



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
STICKING TOGETHER...Westfield High School senior Will Harbaugh, left, and Scotch Plains-Fanwood senior Colin Campbell, both captains of their respective football teams, will soon be teammates at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, VA. Harbaugh and Campbell have been friends since childhood.



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HEADING TO MARIST...Westfield High School senior Jillian Kape, sweeper on the girls soccer team, will further her soccer talents at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY in the fall. Kape is backed by girls Soccer Head Coach Katie Wertheimer, left, and Trainer Sandra Mamary.



Fred K. Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times
SCARLET KNIGHT SOCCER BOUND...Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Allie Hambleton signed a letter of intent to attend Rutgers University. The senior soccer center midfielder, who led the Raiders to their first ever NJSIAA North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 championship, was named the 2006 Union County Player of the Year and Second Team All-State selection. Pictured with Hambleton, left to right, are: SP-F Athletic Director, Robert Harmer, SP-F Principal Dr. David Heisey and Raider Head Coach Kevin Ewing.

WF 7th/8th Wrestlers Finish Season, 6-4

The Westfield Intermediate School wrestling team wrapped up a 6-4 season under new coach Vince Giuliano. The team is comprised of seventh and eighth grade students from Roosevelt and Edison Intermediate Schools. The team practiced daily since December with Edison as their home turf and managed to a hectic match schedule through the month of January.

The team captains are Christian Barber, Garret Pryor, Kyle Saggio and Jey Yingling. Other members are Zach Chodor, Kieran Cline, Helen Delpopolo, Luke Gibbons, Erik Gozdieski, Will Johnston, Mike Kalimtzis, Nick Knepper, Carlos Mejias, Dylan Olson, Ellis Opoku, Brendan Oster, Tony Pafumi, Zach Perez, Eric Rackear, Troy Skibitsky, Tony Venckus and Mitch Young.

On February 3, the team competed in the annual Elizabeth Middle School Wrestling Tournament. The Blue Devils placed first in seven of the 11 weight classes. Individual champions included: Kalimtzis (83 lbs.), Skibitsky (97 lbs.), Barber (112lbs.), Rackear (119 lbs.), Saggio (129 lbs.), Pafumi (140 lbs.) and Gozdieski (175 lbs.). Cline (140 lbs.) and Yingling (106 lbs.) both finished second. Chodor (97lbs.), Delpopolo (156 lbs.) and Pryor (HWT) placed third.

YMCA's to Discuss Triathlon Transitions

Geoffrey Clark, a professional endurance and multi-sport coach, will present the latest in a series of workshops devoted to women who are interested in training for the 2007 Danskin Women's Sprint Triathlon, which will be held at Sandy Hook on September 16.

Co-sponsored by the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA and the Westfield Area YMCA, the workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, at 7 p.m. at the Westfield YMCA on Clark Street. First-time triathlon participants and non-YMCA members are welcome to attend the workshop, which will address the topic of triathlon transitions for any interested woman over the age of 14.

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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
SLIPPING OUT FROM UNDER A BLUE STREAK...Raider Trevor Cannon, bottom, slips out from under Matt Artigliere - cousin of former Raider Head Coach Mike Artigliere - in the 152-lb bout. Cannon grabbed a 12-4, majority decision.

Blue Streaks Nudge Raiders for Section Mat Title

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the 130-lb bout to narrow the team score to 30-29. In several previous matches, Ferrara usually had to battle back from being taken down by his opponents, but not this time. He downed Deemer with a first-period takedown then after a standing but active second period, he added two more takedowns and an escape.

"Sal got a quick pin. It was the sectional finals. Scotch Plains has never been here before. It was a one in a lifetime opportunity. I had to go out there quickly and pump up Ricky (Olsson)," said Ferrara. "The kid was going for a throw. I like to go low for a single. It was a tense match!"

"He went after him big! Mike is a gamer. He couldn't wait for that," commented Scholz.

With two fine wrestlers facing in the final bout, Blue Streak Sean Smith scored a second-period reversal and a third-period takedown to earn a 4-1 decision over Ricky Olsson.

The Raiders did, however, win four of the first five bouts to jump to a 20-4 lead. Probably wrestling his most inspired bout of the season, freshman Mike Ridge opened the evening at 140-lbs with a 1:45 fall over Gerard Pickett, using a tight waist/half nelson.

"Mike is a gamer. He took it to him. He started us off," said Scholz.

At 145-lbs, Pat Mineo seized his 115th career victory, but put on a clinic of back trip, front trip, thigh picks and shrug takedowns before suffocating Rich Graff in 2:34 with a double grapevine.

Raider Trevor Cannon, who nipped

Matt Artigliere, 2-1, in the John Goles Tournament on December 28, entwined him with two periods of punishing grapevines and power half nearfalls to sprout a 12-4, majority decision at 152-lbs to give the Raiders a 16-0 team lead. At 160-lbs, Joe Bachi salvaged two team points by limiting state-ranked Chris Hrunka to a 17-4, majority decision.

Raider Dave DeNichilo followed at 171-lbs and immediately thrust DJ Barilla to the mat with a slip through takedown. He then cranked him with a pair of double arm bars to add four points worth of nearfalls. Two takedowns and a penalty point later, DeNichilo gave his team the 20-4 lead with an 11-0, majority decision.

"He wrestled some really tough kids. He finds some ways to make things happen and tonight he did," said Scholz.

From that point, the Blue Streaks zipped back. After Kyle Frey pinned Al Nassiri with a corkscrew at 189-lbs, Raider Kyle Baker lost a heart-breaking, 7-5, decision to 215-lb Al Jennings when he was taken to the mats with four seconds left. Heavyweight Johnny Loomis suffered a similar heartbreak. His 4-1 lead vanished when Mike Griffith rallied with an escape and a takedown-to-a-nearfall to grab a 6-4 decision.

The Blue Streaks took a 22-20 lead when Ryan Brouhard pinned Dave Casmas in 1:31 with a power half then talented 112-lb Shawn Lance was limited to an 8-0, majority decision over Tristan Bundy. Raider Jawan Gaines

held on to limit tough 119-lb Rick Foley to a 17-6, majority decision.

"It would have been the first time ever," said Mineo. "One bout! So close! Everyone did his job. Everyone exceeded his job. Mike Ridge coming up with that big pin! Gaines, Bundy only giving up major decisions!"

WEIGHT SEQUENCE:

- 140: — Ridge (S) p Pickett, 1:45
- 145: — Mineo (S) p Graff, 2:34
- 152: — Cannon (S) md Artigliere, 12-4
- 160: — Hrunka (W) md Bachi, 17-4
- 171: — DeNichilo (S) md Barilla, 11-0
- 189: — Frey (W) p Nassiri, 1:49
- 215: — Jennings (W) d Baker, 7-5
- Hwt: — Griffith (W) d Loomis, 6-4
- 103: — Brouhard (W) p Casmas, 1:31
- 112: — Lance (W) md Bundy, 8-0
- 119: — Foley (W) md Gaines, 17-6
- 125: — Gano (S) p Gaito, :23
- 130: — Ferrara (S) d Deemer, 7-1
- 135: — Smith (W) d Olsson, 4-1

Raider Matmen Rule

In Final Quad Meet

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School wrestling team routed, Bernards, 67-8, Bound Brook, 47-24, and Middlesex, 48-22, in a quad meet in Bound Brook on February 10 to finish with a 20-5 record.

Pat Mineo (145-lbs) and Dave DeNichilo (160-lbs) won all three of their bouts by fall. Sal Gano (125-lbs) recorded wins by fall, majority decision and forfeit as did heavyweight Joe Blaes. Keith Baker (215-lbs) won two by fall and one by forfeit. Tristan Bundy (112-lbs), Ricky Olsson (135-lbs), Billy Jacobs (189-lbs), Joe Bachi (171-lbs) and Mike Ridge (140-lbs) each won two bouts.

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