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YANG, GIALLUISI EXCEL ON MOUND; SCHWARTZ, GIALLUISI, LANZA UNLOAD OFFENSIVELY

Westfield 10s Find Openings, Rock Cranford Cougars, 17-2

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Five infield singles combined with several hard shots to the outfield and nine walks, along with superb pitching performances from starter Kevin Yang and reliever Mark Gialluisi led to a 17-2 Westfield victory over the Cranford Cougar 10s in Central Jersey League play at Memorial Field Complex in Cranford on July 17.

In his three innings on the mound, Yang allowed two runs and four hits, while hitting three

batters and striking out three. Gialluisi pitched the fourth inning and retired all three Cougars that he faced.

"Kevin Yang had an unbelievable first three innings. He looked fantastic, kept the ball low, a lot of ground balls. Cranford is a good baseball team. Very good baseball team! They are a much better team than that score. I wasn't expecting this big margin that we had. [I am] proud of the boys, having a great season, a lot of fun. It's all about them. It's all about them," Westfield Head

Coach Pete Gialluisi said.

Dan Abrahamsen, Will Gallagher, Jake Chapman, Dan DeMarco and Jake Lies shared the pitching duties for the Cougars. Lukas Ruby (2-for-2) had half of the Cougars' hits and added an RBI. DeMarco rapped an RBI single and scored a run, and Connor Baratta cracked a double and scored once. Lies, Abrahamsen and Gallagher were hit-by-a-pitch.

Jake Lanza was one of Westfield's offensive leaders with a double and two singles, three RBI and two runs scored in his three at-bats. Walter Schwartz also went 3-for-3 with a double, two RBI and three runs scored.

Gialluisi hammered a three-run double, walked and scored once. Aidan Scheper went 2-for-2 with a walk, an RBI and a run scored. Steve Angeli singled twice, scored once and had an RBI.

Jack Barker and Mike McKenna each had an RBI single and scored once. Yang, Ryan Friedberg and Aidan Kearny each walked twice and scored twice. Evan Tompkins had an RBI and scored once, and James Haley popped up to second and hit a grounder back to the mound.

"One through 12 hit the ball unbelievably today. Playing in that state tournament, we saw some real good pitching. Here we saw good pitching again. We

just have hot bats right now," Coach Gialluisi said.

Westfield began modestly with a run in the top of the first inning. Schwartz whacked a leadoff single, advanced to second on a passed ball and later scored on an errant throw in an effort to nail him at third. Cranford offered a threat in the bottom of the inning with Ruby on second and Abrahamsen on first, but Yang fanned the next batter to escape the inning.

The big breakaway came in the second and eight Blue Devils danced across the plate. Five of the runs were a result of Schwartz's two-run double and Gialluisi's three-run double. Angeli and McKenna also had RBI in the inning.

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