Fox Lane's Cullen Morgan Attempts to Get to the Cage With Time About to Run Out Against the Visiting Indians in the Class A Quarterfinals
Small News is BIG News

**Quakers’ Season Ends With a Loss to Top-Seeded Yorktown**

By Monica D’Ippolito

After dramatically defeating Ossining in the opening round of the Section 1 tournament on Thursday, ninth-seeded Horace Greeley had the unenviable and difficult task of playing top-seeded Yorktown Saturday morning.

Despite taking advantage of opportunities that came on the offensive end, the Quakers couldn't match up defensively against the high-powered Husker offense and fell 16-4 in the Class B quarterfinals.

"Yorktown, give them a lot of credit, they’re a great team," Greeley coach Art Bonifati said. "We tried to keep it close and the girls played hard."

The Quakers won the opening draw, but couldn’t get their first shot on net until 12:05 remained in the half. Greeley’s first shot on goal was also its first score of the game, as Julia Arrese beat her defender en route to the goal, cutting the Quaker deficit to 7-1.

Yorktown was difficult to slow down once it started gaining momentum. Its dominance off the draws prevented Greeley from getting any opportunities on the offensive end. The Huskers held a 9-2 advantage on the circle in the first half, while winning 15 of 22 face-offs in the game.

Yorktown, which held a 9-1 lead at intermission, opened up the second half with another score. But the Quakers’ Anna Waterhouse responded with a goal of her own. After winning the ball off the draw, Waterhouse sped down the field, beat her defender, and then ripped a shot past the goalie for Greeley’s second goal of the morning.

Teammate Katie Jakacki followed the Waterhouse score with a goal nearly a minute later, trimming the huge deficit to 11-3 with 18:39 to play. The Quakers’ three shots on net resulted in three goals, but the difficulty was getting the ball out of the defensive end and generating more offense.

"We had four or five unforced errors on offense, where we threw the ball away," Bonifati said. "That was the key in the first half. If we would have had those possessions, not that we would have won the game, but it would have been a lot closer."

Waterhouse would later score the Quakers’ final goal of the game at the 14:15 mark of the second half with another score. But the Quakers’ Anna Waterhouse responded with a goal of her own. After winning the ball off the draw, Waterhouse sped down the field, beat her defender, and then ripped a shot past the goalie for Greeley’s second goal of the morning.

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Waterhouse would later score the Quakers’ final goal of the game at the 14:15 mark of the second half. The senior midfielder made a nice move inside the eight-meter and snuck in her second goal of the game.

Waterhouse led Greeley offensively, totaling two goals on five shots, while fellow senior Emma Lowrey recorded a goal on two shots. Waterhouse also helped facilitate the game-winning goal Thursday against eighth-seeded Ossining as the Quakers prevailed 11-10.

"We had the ball and there was two minutes and 13 seconds, so we held the ball until there was like 30 seconds," Bonifati recounted. "Anna Waterhouse went to the net, she made a pass, we scored and we were fortunate to get the ball back off the draw. That was a great game, but it would have been better if we were able to beat these guys, too. But it’s tough. They’re a great team, they have great players. I give them all the credit, but we played hard. We really did."

Along with Waterhouse and Lowrey, the Quakers will lose fellow seniors Bernadette Grant, Isabel Laforteza, Olivia Lyman, Margot Putnam, Eleanor Sadik-khan, Maddy Tipp and Izzie Gutenplan to graduation.

"They (the seniors) left it on the field," Bonifati added. "This is the first game that, when the game was over, I can tell that they played their rear ends off. They really played hard. They’re going to be missed next year. They’re some great kids and they left it all on the field. They played the best they could. They couldn’t have played any better."
Foxes Fall Just a Bit Short in a Playoff Loss to Mahopac

By Monica D'Ippolito

If there had been just two more seconds left in Saturday's Section 1, Class A quarterfinal playoff game between Fox Lane and Mahopac, it would have taken overtime to determine a winner.

But time expired just before Cullen Morgan's shot found the back of the net to seemingly tie the score. Instead the top-seeded Foxes fell just short, losing 7-6 as their season came to a thrilling, but disappointing, end.

"We played really hard," said Fox Lane coach Chris Coughlin. "We had plenty of opportunities, they just didn't go our way when we needed them to. Mahopac played a great game. They're a really tough team and scrappy."

The game began with a Thomas Tenney goal with 8:09 remaining in the first quarter. After the Indians tied it up almost three minutes later, Matt Magnan worked his man and got some space to sidearm his shot past Mahopac goalie Michael Aurisicchio for the score and a 2-1 lead entering the second quarter.

Fox Lane quickly added to its lead on its first possession of the period. The Foxes held the ball for over three minutes, while getting five shots on net. On the fifth attempt, Liam Belhumeur found Matt Harrison for the goal.

Despite slowing down the pace and creating long possessions, the Foxes couldn't collect another goal for the rest of the half. Although Fox Lane outshot the Indians 15-4 in the second quarter, Mahopac wound up tying the game at 3-3 at halftime.

Mahopac got its first lead of the game midway through the third quarter, but Tenney soon tied the game up again. But the Indians won the ensuing faceoff and grabbed the lead back with 3:02 remaining in the quarter.

The Indians stretched their lead to 6-4 in the final quarter before the Foxes came roaring back to tie the game again. Tenney began the late rally by grabbing a ground ball in front of the net and placing it past Aurisicchio.

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The Foxes held the ball for over three ticks left on the clock. Morgan took full advantage of the extra-man opportunity, finding space and ripping a shot to the near post to tie the game up at 6-6.

Unfortunately, for the Foxes, Mahopac, back at full strength, won the all-important faceoff and quickly moved the ball down the field. With 17 seconds left, Donohoe received a pass atop the fan and skipped a shot past goalie Colin Smith for the decisive goal.

But the Foxes were not quite done yet. Morgan won the final faceoff and ran the ball down the field. As he wound up to shoot, the buzzer simultaneously sounded. Morgan's shot wound up in the back of the net, but the goal was waved off, ending the Foxes' dreams of a sectional championship.

"It's an honor and privilege to coach here, and to be a part of a sectional game like this, with this much energy and intensity," Coughlin said. "This isn't like a pastime or hobby for me. I'm honored to be the coach here. I'm honored to coach these kids because they're wonderful kids. If we've got to lose a tough one, it's got to mean something. We've got to be able to learn something and take something away from this, in this tough moment."

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The bitter defeat ended a terrific regular season by the Foxes, who finished the year with a 12-5 record. Despite graduating key players on the defense in co-captains Luke Verrochi and Dan Tracy, Fox Lane will bring back the majority of its players on offense, in addition to starting goalkeeper, Smith.

"Definitely, we have a lot of good returners on our offensive end," Coughlin added. "Our defense is going to be a big question mark. We have our goalie that's great, who's returning. Sean New, one of our starting defenders, is returning. So the future is still bright for us here. This is obviously a great disappointment for us in the season, but we have to make it mean something and get better in the offseason."

A postseason that seemed to hold so much promise for the Foxes ended much sooner than they wanted, and Coughlin knows he and his players will struggle to come to grips with the disappointment.

"This is going to be something to look at, just as a program and say, 'What could have been?'" he said. "Because had we been on a little bit more with some of our shots, we would have won that game. But it didn't happen."
Valhalla’s Colleen Kelly goes on the attack in the second half vs. host Westlake.

Nicole Nero of Briarcliff fires a shot in the Bears’ easy playoff win vs. Ardsley.

Raquel Gaudio of Byram Hills moves in looking for a shot during the Bobcats’ playoff win vs. visiting Brewster.

Lauren Holzer runs with the ball during Westlake’s first-ever sectional victory, last Thursday vs. Valhalla.

Byram Hills’ Kate Khouri takes the ball across the field in Thursday’s opening-round playoff win.

Above: Westlake’s Alexandra Falkenberg tries to run away from Valhalla’s Stephanie Halbauer in last week’s playoff game won by the host Wildcats.

Right: Westlake eighth-grader Emily Sardo gets ready to fire a shot in the Wildcats’ playoff win over Valhalla.

Natalie Morley of Byram Hills gets set to fire a shot on a free position vs. Brewster.

Sofia Mazza of Valhalla takes the ball up the field as Keira Donnelly of Westlake gives chase.

Briarcliff’s Jordan Ricciardi controls the ball late in Thursday’s home victory in the Class C playoffs.

Above: Jordana Cohen of Briarcliff gains control of a draw during the Bears’ lopsided playoff win over Ardsley.

Left: Lisa Rice of Valhalla is closely guarded by Westlake’s Gahyun Helen You during the Class C quarterfinals last Thursday.

Above: Westlake’s Stephanie Halbauer in last week’s playoff game won by the host Wildcats.

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BOYS’ LACROSSE 2015
Sectional Playoffs Early Rounds

John Plimpton of Briarcliff passes the ball in last Thursday’s home playoff game vs. Haldane.

Briarcliff goalie Graham Goldheim looks to outlet the ball after making a save vs. Haldane.

Briarcliff’s Danny Millner tries to run past Haldane’s Brendon Twoguns in Thursday’s easy Bear victory.

Above: Pleasantville goalie Oscar Marchi gets set to start a Panther break after making another save in the easy playoff win over Hastings.

Left: Nick Cebel of Briarcliff moves to his left for a shot during last week’s first-round playoff win over visiting Haldane.

Byrom Hills’ Matt Berger has his eyes set on the goal in the third quarter of last week’s home playoff game vs. Somers.

Pleasantville’s Brian Reda (left) and Bryan Arcidiacono celebrate after a Panther goal in Thursday’s playoff rout of Hastings.

Jaime Cantu of Byram Hills races across the field with the ball late in Thursday’s playoff loss to visiting Somers.

Above: Byram Hills’ Matt Grotta prepares to fire a shot on goal in the Bobcats’ quarterfinal playoff game vs. Somers.

Left: Pleasantville’s Baylor Rosenbaum searches for an open teammate during Thursday’s lopsided win over the Yellow Jackets.

Byrom Hills goalie Wesley Cutler has plenty of company as he gets ready to scoop up a ground ball during the Class B quarterfinals vs. Somers.
Above: Greeley’s Davis Kim blasts a forehand at last week’s Conference 1 tournament at Vassar College.

Right: Matt Corso of Greeley hits a forehand during a third-set-tiebreaker win at the conference tourney last Monday.

Kellen Hatheway of Byram Hills takes a big swing in last Thursday’s showdown vs. Rye.

Fox Lane’s Andrew Workman throws a pitch during Saturday’s Senior Day vs. the John Jay Indians.

Pleasantville’s Aiden McDermott hits a shot off the ninth tee at Hudson Hills Golf Course last Tuesday.

Fox Lane’s Robbie Ferman stretches for a backhand return at last week’s conference tourney up at Vassar College.

Sachin Ganesh of Fox Lane lines up an overhead during his singles match in the Conference 1 tournament last Monday afternoon.

Fox Lane second baseman Chris Stern throws to first for an out vs. John Jay on Saturday afternoon.

Byram Hills’ Matt Gertz pitches in Thursday’s home game vs. the Rye Garnets.

Horace Greeley’s Ben Fortier moves in to hit a backhand volley at last week’s Conference 1 tournament.

Above: Greeley’s Davis Kim blasts a forehand at last week’s Conference 1 tournament at Vassar College.

Right: Matt Corso of Greeley hits a forehand during a third-set-tiebreaker win at the conference tourney last Monday.

Phipps Lawrence of Fox Lane gets ready to smack a forehand at last week’s conference tourney.
Briarcliff Wins a League Title by Defeating the Wildcats

By Andy Jacobs

The Briarcliff baseball team used some small ball on Friday evening at Dutchess Stadium to earn a big victory.

Blanked over the first four innings by Westlake's Michael Poggioreale, the opportunistic Bears took advantage in the top of the fifth of a bloop hit and then a pair of Wildcat miscues to score all the runs they would need in a 3-1 win. Junior right-hander Cameron Johnson went the distance, limiting Westlake to five hits, as the Bears closed their regular season by capturing the Conference 3-C league title.

"Yup, you always try to scrounge and you always hope that something's gonna fall your way," said Bears coach John Schrader afterwards. "And fortunately for us, yes, it did today."

The Bears, now 14-6, had stranded baserunners in scoring position in both the first and second innings and were still facing a 1-0 deficit as they came to bat in the fifth. Westlake got on the scoreboard in the second inning when Justin Adams led off with a booming triple to the gap in left-center and came home one out later on a flare single to center by Nico Agosto.

Poggioreale had only surrendered one hit all evening, Jake Hertz' bloop double to right field leading off the game, before running into trouble when the Bears batted in the fifth inning. Will Spielfogel reached on a two-base error, again on a short fly ball down the right-field line similar to the earlier hit by Hertz. Johnson, the ninth hitter in the bears' lineup, bunted in front of the plate and the throw to first sailed down to the right-field line, scoring Spielfogel and tying the game.

A sacrifice bunt by Hertz moved the go-ahead run to third base and then Miles Henshaw was hit by a pitch. Mike King followed with yet another short fly toward the right-field line. Steve Guglielmi, who went out to play right field an inning earlier, came charging in and made a sliding catch. But by the time he realized there were still only two outs, the go-ahead run had long since scored and Henshaw was rounding third base and heading for home.

The throw to the plate was well up the line toward first base and Henshaw cleanly scored a big insurance run for the Bears, who suddenly had a two-run lead despite managing just one hit against Poggioreale.

"Yeah, just maybe misjudged the ball and had to slide and then just forgot the situation," said Westlake coach Michael Paquette about the fateful play that doomed his team. "Unfortunately, there wasn't three outs. We can't give away runs, especially when we've been struggling to score runs all season."

"You know, he made a great attempt," said Schrader of the play by Guglielmi in right. "Fortunately for us, it worked out the way it did. And our pitcher, Cameron Johnson, shut the door, did a great job finishing up."

Any chance the Wildcats had of regaining the lead disappeared as Briarcliff used double plays in each of the final three innings to squelch Westlake's comeback bid. In the bottom of the fifth, Drew Kapica ripped a leadoff single to center. But he was soon cut down by catcher Jonmichael Dolgetta trying to steal in what turned out to be a strikeout-throw-him-out double play.

An inning later, Chris Donato led off with a single to center field. But after Poggioreale flied out, Justin Adams grounded into a 4-6-3 double play to end the inning. In the top of the seventh, Briarcliff squandered a chance to add to its lead when Hertz, who had been hit by a pitch, was thrown out trying to reach third on Henshaw's sacrifice bunt.

"That was frustrating," said Schrader. "It looked like, to me coaching third, we would be able to get him (Hertz) there. But I'll take the blame for that."

The lost opportunity hardly mattered for the Bears as Johnson, after yielding a one-out hit to Agosto in the bottom of the seventh, induced lefty-hitting Thomas Cosentino to hit a hard chopper to short where King fielded the ball, stepped on second and threw to first for a game-ending double play.

"Absolutely great job all the way around," said Schrader, who took the Briarcliff head job this season after serving as a longtime assistant to John Consorti, now on the

Westlake’s Nico Agosto, who had two hits vs. Briarcliff, takes a lead at first base.

Westlake’s Michael Poggioreale pitches in Friday night’s game at Dutchess Stadium.

Westlake right fielder Steve Guglielmi makes a sliding catch in the fifth inning of Friday’s night’s game vs. Briarcliff.

Briarcliff shortstop Mike King tags out Westlake’s Drew Kapica in Friday’s game at Dutchess Stadium.

Briarcliff’s Rob Contenko blasts a long fly to center field in Friday’s game vs. Westlake.

Westlake staff and honored by the Bears in a brief ceremony prior to the first pitch.

"We're pretty much where we wanna be," added Schrader. "We're looking forward to starting in the playoffs next Thursday. We scrimmage tomorrow at Nanuet, Monday at Mahopac, Tuesday at Rye. I wanna get the kids ready for Thursday. We're not sure who we play yet, but whoever it's gonna be the kids'll be ready to play."

Despite the defeat, Westlake's Paquette was encouraged by what he saw from his team, which has had its lineup and outfield defense rearranged due to injuries and illness.

"I was happy with tonight," he said. "I mean, obviously we lost, so it's disappointing. But I think this was overall our best game we've played. Pitching was really good, our hitting was much better. Even our outs were hit solid. It was one of the cleaner games we've played, besides a half inning there. So, overall, disappointing, but the kids played very well tonight."
**TRACK & FIELD**

**Westchester County Championships**

**Byram Hills High School**

**May 17, 2015**

Westlake’s Robert Sodequist hits the finish line in the 100.

Right: Valhalla’s Ricky Thomas runs in the 400.

Briarcliff’s Caroline Pennacchio took first place in the 3000.

Pleasantville’s Drew Dorflinger is on his way to victory in the 3200.

Valhalla’s Melissa Giglio clears a hurdle.

Pleasantville’s Patrick Waits wins the 800.

Above: Fox Lane’s Kerry Schwartz turns a corner in the 1500.

Left: Byram Hills’ Samantha Mayers races in the 100.

Above: Fox Lane’s Danny Molka runs just ahead of teammate Cameron Stafford in the 3200.

Right: Briarcliff’s Hanna Feuer competes in the long jump.

Pleasantville’s Alynne Jeanty runs in the 800.