

WF White Blanks Cranford, 10-1

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

sacrifice fly and scored on a sacrifice fly by Justin Vanstenbridge.

"I stayed with the fast ball and kept it low so they could not hit it out of the park. Having never done this before it really feels great," said Murray.

Westfield increased the lead to 4-1 in the fifth. Hartzell hopped a single, advanced on a pass ball and scored on a sacrifice by Justin White. Zach Bault singled to right and later scored on Murray's sac fly.

The Westfield bats sparked in the sixth with six runs. Granstand smashed an RBI double. Hartzell cranked an RBI single and swiped a base. Younger yanked a two-run double to right. White took one for the team and Archambault looped a single. Murray followed with an RBI single. Reilly finished the scoring with bases loaded single.

"We're a split team from two balanced Westfield 'A' teams, so we're twelve of the best twenty four kids in town. Our strength always has been defense and pitching and we've hit over the years, but today you saw an example of perfect defense," said Westfield White manager Leo White. "Our pitcher threw a no-hitter and the team supported him behind it. We had timely hitting, so we put all three aspects of the game together today."

Westfield	020 -026	10
Cranford	010 000	0

Westfield 12U's Open Season with Two Wins

The Westfield 12U American League Girls Softball team opened its Parkway League season by defeating Hillsborough, 19-2, and Cranford, 2-1.

Against Hillsborough, Joelle Cancellieri and Jackie LaSpata split the pitching teaming up for 10 K's and allowed only two hits in the five-inning game, receiving great catching from Bridget Gallagher and Liz Penczak. Nikki Aronson ignited the offense with three hits, a walk, and five RBI. LaSpata scored four runs while Rosa Graziadei, Cancellieri, Jess Mondon, Diana Venezia, Maddie DeJohn and Sam Cruz each scored twice.

Against Cranford, Cancellieri pitched a three-hit, 11 strikeout complete game while also scoring the winning run. Cranford scored in the first and Westfield struck back in the third with a double from Venezia and a clutch two-out single from Mondon, who along with LaSpata had two hits.

The highlight of the game came in the bottom of the sixth. With Cranford threatening the Blue Devils turned a 1-6-3 double play Cancellieri to Venezia to Graziadei.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
HIGH LEG KICK...Westfield pitcher Nathaniel Ward gets a high leg kick as he makes his delivery against Scotch Plains.

SPF Blue Nip Westfield Gray In Cal Ripken Tourney, 7-5

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

was solid in centerfield and catcher Alex Luzzi recorded a gun down of a runner attempting to steal second.

"He's amazing," Raider Head Coach Rob Howarth said of Dougher. "Our third baseman is not allowed to take more than one step because we want Dougher to make the play. He's very coachable."

With respect to John Howarth, coach Howarth smiled and said, "He has a pretty good gun back there when he stays focused."

Westfield pitchers Streaman, Ward and Brian Duffy recorded a total of five strikeouts and allowed seven walks. Raider pitchers Ezra Klenow, Howarth, Sebastian Rosen and John Foti recorded a total of seven strikeouts and yielded six walks.

The Raiders plated three runs in the top of the second inning. With Howarth, Butler and Berwick on board, Gonzales walked to bring home Howarth then Loshiaivo lashed a two-run single to right field. In the third, the Raiders took a 4-0 lead when Dougher scored on a wild pitch. Westfield responded with a run when Randazzo scored on Levine's double to center.

In the fourth, Loshiaivo scored on Dougher's bouncer back to the mound but Westfield broke out with four runs in the fifth to tie the score. Steinfeld, Ward, Chohey and Santiago all tapped RBI singles.

Westfield dodged the bullet in the

top of the sixth when the Raiders had the bases loaded with no outs, but failed to score. Levine stepped to the plate in the bottom of the inning and launched a shot toward the right field fence but Butler, in full flight, grabbed it for the out, eventually sending the game into extra innings where Loshiaivo got his opportunity to win the game, and did, with a two-run single to right.

"He got a bead on it and reached up there on a full stride and caught it. A lot of kids can't catch the ball on a full stride. That could have ended the ball game. It was the turning point," said Coach Howarth who added, "He's (Loshiaivo) been coming up big for me all season. He has been hitting the ball hard."

"No question! That catch that their right fielder made was, I think, the difference in the game. That would have been a double and we probably would have won the game right then," said Westfield Head Coach Brian Levine.

Also listed on the Raiders' roster were Dan Campbell, Matthew Alfano and Nicholas Sebelao. Ricky Nugent and Brian Montero also played for Westfield.

"I think the kids at this age are just out having fun and playing baseball," said coach Levine. "That's the most important thing."

SPF Blue	031 100 2	7
Westfield Gray	001 040 0	5

HAGGERTY HITS GRAND SLAM, 6 RBI; CARROLL HRS

SPF Dempsey 9 Erupt Early, Topple Westfield White, 11-6

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

The Scotch Plains Dempsey baseball team advanced to the championship round of the Cal Ripken District 12 Tournament by defeating Westfield White, 11-6, in the finals of the winners bracket at Booth Field in Scotch Plains on July 10. Westfield refused to let an early 10-run deficit get to them as they battled back in every inning.

Scotch Plains Dempsey's Ryan Haggerty brought six teammates across the plate with a two-run double and a grand slam home run and Joseph Carroll ripped a single and triggered a two-run homer. Connor Thompson thumped a two-run single and Anthony Scalfaro rapped an RBI single.

Westfield totaled 10 hits led by Tim Younger who went 3-for-3 with an RBI. Zack Archambault worked a bases-loaded walk. Steve Reiss rapped an RBI single and Justin White whacked two singles.

Both teams exhibited some fine defensive plays. Westfield first baseman Nick Matthews showed the strength of his arm with a gun to the plate in the first inning. Younger made two slick scoops at short in the third and Archambault executed a dirt-eating snag at second in the fourth. Scotch Plains third baseman Michael Perez was involved in two putouts in the second and centerfielder Alex Graham made a major league grab and quickly tossed home to hold the runners in the sixth.

"Westfield is a great defensive ball club. They beat us last year in two straight games, 3-1. Therefore we knew we had to out-hit them if we were to beat them. The difference today was that we accomplished that," said team manager Michael Dempsey. "As far as our pitching, it continues to be our strong point. They struggled somewhat catching the ball however the defense backed them up. It was a total team effort."

Scotch Plains scored six runs in the bottom of the second on Haggerty's two-run double, Thompson's two-run single to center and Carroll's two-run bomb that sailed over the centerfield fence.

"We just started hitting constantly the last couple of games," said Carroll. "Our hitting has been getting better and more consistent every game. Their pitcher threw a change-up as his first pitch to every one of our batters, so I was expecting it to come and it did. I waited and thumped it out there."

Westfield scored a run in third when White singled and scored on Younger's single. Scotch Plains added five runs

in the bottom of the third. Sean Reilly, Brian Dempsey and Michael Spaeth each singled and Nowell Whitehouse added an RBI bunt single. Haggerty followed with his grand slam over the leftfield fence.

"I was psyched for the game because I really wanted to win," said Haggerty. "I was sure I was going to get a hit because I knew that he was going to throw me a change up. It really felt great."

Westfield loaded the pods in the fourth and scored two runs on two hits.

Steve Reiss scuffed the plate on a bases loaded walk. Younger drilled a two-out single to center.

In the true "never give up" American spirit, Westfield combined four singles to trample the plate with two runs in the sixth to cut Scotch Plains lead to 11-6, however Graham in center made a nice snag and fired home to hold the runners in check. Thompson on the mound, answered with a soft toss to Carroll for the final out.

Westfield	001 212	6
SPF	065 00x	11



Fred K. Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times
GETTING IT DONE...SPF Dempsey pitcher Alex Graham tossed 29 pitches in three innings of work and limited Westfield White to two hits.

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