



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**A TURN WITH A TWIST...Raider Pat Mineo, top, works a Jimmy John (corkscrewing type move) on Cougar Steve Chencharik in the 140-lb final.**



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**ENTWINING A CANNON...Blue Devil Colin MacKay, right, has a single grapevine on Raider Trevor Cannon as they roll out of the circle in the 125-lb final.**

## Raiders Claim 4 Champs, Blue Devils 2 At District 11 Wrestling Tournament

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Rahway, 13-8.  
 "My favorite move is a funk move. I just go with what I know. I go to a club and my coach always tells me to work on my flexibility. Coach (John) Sholz is always a big influence," said Cannon.

Blue Devil Mark Boyd won the 160-lb title and avenged two earlier-season defeats by clamping Raider Joe Bachi with a cradle in 5:38 in the semis and by head smothering Elizabeth's Jeff Norville in 5:11 in the finals.

"I have never beaten him," Boyd said of Bachi. "I was always leading him and he's always taken it in the third period."

After pinning Norville, Boyd said, "I avenged two of my big losses this year. I guess I found out that I was good. That Somerville match! (Boyd won via fall). Every day my confidence has been going up."

Bachi nipped Cranford's Eric Whitney, 3-2, to grab third.

Raider Sal Gano won his second 119-lb district title by cradling Cranford's Jim Provence to sleep in 43 seconds. In the semis, Gano claimed a 19-2, technical fall over Rahway's Muath Ajalude in 2:41. Blue Devil Sam Reichbach edged Ajalude, 10-9, for third place.

"I have wrestled everyone of them before. I was pretty confident. It feels good winning my second title. Hopefully, next year, I can win my third,"

commented Gano.

Raider Nick Giannaci found out that wrestling a quality opponent for the third time in a season can be difficult but he won the endurance test in the 189-lb finals by scoring an escape in the third overtime to beat Elizabeth's Rich Tabor, 2-1. Previously, Giannaci defeated Tabor in the Union County finals, 7-4, and in a dual meet, 6-3.

"We both knew each other like the back of our hands. That's why it was such a low scoring match. He is such a good athlete. I think I can be in better condition. I am going to work harder this week to make sure I am in better condition," said Giannaci.

Giannaci pinned Rahway's Juan Lopez in the semis in 1:12.

Raider Keith Baker bulldozed his way to the 215-lb crown by pinning Rahway's Sandile Manzini in the semis in 3:17 then by topping Westfield's Steve Cruikshank, 7-2, in the finals.

In his bout with Manzini, Baker said, "I kept hitting him with a Jimmy John (far arm pull with a corkscrew motion)."

After winning the 215-lb title, Baker said, "This is only my second year of wrestling. It's awesome. Regions is going to be tough but I think I can beat a few of those kids."

After flattening Freddie Epps (E) in 1:25, Cruikshank showed that conditioning paid off when he defeated Cranford's Dave Veca, 6-5, in overtime.

"Coach said conditioning is going to win you a match. I just kept pushing and it went into overtime. He took injury time so I chose down and there was eight seconds left. I said 'I'm getting up' and conditioning did it," said Cruikshank.

Blue Devil Andrew Shaffer racked up 10 points via takedowns and added two reversals and a near-fall to win a 17-9, majority decision over Jeb Dennis (C) to advance to the 145-lb finals where he was stopped by Carlos Nicasio (R) in 3:12.

After his bout with Dennis, Shaffer said, "I

wasn't doing well on bottom and I think I need to work more on my offense."

Raider DeNichilo earned his way to face Caldwell in the finals by pinning Sesay Cherno (X) with a double grapevine then by pinning Chad Hopkins (N) in 5:32 with a power half.

Raider freshman Mike Ferrara tallied four takedowns and an escape to defeat Blue Devil John Barnes, 9-3, in the 112-lb semis.

"I saw that he was taking his shots from pretty far away and I knew that I could capitalize. I'm really excited! Coming into this year, I really wanted to be on the varsity. Making it to the regions was a huge goal for me," said Ferrara.

In the finals, Ferrara was decided, 8-4, by Rahman Furquan (E). Barnes recovered to beat Nate St. Elme (R), 8-3, for third place.

Raider Olsson made it to the 130-lb finals to face Wilson with a 2-1 victory over Blue Devil Matt Kamel in the semis.

Kamel defeated Todd Robles (L), 10-4, for third place.

Raider heavyweight Joe Foote defeated Edrese Gray (X), 4-1, to place

third. Earlier, Foote pinned Martin Pierre (L) in 46 seconds.

**CHAMPIONSHIPS:**

- 103: — Juan Herrera (R) d Angelo Matias (E), 8-6
- 112: — Furquan (E) d Ferrara (S), 8-4
- 119: — Gano (S) p Provence (C), :43
- 125: — MacKay (W) md Cannon (S), 20-8
- 130: — Wilson (R) md Olsson, 9-1
- 135: — Ridente (C) d Oscar Zuniga (R), 9-3
- 140: — Mineo (S) md Ogada (E), 13-4
- 145: — Nicasio (R) p Shaffer (W), 3:12
- 152: — Caldwell (R) p DeNichilo (S), 1:15
- 160: — Boyd (W) p Norville (E), 5:11
- 171: — Hogan (C) p Goodridge (R), 5:05
- 189: — Giannaci (S) d Tabor (E), 2-1, 3 OT
- 215: — Baker (S) d Cruikshank (W), 7-2
- Hwt: — Andre Neblett (R) p Williams (E), 2:57

**THIRD PLACE:**

- 103: — Hynes (C) d Shardien (S), 9-6
- 112: — Barnes (W) d St. Elme (R), 8-3
- 119: — Reichbach (W) d Aljaludi (R), 10-9
- 125: — Santoni (R) p Krov (C), 1:00
- 130: — Kamel (W) d Robles (L), 10-4
- 135: — Desiato (S) p Jimenez (E), 1:02
- 140: — Acevedo (R) d Chencharik (C), 10-4
- 145: — Dennis (C) p Raheem Harris (X), 5:58
- 152: — Chris Cook (C) won injury default
- 160: — Bachi (S) d Whitney (C), 3-2
- 171: — Isom (X) d Willard (W), 10-9
- 189: — Lopez (R) won forfeit
- 215: — Veca (C) md Manzini (W), 10-2
- Hwt: — Foote (S) d Edrese Gray (X), 4-1



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**EN ROUTE TO THE 160-LB CROWN...Blue Devil Mark Boyd works a Peterson on Minute-man Jeff Norville in the 160-lb final. Boyd pinned Norville in 5:11. See picture on page 18.**

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