



David Brearley Bears Remain the Team to Beat for Union County Wrestling Dominance

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The Pioneers return a county champ and two Region 3 qualifiers, one who went to AC but the remainder of the team is quite young.



Wade Baldwin (130) New Prov. Pioneers



Matt Scerillo (160) New Prov. Pioneers

Peter Terrezza (sr. - 112): Won the UCT, placed second in Region 3 and finished 31-7

Wade Baldwin (sr. - 130): Placed second in UCT, Region 3 qualifier and finished 28-11.

Keep an eye on:
Matt Scerillo (jr. - 160)
Tim Terrezza (fr. - 103)
ROSELLE PARK PANTHERS:
The perennially powerful Panthers return six Region 3 qualifiers and have 35 matmen on the roster.

Anthony Casselli (jr. - 112): Second in UCT, Region 3 qualifier at 103-lbs and finished 28-10

Craig Montgomery (sr. - 119): Second in UCT, Region 3 qualifier at 112-lbs and finished 30-8

Joe Pisaura (sr. - 125): Region 3 qualifier and finished 22-14

Russell Benner (so. - 130): Region 3 qualifier and finished 22-13

Jorge Branco (sr. - 140): UCT champ at 140, third in Region 3 at 145, AC qualifier and finished at 33-6

Mike Lefano (sr. - 215, Hwt): UCT Hwt champ, Region 3 qualifier at 215 and finished 30-8

Dennis Carroll (135) RP Panthers

Dennis Carroll (so - 135) GL HIGHLANDERS:

The Highlanders return only one senior, Matt Fullowan who won the UCT and qualified for AC at 171, but all the weight classes should be occupied with an even mix of juniors, sophomores and freshmen. Junior Matt Tansey, a 260-lb, 6'5" heavyweight has improved

John Manganiello (189) Highlanders

John Manganiello (189) Highlanders

Billy Jacobs (189) SPFL Raiders

Matt Tansey (Hwt) GL Highlanders

vastly and junior 189-pounder John Manganiello has shown improvement.

"Matt (Fullowan) hopes to get through the region once again and qualify for Atlantic City," said Head Coach Rick Iacono.

"One or two freshmen, [Mike Stupien (103) and Pat Eichner (130)], will surprise some people."

Matt Fullowan (sr. - 171): UCT champ, second in Region 3, AC qualifier and finished 30-4

Watch out for:
Matt Tansey (jr. - Hwt) and John Manganiello (jr. - 189):

SPFL RAIDERS:
The Raiders won the District 11 crown and lost to Warren Hills, 33-29, in the North Jersey, Group 3, Section 2 finals, finished 20-5 last year and return six Region 3 qualifiers. Senior Keith Baker (215-lbs), who received a football scholarship to Temple, opted not to compete this season so there may be a vacancy at that weight class.

The Raiders have 35 to 37 wrestlers in the room and have bolstered their schedule. This season there will be no letup in the schedule, in fact it will be even more competitive. The Raiders had added Randolph, Perth Amboy and J.P. Stevens.

"We were 20-5 last year. I would love to get over 20. With those teams on our schedule, it's going to help us with power points and get our kids ready for the tournaments," said Raider Head Coach John Scholz, the 2007 District 11 Coach of the Year.

Tristan Bundy (so. - 112/119): Second in district, Region 3 qualifier at 112-lbs and finished 21-13

Mike Ferrara (jr. - 140): Second in district, Region 3 qualifier at 130-lbs and finished 19-14

Mike Ridge (so. - 145): Second in district, Region 3 qualifier at 140-lbs and finished 13-9

Trevor Cannon (sr. - 152): District champ, third in UC at 152-lbs and finished 24-11

Billy Jacobs (sr. - 189): Second in district, Region 3 qualifier and finished 16-9

Joe Blaes (sr. - Hwt): District champ and finished 11-11

RAHWAY INDIANS:
The Indians return five Region 3 qualifiers, including a district champ, and have 40 on the roster but the real situation is "rebuilding."

"It's a rebuilding year. We have a good spattering of kids at different grade levels and abilities," said Head Coach Fred Stueber. "They are working real hard and we have a little bit of talent in a couple of weight classes."

Octavio Bent (140) Rahway Indians

Aaron Hurtault (152) Rahway Indians

Nathaniel St. Elme (sr. - 119): District champ at 103, finished 22-12

Octavio Bent (jr. - 140): Second in district at 135, Region 3 qualifier and finished 17-14

Aaron Hurtault (sr. - 152): Third in district, Region 3 qualifier and finished 11-13

Andre Hunt (jr. - Hwt): Second in district, Region 3 qualifier and finished 11-16. Now, weighing in the area of 280 pounds, he should be difficult to handle.

ALJ CRUSADERS:
Under first-year Head Coach Eric Swick, a Roselle Park standout, and Assistant Coach Rick Ortega, a Governor Livingston standout, the Crusaders have a very young squad of 23 wrestlers, who will also look for leadership from senior Tony Sansone and junior Chris Roberts.

"More than half are sophomores

and freshmen. It's really about getting them into a new system, a system based more on what I learned in college. It is going to take some practice but as the season plays out, we are going to see some vast improvement. It's going to be an experience," said coach Swick.

Chris Roberts (125) ALJ Crusaders

Tony Sansone (152) ALJ Crusaders

ALJ Crusaders (sr - 152-lbs):

WESTFIELD BLUE DEVILS:
The Blue Devils finished with a 10-10 record last year despite ceding four to five bouts in nearly every match. The Blue Devils, with a roster of 26 to 29, are a junior dominated team headed by District 11 champion junior John Barnes and senior Matt Shaffer. They will be ceding 103 and, perhaps, three of the upper weights but a few of those heavier weights may be filled in January.

"My expectation is that we put ourselves in a good position to qualify for the sectionals next year," said Head Coach Glen Kurz. "We just want to keep getting better. This is a

Matt Shaffer (140) Westfield Blue Devils

John Barnes (125) Westfield Blue Devils

junior dominated group so we are building for the future."

John Barnes (125) Westfield Blue Devils

Blue Devil Gridmen Stepped Forward Again, Finished 7-4

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plays this year and the ones that we did, the game was over (regular season). You take away those three or four big plays, most teams had negative yardage."

Senior cornerback Danny Selert (First Team All-UC) led the team with five interceptions but he also knocked down five passes, caused three fumbles and recovered one.

"We really didn't know what to expect. He didn't letter as a junior. We put him there and we never took him out. He kept getting better and better," Desarno said of Selert. "Manny Mills and Ricardo Johnson at corners and Charlie Read was solid at free safety."

Led by tackle Tommy Wansaw (First Team All-UC), the offense had a place to run and junior tailback Ricardo Johnson, who had a 75-yard kickoff return for a touchdown (TD), sped 742 yards and had eight TDs. Junior quarterback Tony Dilorio (379 yards rushing, 7 TDs) completed 73 of 144 passes for 805 yards and eight TDs. Senior Malcolm Allen had 369 rushing yards and four TDs. Senior fullback Ryan Brand (13 receptions, 126 yards, 1 TD) rushed 121 yards.

Vall-Llobera had nine receptions for 100 yards, including a TD, and Jihad Billups had seven receptions for 102 yards. Place kicker Mike Clark kicked a field goal and 24 points after TD, and as the punter, Vall-Llobera was quite effective.

"He did a great job of position punting. I think he ended up with nine punts inside the 20 and Michael Clark was good with extra points and kick-offs. Those two stepped up for us," said DeSarno.

Wide receiver Sheehan, who set a school record with 30 receptions, totaled 352 yards and galloped for six TDs.

"He's a tremendous athlete. He's involved in sports all year long. He wants to get better. If he gets a little bit faster next year and keeps his physical nature, he will be a horse," DeSarno said of Sheehan. "A lot of our skill kids are coming back and the kids who are replacing the seniors look pretty good. I think we have some good sophomore receivers, Hugo Nolasco and Pat Gray, who are going to step in and help us but you can have all the backs in the world but we need to replace a lot of linemen."

Raider Footballers Answered Early Questions, Finished 7-4

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

against South Plainfield and against Elizabeth, Taylor rushed for 1,308 yards and 15 TDs.

"We were happy with the outcome and we got better game-by-game. Anthony! We thought this kid was a tailback. It's unfortunate that he got injured. Maybe we would have made the trip to Giants Stadium. We run the 'I' (formation). We are going where Marcus is going. People knew that Marcus was leading the way but they couldn't stop him because Marcus was laying people out," said McGriff. "Mike had a great year, threw over 1,000 yards and rushed over 200 for us."

Marcus Green finished with 406 yards rushing, with two TDs, and had 25 receptions for 263 yards and two TDs. Tailback Kameron Williams had 102 yards rushing and a TD, and also had an 88-yard kickoff return for a TD against Westfield. Tailback Andy

Brockel had 192 rushing yards and two TDs. Wide receivers, JJ D'Agostaro had 23 receptions for 466 yards, including three TDs, and Kyle Mihansky had 14 receptions for 133 yards and one TD. As tight end, Baker had 17 receptions for 165 yards and four TDs, and Tim Green had 10 receptions for 105 yards. Place kicker John Domanski hit two of three field goals and 21 of 28 points after.

Kenny Azard led the defense with five interceptions, Mihansky had three, Shariff Scott made two and Mike Ferrara had one.

Looking to next year, McGriff said, "Our line was a concern this year and we had guys step in. We have Ryan Brown, Mark Renfree and some juniors who got some playing time. We have some big sophomores. I think will be able to move some guys around. You think the line first, then you work your way out from there."



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
COACHES ALL-AMERICANS...Raider goalie Jackie Law, left, was selected All-America in girls soccer by the National Coaches Association and teammate Bridget Cornwell was named an East Region All-American.

D. Blair Corbin's

Blue Devils
Raiders

Walk Down Memory Lane

From the archives of The Westfield Leader and The Times

December 16, 2000: The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys basketball team with first-year Head Coach Dan Doherty won the season opener with a 64-47 victory over Hillsborough. Senior 6'9" center

Andrew Feeley was the king of the court with 19 points, 16 rebounds and four blocked shots.

December 3, 1999: Bolstered by the return of senior Abby Coxson to and already loaded lineup, the Westfield High School girls swim team kicked off what should be an outstanding season with a 108-62 rout of a Bridgewater-Raritan team that has been one of the state's premier programs in the 1990s. Senior Jesse Coxson won the 500-freestyle and swam on two winning freestyle relays. Junior Ashley Saul won the 200IM and the 100-butterfly. Abby Coxson won the 50-freestyle.

December 22, 2000: The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls basketball team employed its one-two punch of junior center Erin Gillooly and sophomore forward Lindsay Pennella to subdue the Watchung Hills Warriors, 52-34 in Scotch Plains. Gillooly finished with 16 points and Pennella had 14 points.

December 3, 1999: The No. 6-ranked Westfield High School boys swim team edged the No. 2-ranked Bridgewater-Raritan Panthers, 88-82, at Wallace Pool in Westfield. Freshman Zach Coppa won the 50-freestyle but the Blue Devils' team depth proved to be the deciding factor.

December 2000: Blue Devil Alexis Anzelone was named to the First Team All-Group 4 in girls cross-country. Anzelone, who was selected Union County Runner of the Year, led the team to another undefeated season - extending the streak to 68 - and a ninth-place ranking in the state.

November 2000: The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys soccer team outscored opponents, 65-8, and finished with a 22-2-2 record which was highlighted by a 0-0 tie with No 1 ranked St. Benedict's Prep. For the seventh time, Breznitsky's Raiders won the Union County title with a 2-0 victory over A. L. Johnson. Senior goalkeeper Brad Lowyns broke two SPFL records with 43 career shut-outs and 19 for the season. Senior Mike Zotti led the team with 25 goals and 13 assists. His 60 career goals placed him second on the SPFL all-time list behind Leno DiCuollo (1984-87) who had 105.

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