

GL/AL Johnson Football
On Page 15

THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
Pages 11-17

ISABELLA, MCMANUS NOTCH 1 GOAL, 1 ASSIST EACH

Soccer Blue Devils Shut Out Irvington Blue Knights, 5-0

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

After a thrilling 1-0, shutout victory over archrival Scotch Plains-Fanwood on September 10, the Westfield High School boys soccer team wanted to get the opportunity to give its second team some playing time and did in a 5-0, shutout triumph over Irvington at Kehler Stadium in Westfield on September 12.

When the first team forced a half-court game, out-shot the Blue Knights 13-1 and divided all five goals among five players in the first half, Blue Devil Head Coach George Kapner

sent in the reserves in the second half and was pleased with what he saw but there has always been concern about a letdown after such a huge victory.

"We had concerns of a letdown, winning the first game of the year, beating a rival and then a team that we handled relatively easily last year. We talked about it yesterday. We didn't have a particularly good practice yesterday. That was a letdown but I thought the boys came out and played wonderfully right from the start," he said. "It took a little while to find the goal but, when they did, it was crazy. I think they scored four goals in the

last 15 minutes."

Blue Devil goalie Adam Fine needed only to make one save in the first half, while his Irvington counterpart, Edwin Sarara, was kept busy making six saves. His first save that came off the foot of Blue Devil senior Danny Strauss was his most impressive.

The Blue Devils took six corner kicks in the first half and three of them eventually led to goals. The first, after Mike Irving sent his corner kick into the box, Matt Isabella got to it and slid the ball to Mike Lessner, who hopped it into the net with 19:28 on the clock.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



VICTIM OF A PINCH MANEUVER...Blue Devil Vlad Bouchouev, No. 9, gets squished by two Blue Knights in an effort to get to the ball. But it was Irvington that got crushed in the 5-0, Westfield victory.

JOHNSON RUSHES FOR 46-YARD TD; DiLORIO, 5-YD TD

Cougar Gridmen Deal Devils Disappointing, 17-14, Defeat

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

The failure to put the ball across the goal line when in the red zone and missed scoring opportunities due to penalties, resulted in a disappointing, 17-14, Westfield High School football defeat to the Cranford Cougars at Gary Kehler Stadium in Westfield on September 15.

The Blue Devils compiled 226 total yards, including 116 yards in the air and 110 yards on the ground. Junior running back Ricardo Johnson rushed 84 yards on nine carries, including a 46-yard touchdown (TD) burst. Junior quarterback Tony DiLorio completed nine of 17 attempts for 116 yards and added a five-yard TD run in the fourth quarter. Wide receiver junior Chris Sheehan had three receptions for 39 yards and cornerback Jihad Billups snagged two interceptions for 65 yards. Senior tailback Malcolm Allen added nine yards on seven carries and senior fullback Ryan Brand contributed 12 yards. Senior split end John Wilt, senior wide receiver Adam Bergo and Johnson each had one reception for a 12-yard total.

The Cougars, led by senior quarter-

back Simon Smith, compiled 186 total yards. Smith, who passed for eight yards, carried 20 times for 100 yards, including a nine-yard TD run. Senior running back Chad Faulcon rushed for 97 yards on 17 carries and senior line-backer Mike Tubelli was stopped for minus 21 yards but did have an eight-yard reception and returned a Blue Devil fumble for 17 yards.

"I think we missed some opportunities in the first half and those opportunities came back to bite us in the end. We got it started and got it rolling a little bit too late and it's a credit to them. We knew that they were a good team. Their game against Rahway was not really who they were; we knew they were better than that," said Westfield Head Coach James DeSarno. "We couldn't get the ball away from them in the first half. Their time of possession hurt us, but again, we got it rolling too late."

From the onset, Westfield was unable to capitalize in the first quarter on two fumbles deep in Cougar territory including a DiLorio a nine-yard touchdown pass that was nullified on a pass interference call.

Cranford's first score came in the

second quarter when Mark Bagniewski booted a 34-yarder through the uprights on a 13-play drive. Knotted in a defensive struggle in the third quarter, the first Cranford TD came on a 10-play, 68-yard march, capped by Smith's nine-yard dash around left end to make the score, 10-0.

Just before the momentum shifted, the Cougars recovered a fumble on the Blue Devil 12. Tubelli, posted at the right spot, scooped up the ball and returned it into pay dirt to give Cranford a 17-0 lead with 2:32 left.

"Defensively, they came out on fire. They jumped on us and capitalized on our mistakes. I mean we should have done a better job carrying out our assignment. We could have stayed in our blocks more but they were the better team," said senior defensive end John Dugan.

The Blue Devil offense fully

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



RIGHT ON COURSE FOR A TD...Raider Anthony Taylor, No. 2, slants right toward the end zone in the game against Newark East Side. Taylor amassed 352 yards rushing and touchdowns of 6 yards, 28 yards, 2 yards and 1 yard, respectively.

TAYLOR RUSHES 352 YARDS; TDs OF 6, 28, 2, 1 YARDS

SPF Football Raiders Go 2-0, Trample East Side Boys, 27-13

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

Junior tailback Anthony Taylor made a valiant attempt to keep up with the Joneses, that is former Raider star Nate Jones, by rushing 352 yards on 44 carries and delivering four touchdowns (TD) in Scotch Plains-Fanwood's (SPF) 27-13 triumph over Newark East Side at Shabazz Stadium in Newark on September 15.

Taylor's 352 yards eclipsed Jones' total of 345 yards but not the six TDs that he earned in a wild, 42-41 Raider victory over Parsippany Hills in the first round of the sectional playoffs on November 13, 1999. Jones also

accumulated 318 yards, along with five TDs and two interceptions, in a 47-23 Raider victory over Westfield on October 2, 1999. However, the following week, October 9, in a 40-7 thumping of Cranford, Jones galloped 303 yards for 4 TDs. But that was not it! On October 16, he added his third straight 300 game with a 307-yard, four rushing TDs, one TD reception effort in a 35-0 Raider shutout of Linden.

All of this information was taken from the Leader/Times 1999 archives - issues October 7, October 14, October 21 and November 18. It can be seen on the www.goleader.com website.

Taylor amassed 213 yards and all four of his TDs (6 yards, 28 yards, 2 yards and 1 yard, respectively) in the first half when the Raiders carried a 27-13 lead into the locker room.

"He had a great day! Our line was dominating up front. Marcus Green threw great blocks all day," said Raider Head Coach Steve Ciccotelli.

"The line did a great job. My full-back blocked for me and cleared out the holes to make me see the cuts. Marcus Green is a great player, he and Kameron Williams. I give it all to my line," said Taylor.

The Raiders totaled 427 yards on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

WESTFIELD ELECTRONICS
HOME THEATER INSTALLATION & SALES

FREE IN-HOME CONSULTATION

Can't get Enough Football? We can HELP!

226 North Ave. W
Westfield, NJ
TEL: 908-789-2220

Westfield ELECTRONICS
www.westfieldelectronics.com

WESTFIELD BASEBALL LEAGUE (WBL)

ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th - 8:00 PM

At the Westfield YMCA - Confrence Room 1 (220 Clark Street location)

The WBL would like to announce its annual public meeting for the 2008 baseball season. Anyone interested in addressing the board is welcome to attend the meeting or contact the board directly at westfieldbaseball@hotmail.com.

The following individuals have been nominated for the WBL Board of Directors for the 2008 season:

TITLE	NAME
President	Leo White
Vice President	Phil Russo
Secretary	Ron Greenberg
Treasurer	Frank Fusaro
Pony / Mustang League	Emanuel Psychojos
Major League	Charlie Meyer
International League	Rick Elliott
Registration	Ed Savickas
4th Grade	Joe Rinaldi
3rd Grade	Michael Varano
2nd Grade	Tony Catanzaro
1st Grade	Dan Duffy
Kindergarten	Paul Friel
Equipment / Uniforms	John Monaghan / John Githens
Sponsors	Jack Reilly
Safety Director	Dan Eliades
Field Schedule / Umpires	Gary Fox
Summer Travel	Al Rabinowitz

COLDWELL BANKER

EXPERIENCE, TRUST, RELIABILITY & SERVICE

OPEN HOUSE:
Sunday, September 23rd • 1-4pm

737 Prospect Street, Westfield
\$1,399,999

Wonderful new home built with great attention to detail on deep lot featuring an open front porch; 2 story entry Foyer; formal Living and Dining Rooms; Kitchen w/center island and eating area open to Family Room w/fireplace; Master Bedroom suite with walk in closet and private bathroom; 2nd floor laundry; and multi zone heating and cooling. Great location close to town and across from playground!

FRANK D. ISOLDI
Broker / Sales Associate
#1 Listing Agent - Westfield Office 2004-2006
NJAR Circle of Excellence Sales Award: 1993-2006
Platinum Level: 2003-2006
Direct Dial: 908-301-2038

COLDWELL BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

© 2007 Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corporation. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corporation. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Owned and Operated by NRT Incorporated.

WESTFIELD OFFICE • 209 CENTRAL AVENUE • 908-233-5555