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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

ADVANCING TO THE SEMIFINALS...Raider Alex Oslislo, top, pinned Marc Pretto (St. Peter's Prep) in the first period to advance to the 182-lb semifinals at the District 16 Tournament in Scotch Plains on February 16. Oslislo placed third.

ZIMMERMAN WINS AT 195-LBS, BOWLES WINS 113-LBS

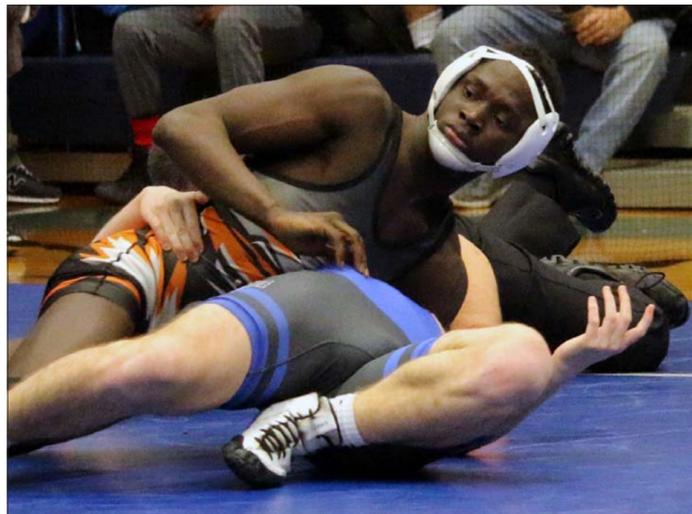
Raiders Claim 2 Champions At District 16 Mat Tournament

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

Two state powerhouses battled it out for top honors in the District 16 Wrestling Tournament held at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School on February 16. When all the dust was cleared, it was the St. Peter's Prep (SPP) Marauders that grabbed the top rung with a total of 220.5, followed closely by the Seton Hall Prep (SHP) Pirates at 213. The Marauders claimed five individual champions (Pat Adams — 120, Sean Rendeiro — 126, Julian Todd — 145, James Cruz — 170, Nico Colucci — 220), while the Pirates claimed four (Conner Decker — 132, Cole Carroll — 138, Jack Wilt — 152, Niko Diakides — 285). The Linden (L) Tigers took third at

(SPP) to the mat with a double-leg takedown in his quarterfinal bout then after a bit of a scramble, clamped him in cradle midway through the first period to advance to the semifinals. "I wanted to get to my offense early, wake up a little, get the blood flowing, so I set him up and took a double. I finished it pretty well. I have been working on it all season. He fought hard though. He was flat on his back and flipped me over out of bounds. You got to give him credit for that. I worked my offense on top. Waited for the right time and locked up the cradle. I waited until his leg was up and I waited until he moved his head the slightest and I went for it," Oslislo described. Oslislo knew he had his work cut

is going to win the match," Oslislo guessed. Afolabi did manage to stick Oslislo in the third period to advance to the title bout where he pinned Zach Merlino (SHP) in 5:29. Oslislo quickly regrouped and pinned Jacob Quandt (GL) in 3:11 to advance to the regions. Larmore pinned Andrew Ciraco (GL) in 3:48 then lost to Luzua by fall in the 106-lb semifinals. Larmore then pinned North Plainfield's (NP) Nick Sanchez in 49 seconds to earn his trip to the regions. GL's David Vill placed second at 132-lbs after losing 5-4 to Decker. Conner Vill (GL) also took second after being defeated 15-5 by Todd at 145-lbs. Highlander Harrison Kelly took third at 126-lbs when he beat Luis Marquez (Iselin Kennedy — IK) 12-6. Greg Friedenberg (GL) pinned Ken Romero (NP) in 1:36 to place third at 152-lbs and Joe Scaloro grabbed a 4-2 sudden victory over David Lee (IK) for third at 160-lbs. Linden's Krystian Pasek placed second at 285-lbs when he was pinned in 3:13 by Diakides (SHP). Stefano Del Valle (L) took third at 138-lbs and John Ojeda (L) beat GL's Andre Stepien, 8-5, for third place at 120-lbs



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

CHAMPION AT 160-LBS...Linden Tiger Alex Dorce, top, recorded a tech fall and two pins to claim the 160-lb crown at the District 16 Tournament in Scotch Plains on February 16.

131.5 and had two champions in Alex Dorce (160) and Mike Afolabi (182). Governor Livingston (GL) took fourth at 98 and the Raiders (SPF) took fifth at 96 and had two champions with Brandon Bowles (113) and Zach Zimmerman (195). The Raiders also qualified Alex Oslislo (182) and Joey Larmore (106) who both took third for the Region 4 Tournament. Elizabeth (E) placed sixth with 89 points and had one champion in Cristian Luzua (106).

Zimmerman, the top seed at 195-lbs with a 27-6 record, received a bye and was allowed to relax throughout the first round. "I am very excited. I feel like I had a great year. A couple of matches I wish I could have back but I can't. That's OK! I feel like I am getting hot now and getting ready for districts, regions and, hopefully, AC," Zimmerman said. Zimmerman, however, was keeping a close eye on several unfamiliar faces at the tournament. "Seton Hall and St. Peter's Prep! You have one or two teams in the top 20. They don't really have a weak kid, so you have to get ready to go against anybody. I am just going to go in there with an open mind. Read and react. That's the way you got to wrestle," Zimmerman said. Zimmerman did what he had to do with a 3-2 win over Sean MacLaney (SPP) in the semifinals then a 3-2 victory over Nour Sayed (E) for the title. Bowles also received a bye then pinned Jakov Zamora (E) in 1:58 to advance to the 113-lb championship bout where he earned a 5-3 tiebreaker victory over Felix Lettini (SPP). At 182-lbs, Oslislo took Marc Pretto

- CHAMPIONSHIPS:**
106: — Luzua (E) d Joe Sciarone (SHP) 6-3
113: — Bowles (SPF) d Lettini (SPP) 5-3 TB
120: — Adams (SPP) d Lawrence Melchionda (SHP) 3-0
126: — Rendeiro (SPP) p Dean Musialowic (SHP) :50
132: — Decker (SHP) d Vill (GL) 5-4
138: — Carroll (SHP) d Alex Leon (SPP) 7-1
145: — Todd (SPP) md Vill (GL) 15-5
152: — Wilt (SHP) d Tom Kellner (SPP) 6-5
160: — Dorce (L) p Roger Diaz (SPP) 2:45
170: — Cruz (SPP) d Mike Massa (SHP) 6-2
182: — Afolabi (L) p Merlino (SHP) 5:29
195: — Zimmerman (SPF) d Sayed (E) 3-2
220: — Colucci (SPP) p Jon Guardado (NP) 1:20
285: — Diakides (SHP) p Pasek (L) 3:13

Blue Devil Icemen Ice Summit In McInnis Cup Tournament

For the second time in two seasons the Westfield High School boys varsity ice hockey team defeated their rival Summit High School Hilltoppers to capture an elusive title. Last year it was a 3-2 upset in the Union County Championship. This year the Blue Devils capped an exciting McInnis Cup tournament run by outlasting the Hilltoppers in a wild 6-5 final. The road to the McInnis Cup title was not an easy one for Westfield. The unranked Blue Devils had to overcome the Montclair Kimberly Acad-

some hardware back to Dubfield nation." In the semifinals, the Blue Devils skated past the Cougars, 5-1. While the score may seem like Westfield absolutely bundled MKA, the game was close throughout. Westfield had to rely on a strong performance from Duffy against the high-powered MKA attack. The offense was fueled by nine different Blue Devils. Goal scorers were seniors Alex Park, John Humiston and Anthony Oliveri, along with sophomore Brendan Kotiga and

contests over the past two seasons. The Blue Devils were keenly aware that a championship dogpile would require defeating an old nemesis. From the drop of the puck the first period belonged to Westfield. Two goals by Oliveri and one each from Humiston and junior Nick Forno led the Blue Devils to an opening frame lead of 4-1. The boys were buzzing. The Hilltoppers came out in the second period and seized control of the game with four unanswered goals to take a 5-4 lead. Showing resilience



Photo courtesy of Brett Howard

McINNIS CUP CHAMPIONS...The Blue Devil Icemen defeated the Summit Hilltoppers, 6-5, to claim the McInnis Cup Championship last weekend. The Blue Devil icemen were stellar throughout the entire tournament.

emy (MKA) Cougars (ranked 20 in the state) in the semifinals and the Summit Hilltoppers (No. 16) in the final. The challenge seemed daunting, but the unranked boys with the blue "W" sweaters were motivated. "We've had a good regular season" said senior captain CJ Duffy (OK, 3-5), but he added, "we really wanted to bring

freshman Thomas Conrod. Assists were handed out by senior Tommy Duffy, juniors Will Gamba and Trevor Tanella, and freshman Matt Beke. Humiston and Park had an apple apiece. Making the finals meant another chapter in the Summit/Westfield rivalry. Coming into the game Summit had defeated Westfield in six of seven

Westfield struck back quickly on a goal from Tanella and eventually took the lead for good on an absolute snipe from Humiston. The senior netminder combination of Duffy and Zack Peterson, who was superb in relief of Duffy and earned the blue hardhat player of the game award, fended off the Summit offense to secure the McInnis Cup. The championship dogpile around the cup was earned and completed. Next up, the Blue Devils hope to make some noise in the state group B playoffs as the number three seed. Westfield's record stands at 15-5-3. Follow the WHS boys ice hockey teams on Twitter @westfieldpuck for an informative and entertaining take on the season's activities. Fans can also visit WHSpuck on Facebook and Instagram. See the website for up to date team schedules at www.westfieldhockey.com.

Blue Devils Fall to Vikings, Pioneers in Boys Basketball

The Westfield High School boys basketball team dropped a 74-70 shooting battle to the 19-2 New Providence Pioneers in a regular-season game in New Providence on February 11. Two days later the 9-13, 12th-seeded Blue Devils lost to the fifth-seeded Union Catholic Vikings, 76-68, in the second round of the Union County Tournament in Scotch Plains. Griffin Rooney led the Blue Devils with 18 points, which included trip 3-pointers and five free throws, to go with three rebounds and a steal against the Pioneers. Colin Freer put up 15 points, including a 3-pointer, and added two steals and three rebounds. Jake Walsh sank 13 points, including trip 3-pointers and Matt Crowley had nine points, an assist and a rebound. Mike Kane had eight points with two 3-pointers and added two rebounds. Hank Shapiro had four points, five rebounds, three assists and a block. Sebastian Ferrero sank a 3-pointer, Tommy McGuire had two assists, two rebounds and a block, and Declan McCauley had a rebound and sank a free throw. Point guard Sean Dillon led the Pioneers with 18 points, including

two 3-pointers, 15 assists and five steals. Brian Kelly had 13 points, including trip 3-pointers, and added four assists and five rebounds to go with a pair of blocks and a pair of steals. Rich Wawzycki banged in 15 points, including trip 3-pointers, and added two assists. Dylan Bedder had 12 points, 10 rebounds, five assists and two blocks. Greg Meyers sank 12 points, including two 3-pointers, and added three assists. Against the Vikings, Rooney sank 20 points, including four 3-pointers. Freer had 11 points, including two 3-pointers, and Crowley netted 10 points. Walsh nailed trip 3-pointers for nine points and Ferrero bucketed seven points, including a 3-pointer. McGuire had four points and Shapiro had three points, while Kane and Andrew Echausse each scored two points. Jaheim Tanksley led the Vikings with 25 points, including trip 3-pointers. Matt Tracey bucketed 17 points, including a 3-pointer, and Giovanni Phillip put in 15 points.

Westfield	14	20	15	21	70
New Providence	27	16	14	17	74
Westfield	18	14	14	22	68
Union Catholic	21	19	12	24	76

Rahway Beats Cougars In UCT Boys B-Ball

The 10th-seeded Rahway High School boys basketball team defeated the 15th-seeded Cranford Cougars, 52-45, in the first round of the Union County Tournament in Rahway on February 9. Mike Watson (3 3-pointers), Zion Pendleton (8 free throws) and Tahlee Bailey each scored 10 points for the Indians. Hunter Goff led the Cougars with 21 points, including two 3-pointers and Jeremy Ruka sank nine points, pulled nine rebounds and had three blocks. Cole Blazek had seven points and a pair of steals. Arjun Petgrave had seven rebounds and four points and Joe Carrea had seven rebounds and two points. Kevin Donovan had three assists, five rebounds and two points.

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