

High School Sports Programs

JONES GETS 5 TD'S, 361 TOTAL YDS, 2 INT

Big Raider Gridmen Outrun Spirited Blue Devils, 47-23

By DAVID B. CORBIN
Specially Written for Our Towns

Keeping up with "the Jones" can be very difficult; especially if it refers to senior Nathan Jones who rushed 318 yards, snagged a 43-yard pass reception, and netted two touchdowns as unbeaten Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School outran Westfield, 47-23, in Scotch Plains on October 2. Previously, in this decade, the Raiders managed to defeat the Blue Devils only once which was in 1996 by a score of 13-12.

"Their size got to us and they wore us down as the game progressed," commented Blue Devil Head Coach Ed Tranchina. "They have a good team this year."

On third down from the 37, Schiller passed right to Jones, who then sailed 43 yards to the Blue Devil 14. Next, full-back Gary Cousar bashed to the 10, then Jones took a pitchout and breezed into the endzone with :14 left in the quarter.

The Blue Devils had their next march halted abruptly when Jones intercepted on the 11 and dashed to midfield. Several plays later, with 2:38 left in the half, Cousar banged in for the touchdown. Doug Gillie's extra point was good, making the score 13-3.

Moments later, Jones read the play, intercepted Giacone's return and passed the ball to Westfield 27.

The Raiders ground to the two where Cousar blast through for the touchdown with just :25 left of the half. Later, Jones slanted off tackle then galloped down the middle for a 57-yard touchdown.

Lightning struck again with 8:13 remaining when Jones, found an opening, shook some tackles and bolted 59 yards for his fourth touchdown. Jones fifth touchdown came on a eight-run slant, three plays after Wes Warchol blocked a punt and Sergio Pereira leaped on the ball....

Westfield 3 0 13 7 23
ScPlns-Fanwood 6 14 6 21 47

Melendez, Feeley Capture NJ Region 3 Mat Crowns

By DAVID B. CORBIN
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Tony Melendez and Jim Feeley of Scotch Plains-Fanwood earned their first regional crowns at the Region 3 championships in Union on March 6.

In his quarterfinal bout at 132, Melendez defeated Pat Hu of Parsippany, 8-4, then crushed Rob Verhoeven of Cranford with a 15-0 technical fall in 3:19. The title bout was a thriller. Melendez and second-seeded Brandon Kaufman of Delbarton matched strategies. The bout was tied, 5-5,

ing, he would win. He did! "It reminded me of my match with Cordova," said Melendez of his bout with Kaufman. "I lost all feeling in my arms. I was numb. I tried to concentrate on my stance and he kept coming up on me."

Feeley, seeded second at heavyweight, began his drive to the title with an 11-7 decision over Greg Bartholomew of Irvington, then topped Roger Attieh of Bayley-Ellard, 3-2. In the title bout, Feeley defeated nemesis Mike Munoz of Roselle Park, 6-1.

"I got him. I knew that I was going to do it," responded Feeley. "I thought that I should have had a takedown earlier but I got it done. I can't complain about that. I did not take any stupid shots this time, only shots that were going to work. He got me in the counties, but this one was the real one. I'm so happy!"....

Melendez then won a sudden-death :30 period by preventing Kaufman from escaping, he would win. He did!

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Raider Gymnasts Spin Brearley Bears, 98.6-52.1

By DAVID B. CORBIN
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Sophomores Jackie Lavery and Lindsay Church each captured two first places to breeze the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School gymnastics team past the Brearley Bears, 98.6-52.1 in Scotch Plains on September 30. The Raider girls swept the top three places in every event.

Lavery flew through the vaulting spring with a mount to place first in the vaulting event. She combined her strength and flexibility while performing various hand-stand positions then exploded with a back flip to win the balance beam event with an 8.5. Lavery also placed second on the uneven bars with an 8.2.

Lindsay Church, as with all three top place winners on the uneven bars, performed gracious giant swings to win the event with a mark of 8.6. Church also won the floor exercise with an 8.6 and placed third in the vault with an 8.3.

Junior Rachel Eannucci placed second in the vault at 8.4 and on the beam at 7.75 and tied for second with senior Co-Captain Diana Filo in the floor with a mark of 8.15. Filo also finished third on the beam with a 7.7.

Sophomore Megan Grabel did a superb job on the uneven bars, performing a giant swing to place third at 8.0. She also placed third in the floor exercises with an 8.0.....



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