have some star power in the lineup, including U.S. Lacrosse All-American senior A/M Harry Griff (26G, 28A, 54), senior D Dino Bowen, senior G Vito DeBellis, senior M Sava Makarenko, All-Section senior D Giacomo Micciari, senior M Justin Meyreles, senior M Jay Fastiggi and sophomore A Jack Duncan. But will it be enough to dethrone Rye? That's the million dollar question that Schurr, his talented assistants, Griff and company need to figure out as April turns to May, when sectional titles are won and lost: Class B and C (May 26), Class A and D (May 27). Times change, but nobody within the Yorktown lax



Mahopac D Liam Dodd (L) sets up assist against Greeley's Lummel in Indians' 19-2 win over visiting Quakers Thursday.

familia was prepared for what's happened since 2018. Restoration is essential, if not critical, so welcome aboard, Coach Schurr #NoPressure!

LAKELAND/PANAS is as well coached as any team in the section, and they are itching for another crack at the title after falling in the semis a year ago. Since the L/P merger, it was the first time Coach Jim Lindsay's five-time champion Rebels

failed to reach the finals since 2015, when **MAHOPAC** made its last appearance in a 13-12 OT Class A loss to Mamaroneck.

Lindsay lost a bunch to graduation but is poised to coach up potential stars like senior M Nick Connetta, senior A Nick Graap (31G, 21A, 52) and senior M Chris Macalusso, who will drop down to Class B this spring. In-game adjustments are what Coach Lindsay is all about. He'll need to be atop his game this season if the Rebels are to explore a sectional title experience in a fully loaded Class B.

Coach Jon Bota's Mahopac Indians are also in Class B this season, along with nine other challengers, and figure to make a strong run to the Final 4 at the very least. It's been 11 years since nine-time sectional and one-time NYS champion Mahopac hoisted a sectional title plaque (2011), and Coach Bota was a key member of that particular club, so he knows what it takes to represent the section in the state tournament, as does his assistant, Mike Haddeland, a member of the '96 state champs. The Indians have star power, plenty of it in players like Jake Degnan (31G, 20A, 51), Chris Evans (68% face-off edge), Army-bound Ryan Harney (63 points), Danny Koch (21G, 19A, 40) and Monmouth-bound senior D Sean Massett... all proven commodities. Keep eyes on junior M Gavin Viglucci, who has six goals and three assists in the Indians' first two wins this season.

But it's been over a decade since Mahopac put it all together with guys like Bota and Anthony Berardis leading the way. Just got a gut feeling these 2020 Indians can contend, provided junior G Tommy Jacobellis can stand tall between the pipes #KidsKey and the poles hold up.

"Tommy is going to have a huge season and we've got unfinished business to take care of," said Massett, who has All-American potential. "Depth won't be an issue. We've got some key guys making their return to

continued on next page



Army-bound Mahopac senior Mike Harney cranks one of four goals (1 assist) he would sink against Greeley's Vincent Santelia in host Indians' 19-2 win over Quakers.



Everyone is expecting a monster year from Yorktown senior Harry Griff this spring.



BILL KENNEDY PHOTO

Mahopac’s Michael Rettberg (22) and Jake Degnan (3G) had plenty to celebrate in Thursday’s 19-2 win over visiting Greeley and Saturday’s 12-8 win over North Rock’.

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the sport. We can’t wait to get started.”

There was a time when you could pencil in all three – Yorktown, Mahopac and L/P – to be among the last two standing, and a period in time when second fiddle was unacceptable for all, but the game has grown exponentially since the Northern Westchester/Putnam golden era, which dates back to the ‘70’s for Yorktown and the 90’s for places like Mahopac and Lakeland/Panas. The rest of Section 1 has caught up and recently passed the legendary trio, and, truth be told, programs like Class D BRIARCLIFF, which is led by former Lakeland All-American Alfredo Meola, is Section 1’s best hope for a state title in 2022 with a handful of potential All-Americans in the Bears’ den. Good luck to those Class D hopefuls in Briarcliff’s path this spring #NoChance! There was a time before Meola took over when Briarcliff meant nothing to Section 1 lacrosse. Just goes to show: you put the right guy in charge, anything’s possible.

Class A CARMEL won its first playoff game in history last year and returns an up-and-coming star in super soph Matt Risley, who dumped 46 goals between the pipes and set up 24 more as a fresh-faced frosh, but the Rams lost a bunch to graduation and

have to contend with the likes of perennial power Mamaroneck and defending champion Scarsdale to get to the mountaintop, not to mention improving Dutchess County programs like Arlington and Wappingers, both league rivals. Yorktown and Mahopac are also in that league, so wins will be tough for Carmel to come by.

Others in Class C with star power include HEN HUD junior M Dean Hiltzley, who went for 36G and 9A, and PUTNAM VALLEY senior A Ryan Denike, who coolly lit up Section 1 for 84 points last year as the quarterback of the Tiger attack. Class B SOMERS is hoping for a star-studded campaign from Muhlenberg-bound senior M T.J. Olifers and All-Section senior G Hunter Stevenson. In Class D, watch out for Haldane’s Evan Giachinta (18G, 27A, 45) and anyone in a Briarcliff uniform.

Saddle up, folks, pray for a warm spring, and we’ll see you on local lax greens week in and week out.

LAKELAND/PANAS

Coach: Jim Lindsay, 17th year
Last Year: 9-4, lost in semis
Top Returning Players: Sr. A Nick Graap; Sr. M Nick Conetta; Sr. M Chris Macalusso
Key Newcomers: TBD

Next Level: Graap (Endicott), Macalusso (Cortland), Conetta (St. Leo)
Leading Scorers: Graap, All Section HM
Top Pole: Eddie Hylka
League Favorite: Probably us (gun to his head)
Section Favorite: Rye
Goals: Stay healthy, compete in every game.
Coach’s Comments: We have a solid core of seniors who are eager to compete and see if they have what it takes to push favorites like Yorktown and Rye.

MAHOPAC

Coach: Jon Bota (3rd year), Mahopac 2011 grad; Assistant. Mike Haddeland 1996 grad
Last Year: regular season, 9-5; 1st Round Win over Clarkstown South, quarters win over Fox Lane 12-10, semifinal loss to Rye 14-2
Top Returning Players: Mike Harney, All-Section Sr., A; Sean Massett, All-Section Sr., D; Chris Evans, All-League Sr., F/O; Jake Degnan, All-League Jr., A; Mike Rettberg, Jr., A; John Kearney, Soph. M; Danny Koch, Soph. M; Soph. A/M Gavin Viglucci
Key Newcomers: Tommy Jacobellis Jr., G; Liam Dodd Jr., D; Jack Elliot Jr., D
Players Playing at Next Level: Harney (Army), Massett (Monmouth)
Leading Scorers: Harney (63 points, All-Section); Degnan (50 points, All-League);

Koch (40 points)
Top Pole: Massett
League Favorite: Yorktown
Section Favorite: Rye
Goals: Win the League. Get to the section Finals.
Coach’s Comments: Another year, another opportunity to take a step in the right direction for the Mahopac lacrosse program.

SOMERS

Coach: Vin DeGregorio, 13th year
Last Year: 9-7, 2022 section semifinalist
Top Returning Players: Derek Marcus Sr.-D; Hunter Sullivan Sr.-G, Henry Ellison Sr.-A; T.J. Olifers Sr.-M; Michael Micceri Sr.-LSM; Luke Kennedy Jr.
Key Newcomers: Miguel Iglesias Fr.-M; Mac Sullivan So.-A; Ryan Brush Fr.-A; Nick Newman So. M
Next Level: Sullivan Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI); Olifers, Muhlenberg College
Top Pole: Derek Marcus Sr.
Section Favorite: Yorktown
Goals: Win a Section Championship
Coach’s Comments: Happy about the time and effort that our boys put in during the off-season.

Sports

NWE/Putnam Boys Lax Notebook



Putnam Valley D Anthony Esposito and Carmel A Matt Risley are expected to lead their respective units in 2022.

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CLASS A

CARMEL

Coach: Matt Caione, 6th year

Last Year: 6-11, 1st round playoff win

Top Returning Players: All-League soph. A Matthew Risley; soph. D Nolan Faudar; Jr. M Jake Storen; Soph. M Ryan Aabel; Soph. D Jeremy Smith; Jr. D Jake Ellner; Jr. G Nick Fazzino

Key Newcomers: Soph. G Jake Meissner; Fr. M Thomas Connolly; Sr. M Luke Golisano

Goals: Execute. Progress throughout the season.

Coach's Comments: This is a great group of players and parents who are very supportive and passionate about the sport.

CLASS C

HEN HUD

Coach: Troy Lepore, 6th year; Assistant Coaches: Jordan Hirsch, Taylor Ekstrom

Last Year: 5-8, lost in sectionals 10-9 to Tappan Zee

Top Returning Players: Dean Hiltzley, Jr. (M); Thomas Popolizio, Jr. (M/D); Rocco

Capicotti, Sr. (A); Ryan Clark, Jr. (M); Marty Stewart, Sr. (D); Cole Pritchard, Sr. D

Key Newcomers: Conor Prokopiak, So. (D)

Next Level: Stewart, Pennsylvania College of Technology

Leading Scorers: All-Leaguers Popolizio (13G, 32A, 18GBs), Hiltzley (36G, 9A, 27GBs), Clark, Pritchard (D)

Top Pole: Pritchard, Stewart, Ryan Ho, Prokopiak, Popolizio

League Favorite: Lakeland/Panas

Section Favorite: Byram Hills, Pelham, TZ are all solid teams that are coached up well. I'm sure more programs will enter the conversation as the season plays on.

Goals: Learn how to close out tight games, learn how you do anything is how you do everything.

Coach's Comments: We're excited to be back for another season. We love our schedule, we got our locker room back, which is huge for our program and just having kids being together more, and we're hungry with how our season ended and went last year. This team, when we're all bought in and willing to put the culture above everything else, can be successful.

PUTNAM VALLEY

Coach: Tim Weir, 6th year at PV, 38th year coaching

Last Year: 14-4, playoffs beat Ardsley 17-5 Round 1, lost to Pearl River 11-9 in quarterfinals

Top Returning Players: Ryan Denike Sr. A; Andrew Dzubak Sr. A; Logan Porteus Jr. D; Anthony Esposito Sr. D; Davin Porteus Jr. M; Hayden Gumbrecht Sr. M; Chris Meenan Sr. LSM (89 GBs); Roger Raimo Sr. G; Chris Degiorgio Soph. M; Kyle Mello Jr. A/M; Aidan South Soph. D; Evan Mounier Soph. M

Key Newcomers: Doug Brown Sr. A; Cole Durocher Sr. A; Andrew Grippo Fr. A/M; Nick Grippo So. M; Escuar Ordoniez So. M; Tommy Calicchio Sr. M; Charles Howley Jr. D

Leading Scorers: Denike (28G, 56A, 84); Dzubak (23G, 17A, 40); Gumbrecht (18G, 9A, 27)



Lakeland-Panas Coach Jim Lindsay will need to be on top of his game if 2022 Rebels are to make a Class B run for roses.



Lakeland senior A Nick Graap will need a huge season if Rebels are to challenge for Class B supremacy in 2022.

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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

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NWE/Putnam Boys Lax Notebook

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Top Pole: Esposito, Meenan, Logan Porteus

League Favorite: Croton

Section Favorite: Byram Hills/Hen Hud/Pelham

Goals: To improve each day and be in a position at the end of the season to compete for a sectional championship.

Comments: We graduated 110 goals from last year's team. We are going to have to develop players on the offensive side of the field. On defense, we are returning a lot of experience so early on we will have to rely on this group to set the tone. We have a good group of kids who have worked hard in the off season and have shown improvement.

BREWSTER

Coach: Ryan Cleary, 1st year Coach

Last Year: 4-9 lost to John Jay CR in first round

Top Returning Players: Senior Captain G Mike Triolo; Senior Captain M Ethan Hamm; Junior Captain M Josh Walsh (3G, 1A in season-opening loss to Greeley); Senior D Logan Shelley; Senior A Dom Rienzi

Key Newcomers: No JV team last season. Bears need some of our young returners to step up and elevate their play, including Junior D Antonio Medina; Junior D Julius Walters; Junior A Joe Anfuoso

Next level: Triolo SUNY Delhi

League Favorite: Lakeland/Panas

Goals: Our goal this year is to move this program forward and improve from last year. We want to be competitive and improve as we move through the season. We are looking to pick up some hard fought wins by hustling and battling through the ups and downs. All in all we are looking to work hard, improve each day and have some fun as we do it.

CLASS D

CROTON-HARMON

Coach: Stephen Palencsar, 11th year

Last Year: lost in quarterfinals to Bronxville

Top Returning Players: Michael McCarthy, Sr. A; Nati Donohue-Greene, Sr. Goalie; Noah Bovone, Jr, M

Key Newcomers: Alex More, Fr. D

Leading Scorers: McCarthy (40G, 21A, 61), All-League

Top Pole: Edwin Dowd, Sr.

League Favorite: Putnam Valley

Section Favorite: Briarcliff

Goals: We want to keep improving and adding elements to our game as the season progresses. We'd be happy to pull off an upset or two along the way.

Coach's Comments: We have a large group of seniors this year who are hoping to be competitive in our league this year.

HALDANE

Coach: Eddie Crowe, 9th year

Last Year: 8-9, lost in Class D Section 1 semifinals

Top Returning Players: Soleil Gaines, SR, M; GianCarlo Carrone, SR, M/D; Evan Giachinta, Soph, M/A; PJ Ruggiero, Soph, D/M; Rhys Robbins, Jr, A; Will Sniffen, Jr, M; Thomas Tucker, Jr, D

Key Newcomers: Nate Stickle, Fr, D; Frankie DiGillio, Soph, FO/M; Liam Gaugler, Soph, A; Jordon Hankel, G, Soph; Ryan Van-Tassel, Soph, M; Dylan Rucker, FO/M/A/G/D, Soph.

Leading Scorers: Ruggiero (All-League), Giachinta (All-League)

Top Pole: Thomas Tucker, Ruggiero

League Favorite: Putnam Valley, Haldane

Section Favorite: Briarcliff

Goals: Continue to show promise and improve on a daily basis.

Coach's Comments: This is a young group of guys, only having two seniors this year. They are a group that has a lot of experience. Most of them, if not all of, played at the varsity level last year. If they continue to progress and improve they could be real competitive.



Opposing defenders will surely slide on Put Valley senior A Ryan Denike in 2022.



Hundreds of Yorktown laxers turned out Sunday at Legacy Field in Yorktown where the town dedicated a section of bleachers to the memory of departed former Cornhusker All-American Matt Kull #47.

Sports

NWE/Putnam Girls Lax Notebook

Class C Champ Hen Hud Hoping for Encore Performance

By Tony Pinciario

HEN HUD had been climbing the mountain in previous years, moving closer and closer to a Section 1 Class C girls' lacrosse title. The heartbreak and disappointment of past years came to a conclusion last year as the Sailors defeated Tappan Zee to win their first sectional title last spring.

Senior Katie Bell recalls what that day meant.

"Getting so close in the past and having the fear of losing another season due to COVID motivated us to play every game like it was our last," said Bell, a four-year varsity player. "Winning the section was a very exciting moment for our program because a majority of the team has been together since we were in elementary school and we've grown up playing together. Being able to send our seniors off with that win was awesome."

Bell and her fellow seniors are hoping to have the same experience as Hen Hud is prepared to defend its sectional title.

Hen Hud did graduate five seniors, highlighted by Iona freshman Kira Varada, but the seven returning 12th-graders are a tight-knit group.

"Many of us seniors have been playing together since third grade so we have a nice flow to our play, and luckily for us, the underclassmen fit right in," said Colleen Ryan, who will attend Arizona State in September and play lacrosse.

Bell and Ryan are joined by classmates Gigi Deak, Jordan Porter, Tara Clark, Sabrina Byrne and Shannon Ellis. Ryan and Deak were selected All-Section last year and Bell was all-league.

Joining this veteran nucleus are juniors Katherine Couch, Madison Porter and Caroline Clark and freshman Paige Montgomery.

Bell, on attack, and Ryan, at midfield will spearhead an offense that graduated the majority of the scoring from 2021. Sixth-year Hen Hud coach Rob Molfetta is not concerned, though.

"Offensively, we will be replacing two All-Americans, but I believe our seniors have the ability to create offense to replace those players," Molfetta said. "We also have a strong group of younger players who are ready to prove themselves."

Bell and her teammates knew what the graduation departures meant and how it would affect the team. As a result, Hen Hud began preparing for the 2022 season with a determined effort. And it has been evident through the first two weeks of preseason.

"Our dynamic has changed from last year and we are working twice as hard to make up for the talent that's graduated," said Bell, who will be going to the University of Alabama this fall. "Our team this year is playing and practicing hard and if we keep this up we will have another great season. Overall, it will require a full team-effort to keep us at the same level and to keep us as competitive as possible."

Hen Hud will be tested early and often this season as the Sailors open the season with Scarsdale, a Class A power, Tuesday, March 29. The Sailors home-opener is

Thursday against Somers, then they travel to another Class A power, Mamaroneck, April 6.

The schedule also includes Suffern, Yorktown, Mahopac and Carmel.

Ryan and her teammates are also aware that each time they take the field, their opponent will play at a higher level to beat a sectional champion.

"Defending our title has become more of an impetus to us, as we will continue competing against top programs in the county," Ryan said. "Knowing that other teams will be more determined to beat us only drives us to work hard, play our best, and show everyone that we deserved our title. Even after losing our 2021 seniors, we are determined to make the needed adjustments and defend our title."

BREWSTER BEARS

Coach: Kristen Ohberg (first year)

2021 record: 3-11

Top returnees: Margo Cunningham, Jr., M (University of Albany commit); Elizabeth Kulo, Sr., M (Pace University commit); Emily Monaco, Sr., A (Drew University commit); Morgan Brace, Jr., M; Emma Bridges, Jr. D.

Key newcomers: Amelia Walsh, 8th-grade, M; Anna Nitti, Fr., M.

Strengths: Communication, variety of skill-set in each player, team leadership.

Coach's comments: "Last year we were a young team with lots of room for growth. The rise in overall team skill level and game IQ has increased the team's confidence in game play and we are looking forward to seeing this translate into a more successful season. Each player has put in so much hard work in the offseason and we look forward to exploring the potential we have this season."

continued on next page



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Fox Lane senior M Quinn Alami and Mahopac senior A-M Ava Jennings are sure to have big springs for the Foxes and Indians, respectively.



TWITTER PHOTO

Vastly improved Carmel girls revel in glory of their first-ever win over Lakeland-Panas Friday.

Sports

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Noteworthy: Ohberg was a five-time all-section and All-American her senior year at Brewster. Ohberg was a two-time All-American at Cortland and member of the 2015 National Champion team. Ohberg was the assistant to former varsity coach Sara DiDio from 2018-2021. ... New varsity assistant Marina Souza was a starter on Brewster's Section 1-title-team in 2018. The Bears advanced to the final four that year. ... Ohberg highlighted her team's games with John Jay-Cross River, Yorktown and Hen Hud.

CARMEL RAMS

Coach: Kerry Hackert (15th year)

2021 record: 11-4

Top returnees: Ally Taranto, Sr., M (All League); Erin Brady, Sr., D (All League); Cat Tonchuck, So., G (All League); Jill Blair, Sr. M; Tara Babnik, Sr., D.

Key newcomers: Daniela Delgado, Jr., M; Julia Lisi, So., Strengths: Speed and grit.

Coach's outlook on the season: "We are extremely excited to have a 'normal' season. We graduated 12 seniors last year, but our younger players are ready to play at the Varsity level."

Noteworthy: Carmel won a league title last year. ... Hackert started the girls' lacrosse program in 2008 and it became a varsity sport in 2011. ... Carmel opens the season, home, against Byram Hills, Tuesday, March 29. Carmel hosts Brewster, April 6, and travels to Mahopac, April 11.

LAKELAND/PANAS REBELS

Coach: Chrissy Hart (second season)

2021 record: 4-11

Top returnees: Gwen Laukaitis, M; Isabel Kocaj, M; Meaghan Casey, M.

Key newcomers: Lilly Whippo, Fr., D; Ashley Glass, So., M; Celeste Pagliaroli, Jr., D.

Team strengths: Ability to learn quickly, work ethic, great energy.

Coach's outlook on the season: "We will play each game the full 50 minutes and be ready for more. Each game brings an important opportunity to get better in different ways. Looking forward to the growth this season."

Noteworthy: Former Lakeland field hockey and Lakeland/Panas lacrosse standout Leah DiSisto is Hart's assistant coach. DiSisto is also the Panas varsity field hockey coach.

MAHOPAC INDIANS

Coach: Christina D'Amore (first year)

2021 record: 9-8

Top returnees: Audrey Colucci, Sr., M (Lynn University commit); Mia Del Bene, Sr., D (Palm Beach Atlantic University commit); Ava Jennings, Sr., M (University of Cincinnati commit); Nicole Panny, Sr., A (Sacred Heart commit); Avery Przymyski, Sr., A (Coastal Carolina commit); Juliana Stefan, Sr., D (University of Indianapolis commit); Ally Savion, Sr., A; Juliana Mangione, So., M; Riley Massett, Jr., M; Gia Perrillo, So. D; Gianna Rispoli, Jr., D; Grace Witt, Jr., M.



BOB CASTNER PHOTO

Yorktown junior Alex Scialdone will carry much of the load for a youthful Cornhusker club in 2022.

Key newcomers: Katie Watts, Jr., A; Ashley Foran, So., A; Hannah Harney, Jr., A.

Coach's outlook on the season: "Our focus for this season is to win our league and compete for the sectional championship. We have talented and strong players returning this season as well as hard-working younger players ready to learn and add to the team. We have seven seniors this year and are ready for a winning, exciting and fun season! We are excited to have many returning offensive players, who are strong, quick and talented. We are looking to fill some losses on defense, but we have some girls ready to go who have been working hard to prepare for the season."

Noteworthy: D'Amore, a Mahopac graduate, coached modified for eight years then was the Junior Varsity coach for the last 10 years. ... Mahopac opens the season with two home games – Clarkstown North (March 29) and Putnam Valley (April 2).

PUTNAM VALLEY TIGERS

Coach: Amanda Vasta (second year)

2021 record: 1-15

Top returnees: Natalie Mazza, Sr.; Shayla Lussier, Sr.; Jordan Cuddy, Sr.

Coach's outlook on the season: "I am excited for another season! We are a young team this year, however, all of the athletes are incredibly motivated to do well and we are working hard as a team to be successful. My goals are to cultivate and create a group of hard-working athletes and with patience,

energy and the girls' motivation, we are excited to become great."

YORKTOWN CORNHUSKERS

Coach: Heather Raniolo (first year)

2021 record: 9-5

Top returnees: Alexandra Scialdone, Jr., A (committed to Clemson); Kaitlin Regan, Jr., M; Gianna Altamari, Jr., D; Emily Ward, Jr., D; Reileigh McEnroe, So., D; Alison Passarella, So., A.

Top newcomers: Reese Bruno, So., D; Maeve Ryan, Jr., A; Brie Gaccino, Fr., A; Ava Cunneen, Fr., M.

Strengths: Heart and hustle, ball movement and finishing ability.

Coach's outlook on the season: "Our attitude and mindset is what has impressed me the most with this group. Every day we come together the energy is high, we are having fun and we are working hard. It has been a pleasure to get to work with this group and I am excited to see what we can accomplish together as a family. My expectations are high for them, as our goal is to bring section titles back home. With time, hard work and good team culture good things will come. Practices have been nothing short of high energy, hard work and fun. This is a special group of girls who I believe can come together for a successful season."

Noteworthy: Raniolo, who played for Yorktown, was the varsity assistant at Westlake last year. ... Yorktown hosts Suffern, Tuesday, 3/29, to open the season.

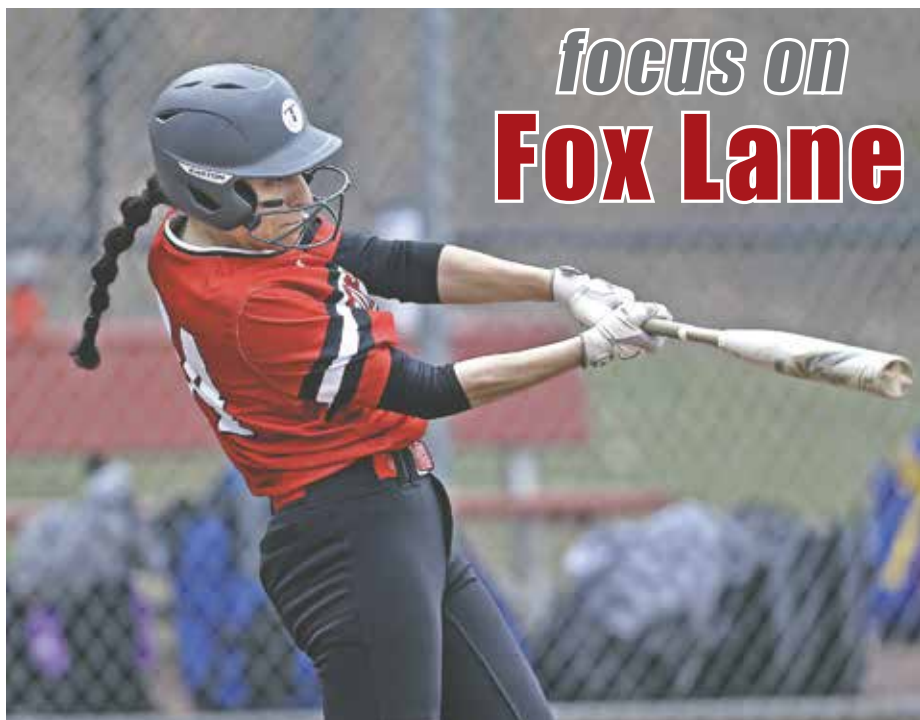
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Sports

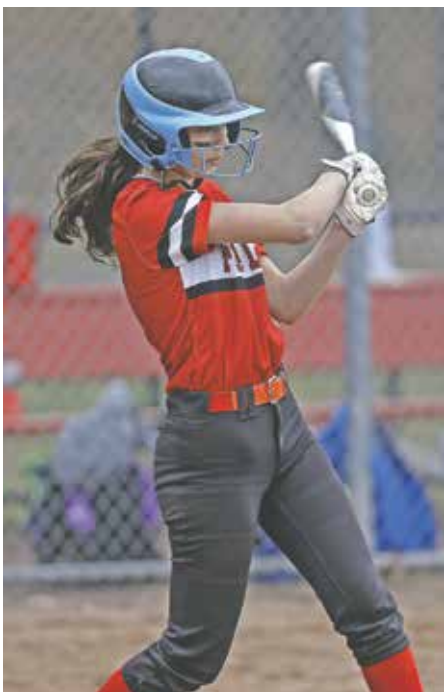


focus on Fox Lane

The Foxes' Katie Cristiano swings for the fences in the 22-2 rout of North Salem. She provided two doubles and two runs batted in as Fox Lane coasted in its season opener.



Fox Lane shortstop Quoya Schnell makes a tag at second base to cut down a North Salem baserunner in Friday's home game, won by the Foxes.



Fox Lane's Victoria Bodine watches the ball jump off her bat during the 22-2 win over North Salem in Friday's season-opening game.



Hannah Getman and the rest of the Foxes spent a lot of time running the bases in Friday's victory over North Salem.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Jordynn Killion delivers a pitch in Friday's lopsided win over visiting North Salem. She struck out 13 batters in five innings and belted a pair of doubles.



Fox Lane second baseman Lyla Loria is poised to make a play in the Foxes' season-opening win on Friday afternoon.



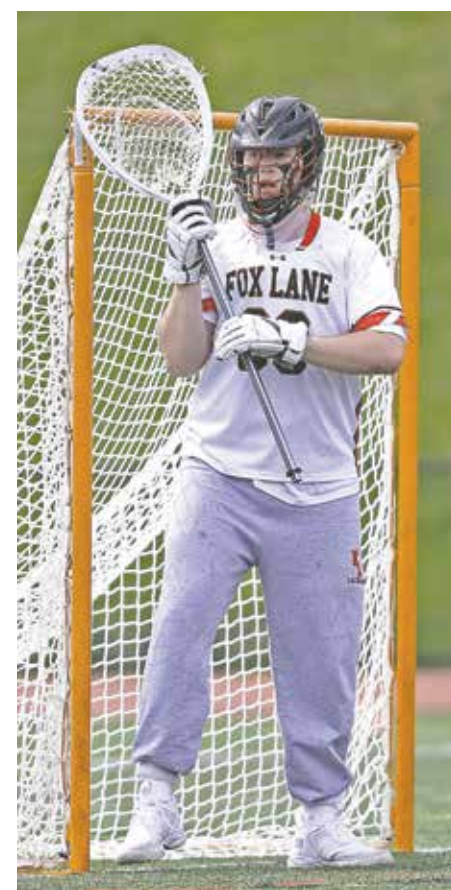
New Fox Lane softball coach ToniAnn Licata had plenty to smile about as her Foxes routed North Salem to open up the season.



Kevin New of Fox Lane sets his sights on a ground ball in the Foxes' season opener on Saturday.



The Foxes' Jack Fabry gets set to pass the ball in the season-opening victory over the Rye Neck Panthers.



Fox Lane goalie Henry Gilligan stays ready in front of the cage in the win over Rye Neck.

Sports



Eighth-grader Tate Morrow finished with three goals in his debut for Fox Lane on Saturday afternoon.



Fox Lane's Will Shepherd protects the ball in the second quarter of Saturday's 11-6 win over visiting Rye Neck. He wound up with three goals.



Ryan Nathan takes the ball up the field in the first half of Fox Lane's 11-6 win over Rye Neck. He had two goals and an assist.



Fox Lane senior defenseman Kyle Vogel starts the Foxes' transition game with a long pass during Saturday's home win over Rye Neck.

focus on

PACE LACROSSE



Pace freshman midfielder David Jagiello tries to get free for a shot in the Setters' rout of American International on Saturday afternoon.



Junior midfielder Terrance Day unleashes a shot on goal in Pace's home win on Saturday afternoon.



The Setters' Tremain Parker moves the ball past midfield in the third quarter of the 19-3 victory over AIC.



Defenseman Ryan Minnaugh of Pace starts a break up the field during the second half of Saturday's win over AIC that improved the Setters' record this season to 6-0.



Pace University senior Tim Cairo races toward the cage in the second half of Saturday's home game. He finished with five goals and two assists in the 19-3 win over AIC.



Byram Hills sophomore Grace Corelli scores a fast-break basket against visiting Sleepy Hollow.

Girls' Basketball 2021-22

A Look Back



Ineivi Plata of White Plains tries to get to the basket in the Tigers' season-ending playoff loss to Magnus.



Pleasantville senior Tina Matica pushes the ball up the court as she's pressured by Briarcliff's Caroline Barbalato.



Briarcliff forward Eliza Aldrich dribbles the ball out of the backcourt during a mid-season home game.



Briarcliff junior guard Caroline Barbalato drives to the basket in the Bears' home game vs. New Rochelle.



Olivia Barry of Byram Hills rises in the lane for a shot in the Bobcats' home game vs. Sleepy Hollow.



White Plains star guard Aliya McIver dribbles past Sierra Linnin of Albertus Magnus in the Class AA sectional playoffs.



Byram Hills standout guard Beth Corelli pushes the ball up the court during a Bobcat home game.



Fox Lane's Nicole Picinich gets inside for a shot in the playoff victory over Clarkstown South.



Cat Carrafiello of Briarcliff tosses up a shot during the Bears' Class B quarterfinal playoff game at Irvington.



Westlake point guard ToniAnn Mastracchio drives the right baseline past Briarcliff's Rebecca Kratz late in the regular season.

Sports



Westlake's Sami Oswald sets her sights on the basket in a home win over Croton back in late January.



Allie Castellone of Westlake sends up a short jumper in the Wildcats' win at Briarcliff that clinched the league title.



Westlake senior center Julie Lyden fires a jump shot during a home game late in the regular season.



Pleasantville's Meghan Raefski goes up for two in the Panthers' game at Briarcliff in early February.



Lauren Antolino of Fox Lane connects on a 3-pointer out of the left corner.



Fox Lane senior forward Ibby Moccia shoots the ball in the Foxes' home playoff win over Clarkstown South.



White Plains forward Sequoia Layne tosses up a shot in the lane in the Tigers' road game against Roy C. Ketcham.



Reilly Byrne of Pleasantville gets set to pass the ball up the floor during a Panther home game.



Medina Celaj of Westlake grabs a rebound in between Croton's Erin Baumeiser and Maddie Sena.

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A Winning Start

**Jordynn Killion Pitches Fox Lane
to an Easy Victory Over North Salem
in the Softball Season Opener Friday**