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THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
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YOUNG HEADS IN WINNER ON CORNER BY STUART

Soccer Raiders Survive Scare, Nip East Side Boys, 4-3, in OT

By DAVID B. CORBIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Rarely does the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys soccer team find itself in a situation where it has to battle back from a 2-0 deficit with less than 17 minutes remaining in the game.

Faced with that situation in Scotch Plains against Newark East Side on September 28, the 10th-ranked Raiders scored three unanswered goals within a 13-minute span then after yielding a goal, which sent the game into overtime (OT), senior Sean Young

headed in the winning goal off a corner kick from sophomore Jeff Stuart with 2:31 left in the second OT to give the Raiders a 4-3 victory.

Both teams took 10 shots on goal in regulation but the 6-1 Raiders took the initiative in OT to outshoot 2-2-2 East Side, 4-0. The visitors, however, stunned the Raiders with their aggressiveness, especially in the first half from midfielder Rudy Crisostomo, who netted the only goal in the half and added another in the second half. Faced with many perilous situations, East Side goalie Nuno

DaSilva made several fine decisions and several fine saves.

Although both teams took four shots on goal in the first half, East Side's quick attack style caught the Raiders out of position and somewhat confused with their communication. Additionally, the Raiders were off the mark in their passing, resulting in East Side getting several breakaway opportunities. With 21:10 left in the half, forward Leandro DaSilva broke away from a Raider defender, causing goalie Brian

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APPLYING THE PRESSURE IN THE SECOND HALF...Raiders Tommy Sutter, No. 6, and Brian Meredith, No. 20, really applied the pressure on East Side keeper Nuno DaSilva late in the second half.

ROWBOTHAM SCORES 3 TDs, MAKES 9 RECEPTIONS

Cougar Football Boys Upend Raiders, 26-23, in OT Clash

By FRED LECOMTE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Heroes emerge when it counts. In a rivalry game, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School football team, with its back to the wall, overcame a 20-0 deficit to tie the game in regulation and took a 23-20 lead in overtime. However, a costly penalty and a one-yard blast into the end zone by Cranford resulted in an emotionally draining, 26-23, overtime setback in Cranford on September 30.

Raider quarterback Colin Weber (31 yards rushing, 16 carries) completed 15 of 32 passes for 223 yards and had one interception, but it was his selection of receptions to junior wide receiver Kyle Rowbotham who hauled in nine catches for 144 yards, including three touchdowns (TDs)—14 yards,

49 yards and 7 yards—that baffled the Cougars. Wide receiver Nehemiah Burney-Porter had five receptions for 72 yards. Matt Hirschhorn booted a 28-yard field goal to put the Raiders up in overtime. Raider fullback Tom Pennella had a key quarterback sack and a fumble recovery. Linebacker Nick Giannaci had a fumble recovery and back Rashawn Strong turned in one interception.

Senior fullback Chris Brown, punished the Raiders with 132 yards rushing on 23 carries, including a two-yard and a one-yard TD. Quarterback Rich Zamorski completed 4 of 12 passes for 61 yards and had 14 carries for 72 yards and one touchdown. Chad Faulcon had 29 yards on 6 carries, an 18-yard reception and a 29-yard interception resulting in a TD.

The Cougars got on the board first when Zamorski scooted 35 yards to the touchdown with 2:10 left in the opening quarter, then added to the margin when Faulcon returned an interception 29 yards for a TD with 8:40 left. Brown extended the lead to 20-0 on a two-yard plunge with 1:20 left in the second quarter.

The Raiders however, behind some solid blocking, gave the Cougars a taste of what was to come when the Weber to Rowbotham connection hooked up for a 14-yard touchdown reception. Hirschhorn's conversion was good with 29 ticks remaining in the half.

"In the first half, we were running around a little bit and did some things that we were not comfortable with. Adjusting to the speed they way they run the option compared to how other teams run it got us on our heels a little bit," said Raider Head Coach Steve Ciccotelli.

"It was all defense the first half. Our offensive line was getting pushed around too much. We need to come out and play a first half. If we did, we would not have lost. They lined their best 'D' linemen up on me and I just crumbled under the pressure," added senior center Steve Betau.

Everything seemed to go according to plan after the second half kickoff as the Raiders marched down field. Weber, protected by excellent blocking, delivered a perfect 49-yard strike to Rowbotham in the end zone to put

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SCORING THE FIRST TD ON NEW TURF FIELD...Blue Devil quarterback Nick DeRosa, No. 10, slips a tackle and later hooks left to score the first varsity touchdown on the new turf field at Kehler Stadium.

DEROSA SCORES FIRST TD ON KEHLER TURF FIELD

MXS Bulldog Footballers Spoil Blue Devils' Home Opener, 22-7

By DAVID B. CORBIN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Westfield High School quarterback Nick DeRosa scored the first varsity touchdown on the new turf field at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield, but the visiting Malcolm X. Shabazz Bulldog football team scored the next three to record a 22-7 victory on October 1.

Prior to the opening kickoff, a dedication of the field, in the presence of its namesake Gary Kehler, took place followed by an official ribbon cutting. Westfield Mayor Andy Skibitsky and members of the town council, members of the Westfield Board of Education along with school dignitaries, the Westfield Booster Club that donated the new scoreboard and representatives of many organizations that donated to the completion of the field, also attended the event.

The feature event began in Westfield's favor when linebacker Ryan Yarusi made a spectacular leaping interception of Bulldog quarterback Jamil Phelps' pass at the Shabazz 48 yard line. The Blue Devils followed with an impressive eight-play, 48-yard scoring drive concluded by

HS Sports Pictures Available on Website

Many pictures of the Westfield/Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School recent sporting events are now able to be viewed on The Westfield Leader website www.goleader.com

Once on the site, click on photos on the upper right side of the page. Then scroll down to the appropriate listing.

DeRosa's one-yard keeper into the end zone with 5:03 left in the first quarter. Tom Bonard split the up-rights for the extra point.

Unfortunately, for the Blue Devils, the 3-1 Bulldogs' defense would make the proper adjustments to dominate the remainder of the game, causing two Westfield fumbles, which set up both Shabazz TDs in the second half. The 0-3 Blue Devils finished with 74 total yards rushing — 49 in the first half — on 38 carries and DeRosa (1 interception) completed seven of 15 passes for 86 yards, including four to fullback Tyrell Simmons for 42 yards. Wide receiver Terron Rogers had two receptions for 44 yards. Halfback Jayshawn King had 59 yards on 17 carries.

The Bulldogs rushed for 226 yards on 37 carries, led by hard-running

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PERRELLA CROSSES FIRST IN 16:08

Blue Devil XC Boys Get Fifth at Shore Coaches

Westfield High School boys cross-country standout Jeff Perrella has become a familiar face when it comes to being the first to cross the finish line this season. Nothing has changed as Perrella crossed first in the B Division Varsity race at the Shore Coaches Invitational at Holmdel on October 1 with a fine time of 16:08 — just one second off his personal-best time when he placed sixth last year at the Meet of Champions, also in Holmdel.

The Blue Devil boys finished fifth in their division with a 167 total. Ridgewood won the division with an 88 total. Although not placing an individual in the top 10, the Blue Devil girls finished eighth in their division with a 248 total while Morris Knolls took first at 78.

Last year at this time, Perrella placed first in the event with a time of 16:30 and the boys finished fifth with a total of 168 while the Blue Devil girls placed 10th with a total of 281. This year, Kris Kagan was the next Blue Devil to cross the line with a time of 17:41 (30th place). Ameer Rogers at 17:50 took 38th, Raymond Chen at 17:58 came in 50th, Brent Souders at 17:59 was 52nd, Evan Friedman was 59th with a time of 18:08 and Jay Hoban crossed 65th with a time of 18:14.

In the Junior Varsity race, the Blue Devil boys placed fourth with 105 points. Matt Harris led with way with a time of 18:19 crossing the finish line in 12th position followed by John Meredith in 13th at 18:20, Tyler McCubbin in 16th at 18:25, David Ackerman in 29th at 18:51 and Neil Fitzpatrick in 37th at 18:57. There were a total of 276 runners in the JV race.

The Westfield freshman team placed third with 155 points in a 210-runner field. Dennis Elwell finished in 15th place with a time of 12:31.

On October 3, Westfield easily won a dual meet against Plainfield and Elizabeth—no score available—at Cedarbrook

Park in Plainfield to remain undefeated in regular-season meets. Once again, Perrella was the first face to cross the finish line. The next Blue Devils to cross were Evan Friedman, Alex Tarlow, Ameer Rogers, Jay Hoban and Brent Souders, respectively.

WESTFIELD BASEBALL LEAGUE (WBL)

ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11th - 8:00 PM

At the Westfield YMCA: Room No. 107 / 108

The WBL would like to announce its annual public meeting for the 2006 baseball season. Anyone interested in addressing the board is welcome to attend the meeting or contact the board directly at westfieldbaseball@hotmail.com.

The following individuals have been nominated for the WBL Board of Directors for the 2006 season:

<p>TITLE</p> <p>President</p> <p>Vice President</p> <p>Secretary</p> <p>Treasurer</p> <p>Pony / Mustang League</p> <p>Major League</p> <p>International League</p> <p>Registration</p> <p>4th Grade</p> <p>3rd Grade</p> <p>2nd Grade</p> <p>1st Grade</p> <p>Kindergarten</p> <p>Equipment / Uniforms</p> <p>Sponsors</p> <p>Safety Director</p> <p>Field Schedule / Umpires</p> <p>Summer Travel</p>	<p>NAME</p> <p>Leo White</p> <p>Phil Russo</p> <p>Ron Greenberg</p> <p>Frank Fusaro</p> <p>Matt Isabella / Frank Fusaro</p> <p>Phil Russo</p> <p>Andrew Thompson / Ron Greenberg</p> <p>Matt Isabella</p> <p>Ed Savickas</p> <p>Joe McHugh</p> <p>John Monaghan</p> <p>Charlie Meyer</p> <p>Dan Eliades</p> <p>John Monaghan / John Githens</p> <p>Jack Reilly</p> <p>Steve Macri</p> <p>Gary Fox</p> <p>Al Rabinowitz</p>
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BASKETBALL TRAVEL TRYOUT INFORMATION

Basketball tryouts are open to all Westfield students interested in playing travel basketball in the 4th through 8th grades. Typical commitment should include at least 1 practice and 1 or 2 games a week. This is over and above playing in the in-town Saturday program which is required. Gym availability dictates the amount of time each team will be assigned. In the event that you make a travel team there will be a charge of \$260.00 in addition to the in-town fee.

It is mandatory that each player attend both tryout sessions. Extenuating circumstances would need to be addressed on an individualized basis. All participants need to register ON LINE PRIOR to the first tryout. Please go to the following website to register.
<https://www.westfieldnj.com/wba>

All players should come dressed to play basketball. All players should bring a water bottle (NO SCREW OFF TOPS PLEASE so that we can prevent water spills) as we will ask that everyone stay in the gym during the tryouts.

There will be 2 teams selected by gender and grade level depending on interest level of participation for each grade. In grades where there might not be enough players to support a competitive team, grades may be combined.

OCTOBER 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10	11 4th Boys - Roosevelt 6:30 - 8:00 pm 6th Boys - Roosevelt 8:00 - 9:30 pm	12	13	14 4th Boys - WHS 7:00-9:00 5th Boys - Edison 7:00-9:00
17	18	19 7th Girls - Edison 7:00-8:00 (1 Hour) 8th Girls - Edison 8:00-9:30	20 5th Boys Roosevelt 6:30-8:00 7th Boys Roosevelt 8:00 - 9:30 4th/5th Girls WHS BG 6:45-8:15 6th Girls - WHS Back 8:15-9:30	21 6th Boys - WHS 7:00-9:00
24	25 8th Boys - WHS Var 7:00-9:00 4th/5th Girls - RIS 6:30-8:00 6th Girls - Roosevelt 8:00-9:30	26 7th Boys - Edison 7:00-9:00 pm	27 7th Boys - Roosevelt 6:30 - 8:00 8th Girls - Roosevelt 8:00 - 9:30	28 8th Boys: WHS Varsity Gym 7:00-9:00

NOTE: All times are PM

The WBA is also looking for women and men interested in being Coaches and Assistant Coaches for travel squads.

For questions feel free to call the WBA at (908) 654 - 6361, or you can contact Tom Pickert at wba@westfieldnj.com.