

Turf Twisting



**Greeley's Nikki Potter Tries to Dodge
Against Briarcliff's Julia Dalessandro
in the Quakers' 20-9 Victory on Friday**

Foxes Fall to Mahopac in Chilly Lacrosse Thriller

By Danny Lopriore

Fox Lane and Mahopac each used scoring streaks to take the lead Thursday afternoon before the visiting Indians scored three goals in the game's final eight minutes to pull out a wind-blown 11-9 victory over the Foxes.

Fox Lane tied the score at 8-8 with 9:29 left in the game on a goal by junior attack Isabel Abt. But Mahopac then scored three consecutive goals to close out the Foxes, whose record dropped to 1-1.

Senior attack Giana New scored four goals and her frontline classmate Callie Wortman added two goals for the Foxes. Abt, freshman Quinn Alami and sophomore Natalie Bazyk each added a goal. New had scored seven goals, including the 150th of her varsity career, in the season-opening 12-8 victory over White Plains.

"I think we need to pass the ball and get that momentum going and we lost that at times out there," New said after the Foxes' season record had fallen to .500. "It got a little hectic, a lot of dropped balls, and we missed some opportunities as well. There was some miscommunication on defense at times as well. But I thought we played well at times."

Mahopac took a quick 1-0 lead less than a minute into the game before New and Wortman scored five goals between them as the Foxes opened up a 5-2 lead with three minutes remaining in the first half. But the Indians scored twice to cut their deficit to just one goal at the half.

"We're learning out there with so many



The Foxes' Isabel Abt sets her sights on the back of the net as she holds the ball vs. Mahopac.

younger players getting used to being on the varsity," Wortman said. "We're learning to communicate and when it got a little rough out there. The refs said it too. That's where experience is important. We are going to get better."

The Foxes are coming off last year's 10-8 season in which they advanced to the Section 1, Class B quarterfinals before losing to Yorktown. The youthful squad is expected to improve as it goes through the season.

Fox Lane coach Bill Broggy is learning more about his young team with each practice and game. The Foxes, who feature just five healthy seniors and a large group of underclassmen, opened the season with the convincing win over White Plains before falling to Mahopac.

"I saw fixable things," Broggy said,



Natalie Bazyk gets set to pass the ball during Fox Lane's home game vs. Mahopac on Thursday.

referring to several lapses on offense and defense. "We have a very coachable group, but we have a lot of young kids who have the skills but need to learn the concepts. Conceptually, you can see the young kids didn't know what to do in some situations. Our seniors did the work that we know they can do."

Caroline Raymond scored four goals for Mahopac and controlled the offensive play with her passing and movement behind the net. Gigi Genovese added



Fox Lane's Gianna New heads for the cage in the first half of Thursday's home game.

three goals, including a score that gave the Indians a 9-8 lead with less than nine minutes remaining in the game.

Despite the loss to the Indians, Fox Lane did manage to bounce back two days later. With New erupting for nine goals, Bazyk adding four and Wortmann three others, they defeated visiting Clarkstown North 20-9. The Foxes return to action with a game at Bronxville on Wednesday, then host Lakeland/Panas on Saturday afternoon.



Goalie Maeve Luparello and the Fox Lane defense try to stop Mahopac's Caroline Raymond as she fires a shot in last Thursday's game, won by the visiting Indians.



Callie Wortmann of Fox Lane fires a shot at the cage on a free-position opportunity in the first half vs. visiting Mahopac.



Quinn Alami prepares to deliver a pass behind the cage in Fox Lane's home loss to Mahopac.



Fox Lane's Tess Krensky is pressured by Mahopac's Caroline Raymond in last week's home game at Memorial Stadium.



Alix of Fox Lane attempts to run past Mahopac's Christina Lopreato in the first half of Thursday's Fox home game.

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Quakers Take Command in the Second Half to Beat Briarcliff

By Andy Jacobs

In the final minute of Friday afternoon's girls' lacrosse game against the visiting Briarcliff Bears, Horace Greeley's Sophia Rutman provided two final hints why the Quakers were about to win their first game of the season.

The Quakers' sophomore goalie thwarted both Ashley Goldstein and Emma Smoler on point-blank shots in free-position situations, bringing a fitting end to a day in which her ability to keep the ball out of the cage made a big difference. Rutman wound up stopping 14 shots by the Bears, enabling Greeley to eventually take command and go on to a 20-9 rout.

"Sophia Rutman got the start and she just had a great game with the stops," said Quakers head coach Annamarie Marasco afterwards. "She never seems to get frazzled. With Sophia in the cage, I feel confident and the girls in front of her feel confident because she just makes the right decisions."

"Yeah, their goalie played unbelievable, lights out," said impressed Briarcliff coach Jess McDonough. "I think we threw a lot at her and she stopped everything. So, in my eyes, she's like the MVP of that game. She was awesome."

The Quakers, who had begun their season with a loss to North Salem, got six goals from Lily Ives, five from Bella Arrese, four by Clara Curnin and three more by Hailey Rosenthal. They opened up a 9-6 lead at halftime, stretched it to 15-8 midway through the second half, then scored the game's final five goals to win in a romp.

"They had one sub, so they don't really have a bench," said Marasco. "We knew we could get them tired by using our subs. For them, they got tired. That's a big part of the game. It's a running game and we were able to put fresh legs in."

The lack of depth for a Briarcliff team that graduated eight players, but only has two newcomers, hardly mattered last week as the Bears opened the season by crushing Hastings and Dobbs Ferry by a combined 30-6 margin. But facing the Quakers, the Bears found themselves trailing just 30 seconds into the game.



Briarcliff's Kelly O'Donnell draws some attention from the Greeley defense as she runs with the ball from behind the cage.



Greeley sophomore goalie Sophia Rutman proved to be a big obstacle for the visiting Briarcliff Bears on Friday afternoon.

Back-to-back goals by Sam Kilman, who finished the day with five of them, gave Briarcliff its only lead of the game, 2-1, just over three minutes after the opening draw. Another Kilman goal, with 13:17 left in the half, tied the contest for the fourth and final time at 4-4. But just 20 seconds later, Ives sent a low shot past the Bears' Charlotte Baer into the left corner of the net and Greeley never trailed again.

Briarcliff was still within 7-6 with 7:14 to go before halftime as Julia Dalessandro converted after getting a pass from Kelly O'Donnell behind the cage. The Quakers, though, soon answered with a goal by Curnin and then stretched their advantage to three goals as Arrese fired in a lefty shot with just 39.5 seconds left on the clock.

"We weren't making the best decisions," said the Bears' McDonough. "We weren't making high-percentage passes. We



Horace Greeley junior Lauren Dinhofer gets ready to fire a shot in the Quakers' home victory over the Briarcliff Bears on Friday afternoon.



Julia Dalessandro of Briarcliff moves toward the cage with the ball during Friday afternoon's game at Greeley.

weren't taking high-percentage shots. So I just think, overall, when we started playing a little bit sloppier Greeley did a great job of capitalizing on every one of our mistakes and converting every turnover into a goal. They played very well."

Just as they had to start the game, the Quakers scored 30 seconds into the second half as Rosenthal scooped up a loose ball in the defensive end and proceeded to race 80 yards down the field before firing a shot past Baer from right of the cage. The Greeley lead grew to 11-6 four minutes later when Ives converted on a free-position shot.

Kilman's fourth goal of the game brought the Bears back within four again with 19:09 left to play. But that was as close as they would get as Greeley outscored them 9-2 the rest of the way. The Quakers erupted for three goals in 54 seconds to open up a 14-7 cushion.

The last of Kilman's goals, on a one-hopper into the right side of the cage as she was running to her left, narrowed the Briarcliff deficit to 15-9 with 12:15 remaining. Unfortunately for the Bears, they never scored again after that while the Quakers got goals from five different players to make the final score lopsided.

"We were able to shut down their big



Briarcliff's Kendall Hayes (right) and Emma Smoler converge on a loose ball in the Bears' road game vs. Horace Greeley.



Greeley's Lily Ives tries to maneuver past Briarcliff's Kendall Hayes late in the second half of Friday's game, won by the host Quakers.

player," said Marasco. "And we can score. But we have to clean up some unforced errors. We made some adjustments at halftime and tried to get our girls to understand go for the open shot and not try to force it. Our offense can score if they stay patient and work for the open shot."

With her team's early two-game winning streak ending with a thud, McDonough knows there are plenty of things the Bears can now work on in practice.

"I think we're just gonna go back to the drawing board and go back to the foundation, keeping it simple," she said. "We went away from our game plan and when the score started to get away from us we just kind of got a little nervous. We're still trying to get our groove and seeing our team chemistry."



Greeley's Bella Arrese scored five goals in Friday's 20-9 win over Briarcliff.

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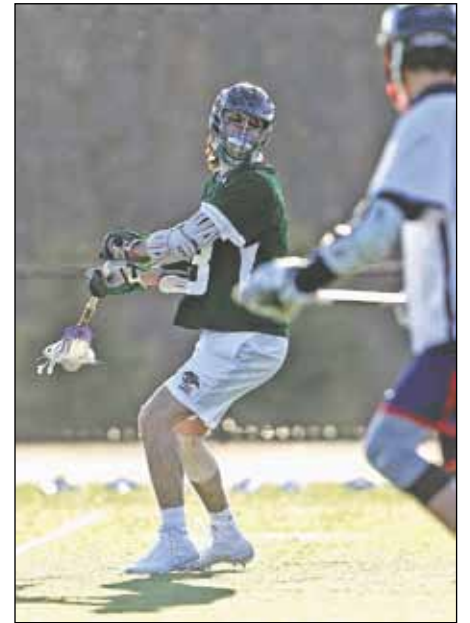
Greeley's Noah Brail heads toward the cage during last Wednesday's easy win over North Salem.



Pleasantville's Brennan McDermott protects the ball as he's guarded by Luke Simon of Byram Hills in the fourth quarter of Thursday's game.



Casey Begleiter of Byram Hills has his path blocked by Tim Driscoll of Pleasantville during Thursday afternoon's game.



Pleasantville's Jack Howe gets set to unleash a shot in the second half of the Panthers' 13-5 win over host Byram Hills.



Ethan Anikstein of Byram Hills moves the ball up the middle of the field in Thursday's home game vs. Pleasantville.



Horace Greeley's Elijah Cohen prepares to launch a shot at the cage during last Wednesday's victory over the North Salem Tigers.



Pat Doherty of Pleasantville goes on the attack during the Panthers' win at Byram Hills on Thursday.



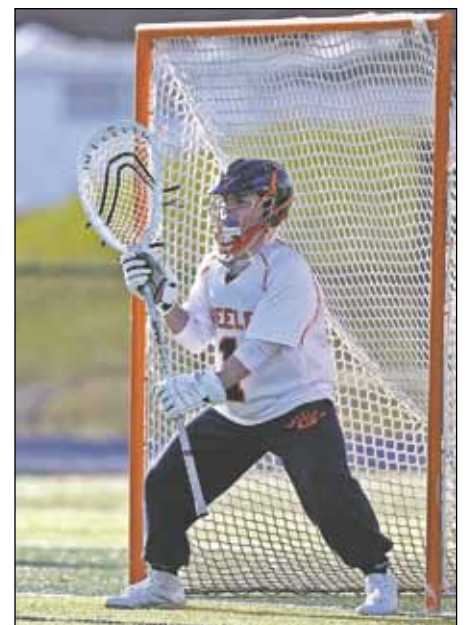
Daniel Meringolo passes the ball up the field in Horace Greeley's 12-2 rout over visiting North Salem.



Greeley's Eli Rosenblum looks over the North Salem defense before firing a shot in last Wednesday's Quaker home game.



Greeley junior midfielder Liam Whitehouse gets set to fire a shot on goal in the Quakers' rout of North Salem last week.



Greeley sophomore goalie Matthew Maitland guards the cage in last week's game vs. North Salem.



Grace Capko of Pleasantville searches for an open teammate vs. host Brewster.



Lauren Drillock of Pleasantville draws some attention from the Brewster defense as she heads for the cage in the second half of Saturday's game.



Pleasantville's Kathryn Finnegan moves up the field in the second half of Saturday's game at Brewster.



Byram Hills' Cole Geller passes the ball vs. visiting Pleasantville.



Pleasantville's Grace O'Hara scoops up a groundball during the second half of the Panthers' loss to Brewster.



Pleasantville's Jenna McAllister takes the ball along the right sideline during Saturday's game at Brewster, won by the Bears.



Paige Long of Pleasantville controls the ball in the Panthers' road loss to Brewster.



Kyle Gelber of Horace Greeley races the ball across midfield in last Wednesday's 12-2 victory over visiting North Salem.



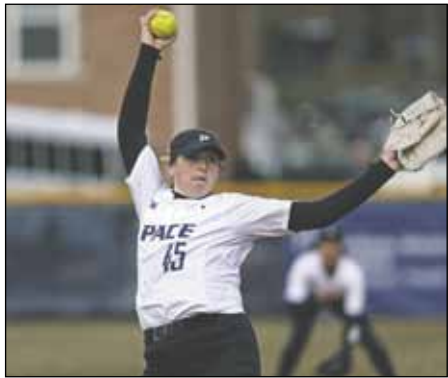
Brian Reda of Pleasantville moves toward the cage as Jake Stumacher of Byram Hills tries to slow him down in the Panthers' 13-5 victory.



Will Mykytiuk of Byram Hills is guarded closely by Charlie McPhee of Pleasantville in the second half of Thursday's game.



Pace second baseman Niyah Brown belted an inside-the-park home run in the first game of Thursday's doubleheader vs. New Haven.



Pace University Emma Bernet pitches in Thursday's opening game of a doubleheader vs. New Haven. She went the distance for her fourth win of the season.



The Setters' Aby Brambila smacks a double in the second inning of Thursday's first game vs. visiting New Haven.



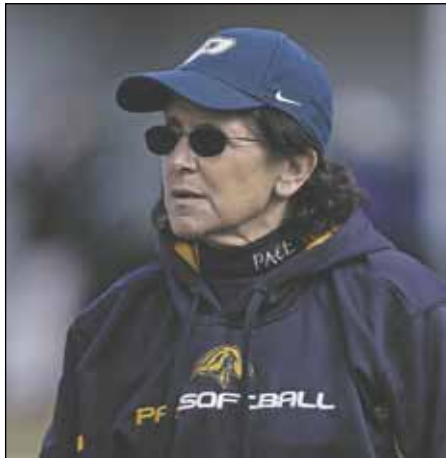
The Setters' Meagan Wells rounds third base in the first game of the home twin bill on Thursday.



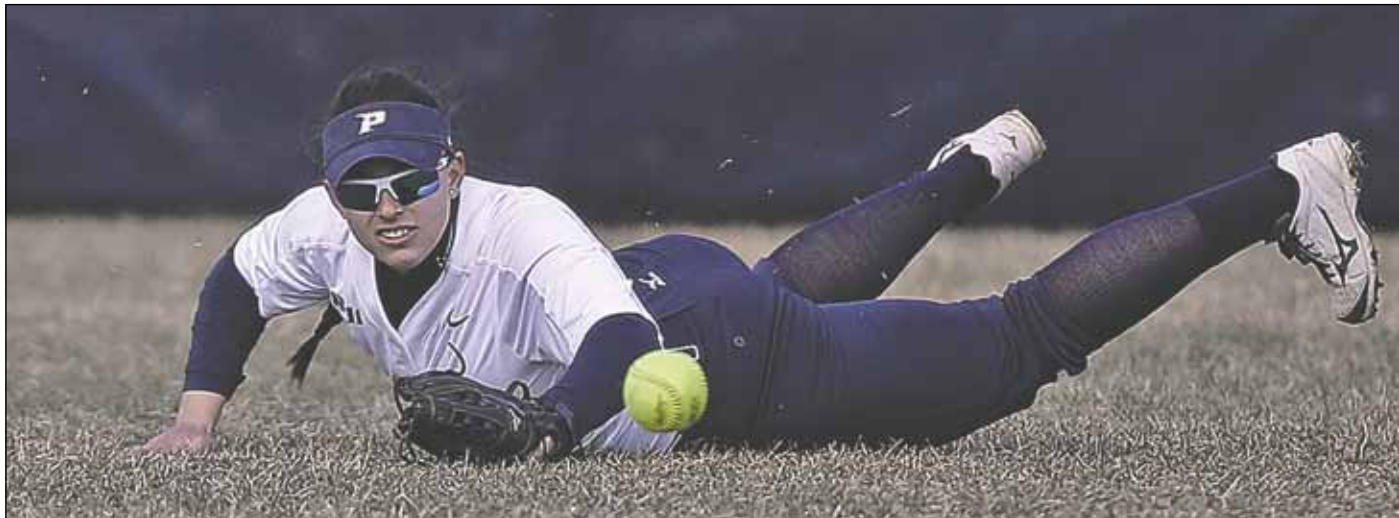
Pace freshman Niyah Brown slides across home plate to complete her inside-the-park home run in the third inning of the 8-0 win over New Haven.



Pace senior shortstop Ashley Lew watches the flight of a pop fly vs. visiting New Haven.



Pace head coach Claudia Stabile watches her team sweep a doubleheader against the New Haven Chargers on Thursday afternoon.



Pace center fielder Larissa Labs makes a diving attempt to catch a sinking liner during the Setters' doubleheader sweep of New Haven last Thursday.

Wildcats Cruise Against Haldane



Jamie Perfito scores a run in Westlake's game at Haldane. She later smacked a three-run homer in the 17-6 win.



Second baseman Kerrianne Maloney waits for a chance in the infield in Westlake's lopsided win over Haldane.



The Wildcats' Nicole Dragonetti awaits a pitch as she bats in Monday's season-opening game.



Kristin Pierce of Westlake delivers a pitch vs. Haldane in the Wildcats' 17-6 win.



Westlake third baseman Laine Peterson applies a late tag during Monday afternoon's game at Haldane High School.



Westlake's Angelina Guarnieri takes a lead off third base during Monday's game at Haldane.

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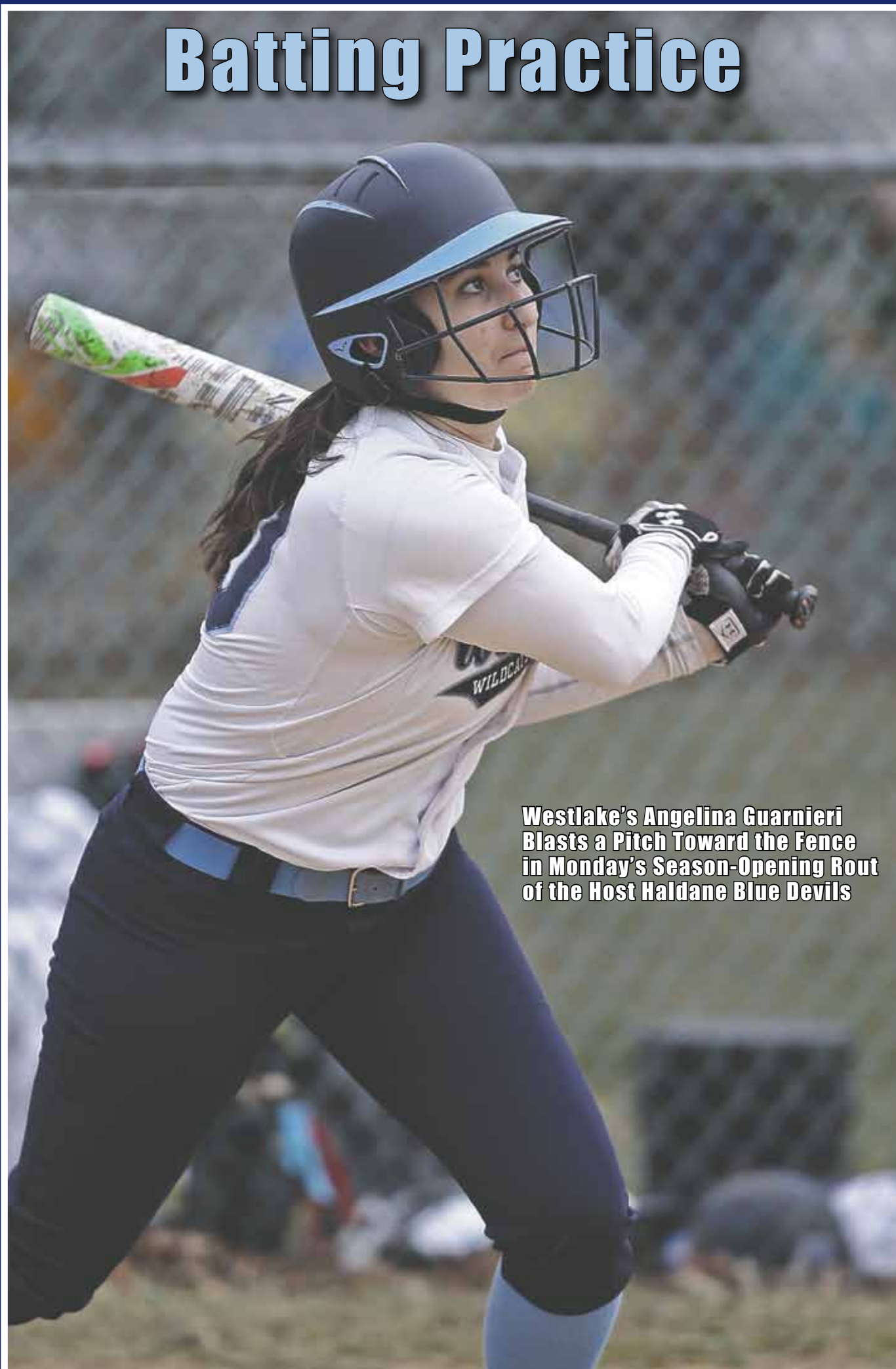
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**Westlake's Angelina Guarnieri
Blasts a Pitch Toward the Fence
in Monday's Season-Opening Rout
of the Host Haldane Blue Devils**