The Spartans are headed for the state football finals for the first time in school history after defeating Chancellor last Saturday afternoon, 24-12, in a semifinals game played in Ashburn. Senior linebacker Kenny McAdow (32) and his Broad Run teammates short-circuited the Chargers and are now readying for a trip to Lynchburg and a meeting against Amherst County.

Bravo for Broad Run

SPORTS, PAGE 12
FREE RANGE TIME
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**NEWS**

**New Look for Route 7**

Interchanges move forward.

*By Jennifer Lesinski*  
**The Connection**

If everything goes the way Terrie Laycock, the county’s director of the Office of Transportation, hopes, travelers will see changes at the intersection of Route 7 and Loudoun County Parkway soon. The Board of Supervisors was expected to approve a contract Tuesday for Shirley Contracting Company to build an interchange at that location. Barring any unforeseen problems or winter storms, Laycock anticipates breaking ground on the project within weeks.

“You’ll see bits and pieces being done through December to March,” Laycock said. “The big stuff should start by March. Generally an interchange takes about 18 months to construct.”

**Commission OKs BRMC**

**Broadlands Regional Medical Center**  
receives favorable recommendation.

*By Jennifer Lesinski*  
**The Connection**

The six-year debate over whether to build a hospital in Broadlands is one step closer to closure now that the Planning Commission has recommended approval of the application. At this point, it is up the Board of Supervisor to decide the fate of the Broadlands Regional Medical Center.

The commission, by a 5-4 margin, issued its recommendation Monday, Nov. 24, after holding two public hearings and a number of work sessions. Commissioners Christeen Tolle (At Large, chairman), Rhonda Wilson Paice, Concerned Citizens of Broadlands, attorney Peggy Maio (Blue Ridge), Erin Austin (Catoctin), Sandra Chaloux (Dulles) and Michael Keeney (Sugarland Run) were in favor while Robert Klancher (Broad Run), Gigi Robinson (Leesburg), Chris Brodick (Potomac) and Helena Syska (Sterling) cast the dissenting votes.

Van Armstrong, county planner for the application, said the dissenting commissioners had general concerns about whether they should follow the Countywide Health Care Facilities Policies, which identifies the Route 50 corridor for the next hospital. County staff, however, said the policy does not preclude a hospital being located elsewhere and supported the application.

“They liked the design of the site,” Armstrong said.

**Black Friday: Not So Gray**

Dulles Town Center businesses report favorable initial results.

*By Mike DiCicco*  
**The Connection**

According to business owners and managers at Dulles Town Center Mall, the shopping season got off to a stronger start than expected. Predictions for a dismal Christmas season have raised concerns among local officials that lower-than-usual spending would cut into sales tax revenues, further depleting Loudoun’s already-slimmer budget. But, almost 12 hours into the season kickoff, storekeepers said this didn’t seem to be the case.

“We’ve had a fairly decent day. Not bad anyway,” said Eileen Crisson, owner of Albuquerque East, late in the afternoon last Friday.

**What’s Next**

The Board of Supervisor are scheduled to discuss the application at a committee of the whole, Jan. 14, 6:30 p.m., at the county Government Center.
News

Project under Budget

From Page 3

for the interchange and though the design has the construction taking only nine acres, the developer is seeking to have to give up even less, Waters said.

“The suit is not holding up the design of the project,” she said.

The homeowners association of Ashburn Village also had at one time raised concerns over the proposed interchange and how it would impact the entrance to the community.

“They always have known the interchange was going there,” Water said. “It’s a balancing act. Just because it’s a change, it doesn’t mean it’s a bad change.”

Once both interchanges are completed two traffic signals will be eliminated from Route 7.

AFTER THE board authorizes the Office of Transportation to complete the contract with Shirley Contracting, a plan of construction and maintenance for the interchange must be submitted to and approved by the Virginia Department of Transportation, spelling out the timetable for construction, lane closures and other details related to the building of the interchange.

Laycock said at times Route 7 will have to be reduced to one lane, similar to the recent work done at River Creek, to accommodate the construction. Travelers will be notified of changing traffic patterns by message boards at the site.

In the meantime, there is already some utility work being done at the intersection unrelated to the interchange project.

Laycock said she expects the Route 7/Ashburn Village interchange project to begin construction before the Route 7/Loudoun County Parkway job is complete.

“The developer of Ashburn Village has design plans for review,” Laycock said. “But before construction can start, we have to deliver the right of way.”

Laycock said her office will schedule a groundbreaking as soon as possible so the public can see work is being done on a project it approved.

“I’m hoping this is going to be as smooth as the interchanges on Route 28,” Laycock said.

“Over the years, we’ve faced situations where we didn’t have enough money to finish projects.”

— Supervisor Lori Waters (R-Broad Run)

Off to Strong Start

From Page 3

of The Gallery, an art store near Albuquerque East, adding that it was turning out similar to last year’s Black Friday. She said individual shoppers were spending as much as they had a year ago, although she was offering a deeper discount.

Stephanie Vatuna, owner of the sports memorabilia store PSGameGear, said her crowd might have been a little smaller than last year’s, but the people who showed up were buying. “We’re on track right now to do better than we did last year,” she said.

Vatuna said she, too, had offered an additional discount this year. But she said her store’s income had not been down from last year all year long.

On the high end of the market, Sergio Antonio, manager of Littman Jewelry, said his store also was doing nicely that day. “It’s actually better than last year for us, surprisingly,” he said, although he added that Black Friday had never been especially important at the store. “I think it’s a guy thing, to procrastinate,” he said.

Antonio also noted that he had seen a number of regular customers last year spending much less than usual. He speculated that the economic downturn had been felt sooner in Loudoun County, where the housing market crashed harder and earlier than in many other parts of the region.

HOWEVER, JOEL BROWN, the manager on duty at JC Penney, said he thought his store’s turnout was “nothing compared to last year’s,” although he hadn’t yet had a chance to add up the numbers. This was despite the store offering more coupons and bigger morning “door busters” than last year, he said.

At Sears, though, store manager Robert Cox said the store had hit last year’s Black Friday intake by 2 p.m. and was projected to end up 39 percent over expectations. “So we’re really pleased with today,” he said.

Cox said appliance and electronics sales had led the way, with apparel and home fashions also showing strongly. The smallest increase over last year’s sales, he said, was seen in products related to home improvement.

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For more information or to RSVP please contact: St. Veronica Catholic School
3460-B Centreville Road, Chantilly, Virginia, 20151
703-773-2022/www.stveronicaschool.org

BULLETIN BOARD

FRIDAY/DEC. 5

LA LECHE LEAGUE of Ashburn. 10:15 a.m., at the Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. The topic is The Art of Breastfeeding and Avoiding Difficulties. Pregnant and nursing women as well as their children are welcome to attend. Free. Call 703-753-3214.

FLU SHOT CLINIC. 4-8 p.m., Inova Loudoun Medical Campus, Leesburg, 224 Cornwall St., adjacent to South Lobby, Leesburg, on board the Mobile Unit. Children ages 4 and above and adults can be vaccinated. Cost for the flu shot is $25 per person, no charge for seniors with a valid Medicare card with Part B. Pneumonia shot for seniors and those with chronic diseases, $45. Call the Mobile Health Services hotline at 703-771-2067.

SATURDAY/DEC. 6

CLUB MEETING. 10 a.m., 333 South Sterling Blvd. The Sterling Golf & Swim Club is hosting a special community meeting to inform all past, present and future members of the plans for the swimming pool and swim team in 2009, members of the community are welcome. Visit www.SterlingGolfClub.com.

MONDAY/DEC. 8

BOOK CLUB. 7 p.m., Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn. Discuss “Consumption,” by Kevin Patterson. For adults. Call 703-737-8100.

FLU SHOT CLINIC. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Inova Loudoun Medical Campus, Leesburg, 224 Cornwall St., adjacent to South Lobby, Leesburg, on board the Mobile Unit. See Dec. 5 item for details.

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Come Train with the Pros!
Join Glory Diamond Elite’s travel softball team and train year around with players and staff of the 2007 NWPF Champion Washington Glory!

Glory Diamond Elite Travel Softball Team’s are seeking players for their 10U, 12U & 16U/18U programs. The Glory Diamond Elite teams train year round at the Diamond Elite indoor training facility located in Dulles Virginia. These teams are for the athletes who are dedicated to training year around and serious about advancing their softball skills.

To schedule a tryout contact Erin Goettlicher at 571-246-7071 or erin@diamondelite.com.

December 3-9, 2008 www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Opinion

Shop Locally

Local shops help define community, and this year, they need local support.

The economic situation is daunting, and it’s probably true that most families, even families who feel financially secure, will be more frugal in this holiday season than in the past. But we’re pretty sure that almost all of us will be doing some significant holiday shopping in the next month. While you’re at it, be sure to spend a portion of your shopping dollars close to home. One way to be sure holiday shopping comes in organizing holiday events.

Give Locally

Local charities seeing unprecedented demand from struggling families for food and other help.

Putting food on the table for the family. It’s such a basic activity and most of us are lucky enough to make choices of what we buy at the grocery store, whether this is a carry-out night or an eat-out night one or more days a week.

Meanwhile local charities and food banks are finding it hard to gather enough food to keep up with the demand from people who are suddenly unable to afford enough food to put on the table for their families. Housing costs, the foreclosure crisis, spiking energy and food costs over the past year and other economic woes have put a tremendous strain on working poor families in Northern Virginia.

Checking the Chefs

To the Editor:

Just one question about your Nov. 19-25 Ashburn Connection paper concerning Benihana restaurant in Sterling. Where, pray tell, are all of the Japanese chefs? Perhaps Benihana’s should double or even triple check the so-called credentials of their employees as something seems suspicious here. Maybe ICE should be informed.

— John C. MacArthur III

Ashburn

Digging Deep

To the Editor:

The Loudoun Valley HomeGrown Markets Association has been collecting food donations for Interfaith Relief at the Leesburg Winter Farmers Market on Saturdays mornings for the past two weeks. I have been incredibly impressed with the generosity of both our customers and our vendors in bringing food from their homes or purchasing and donating food from the market. Examples include the gentleman who handed us $100 and the two people who brought turkeys, while one of our producers purchased an entire case of soup to donate.

Chesapeake organizations are facing tough times in this economy so it is a tribute to Loudoun County residents that they are willing to dig deep to help those in need. LVHMA will continue to collect food donations at the Leesburg Farmers Market throughout the winter season. We hope to do our part to keep Interfaith Relief make sure no one is hungry in Loudoun County.

— Judy Strooke

LVHMA Market Coordinator

Helping Hand

Warren Breaux, director of sales and marketing, left, Peter Farone, general manager, right present a check from Lansdowne Resort to Operation Second Chance in the amount of $7,500, funds raised from this past summer’s Jazz on the Potomac event.

Editorials

To Help

❖ Loudoun Habitat for Humanity, 109 Harrison St. NE, Leesburg, 703-737-6772, www.loudounhabitat.org
❖ LINK (serves Ashburn, Herndon & Sterling), P.O. Box 443, Sterling, 703-437-1776, President@LINKaustria.org, www.linkagainsthunger.org
❖ Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington, Western Regional Office, 180 Dry Mill Road, SW, Suite 102, Leesburg, 703-443-2481, www.cda.net
❖ Community Holiday Coalition, 102 Heritage Way, NE, Suite 103, Leesburg, Store Location: 22714 Glenn Drive, Suite 100, Sterling, Holiday e-mail: holidayvolunteers@loudoun.gov, Holiday Hotline: 703-737-8367
❖ Salvation Army of Loudoun County, 10 Cardinal Park Drive, Leesburg, 703-771-3371, www.salvationarmyny Loudoun county.com
❖ American Red Cross, Loudoun chapter, 604 South King St., Suite 006, Leesburg, 703-777-1771, www.loudounredcross.org

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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The Connection

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**Christmas Tree Hunting**

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### Country Loving

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703-327-0643, 703-327-0585

Contact: Zurschmeide

Open: Weekends through Dec. 14, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Dec. 20 and Dec. 21, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Varieties:** Choose-and-cut Douglas and Canaan fir, White pine, Scotch pine, from four-seven feet. Fresh cut Fraser fir, up to 15 feet tall.

**Special Services:** Bow saws provided, free baling, machine shaking, help with loading, complimentary hot apple cider and candy canes.

**Directions:** From Leesburg: Take Route 15 south to left onto Evergreen Mill Road; follow for 5 miles; then continue two and half miles, then turn left onto Red Hill Road.

### Ticonderoga Farms Inc.

26175 Ticonderoga Road, Chantilly
703-327-4424

Contact: Ricky Hoybach

Open: Weekends through Dec. 14, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., now through Dec. 14 and by appointment.

**Varieties:** Choose-and-cut white and Scotch pines, Norway, white and blue spruce Christmas trees.

**Special Services:** Bow saws provided; free baling, cutting and loading assistance. Complimentary hot chocolate on Saturdays.

**Directions:** From Leesburg: Evergreen Mill Road past landfill; two miles to left on Route 861 (Reservoir Road); fourth drive on the left.

### Jacobson Tree Farm

42518 St. Clair Lane, Leesburg
703-777-9534

Contact: Kyle and Maureta Jacobson

Open: Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Varieties:** Choose-and-cut Douglas and Canaan fir, Precut tabletop and apartment-size Christmas trees.

**Directions:** From Leesburg: Route 15 north for 10 miles; turn right on Route 658 (St. Clair Lane); first left, 200 yards, follow signs to parking.

### Creekview Farm

40236 New Road, Aldie
703-327-9230

Contact: John and Cheryl Hutchison

Family owned and operated. Beautiful views of Bull Run Mountain.

Open: Weekends through Dec. 14, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Check Web site for early closing and tree availability.

**Varieties:** Norway and blue spruce, white and Scotch pine Christmas trees.

**Other Items:** Fresh wreaths. Special Services: Free tree shaking, drilling and baling. Cutting and loading assistance available. Restrooms.

**Directions:** From Leesburg: Take Route 7west 17 miles, take left onto Route 760 (Clayton Hall Road), half mile to driveway on left.

### Great Country Farms

18780 Foggy Bottom Road, Bluemont
540-554-2073

Contact: Bruce, Debbie, Kate and Mark Zurchmeide

Admission free.

Open: Weekends Dec. 6 and Dec. 7; Dec. 13 and Dec. 14; Dec. 20 and Dec. 21, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Varieties:** White pine, Scotch pine, from four-12 feet and Norway and blue spruce from three-seven feet. Fresh cut Fraser fir and wreaths and roping.

**Cookies:** Hot tea and coffee in the Country Store; custom gift baskets. Soup, chili, hot chocolate and mulled cider for sale. Play area and barnyard closed at this time of the year.

**Directions:** From Leesburg: Take Route 7 west 17 miles, take left onto Route 760 (Clayton Hall Road), into the town of Bluemont, left onto Route 754 (Tricklerville Turnpike), drive half mile to right onto Foggy Bottom Road. First farm on the left.
HOLIDAY PARADE, 5-8 p.m., Historic downtown Leesburg. Holiday Parade and Winter Festival, includes horse-drawn carriages, Santa, Frosty and Rudolph will pose for pictures, children’s hands-on games and art activities, local school choirs, ice sculpting demonstration, holiday merchandise and refreshments will be available for purchase. To register to be part of the parade, visit http://www.idalee.org/parks/events/holidays. For inclement weather cancellations during the events, call the Inclement Weather Line at 703-777-7166.

ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Ida Lee Park Recreation Center, 60 Ida Lee Drive, N.W., Leesburg. Includes handcrafted items from more than 90 local and regional artisans. Admission is free. Call the Leesburg Parks & Recreation Department at 703-777-1368 or visit www.idalee.org. For inclement weather cancellations during the events, call the Inclement Weather Line at 703-777-7166.

HOLIDAY IN THE PARK, 3:30-6 p.m., Claude Moore Park/Lanesville Heritage Area, 21544 Old Vestals Gap Road, Sterling. Includes candlelight tour of the Lanesville House, crafts, a hayride through the park, roasting marshmallows and caroling. Free, donations of new mittens, scarves and/or hats are requested for the Winter Warmth Tree. Call 705-258-3700.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR, 12-4 p.m., Unitarian Universalists of Sterling Church, 22135 Davis Road, Sterling. Gifts can be purchased for $10-$15 and are donated to local charities and purchasers are given a holiday card to present to the recipient. Call 703-406-3068.

HOLIDAY Happenings

Send events, which are open to the public at no or minimal cost, to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

THURSDAY/DEC. 4

HOLIDAY CRAFTS, 4 p.m., Sterling Library. 120 Enterprise St., Sterling. Library staff will help children ages 6-11 make holiday crafts. Register at library.loudoun.gov or 703-430-9500.

FRIDAY/DEC. 5

TREE LIGHTING, 6-7 p.m., Leesburg. Includes local choirs and tree illumination. Call the Leesburg Parks & Recreation Department at 703-777-1368 or visit www.idalee.org. For inclement weather cancellations during the events, call the Inclement Weather Line at 703-777-7166.


CHARITABLE GIFT FAIR, 5-9 p.m., Sonabank at 1 E. Market St., Leesburg. St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church annual alternative gift fair includes ways to donate to local charities, live music and a visit from Santa or shop online through Dec. 31, www.SaintGabriels.net.

SATURDAY/DEC. 6

Send events, which are open to the public at no or minimal cost, to loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com.

THURSDAY/DEC. 4

RACCOONS AND FRIENDS, 9:30-11 a.m. or 12:30-2 p.m., Claude Moore Park, 21544 Old Vestal’s Gap Road, Sterling. Includes a raccoon mask while exploring their lives and the lives of their furry friends. Cost: $10.50 per child. Call 571-258-3700.

CARD WORKSHOP, 5-9 p.m., Sonabank at 1 E. Market St., Leesburg. St. Gabriel’s Episcopal Church annual alternative gift fair includes ways to donate to local charities, live music and a visit from Santa or shop online through Dec. 31, www.SaintGabriels.net.

FRIDAY/DEC. 5

TEEN CENTER, 7-10 p.m., After-Hours Teen Center, Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls. Features winter wonderland dance. All teens attending the teen center must have a permission slip, signed by a parent or guardian, on file. Download the permission slip at http://library.loudoun.gov go to Teen Scene, Events, Hanging Out Books. For middle-schoolers.

TODDLER ONE AND TWO, 11 a.m., Rust Library, 34D Catoctin Circle, SE. Leesburg, VA. Stories, rhymes and movement for ages 12-24 months with a parent or caregiver. Sign up online at library.loudoun.gov or phone 703-777-0323.

RUST LIBRARY, 11:30 a.m., Rust Library, 34D Catoctin Circle, SE. Leesburg, VA. Victorian costumed singers. Exhibits listening to carols sung by strolling choirs, traditional holiday cards and are donated to local charities.

HOLY FAIR, 11 a.m., Historic downtown Leesburg. Children’s holiday fair. Includes special Leesburg Heritage Area, 21544 Old Vestals Gap Road, Sterling. Includes candlelight tour of the Lanesville House, crafts, a hayride through the park, roasting marshmallows and caroling. Free, donations of new mittens, scarves and/or hats are requested for the Winter Warmth Tree. Call 705-258-3700.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR, 12-4 p.m., Unitarian Universalists of Sterling Church, 22135 Davis Road, Sterling. Gifts can be purchased for $10-$15 and are donated to local charities and purchasers are given a holiday card to present to the recipient. Call 703-406-3068.

See Calendar, Page 10
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*Featured Home* 42743 Mirror Pond Place, $1,399,900, Sun 1-4

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**Exceptional Open Houses**

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**SPORTS**

One More to Go

Broad Run heads to Lynchburg for state title football game meeting against Amherst County.

**By Rich Sanders**

The Broad Run High football team is one win away from perfection and one win away from its first-ever state championship. The Spartans’ incredible season continued last Saturday afternoon with the Ashburn team playing a typically sound game across the board in defeating Chancellor High of Fredericksburg, 24-12, in a state AA semi-finals game. The Division 4 postseason contest took place in front of a packed crowd at Broad Run.

Trailing at halftime, 6-3, Broad Run, the two-time Dulles District champions, turned the game in its favor with a third quarter, which sparked by a blocked punt, saw them outscore the Chargers, 14-0, on way to the victory.

“It’s definitely huge,” said Broad Run senior Kevin Sandersen, whose punt block early in the second half started the momentum swinging in the Spartans’ favor. “Coach said we’re going to remember that 24 minutes of the second half the rest of our lives.”

Next, Broad Run (13-0) will take on Amherst County, located in central Virginia just outside of Lynchburg, in the state championship game this Saturday at 4:15 p.m. The title game will take place at Liberty University in Lynchburg. Like Broad Run, Amherst County, a member of the Battlefield District, goes into the showdown match up with a perfect 13-0 record.

“Our goals [all season] have been to win district, region and states,” Sandersen said. “Every guy believed that.”

Saturday’s region championship game turned around dramatically in Broad Run’s favor just four plays into the third quarter when, on a Chancellor fourth-down punt attempt, the 6 foot 2 inch, 185 pound Sandersen broke through the left side from his defensive end spot and blocked Micah Cunningham’s punt. The loose ball was recovered by the Spartans at the Chargers’ 24-yard line. On the following play, Spartan running back TJ Peeler took a handoff left and burst off tackle for a 24-yard touchdown run in which the junior broke through several arm tackles. He went into the end zone standing and, following senior Graham Allen’s extra point kick, Broad Run led 10-6. The Spartans would never relinquish the lead.

Sandersen, who had never before blocked a punt, set up the huge score and his team’s second half to remember.

“I came off the left side as hard as I could,” Sandersen said. “I stuck out my [right] arm and I think I got the ball pretty well. It was unbelievable, definitely a surreal feeling. After that play, we were [in scoring position] and TJ made a great run.”

“That punt block was huge,” said Broad Run senior linebacker Kenny McAdow. “That’s the kind of play great teams are going to make.”

**BROAD RUN’S DEFENSE**, following the Peeler score, forced another Chancellor punt moments later. And once again, the Spartan special teams came up big. It was not a punt block this time, but an incredible return by senior Breon Earl that reigned the fired up partisan home crowd. Earl caught Cunningham’s booming, long punt on the run before making a return of 50-plus yards. On the return, Earl worked his way down the right sideline before bursting across the middle of the field as the crowd roared. He was finally brought down at the Chancellor 20.

Four plays later, Earl scored his first of two touchdowns on the day when he took a pitchout left from quarterback Chris Jessop and went into the end zone standing. Allen, despite having his point-after kick nicked, had enough on the boot to clear the goal post. Broad Run was in command with a 17-6 lead with six minutes, 32 seconds left in the third quarter.

Broad Run coach Mike Burnett, following the game, expressed his pleasure with

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**Athlete of the Week**

Stone Bridge High School's bid for a second straight Division 5 state AAA football title fell short when the Bulldogs lost to Phoebus, 38-8, in a state semifinals game last Saturday afternoon in Hampton. The Bulldogs, Liberty District and Northern Region champions, finished the season 13-1.

Check out the game story against Phoebus at connectionnewspapers.com, then Ashburn sports.
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21 Announcements
As of October 13, 2008, Mr. Lenin (Butch) Lobaton is no longer a manager of ASIAN IMPORTS, LLC of 8249-K Backlick Road, Lorton, VA 22079. Mr Lobaton is not authorized to engage in any business transaction on behalf of Asian Imports, LLC.

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**SPORTS**

**Season Continues**

From Page 12 of the play of the Spartans’ special teams. As a [“coaching” staff] we’ve preached all year that every play matters,“ the coach said. “Special teams can change a game instantly. Breon’s punt return was pretty special. Those two plays [including the punt block] changed the game for us.”

Chancellor pulled within 17-12 following a 2-yard touchdown run by bruising fullback Dominique Wallace (21 carries, 102 yards, two TDs) early in the fourth quarter. But Broad Run answered with perhaps its most important scoring drive of the season, in which the Spartans drove the ball 64 yards on eight plays. The touchdown came on a pitchout right toss to Earl, who scored easily from 6 yards out with just over six minutes left to play. Allen’s extra point kick made it 24-12 Spartans.

For the game, Earl finished with 87 yards on 16 carries with the two touchdowns. On top of that, the 5 foot 7 inch, 160 pound playmaker sensation also had the pivotal second-half punt return and recovered a fumble from his position in the Spartans’ defensive secondary as well.

WHILE EARL had a superb game, teammate Peeler had a pretty exceptional game himself with a game high 162 yards on 16 carries and a touchdown. He gained 112 yards in the second half following a half-time challenge by coach Burnett.

“Coach said, ‘TJ, I know you can do better than that,’” said Peeler, who perhaps had not gotten into the running groove his coach knew him to be capable of.

“Coach told us to pick the intensity up [for the second half],” said Peeler, of Burnett’s words to the team at halftime. “We just wanted the game. Winning a region title is something that’s never happened in my life before. It feels real good.”

Peeler’s second-half runs included gains of 24, 18 and 29 yards. He was the inside running presence for the Spartans, while Earl did his damage outside.

“They’re about as good as a combination of backs you’ll ever see,” Burnett said. “TJ is a good downfield, punishing runner. Breon has that burst of speed. We wanted to go with those two guys.”

As it has done all year long, the Broad Run offensive line paved the way by blowing the Chargers off the ball for much of the game. The Spartans rushed for 249 yards to Chancellor’s 169.

Chancellor’s hard-running Wallace, at 230 pounds, was difficult to bring down and had a big game. But the rest of the Chancellor offense, led by quarterback Cunningham, was held in check.

Burnett said his team has amazed him with its desire and enjoyment in playing the game week in and week out.

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