

Happy Halloween!

THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
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BOFF BASHES FOR 1-YD TD, BAKER SCORES 11-YD TD

Stubborn Raiders Hold Back Linden Tiger Grid Men, 14-6

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

Fumble recoveries yielding favorable field position set up both Raider touchdowns and favorable field position also set up Linden's only touchdown as the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School football team quieted the Tigers, 14-6, in Scotch Plains on October 26. Under the watchful eye of former acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco and the SP-FHS Class

of 1962, the Raiders' "Wild Dog" defense with a healthy senior defensive lineman Chris Feighner held the Tigers to 105 total yards - 70 rushing - and treated him to an inspirational goal line stance.

"We got Feighner back. That was a big plus for us. But this team has got a lot of heart, a lot of character and I'm very proud of them," stated Raider Head Coach Steve Ciccotelli. "They moved the ball a bit but our

guys came up big when it counted. You got to make plays in tight situations, and we did."

Junior fullback Travis Boff scored the Raiders' first touchdown (TD) with 7:13 left in the first quarter on a one-yard bash and junior halfback Kyle Baker slanted 11 yards for the second touchdown with 1:46 remaining in the half and Boff ran in the two-point conversion. All of the Raiders' 164 total yards came on the ground. Kyle Adams had 66 yards on 16 carries, Boff had 43 yards on five carries, quarterback Mike Walker - he was injured on the play - carried once for seven yards, Baker rushed 10 times for 22 yards and Rowland Adeyemo had one carry for 26 yards.

Chris Sprague, Christian Gray and Matt Powers combined to block a Tiger punt and senior Tim Karis recovered the ball on the Linden 17 to set up the first TD. Karis again recovered a fumble on the 17 to set up the second TD. Adeyemo and Ted Sensor led the "Wild Dogs" with 19 and 11 tackles, respectively. Boff and senior Josh Wexler had nine tackles each and Baker had eight. Boff and sophomore Marc Fabiano (11 tackles) each had a sack and Adams had an interception.

"We hit hard. We created turnovers. We played hard. We laid it on the line," expressed Ciccotelli.

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WILD DOGS SMOTHERING A TIGER...The Raider "Wild Dogs" held the Tigers to 70 yards on the ground and won, 14-6.



BLUE DEVILS ON THE ATTACK...Blue Devils Matt Sofka, No. 14, Billy Schultz, No. 3, and Dan Lynes, No. 25, head into Raider territory. The Blue Devils and the Raiders battled to a 2-2, overtime tie at Kehler Stadium.

TOMASSO, EGAN, CHARLES, HENSAL SCORE GOALS

Soccer Devils, Raiders Battle To, 2-2, Overtime Deadlock

By Q. T. RAVEN
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Talent, enthusiasm and yellow cards shined brightly in this season's second match up between the No. 1, Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys soccer team and host Westfield at Gary Kehler Stadium on October 23. In the first meeting, on September 17 in Scotch Plains, the Raiders recorded a clear-cut, 3-0, victory; however, the result of the rematch was a 2-2, overtime tie.

Nine yellow cards and a yellow/red card flickered - almost all in the second half - somewhat tainting the brilliant play of both teams. Junior forward Lee Tomasso and junior sweeper Brendan Egan scored for the 8-2-4 Blue Devils. Sophomore forward Terrence Charles and senior forward Jeff Hensal netted goals for the 11-0-2 Raiders.

Tomasso, on a pass from Billy Schultz, put the Blue Devils in front when he slid in a goal at the 9:19 mark of the first half. Fourteen minutes later, Charles tallied his goal to

knot the score at the half. By half-time, Raider goalie Ricky Fleissner, made five of his six saves and Blue Devil Brian Pirot made half of his six saves.

The Raiders held the upper edge in ball control, especially in the second half, where they out-shot the Blue Devils 6-3. But the name of the game is to put the ball in the goal. In the second half, Raider Taylor Cole, attacking from the center, ripped several shots just over the crossbar or to the left of the post. Sean McNelis sped down the left side and launched a shot that was warded off by Blue Devil Alex Barrett. Mike Hessemmer ripped a vicious shot that was headed away by Blue Devil defender Andrew Tucker.

The Raiders also had five opportunities on corner kicks in the second half but the Blue Devils positioned themselves well and successfully knocked away every incoming shot except one. In the interim, Egan brought himself forward into the middle on a corner kick from Tomasso

and headed the ball into the goal to give the Blue Devils a 2-1 lead with 18:53 remaining in regulation.

Finally, the Raiders found the mark when junior Ryan Breznitsky hooked a corner kick into the center where Hensal won the scramble and drilled a shot into the net with seven minutes left in regulation.

"We didn't do a set play on that one. It was a run-and-gun," described Ryan Breznitsky. "I played it in, the ball bounced around and Jeff swung his right foot and put it into the back of the net."

Both teams played equally and had near scores in overtime.

"I thought we pretty much dominated the whole game," gasped an exhausted Ryan Breznitsky just after the overtime periods. "I felt we out-shot them. I felt that we outplayed them. It was good that we fought back. We came from 1-0 down and 2-1 down to get it eventually to 2-2. We caught an unlucky break in overtime. The keeper made a great save."

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COCOZZIELLO PLUNGES TO TD ON 1-YD QB SNEAK

Colonials Roll in Second Half, Ice Blue Devil Gridders, 33-8

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

Handling a huge, strong line and two quick, 185-lb. running backs was just too much as the 4-2 Westfield High School football team lost to No. 18, 5-1 Morristown, 33-8, in Westfield on October 26. After the Blue Devils looked strong and held an 8-0 lead for eight minutes, the Colonials rolled off five touchdowns, 397 yards rushing and 52 yards in the air.

Westfield was limited to 96 yards on the ground and 65 yards in the air. Senior Brian Butts accounted for 28 yards on the ground on eight carries and four receptions for 41 yards. Junior quarterback Jan Cocozziello, who was 7-for-12 - one interception - passing for 65 yards, scored the only Blue Devil touchdown on a one-yard sneak. Junior Bart Welsh carried 13 times for 34 yards and sophomore Marc Dowling carried twice for 18 yards. Senior Mike DeFazio had seven yards rushing and two receptions for 12 yards.

Colonial Javar Parks chewed up 197 yards rushing and touchdown runs of 55 yards and 65 yards on 17 carries and Gary Thomas carried 12 times for 131 yards and had touchdown runs of one yard and 80 yards.

Quarterback Travis Frenzel hit Gerran Vance for a seven-yard touchdown pass and completed 4-of-9 for 52 yards.

Morristown would be the best team that they would face. "Oh yea! They were their best team without question," he said. "It was like last year



SNEAKING IN FOR THE TD...Quarterback Jan Cocozziello, No. 12, squeezes through a mass of Colonials to score the Blue Devils' only touchdown.

During pre-season, Blue Devil Head Coach Ed Tranchina stated that

when we met Montclair, it's another level. I would be shocked if they didn't make it to the state final."

Situations appeared great for the Blue Devils when they stopped the Colonials on their first series and forced them to punt. The snap was bad and the Colonial punter kicked the ball into a Westfield defender, causing the ball to roll out of the end zone for a safety with 10:59 left in the first quarter.

On the ensuing kickoff, the Blue Devils returned the ball to the Colonial 49. Cocozziello blended three completions with seven runs to hit pay dirt. Butts had two receptions,

up on our confidence level throughout the season."

Having just two returning players, team captains Feeley, Laura Manzi and Nina Baker have performed remarkably in handling the team's focus and consistent hard play each

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Blue Devil V'ballers Stop Lady Raiders, 15-2, 15-11

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

It was a game that spelled out the story of two seasons. For the 15-1 Westfield High School girls, it was a continuation of dominance and great accomplishments. For 6-13 Scotch Plains-Fanwood, it was another game on their schedule where experience and advancement against a quality team could be measured.

It turned out favorable for the Blue Devils, as they sparked 15-2, 15-11, in Scotch Plains on October 25. Westfield, in game 1, connected on all aspects, with the passing, setting and hitting. Jackie LeBlanc delivered seven kills and Christina Jensen hammered six. Jill Woodbury connected with 10 assists.

In game 1, Lisa Venezia pancaked her way with eight consecutive points while Cari Rock served five-straight.

"We have to play together and play smart," said Rock. "You never know when the ball is coming over, and you have to be ready. Our game plan is that we talk well everywhere. The setting was great and that's how we win."

In game 2, Westfield Head Coach Beverly Torok called on Christa Jensen, Shalla Vella, Becky Fallon and Lizzy Meyers in what turned out to be a very well played game by both teams. The Raiders had several nice blocks that set Westfield on its heels. Raider Katie Feeley had four spikes.

"We really have a young team, so we had a little bit of a rocky start," explained sophomore Raider Joscelyn Chang. "We gradually got strengthened and have been building

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