

Late News - Soccer Devil
Boys Top Raiders, 1-0

THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Sports Section
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BROWNSTEIN SCORES WINNER, ZUKOFSKY SAVES SPF Raider Booters Shutout Cranford Cougar Boys, 1-0

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

A fired up team of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys staggered a good Cranford soccer squad, 1-0, in Cranford on September 13. The Raider offensive plan, despite seven yellow cards, was to play tough and scrappy, and the chance to win would be favorable.

That chance presented itself when junior forward Justin Brownstein came off the bench and chipped in the winning goal midway through the second half. The Raider defense was very tenacious and goalie Anthony Zukofsky was credited with eight saves. Scott Boyer made five saves for Cranford.

The 2-0 Raiders withstood several Cougar attacks early in the first half and found themselves on the defen-

sive capped by six yellow flags, including double yellows to Joe D'Annunzio and freshman Travis Cortes. It was then that the Raiders realized that they had a formidable task ahead.

"When the officiating looks to take control of the game. The game is about the players, it's not about the coaches, it's not about the officials and today it was about an official. It's kind of ironic that we got seven yellows, two double yellows and the

opposing team never got one yellow is kind of strange," said Raider Head Coach Tom Breznitsky. "However, our boys fought hard. The field conditions were very, very difficult but they were not going to be denied. Once again, our depth precept prevailed bringing in Brownstein. Nice calm, cool, collect finish; we get the one, that's all we need."

The second half, however, belonged to the Raiders and it showed with meaningful shots on goal, in addition to constant pressure in the goal area. Then, after a scramble, the ball shifted into an open area where Brownstein got a fortunate break. The ball took a bounce off the defenders head onto Brownstein, who then slipped past him and chipped a shot past the keeper into an empty net.

See photos of Sports:
on www.goleader.com
Westfield/MXS Football
SPF/Cranford Boys Soccer
Westfield/SPF Girls Soccer
Westfield/Union Field Hockey

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CHIPPING IN THE WINNING GOAL...Scotch Plains-Fanwood junior forward Justin Brownstein, No. 18 boots the ball past the Cranford keeper for the winning score in the second half.

COSTELLO, KRONICK, HANDZA NOTCH 1 GOAL EACH Lady Soccer Blue Devils Stun Hosting SPF Raider Girls, 3-0

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

Waiting for the chance to settle a score after a 1-0 defeat in the Union County Tournament championship game last year, the Westfield High School girls soccer team capitalized on three opportunities to hand host Scotch Plains-Fanwood a 3-0 defeat on September 15.

A left-to-right pass from sophomore Katie Ponce, who was charging down the center of the field, gave sophomore Samantha Costello the opportunity to rip a right-to-left shot past the outstretched arms of Raider goalie Jackie Law, giving the Blue Devils a 1-0 lead with 6:37 left in the first half.

"I knew that if I stayed wide, no one would mark me because they would be guarding the center. I got the ball and luckily I got it in the goal," Costello explained.

But it was also the 1-2 punch of senior Tara Handza and sophomore Hannah Kronick that gave the Blue Devils an edge in ball control in the first half. On three occasions, Kronick appeared to have a clear shot at the Raiders' goal. Raider back Delia McGee managed to get a foot on Kronick's first shot.

"I took one touch too many and she was right there," said Kronick.

Law made a great diving save on her second shot and defender Stephanie Glover managed to kick the ball away just before Kronick was ready to launch another shot.

"They play together in the off-season. That helps them with some of their combination play up top," Blue Devil Head Coach Katie Wertheimer said. "Scotch Plains has a great defense. That's going to be their thing this year, with Jackie in the back and Delia, a fantastic defender."

The Raiders also had a few opportunities early in the first half against Blue Devil goalie Meghan Brody but

failed to capitalize. The Raiders then took charge in the second half with a 13-shot shelling of Blue Devil goalie Anna Ridings. Even though Raider Katie Cornacchia launched seven shots, including one that deflected off the far post and another that Ridings smothered at the line, none

penetrated the goal.

In the meantime with 5:56 remaining, Costello tapped the ball into the box where Kronick made a touch and slipped it in for the score.

"I got a great ball in the center and I had time. I took my touch and tried

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CONFUSING THE SHABAZZ BULLDOGS...The Blue Devils confused the Bulldogs with their fine use of a spread offense. Receiver Jihaad Billups grabs a pass from quarterback Tony DiIorio.

JOHNSON GETS 192-YDS, 3 TDs, DiIORIO 111YDS, 2 TDs Blue Devil Gridders Crumble M. X. Shabazz Bulldogs, 33-8

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

Senior running back Ricardo Johnson and senior quarterback Tony DiIorio accounted for 303 of the Blue Devils' 311 rushing yards and all five touchdowns in Westfield's 33-8 crumbling of the Malcolm X. Shabazz High School football team at Untermyer Field in Newark on September 13. But another story was the Blue Devils' defense that kept the Bulldogs' wheels spinning with only 46 yards on the ground and 33 yards in the air.

Johnson carried the ball 27 times for 192 yards and touchdown runs of 27, 7 and 44 yards, respectively. DiIorio completed 10 of 18 pass attempts for 57 yards, including an interception, and rushed for 111 yards with respective touchdown runs of 1 yard and 28 yards.

Senior wide receiver Chris Sheehan had four receptions for 29 yards and senior receiver Brett DeFazio grabbed three for 20 total yards. Seniors Jihaad Billups and Craig Dyer had a reception of five and four yards, respectively, and one of DiIorio's completions netted minus one yard.

The Blue Devils used a no-huddle system, with their spread offense, and mixed their running and passing plays well in the first half. Of the 33 offensive plays, DiIorio completed seven of 11 for 43 yards, ran 10 himself for 104 yards and handed off 12 times to Johnson, who darted 76 yards.

"We have been working all summer on it (no huddle). We are getting the hang of it, a couple of miscalls on the signals but we will work those

completions. Defensive end Willie Johnson made a pair of fumble recoveries, one that set up the Blue Devils' third touchdown. Mike Clark recorded a two-yard sack and junior Brian Henry nailed the Bulldog kickoff receiver at the Shabazz 12-yard line.

"Our defensive line was awesome. They played against a big line. They were in the backfield all day. They are used to seeing some of the crossing-type blocks that Shabazz does," coach

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WESTFIELD BASEBALL LEAGUE (WBL)

**ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING
THURS. OCTOBER 2nd - 8:00pm**

**At the Westfield Municipal Building:
Community Room**

The WBL would like to announce its annual public meeting for the 2009 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 2009 season:

TITLE	NAME
PRESIDENT	Leo White
VICE PRESIDENT	Phil Russo
SECRETARY	Ron Greenberg
FIELD SCHEDULE/UMPIRES	Gary Fox
SUMMER TRAVEL	Al Rabinowitz
TREASURER	Frank Fusaro
PONY/MUSTANG LEAGUE	Ed Savickas
MAJOR LEAGUE	Tony Catanzaro
INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE	Rick Elliott
REGISTRATION	Matt Isabella
4TH GRADE	Michael Varano
3RD GRADE	Scott Faktor
2ND GRADE	Danny Duffy
1ST GRADE	Paul Friel
KINDERGARTEN	Rich Dursee
EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS	John Githens & John Monaghan
SPONSORS	Joe Rinaldi
SAFETY	Dan Eliades

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