Contenders:

VersionOne: http://www.versionone.com/ - interfaces to TFS & MS-project

- Replay: http://www.versionone.com/Product/Demo_Center.asp

1. Stories, Sprints, Iteration planning, Tasks and acceptance tests. Tracks features/stories and defects in backlog, drag & drop prioritization, links, attachments, notes, history, configurable statuses, filters, breakdown epics (parent/child relationships) & convert any story into epic. Offers Excel spreadsheet for importing/exporting items into /from the backlog. Capture impediments.
2. Define strategic goals and assign features to a goal, or have feature groups with hierarchies & assign backlog items to a feature group, generate backlog item from request. Editable templates for backlog items, etc.
3. Release planning: Forecasting, team scheduling (drag backlog items to team and view buckets), sprint scheduling, detail planning (item view, with tasks & tests), assignment of owners to tasks (view workload in points & hours).
4. Tracking: Task board (backlog item with drag & drop to "in progress", "completed", etc.) showing all non-closed items, easy to see work remaining (overall or by owner). Can optionally track total time done vs. estimated, and left to do. Can move unfinished tasks forward to next sprint. Capture retrospective info.
5. Project Dashboard & Reports: metrics for projects, iterations or releases. See all projects, child projects, schedule of projects, team members with roles & securities. Can turn on/off fields and configurations. Online help. Community website with videos, knowledgebase, training, product updates, discussion groups, downloads.
6. Integrations: full API and SDK, plus integrations for popular third party tools (Visual Studio, Bugzilla, Jira, Subversion, etc.).

RallyDev: http://www.rallydev.com/ - interfaces to TFS & MS-project

- Info obtained from website and web-based demos (see: http://www.rallydev.com/agile_products/demo_center/)

1. Stories & Sprints: Drag and drop backlog items into sprints (iterations), and rankings (prioritization) of stories. Expand stories to see/create tasks or sub-stories (tree-like structure with parent/child relationships), and see status in spreadsheet-type display. Selectable whether you see only child stories or parents (epics) also (which cannot be scheduled for an iteration). Multi-team groupings of stories. Can have tree structure (parent/child) projects and teams, and control the roll-ups. Burn-down charts.
2. Iteration planning: Developers enter capacity for the sprint, can self-assign tasks, and see if they are over-committed. Enter tasks, assign owners, estimate hours, track discussions, attach docs.
3. Dashboards: Configurable dashboards ("home page") with task, project, or program info, including graphs. Multi-windows docked as desired to display all at once. Can be role-based. Recent activity, blocked, burn-down, in progress work, ready to accept, stories needing estimates, open defects, etc. Show multiple projects on same page. Widgets = queries.
4. Reports: Custom reports designer. Allows "my" reports, shared reports, or share & allow edits. Export reports to csv, jpg, or pdf. Mashups (reports that integrate other tools), including using other customer-developed mashups. Analytics/Metrics and forecasting. Cross-project & roll-up reporting.
5. Deployment: Available as SaaS (hosted in the cloud) or on-site (behind company firewall). 3-levels: Community, Enterprise, Unlimited.

6. Time and Cost Tracking: Track time on task, vacation/PTO, general (meetings), capitalization costs, billable time. Users enter time into timesheet. Custom fields. Reporting. Aggregate timesheets for project. Can be integrated with other apps.
7. Multi-team Program Management: Shows project roll-ups and dependencies. Show project and team hierarchies (ex: multiple scrum teams per project, view all projects within organization, etc.).
8. Screen Capture Tool – good to capture bugs
9. Integrations: Has IDE integration with Visual Studio & TFS out of the box, allowing users to work in TFS and have status info flow into Rally, or can update directly in Rally. IDE integrations to various third-party products & tools. Also SDK toolkit, App catalog (including iPhone app), and web or standard API.
    - Defect Management and Testing: Groups test results and bugs by requirement. Bi-directional integration with HP Quality Center to see test cases (linked to stories) and regression planning. Test results can be seen in Rally dashboard. Runs as Windows service.
    - Product Management Planning via Salesforce.com: Allows customer-provided feedback (feature-requests) to be tracked into a backlog item and build a product roadmap.
    - MS Project integration: Select which artifacts you want to export to an MPX file - by iteration or story - in order to show Gantt charts, etc.
    - MS Visual Studio & TFS integration: Rally's connector is shipped with Visual Studio, so developers can update status on tasks, defects, and source code check-ins within VS & TFS, without opening Rally. TFS items and build status links to Rally dashboards.

10. Company: Many product awards and integrations with many different types of products which support entire lifecycle. Notable customers. Good website with demos.

Cost: $49/user/month. Currently 150 users = $7,350/mo = $88,200/yr.

TargetProcess: http://www.targetprocess.com/ - interfaces with TFS and C# and WebServices API

- http://www.targetprocess.com/product.aspx
- http://www.targetprocess.com/Product/agile_tour.aspx

1. Integration (IDE Plug-in) with MS Visual Studio 2008/2010, TFS, Subversion and many others. Email integration and notifications.
2. Drag and drop. Plan releases and iterations (nice!), filter and prioritize backlog items (story/feature/bug) for release, set iteration length (days) and velocity/capacity (hours), select backlog items for each iteration, make task assignments.
3. Kanban board. Move stories/bugs from planned to closed state using swim lanes (columns), customize states (workflows), set order and limits on states.
4. Track bugs. Specify severity (enhancement is a valid severity) and business value of each bug, assign to person, take screen shots (size window to capture), edit/annotate screen shot (nice!), then submit from within app. P.O. can assign bug to release/iteration. Bug assigned to developer and appears in their ToDo list. QA filters for all "fixed" bugs to test.
5. Manage test cases. Time tracking.
6. People allocation: who is available, who is overloaded, percent allocation, assignments per person.
7. Reports: Progress, QA, people.
8. Customizable process, workflows, fields, lists, terminology (bug vs. defect), and navigation

Costs: $249/user (hosted on own server) + $49/user/yr = $44,700 for 150 users. Or $25/user/month (hosted on TP's servers) = $45,000/yr for 150 users.

ExtremePlanner: http://www.extremeplanner.com/ - Visual Studio plugin

- Tour: http://www.extremeplanner.com/tour/

TeamPulse (from Telerik): http://www.telerik.com/team-productivity-tools.aspx (Note: the CSM product already includes some Telerik controls, DLLs, in it)

- Tour: http://www.telerik.com/team-productivity-tools/support/videos.aspx

AxoSoft OnTime: http://www.axosoft.com/ontime: Webinar

ThoughtWorks Studios: http://www.thoughtworks-studios.com/solutions/application-lifecycle-management

- Webinars: http://www.thoughtworks-studios.com/agile-webinars

Evaluated & Ruled Out

Urban Turtle: http://urbanturtle.com/- interfaces to TFS (actually an integration tool for Team Web Access 2010)

1. Drag and drop: backlog items into sprints (iterations), tasks into stories, update status of tasks (move into new column on taskboard).
2. Expand stories to see/create tasks (color-coded tree-like structure with parent/child relationships). Moving the parent also moves all children.
3. Transition from Proposed (when created) to Active (upon approval) for backlog items – works with MSF 5 Agile template.
4. Taskboard view good for standup meetings.

Impression: Does not offer any features we cannot already simulate in TFS with a report. Does not offer advanced PM/PPM tools and reports.

ScrumWorks: http://www.danube.com/scrumworks/pro/features - does not interface to TFS or Project, has API for users to write their own interface

TeamForge ALM: http://www.collab.net/products/ctf/- interfaces to TFS

- Replay: http://www.collab.net/news/livedemo/replay.html

1. Sponsor of Subversion
2. One DB but each project has own space w/own methods and personal private workspace, but also cross-team visibility, publish data. Role-based permissions on project level.
3. Manage subversion repositories; see changes committed, etc. via SCM tool (source code manager).
4. Tracker tool handles artifacts such as stories, w/custom formats & workflows,
5. Integration w/ test tool Hudson – plug-in, permissions & tracker artifacts flow thru. Difference desktops for Eclipse, Visual Studio, Windows – drag & drop tasks, backlog items, documents
6. Lab mgmt plug-in allows provisioning new servers for dev or test, via web interface.
7. Discussion groups – internal or public-facing, and Wiki w/search capabilities
8. Dynamic planning – agile or other methods:

    a. Planning tree (folders, time boxes, iterations, releases) = time mgmt
    b. Feature tree (tracker artifacts, epics, stories, tasks) = scope mgmt
    c. Mesh of planning & feature trees = the plan
9. Knowledge threading via associations: associate requirement w/ code, w/release note, w/test case, etc. (like links in TFS). Dependencies in parent/child relationships.
10. Email interactions/notifications – subscribe to monitors, email daily or instantly.
11. Define multiple project pages (like dashboards), my projects, my monitors, items assigned to me, etc.
12. See history of builds, build log posts to document mgr

Impression: Poor/limited analytical and reporting features.