

GETZ POKES WINNING RBI, PARENTI GOES 3-FOR-3

Dunellen Hotelmen Top ACI By International Rule, 6-5

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

International Rules ruled in the first game of a double header between the Dunellen Hotel and ACI at Brookside Park in Scotch Plains on Flag Day, June 14. With the game tied at five in regulation, ACI began the eighth inning with a runner on second base but failed to score. The Hotel men, however, managed to bring their base runner home to claim a 6-5 victory in the Scotch Plains Softball League A Division.

Usually a high volume offensive team, the Dunellen Hotel men were not particularly pleased with their hitting but did manage to out-hit ACI, 14-10. Jeff Parenti went 3-for-3, with a pair of RBI singles, and scored once. Leadoff hitter Pete Landis doubled, singled and scored twice

and Tony Vitelli, Sr. doubled, singled and scored twice, including the winning run. Steve Gould went 2-for-3, with an RBI and Keith Getz, who drove in the winning run, had two singles and a run scored.

ACI leadoff hitter Mike McLain provided some power with an RBI triple, a double and an RBI sacrifice fly to deep center. He also scored twice. Jason Weisholtz and Bill Keenan each went 2-for-3 with a run scored and Matt LaCross ripped two singles and scored once. Anthony Miccio had an RBI single and an RBI sac fly and Ray Hall, who made an outstanding, diving catch in the eighth inning, had a single.

ACI opened the scoring in the top of the first when McLain beat out a looping double, moved to third on a fly out and scored on Miccio's sac fly

to leftfield. The Hotelers answered with a run when Landis doubled and scored on Parenti's single to left.

The Hotel men went up 3-1 in the third. Vitelli, Sr. slapped a double down the first baseline, Landis singled, Frank Maggio lofted an RBI sac fly and Parenti hopped an RBI single. In the fifth, ACI's Phil Kowan reached on an error and dashed to third on Weisholtz's single to right but right fielder Vitelli, Jr. grabbed the ball and fired to second to nab Weisholtz, who was hoping to stretch his single to a double.

ACI, however, plated three runs in the sixth to take a 4-3 lead. Keenan singled and slipped to second on a throwing error. McLain bounced his RBI triple off the leftfield fence, Jeff Mayerson walked, Miccio lined an RBI single and LaCross plooped an RBI single. Dunellen Hotel quickly regained the lead with two runs in the lower half of the inning. Getz and Parenti hit back-to-back singles, Bobby Chez (1-for-1) walked, Phil Gentile banged an RBI sac fly and Gould yanked an RBI single.

In the seventh, ACI's Weisholtz slid a single under the outstretched arm of the rightfielder. Keenan ricocheted a single off the pitcher's foot, Hall singled and McLain tied the score with a sac fly to center. The Hotel men went down in order to set up the International Rule situation. With Mayerson on second, ACI went down in order. Hotel man Vitelli, Sr. got his opportunity at second, then tagged up and sped to third on Landis' fly out to right. Maggio was intentionally walked but Getz hopped the winning RBI single over second.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
AGGRESSIVENESS AND INTENSITY...ACI's Jason Weisholtz is tagged out by Hotelman Phil Gentile while trying to stretch a single to a double. Below, Hotelman Pete Landis loops a double to left.



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|----------------|-----|-----|----|---|
| ACI | 100 | 003 | 10 | 5 |
| Dunellen Hotel | 102 | 002 | 01 | 6 |

Scotch Plains Men's Softball Standings:

A DIVISION (June 18):

| TEAM | W | L | T |
|------------------|----|----|---|
| Dunellen Hotel | 10 | 2 | 0 |
| Deegan Roofing | 9 | 3 | 0 |
| Investor Savings | 8 | 4 | 0 |
| ACI | 4 | 8 | 0 |
| Sports Medicine | 3 | 9 | 0 |
| Trinity Electric | 2 | 10 | 0 |

B DIVISION:

| TEAM | W | L | T |
|-------------------|---|---|---|
| Cepp's Vets | 9 | 3 | 0 |
| DJ's Limousine | 8 | 3 | 0 |
| Sofa Kings | 9 | 4 | 0 |
| T&J's | 6 | 4 | 1 |
| Delasal | 5 | 7 | 0 |
| Mortarulo Masonry | 4 | 8 | 0 |
| Hocus Pocus | 2 | 8 | 0 |
| Family Investors | 2 | 8 | 1 |



Fred Lecomte (May, 2006 files) for The Westfield Leader and The Times
VERY RESPECTABLE SEASON ON THE MOUND...Raider pitcher Elaine Piniat struck out 198 batters in 155 innings and walked only 14, while recording a 0.72 ERA this season. The Raider girls finished with a 17-8 season and played in the Union County semifinals against Governor Livingston.

Lady Raider Softballers End Season With a 17-8 Record

By FRED LECOMTE
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Finishing with a 17-8 record may have been a little less than what the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls' softball team expected but it certainly was not a disappointing season. Head Coach Kelli Covert, during pre-season, stated that the strength for this team included a wealth of veteran experience and that they could be contenders for county and sectional honors.

"We were successful in meeting our team goals. We knew we could make counties and states and we did," said Covert. "We made it to the semifinals of counties and second round of states."

The Raiders jelled as a team to amass an 11-0 start, including victories over Cranford, Westfield, Linden and Watchung Hills. Late in the season, the team took their lumps when they could not manufacture productive hits against some of the same teams to pull out a victory.

Seeded second in the Union County Tournament (UCT), the Raiders topped Roselle in the quarterfinals, then dropped a dramatic, 12-inning, 1-0 decision to Governor Livingston

in the semifinals on May 20. Less than a week later, Nutley capitalized on Raider miscues and walked away with a 3-0 victory in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 Tournament.

"It was disappointing, but my girls were happy with their season," said Covert. "I have a great time every day with these girls. I feel lucky to get to spend so much time with them."

There will be a loss next year from four fine seniors; shortstop Melissa Sette, centerfielder Kelli Kaskiw, rightfielder Lauren Benovengo and pitcher Elaine Piniat, who all displayed leadership and influence and became some of Union County's most respected players.

On the mound, Piniat (16-7) recorded a 0.72 ERA and had a fielding percentage of .925. Mastering her control, she yielded 98 hits and 14 walks in 155 innings, while striking out 198 batters. At the plate, she rapped 20 hits, including one triple and two doubles, had 22 RBI and scored 11 runs.

Sette led the team with a .481 BA, with two triples and five doubles, scored 24 runs and had 11 RBI. Finishing with a .912 fielding percentage, Sette blossomed very well and

carried the Raiders defensively at the shortstop position.

"Not only could she go left and right, she can move up and back and has a great range," said Covert.

Benovengo had a .254 BA, with three triples, six runs scored and seven RBI. Kaskiw batted .296, with one home run, one triple and six doubles, scored 11 runs and had 17 RBI. The speedy and sure-handed centerfielder led the team with a 1.000 fielding percentage.

"She is simply amazing," said Covert. "You know if the ball goes her way, she will get to it. She will be missed next year."

All-Union County standout catcher Lauren Mains had a .325 BA with 12 runs scored, three homers, one triple, three doubles and 27 RBI. The junior was quite effective in her catching position at .923 and nailed six of 10 thieves.

"We depend on Mains both behind the plate and at the plate. She has a lot of power and does a great job," said Covert.

Sophomore third baseman/leadoff batter Nicole Colineri finished with a .244 BA, 20 runs, three doubles, two

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