

Mt. Lady Lion Cagers Reject Vikings, 55-38, in Semifinals

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offensive rebounds and shaky shooting, which resulted in the Lions taking a 25-15 lead at the half.

In attendance and enjoying first half action was New Jersey's acting Governor Richard Codey. Commenting on the game, Codey said, "I know a number of the players from West Orange playing for Mount St. Dominic, so I wanted to show my support for these local kids."

As to the quality of the game, "I like it. I like both Union Catholic and Mount Saint Dominic the way they press, and they understand how to break the press sending the person to the middle and flank out and I was impressed with that. It's a quality game."

Trapping wherever and whenever necessary and causing a rash of turnovers, the Lions spread the gap in the third quarter by outscoring the Vikings, 14-6.

"It's always disappointing when you get ready to execute for a team and they don't show up," said Hendricks referring to the removal of Immaculate Heart, the state top-ranked team. "We needed to pull together tonight for the win, however they came out with their dogs and played very physical. We tried to match up but fell short. We never gave up and kept on fighting all the way through because you never know what may happen near the end of a game."

Murray and Hendricks each netted five points to help the Vikings win the final quarter, 17-16.

"I don't think anyone thought we would have had as good a season as we did. There is a lot of heart on this team. It was like we were a family and I think that's why we played so well," said Murray. "Personally, I don't care what they remember about me, but I wish them the best of luck next year. I'm sure they are going to do fine and

I have confidence that they will come up with a trophy in the county and conference finals."

"Murray, who didn't play two seasons in a row due to double stress fractures, really helped us out," commented Matthews. "She was a good all-around player, a tough kid and more importantly, a great leader. She's a Union Catholic type kid that is a good role model for all the younger kids to follow."

Summarizing the season, Matthews said, "Being very young, our kids I thought did a great job this year. We weren't a good offensive club. We won with our defense and like you could see tonight, we took a lot of good shots but they didn't go down. Our offensive skills are something we really need to work on for next year. We need to get a little bigger and more physical. I'm real happy with this year and I think this team is going to be good down the road."

Union Catholic	8	7	6	17	38
Mt. St. Dominic	12	13	14	16	56



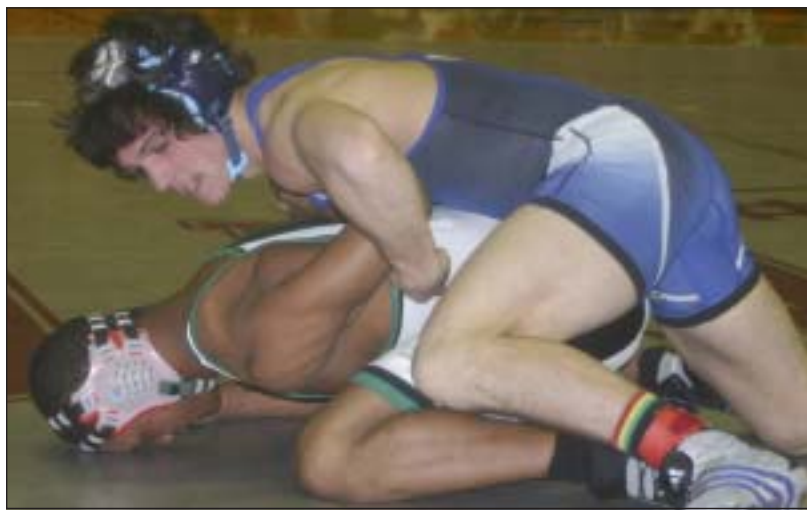
Fred K. LaCombe for The Leader and The Times
I LOVE THIS GAME......New Jersey acting Governor Richard Codey liked what he saw in the NJSIAA, North Jersey, Non-Public semifinal game between Union Catholic and Mt. Saint Dominic in West Orange.

Viking Hoopmen Fall To Bergen Catholic

The Union Catholic High School boys basketball became the victims of a 75-44 defeat at the hands of a very strong Bergen Catholic squad in the first round of the Non-Public, North A tournament in Scotch Plains on March 1.

Mike Seamon led the 16-7 Vikings with 16 points. Virgil Gray netted 23 points and Richy Carroll scored 17 points for 15-9 Bergen Catholic.

Bergen Catholic	11	21	19	24	75
Union Catholic	11	8	31	12	44



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
CONTROLLING ON TOP...Raider Steve Mineo, top, works an arm bar on South Plainfield's Ed McCray in the 135-lb title bout.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
WORKING A BREAKDOWN...Blue Devil Andrew Shaffer, top, works an ankle pick up on Raider AJ Watson in the 152-lb quarterfinal bout.

Mineos, Fabiano Place Second in Region 3 Wrestling Tourney; Blue Devil Shaffer, Raider Ferrante Edged in Semifinals

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The high drama for Pat Mineo came in the 140-lb semifinals when he had a wild bout to topple top-seeded Shane Riccio of Watchung Hills, 5-4, in a sudden, death overtime rideout. Missing two near takedowns in the third period and another in overtime, Mineo chose the top position in the 30-second double overtime period and succeeded in controlling Riccio.

"Shane is a great wrestler. We watched tapes. We worked a lot on defending Shane's best move, which was legs. I knew Pat could ride him out," said an elated Steve Mineo. "All you do is get a good hold until they call stalemate, then get another good hold and come away with the win."

"I didn't want to go down because Riccio rides legs and I knew I could hold him," said Pat Mineo. "That was my 30th win. I am exactly where I want to be against Podhoretz. I want to wrestle as good as I can and go to Atlantic City."

His rematch with Millburn's, 33-0, Seth Podhoretz, ended in a 5-2 setback.

"I wrestled my hardest. I'm going to Atlantic City. That was one of my goals. I just have to step it up. It's a clean slate once you get there," said Mineo.

Fabiano reached the heavyweight finals by recording a decision, a fall and a 3-1 decision in the semis over SHP's Angelo D'Amico that was highlighted by a great step through takedown and strong top control pressure.

"He had his shoulders up. I went for the underhook, got the leg and took him down," explained Fabiano.

COLOR PHOTOS:

The Westfield Leader and The Times has a website www.goleader.com that has all the photos seen in the newspaper in color. Every newspaper since 1997 is accessible and can be downloaded.

"You have to do that (strong control from top position) to win."

With a much-anticipated championship showdown, that many of the 1,500+ spectators who left early would regret, Fabiano bulldogged Rahway's Andre Neblett to the mat in the second period and cranked him in a cradle, while attempting to reposition himself for a Penn State cradle - hooking the free leg with his leg. Unfortunately, Neblett, who had never been taken to his back this season, made an opportune roll and rocked Fabiano to his back. The ref's hand slap on the mat came immediately at 2:42.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
TRYING TO SPIN BEHIND...Raider Pat Mineo, right, sprawls and attempts to spin behind top-seeded Shane Riccio of Watchung Hills in the 140-lb semifinal bout. Mineo defeated Riccio, 5-4, after a dramatic double overtime rideout.

"I was trying to hook the leg, trying to bring it up. It was my fault. I blame it on myself," said Fabiano.

"We worked on that last week and he had it. He turned him to his back. He was a little off-balance," said Raider Head Coach John Scholz. "With Steven, he felt the victory, but having the ref throw a stalling when the kid's trying to throw another kid and you're fending it off, that's a problem."

Blue Devil junior Andrew Shaffer, seeded fourth at 152-lbs, recorded four takedowns to defeat Raider A. J. Watson, 8-4, in the quarterfinals - Watson previously defeated Millburn's Andrew Less, 4-1. After losing to top-seeded Alex Caruso of Watchung Hills in the semis, Shaffer pinned Boonton's Matt Regan with a lateral drop in 1:44 to face Hanover Park's Joe Troise in a battle for third place.

"He had a good offense. I just waited and tried to find my opportunity. He gave me it and I stuck him," Shaffer explained.

Troise stopped Shaffer's bid for AC with an 8-1 decision.

"What can you say about Andrew Shaffer? He's somebody who has been wrestling for three years and to make it to the top four is a tribute to his hard work," said Blue Devil Head Coach Glen Kurz. "He's a model to his team. He will be there next year. We are going to Atlantic City!"

Raider senior Anthony Ferrante inspired many by winning the District 11

past Ken Simms of Parsippany Hills, 6-5, at 215-lbs and, although wrestling well, was defeated by top-seeded Rob Matsickle in the quarterfinals.

Several Raider and Blue Devil wrestlers were defeated in the opening round on March 1. Raider sophomore Ricky Olsson ran into a buzz saw, losing to Parsippany Hills' Paul Galipeau in 3:25 at 125-lbs. Freshman 112-lb Trevor Cannon was defeated, 11-1, by Adel Afzal of New Providence. Blue Devil junior Colin Willard (189-lbs) was pinned by Chatham's Tim Lutke in 1:44 and Blue Devil junior Matt Kamel was stopped in 1:47 by Roselle Park's Blackford at 119-lbs.

CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND:

- 103: — Frank Perrelli (Delbarton) d Pat Hunter (So. Plain), 3-2
- 112: — Ryan Wilson (Rahway) d Billy Ashnault (So. Plain), 5-0
- 119: — Mike Gray (Delbarton) d Jim Conroy (So. Plain), 10-4
- 125: — Paul Galipeau (Par. Hills) d Ross Baldwin (New Prov), 7-4
- 130: — Darrion Caldwell (Rahway) tf Brian Swick (Roselle Park), 17-2, 3:39
- 135: — McCray (So. Plain) p S. Mineo (SPP), 6:42 OT
- 140: — Podhoretz (Millburn) d P Mineo (SPP), 5-2
- 145: — Jionne LaValle (Hanover Park) md Paul Richey (So. Plain), 20-9
- 152: — Alex Caruso (Wat. Hills) md Troy MacDermant (Roselle Park), 18-7
- 160: — Pat Hogan (Cranford) d McPaul Ogbonna (Hanover Park), 7-2
- 171: — Angelo DiLeo (SHP) p Andrew Barnish (Boonton), 1:44
- 189: — Shane Mallory (New Prov) d Kevin Crilley (So. Plain), 4-0
- 215: — Nico Somers (Madison) p Chris Birchler (SHP), 5:41
- Hwt: — Neblett (Rahway) p Fabiano (SPP), 2:42

THIRD PLACE ROUND:

- 103: — Mike Sarfati (N. Plain) d Anthony Priore (ALJ), 7-5
- 112: — Adel Afzal (New Prov) p Jack McNeill (Par Hills), 4:34
- 119: — Blackford (Roselle Park) md Tom Eidel (SHP), 12-3
- 125: — Trevor Melde (Delbarton) p Eric Ogada (Elizabeth), 2:33
- 130: — Tyler Riccio (Wat. Hills) d Nick Dorey (So. Plain), 7-2
- 135: — Mike Powers (SHP) d Mike Trippler (Morristown), 6-3
- 140: — Shane Riccio (Wat. Hills) d Peter DeAndrea (So. Plain), 5-0
- 145: — Pete Jacangelo (Union) d Marc Neuwirth (New Prov), 10-6
- 152: — Troise (HP) d Shaffer (W), 8-1
- 160: — Cary Aldrich (Wat Hills) d Mark Czarny (SHP), 4-2
- 171: — CJ Ferrara (Cranford) p Mark Kearsing (Wat Hills), 4:09
- 189: — Gus DelVecchio (SHP) d Matt Rathbun (Boonton), 3-2
- 215: — Matsickle (So. Plain) p Jesse Boyden (Brearley), 5:22
- Hwt: — Raleke Adibe (Columbia) p Kevin Hussey (Parsippany), 3:44

Devil 4x800 Team Gets 4th at Eastern States

The Westfield High School 4x800-meter girls winter track relay team of Annie Onishi, Miriam Becker-Cohen, Meg Driscoll and Emily MacNeil placed fourth overall in a time of 9:37.5 at the Eastern States Championships on March 2 at the Armory in New York.

MacNeil anchored the team in a personal best time of 2:13.3, which is four seconds faster than the school record time she set at the State Meet of Champions on February 27.

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