

## BACK ON TOP



**Jack Ryan and the Briarcliff Bears  
Defeat Blind Brook 48-39 on Sunday  
to Regain the Class B Championship**



# Quakers Fall to Mount Vernon in the Sectional Semifinal

By Danny Lopriore

The Horace Greeley boys' basketball team saw its successful season end in the Section 1, Class AA semifinals Wednesday, but not before battling defending sectional and state champion Mount Vernon head to head in a 91-80 loss at the Westchester County Center.

The Quakers (18-5), seeded fourth, led by as many as eight points in the first half and still led 47-41 early in the third quarter before the top-seeded Knights (21-2) extended to a 70-63 lead going into the fourth. Mount Vernon advanced to Saturday's Class AA title game at Pace University, where they beat Ramapo.

Senior Gregory Karr hit 7 of 11 3-point shots and scored a team-high 23 points to lead the upstart Quakers. Karr made his first four tries from 3-point range, including two in the first quarter to lift the Quakers to a 21-13 first-quarter lead.

Greeley coach Felix Nicodemo, who took over the team this year, said the game plan was to take the game to the Knights from the opening whistle.

"If I told you I was surprised, I'd be lying, about what this team is capable of," Nicodemo said. "We decided we were going to go at them from the start, press them and play our game. 'Mount Vernon had the advantage in size and depth on the bench, but we played them tough the whole way. We don't give in and that's why we have been successful this year.'"

While Karr and the Quakers were making 9 of their 16 chances from 3-point territory, seniors Brandon Gecaj and Jeremy Block were penetrating the



The Quakers' Chris Melis looks over the Mt. Vernon defense as he dribbles near midcourt in last week's semifinal at the Westchester County Center.

Knights defense to get to the basket. Gecaj scored 20 and Block added 15. Sophomore star Chris Melis, who was slowed by early foul trouble, scored 14.

"Guys stepped up and we took it to them," Nicodemo said. "We made our shots. They can wear you down a little. I thought the rebounding was the difference. We worked hard inside and left it all out on the floor."

Senior Jason Douglas-Stanley was a force for the Knights, scoring a game-high 37 points, including 15 in the decisive third quarter when Mount Vernon pulled away from a halftime tie to take a 70-63 lead. Sophomore big



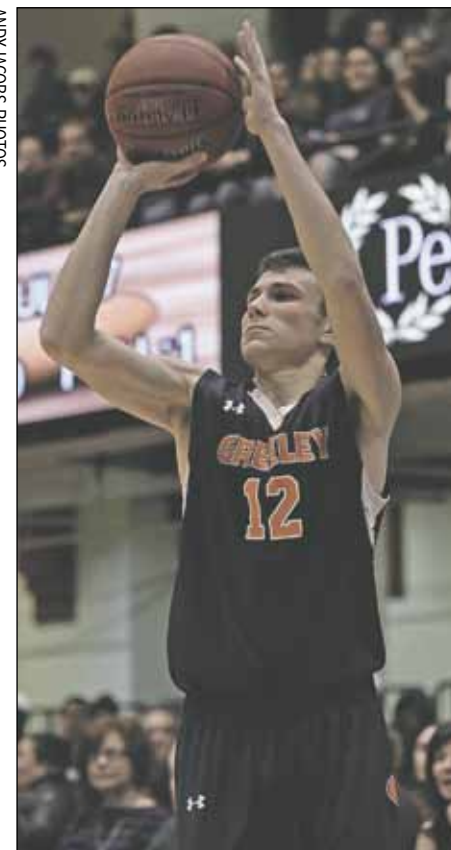
Horace Greeley senior guard Jeremy Block takes the ball to the basket during the Class AA semifinal game against top-seeded Mt. Vernon.

man Troy Hupstead scored 13 points and grabbed 16 rebounds.

Greeley played the Knights chest to chest in all aspects of the game except for rebounding, where the winners outrebounded the Quakers 36-17. Mount Vernon's superior size and bench depth proved to be the difference into the fourth quarter.

Mount Vernon's 14-2 run early in the fourth quarter stretched its lead to 86-68. Douglas-Stanley had seven points in the run.

Despite trailing by 18 points midway through the fourth quarter, the Quakers rallied one last time after Karr and



Greeley's Greg Karr shoots the ball from the left corner in last Wednesday's semifinal game vs. Mt. Vernon.

Melis both fouled out of the game. Gecaj scored seven points and Greeley cut the Knights' lead to 11 before the final buzzer.

"We are still dealing with a loss, so the guys may not want to think about the overall season right now," Nicodemo said. "I'll tell you what, we found out we could do great things if we outwork the other team. We did that."



Horace Greeley coach Felix Nicodemo directs the Quakers in the second half of the Section 1, Class AA semifinal at the Westchester County Center.



Ryan Sullivan of Greeley gets into the lane against Mt. Vernon, where he's surrounded by Demetreus Lee (left) and Jason Douglas-Stanley.



Greeley senior Brandon Gecaj tries to drive past Mt. Vernon's Troy Hupstead along the left baseline in last Wednesday's Class AA semifinal.

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# Briarcliff Girls Fall Short in Bid to End Bulldogs' Dynasty

By Andy Jacobs

For the Briarcliff girls' basketball team, Sunday afternoon's Section 1, Class B championship game turned into yet another painful reminder that the decade-long Irvington dynasty is still far from over.

The top-seeded Bulldogs used a 13-2 first-quarter run to seize control over the Bears and never looked back, winning their fourth successive sectional championship with a convincing 74-64 victory at Pace University's Goldstein Fitness Center. Despite a bravura 39-point performance from junior star Maddie Plank, the Bears were left to ponder a second consecutive loss to Irvington in the Class B final.

"I don't know," said Bears head coach Don Hamlin afterwards, struggling to explain how another showdown with Irvington went the Bulldogs' way. "We didn't play as well as we hoped. Honestly, to the bitter end, I thought we were gonna find a way to figure it out. We just never got over the hump."

Plank, the smooth-shooting southpaw who verbally committed to Princeton late in the season, exploded for 25 of her points after halftime when the second-seeded Bears were desperately trying to whittle away at a Bulldog lead as large as 17 points. Her 3-pointer with 3:10 left in the game capped a 14-3 Briarcliff run that sliced a 62-45 deficit to just six points. But, unfortunately for the Bears, they never got any closer.

"Yeah, Maddie tried to put us on her back," said Hamlin. "She played a phenomenal game. We just needed a couple other people to play well. We just didn't quite get there."

The Bears actually started the day as if their time to hoist the champion's Gold Ball was about to arrive. Just 13 seconds after the opening tip, sophomore Alana Lombardi connected on a 3-point shot from the left corner. Plank's first bucket of the game, on a drive through the lane, gave Briarcliff a 5-3 lead. Lombardi soon made a steal and went coast to coast for a layup to provide a 7-5 edge almost three minutes into the contest.



Surrounded by four Irvington players, Briarcliff's Kacey Hamlin rises for a jump shot in the lane during the Section 1, Class B championship game.

But Irvington, winners now of eight of the last nine sectional titles, proceeded to score 10 straight points and never trailed again. Back-to-back baskets from Plank moved the Bears within 18-13, but the first quarter ended with the Bulldogs getting a 3-pointer from Abby Conklin and a buzzer-beating layup by Mary Brereton to build a 10-point cushion.

The Bulldogs had no trouble picking apart the Briarcliff defense in the opening quarter, making eight of their 10 shots from the field, including four of five from beyond the 3-point arc. And even though Irvington dropped down to 29 percent in the second quarter, the Bears were unable to take advantage and chip away at the double-digit lead. It took an old-fashioned 3-point play from Plank with 20 seconds left in the half just to get the Bears within 35-25 at the break.

"They were on fire and we were playing catchup the whole game," said Hamlin. "We just never got to the point where we got comfortable defensively. They did a great job running their stuff and we didn't."

Irvington's Olivia Valdes and Conklin both made 3-pointers early in the third quarter, enabling the Bulldogs to stretch their lead to 41-27. Even though Plank wound up scoring 11 points in the period,



Julia Barbalato of Briarcliff dribbles the ball in Sunday afternoon's Class B title game against the Irvington Bulldogs.



Briarcliff's Maddie Plank glides past a trio of Irvington players in Sunday's Class B title game. She made 16 of 27 shots from the field and finished with 39 points.

Briarcliff never got any closer than nine points. The quarter ended with three straight baskets by the Bulldogs, who opened up a 55-40 advantage against the overwhelmed Bears.

The lead grew to 17 points when Kelly Degan, who finished with a team-high 23 points, provided a conventional 3-point play on a layup while getting fouled with 5:24 left on the clock. But then Plank scored six points and junior guard Kacey Hamlin added four more in the midst of the 14-3 Bear burst that added some late-game suspense.

Plank's 15-foot pullup jumper from the right baseline with 2:45 to go cut the Irvington lead to 66-61. But she missed a pair of free throws with 1:44 left and a layup by Degan 20 seconds later gave the Bulldogs a 70-61 margin. Plank's 3-pointer from the right elbow with 1:10 remaining again moved the Bears within six, but a pair of foul shots by both Valdes and Conklin sealed the Irvington win.

"The whole game, really, we just missed so many foul shots," said Hamlin, whose team finished just six of 15 from the



It was another frustrating finish for Kacey Hamlin and the Bears as they lost to Irvington in the Class B championship game for the second straight year.



Briarcliff sophomore Alana Lombardi tosses up a shot in the lane during Sunday's title game at Pace University's Goldstein Fitness Center.

charity stripe. "We didn't help ourselves there at all."

The Bears, 21-2 this season, with both losses to Irvington, had advanced to the championship game by defeating Putnam Valley 44-31 in a semifinal game played at the Westchester County Center last Monday night. Plank finished with 15 points and Lombardi added 12 for the Bears, who held the Tigers to just 12 second-half points.

But they had no answer six days later against experienced Irvington, so now the big-three core of Plank, Lombardi and Kacey Hamlin is down to one last chance together to put an end to their rival's longtime dominance in Class B.

"I guess you can either tank or try to get stronger. Hopefully we'll do the latter," said coach Hamlin, whose players will likely find out in 52 weeks if the third time can indeed be the charm. "They've all had amazing moments this season. It's not on them. We got outcoached, we got outplayed. It happens."



Briarcliff head coach Don Hamlin watches his team try to mount a fourth-quarter comeback in Sunday's Class B championship game.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



# Bears Top Blind Brook to Regain Class B Championship

By Danny Lopriore

Miles Jones grabbed his championship moment Sunday afternoon, scoring 11 of his game-high 15 points in a second-quarter surge to lead Briarcliff to a 48-39 victory over Blind Brook in the Section 1, Class B championship game at Pace University.

The senior-laden Bears, who won their second title in the last three years, were tested early until Jones took over the offense in the second quarter. Just a junior, Jones hit three consecutive 3-pointers and a slashing drive to the hoop to lift the Bears from a one-point lead to a 28-15 advantage at halftime.

Briarcliff (20-4), the third-seed, advanced to the state regional round and was scheduled to meet Section 9 champion Marlboro on Tuesday night at Mount St. Mary College in upstate Newburgh. Fourth-seeded Blind Brook finished with a record of 18-5.

"The first 3-pointer came in the flow," said Jones, who also had eight rebounds. "Usually we go inside first, but the offense stalled. They'd reach in on defense and caused some turnovers. They were



Briarcliff's Spencer McCann tosses a left-handed shot over Blind Brook's Hudson Powell in Sunday's Class B title game at Pace.

running J.R. (Jack Ryan) off the 3-point line. That left me open and I can step back and shoot at a decent range. After the second one hit, the rim looked like the ocean and they kept falling. That opened the drive to the basket."

Senior Spencer McCann controlled the area under the basket on both ends, gathering 11 rebounds and making four big blocks while scoring seven points for the Bears. Briarcliff also dominated the boards, outrebounding the Trojans 36-24.

"That game last year was still on my mind for a while, so this is very satisfying for us to get back here," McCann said, referring to last year's loss to Pleasantville in the title game. "This group is the tightest group we've had all three years I've been here. Everything begins with our defense. That's the first thing every year. You can win games with defense."

The defense forced the Trojans to shoot from the perimeter, where they could manage only one 3-pointer in 15 tries, while the Bears hit 6 of 11 and used their superior size inside.

Briarcliff senior Jackson Gonseth had 10 points and seven rebounds despite



Tucker Wexler of Briarcliff rises for a shot in the lane during the Class B title game at Pace's Goldstein Fitness Center.

fouling out late in the fourth quarter. The big man had seven points in the first quarter to help his team keep pace and was named tournament Most Valuable Player for his work over the semifinal and final games.

"It's unbelievable, honestly. I can't put into words how happy I am and proud of my teammates," Gonseth said. "It feels natural. I do want to say we were sure we were going to win, but we worked our [butts] off to get here again, so we needed to win. I think we have the ability to go much further."

The Bears relied on their defense,



Briarcliff junior guard Miles Jones connects on a 3-pointer during his second-quarter barrage Sunday that helped lift the Bears to the sectional championship.

which has been consistent throughout the playoffs, holding the Trojans to 15 first-half points, then battled through the second half when both teams fought for each basket.

"I could have been a little better with some of the rough stuff inside, but our guys stay calm through the tough spots," Gonseth said. "I think it showed maturity, especially Miles, Spencer and Jack (Ryan)."

The Bears extended their 13-point halftime lead to 40-26 going into the fourth quarter, but did leave some points

*continued on next page*



Briarcliff senior guard Jack Ryan searches for an open teammate in the second half of Sunday's title game vs. Blind Brook.



The Bears' Jackson Gonseth, named the tourney MVP, drives to the basket during the Section 1, Class B championship game vs. Blind Brook.



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on the free-throw line, making just 12 of 22. The Trojans hit 8 of 14, but missed three of their last six in the fourth quarter while outscoring the Bears 13-8 in the period.

Briarcliff earned its fourth straight trip to the Class B finals with a hard-earned 55-43 victory over Irvington last Monday at the Westchester County Center.

Ryan, a senior guard, who was named to the All-Tournament team along with Gonseth, led the team with 18 points. Gonseth scored 15 points and McCann grabbed nine rebounds for the Bears.

"The defense came up big in the fourth quarter and that has been there for us all year," Ryan said. "Tucker (Wexler) gave us a big boost and we got through. We are focused on finishing the season strong."

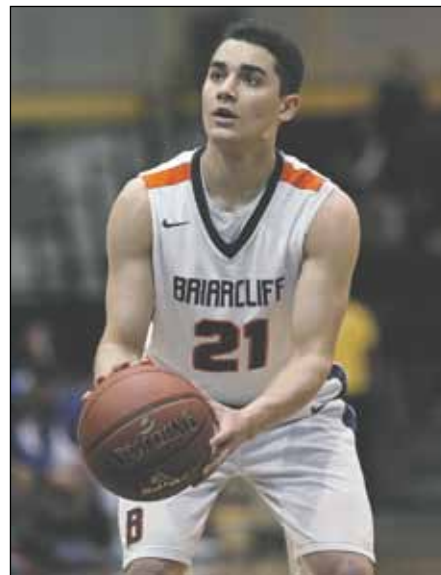
The Bears showed their determination and balance, led by reserve Wexler, who

scored six points from the late third quarter into the fourth, helping turn a narrow 34-33 margin into a 12-point win.

"It was the seniors' last game at the County Center and we wanted to go out winning here," Wexler said as he waited to get into the locker room at the County Center following the game. "I had some opportunities to get good looks at the basket. Everyone on this team contributes. I'm excited to get another chance to win a championship."

Jones, who was a freshman bench player when the Bears won the title in 2016, said he could appreciate this year's success much more as the Bears looked ahead to the goal of a state title.

"Compared to my freshman year when I didn't play that much, this is amazing because I really didn't understand the meaning of it all then," he said. "We're not done yet though. This is a great moment for our team, but we have more to do."



The Bears' AJ Panarese lines up a free throw in Sunday afternoon's title game against Blind Brook.



Briarcliff head coach Cody Moffett holds both his daughter and the newest addition to the Bears' trophy case after Sunday's 48-39 title win over Blind Brook.



Greeley's Chris Melis shoots the ball from the foul line in last Wednesday's Class AA semifinal game.



Briarcliff junior Maddie Plank passes the ball as she's surrounded by Putnam Valley players in the Bears' 44-31 semifinal win last Monday evening.



Briarcliff players, left to right, Miles Jones, Tucker Wexler and Spencer McCann head toward the bench for a timeout in last Monday afternoon's semifinal win over Irvington at the Westchester County Center.

## COUNTY CENTER SCRAPBOOK



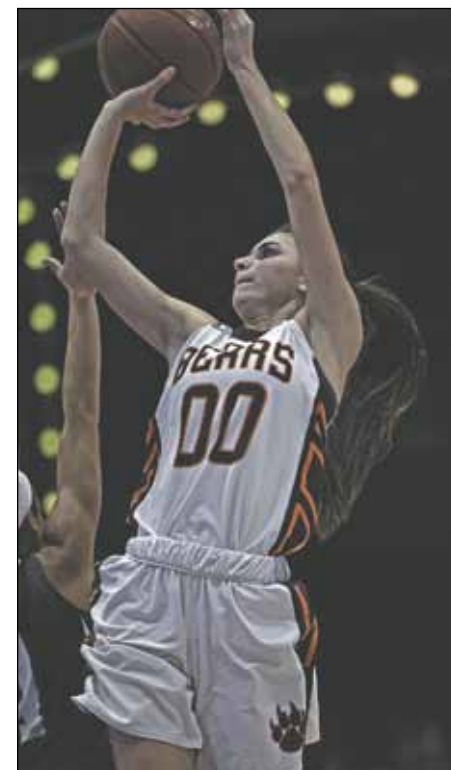
Tucker Wexler of Briarcliff exults after scoring a big basket in the Bears' semifinal victory over the Irvington Bulldogs.



Horace Greeley senior Greg Karr is greeted by coach Felix Nicodemo after fouling out in the fourth quarter of the Quakers' semifinal loss to Mt. Vernon.



Briarcliff's Jack Ryan fires a jump shot over Irvington's Sidney Thybulle in last Monday's Class B semifinal game.



Kacey Hamlin of Briarcliff shoots the ball during last week's Class B semifinal win over the Putnam Valley Tigers.



Horace Greeley guard Jeremy Block is pressured in the backcourt by Mt. Vernon's Sebastian Daley during last Wednesday's Class AA semifinal game.



# Bobcats' Path to a Title Game Again Blocked by John Jay

By Andy Jacobs

For the second year in a row, the Byram Hills hockey team crossed paths with the John Jay Indians in the semifinal round of the Section 1, Division 2 playoffs.

And for the second year in a row, it was the Indians who advanced to the championship game, while the Bobcats made another frustrating exit from the Brewster Ice Arena.

Sophomore forward Jack Browne scored three times, while Brian Daley added two goals and two assists, as the top-seeded Indians skated past fourth-seeded Byram Hills 8-3 on Friday night. Two of Browne's scores came during a four-goal, third-period explosion by John Jay that turned the contest into a rout.

"They're very disappointed," said Bobcats head coach A.J. Cloherty after his players had slowly skated off the ice for the last time this season. "They had high hopes and expectations coming into this season, and rightfully so. They really wanted a chance to play for the big one on Saturday and they fell just short."

Despite a second period in which John Jay controlled the puck, outshooting the Bobcats by a whopping 18-8 margin, a goal by Will Cohen with 2:38 remaining moved Byram Hills within 3-2. Unfortunately for the Bobcats, just 90 seconds later, the Indians' Chase Goldman, who finished with a goal and three assists, skated up the right wing, then made a perfect pass to the left side of the crease where a waiting Browne easily tipped the puck past goalie Grace Lunder.

"Yeah, if we stick to 3-2 after the second period, it's a totally different game," said Cloherty. "But they caught us flat-footed. One of our defensemen made a mistake, they capitalized on it, 4-2, and that really took the wind out of our sails. But they did dominate us in the second period. They came out hot and our players couldn't counter their attack. That's why there's the 10-shot differential."



The Bobcats' Lucca Conigliario works his way toward the net in the sectional semifinal vs. John Jay on Friday night.

The goal by Browne, his first of the game, with 59 seconds left in the second period enabled the Indians to take a two-goal lead to the final period. The Bobcats never really recovered, and just 64 seconds into the third period Browne tallied his second goal, all but putting an end to the Byram title aspirations.

"We told the kids," said Cloherty, "if we give up that fifth goal, it's gonna be a rough rest of the period. And the first minute and a half, they scored a goal. That was that. You could see the disappointment on the kids' faces and it's hard to bounce back."

It was actually John Jay that had to bounce back earlier in the evening. A goal by senior John Fontana, assisted by Michael Salandra, with just under five minutes remaining in the opening period put the Bobcats on the scoreboard first. But the Indians' John McKeon knotted the score with 1:27 left in the period.

The Indians, who would go on to win the section championship the next day, grabbed the lead for good on a tip-in goal by Daley with 8:40 to go in the second period, moments after a Bobcat power play had ended. Just 24 seconds later, Goldman gave John Jay a 3-1 cushion by skating down the right wing, moving to



John Jay's Charlie Oestreicher tries to poke the puck away from Ethan Behar of Byram Hills during Friday night's Division 2 semifinal playoff game at Brewster Ice Arena.



Michael Salandra of Byram Hills scores an empty-net goal to seal the Bobcats' 6-3 victory over Pearl River in the sectional quarterfinals last Tuesday evening.

his left and sending a shot past Lunder.

The goal by the Bobcats' Cohen late in the second period that sliced the Jay lead in half seemed to give Byram hope again, but the Indians quickly dashed those hopes with their third-period onslaught that left Lunder removing the puck from the net over and over again.

"The defense hung her out to dry," said Cloherty. "She's great at everything. The one weakness is the breakaways and we gave up way too many breakaways for her to handle. She's probably disappointed because she holds herself to such a high standard. But as a coach, I couldn't have asked for her to do anything more. In the second period, she made seven or eight impossible saves at point-blank range that most goalies would let in."

The Bobcats had advanced to face John Jay by defeating fifth-seeded Pearl River 6-3 in Tuesday night's quarterfinal game in Brewster. Salandra, just a freshman, had three goals and an assist. It was his power-play goal with just a second remaining in the second period that broke a 2-2 deadlock and gave the Bobcats the lead for good. His empty-netter with 37 seconds left in the game sealed the outcome.

Regrettably for the Bobcats, the same John Jay team that had ended their 2016-17 season with a tension-filled 1-0 double overtime win in last year's semifinals was

waiting for them again. This time, though, there was far less drama.

"It was still a great season," said Cloherty. "The season we put together, the schedule, it was the hardest you'll see in the last 20 years that we've had. Filled with huge D 1 teams. We only played five D 2 opponents. It was a success. It helped prepare us and it made us stronger."

Asked when he'll start planning for the inevitable showdown with the Indians next year, he answered, "For me, personally, immediately, even though my girlfriend will hate me for it."



Byram Hills senior Willie Mann controls the puck in last Tuesday's quarterfinal playoff win over Pearl River at Brewster Ice Arena.



Byram Hills senior goaltender Grace Lunder stays ready in front of the net during Friday's semifinal game against the John Jay Indians.



Bobcats head coach A.J. Cloherty watches his team skate against top-seeded John Jay in Friday night's sectional semifinal game.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



# Quakers Shake Up Section One Hockey by Stunning Pelham

By Andy Jacobs

Maybe it wasn't quite on the same scale as the 1980 "Miracle on Ice" at the Lake Placid Olympics, but the Horace Greeley Quakers sure shook up the status quo in Section One hockey on Friday night.

Freshman Dylan Mutkoski's goal in the sixth round of an overtime shootout gave the Quakers an improbable victory over four-time defending champion Pelham in a Division 2 semifinal that probably could have used Al Michaels on hand to reprise his famous "do you believe in miracles?" call.

Unfortunately for the Quakers, though, they had to return to the ice just 14 hours later to face John Jay in the championship game at Brewster Ice Arena. The top-seeded Indians took advantage of a weary Greeley team that had just endured four seven-and-a-half minute overtime sessions and came away with a 5-3 victory.

"It's been a whirlwind," admitted Quakers head coach Dan Perito, looking back on 24 hours of postseason euphoria and disappointment for his third-seeded team. "It's hard to put the whole season into a time capsule right now and look back on it. But give it some time and I think we can take a look back and realize we accomplished a lot."

Facing top-seeded John Jay, the Quakers quickly descended from Cloud Nine and were forced to spend all of Saturday afternoon battling from behind. Just over a minute after the opening faceoff, Chase Goldman put the Indians on the scoreboard and they remained in front the rest of the way.

Jay's Jack Browne scored the first of his two goals, on a wrist shot from the left that found the far side of the net, with just 53 seconds left in the period and Greeley found itself trailing 2-0 at the first intermission.

"I knew going in we were gonna be dragging a little, especially in the



The Quakers' Ryan Renzulli moves the puck up the ice in last Tuesday's 4-0 quarterfinal victory over Rye at Brewster Ice Arena.

beginning," said Perito, whose team was outshot 21-7 in the opening period. "I was hoping we could get a couple shifts for everyone, get our legs under us and kind of ease into it. Second shift, John Jay was able to get a goal. We still weren't fully into it yet."

The Quakers did manage to narrow their deficit to just 2-1 three minutes into the second period when Ryan Renzulli won a race for the puck behind the net and sent it in front where Jake Cronin deposited it past Indians goalie Taylor Isom. But just 10 seconds later, John Jay's John McKeon one-timed a shot past Arye Wolberg to restore the Indians' two-goal advantage.

"There was some life on the bench and it really gave us a shot in the arm," said Perito about the goal from Cronin. "But then we gave it right back, which was tough. You know, that kind of takes the wind out of your sail."

Even more wind came out of the Quakers' sails early in the third period when an odd-man rush by John Jay led to a McKeon pass from the right wing to Brian Daley in front for another Indian goal that left the Quakers trailing 4-1 with



Horace Greeley's Reed Putnam tries to maintain his balance as he reaches for the puck in Saturday afternoon's Section 1, Division 2 championship game vs. John Jay.

11:44 left in the game. But just a minute later, Greeley answered with an unassisted goal from Alex Milne. And with 9:21 to go, Liam Whitehouse scored to narrow the deficit to just one goal.

"I've never questioned the heart, the effort and the hustle of this team all year," Perito said. "We've fallen behind numerous times and been behind late in games. We've tied the game twice in last minutes of a game and won in overtime before. So I knew that no one was gonna quit."

But the Greeley comeback bid was thwarted as Browne, who had a hat trick in Jay's semifinal win over Byram Hills, scored a spectacular goal with just 4:16 left on the clock, somehow maneuvering through a pair of Quakers and then poking the puck past Wolberg while falling face-first onto the ice. The goal by Browne all but sealed the outcome and soon the Indians were flinging their sticks, gloves and helmets all over the ice in celebration of their first title in five years.

"It's just a tough play and that was really a back breaker, mentally," said Perito of the dazzling goal by Browne that dashed the Quakers' hopes. "But, again, we never quit. We almost got a fourth goal there at the end, just snuck by the post. We were fighting an uphill battle all day with the conditions coming back from last night 16 hours later. Obviously even one day's rest would've been great. But out of our control. We don't have a say in that, really.

We played the hand we were dealt."

For Perito and the Quakers, trying to beat both Pelham and John Jay on successive days proved to be just too big a hurdle. But they gained plenty of respect around the region, especially after battling the perennial powerhouse Pelicans to a 1-1 stalemate through 75 minutes of tense hockey at the Ice Hutch as Wolberg, just a freshman, made 45 saves.

"He was a wall in net for us," said Perito. "I mean, he was unbelievable last night. He's one of the reasons why we won that game."

The Quakers wound up just one win shy of capturing their first sectional title and Perito, his first year at the helm now behind him, will have a lot to savor from a memorable season.

"I told 'em before the third period and I just told 'em again there, I could not be prouder of this group of players for everything they accomplished," he said. "You know, we had never won a league title, we had never gotten to the championship before. They accomplished so much in one season. That's something at the very least they can hang their hats on. Right now it's not what they want to hear, it's not the result they wanted. But when they take a minute and look back on it, they'll be able to appreciate it."



Greeley players, left to right, Dillon Rusiecki, Garrett Katchis and Evan Scott set their sights on the loose puck with a wide-open net in front of them during the third period of Saturday's championship game.



Dillon Rusiecki of Greeley fires a shot toward Rye goalie Peter Patouhas in last Tuesday's quarterfinal playoff game, won by the Quakers.



Greeley freshman goalie Arye Wolberg made 45 saves in the Quakers' stunning upset of four-time defending champion Pelham on Friday night.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



## Bears' Unstoppable Force

**Maddie Plank Scores 39 Points in Briarcliff's Class B Title Game Against the Top-Seeded Bulldogs at Pace's Goldstein Center Sunday**