

THE WEEK IN SPORTS

JONES GETS 2 TD'S, SCHILLER NAILS FIELD GOAL

Raiders Regroup in 2nd Half; Silence M. X. Bulldogs 18-15

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

Strong defensive play and the elusive rushing ability of senior halfback Nathan Jones helped the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School football team overcome a 15-6, half-time deficit to earn an 18-15 victory over Malcolm X. Shabazz in Scotch Plains on September 25. Jones rushed for 155 yards and scored two touchdowns, Brian Schiller booted a field goal while the Raider defense forced a safety to bury the Bulldogs.

The Raiders looked strong on the opening drive and appeared to be heading for a quick score. Sophomore Ray Williams received the opening kickoff on the 13 and returned it to the 31. On the first play from scrimmage, Jones took the handoff from quarterback Schiller and sprinted 34 yards to the Bulldog 35. Fullback Gary Cousar smashed his way to the 25 to set up a third-and-six inch situation. Then Cousar burst to the 22 for the first down but later the drive stalled on the 17.

On first down, Bulldog fullback Derek Foster pushed through the middle, found an opening, shifted to his left and rumbled 83 yards for the touchdown with 7:53 left in the first quarter. When the extra point was good, the Bulldogs had a 7-0 lead. "It was an off-tackle and one of our linebackers hit the wrong hole on the read," explained Raider Head Coach Steve Ciccotelli of Foster's touchdown. Cousar got the Raiders moving again by receiving the kickoff on the

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AND THEN, ALONG COMES JONES!...Raider Nathan Jones, No. 22, looks to add more yardage in the second quarter against the Bulldogs as Dave Herrmann, No. 41, follows the play. Jones scored two touchdowns as Scotch Plains-Fanwood stopped Shabazz, 18-15, in Scotch Plains.

ZOTTI RAKES IN THE HAT TRICK, FIORINO HITS 2

Raider Boys Daze, Confuse Linden Soccer Tigers, 7-0

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

Abuse was indeed on the minds of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School soccer boys when they hosted Linden on September 23 and blazed

to a 7-0 victory. Junior Mike Zotti led the offensive surge with a hat trick and teammate Jeff Fiorino zinged the net twice.

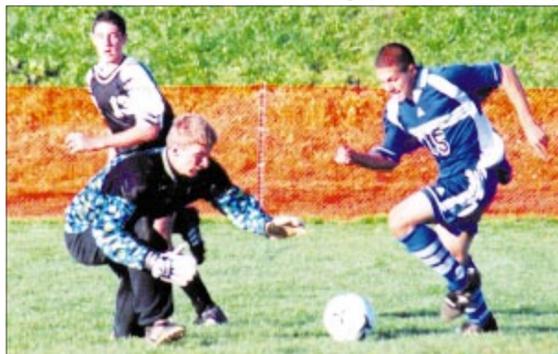
From the opening whistle, the Raiders displayed their offensive fury

which left the Tigers dazed and confused. Fiorino netted the first goal from inside the box 8:55 into the game with an assist from Zotti.

Zotti got a feed from senior Eugene Ferrara, wove around the goalie and nailed the second goal with 14:21 off the clock. Next, Ferrara with an assist from Brett Wissinger drove toward the goal and put the Raiders ahead, 3-0, 29:23 into the first half. "Eugene put it down the line to the corner flag and I took it toward the middle and beat the keeper," explained Zotti of his first goal. "I'm not saying that I am the best player in the world but, after the first two goals, they seemed to play all defense. Then we just went right through them."

"Brett played the ball in from about 25-yards out and I heard 'turn, turn, turn.' So I turned on the 18 and just passed the ball into the goal because they really weren't playing hard on defense," said Ferrara of his goal. Less than four minutes later, Fiorino notched his second goal with an assist from Andrew Babicz. Mo-

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ATTEMPTING THE HAT TRICK...Raider Mike Zotti tries to elude the Tiger keeper but does not this time. With :07 left, Zotti quivered the net for his third goal.

BALLWEG NETS THE HAT TRICK

Soccer Vikings Plunder Roxbury Girls, 6-0

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

Impressive offensive play backed up by solid defense provided the 6th-ranked Union Catholic High School girls soccer team over a proud Roxbury squad, 6-0, in Scotch Plains on September 24. The Vikings bombarded the Roxbury keeper with 18 shots while yielding nine. Junior Jessica Ballweg was omni-

present around the Roxbury goal and penetrated the net three times and senior Tanya Wynarczyk fired in two for the Vikings.

Lisette Brandao, however, was the first to put the Vikings on the board with a goal 3:43 into the game. "It was a cross from the left side and I got the rebound," explained Brandao. Next, Ballweg netted her first goal

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NOT AFRAID TO GET DIRTY...Viking Jessica Ballweg ices a temporary injury and is not concerned about the mud that she collected during the soccer game with Roxbury. Ballweg nailed three goals and the Vikings won 6-0.

ALEX LAU SIZZLES 2 GOALS, IANNI NETS ONE

Red Hot Blue Devils Burn Stunned Cougar Boys, 3-0

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

Stunned Cougars crawled back to their lair after a fired up team of Westfield High School Blue Devil boys outplayed them in every aspect of the game and earned a 3-0 victory over the Cranford High School soccer squad in Westfield on September 22. Senior midfielder Alex Lau led the burning with two sizzling goals.

Neither team showed any significant dominance for the first 15 minutes; however, two minutes into the game, the Cougars had a breakaway on the right side but Devil defender Conner Mulvee rushed forward and repelled the attack. This was an omen of things to come as Mulvee stopped all Cougar frontal attacks and diverted them to the outside. "Conner played the best game that he has played all year. Without a doubt!" expressed Blue Devil Head Coach George Kapner. "He controlled our defense. He marked beautifully. I think they had three, four, five shots the whole game."

Midway through the first half, the Blue Devils began to control the game. They beat the Cougars to the ball, leaped higher for headers and set up their plays. Devil Mike Orlando whizzed a shot over the crossbar. Minutes later, Erik Finne charged forward on the right side and zipped the ball over the crossbar. Finally,



SWEEPING RIGHT FOR 55 AND A TOUCHDOWN...Blue Devil sophomore Terrence Jenkins sweeps right to begin his 55-yard touchdown run against the Cougars. Westfield defeated Cranford, 20-7, at Gary Kehler Stadium on September 25.

JENKINS RUMBLES FOR 3 TD'S, 162 TOTAL YARDS

Devils Use New Look to Foil Cranford Cougar Boys, 20-7

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

Showing some new faces in the starting lineup, the Westfield High School football team foiled the Cranford squad, 20-7, in Westfield on September 25. Sophomore halfback Terrence Jenkins galloped 144 yards on 12 carries and snagged an 18 yard pass en route to all three of the Blue Devils' touchdowns.

Taking over the reins at quarterback was junior Ryan MacDonald, who completed two of five pass attempts, but it was his selection of plays and use of several running backs which baffled the Cougars. Jenkins, however, was his primary running back. On his two completions, MacDonald hit sophomore Diano Reavis for 21 yards and Jenkins for 18.

In the first quarter, Jenkins slipped over from the two and MacDonald added the extra point to give the Blue Devils a 7-0 lead. In the second quarter, Jenkins flashed 25 yards for the touchdown and MacDonald hit the extra point to push the lead to 14-0. Another touchdown run by Jenkins was negated on a penalty.

Senior Pat Tuohy stopped the Cougars cold with two interceptions in the first half. With just :11 left in the half, Tuohy got his second interception in the endzone to bail out a Blue Devil fumble on their own 11 yard line. As a result, the Cougars were held to 47 total yards in the first half.

On the first drive of the second half, the Cougars marched 80 yards which was capped by senior Dan Daly's 13 yard touchdown. With Bob Sawicki's extra point, the lead was cut to 14-7.

As the final quarter began, the Blue Devils began a march of their own. Starting from the 25, junior halfback Mike Mroz blasted five yards to the 30, then senior fullback Pat Tuohy burst through the middle to the 39. Tuohy then smashed to the 45, then, with 10:32 remaining, Jenkins slicked to the right past everyone and breezed 55 yards into the endzone.

Late in the fourth quarter,

MacDonald made good use of running backs, Reavis and sophomore Brian Ludlum as the Blue Devils forged to the Cougar three on their next drive. Unfortunately, the Cougars recovered a Blue Devil fumble to halt the drive.

The Blue Devil defense remained stubborn and chilled any further Cougar offensive attack as time ran out. The Blue Devils had 258 total yards.

Tuohy finished with 67 yards on 14 carries, Reavis had 28 yards on six carries and Ludlum had 19 yards on four carries. Daly finished with 116 yards rushing on nine carries and senior Bill Simpson had 16 carries for 47 yards. Westfield evened its record to 1-1 while Cranford fell to 0-2.

"We had some people out, so we tried to balance it out," said Blue Devil

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J. CARAVELLO TAKES ALL-AROUND

Devil Gymnasts Crunch Old Bridge, 101.05-85.5

By DAVID B. CORBIN
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The Westfield High School gymnastics team took another step toward their goal of having an undefeated dual meet season by crunching Old Bridge, 101.05-85.5 in Westfield on September 23. Sophomore Jessica Caravella led the crunching by capturing the all-around with a

in the vault at 8.4, the balance beam at 9.0 and the floor exercises at 8.75 while her sister Lauren recorded the highest score of the evening on the uneven bars with a 9.35.

Lauren Caravella, who also competed in the floor, placed third with a score of 8.15. Freshman Ashley Flood took second on the floor at 8.6 and placed third on both the bars and



PREPARING FOR THE MEET...Blue Devil gymnasts Lauren Caravella, front, and Rachel Skolnick loosen up with splits prior to their meet with Old Bridge.

total of 35.0.

The Blue Devils took first in every event with Jessica taking top honors

beam with respective totals of 9.0 and 8.0. Freshman Rachel Skolnick took second in the vaulting with a mark of 8.2.

On September 14, the Blue Devils scored the second-best team total in the state at 106.6 during a meet in Hillsborough.

"Our score this time seems to be a little weak," commented Head Coach Ellen Kovac. "I did not necessarily have the best girls in all of the events. Here, because of our wrestling mat that we have to use for the floor exercise, I do not want to encourage the girls to do their most difficult events. At Hillsborough, there was a nice, regulation gymnastic floor mat."

Kovac did mix her lineup and worked several of her girls on the

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A BLUE DEVIL FAKING OUT A COUGAR...Blue Devil Brad Gillin, No. 3, quickly changes the direction of the ball as a Cougars runs past it. The Blue Devil boys burned the Cougars, 3-0, in Westfield on September 22.