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THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
Pages 13-18

WEBER SCORES TD, HITS NILSEN FOR 10-YARD TD

Bulldog Gridmen Get Safety To Hold Back Raiders, 16-14

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

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School football team seems to be caught in some kind of frustrating limbo this season. The Raiders are good enough to be competitive with the best, however a variety of costly mistakes have proven costly. On Oc-

tober 8, the Raiders fumbled a snap in the end zone that proved costly as the Raiders fell to Malcolm X Shabazz, 16-14, on a sloppy, soggy field in Scotch Plains.

Shabazz running backs Derrell Moye, Adonis Thomas and Samuel Johnson combined for all of the scoring, which included 251 yards rushing on 36 car-

ries. The Raiders totaled 77 yards rushing and quarterback Dan LaForge completed five passes for 70-yards and scampered for 17-yards. Running back Greg Brand six carries for 20 yards, fullback Rashawn Strong scampered for 22 yards and fullback Tom Pennella rushed for 18 yards on five carries. Defensively, Weber had a key interception and eight



A RAIDER GANG TACKLE IN THE MUDBATH...A mass of Raider defensemen smother an unseen Shabazz Bulldog during the mud bowl in Scotch Plains on October 8.



TRYING TO HOLD DOWN A TIGER...Blue Devil linebacker Jack Meagher, No. 45, and tackle Cowles Stewart, No. 77, put the crunch on a Linden Tiger.

GAGLIANO GRABS 35-YARD TD PASS FROM DEROSA

Tigers Roar in 2nd Half; Rip Blue Devil Footballers, 28-7

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

Last week, after losing to the MXS Bulldogs on the new turf field at Kehler Stadium, the Westfield High School football team was again on the wrong side of the winning column when the Linden Tigers hit pay dirt four times to defeat the 0-4 Blue Devils, 28-7, in Linden on October 7.

The 2-2 Tigers scored on a seven-yard touchdown (TD) run by George Bease, an 80-yard TD punt return from O'Neil Thomas, a 17-yard (TD) reception from Andre Samuels and a 30-yard TD gallop from Laron Capers. The lone Blue Devil touchdown came in the fourth quarter when senior quarterback Nick DeRosa hooked up with senior tight end John Gagliano for a 35-yard touchdown.

The Blue Devils could muster only six total yards on 35 carries. Senior running back Andrew Shaffer carried 10 times for 13 yards. DeRosa completed four passes in 17 attempts for 98 yards. Gagliano had one reception for 35 yards, junior wide receiver Tom Bonard had two receptions for 49 yards and split end Ryan Sharkey had a 14-yard reception.

Linden amassed 224 yards on 34 carries and added 38 yards in the air. Bease rushed for 110 yards on 18 carries and Capers rushed for 96 yards on eight carries.

Junior linebacker Will Harbaugh led the Blue Devils with 15 tackles. Junior linebacker Kyle Zeitounian had 10 tackles while junior linebacker Jack Meagher and senior cornerback Willie Jenkins each had seven tack-

les. Sophomore end John Dugan and cornerbacks Jayshawn King and Marcus Graham had five tackles apiece.

"Our defense played a real good game for the most part, because we were getting into the backfield and the offense showed signs of greatness. We got the ball down the field most of the drives, so there are positives you can look at," said Bonard. "Those few plays were the difference maker, however the penalties and the unnecessary mistakes that we made killed us."

Both defenses played tight in the opening quarter, however the Tigers found success running to their right and rushed 90 yards until they reached the Westfield seven. From there, Bease

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

PLAY WATCHUNG HILLS IN SEMIS

Lady Blue Devils Whip Farmers in Tennis, 5-0

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

As anticipated, the top-seeded Westfield High School girls tennis team eliminated the Lady Farmers from Union, 5-0, in the quarterfinals of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 tournament at Tamaques Courts in Westfield on October 6. The Union County Tournament (UCT) champion, 14-0 Blue Devils, ranked fifth

in the state, advanced to face 8-1 Watchung Hills, ranked 18th, in the semifinals on October 12.

First off the courts were Blue Devil second doubles players Rachel Louie and Kim Morawski who handily defeated Zabeeb Awalon and Lanel Gramatica, 6-1, 6-0. Louie and Morawski, who had defeated them by identical scores in the first round

tackles. Brand recorded 12 tackles and Pennella eight.

"Honestly, the skills are there. Our defense shut down Shabazz. We scored 14 points against an exclusive team, so that was pretty good," said outside linebacker Tom Pennella. "We have a lot of potential. The game plan is there but we're making mental mistakes that have caused us to lose the last three games."

The 2-3 Raiders jumped to a 6-0 lead following a Colin Campbell fumble recovery and a 10-yard pass play on the first play from scrimmage from Weber to senior receiver Chris Nilson with 6:03 left in the opening quarter. Matt Hirschhorn's kick failed to split the uprights.

With senior captain Nick Giannaci

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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Artist's Rendering

W B A
BASKETBALL
TRAVEL
TRYOUT
INFORMATION

Basketball tryouts are open to all Westfield students interested in playing travel basketball in the 4th through 8th grades. Typical commitment should include at least 1 practice and 1 or 2 games a week. This is over and above playing in the in-town Saturday program which is required. Gym availability dictates the amount of time each team will be assigned. In the event that you make a travel team there will be a charge of \$260.00 in addition to the in-town fee.

It is mandatory that each player attend both tryout sessions. Extenuating circumstances would need to be addressed on an individualized basis. All participants need to register ON LINE PRIOR to the first tryout. Please go to the following website to register:
<https://www.westfieldnj.com/wba>

All players should come dressed to play basketball. All players should bring a water bottle (NO SCREW OFF TOPS PLEASE so that we can prevent water spills) as we will ask that everyone stay in the gym during the tryouts.

There will be 2 teams selected by gender and grade level depending on interest level of participation for each grade. In grades where there might not be enough players to support a competitive team, grades may be combined.

OCTOBER 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10	11 4th Boys - Roosevelt 6:30 - 8:00 pm 6th Boys - Roosevelt 8:00 - 9:30 pm	12	13	14 4th Boys - WHS 7:00-9:00 5th Boys - Edison 7:00-9:00
17	18	19 7th Girls - Edison 7:00-8:00 (1 Hour) 8th Girls - Edison 8:00-9:30	20 5th Boys Roosevelt 6:30-8:00 7th Boys Roosevelt 8:00 - 9:30 4th/5th Girls WHS BG 6:45-8:15 6th Girls - WHS Back 8:15-9:30	21 6th Boys - WHS 7:00-9:00
24	25 8th Boys - WHS Var 7:00-9:00 4th/5th Girls - RIS 6:30-8:00 6th Girls - Roosevelt 8:00-9:30	26 7th Boys - Edison 7:00-9:00 pm	27 7th Girls - Roosevelt 6:30 - 8:00 8th Girls - Roosevelt 8:00 - 9:30	28 8th Boys: WHS Varsity Gym 7:00-9:00

NOTE: All times are PM

The WBA is also looking for women and men interested in being Coaches and Assistant Coaches for travel squads.

For questions feel free to call the WBA at (908) 654 - 6361, or you can contact Tom Pickert at wba@westfieldnj.com.