

N. Elizabeth Nips WF White In Cal Ripken 12s Semis, 7-5

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North Elizabeth added some emphasis in the third with Santiago's two-run homer to left, then Westfield took a 3-2 lead in the fourth when Varakian, who singled, alertly scored when Harris was involved in a rundown play at second. Elizabeth took a 4-3 lead in the fifth on Bone's two-run single.

Santiago strutted to the mound to relieve in the fifth and confronted the Westfield boys with a blazing fastball. Westfield resorted to a "Billy Ball" style of bunts and crafty base running to regain the lead, 5-4, but, in the top of the sixth, Elizabeth took advantage of two Westfield errors and added two singles to score three runs. Westfield managed to load the bases

with two outs in the bottom of the inning, but a grounder back to the mound ended the game.

"We laid down key bunts when we needed to. He threw very hard. Some of our guys couldn't get the bat around, so we had our number-three hitter lay down a bunt to tie up the game. We hung in there. We battled back. Unfortunately, things didn't go our way. We made a couple of mistakes in the field and it cost us the game," said Coach Mondon. "The Elizabeth kids were big and strong. They were throwing heat. They were a great team. They put it together!"

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|--------------|-----|-----|---|
| N. Elizabeth | 002 | 023 | 7 |
| West. White | 200 | 120 | 5 |



SAFE AT THIRD...SPF Raider Ian Johnston slides safely into third base in the first inning against Cranford.

Cranford 12s Stop SPF, 10-4, In Ripken District 12 Tourney

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walloped a solo homer and an RBI single. Vinny Colineri crushed a solo homer and tapped a single. Robert Jotantos rapped two singles and Eric Gargiulo and Peter Hopkins both singled and scored a run, while Brent Caramanica, Kurt Rutmayer and Robert Mullens singled. Steven Guariello scored a run.

"We haven't been hitting well for a couple of weeks. We haven't had this many runs, probably, in four straight games," said Coach Gargiulo. "This was a good comeback game where everybody started hitting up and down the lineup. It was good timing, single elimination here, so we continue to play."

"They definitely got the bat on the ball. All our pitchers exhausted their

arms and we had a couple of mental errors out there, but overall, they played a great game against us," said Scotch Plains-Fanwood Head Coach Mike Nizolak of Cranford's success at the plate.

To their credit, Raider pitchers Daly, Kovacs, Mineo and Nizolak yielded only one walk and a hit batter, while Cougar pitchers Colaneri, Hopkins and Gargiulo combined for five strikeouts, while walking four and hitting three batters.

The Raiders scored first in the bottom of the first when Johnston, who walked, scored on Mineo's RBI single to left. Highlighted by Mason's RBI double and a few fielding miscues, the Cougars took a 3-1 lead in the second, but the Raiders answered with two runs in the bottom of the inning when Kovacs blasted his two-run homer.

Colaneri and DaSilva whacked solo homers high into the trees past centerfield to put the Cougars on top 5-3 in the third but Krajcsik scored in the bottom of the inning for the Raiders. The remainder of the offense belonged to the Cougars, with RBI from Pytlowany and DaSilva in the fourth and Pytlowany's three-run shot in the fifth.

"We had a couple of timely hits. The kids had a fun time today then we are off to the next game," said Coach Nizolak.

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|-----------------|-----|-----|----|
| Cranford | 032 | 230 | 10 |
| Sc. Pl.-Fanwood | 121 | 000 | 4 |

Deegan Roofing Softballers Win Dick Archer Tournament

Deegan Roofing of Scotch Plains won the Ninth Annual Dick Archer Tournament played in Warinanco Park in Roselle on May 21. Deegan Roofing scored over 100 runs in five games, with three of the five games ending by the fifth innings due to a 15-run mercy rule.

Deegan Roofing was organized by manager Keith Gibbons of Westfield. Gibbons' strategy is to combine the power, speed and enthusiasm of youth with the experience, intelligence and finesse of seasoned veteran players.

"Besides myself, we have three other players over 50-years-old. Frank Bender, Tom Straneiro and our eldest member Frank Pepe," stated Gibbons.

Kevin Woodring, Mike Parkhill, Matt Walsh and Scotch Plains Mayor Marty Marks in the outfield. These guys play with us in our leagues and are the nucleus of our outfield, all quick with strong arms and great hitters, as you can tell by our run production. We put it all together by having the hard-hitting brother combination of Pete and Dan Samila in the power holes of our line up, they hit tape measure shots throughout the day, along with playing infield roles. Pat Nigro is our catcher and runs the team on the field. Pat has a strong bat and probably our best opposite field hitter. The team was rounded out with the youngest mem-



IN A TOUGH SITUATION...Westfield's Ryan Elliott, No. 13, gets caught up in a rundown between third and home in the fifth inning.



DICK ARCHER CHAMPS...Deegan Roofing of Scotch Plains won the Ninth Annual Dick Archer Softball Tournament on May 21. Pictured, left to right, are: kneeling; Frank Pepe and Pat Nigro; middle, Union County Umpire Bill Smith, Raphael, Kevin Woodring and Keith Gibbons; back row, Mike Parkhill, Marty Marks, Pete and Dan Samila, Zambrano, Eddy Kinchin, Dave and Matt Walsh.

We know each other from playing Senior Union County and tournament softball for New Jersey teams and we often travel together around the country. We all contribute to the team differently; Bender can hit the long ball with the younger guys. Tommy and Pep are table setters and can still make defensive plays in the infield and I pitch and have a good bat."

According to Gibbons, "We are fortunate to have some excellent young talent on the team, including

bers providing more power and speed, including Raphael Zambrano, Eddy Kinchin and Dave."

Gibbons added, "Including myself, Pep, Straneiro, Woodring and a few others, we won two years ago under different sponsorship. Pep ran that team and I pitched. It's nice to play for a worthy cause, although this year it was a little more special. In the second inning of our third game, Pep got the call. He became first-time grandfather, that day!"



VERY PRODUCTIVE DAY AT THE PLATE...Cranford's Tim Mason slides safely into second under the tag of SPF's Don Nizolak. Mason went 4-for-4 with a double, three runs scored and an RBI.

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