



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
BLUE DEVIL SENIOR LEADERSHIP... Pictured, left to right, are: seniors Dan Pritsker, Co-Captains Tom Bonard and Mike Venezia, and Santo Nardi who offer veteran leadership for the basketball team.

Blue Devil Hoop Boys Aware No Easy Games in Conference

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"He is real good around the perimeter and underneath. We are going to run a lot of plays through him," said Evely who noted that Venezia is also very good defensively.

Tom Bonard, the point guard, will be setting up most of the plays and has the ability to make crafty passes to Venezia. Last year, he led the team in assists with 186 - 8 per game - sank 210 points and was very dangerous from 3-point range with 29. The pesky Bonard made 36 steals and had seven double-doubles - 10 assists and 10 points per game.

"He's an unselfish player. He wants to win no matter how you get it. He's a winner. He is able to get the ball where it needs to be," said Evely. "He's tough! He is going to make it happen, without a doubt."

Senior Dan Pritsker, who presented an offensive touch with 222 points (54 percent from the field), including 28 three-pointers, and took a team-leading 11 charges and sophomore Mike Lessner, who shot 49 percent from the field and 80 percent from the foul line, are among several players vying for

the remaining three starting positions.

"They are looking good. They are in contention for a starting position with some other players. Dan has strength as a perimeter shooter and Mike is a solid shooter, handles the ball well and he always seems to be in the right spot," said Evely.

Senior big man Santo Nardi, "Has good moves inside. He can take a charge and he knows how to use his body," said Evely.

Also up front, sophomore Jihaad Billups, "Is an athlete, has a knack to get a steal and can rebound. We need someone to rebound," said Evely.

Sophomore Chris Jenkins, "Can pressure inside," and sophomore Tony DiIorio, "Is a good shooter and a good defensive player," commented Evely.

Sophomore guard Chris Sheehan, "Is an excellent passer, has a good jumper and understands the game," said Evely.

The Blue Devils will immediately jump into the thick of things when they travel to Linden in the season opener tomorrow, December 15, at 7 p.m.

Raider Soccer Boys Step Up To Successful Year, Won UCT

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Reddington who was our goalkeeper, definitely was fouled on the play that allowed the ball to come loose. Play was never called. That was the part of the season that was most disappointing and you feel for the kids."

Meredith, a senior tri-captain/goalkeeper, was selected All-State First Team for the second straight year, named All-Group 3 First Team and All-Union County First Team and named for the fourth time as one of the top-five players by the by the New Jersey Soccer Coaches association (NJSCA). Bryan registered eight shut-outs to boost his career with a school-record 47 shutouts. Splitting time in the field, he torched the net with seven goals and two assists.

"Brian certainly ranks along with

tain DeVizio smoked the net 16 times and added eight assists. The only player in school history to score three goals in a county finals, DeVizio made the All-Group Second Team and All-UC First Team.

"He certainly stepped up to the plate for us, as far as goals scored, and, without a doubt, is one of the most tenacious players we've ever had. His season was exemplified by his performance in the county final. Not a big kid but as that expression goes, 'He plays much bigger than what he is on the field,'" said Breznitsky.

Junior tri-captain Brian Hessemer, also named All-Group Second Team and All-UC First Team, "is an absolutely tremendous competitor with the will to never die or never give up," said



Horace R. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
EXTRACTING INFORMATION... Sports Editor/Assistant Publisher Dave Corbin, left, attempts to extract soccer information from Raider Head Coach Tom Breznitsky at The Leader/Times office.

some of the outstanding keepers since I have been there. We never had a goalie who started for four years and he is, without doubt, the best in the state and was a major impact upon the success that we had," said Breznitsky. Junior forward/midfielder tri-cap-

Breznitsky. "An excellent player who anchored the defense either in the sweeper position or outside back when we made a change. Brian has been with us since his freshman year. He's a tremendously intelligent young man, not big but reads the game exceptionally well. Brian was able to defuse a lot of dangerous situations before they happened. We look to push him into the center midfield position next year."

Junior stopper Evan Aspell, who also had three goals and an assist, was named All-UC Third Team. Junior Jeff Stuart did an excellent job playing the back position. Junior midfielder Jarek Cohen was selected All-UC Second Team. Junior Tyler Stanek banged in six goals and contributed four assists.

Freshman Joe D'Annunzio came on very strong, scored four goals and registered two assists.

"A real pleasant surprise! He has exceptional speed, is a tremendous competitor and mature beyond his years mentally and physically. Joe left it all out on the field and scored some important goals through the course of the season as he learned to play the position," said Breznitsky.

With a senior heavy squad of 14, eyes will look at the Raiders to be among the top in the county, conference and state.

"We certainly do not want to lose track that we had just two seniors and will be returning 20 kids next year. Hopefully, some of them will grow, plus I'll only say that I have an ace up my sleeve and if it comes to attrition, it's going to make a major difference," hinted Breznitsky.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
WORKING A PIN... Raider Mike Ferrara practices a half nelson on Sal Gano during a wrestling practice session.

Raider Matmen Have many Veterans, Talented Freshmen

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"He's possibly going to break his brother's school record. It's going to be neat to see that. He's putting things together, working on things that we need him too and being the leader in the room," said Scholz.

Senior Sal Gano, a two-time district champ who qualified for AC last year, finished with a 33-7 record at 119 and has a career record of 75-27, which puts him in contention to break the century mark in career victories. He plans to compete at 119 again.

"The reason why he's doing that is to let his teammate (sophomore Mike Ferrara) make the varsity as well. Either 19 or 25, I feel Sal will be dominant. I think he will be one of the top contenders to get back to the states. Great leadership responsibility! He's matured. He ran our weight room in the fall," said Scholz.

Last year Ferrara placed second in the district at 112-lbs and finished with a 22-13 record.

"He's a strong kid. He's a talented kid. He has great takedowns. He's good on bottom. (One) 25-(lbs) will be a nice spot for him," said Scholz.

Junior Keith Baker, a hard-nosed football player, came on like "Gang Busters" last season to become the District 11 champ at 215-lbs. He will remain at 215-lbs.

"He will tell you, 'it's not football time, it's wrestling time.' There's football shape and there's wrestling shape. He's working. I see him top three in the region, if not, top two in the counties," said Scholz. "I can see him stunning people. He's an animal!"

Senior Ricky Olsson made things very exciting last year, placed second in the district at 130-lbs and finished 25-12 - three of his losses came in overtime. Olsson plans to wrestle at 135-lbs.

"He was a big fan favorite last year. He's building off that," commented Scholz.

Junior Trevor Cannon, a region qualifier at 125-lbs, and senior Joe Bachi, region qualifier at 160-lbs, will vie for the 152-lb spot. Senior Dave DeNichilo, a qualifier at 152-lbs, will move up a notch to 160-lbs. Sophomore Rob Desiato, a qualifier at 135, will move to 140-lbs. Senior Damian Gibbs will fill the 130-lb slot, seniors Mike Zam Zam and Al Nassiri will be at 171, junior Billy Jacobs will be at 189 and juniors Johnny Loomis and Joe Blaes will vie

for the heavyweight slot.

Three of the freshmen look to have an immediate impact. At 112-lbs, Tristan Bundy, "is a very impressive young man. He has good mat sense. He's quick on his feet. It's like the Tasmanian Devil type of quick," chuckled Scholz. "He's a competitor. He will be interesting to watch."

Jawan Gains could see varsity time at 119-lbs.

"He has good hip tosses. He's a judo guy and he knows his balance," said Scholz.

Mike Ridge adds toughness and depth at 135-lbs.

"He wrestles all year round. He has good shots," said Scholz.

The Raiders will host Irvington on Wednesday, December 20 at 5 p.m., but look forward to hosting mat rival Roselle Park on Saturday, December 23, at 7 p.m.

VARSITY POSSIBILITIES:

- 103: - Dave Casmas (10)
- 112: - Bundy (9)
- 119: - Gano (12)/Gains (9)
- 125: - Ferrara (10)
- 130: - Gibbs (12)
- 135: - Olsson (12)/Ridge (9)
- 140: - Desiato (10)
- 145: - Mineo (12)
- 152: - Bachi (12)/Cannon (11)
- 160: - DeNichilo (12)
- 171: - Zam Zam (12)/Nassiri (12)
- 189: - Jacobs (11)
- 215: - Baker (11)/Chris Pflaum (12)
- Hwt: - Blaes (11)/Loomis (11)

Viking Gutler Named XC All-State 2nd Team

Union Catholic High School senior Brian Gutler had been selected to The Star-Ledger's All-State Second Team in boys cross-country. He was also named First Team All-Non Public and First Team All-Union County (UC).

Westfield Blue Devils Evan Friedman and Alex Tarlow were named to the All-UC First Team while teammates Kevin O'Rourke, Brian Hyslip and Brendan Berkowitz were named to the Second Team and Neil Fitzpatrick was named to the Third Team. Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raider Adam Biner was named to the All-UC First Team while Pat Doliber made the Second Team and Martin Sweeney made the Third Team. Viking Collin Dube was named to the All-UC Third Team.

Westfield was named UC Team of the Year and coach Jack Martin was named Coach of the Year.

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TOWN OF WESTFIELD 2007 CURBSIDE COLLECTION SCHEDULE BY GREAT NORTHERN RECYCLING

	WARD 1 (Mondays)	WARD 2 (Tuesdays)	WARD 3 (Wednesdays)	WARD 4 (Thursdays)
January	1*,15,29	2,16,30	3,17,31	4,18
February	12,26	13,27	14,28	1,15
March	12,26	13,27	14,28	1,15,29
April	9,23	10,24	11,25	12,26
May	7,21	8,22	9,23	10,24
June	4,18	5,19	6,20	7,21
July	2,16,30	3,17,31	4*,18	5,19
August	13,27	14,28	1,15,29	2,16,30
September	10,24	11,25	12,26	13,27
October	8,22	9,23	10,24	11,25
November	5,19	6,20	7,21	8,22*
December	3,17,31	4,18	5,19	6,20
January 2008	1*	2	3	

* January 1st is a holiday. The pickup for Ward 1 will be on Wednesday, January 3rd.
 * July 4th is a holiday. The pickup for Ward 3 will be on Friday, July 6th.
 * November 22nd is a holiday. The pickup for Ward 4 will be on Friday, November 23rd.
 * January 1, 2008 is a holiday. The pickup for Ward 2 will be on Wednesday, January 2, 2008.

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