



Brearley Bears Look to Be Team to Beat for Union County Wrestling Dominance

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definitely making strides to obtain another state title. He's made a decision to go to Columbia University so now I think he is focused on a state title."*

Shedrick Goodridge (Sr. 189-lbs): Finished 27-6 and qualified for the states last year at 171-lbs. Ranked eighth at 189-lbs. "Shedrick did seem to fly under the radar because we had Darion and Ryan. People don't realize that Shedrick ended up with over 20 wins. He's definitely making a push to get to Atlantic City again."*

Juan Herrera (Jr. 112-lbs): Two-time district champ at 103-lbs. "He has a chance to make Rahway history. There's only been five three-time district champs. (Antonio Garay, Wilson, Caldwell, Gene Ronkiewicz and Tom Wysocki). We think he can accomplish that goal and can make a better push in the regional tournament."*

*Coach Reinoso comments.

ALJ CRUSADERS: The Crusaders have 24 wrestlers in the program, which includes three region qualifiers and one state qualifier.

"We have eight seniors. This is the first time since I have been here that we have a majority of seniors, which looks good. Our lightweights are pretty good. (Sophomores) Joe Kilburg at 112 and Chris Roberts at 103, both had winning records," said Crusader Head Coach Nick Cilento. "We should be around .500 around cutoff time. We do wrestle a tough schedule. The Mountain Valley Conference is tough in wrestling."

Anthony Priore (Sr. 130-lbs): Finished 33-5 and won two bouts at AC last year at 119-lbs. "Anthony places in every tournament he goes into. This is his senior year. He's making a run for a state championship. We feel this is his year."*

Chris Golias (Sr. 160-lbs): Qualified for regions at 160 last year. "He's a year older, a year stronger."*

Matt Kohen (Sr. 189-lbs): "He started all four years and every year he has improved."*

Erik Kaminsky (Sr. Hwt.): District 12 heavyweight champ last year. "He's looking to improve on that and get down to AC."*

*Coach Cilento comments.

NEW PROVIDENCE: The Pioneers, who placed in fourth in the UCT, qualified for the sectionals and finished 12-7, feature five solid wrestlers and will fill every weight class. They have a big junior and freshman man class. "Individually this team will create lots of excitement," said Head Coach Gary Bremer.

Peter Terrezza (Jr. 112): Placed third in the UCT at 103. "Expects to have a breakout year."*

Matt Nobbs (Soph - 125): District champ with huge wrestling background.

Wade Baldwin (Jr - 130): UCT champ at 125. "Needs to remain healthy."*

Larry Peotter (Sr - 152): "Greatest example of hard work, continues to get better and better."*

Trevor Martin (Sr - 189): Dropped from 215 & Hwt. "Will surprise a few people, looks better than he ever has."*

*Coach Bremer comments.

BREARLEY BEARS: The "Bear" is bigger than ever! Last year's county champs are chomping at the bit to seize the "Bear's" share of the UCT again this season and return nine region qualifiers, in addition to a few more who

may qualify this season. The Bears bolstered their schedule significantly to include Group 4 power Brick Memorial, Group 2 powers Collingswood and Hackettstown, and Non-Public powers Camden Catholic and Holy Cross. Aware that many teams will be

"gunning" for them, Bear Head Coach Brian Lucciani commented, "We have a tremendous coaching staff, including newcomer Lou Cerchio (from Scotch Plains). On the mental side, it will be a different pressure this year. Hunting season is open and we're the game but we'll see. We upgraded the

schedule tremendously and these kids understand what's ahead of them."*

Region Qualifiers: **Kenny Knapp (So - 103):** County and District Champ, placed in the Region winning a match in AC. "Knows what it takes to get back to the state tournament and place in the top eight."*

Dan Conroy (Sr - 112): Placed 5th-6th in the Region. "Will get to the top three."*

Joe Lospinoso (So - 135): "Tremendous technical wrestler. Injured last year, will explode on the scene, dominate and turn some heads."*

Joey Mraz (Sr - 140): "Realizes what he can do. Hoping for big things, maybe getting a county title under his belt."*

Matt Loffa (Jr - 145): "Strong competitor. Solidified the 145 spot."*

Travis Dilts (So - 152/160): Placed second in Districts, fourth in county.

Anthony Evans (Sr. 160): UCT champ and second in district at 152. "Has lofty goals."*

Hany Elsjiiek (Jr - 189): Second UCT, second in districts at 160.

Jessie Boyden (Jr - 215): Two-time UCT champ, Region 3 champ and placed sixth in the state at 215. "What more can you say? Workaholic! Truly sees how to get to a top three finish."*

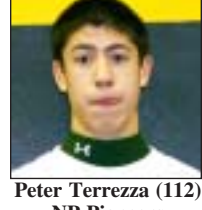
171: Umar Taramov (10)/Robert Schielke (9)
189: Hany Elsjiiek (11)/Jake Saladino (9)/Chris Hillier (11)
215: Jessie Boyden (11)/Mike Petruzella (10)/Johnathan Hernandez (9)
 Hwt: Eric DuBeau (12)

GOVERNOR LIVINGSTON: The Highlanders have six seniors, two juniors, seven sophomores and five freshmen. "We are a much more experienced team," said Head Coach Rick Iacono. "The only thing which is unfortunate, we will be losing matches because I will forfeit weights and can not put some of our in-experienced kids into a varsity lineup."

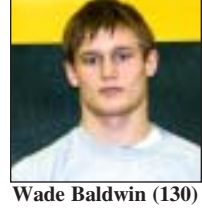
Rob Coughlin (Sr. - 145): UCT champ at 135. Finished 29-5

Matt Fullowan (Jr. - 171): Fourth in UCT at 152.

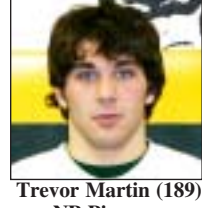
Scott Mack (Sr. - 160): Fourth in UCT at 160



Peter Terrezza (112) NP Pioneers



Wade Baldwin (130) NP Pioneers



Trevor Martin (189) NP Pioneers



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

A KILLER "Z"...Raider split end Jason Zelesnik, No. 82, (All-Conference) led the team with 21 receptions for 402 yards, including two touchdowns.

Raider Football Boys Finish With Deceptive, 4-6, Season

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

fumble recovery. "John was an undersized offensive/defensive lineman but he played with the heart of a guy 310-lbs. He was all over the field. He made All-Conference and one of the comments was, 'he's so tough!' And he was," said Ciccotelli.

Baker, an All-Conference tight end, had a sting that left bruises. He had 14 receptions for 238 yards (17-yard average) and one game-winning TD. Defensively, he led the team with 37 solo and 52 assisted tackles, including two sacks and two blocked kicks.

"He blocked very well in the perimeter. In the Linden game, he had an 80-yard run that wasn't going to be denied. That was an incredible run. As inside linebacker, he played very well for us all year," said Ciccotelli.

Senior Captain Colin Campbell (offensive/defensive lineman All-Conference) plugged up the holes to allow the linebackers to get their tackles, as did junior Mike Alleman.

"Colin made up for his lack of size with his attitude. He prepares himself," said Ciccotelli.

A killer "Z" senior Jason Zelesnik (All-Conference split end) led the team with 21 receptions for 402 yards, including two TDs - one a 67-yard TD against Westfield. He also had seven kickoff returns for 190 yards and, on defense, he had 22 solo and 23 assisted tackles to go with three

sacks and an interception. "He played well on both sides of the ball. People who came to the games would come up to me and ask, 'who's that number 82?' He was a leader of our team. He led by example," said Ciccotelli.

Senior Rob Scibek tied for the Raider lead in sacks with five. Senior Kyle Mihansky had 25 solo and 11 assisted tackles, along with a sack and an interception.

But there were more "Bees"! Senior Dave Belford recorded 25 solo and 17 assisted tackles, one sack and one interception and junior Jason Boff totaled 13 tackles, a blocked kick and three sacks.

Quarterback Mike Chervenak completed 70 passes in 156 attempts for 984 yards, including seven TDs and 10 interceptions. He rushed for 228 yards, including a TD. Senior Matt Huether had 143 rushing yards and two TDs and sophomore fullback Marcus Green provided key blocks.

Senior wide receiver Kyle Rowbotham had 12 receptions for 176 yards and two TDs. He also hit all 14 of his extra points and, defensively, he recorded two interceptions.

"I don't think football is won by MVPs," commented Ciccotelli. "A chain is as strong as its weakest link. For us to win games, our weakest link has got to be strong. He may be the MVP."

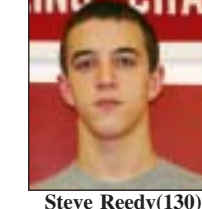
Watch Out For: **Umar Taramov (So-171):** A Soviet Union product with a Freestyle background. "Excited about having him on the team."*

*Quotes from coach Lucciani.

BREARLEY CANDIDATES:
103: Kenny Knapp (10)
112: Allen Phillips (9)
119: John Calderon (10)/Dan Conroy (12)
125: Robert Piper (11)
130: Jem Vigilante (12)
135: Joe Lospinoso (10)
140: Joey Mraz (12)/Kevin O'Connor (9)
145: Matt Loffa (11)/Chris Laudati (11)/Elon Trager (11)
152: Anthony Evans (12)/Steven Margolin (11)/Tom Mannix (10)/Danny Sehna (11)
160: Travis Dilts (10)/Brian Zengenwald (11)/Dan Gregory (11)



Mike Mattingly (152) GL Highlanders



Steve Reedy (130) GL Highlanders

Watch Out For: **Mike Mattingly (Sr. - 152), Steve Reedy (Sr. 130)**

See photos of Sports:
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WHS/Linden Girls Basketball
SPF/Shabazz Girls Basketball
Westfield/SPF Football Dinners

Raider Cagers Shock Shabazz Boys, 62-58
 Bryan Dougher netted 20 points, including three 3-pointers, as the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys basketball team shocked Shabazz, 62-58, on December 15. Reggie Solomon nailed two free throws late in the game to squeak the Raiders ahead of the Bulldogs, 52-51.

Solomon and Greg Bayard each sank 12 points apiece for the 1-0 Raiders. Da'Shon Barrino put in 25 points for the Bulldogs.

Sc. Pl.-Fanwood 15 10 18 19 62
MX Shabazz 20 9 11 18 58

Viking Coeds Douse Rahway Swimmers
 The Union Catholic High School coed swim team took top honors in every event to douse Rahway, 130-39, on December 17.

50 free: Ryan Walker, 24.43
100 free: Tim Foster, 1:00.01
200 free: Brian Carr, 2:08.95
500 free: Nicole Caravano, 7:04.44
100 breast: Sean Gaynor, 1:17.55
100 fly: Brian O'Donnell, 1:01.52
100 back: Mike Gelowitz, 1:11.29
200 IM: Gaynor, 2:31.13
200 free relay: Tim Deegan, Carr, Gelowitz, O'Donnell, 1:44.41
400 free relay: Gelowitz, Foster, Walker, O'Donnell, 4:15.27
200 medley relay: Gaynor, O'Donnell, Walker, Foster, 2:00.13

Viking Cagers Whip Oratory Boys, 65-37
 The Union Catholic High School boys basketball team made the best of its home opener by whipping Oratory, 65-37, on December 15. Kristan Cortizo netted six of his 15 points in the first quarter and Tony LaRocca sank eight of his 15 points in the second quarter.

Oratory 7 8 9 13 37
Union Catholic 19 15 14 17 65

Viking Cagers Dump Dunellen Boys, 41-35
 The Union Catholic High School boys basketball team improved to 2-0 with a 41-35 victory over Dunellen in Scotch Plains on December 16. Mike Buczynski scored 12 points and Tony LaRocca netted seven for the Vikings.

Happy Holidays

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