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THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
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TOMASSOS, SCHULTZ, SANTORIELLO, CAPRARIO HIT; CUTRO SAVES

The 'Cream' Rises to the Top; Devils Out-Shoot Cougars for Section 2 Crown

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

"Who would have 'thunk' it?" With a sluggish beginning, the Westfield High School boys' soccer team got it together, persisted three defeats at the feet of perennial power Scotch Plains-Fanwood then rose to the top to defeat 16th-ranked Columbia, 3-2, in a thrilling shootout in South Orange on November 8.

After two sudden victory overtime periods, the showdown was finalized when all five Blue Devils - Anthony Tomasso, Billy Schultz, Lee Tomasso, Dave Santoriello and Dan Caprario, respectively, - successfully buried their shots into the net while senior goalie Kevin Cutro made the right decision at the right time to smother the third Cougar shot, opening the door for victory.

"I just tried to keep loose. It happened so quickly. I dove and look what I found," said Cutro. "They say it only takes one, and I had faith in my guys. I'm overwhelmed."

Both teams had what it took to be winners. Both experienced being knocked off the momentum swing but both got back onto the swing.

Westfield grabbed the momentum in the first half, carrying the battle to Cougar turf and scoring both of its regulation time goals.

First, in the 26th minute, Anthony Tomasso, who had been making the Cougars nervous on the left side, received a pass from Gerritt Ill and drilled a shot into the outstretched hands of keeper Dan Protas. When Protas ailt, the ball was over the goal line. Eight minutes later, Blue Devil Dave Santoriello brought the ball along the right side and passed into the center where Duffy Lau buried a

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ANOTHER GREAT SAVE...Blue Devil goalie Kevin Cutro, on ground, grabs a loose ball near the goal and prevents a score. Billy Schultz, No. 3, helps in the defense.



Fred Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times

GANG TACKLING THE COLONIALS...A Morristown halfback is gang tackled by nearly the entire Blue Devil defense, including Brian Butts, No. 14, Matt Daly, No. 1, and Matt Brinkman, No. 65.

BAKER RUMBLES FOR 2 TDS; SCHILLER, PAVONI, BOFF GET 1 EACH

Raiders, 'Wild Dog' Gridmen Click; Slam Shabazz Bulldogs, 33-6, in Group Sections

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

Plenty of talent and a complex blend of a passing and rushing attack makes it possible for the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School football team to put a lot of points on the scoreboard. Combine that with a rabid "Wild Dog" defensive unit and you get the formula for victory.

The Raider offense led by senior quarterback Brian Schiller, who completed nine of 15 passes for 134 yards, including one touchdown (TD) pass and one eight-yard TD rush, all in the first half, added three more TDs via rushing to overwhelm Malcolm X. Shabazz, 33-6, in the quarterfinals of the Group 3, Section 2 Tournament in Scotch Plains on November 10.

"In the first half, we came out throwing. They tried to press up Ray (Williams) and Steve (Williams). That was ridiculous. I just sent them down the sideline," said Schiller. "In the second half, we really didn't need to throw the ball. We ran the ball and did a great job."

In the second half, "We wanted to shorten the clock. We were up 20-0 so we just wanted to kill the clock and go to the next round," explained Raider Head Coach Steve Ciccotelli.

Meanwhile, the "Wild Dogs" held the Bulldogs, featuring standouts Amir Pinnix (halfback) and Jabril Stokes, alternating at quarterback and halfback, to just 29 net yardage in the first half and 78 total yards - 41 rushing and 37 passing - in the second half, the later with "Wild Dog" reserves.

"We were keying on Stokes and Pinnix all the way. We were calling

out before the play to watch them because that's where their offense revolves," explained senior defensive leader and linebacker Andrew Pavoni. "We knew they were shaky in their passing game so it made it easier."

"They lined up Stokes at running back and in the last couple of games

both had long runs for touchdowns. We made sure we had gang tackles and made sure that we took away cutback lanes," said Ciccotelli.

For the second week in a row sophomore halfback Kyle Baker, stepping in for the injured Kyle Adams, re-

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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

MAKING GOOD CHOICES...Raider quarterback Brian Schiller, No. 15, not only passed for 134 yards and one touchdown pass in the first half, but also ran for an eight-yard touchdown against Shabazz.

JENKINS RUSHES 104 YARDS, DALY SCORES WINNER

Blue Devil Gridmen Unsettle Colonials, 7-0, in Sectional

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

Westfield High School football fans were treated to two football meetings in Morristown November 10 and 11. Although the sixth-seeded Blue Devils and third-seeded Morristown Colonials (7-2) were ready for an action packed afternoon of football on November 10, officials were nowhere to be found. As it turned out, the assigned crew never

received the message, hence a no game.

Thanks to the understanding of school officials, coaches, players and fans, the first round of the NJSIAA North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 playoff was played on November 11 in what turned out to be a gem of a game. It took just one score to decide the winner, a two-yard touchdown carry by Blue Devil senior fullback Matt Daly with 2:43 remaining in the

first quarter. Junior, Andrew Lessner connected on the extra point for a 7-0 score.

The Blue Devils amassed 187 yards rushing and 80 yards passing. Senior halfback Terrence Jenkins accounted for 105 yards rushing. Daly had 79 while senior halfback Diano Reavis chalked up eight yards. Senior quarterback Louis Mercer took to the air with seven passes good for 80 yards.

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CWS UNITED SOCCER
CRANFORD/WESTFIELD/SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD

U-16 AND U-19 BOYS AND GIRLS
2002 TRAVEL TEAM TRYOUTS
Saturday, November 17

The Cranford Soccer Club, the Westfield Soccer Association and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Soccer Association are joining together again this year to sponsor U-16 and U-19 Travel teams for both boys and girls. The clubs are working together to better provide high school players the opportunity to play on Spring Travel teams where players can compete at the appropriate level based on their ability and commitment to travel soccer. Tryouts will be held on Saturday, November 10th and Saturday, November 17th at Unami Park Field #2 (directions at www.cranfordsoccer.com) at the following times:

U-16 Girls (Players born on or after 8/1/85): 1:00-2:30 PM
U-19 Girls (Players born on or after 8/1/82): 2:45-4:15 PM

U-16 Boys (Players born on or after 8/1/85): 1:00-2:30 PM
U-19 Boys (Players born on or after 8/1/82): 2:45-4:15 PM

(Tryouts will be held rain, snow or shine unless canceled at the field.)

The teams are open to all players regardless of where they live. Players will be selected for teams based on their ability and commitment to play without regard to their club. Last spring, we fielded 8 teams with players from 18 high schools.

The goal is to form two or more teams in each of the four age divisions: U-16 Boys, U-19 Boys, U-16 Girls and U-19 Girls. The top teams will look to have professional training, winter indoor training and tournaments and spring MNJYSA play at the highest level. The second and third teams in each division may have professional training but the time and commitment level for winter training/tournaments and spring practice and tournaments will be based on input from the team.

By combining forces, three of the premier youth soccer clubs in Union County can offer expanded opportunities for players to compete at a high level without traveling great distances--something that no one club can do on its own. We will also be fielding teams for those players who, by virtue of ability or commitment, may not be selected for the premier teams but who still want to play Travel soccer.

In the past, our clubs have struggled to form in-town teams in these age divisions and often the wide range of abilities on the teams formed have caused serious flight misplacements and disappointing playing experiences. By increasing the pool of players we are in a much better position to form competitive, ability and commitment-balanced teams that can compete at appropriately higher levels of play.

Key Points:

- The CSC, WSA and SPFSA will be sponsoring these teams but they are open to all players regardless of where they live. We will be actively looking for high level players for these teams.
- Multiple teams in each age group to be formed.
- Top team in each age group to be a select team--winter training and tournaments and high level MNJYSA spring league play and tournaments.

For more information, please contact Bob Cashill (908-755-9696 or robert.a.cashill@excite.com). Individuals interested in coaching or managing a team should also call Bob.

Any player interested in trying out who cannot make it on one of these two dates must call Bob to be considered for a team position.



WESTFIELD SOCCER ASSOCIATION
U8 - 2nd GRADE
TRAVEL TEAM TRYOUTS
TO PLAY SPRING 2002
GIRLS AND BOYS

Date Saturday, November 17th
Time 9:00 am to 11:30 am
Location Memorial Fields
Evaluators UK Elite

TEAMS

The Westfield Soccer Association will be forming Girls and Boys Travel Teams that will play in the Spring 2002 season. The number of players trying out and their respective skill levels will dictate the number of teams we form. Our goal is to provide a fun and challenging soccer experience for the players. Teams will train on Fridays and play games on Saturdays. No records or standings are kept. The emphasis is on player development.

FALL 2002 U9 TEAMS

These teams are formed only for the Spring 2002 season. New tryouts will be held in May for U9 Fall 2002 Travel Teams. While players will have the opportunity to have fun and improve, they will have to tryout again in May to make the U9 teams.

COMMITMENT

The season runs from mid-March through early June. Friday practices go for 1 1/2 hours. 5 of the Saturday games are played in Westfield; the other 5 will be played at locations 15 to 30 minutes away.

COSTS

Total cost of \$150 includes travel uniform (jersey, shorts, socks), Friday UK Elite training and Mid New Jersey Youth Soccer Association fees. The WSA provides financial aid for families unable to afford participation fees. Please contact David Reich or Sarino Tropeano directly; these situations are handled with discretion and do not involve coaches or other team parents.

AGE REQUIREMENTS

Players must be born between 8/1/93 and 7/31/94. This will include mostly 2nd graders and some 1st and 3rd graders. In exceptional cases, a player may be born after 7/31/94.

TRYOUT APPAREL

Shin guards must be worn and cleats are recommended.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

If a player is unable to attend a scheduled tryout, he or she must contact the appropriate VP of Travel prior to the tryout in order to be considered for a travel team position. Please contact David Reich (Girls Travel) or Sarino Tropeano (Boys Travel) at WSATravel@aol.com.

RAINOUTS

Weather cancellations, field or time changes will be posted on:

<http://community.nj.com/soccer/wsa>