

THE WEEK IN SPORTS

WINKLER BLOCKS FG, FRANZONE PASSES 2 TD'S

Blocked Field Goal Preserves 27-26 Victory for the Raiders

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

Excitement was at its highest level in Cranford on October 18 as Jon Winkler burst through the line with :048 left on the clock and blocked Cougar Joe Muccia's



David B. Corbin for The Leader and The Times
SAVING PLAY... Donald Patterson, No. 14, of the Raiders pounces on Cougar Adrian Moore on the next-to-the-last play of the game and brings him down at the 12.

30-yard attempt at the winning field goal and preserved a 27-26 victory for the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School football team.

Cranford opened the scoring using the speed and agility of running back Adrian Moore and the power of fullback Nikki Fekete. Moore dashed 13 yards to put Cranford ahead 6-0 in the first quarter.

Raider halfback Delmar Patterson displayed his awesome speed and running skills when he slanted and zig-zagged 57 yards to tie the game 6-6.

Moore immediately answered, still in the first quarter, with a 75-yard scamper and Muccia added the extra point to put the Cougars in front 13-6, then the Raiders came right back before the end of the quarter when John Stack crashed five yards into the end zone and brought the score to 13-12.

The action in the second quarter was more sane. After Fekete softened the Raider defensive line with constant battering, Terrell Lewis skid 10 yards for another touchdown and Muccia added another extra point to put the Cougars up 20-12 by halftime.

The Raiders received the kickoff at the beginning of the second half and could only get to their own nine-yard line. Three plays later, the Cougars intercepted a pass on the Raider 18.

The Raider defense got ferocious. La'Marr McDaniel, Dan Morris, Joe Franzone and Scott Patterson threw the Cougar runners for major losses, then a

10-yard holding penalty forced them to punt. Jovann Clarke of the Raiders called for a fair catch on the eight-yard line.

Raider quarterback Franzone alternated the use of La'Renn McDaniel's blasting up the middle and Patterson's swift outside running along with a key fourth-and-six pass reception by Maurice Dockery to move deep into the Cougar's lair. Unfortunately, a saving interception by Jason Harris at the three-yard line, prevented the Raiders from scoring.

The powered-up Raider defense stopped the Cougars in their tracks and Dockery received the punt on the Cougar 40 and returned it to the 30. Then, like lightning, Franzone flashed a 40-yard touchdown pass to Blair Woodward. Franzone ran the two-point conversion into the end zone, and with :47 remaining in the third quarter, the score was visualized at 20-20.

The Cougars shocked the Raiders when Moore bolted 54 yards with 8:18 left in the game, lifting the score to 26-20. A high snap on the extra point attempt forced the Cougar holder to pass, but it was batted to the turf by an alert Raider defenseman.

Time was running out for the Raiders. Franzone rifled a 26-yard completion to Delmar Patterson. Patterson slanted for a seven-yard gain. On another pass play, a Cougar pounced all over a Raider receiver way too soon and the ball was advanced to the 11-yard line. McDaniel bashed forward to the seven, then Franzone found Dockery in the end zone with 1:35 remaining in the game. Adam Baumwoll added the extra point to put the Raiders ahead 27-26.

Now the Cougars were forced into a corner and had to react quickly. Fekete blasted to the 38 for a first down. Mark Stansen made two first down pass receptions and halfback Moore rolled to the 12 to have the Cougars clawing at the Raiders pay dirt with :048 remaining. Muccia's winning field goal attempt was then blocked by the furiously raiding Winkler and the game became history.

Franzone hit five of eight passing attempts for 110 yards. Patterson rushed for 121 yards and McDaniel rushed for 60 yards. Clarke had 27 yards receiving. Dockery had 14, Patterson had 29 and Woodward had 40.

The Raiders remained unbeaten at 4-0 while the Cougars slipped to 3-2. The Raiders host Shabazz High School on October 25 at 1:30.

Scotch Plns-Fnwd	12	0	8	7
Cranford	13	7	0	6



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
THE ELUSIVE MCDANIEL... Raider running back La'Marr McDaniel, No. 30, darts around the right side for a seven-yard gain in the third quarter and tries to avoid two hostile Cougars. The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School football team defeated Cranford High School in a thrilling 27-26 game which went to the very last play to be decided in Cranford on October 18.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
PRELUDE TO BEING A HERO... With :048 left on the clock and the Raiders up 27-26, Raider Jon Winkler, No. 84, charges Cougar kicker Joe Muccia, kicking from the 20, and blocks the 30-yard attempt to preserve the victory.

Devil Gymnasts Do It, Defeat East Brunswick

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

Seniors Megan Clarke and Diana Shineman were radiating with brilliance as they brightened the Westfield High School girls gymnastics team's way to a 103.35 to 102.25 victory over strong East Brunswick squad in Westfield on October 16.

34.20 on the all-around to place second behind Teri Nelson of the Bears who had a 34.80.

She grabbed first in the vault with an 8.85, and seconds on the floor exercises and on the balance beam with marks of 8.70 and 8.90, respectively. Clarke also showed well on the uneven bars with a score of 7.75.

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DEADLINE INFO.
All sports which take place during the week MUST be submitted by Fri. 4 p.m. Weekend sports ONLY must be submitted by Noon on Monday. Articles must be typed, double-spaced, & no longer than 1 1/2 pages. ALL OTHERS WILL BE IGNORED.

Devil 'Pac' Girls Run Down the Cougars

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

The Westfield High School varsity girls' cross country team surged past the Cranford High School girls, 19-48, on the 3.1-mile course at Warinanco Park in Elizabeth on October 14.

The victory was the Blue Devil girls 27th consecutive dual meet win since the beginning of the 1995 season.

Junior Lindsay Totams led the "Pac" attack with a time of 21:06. Kathryn Verhoeven of the Cougars roared to a second-placed finish with a time of 21:23. Freshman Alexis Anzelone sped home in third place with a time of 21:25 followed by teammates Laura Brucia at 21:40, Anna Dujnic at 21:51 and Susan Wilson at 21:59.

Having been quite pleased with the Blue Devils' performance, Head Coach Tom Hornish commented, "This was a great race; we got the breakthroughs we needed. We had five of seven girls run under 22 minutes on the Conference and County course and our times have been



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
BATTLE OF THE BLUE...Irvington High School running back Darryl Foster is gang tackled by a host of Blue Devils during the second quarter in Irvington on October 18. It took until double overtime for the Blue Devils to beat the Blue Knights, 12-9, on Jason Krieger's 27-yard field goal.



David B. Corbin for The Leader and The Times
RIGHT TURNER...Blue Devil Lamont Turner rolls to his right and finds an opening for a small gain in the first quarter against the Blue Knights.

KRIEGER'S FIELD GOAL WINS IT IN DOUBLE-OT

Blue Devils Work Overtime, Win the 'Battle of the Blue'

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

A battle between the Blue Knights of Irvington High School and the Blue Devils of Westfield ended up in a bruising 12-9, double-overtime victory for the Devils when senior Jason Krieger nailed a 27-yard field goal in Irvington on October 18.

The Blue Knights received Brandon Doerr's game opening kickoff on the six-yard line and returned it to the 25. After fullback Rajahn Lucas blasted to a first down on a fourth-and-one play, Darryl Foster galloped 12 yards to the Westfield 46. Foster ran six yards twice for another first down; then, after a penalty, he ran for another first down. Lucas carried to the Blue Devil 12 and later, Denzil Hinds kicked a 27-yard field goal to put Irvington ahead 3-0 with 1:01 left in the first quarter.

Westfield had little luck on its first drive. Senior Jason Osborne did run for two first downs, but the drive stalled and Bob Baykowski was forced to punt with the ball placed on the Irvington 33. Baykowski kicked the football to the four where it was picked up, but a crushing tackle by Lamont Turner squished the Blue Knights on their own two-yard line.

With 9:32 left in the second quarter, the Blue Devil defensive line put on a wicked rush and junior Rob Albino tackled Lucas in the end zone for a safety, making the score 3-2 and forcing Irvington to kick to Westfield.

Osborne took the kick and returned it 27 yards to the Irvington 43. On second-and-13, Baykowski rolled to the left for a nine-yard gain, then on the next play, Irvington was penalized five yards for being off sides. Later, a penalty forced the Blue Devils to give up the football.

Strong defensive plays turned in by outside linebacker Matt Krug, end Brendan Hickey and safety Rasheed Hawks terminated further Blue Knight

drives as time ran out in the first half. The Blue Knights increased their lead to 9-2 in the third quarter when Lucas slanted seven yards and lanced into the end zone for a touchdown. Hinds' extra point attempt was no good.

The Blue Devils took the initiative in the fourth quarter. Osborne intercepted a pass from Knight quarterback Saif Plant on the Westfield 45 and returned it 30 yards to the 25 of Irvington. After a series of moderate gains which placed the Blue Devils on the three-yard line, Tom Lee found a small opening and slashed into the end zone. Krieger nailed the extra point and the score was tied 9-9.

Time in regulation ran out and the game marched into overtime. Neither team could score in the first overtime and the Blue Devils chose to go on defense in the second overtime. The Knights could not see daylight and gave up the ball on downs at the 15. Shortly afterwards, Krieger crashed the football through the uprights for the victory.

"It was a tough game. We made some key plays which helped; such as the tackle at the two by Turner and the safety," stated Westfield Head Football Coach Ed Tranchina. "We have had two linebackers out in Greg Gorski and Kevin Dowling and Irvington changed their offensive strategy and ran against our weakness." Lee carried 15 times for 68 yards. Lamont Turner had 39 yards on 11 carries. Baykowski carried for 10 yards and Osborne had four

yards rushing. With its 499th career victory, Westfield improved to 3-1 on the season and will travel to Elizabeth to play the Minute-men on Friday night, October 24 at 7:00.

Westfield	0	2	0	7	0	3	12
Irvington	3	0	6	0	0	0	9

Watching Conference:

Elizabeth	0	0	7	14	21
Union	0	0	0	07	7
Kearny	6	21	0	0	27
Plainfield	6	6	13	8	33
Shabazz	7	0	7	7	21
Rahway	0	0	0	0	0
Linden	7	14	14	0	35
Newark East Side	0	0	0	0	0

**WATCHING CONFERENCE: AMERICAN DIVISION:

TEAM	W	L
Elizabeth	4	0
Plainfield	4	0
Kearny	3	1
Union	2	2
Irvington	1	3
Newark East Side	0	4

NATIONAL DIVISION:

TEAM	W	L
Scotch Plains	4	0
Westfield	3	1
Cranford	3	2
Linden	3	2
Rahway	1	3
Shabazz	1	3

** Includes all games played



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
SAFETY IN NUMBERS...Several Blue Devils put the pressure on Blue Knight fullback Rajahn Lucas and junior Rob Albino, No. 53, tumbles him into the end zone for a safety in the second quarter to bring the score to 3-2.

Westfield Recreation Commission Sponsors

HAUNTED HOUSE

WHO: Westfield Resident Youth and Their Parents
WHAT: A Night of Spine Chilling Thrills
Through the Haunted House
WHEN: Friday, October 31, 1997
WHERE: Memorial Pool Complex
TIME: 5 P.M. to 9 P.M.
COST: \$1.00 per person. Children under 5 are free.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS:
OPTIMIST CLUB OF WESTFIELD
THE PARTY STOP/COSTUME CORNER

NOTE: Event will be held under the roof at the Pool Complex. Rain is not a factor, however, the complex is not fully enclosed or heated, so please dress accordingly.

For More Information, Contact the Westfield Recreation Department at (908) 789-4080

Scotch Plains Day Streetfest 97

Join Us for an Exciting Day while Celebrating the Historic Community of Scotch Plains

There is Something for Everyone to Enjoy
Bring the Kids and the Whole Family

Saturday, October 25, 1997
On the Village Green
Scotch Plains, New Jersey
9am-5pm
(Raindate: Sunday, October 26th)

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NON-STOP LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
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THE SINGER AND SONGWRITER OF THE LEGENDARY SMITHEREENS
Performing songs from his debut solo album, "Songs & Sounds"
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