



What are the top schools in Morris/Sussex high school sports?

SPORTS, 1B

Daily Record

SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2025 | DAILYRECORD.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

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TRIAL OF THE CENTURY American culture wars began 100 years ago at Scopes Monkey Trial

SUMMER OF SOCCER



Fluminense fans get into the spirit before a 2025 FIFA Club World Cup group stage match June 17 at MetLife Stadium. MIKE SEGAR/REUTERS

NJ soccer fans hopeful World Cup will boost MLS

Jane Havsy Morristown Daily Record | USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

Jay Glick grew up playing soccer in East Brunswick in the 1970s. He went to New York Cosmos matches at Giants Stadium. He’s had a passion for the Beautiful Game for most of his life. • But when asked what it’ll take to get fans attending the FIFA Club World Cup – whose final is on July 13 at MetLife Stadium – to come back for Major League Soccer matches, Glick hesitated. He’s similarly unsure about the potential for next year’s World Cup, which will also take over the Meadowlands. • After all, MLS launched two years after the last American World Cup, back in 1994. • And while the league has grown rapidly over the past 30 years, there are still plenty of soccer fans in the United States who would rather watch a European or other international club on TV – or at MetLife Stadium – than check out the MLS team down the street.

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“It’s the world’s most popular game, but when you get out of the ethnic communities, it’s not the sport the average middle American follows,”

Jay Glick, A soccer fan, in an interview outside Sports Illustrated Stadium in Harrison

NWSL execs plan to boost women’s soccer

Jane Havsy Morristown Daily Record USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

As the FIFA Club World Cup trophy was displayed in New York City back in January, Carli Lloyd reminisced about her long soccer career. A two-time Women’s World Cup and Olympic champion who was recently inducted into U.S. Soccer’s Hall of Fame, Lloyd recalled watching as the ‘99 Women’s World Cup was played in the United States. “I sat in the stands saying to myself I wanted to represent my country playing in the World Cup and Olympics,” said Lloyd, who grew up in Delran and played at Rutgers and for Gotham in the National Women’s Soccer League. The NWSL hopes the women’s game is poised for a similar leap this summer and next, when the biggest names in men’s soccer play in star-studded tournaments in the U.S., both concluding at MetLife Stadium. The FIFA Club World Cup will hold its final at the Meadowlands on July 13. Then in 2026, 48 national teams will descend on the U.S., Canada and Mexico for the men’s World Cup. “It’s just a pivotal time in America for soccer, and for so many, and it’s going to be phenomenal,” Lloyd said. “These next two summers are going to be like nothing we’ve ever seen before.” Her opinion is not universal, not even among devoted soccer fans.

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Gotham FC’s Mandy Freeman and teammates celebrate with the trophy after defeating UNAL Tigres to win the inaugural CONCACAF W Champions Cup on May 24 at Estadio Universitario in Monterrey, Mexico. DANIEL BECERRIL/REUTERS

Appeals court to hear arguments in school segregation suit

Mary Ann Koruth NorthJersey.com USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

A New Jersey school segregation lawsuit with implications for how children are assigned to public schools is now going before an appeals court, a move that could avoid a lengthy trial. It’s a big step forward for plaintiffs Latino Action Network and the NAACP. The groups brought a legal challenge in 2018 to New Jersey’s tradition of assign-

ing children to schools in their residential ZIP code. The plaintiffs allege that residency laws are causing segregation in the state’s public schools. The case has been moving slowly through the courts, with COVID-19 pandemic delays and then a mediation effort that failed to bring the two sides to an agreement. On July 8, Appellate Judge Heidi Currier granted the plaintiffs’ request to appeal an earlier trial court decision. That decision, issued by Superior

Court Judge Robert Lougy in October 2023, agreed with the plaintiffs’ overall charge that public schools in New Jersey are segregated because of residency laws, causing irreparable harm to generations of low-income Black and Latino students who are compelled to attend failing schools within their municipal borders. Lougy stopped short, however, of issuing a summary judgement that would have sided clearly with one party over the other and reduced the likelihood of a

long trial. He also did not hold the state liable for the impacts of “de facto” segregation or order the state to implement remedies. That led the plaintiffs and their attorneys to appeal Lougy’s denial of their request for a summary judgement. The appellate court’s decision to hear the case is a setback for the Murphy administration. Attorney General Matt Platkin’s office, which has defended

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