

## Playoff Preview at Parkway



**Stars Jack Howe and Rob DiNota Meet at Midfield During Pleasantville's 38-35 Victory Over Westlake in the Showdown Between Class B Title Contenders**

# A Late No-Call Dooms the Foxes in Class AA Playoff Qualifier

By Andy Jacobs

Saturday night's Class AA playoff qualifier could not have started any better for the Fox Lane football team.

Unfortunately for the Foxes, it couldn't have ended any worse.

Senior back Tanner More ran for a pair of three-yard touchdowns before the game was even four minutes old, but Fox Lane never scored again the rest of the evening. Host Spring Valley overcame its early 14-point deficit and eliminated the Foxes from next week's quarterfinals when Estive Bustos-Cevallos booted a 25-yard field goal on the last play of the game to provide the Tigers with a 17-14 victory under the lights at the Torne Valley Athletic Complex.

But the winning kick came after a pair of crucial non-calls by the officials that will undoubtedly haunt the 11th-seeded Foxes for a long time to come. The more glaring of the two, on a Fox Lane punt with less than two minutes remaining, enabled the sixth-seeded Tigers to take possession even though the ball caromed off a Spring Valley player's foot and was immediately fallen on by the Foxes' Wyatt Singer.

"The referees blew it," said livid Fox Lane coach Bill Broggy afterwards. "It should've been our ball on the 45-yard line. It was so easy to see. That was ridiculous. I mean, it was so obvious. And those officials didn't see it? How could nobody be looking at the ball? If you're an official, shouldn't you be looking at the ball? It hit right off the kid's leg."

The bewildering decision by the refs quickly turned catastrophic for the Foxes when Spring Valley running back Michael Maynes took a handoff on first down, quickly changed direction and bolted 52 yards down the right sideline before he was shoved out of bounds by Kevin Downes at the 15-yard line. On fourth down, with just 2.2 seconds left on the clock, Bustos-Cevallos calmly delivered his winning field goal after a pair of Fox



Fox Lane quarterback Jacob Payson throws on the run in Saturday's game vs. the host Tigers.



Tanner More carries the football in Saturday night's playoff qualifier vs. Spring Valley. He scored both Fox Lane touchdowns.

Lane timeouts designed to increase the pressure on him.

"It's tough on the kids," said Broggy. "We're playing so well defensively. They really worked hard all week. And we stopped 'em offensively. It's just a couple of turnovers. But that's part of the game anyway. We didn't win or lose because of that. That big run that set up the field goal, that was tough. That was tough."

Long before the last-minute fireworks that doomed the Foxes, the evening had begun as though they just might avenge the 20-point home loss they suffered at the hands of the Tigers early in the season. Spring Valley's Woodmaer Jean Francois fumbled the game's opening kickoff and Fox Lane recovered the ball at the Tigers' 5-yard line. Two plays later, More ran up the middle to score from three yards out. With the point-after from Isiah Prat-Wade, the Foxes had a 7-0 lead just 50 seconds into the contest.

Spring Valley went three-and-out on its first possession of the night, but a near-whiff on the punt gave the Foxes the ball again at the Tigers' 6-yard line. After two short runs by More, he got the handoff a third straight time and wound up falling into the end zone for another



Fox Lane's Seth Sullo returns a kick during the Class AA playoff qualifier at the Torne Valley Athletic Complex.



The Foxes' Kevin Downes leaves Spring Valley's Elijah Dean behind as he runs with the ball on Saturday evening.

three-yard touchdown. The PAT gave Fox Lane a surprising 14-point cushion with 8:18 still remaining in the opening quarter.

But less than a minute later, the Tigers, facing a third-and-11 play, got right back in the game as the speedy Isaiah Dean outraced everyone along the right sideline for a 72-yard touchdown. With their lead sliced in half, the Foxes threatened several times the rest of the first half, but failed to put any more points on the scoreboard.

One drive ended midway through the second quarter when quarterback Jacob Payson's fourth-and-three pass was picked off at the Tigers' 3-yard line. Another one stalled at the Tigers' 8-yard line as a Payson fourth-and-four toss to Downes in the end zone fell incomplete. Joshua Olsen intercepted a pass and ran to the Spring Valley 28 with 10.9 seconds left in the half, but Payson couldn't connect with Downes on a long throw on the final play and the teams went to intermission with the Foxes ahead 14-7.

Spring Valley finally managed to get even on the last play of the third quarter with another huge play from Dean. The Foxes' More had just run for a first down inside the Tigers' 20-yard line, but the ball squirted free as he was falling to the turf and bounced right into the waiting hands of Dean, who again found clear sailing along the right sideline for an 85-yard touchdown.

That set the stage for the wild finish to come. Spring Valley was forced to punt near midfield with just over three minutes remaining. The Foxes began at their own 15-yard line and soon faced third and six. A quick pass by Payson to Downes



Fox Lane's quest for a berth in the Class AA quarterfinals came to a disappointing end Saturday for Andrew Brown (left) and Michael Bailey.

had no chance of being caught because a Tiger defender was draped all over him well before the ball arrived. Despite the Foxes' pleas, there was no interference call and they were forced to relinquish the football.

The punt wound up hitting the turf and caroming off the foot of the Tigers' Chris Robillard. Singer was right there to fall on the ball for the Foxes, who thought they were about to get one more shot to win before overtime. But what happened after that is something Broggy and his disappointed team will never forget.

"Maybe I should've kept my composure, but it was just remarkable," he said of the fateful decision by the officials. "In 33 years, I've never seen something like that. Oh my God. Horrible. It's gonna be tough today and tomorrow. But I told 'em (his players) we've got to move forward. Like anything, you've got to put it behind you. We've got to play for a bowl game."

# Howe's Last-Second Field Goal Lifts the Panthers Past Westlake

By Andy Jacobs

If the Pleasantville and Westlake football teams wind up meeting for the Class B sectional championship in a few weeks, they'll be hard-pressed to duplicate the drama and appeal that Saturday afternoon's regular-season clash provided local fans.

Jack Howe's 25-yard field goal with just 2.5 seconds remaining lifted the host Panthers to a come-from-behind 38-35 victory in the showdown between the powerhouse teams that had arrived at filled-beyond-capacity Parkway Field with identical 6-0 records.

"We kind of anticipated a game like this," said Panthers coach Tony Becerra shortly after his team had clinched the top seed in next week's playoffs. "It seemed like going into that fourth quarter,



Westlake quarterback Rob DiNota tries to elude Pleasantville's Ryan Drillock as he runs with the football on Saturday afternoon.

whoever had the ball last, one of those type of deals. We were very, very fortunate to get it one last time and put ourselves in position for the field goal."

"It was a great high school football game," said Westlake coach John Castellano, whose defending sectional champion Wildcats will have to settle for the second seed. "One of the most exciting games I've been involved in in a long time. Obviously field position was critical and we gave them great field position. More than I care to remember."

Under a cloudless blue sky and in front of an overflowing crowd that lined every available inch of the field, it was the Wildcats who struck first. They recovered a Pleasantville fumble at the Panthers' 20-yard line on the game's first play from scrimmage and, five plays later, quarterback Rob DiNota connected with a sliding Nick Colabattisto over the middle for a six-yard touchdown pass. The PAT by Kyle Donnery gave Westlake a 7-0 lead two and a half minutes into the contest.

The Panthers gave their fans something to cheer about just past the midway point of the opening quarter when Ryan Drillock fielded a punt and promptly returned it 69 yards for a touchdown. The point-after by Howe tied the game, but a 34-yard touchdown run by DiNota with 48 seconds left in the period enabled the Wildcats to start the second quarter with a 14-7 lead.

Another long TD run by DiNota, this time from midfield, stretched the Westlake advantage to 21-7 just over a minute into the second quarter. Pleasantville soon used a big defensive play to fight its way back into the game, blocking a punt and then going 18 yards in five plays. Howe scored from three yards out, then kicked the extra point to narrow the Wildcats'



Westlake running back Joseph Ferri is chased by Pleasantville's Ian Esliker during Saturday afternoon's showdown at Parkway Field.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Andrew DeBiase of Westlake picks up big yardage as he gets past the line of scrimmage in the Wildcats' road game vs. Pleasantville.

lead to 21-14.

Another impressive punt return by Drillock gave the Panthers the ball at the Westlake 34 late in the half. Five plays later, Declan McDermott swept around the right side of the line for a one-yard touchdown with 43.7 seconds remaining before intermission. A 26-yard run by the Wildcats' Joseph Ferri moved the ball to the P'ville 20 with 8.1 seconds to go. But Donnery's 25-yard field goal try was blocked by Brian Reda, leaving the teams tied at halftime.

"I knew at 21-7 there was a lot of football to be played," said Castellano. "I knew that. I really think special teams hurt us. You can't do those things. You've got to be solid in all three phases of the game. I thought both defenses were under pressure with two pretty good offenses. So it comes down to special teams and they beat us up on special teams."

It was special teams that enabled the Panthers to take the lead for the first time once the third quarter got underway. Westlake went three-and-out on the first possession of the second half, then Camron Amerson had his punt blocked



The Panthers' Declan McDermott puts on the brakes as he attempts to elude Westlake's Andrew DeBiase in Saturday's game.

by Jake Farrelly, giving the Panthers the ball at the Wildcat 10-yard line. Two plays later, Howe threw to Charlie McPhee for a nine-yard touchdown.

The Wildcats managed to even the game on the first play of the fourth quarter as Andrew DeBiase ran one yard off left tackle to complete a 10-play, 67-yard drive that took up nearly five minutes. But when the Wildcat defense forced Pleasantville into a three-and-out, the punt was dropped and Reda recovered the ball at the Westlake 28.

McPhee soon found the end zone from seven yards away and Howe's PAT gave Pleasantville a 35-28 advantage with 8:58 left on the clock. Westlake quickly responded, though, going 65 yards with five consecutive running plays. Ferri's 25-

*continued on page S-7*



Pleasantville quarterback Jack Howe drops back to pass in the first half of Saturday's showdown with the Westlake Wildcats.

# SPORTS SCENE



Westlake's Keira Donnelly dribbles the ball up the field in last Tuesday's game at Haldane.



Byram Hills freshman Kallie Hoffman is on her way to scoring one of her four goals in Thursday's 5-1 victory over the Ardsley Panthers.



Amber Lulunaj sends a shot on goal in Westlake's road game vs. Haldane last Tuesday afternoon.



Olivia Gordon of Byram Hills pursues the ball in Saturday's home game vs. Pelham.



Byram Hills players Alexa Schlau (center) and Ellen Amico keep their eyes on the ball near midfield in Saturday's game vs. Pelham.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Byram Hills senior Sam Mayers sets her sights on the ball during the Bobcats' 5-1 win over Ardsley last Thursday.



Ella Manners of Byram Hills sends the ball across the field in the Bobcats' home game vs. Pelham.



Ramy Berenblum goes airborne as she boots the ball down the field in the Byram Hills win over visiting Ardsley.



Nicole Meyers of Byram Hills pursues the ball as teammate Dylan Dorfman looks on in Thursday's home game.



Horace Greeley's Carly Levitz hits a forehand during her second-round singles match on Saturday afternoon.



Emma Hart of Greeley drills a forehand from the baseline in her doubles match on Friday afternoon.



ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

Horace Greeley doubles player Katie Sternkopf hits a backhand at the conference tournament on Friday afternoon.



Chloe Zilkha of Greeley smacks a forehand return in her singles match on Saturday.



Emily Bayuk of Fox Lane sets her sights on the ball as she prepares to hit a backhand during a Friday doubles match.



Leah Tuluca of Fox Lane concentrates on a backhand return during doubles action on Saturday afternoon.



Fox Lane's Taylor Cutroneo gets set to crush a forehand in a Saturday afternoon doubles match.

# focus on 2016 Conference 1 Tennis Tournament White Plains High School October 14 and 15



Fox Lane's Abby Bayuk reaches to hit a backhand on the run in her doubles match on Friday.



Fox Lane's Elaina Bruck hits a backhand in her opening-round singles victory on Friday afternoon.

# Pace Football Defeated by Merrimack

The Pace University football team was defeated by Merrimack College in Saturday's Northeast-10 Conference matchup at Pace Stadium.

## HOW IT HAPPENED

- The Setters started off hot with Jason Habash (San Jose, CA/Leland) hitting a wide open Marvin Jean Baptiste (West Orange, NJ/West Orange), who saw only daylight in front of him, taking it 62 yards for a quick touchdown to give Pace a 7-0 lead.

- A big kickoff return to the 50, with a 15-yard penalty tacked on, gave the Warriors excellent field position to start their first drive.

- Derrick Villard took it into the end zone on a 23-yard rush on Merrimack's second play to tie the game.

- After stopping the Setters, Merrimack went on an 11-play, 61-yard drive, capped off by another rushing touchdown by Villard, to take a 14-7 lead with six minutes left to play in the first.

- Once Merrimack got the ball back, it once again put together a methodical drive, taking it 79 yards on nine plays.

- Brenton Martin hit Devin O'Reilly for a diving 36-yard touchdown to improve the Warrior lead to 21-7.

- Brenton Martin followed the last drive up with a 37-yard touchdown pass to Sebastian Lucas with just under five minutes to play in the half to take a



Pace quarterback Jason Habash scrambles in the third quarter of Saturday's game vs. Merrimack.

28-7 lead, which the Warriors took into halftime.

- Merrimack received the kickoff to start the second half, and a kick out of bounds gave them possession on their own 35-yard line.

- The Warriors used 17 plays on the drive, not a single one for longer than 10 yards, eventually going 65 yards for



Merrimack College's Derrick Villard ran for two touchdowns in the first quarter of Saturday's 35-21 win at Pace.

another score to go up, 35-7.

- The Setters responded with a strong drive that started on their own 24-yard line.

- Pace nearly mirrored Merrimack's last drive, turning in 15 plays, all for short yardage, to work their way down to the goal line, where Michael Scotman (White Plains, NY/White Plains) punched it in to

make it a 35-14 game.

- Late in the game, the Setters took over at their own 39-yard line.

- On 4th-and-1, Scotman was able to convert with a three-yard run to keep the drive alive.

- On the next third down, Faustino Saucedo (Perth Amboy, NJ/Perth Amboy) hit Darius Jones (Bethlehem, PA/Liberty) on the near sideline with no defenders in front of him, and he took it 49 yards to the house to cut the deficit to 14 with just over two minutes to play.

## PACE LEADERS

- Saucedo led Pace in the air, going 10-of-13 for 112 yards and a touchdown.

- Scotman rushed for 44 yards and a score.

- Jones caught two passes for 67 yards and a touchdown in the game, adding a 33-yard kickoff return.

- Jean Baptiste took his only reception 62 yards for a touchdown in the first quarter.

- David Grant (West Orange, NJ/West Orange) had a strong defensive game, making eight tackles and forcing a fumble.

- Olatayo Ishola (Irvington, NJ/Sayreville/Lackawanna College) had a big sack for Pace, causing the Warriors to lose 11 yards on the play.

- Matthew Ferrara (Cresskill, NJ/Cresskill) had an interception, also adding six tackles, including one for loss of yards.

**Great Rate and a Bonus on Each 1-Year Anniversary -- with Your Choice of Passbook or Statement Savings!**

**BONUS Savings Account**

**0.75%**  
APY\*

\$25,000 minimum to earn stated rate

**PLUS**

**BONUS\*\***

**0.25%**

On each 1-year anniversary of account opening



**Marianne Volpi**  
Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager  
Rose Hill Shopping Center, Thornwood  
914-769-8400

**Visit us today!**

**Apple Bank** 

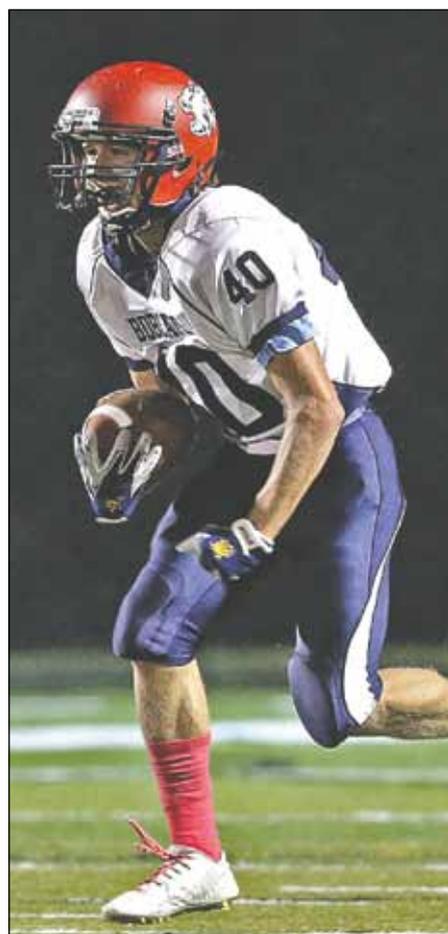
Established 1863 · Member FDIC

[www.applebank.com](http://www.applebank.com)

\*For the Apple Bank BONUS Savings account, interest earned on daily balances of \$2,500 or more at these tiers: \$2,500-\$24,999: .10% Annual Percentage Yield (APY), \$25,000 and up: .75% APY. There is no interest paid on balances of \$0-\$2,499. APYs disclosed effective as of September 6, 2016. APYs may be changed at any time at the Bank's discretion. There is a minimum of \$2,500 required to open the Apple Bank BONUS Savings account. \$2,500 minimum daily balance is required to avoid \$10 monthly maintenance fee. Fees may reduce earnings. Funds used to open this account cannot be from an existing Apple Bank account. Maximum deposit amount is \$3,000,000 per household. \*\*Special bonus feature: A .25% simple interest rate bonus will be paid on each anniversary date of account opening on the lowest balance for that year (anniversary date to anniversary date). No bonus is paid if the account balance is less than \$2,500 on the anniversary date. Additional deposits during a given anniversary period do not affect the bonus interest payment. Deposits made to the account on any anniversary date will be used to calculate the lowest account balance for the next anniversary period. The bonus interest is calculated on the lowest balance on deposit from one anniversary date to the next anniversary date. Simple interest rate bonus is subject to change at any time after first anniversary date of account opening. **Hypothetical example of how bonus works:** Assume an account is opened on January 12, 2016 for \$50,000. A \$10,000 withdrawal is made on July 12, 2016. No other withdrawals are made prior to the January 12, 2017 anniversary date. The low balance is now \$40,000, so \$100 in bonus interest will be paid on January 12, 2017.



ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Byram Hills quarterback Jay Bancone drops back to pass in Friday's playoff qualifier vs. Brewster.

Jack Frischman of Byram Hills finds some running room in the playoff qualifier at Brewster.

# Bobcats Blanked by Brewster



The Bobcats' Jacob Tokson runs with the football during Friday night's game against host Brewster.



The Bobcats' Conor Ahern gets set to tackle Brewster back Henry Terry in the first half of Friday's game.



Shawn Bernard uses his blockers as he returns a kick in the 33-0 Byram Hills loss to the second-seeded Bears on Friday night.



The Byram Hills defense can only watch as Brewster star Jack Guida heads toward the end zone in the Bears' 33-0 win over the Bobcats in a Class A playoff qualifier.

## Howe's Last-Second Field Goal Lifts the Panthers Past Westlake

*continued from page S-3*

yard romp along the right sideline and Donnery's point-after tied the game once again with 7:26 to go.

The Panthers, with Howe sidelined for one play on fourth and five at the Westlake 38 with four minutes remaining, opted to quick-kick the ball away and the decision soon paid off. Their defense forced a punt that Drillock returned to the Wildcats' 31-yard line with 90 seconds remaining and then they quickly moved 27 yards in three plays.

After two more running plays near the goal line, Howe delivered his game-winning kick with two and a half seconds left. The Wildcats turned the ensuing kickoff into their own version of Cal's five-lateral miracle vs. Stanford 34 years ago, but weren't nearly as successful.

Afterwards, Becerra was thankful that Howe had recovered from his stinger enough to boot the winning field goal.

"He's the guy we needed to be out there," he said. "I mean, he wouldn't have gotten back in if he wasn't cleared by our trainer. That's a blessing."

"I don't know much about it, it's only my second year," said Castellano. "But any time Westlake and Pleasantville get together, I guess this is what you get. It was exciting. I think anybody who came to this game saw a great high school football game. They saw two teams who gave everything they had for 48 minutes. And it came down to a 25-yard field goal."

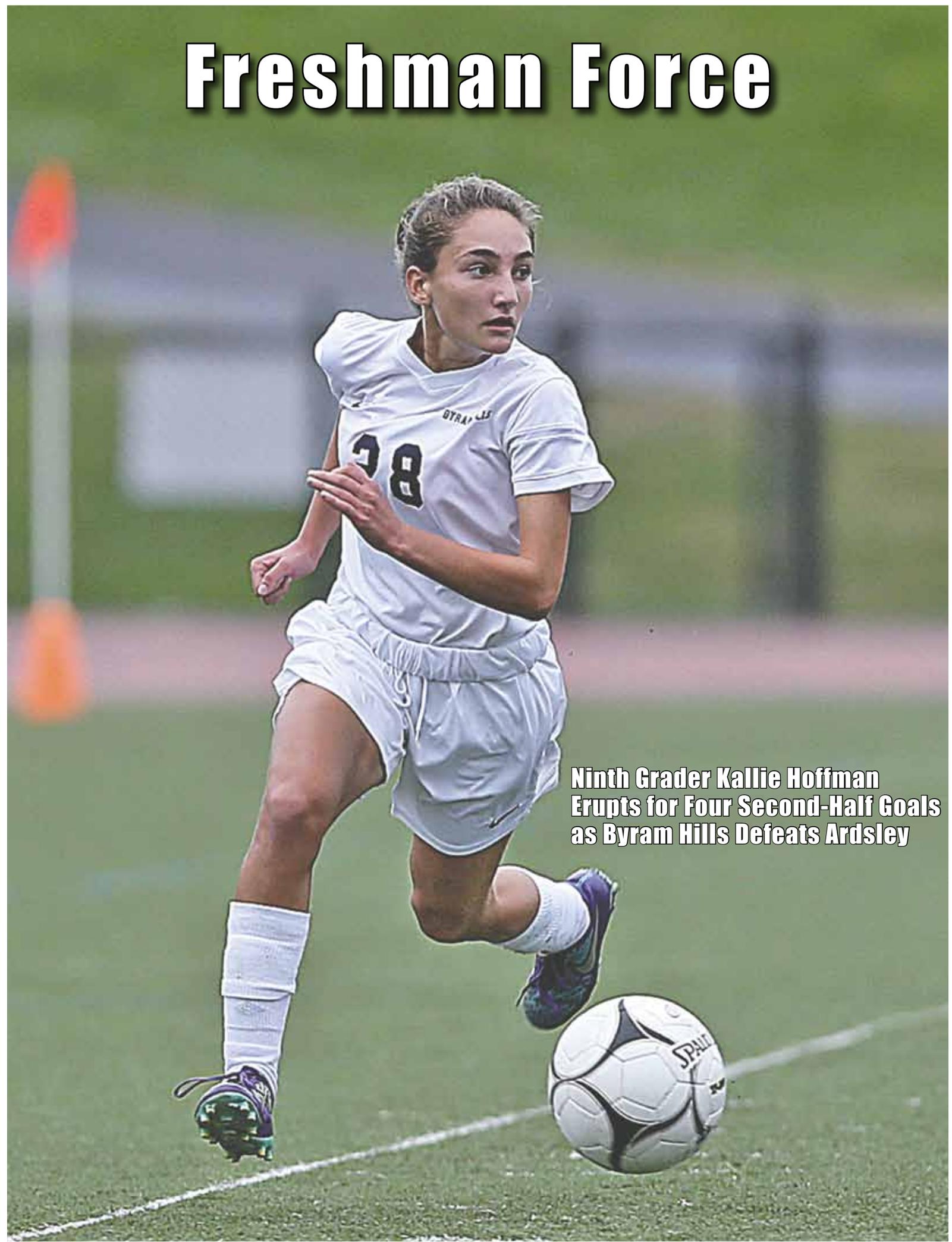
Chances are, the two teams have not seen the last of each other this season. If they meet again, the stakes will be much higher.

"I won't give them a message about

Westlake yet," said Becerra of his players. "It's not gonna be them in the first two rounds. If we are destined to see them again, I'll worry about that when the time comes."

"Playoffs start next week, and that's when it counts," said Castellano. "And nobody knows it better than us last year. We lost to Nanuet. I told the kids, 'Stay focused, continue with the process and, God willing, you'll meet 'em again.' And that's what I'll tell these kids. 'Stay focused, continue with the process and, God willing, you'll meet 'em again.'"

# Freshman Force



**Ninth Grader Kallie Hoffman  
Erupts for Four Second-Half Goals  
as Byram Hills Defeats Ardsley**

ANDY JACOBS PHOTO