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THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
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DECAMPO, L. FRANCAVILLA GET SECOND; CONNELLY TAKES THIRD

Raider Derek Francavilla Grabs Title At Region 3 Wrestling Tournament

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

Westfield High School and Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School have turned many heads by showing a strong presence at the Region 3 Wrestling Tournament concluded in Union on March 2. The Raiders qualified eight wrestlers and the Blue Devils qualified seven wrestlers.

In the end, the Raiders advanced three wrestlers - 105-lb. sophomore Derek Francavilla (first), 142-lb. senior Lucas Francavilla (second) and 121-lb. sophomore Eric Connelly (third) - to the state preliminary round held in Union on March 5. Blue Devil junior Joe DeCampo also advanced by placing second in the 121-lb. class.

Derek Francavilla - 30-0 - proved that he deserved to be the top seed by virtually breezing to the title. First, he severed relationships with Tom Duffy of Union (U) by pinning him in 2:55 using a guillotine.

"I want to win this thing, so it was good to get this first one out of the way," commented Francavilla. "Although I drew one of the lower seeds, I used stuff I'm going to need in the later rounds, so it took me into the second period to get the pin. But that was what I was looking for, so I'm satisfied."

In the semis, he controlled Greg

Schvey of Millburn (M), 6-0.

Francavilla scored a first-period takedown, a second-period reversal and a penalty point, and a third-period reversal to decision talented freshman Ross Baldwin (25-4) of New Providence (NPr), 7-2, in the finals.

"I wrestled well from neutral and did what I wanted to do, came out and scored. On top, I was a little conservative and got reversed but I got the job done," said Francavilla.

Blue Devil Joe DeCampo (22-8) slicked past Brearley's (Br) Marc Yospin, 7-5 in the 121-lb. preliminaries and received the sixth seed. He scored a takedown late in the third period to stun third-seeded Mike Cilento of Colonia, 7-5 then escaped with three seconds remaining to topple second-seeded Dan DeAndrea of South Plainfield (SoP), 3-2, to advance to the finals.

"My conditioning basically saved me," said DeCampo. "I heard my coaches yelling '10 seconds left'. I shot up and escaped."

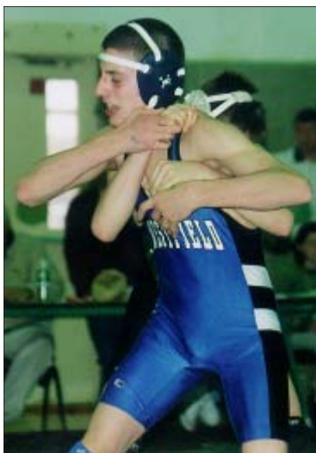
DeCampo's wrestling style, however, did not hold up well against top-seeded Amin Queen, who registered four takedowns

- the final one a nifty barrel roll that resulted in a fall in 4:54.

Raiders Connelly (121-lb.) won an 8-2 decision over Pat Potok of North Plainfield then came from behind in the quarterfinals to defeat John Gura of Roselle Park (RP), 11-8. Gura stunned Connelly in the first period with a takedown that

led to a three-point nearfall, but Connelly remembered that a bout is designed to last six minutes and he used that time to allow Gura to get a view of the lights.

"In the first period, I was a nervous wreck. He caught me with a barrel



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
GREAT ESCAPE...Blue Devil Joe DeCampo escapes with three seconds left to win 3-2 over 121-lb. Dan DeAndrea of South Plainfield.

roll and I didn't know what to do. That was the last move I was expecting from him because he is usually a double guy," explained Connelly of Gura. "I said in my mind, I can't stop now, so I just kept wrestling and came back."

In the semifinals, Connelly had a late surge and nearly pinned Queen late in the third period but fell short, losing 9-8. He was not short of scoring points, however, in the wrestleoffs. After demolishing Cilento, 13-6, he claimed third place by stopping DeAndrea, 6-1.

"After I lost to Queen by one point, I just said that I had to keep pushing," said Connelly. "I didn't want to end my season on a downfall and I came out successful."

Lucas Francavilla, seeded third at

142-lbs, pinned Ed Gibbons of Chatham in 3:34 in the quarterfinals with a double-arm corkscrew.

In the semifinals, against second-seeded Mike Whalen of Parsippany (Par), Francavilla trailed 4-0 but came to life in the third period with an escape, a takedown and a three-point nearfall while yielding a reversal to take the bout into overtime. In overtime, he took Whalen to the mats and quickly pinned him using a step-over double grapevine in 6:52.

"I used a move that my brother has been telling me to use all year. He

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Fred Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times
COLLECTING BACK POINTS...Raider Derek Francavilla, top, has Union Farmer Tom Duffy in a tough situation in the 105-lb. quarterfinal bout.

KLIMOWICZ LEADS WITH 16, PENNELLA SCORES 15

Raider Girls' 'Run & Shoot' Downs Falcon Cagers, 70-40

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

The 20-4 Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls' basketball team opened its NJIAA North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3, Tournament in devastating fashion, by clipping the

16-8 Jefferson Falcons, 70-40, in the quarterfinals on February 27 in Scotch Plains. Freshman center Hillary Klimowicz came off the bench in the second quarter and went on to pump in 16 points and grab 13 rebounds while junior guard Lindsay Pennella contributed with 15 points and six assists.

beginning they were right there with us, so we kept on turning it up a notch and I think just running on them, we really tried to get them tired."

In the first quarter, the Falcons set the pace and had the Raiders standing on their heels somewhat. Falcon junior Dawn Gilcrest made the difference known, using her aggressiveness to throw the Raiders off their game while scoring eight points. As the quarter ended, the Falcons jumped out with a 14-10 edge.

"The first period was a little slow for us," said Raider Head Coach Brian Homm. "First state game, not having played for two weeks caused us to be a little nervous I think, so we came out a little cautious. We look to open it up a little more from now on."

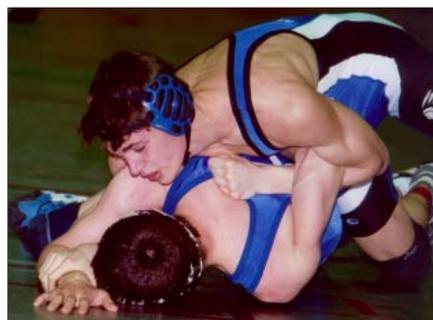
Things changed drastically in the second quarter when the Raiders rumbled up and down the court and the defense dominated the boards. Klimowicz entered the game and made her presence known immediately as she fired away with eight points. Crisp and accurate ball-control, great play selection and execution resulted in 23 points and a formidable 33-19 halftime lead.

In the second half, the Raiders dished out more of the same. Slick

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Fred Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times
SETTING UP THE PLAYS...Raider Jen Burke was successful setting up the plays in the state game against Jefferson. Burke also scored nine points.



Fred Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times
SEDATING A COUGAR...Raider Lucas Francavilla, top, works an arm bar and a wristlock on Chatham Cougar Ed Gibbons in the 142-lb. quarterfinal bout.

Police Lay Down Law, Beat Firefighters, 58-53, for Charity

By STEVEN KRAKAUER
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

"We will lock down the police department tonight," said Firefighter Coach Dan Kelly before the first ever Westfield Police-Fire Department Basketball game on March 1 at Westfield High School (WHS). All proceeds from the event were donated to a September 11 fund.

Unfortunately for the Fire Depart-

ment, Coach Kelly's prediction proved incorrect as the Police Department won the "bravest vs. finest" contest, 58-53. The high school gym was sold out, with more than 1,200 tickets purchased. All proceeds from that went to the memorial fund, while more than \$700 that was collected during an ongoing 50-50 raffle that night was donated to the fund as well.

Before the game, a little friendly competition heated on the court as, responding to Kelly's hunch, Police Chief Bernard Tracy said, "I'm a man of action, not words. We'll see what happens. I just hope no one gets hurt."

The Westfield High School Television station filmed the entire game for TV-36, while Lenny Cathcart and WHS senior Adam Turner announced the game.

The Westfield Police/Fire Fife and Drum Core performed to the packed crowd before the opening tip-off. After the introduction of each player, complete with pumping music and loud roars from the fans, the ceremonial tip-off was conducted by Westfield Mayor Greg McDermott.

The first quarter proved to be relatively even, as the WFD edged ahead with just a one-point lead. Free throw shooting proved to be on the Fire Department's side, as captain Tony Tiller and Brandon Lopresti shot 4-for-4 combined from the stripe. The WPD shot just 50 percent from the line.

Fireman Tim Brennan nailed a big three-pointer to start the second quarter. For both teams, physical play on either end of the court showed that

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Lauren Pass for The Westfield Leader and The Times
VYING FOR THE BASKETBALL...Firefighter Kevin McCormack, No. 17, and Detective Gregory "H. Munster" Kasko, No.25, vie for the ball during Friday night's charity game

DESERIO BUCKETS 18 POINTS, GRABS 12 REBOUNDS

Blue Devil Cagers Uprooted By Colonials, 65-47, in States

By STEVEN KRAKAUER
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

The state tournament was a welcome change to the end of the Westfield High School boys' basketball team's season. Not since the 1980's were they even involved in the tournament, which requires 10 wins during the regular season, and this season they had the honor of winning their first-round match up against the Union Farmers. But in the second round they met the No. 9 Morristown, and lost, 65-47, in Morristown on February 27.

The Blue Devils took the offensive in the first quarter, with senior Adam Turner recording two quick steals and Dan DeSerio netting six points in the first two minutes. The Colonials, however, drove the ball to the lane hard, and thus reached the free-throw line often, shooting 5-9 from the charity stripe in the first quarter.

"They forced us to have to guard them inside, and they were able to either score or get the foul," DeSerio said. DeSerio finished the first quarter

strong, scoring 14 points and grabbing five rebounds. He finished the game with 18 points and 12 rebounds, as well as two assists, three steals and three blocks.

Colonial Myke Lattimore shot 4-for-4 from the free-throw line, nailed a three-pointer and pulled five rebounds in the first quarter. Lattimore finished with a game-high 25 points - 10-for-11 in free throws - and four steals.

The Colonials extended their lead in the second quarter with an early 12-6 run. Late in that quarter, big Colonial forward Jason Latham jammed home a one-handed alley-oop dunk upping the lead to 33-20 at halftime. Morristown led in rebounds (19-9) at the half, but Westfield led in steals (9-5), assists (8-5) and blocks (2-0). Morristown's Jahmar Thorpe, who finished with 14 points, 12 rebounds,

three assists and three steals, tallied nine rebounds and six points.

The third quarter showed the Blue

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Westfield Baseball League SPRING TRYOUTS Major & Pony Leagues Only

Age Group	When
Major: (All Tryouts at Gumpert Field #2)	
6 th Grade / 12 th (All)	Sat, March 9 & 16: 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM
5 th Grade / 11 th (Last Name A-M)	Saturday, March 9 & 16: 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
5 th Grade / 11 th (Last Name N-Z)	Saturday, March 9 & 16: 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
4 th Grade / 10 th (All)	Saturday, March 9 & 16: 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Pony: (14th Tryout at Tamaques Field #2, 13th Tryout at Tamques Field #4)	
8 th Grade / 14 th (All)	Saturday, March 9 & 16: 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
7 th Grade / 13 th (All)	Saturday, March 9 & 16: 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Tryouts are required for competitive, spring in-town leagues. You must be registered with the WBL prior to tryouts. If you wish to be considered, you are encouraged to attend both tryout dates. If that is impossible, you will still be considered, but your tryout evaluation will be limited to only one opportunity. Please bring your glove and bat. *see below.
Check the schedule carefully for the correct time and Good luck to all!

Questions or for more information:
MAJORS Kevin Scanlon - 232-6880
PONYS Brad Chananie - 233-4767

In case of inclement weather, tryouts will be held on March 10 & 17, same time & places.

7th & 8th grade Pony League games will be played on Sundays. All 7th graders who make the Pony League team will be required to play in the University League as well as the Pony's.

A maximum of only six 4th Grade / 10 year olds may be selected to play in the major leagues.

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