

Time to "Spring" Forward  
Daylight Saving Time - March 9

# THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section  
Pages 11-16

WF'S FULLER GETS 2ND AT 113; WF'S BARBER (145), COUGARS DiGIOVANNI (113), CAPPELLO (160) PLACE 3RD

## Westfield's Velez, Cougar Murray Win Region 3 Mat Crowns

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

Milestones, a pair of upset victories and a flurry of activity in the waning seconds of a title bout highlighted the Region 3 Wrestling Tournament in Union on February 28 and March 1. Three Westfield High School wrestlers and three Cranford Cougars qualified for the NJSIAA Tournament to be held at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City (AC) beginning tomorrow, March 6 through Sunday, March 8.

Two wrestlers, Cougar junior Gavin Murray (138-lbs) and Roselle Park senior Phil Woods (182-lbs) achieved their 100th career victories, and Watchung Hills (WH) senior Mike Megaldo (132-lbs) reached his 150th victory in his semifinal bout.

Blue Devil Nick Velez, seeded third at 152-lbs, after earning a grueling 7-6 victory in his quarterfinal bout, knocked off second-seeded Delbarton's (D) Joe Tavoso, 4-3. Velez scored the first takedown, but was trailing, 3-2, until he escaped in the

final seconds of the second period then added an escape in the third to win.

"I stayed focused, took one shot at a time. I took it step-by-step. Eventually I got three shots and I finished one of them. It was big at the end of the period. Second period, I held him out like 15 seconds. He got the takedown, but I got out. That escape gave me a point. Without that escape, it would have gone into overtime, but I am very confident on my feet," said Velez, who added, "I got one more match and I am going to give it my all."

In his title bout against South Plainfield's (SoP) Inan Sikel, Velez saved the best to last, getting an escape with 19 seconds remaining and shooting quickly for the takedown to earn a 3-2 decision and the title.

"I wasn't even keeping time in my mind. I was going to keep wrestling and I got the takedown at the end. The best time to score is when you already scored. That's how I figured that," Velez said.

Murray achieved his 100th win when he defeated North Plainfield's Dom Mulhearn, 9-2, but not without a battle.

"He was real strong and physical. He wanted to wrestle. He was a competitor. I was under the weather and he came out to game it. He showed it out there. He wrestled a really good match," said Murray, who added, "It's a landmark number. It means nothing really. It was in my first three years, but I would like to get the school record of 129, but there is still so much greatness to accomplish," Murray said.

Looking ahead to his semifinal bout with Hanover Park's (HP) Joe Zecca, Murray said, "I will be a lot more

hydrated, healthy. I got to go and wrestle my match again."

Murray did wrestle his match and pinned Zecca in 5:40 then he recorded an escape and a takedown to beat Alex Murray (WH), 3-0, for the 138-lb title.

"I knew I was going to be faster and more technical. It was going to be a scrap. It's the region finals. Everyone is good at this point. I worked all year for this. Now it's on to the next step."

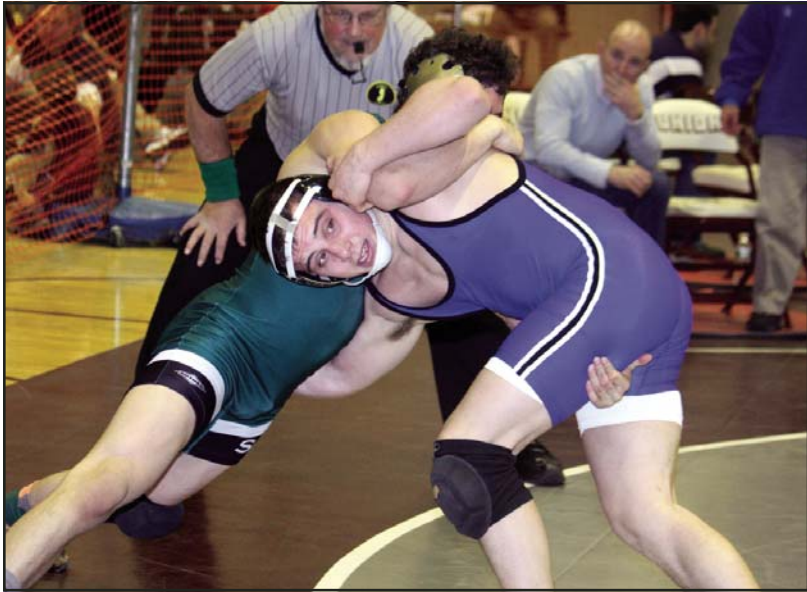
Murray said.

The pair of stunning upsets were delivered by the same wrestler, Blue Devil junior John Fuller, seeded sixth at 113-lbs. But before his real magic, Fuller used a double arm bar stack to silence Governor Livingston's Chris Sergio in 3:19 on February 26. He then wrestled "smart" to defeat third-seeded Zach Kovacs (Parsippany — Par), 2-0. Smart wrestling and persistence that overcame resistance cata-

pulted Fuller into the 113-lb title bout and sealed his dreams to qualify for AC when he bounced second-seeded Anthony Fajardo (Boonton), 1-0.

"I was a little hesitant going in. I know I was the lower seed, but I went after him. I kept takedowns to a minimum. Once I got on top, I wasn't letting go. With two minutes left, I was only up by one. I wanted it really bad. It was the first time in a long time

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



AT THE EDGE OF THE CIRCLE...Blue Devil Matt Barber tries to get a takedown on Ray Jazikoff (South Plainfield) in his 145-lb semifinal bout.



CONTROLLING FROM THE TOP...Blue Devil Nick Velez, top, controls Inan Sikel (South Plainfield) in his 152-lb title bout. Velez got an escape in the final 19 seconds and quickly added a takedown to win the title with a 3-2 decision.

### Baldwin, Blue Devil 200MR Set Records at Swim MOC

See Devils Den — "Swimming Update" on page 12



## David Realty Group Residential Brokerage

MAKE THE SMART MOVE WITH DAVID REALTYGROUP.COM



David Barbosa

**Mountainside \$489,900**  
This home won't last. Great home on a lovely tree lined street. Hardwood floors throughout, newly updated half bath, central air, wood burning fireplace, built ins, clean and bright with an amazing backyard. This is a must see. Be in before the holidays.



**Westfield \$799,000**  
Excellent chance to own a professional/apartment building in Westfield. Rare property with 11 parking spots in your own private lot. Upstairs is perfect for an upscale apartment to offset your costs. Amazing location within walking distance to downtown Westfield and the train.



Rosemarie Hughes

**Westfield \$425,000**  
I am truly a move-in ready, 3 bedroom, 2 bath Colonial! My owners completely renovated me in '07. Open-plan first floor includes a family room off my gourmet Kitchen to my finished basement with wetbar. My brag sheet includes: 2 zone heating and Central Air, ceiling fans in bedrooms, hardwoods, Crown molding thru-out, lots of closet space, Kitchen pantry, separate laundry and utility rooms in basement, built-in speakers first floor, basemt and backyard.



Lorena Barbosa

**Westfield \$699,000**  
Welcome to this charming custom home in an unbeatable location! Walk to town and train! Endless possibilities encompass this home with an expansive previous doctor's office attached with separate entrances. Office consists of 5 plus rooms and a half bath. Great opportunity to utilize the living space of the previous dr. office as part of the home and add additional bedrooms/office/family room, etc!

Contact (908) 264-8843 or info@davidrealtygroup.com

DavidRealtyGroup.com • Residential Brokerage • (908) 264-8843

©2014 David Realty Group LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Owned and Operated by David and Lorena Barbosa



336 DARBY LANE  
MOUNTAINSIDE

OFFERED FOR \$509,000



This pristine, sprawling flat Ranch home is nestled into a quiet Mountainside neighborhood and offers serene views overlooking level park-like property. This fine home boasts an Entrance foyer with two coat closets, hardwood floors under carpeting, Eat-in Kitchen with picture window, formal Dining and Living Room with stone fireplace, Master Bedroom with full bathroom, 2-car Garage and more!

© 2014 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Owned and Operated by NRT LLC.



Kimberley Aslanian Haley

#1 REAL ESTATE AGENT  
BUYER CONTROLLED SALES ~5 YEARS  
#2 REAL ESTATE AGENT  
OVERALL PRODUCTION ~7 YEARS  
#1 REAL ESTATE OFFICE

COLDWELL BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE WESTFIELD EAST  
908.233.5555 OR 908.301.2004  
WWW.KIMHALEY.COM OR KIM.HALEY@CBMOVES.COM



## HIRING THE TOP AGENT ISN'T EXPENSIVE...IT'S PRICELESS!



Scan to View All Listings and Open Houses

Frank D. Isoldi, Broker / Sales Associate  
#1 Agent Westfield Office: 2006-2013

email: isre@aol.com • Office: 908-233-5555 x 202 • Direct: 908-301-2038 • www.frankdisoldi.com

© 2014 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Owned and Operated by NRT LLC.



COLDWELL BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

