



RECEIVING AN EASY VICTORY...Raider Nick Giannaci, donning a throwback uniform from the 1970s, smiles as he receives a forfeit at 215-lbs.

## Union County High School Varsity Wrestling Results:

### JANUARY 26: NEW PROVIDENCE 36, RAHWAY 29

**KEY BOUTS:**  
112: — Ryan Wilson (R) md Adel Afzal, 9-1  
119: — Wade Baldwin (NP) d Jon Santoni, 3-2  
125: — Ross Baldwin (NP) p Joe Andes, 1:31  
130: — Mike Boccellari (NP) d Oscar Zuniga, 2-0  
140: — Larry Peotter (NP) d Joel Acevedo, 8-7, SD OT  
145: — Carlos Nicasio (R) md Marc Neuwirth, 10-2  
171: — Alex Allman (R) p Ratul Bhattacharyya, 3-21  
215: — Trevor Martin (NP) p Lakan Evangelista, 5:45

### SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD 58, ELIZABETH 15

**KEY BOUTS:**  
140: — Steve Mineo (S) tf Marquan Smith, 17-0, 2:00  
145: — Pat Mineo (S) p Anthony Davis, 2:56  
152: — Anthony Ferrante (S) p Kevin Lorjuste, 3:31  
160: — AJ Watson (S) p Jeff Norville, 4:39  
Hwt: — Marc Fabiano (S) p Hatis Williams, 1:39  
112: — Rahman Fuquan (E) d Trevor Cannon, 2-1, SD OT  
119: — Sal Gano (S) tf Eric Ogada, 22-4, 5:10

### UNION 39, LINDEN 27

**KEY BOUTS:**  
215: — Julio Loperena (L) d Pete Tuerdov, 3-2  
125: — Ralph Celestin (L) p Bryan Gomes, 5:16  
135: — Will Cooper (L) d Nelson Gomes, 3-2  
171: — Jose Nazario (U) d Kareem Absolu, 5-4

### BREARLEY 45, JOHNSON 25

**KEY BOUTS:**  
171: — Scott Diaz (J) d Connor Shannon, 4-3  
215: — Jesse Boyden (B) p Matt Kohen, 1:04  
112: — Anthony Priore (J) md Dan Conroy, 13-0  
135: — Mike Coler (J) d Steve Margolin, 6-3

### JANUARY 28: UNION 72, WESTFIELD 6

**WEIGHT SEQUENCE:**  
112: — Sam Kramer (W) d Ryan Lockwood, 11-4  
119: — Marco Bobadilla (U) p Matt

### Kamel, 3:34

152: — Pete Jacangelo (U) p Andrew Shaffer, 1:00  
160: — Tom Mahon (U) p Marc Boyd, 3:33  
171: — Dan Whitney (W) d Tom Ahern, 6-1

### JANUARY 29: NEW PROVIDENCE 35, BOUND BROOK 31

**KEY BOUTS:**  
215: — Shane Mallory (N) md Mike Roberts, 14-6  
130: — Nick Murray (B) d Ross Baldwin, 4-2, OT  
135: — Larry Peotter (N) d Reggie Perry, 9-4

### NORTH PLAINFIELD 54, WESTFIELD 17

**KEY BOUTS:**  
119: — Matt Kamel (W) md Yuri Urratia, 11-1  
152: — Andrew Shaffer (W) md Mike Doran, 13-3  
160: — Marc Boyd (W) p Manny Lora, 1:54  
171: — Dan Whitney (W) d Nelson Puented, 7-2

## Raider Basketballers Rattle Lady Tigers' Cage, 65-36

Senior guard Elizabeth DeCataldo scored 20 first-half points en route to a career-high 22 as Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls basketball defeated Linden, 65-36, in Linden on January 27. DeCataldo connected on 9-of-15 from the floor, including 3-of-4 from beyond the arc, and added three rebounds, five assists and three steals.

The Raiders jumped out to an 8-0 lead following a 3-pointer from Maura Gillooly and built a 14-5 lead at the 4:02 mark. After a timeout, Linden tied the game with a 9-0 run, but DeCataldo nailed a 3-pointer to give the Raiders a 17-14 lead.

In the second quarter, the Raiders rocked the Tigers, 23-5, to take a 40-19 halftime lead. DeCataldo netted 12 points in the quarter, while guard Jenny Burke hit a pair of

## RAIDERS TUNE UP FOR COUNTIES Raider Matmen Ground Cardinal Matmen, 65-12

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

Wearing throwback uniforms circa 1970s, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School wrestling team brushed up on its moves with a 65-12, victory over visiting Plainfield on January 28 in preparation for the upcoming Union County Tournament to be held this Friday and Saturday. The 12-3 Raiders received seven forfeits and won four of the six contested bouts.

The Cardinals won the first two bouts of the evening via fall with team captain Jose Otero pinning Billy Jacobs in 1:05 using a body press at 189-lbs and talented 103-lb Nelson Orellana turning Gary Schardien in 2:41.

Raider Ricky Olsson used a barrage of nearfalls and tilts to go along with his two takedowns and a reversal to gain a 17-0, technical fall in 4:50 over Sal Orellana at 125-lbs. At 130-lbs, Raider Dave DeNichilo mastered his leverage advantage to score a takedown before pinning Trevor Lyles with a Jacobs' hook and a single grapevine in 35 seconds.

"Ricky had a back injury against Linden but he's working through it and doing well. He and DeNichilo are having another wrestleoff. DeNichilo has been out for a while and he has been getting the itch. They both are looking really good," said Raider Head Coach John Scholz.

Wrestling up at 135-lbs, Dakiem

Gaines flopped Joshua Jackson to the mats and pinned him in 20 seconds with a tight front arm bar.

Scholz continued, "All the way through! Trevor (Cannon) at 112, he watches all his tapes and he learns from that. Sal Gano (119), I expect great things from him in the counties. He's focused and ready to go. Dakiem is very aggressive. He just needs to finish his moves a bit."

Raider Pat Mineo quickly scored a throw takedown and rocked Ricardo Christmas to sleep in 1:05 with a snug cradle at 145-lbs.

"We know our big guns will take care of themselves. (Anthony) Ferrante studies his kids. (AJ) Watson! You can't count him out because he has funky moves. He makes things happen. Our younger guys are stepping up in practice. They know we have something big coming up, the county tournament," said Scholz. "Guys like Joe Bachi are stepping up, wrestling hard, wrestling with me, wrestling with Watson, just making things happen. Overtime, double overtimes - referring to the Raiders' two, sudden death overtime victories at Linden on January 21 - most of the time we are usually the victors. I think it has to do with our conditioning in practices."

### WEIGHT SEQUENCE:

152: — Anthony Ferrante (S) won forfeit  
160: — AJ Watson (S) won forfeit  
171: — Joe Bachi (S) won forfeit  
189: — Otero (P) p. Jacobs, 1:05  
215: — Nick Giannaci (S) won forfeit  
Hwt: — Joe Foote (S) won forfeit  
103: — Nelson Orellana (P) p. Schardien, 2:41  
112: — Marc Rucin (S) won forfeit  
119: — No bout  
125: — Olsson (S) tf Sal Orellana, 17-0, 4:50  
130: — DeNichilo (S) p. Lyles, :35  
135: — Gaines (S) p. Jackson, :20  
140: — Steve Mineo (S) won forfeit  
145: — Pat Mineo (S) p. Christmas, 1:05

### Tiger Hoopmen Outdo Blue Devils, 66-54

No. 12 Linden High School, led by Michael Henderson who bucketed 17 points, scooted past the Westfield High School boys basketball team, 66-54, in Westfield on January 25. Eric Hayes led the 6-7 Blue Devils with 19 points.

Bryan Power sank 10 points, Josh Gerckens scored nine and Billy Hearon added six for Westfield and Charles Miller scored 16 points for the 14-1 Tigers.

Linden	20	16	16	14	66
Westfield	17	13	12	12	54



AWAITING THE CALL...Raider Ricky Olsson, top, looks for the ref to award the final three points to give him a 17-0, technical fall over Sal Orellana in the 125-lb bout.

## Blue Devil Bowlers Stop Irvington, Seton Hall

The Westfield High School Bowling team defeated Irvington to win its 10th in a row and advance its conference record to 11-1 on January 25. On January 27, the Blue Devils topped undefeated Seton Hall Prep, 5-2, to improve to 12-1.

The kegglers had several heroes as they won the Irvington match, 7-0. Eric Curialle had high game for the Blue Devils in Game 1 with a 245. In Game 2, Blue Devil Bryan Elsasser rolled a 202 game. Alex Wronski was high person in the final game as he binged out a 234.

Head Coach Mike Tirone has been happy with the improvement of all of the team members as they started their season-ending push. He signaled out Curialle as a candidate. "I am becoming very comfortable in trusting him in varsity matches. The freshman has great poise and a sense of knowing what is needed at critical times in a match."

Against Seton Hall Prep, Westfield

won total pins, 2613-2517, and won Game 1, 926-848. Sophomore Tristan Bellotti bowled a personal-best 267 game to lead the Blue Devils. Wronski chipped in with a 194. The Blue Devils dropped Game 2, 802-785. Both teams struggled to adjust to the changing lane conditions.

Westfield had a great show of strength to win Game 3, 902-867. Bellotti bowled a 162, sophomore Harrison Mercado had a 168 and Elsasser and Wronski had scores of 191 and 192 respectively.

Senior captain Brian Stotter, stated Coach Tirone, "held the team together as he has done all year long with a 189 third game score." The key to the win over the Prep was "the players ability to adjust from comfort levels to using shots that they are not comfortable with, yet they are the shots that will score on the types of conditions we were facing. Stotter has been learning to adjust and to also lead our young team as they struggle to adjust."

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