

Westfield A White Defeats Millburn PAL Gridders, 30-6

The Westfield PAL A White football team beat Millburn, 30-6, in the opening home game at Kehler Stadium.

In the second quarter, FB Brendan Dugan plunged into the end zone from the two-yard line following great blocks from Dan Bigelow and Kevin Anderson. Jonnie Gribbin added the PAT kick making the score, 8-0. Westfield's strong defense held Millburn on several possessions with great effort from defensive ends Ryan Rittendale and Matt Trinkle. After holding off a Millburn offensive threat, James O'Rourke returned a punt 65 yards for a touchdown. Gribbin added the PAT kick.

Millburn came out throwing in the second half with a 65-yard touchdown pass on the first play from scrimmage closing the gap to 16-6. On its

next possession, Westfield's ground game moved the ball nicely down the field with great runs by Dugan and FB John Lanzano. O'Rourke scored his second TD with a 16-yard scamper around the right end extending Westfield lead to 22-6.

Westfield's vicious defense took over with strong hits by Ryan Elliott, Kurt Kowalski, Joe Rinaldi, Billy Hedley and Alex McHugh, who recorded a QB sack while being blocked. Westfield rounded out its scoring with a 20-yard sweep by Pat Johnson behind blocking of Dugan, Elliott and Robert Capaldo. The PAT by Gribbin made the score 30-6.

Millburn's last ditch passing effort late in the game was thwarted by safety Will Johnston who intercepted a pass on the last play of the game ending the threat.



STATE CHAMPS...Commerce Bank, representing the Union County Senior Softball League, won the "A" Flight in the 60+ New Jersey state tournament. After winning three preliminary games, Commerce defeated the Buccaneers of Ocean County in the best-of-three finals. Commerce won the county division title and finished 23-2. Pictured, left to right, are: front row; Frank Tartaglione, Felix Vales, Oscar Harrison, Bob Lorincz and Bobby Bierman; standing, Pete Osborn, Rich Polonitz, statistician Donna Wactor, Walt Maibach, Carlo Melia, Bruce Symon, John Wactor, John Kozak and Fred DiMartino.

WF PAL A-Blue Ransacks Perth Amboy Grid Kids, 28-7

The Westfield PAL football A-Blue team recorded its second win of the season. After a slow start, A-Blue built momentum throughout the game to defeat Perth Amboy, 28-7.

The game started out with a dedication to Todd Breza, the father of player Connor, who passed away in March.

A-Blue's offense was led by Tony Pafumi, who ran for 143 yards and two touchdowns. Quarterback Nathan Mitchell threw for 90 yards and two touchdowns to wingback Peter Ondi. Tight end Alex Williams contributed with two catches for 20 yards and wide receiver Michael Stravach caught a pass for 25 yards, which set up one of the touchdowns runs for three yards. Kicker Michael DeLouisa had two point-after-attempts go through the uprights to add four points to the total score.

Defensive noseguard Michael Giacone made five tackles, one which caused a fumble that was recovered by Chris Albanese. Defensive end Mike LaFace also recovered another fumble.

Cornerback Jackson O'Leary and safety Alex Williams kept Perth Amboy's passing game to a minimum.

Westfield's A-Blue (2-0) will travel to Irvington on Sunday for a 1:15 p.m. game.



Steve Kim (1 Hour Photo) for The Westfield Leader and The Times **IN MEMORY OF THE FATHER...**Westfield's A-Blue game was dedicated to Todd Breza, who passed away in March. Connor Breza, No. 13, and his mother receive a game ball in memory of his father. A-Blue defeated Perth Amboy 28-7.



GETTING A KICK OUT OF SOCCER...The WHS Girls Varsity Soccer team hosted a clinic for girls in grades 3 through 8 on September 15 at Roosevelt Intermediate School. Approximately 60 younger girls attended the clinic under the direction of Varsity Coaches Katie Wertheimer and Joe Paradise and the girls varsity team. The clinic raised funds to cover team expenses through the season.



SOMETHING IN COMMON...Marcy Borr (Kessler), left, and her daughter Samantha both became first-singles players for the Westfield High School girls tennis team in their freshman years, Marcy in 1981 and Samantha this season.

Raider PAL C Gridders Tie Richmond Boro PAL, 7-7

On September 12, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Raiders PAL C team tied host Richmond Boro, NY, 7-7. The game was dominated by each team's defense.

The Raiders started out strong in the opening drive. Led initially with Justin Giacona's three up-the-middle runs, the Raiders scored on an off-tackle dive that allowed Dominick Natale to break free for a 20-yards touchdown. Alex Montagna made the extra point.

The Richmond Boro defense adjusted quickly, utilizing the blitz at almost every play. Raider QB Joe Pagano attempted several different plays, but Richmond's speed was sufficient to cause disruption in the backfield.

Richmond Boro's offense tried relentlessly to move the ball throughout the first half, but the Raider defense shut them down at every attempt. During the first half, Gabe Giovanello, Robert Lewis and Owen Monahan controlled the defensive secondary, while Danny Van Brunt, Sam McQuoid and Justin Davidson dominated the defensive line.

During the second half, the Raiders offense was plagued with injuries. Giacona, Natale, and Montagna each lost a series of downs, which hindered the momentum. Thomas Walker stepped up to fill the gap, but notwithstanding an outstanding effort, could not get the ball to the end zone.

The defense held strong with a key plays from Monhan and backfield sacks by Grant Brown, McQuoid (four) and Will Rosenberger. Richmond Boro, however, scored on a quick end run and kicked the extra point for the tie.

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Raider Girls Blank Dayton in Tennis

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls tennis team shut out Jonathan Dayton, 5-0, on September 17. Sophomore Alex Szczuka, who played first doubles last year, led the onslaught with a 6-3, 6-0 win over Caroline Egnatuk at first singles.

Team Tri-Captain Kathleen Yan blanked Amy Gardner, 6-0, 6-0, at second singles. Tri-Captain Sahrula Kubie won 6-2, 6-1, over Jaclyn Ricci at third singles. Isabel Lopez and Neha Pannuri defeated Carly Sobel and Erin Cunningham, 6-0, 6-0, at first doubles. Courtney Bifani and Allyson Linsenber topped Dana Friedman and Carly Wolkoff, 6-1, 6-1.

See it all on the web in color www.goleader.com

Spring 2008 Baseball Season Registration

The Fanwood Youth Organization (FYO) Baseball League, in conjunction with Fanwood Recreation, will hold registration night on Thursday, September 27, 2007 at LaGrande Park Recreation Building from 6:30 - 8:30PM for the Spring 2008 baseball season. Registration forms will be available in all SPF public schools, Fanwood Library, Fanwood Police Station and at Fanwood Borough Hall. The forms can also be downloaded from the Fanwood Recreation website: www.fanwoodrecreation.org or the Fanwood Business and Professional website: www.fanwood.biz. FYO will once again be available to the youth of Fanwood and Scotch Plains in Grades K - 8.

There will be 4 divisions: TeeBall for those in Kindergarten and Grade 1; Minor League for those in Grades 2 & 3; Major League will be for those in Grades 4 & 5; Senior League will be for those in Grades 6, 7 & 8. All players will be eligible to pitch in this division, including 8th graders. All leagues, as in the past, will teach the fundamentals of baseball in a relaxed, fun atmosphere.

If you have any questions, please call the Fanwood Recreation Department at 908.889.2080.

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