



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
CAUSING FUMBLES...The Blue Devil defense caused two Bulldog fumbles that were recovered by defensive end Willie Johnson.

Blue Devil Gridders Crumble M. X. Shabazz Bulldogs, 33-8

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DeSarno said. The Blue Devils first touchdown came after TJ Mruz grabbed the opening kickoff at the 27-yard line and returned it to the 43. From there, Dilorio mixed five running plays with two completions to cover 57 yards that ended with his one-yard plunge into the end zone with 8:36 on the clock. Clark nailed the point after.

After the Bulldogs sputtered on three plays, the Blue Devils received the punt on their own 39 then marched 61 yards on five plays, including two receptions, when Dilorio found a huge hole and sped 28 yards for the touchdown. A bad snap on the point after attempt made the score 13-0 with 3:10 left of the first quarter.

"The line really opened it up. Mike Sheehan made a great block to spring me and no one was there," said Dilorio.

Willie Johnson recovered a Bulldog fumble on their 36-yard line then two plays later, Ricardo Johnson hooked around the left side for a 27-yard touch-

down with 1:19 left in the quarter. The two-point conversion failed.

Blue Devil Jhakys Williams grabbed the kickoff to open the second half at the 14 and returned it to the Westfield 37. Ten plays later, Ricardo Johnson found pay dirt on a seven-yard scamper to up the lead to 26-0.

"I was very happy that we came out in the third quarter, received the ball and scored because we struggled with that last year," coach DeSarno pointed out.

The Bulldogs stunned the Blue Devils on the following kickoff when Naiheem Purdy picked up the football at the two-yard line and weaved his way 98 yards to the touchdown. The two-point conversion was successful.

The final touchdown march began at the Westfield 44. Five plays later, Ricardo Johnson shed all tacklers and dashed 44 yards into the end zone with 3:09 remaining in the game. Clark split the uprights for the point after.

Westfield	19	0	7	7	33
MX Shabazz	0	0	8	0	8

D. Blair Corbin's Blue Devils Raiders Walk Down Memory Lane



From the archives of The Westfield Leader and The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times - www.goleader.com

September 16, 2000: A second-half air attack, which netted three touchdowns, engineered by junior quarterback Brian Schiller lifted the Raiders football team past Cranford, 42-21, in Scotch Plains. Junior Andrew Pavoni, who was the recipient of two of those TD passes, also added a 40-yard TD run on an interception. One of Schiller's completions in the first half was a 55-yard reception to speedster Ray Williams, which brought the ball to the five and set up a rushing touchdown by senior half-back Clifton Freshwater.

September 16, 1998: What appeared to be a battle of defenses turned into a rout when the Blue Devil girls amassed seven goals in the second half to dazzle the youthful Raiders, 8-0, at Tamaques Park. Liza Yannuzzi bagged three goals to lead the Blue Devil girls to their second victory.

September 20, 2002: With yellow penalty flags showering the field, the Blue Devil football team crushed host

Cranford, 33-14. From the end zone, junior quarterback Jan Coccoziello hit junior running back Tyshon Blackmon at the 40. Blackmon dashed 60 yards for the TD. Blackmon also fielded a punt on the 32 and returned it 68 yards for the TD. Mike DeFazio and Bart Walsh also had TD runs.

September 13, 2001: The Blue Devil girls won their 69th-consecutive dual meet by downing the Raider girls, 18-45, at Tamaques Park in Westfield. Two days later, the Blue Devil girls successfully defended their St. Dominic's Invitational crown by out-pacing runner up Morristown, 28-48, in Jersey City.

September 18, 2003: Regaining momentum, especially just after losing it may be a sign of good things to come. The Blue Devil girls soccer team did just that by dazzling Linden with a barrage of shots and handed Blue Devil Head Coach Peter Giordano his 200th career victory with an impressive, 2-1, win in Westfield. Co-captain Laura Shelman netted the tying goal on an assist with a spectacular header and Gio Palatucci scored the winning goal.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
STRUGGLING FOR CONTROL...Blue Devil Hannah Kronick, left, and Raider Stephanie Glover struggle for control of the ball.

Lady Soccer Blue Devils Stun Hosting SPF Raider Girls, 3-0

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to get it to the side of Jackie Law," Kronick said.

With two minutes on the clock, Handza made good on a penalty kick by skidding it to the left of Law. A minute later, Riding preserved the shut-out when she guessed correctly on Raider Raychel Kruper's penalty kick.

"Anna did a great job but we shouldn't forget about Meg Brody in the first half. She kept us calm in the back. Anna is a perfect example of a kid who played out of her head today. This is the best game I've ever seen her play," coach Wertheimer said.

"Even in the first half, we had a number of good chances. We just didn't capitalize. Westfield had three

counterattacking chances and they scored on two of them and got a penalty kick on the third, so kudos to them. They deserved to win," said Raider Head Coach Kevin Ewing.

"When these two teams come together, the kids get inspired. It's always fun to come out here. The girls were really excited about this game and in the end it paid off. We were in the right place at the right time. Our first goal, we really worked hard for that one. This is the kind of rivalry that on any given day, it could go either way. It was a long time coming," said coach Wertheimer.

Westfield	1	2	3
Sc. Pl.-Fanwood	0	0	0

SPF Raider Booters Shutout Cranford Cougar Boys, 1-0

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"We were able to move the ball around, the pace was pretty fast but the defenders were not as quick, so I was able to get to the ball that the defender messed up on the header. As the keeper came out, I knew he was going to try to catch up to me so I thought I had to dribble by him. Luckily, I was able to chip it over him," said Brownstein. "It was a cooperative effort from all our defenders, midfielders, forwards. They really hung in there and kept the lead."

Following the victory, Raider captain D'Annunzio said, "I got taken out early on what we could say was a horrible call but the guys played great without me. Offensively, we tried to knock it through the midfield, knock

balls over the top to run onto, looked to play a target and drop it back. It worked out well. The keeper came out, came off his line and we got a good chip by Justin."

Breznitsky concluded, "We're still working on finishing. Obviously losing D'Annunzio ten minutes into the match certainly was a big blow to us and then losing our playmaker, freshman Travis Cortes hurt us but we hung in there. We have the depth. We play composure and that's something we're working on. We feel we're strong enough defensively to hold on to a 1-0 lead. Two games in a row! We did it!"

Sc. Pl.-Fanwood	0	1	1
Cranford	0	0	0



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
ACTION NEAR THE GOAL...Blue Devil goalie Anna Ridings yells for help to Samantha Costello, No. 23, as Raider Tina Carmarda, No. 19, closes in.

Blue Devil Tennis Girls Shift Lineup for Successful Season

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tember 11.

Criscuolo defeated Samiran Jackson, 6-0, 6-0, at first singles and Wu stopped Victoria Henry, 6-0, 6-0, at second singles. Kowalski defeated Kaline Moore, 6-0, 6-0, at third singles. Murphy and Borr defeated Krystal Henderson and Charrisin Alstan, 6-0, 6-1, at first doubles, while Lauren Sullivan and Elyssa Solomon defeated Davina Hector and Spaggeanna Geffrard, 6-0, 6-0, at second doubles.

But, on September 13, the Blue Devils got a real test at the Millburn

Tournament, which included Governor Livingston, New Providence and state powerhouse Millburn. The Blue Devils dropped a tight 4-1 decision in which two matches went to three sets and another went to a tiebreaker. Kowalski won her match.

"It's going to be tough," Geiger said prior to the tournament. "It's our first real test. After looking at the schedule, I told the girls we have some matches that we are going to win no matter what and we will have some that we will have to fight for. That will be one we have to fight for."

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