

## Twilight Track Thriller



**Pleasantville's Eli Waxler Finishes First in the 3200 Just Ahead of Ryan Gallagher and Drew Dorflinger at the League 3-A Championships Last Wednesday**

# Fox Lane Finishes the Regular Season With a Flourish

By Monica D'Ippolito

In its last home game of the season, the Fox Lane boys' lacrosse team made sure not to disappoint its fans on Senior Day, handily defeating the Somers Tuskers 14-5 on Thursday afternoon.

"I think, honestly, that's the best home game that we've played all year," Fox Lane senior captain Luke Verrochi said after the lopsided victory. "I've been saying it since the start, we need to put four quarters together, and finally we put it together today. So it feels good, especially right at the end of the season going into playoffs, getting a win like that."

Fox Lane, which finished the regular season with 12 wins in 16 games, came out in the first quarter and overwhelmed the Tuskers with six unanswered goals, scoring on its first five possessions.

The Foxes won the opening faceoff and it quickly led to a Matt Harrison goal, assisted by Thomas Tenney, just 71 seconds into the game. Harrison scored almost exactly one minute later, followed by a Matt Magnan goal a minute after that.

Midway through the opening quarter, Cullen Morgan split a double team and finished to give Fox Lane a 4-0 lead. Matt Leader then got on the board with back-to-back goals, capping the Foxes' big first-quarter run.

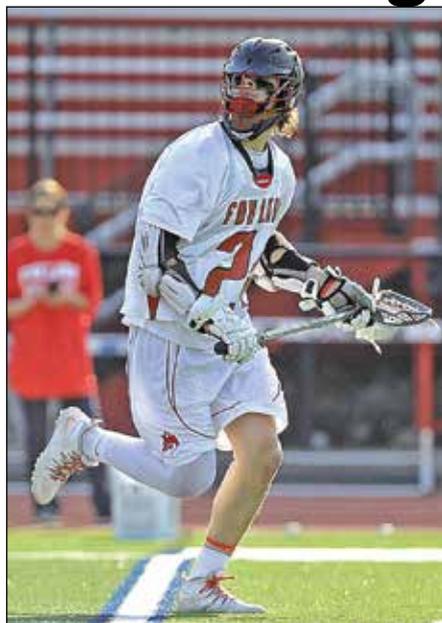
Somers tallied its first goal just before the end of the first quarter, but the damage had already been done and the Foxes walked off the field with a five-goal advantage after the first 12 minutes.

In the second quarter, Fox Lane held the Tuskers scoreless while collecting three more goals -- by Liam Belhumeur, Tenney and then Magnan -- and extending its lead to 9-1 at intermission.

Fox Lane opened up the second half with two more goals, from Leader and Harrison. With all the scoring coming from his teammates, even Verrochi decided to get in on the action. The defenseman took the ball over the mid-field line and ripped a shot past Somers goalie Justin Monaco.

"That's his game, though," Foxes coach Chris Coughlin said of the long-pole, Verrochi. "He's up and down the field the entire game. He's an offensive threat when he has the ball. He literally would play every second if we let him on the field, and he's got more heart than probably any kid that I've ever coached. He did an amazing job, like he always does, and it's great that for him and his family here on Senior Day that he had such a great game."

"They've been a little harder to come by this year, but definitely feels pretty good on Senior Night to get that goal,"



Fox Lane's Thomas Tenney controls the ball early in the fourth quarter vs. visiting Somers.



Chris Gourd of Fox Lane passes the ball from behind the cage during the Foxes' 14-5 rout of Somers last week.

Verrochi said. "There was no way I wasn't going to shoot that."

The goal by Verrochi stretched the Fox Lane lead to 12-1 with four minutes still left to play in the third quarter. With the game out of hand, the Tuskers scored their second goal right before the end of the third quarter, then added three more toward the end of the fourth against the Foxes' second unit.

"They did a really nice job moving the ball, we struggled at times with some unforced errors, but we had very few of them today," Coughlin said. "These guys just wanted to play really hard today, they did great, they played very hard for each other, very unselfishly and moved the ball great. And we've been executing and finishing on our shots."

Leader led the Foxes' offense with four goals, while Harrison followed with three



Fox Lane's Jared Torres tries to keep Vincent Cartelli of Somers away from the cage in the fourth quarter of last Thursday's home game.

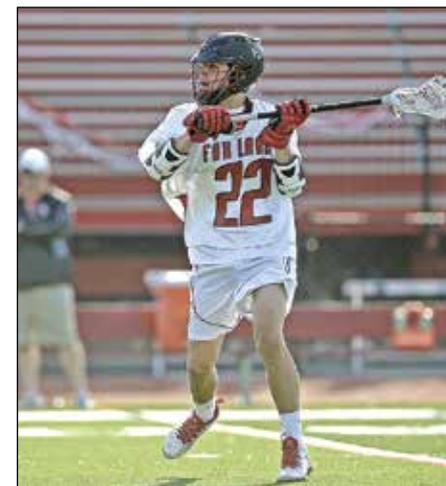


The Foxes' Matt Leader heads toward the cage from the right sideline in the home finale last Thursday afternoon.

goals and one assist. Morgan finished with two goals and two assists. But his biggest heroics actually came two days later in Saturday's shocking 8-7 overtime win over powerhouse Yorktown as he scored four times, including the game-tying goal and the winner on the first possession of overtime.

Fox Lane goalie Colin Smith played solid in net in the easy win over the Tuskers, recording nine saves.

"Colin Smith has been steady all year long," Coughlin said. "I told him this was his best game of the season. He's really focused. He made every save that he needed to make today, and he also leads our team, getting the ball up and



Fox Lane's Matt Harrison looks to shoot in the Foxes' easy win over Somers last Thursday.

out in transition. It helps our offense tremendously because he sees things quickly and he's able to move the ball quickly."

Along with Verrochi, fellow seniors Dan Tracy, Jared Torres, Dodge Sgaglio, Jackson Sanguily, Joe Paul, Chris Gourd, Matt Bassett and Kirk Atkinson were all honored, along with their parents, just before the start of the game.

"It's great," Coughlin said of the Senior Day win. "Two of our kids (Tracy and Verrochi) are four-year varsity players. So, for me, it's a little sad always because these guys are on their way out and some of these guys have literally started every game for four years for us. Our team is led by the seniors, whether they are captains or no. So I'm just happy for them and their families to get one on Senior Day."

**Advertise in The Examiner • 914-864-0878**  
[advertising@theexaminernews.com](mailto:advertising@theexaminernews.com)

# Marchi's Saves Propel the Panthers Past Byram Hills

By Monica D'Ippolito

On a day when Pleasantville High School honored the seven seniors on the boys' lacrosse team, perhaps it was apropos that one of them wound up making the biggest impact in Saturday afternoon's clash with visiting Byram Hills.

"I think the major difference overall in the game was Oscar Marchi, our goalie," said Panthers coach Chris Kear after his team had prevailed 7-6 over the Bobcats. "In the first quarter alone, he kept us in the game, and he continued to make stops the rest of the way. So, really, the difference was Oscar."

Pleasantville needed Marchi at his best because the Bobcats dominated possession in the first half. After winning the opening faceoff, their first offensive possession lasted over two minutes and forced Marchi to make three saves to keep the game scoreless.

"I mean, I didn't have the best game against Croton two days ago," Marchi said. "So that first quarter really gave us momentum, I guess, for the rest of the game."

With Marchi stopping the early Byram onslaught, Pleasantville, now 15-1 this season, got on the board first on a goal by Josh Della Puca with 7:01 remaining in the first quarter. But the Bobcats answered with back-to-back goals from Jaime Cantu and Matt Grotta.

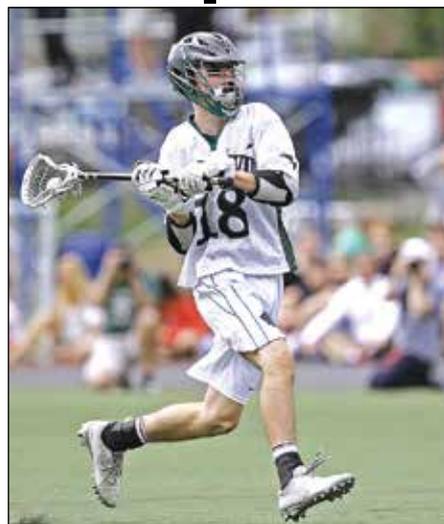
With 46 seconds left in the opening quarter, the Panthers' Baylor Rosenbaum tied the game at 2-2, capitalizing on a Della Puca feed. The teams traded goals to start the second quarter, but the Panthers then gained the upper hand after scores from Brian Reda and Rosenbaum that gave them a 5-3 lead with 4:10 left in the half.

But their two-goal advantage didn't last long. The Bobcats' Payton Levine scored 32 seconds later, then Connor Tavio tied the game. After Grotta forced a turnover at the defensive end, Byram Hills quickly took the lead on a goal by Zach Rigano.

Unfortunately for the Bobcats, Rigano's goal would be their last of the day as the Panther defense stiffened in the second half and Marchi denied each and every Byram shot at the goal.

"He's a very big goalie, and yet athletic as well," said Byram Hills coach Jim Ardizzone about Marchi. "He mostly did a good job jumping out of the cage a little bit and picking off passes at times. He is a good quality goalie, so when you're going against that, these things are going to happen. So yes, it is frustrating, but the kids know and we've got to get better at finishing."

Rosenbaum assisted Reda with 1:46 remaining in the half, tying the score at 6-6. The eventual game winner, and the only goal after halftime, came with 5:28 to play in the third quarter. Reda came



Pleasantville eighth-grader Jack Howe gets set to fire a shot in Saturday's game vs. Byram Hills.



Pleasantville's Bryan Arcidiacono controls the ball in the first half of Saturday's 7-6 home win over Byram Hills.

through once again, taking in a pass from Della Puca and zipping a shot past Bobcat goalie Wes Cutler. On Senior Day, it was the freshman, Reda, who led all scorers with three goals.

"Brian stepped up big in the first half, buried some shots, and Oscar kept us alive," said Kear. "So both ends of the field did a great job. Their defense was good, and they won a lot of face-offs, so that was the difference."

In the fourth quarter, the Panthers did a great job of maintaining possession of the ball, which was a problem in the first half.

"That's something that we worked on a lot," Kear said. "This time of year, you get close games, it's important to keep control of the ball late in the game and not give up a goal late. That's something we've been working on in practice nonstop for the past two weeks."

Byram Hills had one final chance to tie the game after gaining possession with 21 seconds left. The Bobcats got the ball past the mid-field line to Levine,



Devon Cummings of Byram Hills prepares to send a shot past the Panthers' Nolan McAndrew in the first quarter of Saturday's game.



Jaime Cantu of Byram Hills does some high-stepping as he tries to get to the cage against host Pleasantville on Saturday afternoon.



Baylor Rosenbaum of Pleasantville tries to maintain his balance as he's closely guarded by Ben Miller of Byram Hills near the front of the Bobcat goal.

but with time expiring and Panther defenders surrounding him he couldn't get a solid look on cage and eventually the ball wound up on Marchi's stick to end the game.

"I just thought we needed one more stop to get this win," Marchi said of the final play. "I mean, we stopped them all game and we shut them out in the second half and I wasn't about to let 21 seconds crumble that for us."

With the loss in their regular-season finale, the Bobcats dropped to 10-6 this year. The sectional playoffs begin this week and Ardizzone knows what it'll take for the Bobcats to make some noise.

"Class B is a very, very difficult class," he said. "Everybody is very close, so just the vibe of the team is this is how we have to play from this point on. In order to keep playing and keep the season



Byram Hills' Gianni Lambos takes the ball away from the Bobcats' defensive end in the opening half at Pleasantville this past weekend.

going, we have to put in this type of performance and leave it all out on the field. The kids did and both teams played very hard. It was a great game and we just didn't get on the better side of it."

Tavio led the Bobcats, offensively, with two goals, while Grotta and Dillon Carlin each finished with one goal and one assist. Goalie Wes Cutler finished the game with five saves.

"Wes really started to develop at the end of last season," Ardizzone said. "He had a really good summer playing, and he continues to develop. He's maturing, he's getting more of a voice, he's communicating better. We know what he's capable of, so he's a big part of what we do."

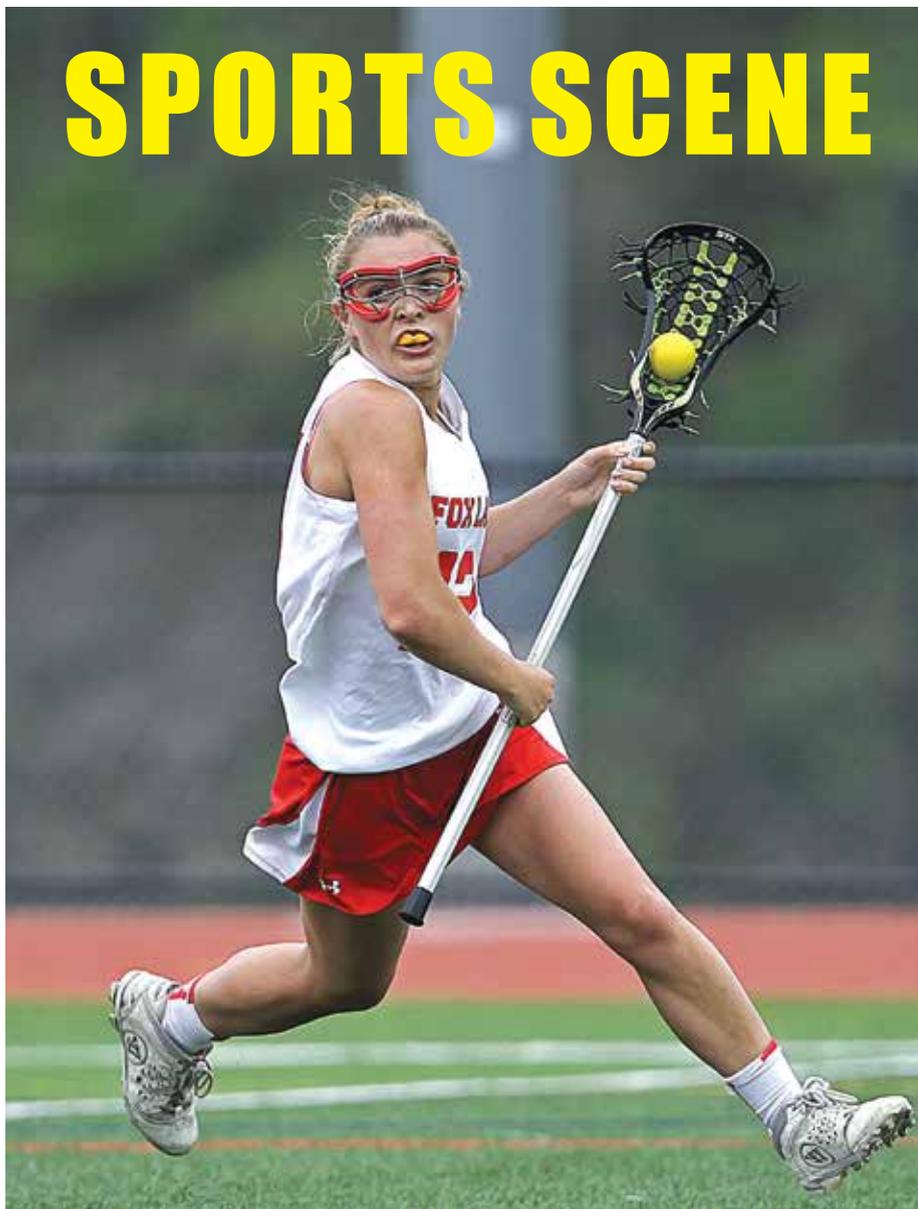
Rosenbaum finished with two goals and two assists, while fellow senior Della Puca added a goal and two assists. But it was Marchi who was the most impressive player for the Panthers in the last game of the regular season.

"It means a lot," Marchi said. "I've been playing on this field for the last four years. So to have my parents here and to be at my senior game and have the whole team play well in front of me and to get this win in such a close game against a good team like that, it means a lot. It's emotional."

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

# SPORTS SCENE

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Fox Lane's Lindsay West goes on the attack in Saturday's home game vs. the Rebels.



The Foxes' Catherine Schreiber has plenty of company as she looks to fire a shot vs. Lakeland/Panas.



Briarcliff's Jackie Contento smacks a pitch toward left field in the Bears' road game vs. Pleasantville last Tuesday.



Pleasantville catcher Katelynn Kwiat is too late with the tag as Briarcliff's Brianna Fernandez scores a run in last Tuesday's game, won by the host Panthers.



Above: Cesilly Wheeler of Fox Lane runs with the ball along the left sideline in the Foxes' 9-8 loss this past weekend.

Above left: Sam Sicignano of Pleasantville delivers a pitch to the plate in the Panthers' 7-6 victory over Briarcliff last week.

Left: Pleasantville first baseman Briana Tucci stays ready in the infield during Tuesday's game vs. visiting Briarcliff.



Bridget Connors of Fox Lane prepares to send a shot on goal vs. the visiting Lakeland/Panas Rebels.



Fox Lane's Callie Wortmann tries to run past Meghan Fahey of Lakeland/Panas in Saturday afternoon's game.



Keely Connors of Fox Lane moves to the goal during Saturday's 9-8 loss to Lakeland/Panas.





Kate Muller of Fox Lane makes contact during Thursday's home game vs. Yorktown.



Fox Lane's Andrew Workman pitches in Thursday's home game vs. the Yorktown Huskers.



ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

Briarcliff first-singles player Austin Li tracks an overhead in his straights-sets win vs. Harrison last Tuesday.



Julian Francisco of Fox Lane lines a hit vs. visiting Yorktown on Thursday afternoon.



Valhalla's Sydney Holtz pitches in the Vikings' home win over Westlake on Wednesday afternoon.



Briarcliff third-singles player Aaron Duke rises off the court to blast a forehand in last Tuesday's home match.



Sena Baba of Briarcliff hits a backhand return during his match at second singles vs. Harrison last week.



Above: Westlake first baseman Kaitlin McLynn is poised to make a play in the Wildcats' game at Valhalla last week.

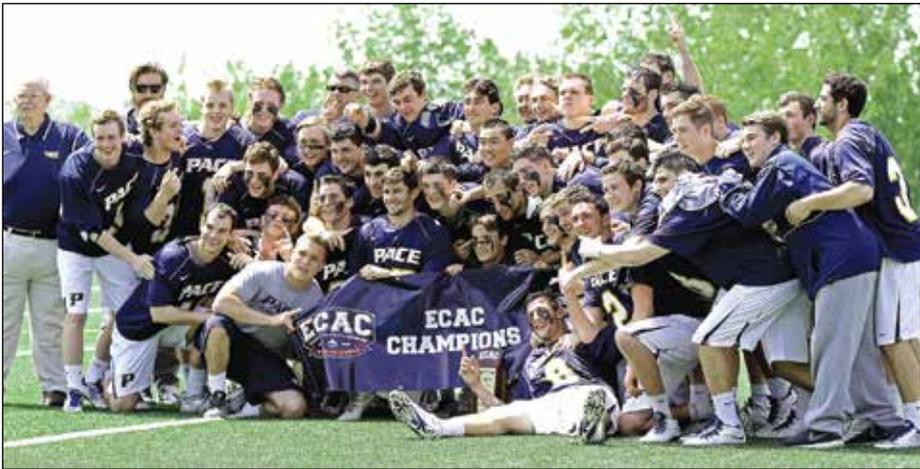
Left: This running catch in right field saved three runs for Fox Lane in its game vs. Yorktown on Thursday afternoon.



Horace Greeley's Matt Grapel hits a tee shot during last Thursday's match vs. Brewster at the Mt. Kisco Country Club.



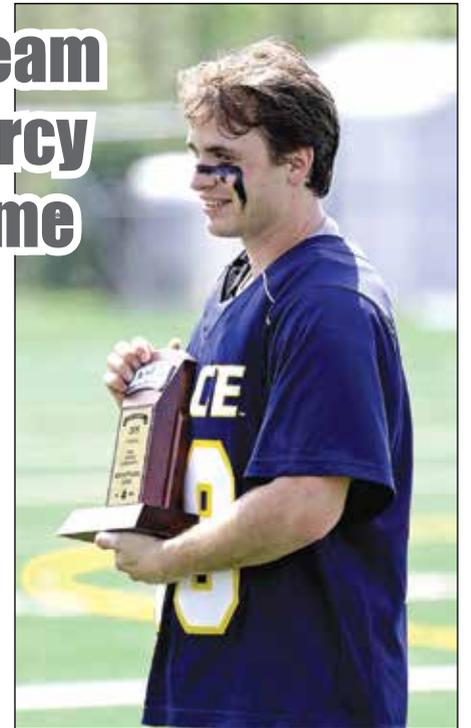
Fox Lane's Nick Delfico drives the ball on the first hole vs. visiting Scarsdale at the Bedford Golf and Tennis Club last Wednesday.



The Pace University men's lacrosse team celebrates after beating Mercy 12-9 for the ECAC championship on Saturday afternoon.

## Pace Lacrosse Team Defeats Host Mercy in ECAC Title Game

Anthony Gadaleta and Peter Sharp scored three goals apiece, and goalie Michael Bonitatibus earned MVP honors, as the Setters downed host Mercy 12-9 in Saturday's ECAC championship game.



Above: Pace goalie Michael Bonitatibus poses with his trophy after being named the most outstanding player in Saturday's ECAC title game.



Trevor Chernoff of Pace tries to make his way to the cage in the fourth quarter of the ECAC championship game.



ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

Pace University's Liam Brennan takes the ball behind the cage during Saturday's 12-9 win over Mercy College in the ECAC championship game.



Left: The Setters' Wyatt Barfoot tries to run past a pair of Mercy College Mavericks in Saturday's game in Dobbs Ferry.



## Setters Lose to Adelphi in Playoffs

Left: Pace's Josh Garran delivers a pitch in last Tuesday's NE-10 playoff game vs. Adelphi.



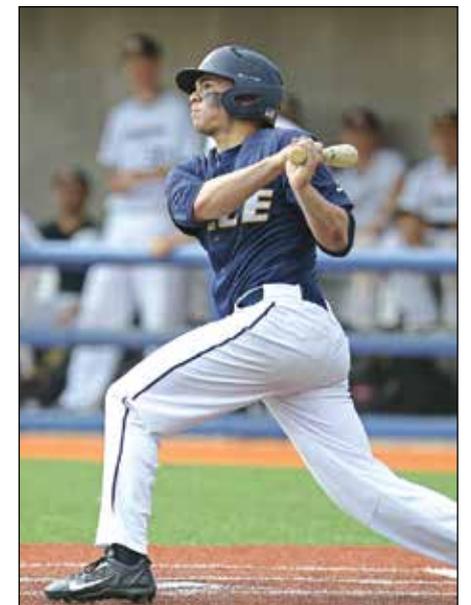
Left: Third baseman Nick LoBello of Pace fires to first for an out in last week's 6-2 playoff loss that ended the Setters' season.

Below: Pace first baseman Tom Midolo fields a late pickoff throw in last Tuesday's NE-10 playoff game vs. Adelphi at Purchase College.



Below left: The Setters' Andrew Coffey runs to third base during last week's playoff game vs. visiting Adelphi.

Below: Michal Gulino of Pace send a fly ball to center in the Setters' season-ending 6-2 playoff loss to Adelphi.





# Examiner Boys Make Some News With First Victory



The Examiner Media-sponsored Mt. Kisco Little League team won its first-ever game this past week. Some of the players on the squad in action on Saturday morning at Leonard Park include, clockwise from top left: Kyle Graham, Max Rubinstein, pitcher Will Oliverio, first baseman Matthew Cambareri, infielder Danny Spolansky, Logan Provost and Brady Hopkins.



ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

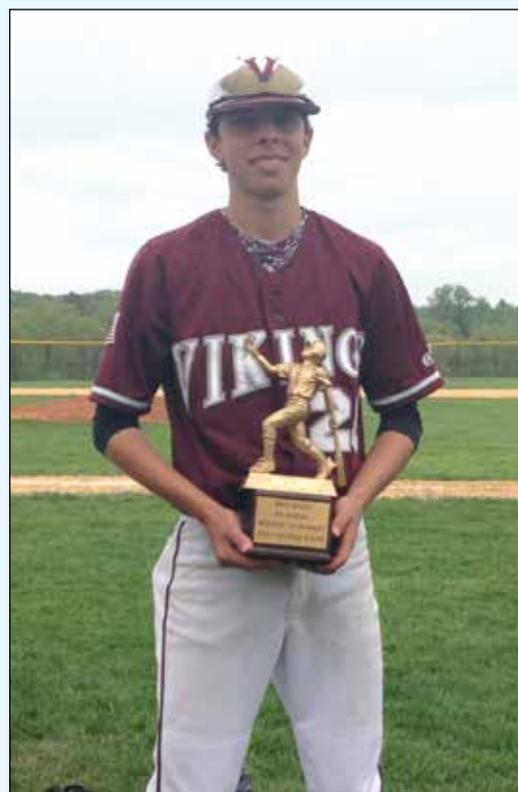


Like our SPORTS PHOTOS?



To purchase a digital file, email us at [photos@theexaminernews.com](mailto:photos@theexaminernews.com). Just include the name of the student athlete featured in the picture or pictures you're interested in buying, the Tuesday publication date in which the image or images appeared and the page number or numbers. Photos are \$25 each.

# Vikings Win Tournament



Valhalla pitcher Steven Franzese holds the Most Valuable Player award after pitching the Vikings to a 3-0 victory over the host Harrison Huskies in the championship game of the fourth annual Dave Basso Memorial Tournament. Franzese only needed to make 81 pitches in blanking the Huskies, who were hitless until two outs in the seventh inning.

# TRACK & FIELD

## League 3-A Championships Valhalla High School May 6, 2015



Briarcliff's Natalie Cornacchio rises over the high jump bar.



Pleasantville's Patrick Watts and Jean-Christophe Yahia finished 1-2 in the 800.



Pleasantville's Alynne Jeanty races in the 800.



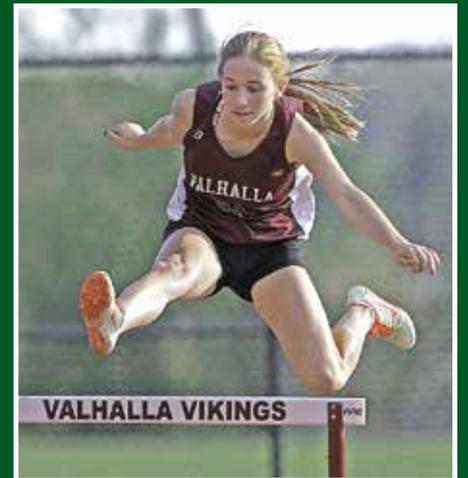
Briarcliff standout Caroline Pennacchio finished first in the 800, the 1500 and the 3000.



Pleasantville's Eli Waxler and Drew Dorflinger lead the field in the 3200.



Valhalla's Jade Brown competes in the high jump.



Valhalla's Madison Brand is on her way to first place in the 400 hurdles.



Above: Pleasantville's Sarah Gellman competes in the 3000.

Left: Briarcliff's Jonathan Wolfson rounds a corner in the 800.

Right: Westlake's Manny Corona finished fifth in the 3200.



Valhalla's John Cho turns the corner in the 200.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOSS