

### Lady Devils Rob Dayton, 43-24

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The Blue Devils rotated their entire squad in-and-out during the third quarter and the 3-2 Bulldogs were able to have more success under the boards with a 10-9 edge. Kuczynski rolled in a lay-up and sank three free throws. Miller added five more points. Blue Devils Gabby Jakub (4 points, steal) and Casey El Koury (5 rebounds, steal) each hit a 2-pointer.

"We let up on them a little in the second half. We pulled back. Everything was working for us on the press," commented Marino.

Miller hit seven of the Blue Devils' 11 points in the final quarter to quiet the Bulldogs.

Against the Oak Knoll Royals, Miller added eight more steals, had 14 points and four rebounds. Venezia had eight points and 10 rebounds, El Koury and Handza each sank seven points. Pringle had five points and Jakub grabbed 11 boards. O'Leary and Infantino sank two points each.

Westfield	7	16	9	11	43
Dayton	6	1	10	7	24

### Raider Cagers Rally to Grab Third in Kowal Hoops Classic

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that's what I wanted," said Raider Head Coach Dan Doherty. "We came back, got a couple of good shots, made our free throws at the end and that's what won the game."

An early surge first quarter set the tone as the Tigers pushed past the Raiders, 8-5 in the first quarter. Coach Doherty rested some of his starters but little changed, as the Tigers maintained their edge to take a 21-18 lead into the locker room.

The Tigers succeeded in keeping Dougher and Bayard in check until Bayard erupted late in the third quarter for six points, including a 3-pointer. Dougher sank four and Dortch added three points.

Down by five points at the start of the fourth quarter, the Raiders settled down and came to life offensively, while the defense controlled the boards and forced the Tigers to make bad passes. DeCataldo hit a salvo from downtown and added a steal. Solomon, with his quickness, made

multiple steals and converted three for six points. Dougher bucketed four points. Maroney contributed to the Raiders' defense with two rebounds and scored four points, while Zabel and Bayard each went two-for-two from the stripe.

"Some of our guys were not playing that hard, so Mr. Doherty tried to fix it by putting in some bench guys to pick up our fire and it worked out very well because we all came out strong and found some open shots," said DeCataldo.

"Defensively, we got up on our man, put pressure on them, made them turn the ball over and take bad shots. Fortunately, I was able to make a difference on the boards," added Maroney.

Sc. Pl.-Fanwood	5	13	13	19	50
South Plainfield	8	13	15	10	46

### Blue Devils Win Kowal Tourney

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including a 3-pointer, DiIorio hit the hoop with four points and Pritsker contributed five points.

"Bonard really did a great job handling the basketball against their pressure, hitting open guys and really made it happen today," said Evely.

As to Venezia's offensive weaponry, Evely added, "You got to be a cannibal! If you're not, he's going to make you pay. They struggled and he had a big night."

Rahway did manage to finish the final quarter, outscoring the Blue Devils, 20-14.

"Right from the tap, we just played hard and we dug down on defense, rebounded well and took them out of what they wanted to do. And it worked," said Venezia. "Defensively, we thought that we could stop them in the half court and knew their points would come off transition. We got back on defense, boxed out and it paid off. Offensively, Tommy is a great point guard. He gets me shots when we need them and he's my favorite player to play with."

"This is just a taste of what we want to happen the rest of the season. We know all the teams in the conference are exactly like Rahway, athletic, strong and it was that type of a game," added Bonard. "Coach knew exactly what plays they were going to run, exactly what defense they were going to show us and he prepared us better than we ever have been for a game. We handled the pressure. Our guys were on today with three's and it was the best team effort, I thought, in my entire Westfield basketball career."

Westfield	13	20	22	14	69
Rahway	4	14	16	20	54



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
CONTROLLING THE BALL...Blue Devil Gabby Jakub looks for an open teammate. Jakub scored four points in the game against Dayton.

### Klimowicz Helps TCNJ Top Salem State Ladies

The College of New Jersey ladies' basketball team received a game-high 22 points and a game-high 11 rebounds from center Hillary Klimowicz of Scotch Plains and staved off a furious comeback attempt by the Salem State Lady Vikings en route to a 58-55 first round victory in the SSC Christmas Tournament at James Twohig Gymnasium.

Klimowicz hit 10 of the 11 free throws, three in the game's final minute to secure the Lions an appearance in the tournament championship game against Kean University on December 30. With the game tied at 53-53, Klimowicz sank a free throw with 42.5 seconds left. She then added two more with 19 seconds to go.

### Blue Devil Boys Defeat Tiger Cagers, 53-39

The Westfield High School boys basketball team advanced to face Rahway in the finals of the John "Butch" Kowal Memorial Classic with a 53-39 victory over South Plainfield on December 28 in Rahway. Last year, the Blue Devils claimed the title with a 56-35 victory over St. Peter's Prep.

Senior guard Mike Venezia led the 3-1 Blue Devils' attack by sinking 26 points, including three 3-pointers, and teammate Mike Lessner put in eight points. Anthony DiIorio netted six points. Tom Bonard and Dan Pritsker each scored four points.

So. Plainfield	13	12	4	10	39
Westfield	13	14	16	10	53



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
STEPPING IT UP TO ANOTHER LEVEL...Blue Devil sophomore John Barnes, top, works a semi-corkscrew on Roselle Park's Anthony Zangari in the semifinals of the Roselle Park wrestling tournament. Barnes whipped Zangari, 11-5, and placed second in the 119-lb class.

### SPF Matmen Take 4th at Goles Tourney

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"He lost to him last year. He kept it closer (this year). If he saw that kid down the road, there are a couple of things that we can attack a little more, get closer to the body, do some single legs," said Scholz.

#### TEAM TOTALS:

- Edison (E) 179.5, 2. Newton (N) 149, 3. Warren Hills (WH) 144.5, 4. Scotch Plains-Fanwood (SPF) 132.5, 5. Millburn (M) 115.5, 6. Sparta (S) 84, 7. West Morris (W) 49, 8. Pope John (P) 15

#### CHAMPIONSHIP BOUTS:

- 103: — Kevin Churchill (N) p Anthony Peterson (E) 0:20
- 112: — Mike FrancoBandiero (E) won forfeit
- 119: — Rick Foley (WH) d Jeff Peterson (E), 3-2
- 125: — Sal Gano (SPF) p Tony Colon (E), 1:13
- 130: — Kyle Huber (N) md Mike Ferrara (SPF), 8-0
- 135: — Ricky Olsson (SPF) p Gary Thompson (E), 1:00
- 140: — Sean Smith (WH) d JC FrancoBandiero (E), 3-2
- 145: — Austin Alpaugh (N) md Pat Mineo (SPF), 9-0
- 152: — Chase Helwig (M) d Trevor Cannon (SPF), 11-4
- 160: — Chris Hrunka (WH) md Noah Levin (M), 13-1
- 171: — Mike Zamzam (SPF) md Ben Prohl, (S), 12-2
- 189: — Phil Tackas (S) Kyle Frey (WH), 3-2
- 215: — Ben Kissane (N) d Keith Baker (SPF), 7-4
- Hwt: — Dan Walker (E) p Brandon Dock (S), 3:46

### Blue Devil John Barnes Places Second at Park Mat Tourney

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points, Barnes also took the wind out of Zangari with a crushing lateral drop at the edge of the mats.

"I make sure that I keep the intensity at all times, even though we were going out of bounds," said Barnes who added, "Basically, summer wrestling means everything. I worked on my technique all summer. I have been in the weight room."

"We've known that John has a lot to offer. I didn't know if he was quite ready for a kid like Zangari but he proved that he was," said Blue Devil Head Coach Glen Kurz. "After the first takedown, John controlled that entire match. You don't want to be playing games with hips with John. He's got great hips. He's got a background in judo. He is just going to keep getting better. There are no limits to what he can do. I'm really interested in seeing what he does by the end of his career."

In the finals against Hanover Park's John Johnstone, seeded first, Barnes fell victim to a 2:14 fall via cradle. At 152-lbs, Blue Devil Andrew Castrorao got reversed with six seconds remaining to drop his first bout, 7-5 to third-seeded Austin Bone of Madison. In the wrestleback, Castrorao stuck Marcus Ruiz of Piscataway in 4:54 using a front far arm bar then he claimed fifth place when he pinned Hanover Park's Matt Mellilo in 3:04 with a half nelson.

Blue Devil junior Matt Shaffer lost his first bout at 135-lbs to Rich Szymczak of Hanover Park but came back to pin West Milford's Logan Pevny in 5:43 with a cradle from the takedown. In the battle for fifth place, Shaffer was being punneled, 11-3, but reached deep inside and pulled out a 13-11 victory.

"That was a great example of hard work and breaking the opponent's

will," stated coach Kurz.

Blue Devil Colin MacKay, who placed third last year at 125-lbs, was unable to compete due to a sprained ankle and has not been permitted to take to the mats until after New Year.

Senior Mark Boyd lost his first 160-lb bout, 5-3, to Hanover Park's Mike Romeo then came back to pin Morristown's Pat Connelly in 1:21 with a stack arm bar before dropping his final bout. After losing his first bout at 112-lbs to Roselle Park's Craig Montgomery, Blue Devil Nick DeFraithe tallied a takedown, three reversals and a penalty point to stop his Piscataway opponent, 9-4, but he fell one victory short of placing fifth.

#### TEAM TOTALS:

- Howell (H) 189.5, 2. Roselle Park (RP) 161.5, 3. West Milford (WM) 119, 4. Hanover Park (HP) 104, 5. Madison (M) 92, 6. Morristown (MO) 82, 7. Piscataway (P) 50, 8. Westfield (W) 40

#### CHAMPIONSHIP BOUTS:

- 103: — Anthony Casselli (RP) p Mike Mora (P), 3:53
- 112: — Craig Montgomery (RP) d Joe Langel (H), 4-2
- 119: — John Johnstone (HP) p John Barnes (W), 2:14
- 125: — Cody Fobes (H) d CJ Adams (P), 9-3
- 130: — Justin Morello (H) d Dan Tomblin (M), 9-2
- 135: — Jason Benenski (M) p Bryan Richardson (H), 1:19
- 140: — Jim Bohn (H) p Steve Martin (M), 1:55
- 145: — Tom Tuminelli (H) p Mike Montgomery (RP), 5:26
- 152: — Billy Stark (WM) p Rob Gabriel (RP), 1:47
- 160: — Jason Ecklof (H) d Bill Hutchinson (M), 11-7
- 171: — Marcus Cook (M) p Ron Lawdy (HP), 2:45
- 189: — Rich Benner (RP) d Zack Stumps (WM), 6-0
- 215: — Harry Turner (H) d Mike Lefano (RP), 5-4, 3 OT
- Hwt: — Paul Thompson (M) p Mike Bonfig (H), 5:11

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