Waiting for the Verdict

Pleasantville Base Runner Tom Marrone and Westlake Second Baseman Nick Sica Anxiously Await the Call from the Umpire in the Panther Victory on Friday Afternoon
Foxes Withstand a Second-Half Comeback to Beat Greeley  
By Monica D’Ippolito

In the second matchup of the season between Fox Lane and Horace Greeley, the host Foxes dominated on the circle, and enough on the scoreboard, to secure their sixth win of the season, defeating the Quakers 11-7 last Thursday afternoon.

Fox Lane dominated possession throughout the game, but especially in the first half with Cecily Wheeler switched up taking the draw, and Keely Connors placed back on the circle. The two snatched up any and all loose balls, enabling the Foxes to end up gaining possession on 15 of the 20 draws taken in the contest, which turned out to be the difference.

“Did you see how many she got?” Fox Lane coach Bill Broggy said of Connors after the game. “We did it (switched it up) last week, I think, because (Connors) wasn’t winning it to herself and it was being sent to the circle. So if she’s not winning it to herself, we might as well put her on the circle and she’s great on the circle, and you saw that. And Cecily is good at it. Cecily is a good drawer.”

After a Connors goal four minutes in, Lindsay West notched the Foxes’ second shortly after, scooping up a ground ball after the ensuing draw and taking it to net.

Horace Greeley cut into the lead after taking advantage of a man-advantage following a Fox Lane yellow card. Emma Lowrey capitalized off a free-position, slicing the Quaker deficit to 2-1 with 18:14 left in the half.

But back at full strength, the Foxes immediately followed with a 4-0 run. Anna Waterhouse ended the streak by scooping up a ground ball in the middle of the field after a Fox Lane turnover to cut the Foxes’ lead to 6-2.

After the Quaker goal, the Foxes regained another possession on the ensuing draw, leading to a quick score by Bridget Connors with 1:27 remaining that built their cushion to 10-7 with 9:01 still to play.

After Greeley’s fourth consecutive goal, Broggy called a timeout to regroup his girls and regain their lost momentum.

“That we weren’t playing mentally,” Broggy said of what he preached to his girls during the timeout. “We were getting out hustled in transition and we weren’t playing smart. We took some bad shots, some bad turnovers, so that’s what I said. That’s the difference. You’re just as skilled as they are, but they’re out hustling you and playing smarter.”

Broggy’s words must have been heard because the Foxes refused to surrender another goal. Vernon, who finished with nine saves, made some huge plays down the stretch in net to help preserve the lead.

“Halie made some big saves,” Broggy said. “They were getting some transition (goals). Really, they just went hard to the goal all the time. We didn’t do a good job of sliding, we didn’t move our feet. You can’t do that in this game because then you’re always late and you’re always committing a foul. You have to anticipate what the offense is doing and we didn’t do a very good job of that in the second half.”

Keely Connors scored the last goal of the game and, fittingly, it came straight off the draw once again. Catching the ball out of the air, she ran all the way down the field and netted her fifth goal of the game.

“She’s unbelievable,” Broggy said of Keeley Connors. “She’s explosive, she’s hard-working, humble, and she’s the epitome of what you want in a player. She’s absolutely fantastic. Her skills, she’s a great teammate, she’s a great leader. She hustles, she plays defense, she plays offense, she goes at 100 percent seven days a week, even in practice. She’s just the best. She absolutely is the best.”

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Bridget Connors and Catherine Schreiber each finished with two goals for the Foxes, while Lowrey and Waterhouse led the Quakers with two goals apiece. Greeley goalie Megan Conroy finished with eight saves.
Satriale and Marino Pitch the Panthers to a Win Over Westlake

By Andy Jacobs

John Tucci may not be quite the fleetest player in the Pleasantville Panther lineup, but when his extra-base hit in the fifth inning of Friday afternoon's game at Westlake turned into a Wildcat misadventure in left field he got a rare opportunity to dazzle his teammates with his ability to run the bases.

Huffing and puffing his way all the way across home plate, Tucci scored a key run that provided the Panthers with all the insurance they would need in a 5-2 victory over the host Wildcats. Junior pitchers Chris Satriale and Drew Marino combined on a five-hitter as Pleasantville defeated Westlake for the second time in three days and improved to 5-7 this season.

"I mean, for a big boy, Tucci can run," said Panthers coach Dan Iorio afterwards. "So I wasn't holding him up, that's for sure. I had a lot of confidence that he would make it."

Before Tucci's two-out double, runs had been hard to come by and the two teams were deadlocked in a 1-1 battle. Tucci's hit easily scored Shane Coolen, who had reached on a single to right and then stole a base. The Panthers' burly third baseman would have been content to stop at second, but when the ball got away from the Wildcats' Jason Kalle, the race around the base paths that highlighted the afternoon was suddenly on.

"I think he kind of just took his eye off it a little bit," said Iorio about Kalle, "and he kicked it and it just kept going. We were sending him all the way."

"Yeah, it's a play we have to make," conceded Wildcats coach Michael Paquette. "Unfortunately, took a bad hop. Our fielder didn't make the play and it turned into a big play for them. It's just another thing we have to correct."

The game was tied at 1-all after four innings when Satriale, who had belted a three-run homer in the fourth, with two outs. A single to left field by freshman Nick Salzarulo brought home Nuccio, who had hit a blooper double to left that just eluded a diving Kalle.

Pleasantville's ability all day to make things happen with two outs was not lost on Paquette, whose team is now 4-8 this season after the two losses to the Panthers.

"Unfortunately that's been happening to us a little too much this year," he said, "Giving up the big hit with two outs. Yeah, we're definitely aware of it. So it's something we have to correct in the next couple of weeks."

The Wildcats did have a chance to get a bit closer in the sixth inning after putting their first two batters aboard. But Marino was able to get a key strikeout, then retired Matt Rubin on a fielder's choice grounder to second. When a pitch got away from Marrone behind the plate, Mike Poggioarele, who had belted a three-run homer in Wednesday's 6-5 loss, tried to score from third base.

But he was called out at the plate as Marino applied the tag, ending the Westlake threat.

"Yeah, it would've been a big play if he was in there," said Paquette. "I thought he was in there from my angle, but the umpire assured me that the tag was down and he had him. Frustrating, but I can't blame my runner there. He was trying to create something and make something happen. He said he got a good jump, so he went for it. Can't fault him there."

In the seventh, Marino retired the first two Westlake hitters before walking both Sica and Chris Donato. With the tying run at the plate, he fanned Matt Latino on three pitches to end the game.

"I did not get scared," said the Panthers' Iorio about the Wildcats' threats against Marino in the final two innings. "I knew that he'd be able to pull through because that's just the way he is. He's a gamer."

Now Iorio is hoping the two wins over Westlake can help give the Panthers some momentum with the playoffs just around the corner.

"We need consistency because in the beginning of the year we weren't getting that," he said. "Now it's starting to register with the guys a little bit more. We just kind of needed that little confidence booster right there."
Sports Scene

Valentina Rios competes for Byram Hills in the 3000 last Tuesday afternoon.

Byram Hills’ Jeffrey Asamoah turns the corner during the 4 x 400 relay last Tuesday at Rye High School.

Horace Greeley outfielders Alix Zipperman (left) and Samantha Russo both settle under a fly ball in Saturday’s game vs. White Plains. Zipperman made the catch.

Briarcliff shortstop Shivani Dave throws to first for an out vs. host Putnam Valley this past weekend.

Briarcliff’s Teresa Marinaccio pitches during Saturday’s game at Putnam Valley.

Rachel Julie of Briarcliff takes a big swing in Saturday’s 8-4 loss to Putnam Valley.

Byram Hills’ Kellen Hatheway runs toward second base in the Bobcats’ victory vs. Harrison last week.

Carly Schwartz of Byram Hills is on her way to victory in the 400 hurdles at last Tuesday’s meet vs. Rye.

Above: Byram Hills’ Kellen Hatheway runs toward second base in the Bobcats’ victory vs. Harrison last week.

Left: Greg Giuliani pitches for Byram Hills during Thursday’s home win over the Harrison Huskies.

John DiMarco of Byram Hills fouls a pitch down the left-field line in Thursday’s win over visiting Harrison.

The Bobcats’ Jon Mui (center) and James Bremner run together in the 3200 last week at Rye.

Byram Hills’ distance runner Maddy Weiland runs in the 3000 vs. Rye.

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Focus on Lacrosse

Byram Hills’ Jaime Cantu goes on the attack in the first half of last week’s game at Harrison, won by the Bobcats.

Matt Grotta of Byram Hills runs into some resistance as he moves toward the cage in last Tuesday’s 11-7 Bobcat win at Harrison.

Westlake’s Lauren Holzer controls the ball in last week’s game at Pleasantville during which she scored eight goals.

Sarah Cummings of Byram Hills works her way into position for a shot on goal in Thursday’s home game vs. Eastchester.

Westlake’s Ariella Ruggiero guards Pleasantville’s Nicole DiFabio, who finished with 10 goals, tries to run past Westlake’s Gahyun Helen You in last Wednesday’s 20-15 Panther win.

Lucas Cohen of Pleasantville gets set to pass the ball in Saturday’s 10-4 road win vs. the Arlington Admirals.

Noah Kamen of Briarcliff moves the ball up the left sideline in the fourth quarter of last week’s game vs. Croton.

Briarcliff’s Stefano Paeone sends a shot into the back of the net in the Bears’ easy win over visiting Croton-Harmon last Wednesday afternoon.
Greeley Defeats a Weary Wildcat Team in Boys’ Lacrosse

By Monica D’Ippolito

There was plenty of exciting action between the boys’ lacrosse teams from Westlake and Horace Greeley Saturday afternoon, complete with highlight goals, some costly turnovers and some hard hitting. But in the end, it was the host Quakers who came away with a 13-8 victory.

“I’m really proud of them,” Greeley coach Vin DeGregorio said. “There’s a lot of good talent on both teams… I think it’s great, I think there’s a lot of good lacrosse going on.”

With 24 seconds left in the first quarter, an Anthony Sardo goal cut the Quakers’ lead to 4-3 entering the second period. But Greeley’s Nate Morris then scored back-to-back goals, stretching the Quaker lead to three.

The Wildcats’ James Gorman respond by muscling a shot through two defenders that found the back of the net with 6:15 left to play before halftime.

The teams then traded goals, but it was Levitz who got the final score of the half, beating Wildcat goalie Jack Hayes to the top right corner with 1:40 left, cutting the Quakers’ advantage to 8-5.

The two then got into it a bit and were given unsportsmanlike conduct penalties.

“I’m glad it got a little physical,” Wildcats coach Justin Otto said after the game. “This was our fifth game in six days, so the boys are a little tired. We put in a lot of hard work this week, so I don’t blame them for getting a little chippy. I don’t encourage it, but it’s a part of the sport. So as long as we’re not getting penalties and we’re not causing trouble, I’m OK with a little physicality.”

After the excitement that ended the first half, the pace slowed in the third quarter. The teams once again traded goals, but there were a lot of unforced turnovers, especially by the Quakers. For every impressive goal they netted, there was a head-scratching overthrow, giving the Wildcats another possession and some renewed life.

“We’re working on our unforced turnovers,” DeGregorio said. “It’s actually been one of the things that has been holding us back this year. We lost a lot of one- or two-goal games, I think about four or five of them, and it’s our unforced turnovers. We throw a lot of balls away, and that’s something we’re trying to address.”

A lackluster third quarter ended with a sparking goal by the Quakers’ Jake Scott. With 12.4 seconds remaining, Sam Mishkind threw a pass across the field in Saturday’s road game vs. Horace Greeley.

“We ran out of a little bit of gas, but we’ve done our job to get them as in shape as we could at this point,” Otto said. “But the long stretch of games definitely took its toll. We have one day off, then a game on Monday. So we don’t have a lot of down time again, but it’s spring season.”

The Quakers tallied two more goals to start the fourth quarter, but the Wildcats didn’t give up, getting on the board two more times in the final minute of play.

“It’s great to see that they don’t give up,” Otto said. “We haven’t the whole year. We’re usually a second-half team, so we always fight toward the bitter end.”

Scott led the Quakers with three goals and one assist, while Morris and Levitz each finished with two goals, with Levitz also earning one assist in the game. Goalie Cooper Swenson finished strong, tallying 14 saves.

For Westlake, Gorman led the offense with three goals and one assist, followed by Sardo’s two goals and Owen Peterson’s one goal and one assist. Hayes made five saves in net for the Wildcats, while Brendan Birklebach had six saves in relief duty.

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A lackluster third quarter ended with a sparking goal by the Quakers’ Jake Scott. With 12.4 seconds remaining, Sam Mishkind threw a pass across the fan toward Scott, who, instead of cradling the pass, made like a designated hitter and slapped the ball in the net with his stick, trying to avoid a crease violation in the process. Scott’s goal was upheld, giving Greeley a 10-6 lead entering the final 12 minutes of play.

For the Wildcats, fatigue began setting in and they didn’t have enough fuel to make a late comeback.

“We ran out of a little bit of gas, but...
Joseph Ianniello (Class of 1990), the CBS Corporation’s chief operating officer and a member of the Pace University Board of Trustees, has made a $2 million commitment for the construction of a new athletics field house at the school’s campus in Pleasantville, the university announced Monday.

When completed later this year, the Ianniello Field House will be the flagship of Pace University athletics. Ianniello’s contribution is a part of the university’s Campaign for Pleasantville, an effort to transform and revitalize the 200-acre campus that also includes new residential facilities, an expanded student center and a new environmental center.

“Through our Campaign for Pleasantville, we are enhancing the student experience at Pace and this gift will have a tremendous impact on the daily lives of our student-athletes and the entire Pace community,” said President Stephen J. Friedman. “A former football player, a Lubin School graduate and the newest member of the university’s Board of Trustees, Joe’s very generous gift sets a terrific example for others who have leveraged their Pace education into fulfilling careers and are now in a position to give back to their alma mater. On behalf of Pace University, we thank Joe for this and all the ways he supports the Pace community.”

The Ianniello Field House will be one of the most frequently visited buildings on campus, with 25,000 visitors expected annually. Spectators and visitors will travel through the field house to enter the outdoor athletic complex. All of Pace’s athletes and coaches will use the field house for practice, conditioning and gatherings. The 14,010-square-foot facility will include new strength and conditioning facilities and a sports medicine component.

Ianniello earned a Bachelor’s of Business Administration at Pace and was a member of the university’s football team and the Alpha Chi Epsilon fraternity. He frequently mentors Pace students and recently returned to the Lubin School of Business to share career and industry advice with students.

“Pace University provides high quality education with a strong focus on the kind of experiential learning that is invaluable in today’s business world and I am honored to be able to give back to my alma mater in this way,” Ianniello said.

As COO for CBS Corporation, he works closely with CEO Leslie Moonves to establish and execute strategy across all of the corporation’s businesses. Ianniello was instrumental in helping CBS separate from Viacom in 2005. Since then, he has been a key part of the management team that has led CBS to be the number one media stock among its peers for three of the last five years. He recently guided the company through the conversion of CBS Outdoor into a real estate investment trust, marking a first for an outdoor advertising business and ultimately leading to the split of CBS Outdoor from CBS in 2014.

Before he was named COO, Ianniello served as CBS’s chief financial officer (2009-2013) and deputy chief financial officer (2008-2009), where he was responsible for the company’s financial strategy across all of its operations. Ianniello also served as senior vice president, chief development officer and treasurer (2006-2008).

In 2013 and 2014, Ianniello was ranked the top chief financial officer by sell-side analysts in Institutional Investor’s annual All-America Executive Team survey. Ianniello serves on the board of directors of New Alternatives for Children, Inc. as well as Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE).
Best of the Bobcats

Jacob Stuckelman

Sarah Cummings

Connor Taub

Payton Levine

Carly Schwartz

Lindsey Steeg