



RAIDER TENNIS CO-CAPTAINS...Seniors Kiara Thomas, left, and Jaci Lopez have been selected co-captains of the Raider girl's tennis team.

Westfield PAL 'B' Edges Summit Grid Kids, 21-20

Westfield's PAL football B-Blue team edged host Summit, 21-20, on Sunday, September 17. Tony Pafumi scored on an 82-yard run behind the blocking of Michael Giaccone and Alex Williams and quarterback Nathan Mitchell passed to Jackson O'Leary for the point after to get the ball rolling for Westfield.

Later, Mitchell connected with O'Leary again on 55-yard touchdown (TD) pass. Pafumi added the extra point to give Westfield a 14-0 lead at halftime.

In the second half, Summit fooled Westfield with a 53-yard reverse play for a TD. The kick for a two-point conversion was too low. Westfield immediately responded with strong running from Pafumi and a 24-yard pass to Pete Ondi. Mitchell hit O'Leary for a seven-yard TD and Pafumi ran in the extra point.

Summit answered with a 65-yard TD pass and kicked a two-point conversion, making the score 21-14. Westfield was forced to punt on the next possession but the punt was blocked and Summit got excellent field position. Westfield's defense held but the offense sputtered, giving Summit possession with only a few minutes remaining.

With 40 seconds remaining, Summit fired a 23-yard TD pass, but bobbled the snap on the two-point conversion.

Pafumi rushed for 161 yards and Mitchell passed for 147 yards. Ondi, Williams, Chris Albanese, James McCrea and Austin Slifer made key contributions.

B-Blue will play at Perth Amboy for a 3 p.m. kickoff, then will host Richmond Boro (Staten Island) on October 1.



CROSSING INTO THE END ZONE...Westfield PAL B's Jackson O'Leary, No. 85, crosses into the end zone to help Westfield B-Blue defeat Summit, 21-20.

Raider Tennis Girls Gear Up for Season

After a year of individual preparation, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Girls Varsity Tennis Team is ready for the upcoming year. Under the direction of Head Coach Sandy Miller, the team of 12 players has geared up for the matches they are slated to play.

As singles players, and part of the seven starters, senior Co-Captains Jaci Lopez and Kiara Thomas are the team leaders. "This is a well-balanced, hard-working team," said Lopez. "We're looking forward to doing well at the Union County Tennis Tournament, and to an overall solid performance this season."

The home matches will be held at the newly renovated tennis courts located at La Grande Park in Fanwood.

On September 13, the Raiders played a tough Montville team and came up short, 4-1. Lopez, competing at third singles, defeated Hillary Jacobs, 6-0, 6-1.

MONTVILLE 4, SPF 1
First singles: Lauren Rothstein (M) d. Kathleen Yan, 6-2, 6-1
Second singles: Courtney Cardwell (M) d. Thomas, 7-5, 6-2
Third singles: Lopez (SPF) d. Jacobs, 6-0, 6-1
First doubles: Sydney Fields and Jacqueline Scherr (M) d. Sahrula Kubie and Alex Szczuka, 6-3, 6-2
Second doubles: Nikki Adleman and Denice Vandenberg (M) d. Courtney Bifani and Rachel Kreyer, 6-1, 7-6 (7-3)

Blue Sharks Girls Rip Linden U14 Girls, 6-0

The Scotch Plains Blue Sharks U14 Girls intercounty soccer team used balanced scoring and strong defense to win its second straight 6-0 game, this time over Linden on September 17 at Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison.

Emma Kaplan opened the scoring early in the first half with her first goal for her new team. Last week, the team's other newcomer, Danielle Schwieler, scored the initial goal. Rebecca DiGiacomo added the second goal, followed by Amanda Rodriguez to make it 3-0 at halftime.

The second half resulted in goals by Alyssa Young, Jessica DiGiacomo and Young. Melissa McKenna and Emily Cohen combined on the shut-out. Also starring were Lauren Buckley, Sarah Weber, Erin Brown, Lauren Berk, Sarah Lazarus, Toni Ann Capece and Kara Gaynor.

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DODGING A DEFENDER AND SCORING...Senior co-captain Christine Isabella's skill, intensity and aggressiveness led to two goals as the Blue Devils recorded a, 3-0 victory over the Union Farmers.

ISABELLA FIRES IN TWO GOALS, HEALY SCORES ONE

Upbeat Lady Blue Devils Ice Field Hockey Farmers, 3-0

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

Despite graduating six seniors and finishing with a less than satisfactory 5-8-2 record in 2005, Westfield High School Field Hockey Head Coach Maggie McFadden was upbeat that her 11 returning seniors and seven juniors, backed with experience and playing time expect to have a good season.

This year's Blue Devils are led by senior Co-Captains Christine Isabella and Agustina Healey. Other players who gained valuable varsity experience are forward Britta Greene and senior forward/middle Kristina Cofone who, according to McFadden, will make quite a difference.

"Cofone is quick, she's aggressive, adds a lot of energy and intensity to the field and it's tough to keep up with her," said McFadden.

In the midfield, will be very athletic junior Jennifer Brotman. "She is going to play that position very well. She's learning and getting better every day in how to control the middle of the field."

On the outside, the Lady Devils post senior Alyson Guerriero. "She's one of our defensive anchors who's a pretty strong kid. I can move her into any position where I need a little more strength," said McFadden.

In the back, senior Leigh Weissman, who has a vast knowledge of the game will team up with seniors Kaitlin Fleck, Amanda McQuade and Colleen Psomas. "They saw some time and played together at the varsity level last year."

Manning the net is Natalia Mavrogiannis. "She played in over half of our games last year and is our keeper since we lost Katherine Taylor to a knee injury. Natalia played extremely well in our opening loss to East Brunswick. She gave up three goals but stopped a huge amount of shots," said McFadden. "It's tough when you have three girls unmarked shooting at you."

The I-I Blue Devils used their talent to shutout Union, 3-0, in Westfield on September 13. Isabella fired in two goals and Healey netted one. Goalkeeper Mavrogiannis rejected

eight shots.

"She played great, controlled the circle and did not allow Union anything," said McFadden. "Isabella's two goals were beautiful. The first one, a flick in' is something she worked on all year and she was dying to do it. She's really improved. Healy did a nice job playing the rebound and made sure the ball went into the cage."

"As a team, we did some things very well in spurts; however, we need to become a little more positional as a defensive group, as well as in terms of forming our attack. We got lost in transition a couple of times. Union played extremely well and the difference in the game was that we capitalized on our scoring opportunities," said McFadden.

The Blue Devils opened the scoring when Isabella flicked in the lone goal of the first half at 18:32.

"I received a pass from the wing, took one dribble, dodged a defender, saw that no one was in front of me and fired a shot high over the goalie's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

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