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THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section - Pages 11-16

PAVONI SCORES TD, TACKLES; 'WILD DOGS' HOLD

Raiders Win Ugly, But Win; Thump Blue Knights, 21-6

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

Poor play by an opponent can sometimes lull a good team into mediocrity. The Irvington Blue Knights did everything they could to create that scenario but it did not quite work as the 4-1 Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School football team prevailed, 21-6, in Irvington on October 13.

Last week against Linden, the

Raider offense was marvelous and the "Wild Dog" defense sputtered. Against the Blue Knights, the "Wild Dogs" ripped their opponent's offensive into submission, allowing no touchdowns. Irvington's only score came on a blocked punt late in the third quarter.

"It was an ugly game," said Raider Head Coach Steve Ciccotelli. "We played good offensively last week and didn't play defense. Today, it

was just the opposite."

Senior Andrew - Andres according to the Irvington announcer - Pavoni scored a one-yard rushing touchdown, recorded 18 tackles and forced a safety - Josh Wexler dumped fullback Taquan Morris in the end zone on the first offensive play of the game. Pavoni seemed to be reading the Irvington offensive scheme as easily as a children's book.

"Andrew is very good and it's a tribute to our entire defense because they (Irvington) came out with some setups that we haven't seen. We kept our poise and we handled it," commented Ciccotelli.

Wexler also had an interception, a fumble recovery and nine tackles. Ray Williams, who had two receptions for 50 yards, had an interception and a fumble recovery, each setting up a touchdown.

The rest of the "Wild Dogs" also got into the action. Josh Finkelstein had 11 tackles while Matt Loomis and Matt Richards had nine each. Rob Mattar and Finkelstein also shared a sack.

Quarterback Brian Schiller was 9-16 passing for 129 yards, including a 21-yard touchdown pass to Pat Shivilin with 1:52 left in the first quarter. Halfback Kyle Adams had a 13-yard touchdown run with 4:02 remaining in the first half. Steve Williams had four receptions for 40 yards.

Accustomed to booting deep kick-

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WILD DOGS FORCING A FUMBLE...The ball pops out of the hands Blue Knight wide receiver Sir Venegas, No. 86, as the Raider "Wild Dogs" pounce on him.

MILLER, HENSAL HIT; FLEISSNER GETS 9TH SHUTOUT

Soccer Raiders Win Spirited Battle Over Devil Boys, 2-0

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

Adrenaline was racing in the second meeting of the season between the 6-4 Westfield High School boys' soccer team and fourth-ranked, 11-0 Scotch Plains-Fanwood on October 12 in Scotch Plains. In the first meeting, the Raiders won 1-0 in overtime in a physical game. This time, the Raiders won 2-0 in a brutally physical bout where the glare of yellow cards was blinding.

"I am very pleased that even though we had four injuries and the kids could not go back on the field, and that depleted us, that our kids played very well and with a lot of heart," pointed out Blue Devil Head Coach George Kapner.

Raider junior back Michael Miller scored the first goal on an assist from sophomore Ed Zazzali in the first half and junior Jeff Hensal netted the insurance goal in the second half. Raider junior keeper Ricky Fleissner made five saves to record his ninth shutout of the season, but a lot of his success can also be attributed to a strong group of backs.

"The second game into the season, we went from three backs to four," explained Raider Head Coach Tom Breznitsky. "With Ray DiNizo, Dwight Simms and Mike Miller play-

ing exceptionally well with Ricky Fleissner, it's tough to get one by us. We've only given up two all season."

Blue Devil keepers Kevin Cutro and Gil Arbitsman combined for six impressive saves. Cutro, who made four saves, was injured (ankle) early in the second half and was replaced

by Arbitsman, who also was outstanding. Strong defense from full-backs Brendan Egan and Adam Yoffie prevented what could have been a Raider rout.

Cutro made a fine save midway through the first half, when he

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SQUEEZING OUT A RAIDER...Several Blue Devil defensemen put the squeeze on a Raider during the second half. The Raiders won 2-0.

WILLIAMS SCORES, CONNORS GRABS 4TH SHUTOUT

Hosting Blue Devils Shutout Soccer Raider Girls, 1-0

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

Just one lone goal in a heart-throbbing game, brought a 1-0 win to the Westfield High School girls soccer team (3-4-1) over Scotch Plains-Fanwood (8-5), in Westfield on October 12. In all, the Blue Devil/Raider

match-ups played evenly throughout as both teams demonstrated intensity mixed with good solid physical contact, with time of possession shared equally.

Both defensive teams deserved plenty of credit. Blue Devil goalie Megan Connors stopped four to

record her fourth shutout. Keeper Lauren Bianco made five saves for the Raiders.

Prior to kickoff, Scotch Plains-Fanwood Head Coach Frank Butz expressed some concern, saying, "They're a good club, Westfield. Their record may not be quite show it, but they're good, so we better come out ready to play today, but I believe it should be a good game."

Meanwhile, Westfield Head Coach Pete Giordano commented, "This should be a fun game. Scotch Plains is a very good team. I think they'll do a real good job in the counties and they are also heading for the states, so we need this game to keep ourselves alive in the states. And we'll take our shots also in the counties."

The winning goal came in the 16th minute of the first half after a corner kick by Jenny Hayes bounced off several people inside the box, only to be curled into the net by striker Susan Williams. Although Coach Butz displayed his disapproval in what he missed was a missed foul call by officials, when keeper Bianco was knocked down from behind, the goal was ruled good.

"It was very exciting," said Williams. "We got our momentum up while keeping our mistakes down."

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SURROUNDED BY RAIDERS...Blue Devil Erica Triola, No. 2, is surrounded by Raiders Kellie LaForge, No. 9, and Laura Klastava, No. 19, in Westfield. The Blue Devils won a squeaker, 1-0.



THE KICK IS GOOD...Blue Devil Brian Butts holds for Andrew Lessner who kicks a 25-yard field goal against the Farmers.



TERRORIZING FARMERS...Blue Devil Terrence Jenkins, No. 5, terrorized the Farmers in their own field offensively and, especially, defensively.

JENKINS TERRORIZES FARMERS ON 'D' AND 'O'

Blue Devil Gridmen 'D'feat Farmers, 17-6, in Union

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

A strong, resolute defensive effort on October 12 earned the 4-1 Westfield High School football team a 17-6 victory and its first win in Union since 1981. Spinning their wheels on their own turf, the Farmers (2-4) were held to just 23 yards rushing and 11 yards passing in the first half and finished with 92 rushing yards and 17 passing yards.

"We had two weeks to prepare. That could have been good or bad. Obviously we were well-rested and we played hard for four quarters," said Westfield Head Coach Ed Tranchina. "They threatened us and we fought them off. That's the defense that we want to play."

Blue Devil senior Terrence Jenkins terrorized the Farmers both offensively and defensively. Offensively, although he rushed for just 22 yards on nine carries, he had a three-yard touchdown run and a 25-yard reception to setup a field goal. Defensively, he recorded two sacks - one shared with Matt Brinkman - several crushing tackles for losses and abet-

ted in a joint effort to block PAT attempt.

"Anybody who wondered where Terrence was needed just to come on watch this game. They found out tonight," expressed Tranchina.

"I spent a couple of weeks hurt. I came back and just tried to prove that I still got it," said Jenkins.

Senior Matt Daly, who had just six yards rushing in the first half, rushed for total 66 yards - one for 48 yards that set up Jenkin's TD run - and had

a 29-yard reception. Daly also led the Blue "Devils Brigade" with 13 tackles. Brinkman had 11 tackles. Montel Glasco spoiled any hopes of a Farmer comeback with a smashing sack late in the fourth quarter.

Senior linebacker Matt Andzell, who had been leading the "Devils Brigade" all season, continued by blitzing the quarterback and plugging up the line.

"We came in so pumped. All the

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Blue Devil Gymnasts Win Brearley Invitational Title

The top-ranked Westfield High School gymnastics team won the Brearley Invitational gymnastics title on October 12 in Kenilworth, topping second place Scotch Plains-Fanwood 104.775-98.925. Union Catholic placed third with a total of 93.975. Led by senior Lauren Caravello with a total of 36.675, the Blue Devils grabbed three of the top

five spots in the all-around.

Caravello swept first in every event, scoring 9.05 in the vault, 9.425 on the uneven bars, 9.05 on the balance beam and a 9.15 on the floor exercises. Although injured, Jessica Caravello placed fourth in the all-around with a total of 33.975, grabbing second on the floor at 8.6 and

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