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Story on page 11
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SENIORS MURPHY, FURFARO, LEVY, WIDMAN; JUNIOR LINDER RECEIVE ALL-STATE CENTRAL 1 HONORS

Raiders Battled Consistency; Finished 12-8-3 in Boys Soccer

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

Consistency problems primarily due to injuries may not have allowed the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys soccer team to enjoy as successful

season as desired. But nevertheless the Raiders did have a good share of success by competing in the Union County Tournament (UCT) semifinals in addition to advancing to the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 championship

game and finishing with a 12-8-3 record.

Interestingly, four of the Raiders' losses were to the No. 3 ranked Elizabeth Minutemen, who finished 20-1-4, and whose only loss was a 3-2 setback to No. 1 Clifton in the Group 4 semifinal game. The two regular-season losses to the Minutemen were 2-0 and 2-1, respectively. The third loss was 3-2, double overtime in

the UCT semifinals and the fourth was 1-0 for the sectional crown.

In that UCT semifinal against the Minutemen, the Raiders overcame a 2-1, halftime deficit on an early goal by senior Ryan Widman. From there, the Raiders dominated play and had the lion's share of opportunities but were unable to convert. The sectional championship game had another twist of bad luck for the Raiders when Minuteman Emilano Caballero was awarded a penalty

kick and converted the only goal of the game. That scenario seemed to come into play throughout the entire season.

Raider Head Coach Tom Breznitsky, whose career won/loss/tie record rose to 761-185-63, commented, "I always tell my teams you need three things to be successful. 'You have to be good, you have to be lucky and you have to stay healthy.' Two of them bit us in our losses, half

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