

Cannon, Kalimtzis, Tufaro, Jacobs Win Titles

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

bout by 1:33 fall. Next, he faced second-seeded Blue Devil Colin Barber, who had defeated him in overtime in their recent dual meet. Cannon recorded a defensive takedown in the first period. Barber escaped in the second period then Cannon escaped early in the third, but Barber con-

match. I realized that I had to wear him out. There towards the end, that's exactly what I did. He folded," Cannon said.

Barber went on to defeat Cougar Corey Markovitch, 6-0, for third place. Blue Devil senior Mike Kalimtzis recorded a pair of arm bar stack pins

nior. It's a good learning experience for him. It will teach him how to take a loss and bounce right back to win. That shows you what kind of character the kid has. He is real strong on his feet. Very strong on top! He knows where he is at all times. He has more mat sense as a freshman than a lot of



CONTROLLING FROM THE TOP...Blue Devil Mike Kalimtzis, top, controlled Highlander Ryan Morrison throughout the entire second period and grabbed the 120-lb crown with a 2-1 victory.

vented a single to double-leg takedown to tie the score. Barber let Cannon escape in order to work a takedown for a victory, but Cannon held on for a 4-3 win.

"My goal was to stop Colin the whole match, work hard, and it worked out for me in the end. He's tough! I am looking to see him again in districts," Cannon said.

His title bout was to be against heavily favored Bryan Merkel (RP). "He and I used to battle. We would go back and forth. Hopefully I will get a good match," Cannon said.

Merkel came out like a ball of fire and recorded three takedowns to seize a 6-2 lead entering the second period, but Cannon repeatedly fired back. Merkel tired physically then mentally until Cannon cut his lead to 9-8. Seconds before the buzzer, Cannon swept in for the takedown to win 10-9. "I just wanted it more. During the

to reach the 120-lb finals to face GL's Ryan Morrison (UCT 112-lb champ in 2011). Kalimtzis recorded a low double-leg takedown in the first period and controlled Morrison from the top position the entire second period to earn a 2-1 victory.

"It felt good to come out with a win. I really didn't get to wrestle the match the way I wanted to wrestle. I wanted to get a takedown early. Set the tone of the match, because we have them next week in a dual meet. I wanted to keep my weight on him on top, make sure he didn't get points. He was tough on bottom. He did a lot of rolls, sit-outs and switches," Kalimtzis said.

Cougar freshman Gavin Murray, after losing to Morrison in the semifinals, rebounded to defeat Andy Santamaria (RP), 7-1, to place third. "It is good to see him bounce back from a loss. Morrison is a tough se-

kids have as seniors," Cougar Head Coach Pat Gorman said of Murray.

Raider heavyweight Anthony Tufaro pinned his first opponent with a corkscrew (Jimmy John) in 2:21, then faced Linden's (L) Sumir Burns known for his dangerous head throw, but Tufaro began with a takedown and controlled him from the top position en route to a 5-1 victory and a trip to the finals.

"He was ready to move. I just ducked out of it. When you get a big guy, and you put 285-lbs on top of him, it is a lot of work to keep off," Tufaro explained.

Looking to his title bout with Mike Christian (B), Tufaro said, "I have never wrestled him before. I am pretty sure it's going to be a good match. It will definitely go the full six minutes."

Tufaro was correct! Tufaro con-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



DRIVING HARD TO THE BASKET...Blue Devil guard Henry Smith, No. 5, drives to the basket in the game against Barack Obama Charter on January 19. Westfield defeated Barack Obama, 81-25.

YUCETEPE SCORES 19 PTS, MITCHELL 14, MALLEY 11 Blue Devil Boy Cagers Reject Barack Obama Charter, 81-25

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

Head Coach Daryl Palmieri had the luxury of allowing his entire bench the opportunity to get ample playing time when the Westfield High School boys basketball team hosted the Barack Obama Charter School Green Hornets from Plainfield on January 19.

But first the Blue Devils' starting team had to take care of business to get a sizable lead, and they did, grabbing a 39-12, halftime lead en route to an 81-25 victory.

Blue Devil seniors Ozan Yucetepe and Nate Mitchell each sank eight points in the first quarter, which Westfield won, 18-8. But the 0-9 Green Hornets matched the 4-9 Blue Devils point-for-point for the first five minutes until Mitchell fed Yucetepe on a pair of lay-ups and followed with his second 3-pointer of the quarter. Yucetepe (3-for-3 free throws) finished with a game-high 19 points, seven rebounds and two steals, and Mitchell (3-for-5 free throws) finished with 14 points and four re-

bounds.

"I wanted them to execute well. We played a little lazy defensively in the first quarter, but I really wanted this to be a chance for a lot of guys to get some time," Coach Palmieri said.

The Blue Devils' defense clicked loudly in the second quarter, limiting the Green Hornets to just four points, while the offense gushed in 21 points, which was distributed among nine players. Sophomore Dave Kane (2 steals, rebound) came off the bench and scored five points, but he also set up sophomore Mike Androconis (3 steals, 2 rebounds, 2 assists) on two-straight lay-ups. Junior Keegan Hess (3 steals) netted four of his eight points in the quarter, and junior Henry Smith came off the bench to contribute an assist and a free throw.

Yucetepe, Mitchell and senior Aswad Turner (2 steals, 2 rebounds) saw to it that the Blue Devils had complete control with nine points, six points and four points, respectively, in the third quarter to expand the lead to 64-19. Shakespeare Nelson

(2 rebounds, 1 point) dished out his second assist in the quarter.

"We were able to pull away in the second quarter. We took care of business in the third, and that gave us the chance for a lot of these guys to get some time. They put in the time and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

Lady Blue Devils Ice Comet Cagers, 57-28

Freshmen Jackie Knapp (two 3-pointers, 4 free throws) and Lilly Scott (3-pointer, 6 free throws) bucketed 18 points and 15 points, respectively, to lead the Westfield High School girls basketball team to a 57-28 victory over the Hillside Comets on January 19. Senior Carolyn Maguire scored seven points, while freshmen Jamie Miller and Megan Mondon each scored five points for the 4-8 Blue Devils. Carly Friedman had four points and Emily Brucia had three points.

Westfield Hillside	23	12	18	4	57
	12	5	4	5	28

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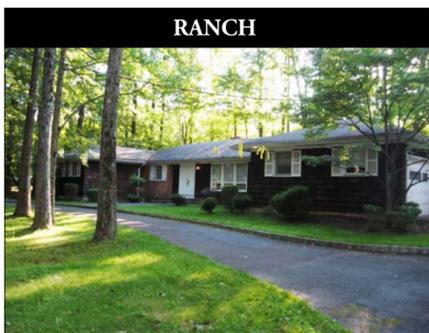
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