



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
 GIVING THE BALL A GOOD RIDE TO LEFT...American Legion slugger Tony Williams launches a long two-run triple to leftfield. Williams added two more singles to leftfield against KMD Tuning of Mountainside.

T. WILLIAMS RIPS 2-RUN TRIPLE, STRANIERO 4-HITS

Legionnaires Ambush KMD In UC Sr. 50+ Softball, 18-3

By DAVID B. CORBIN
 Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times
 KMD Tuning of Mountainside brought an undermanned contingent to Memorial Field in Westfield on July 12 and a vicious American Legion battalion took advantage of the shortage with an 18-3 ambush in Union County Senior 50+ Softball League action. The Legionnaires

shelled KMD's open areas in the outfield with 29 hits, which included two triples and two doubles.
 Legionnaire Tom Straniero (4-for-4, 4 runs scored) keyed in on the sun glared right field vulnerability and whacked three one-run singles and a triple.
 Legionnaire manager Keith Gibbons, still on the injury list, wanted some of his personnel to be merciful

but the right-handed Straniero answered, "The pitcher was throwing the ball outside."
 However, Legionnaire Tony Williams (2 runs scored), who cracked all three of his hits, which included a two-run triple and an RBI single, to leftfield commented, "I won't hit to right. That's not fair!"
 Legionnaire Frank Pepe hit all three of his singles to leftfield and scored twice. Brian Williams poked three one-run singles and scored once, Ed Belford (run scored, 2 RBI) took advantage of the sun glare on the first of his three hits and lefty Karl Grossmann went 3-for-3, including a double, had an RBI and scored all three times. Bill Reichle (run scored), Steve Ferro (run scored) and Tom Lombardi each had two hits and an RBI, Bill Mirtio singled twice and

PORCHETTA, DEFOUW, COLWELL RAP 2 RBI APIECE

SP-F Blue 9s Top WF White In Ripken Quarterfinals, 7-2

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

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood (SPF) Blue baseball team (4-0) marched to the 9-year-old Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken District 12 Tournament championships with a 7-3 victory over Westfield White at Booth Field in Scotch Plains on July 12.

SPF starting pitcher Connor McSherry tossed a five-hitter, fanned three and permitted no walks. Matt Heath finished with a two-hitter, struck out six and walked one in his three innings on the mound. Leadoff batter Bryce Weisholtz scored after swiping three bases, then singled and scored another run. Anthony Porchetta (2-for-3) and Jack DeFouw each rapped two-run doubles. Tyler O'Brien hauled in a screamer at third base and Porchetta made a splendid stop of a sizzling liner at short and

were awarded free passes. DeFouw drilled a single and scored a run, Parker Hess (2-for-3) singled and scored on Owen Colwell's two-RBI double. Oberman and Daniel Criscuolo each contributed singles and swiped a pair of bases. Defensively, third baseman Tyler O'Brien threw out a potential base theft in the first and Criscuolo made two sparkling plays at second base.

"You know, as a coach, instruction at nine years old is everything. We're playing a lot of competitive games with three of our last four losses have been extra inning losses. Obviously winning is fun, but you can learn from losing too," said Coach Mike Murray. "We got the kids up there, we're lining their knuckles up, we're having them keep their head down, trying to stay back on pitches. In the field, we're trying to get them to stay

were awarded free passes. DeFouw smoked a bases loaded two-run double and Weisholtz floated an RBI sac fly.

"We have always been very aggressive. We're very smart on the base paths. You mix that with good hitting by Porchetta and DeFouw, you get those runs in and that's how you win baseball games," said Coach Weisholtz.

In the third, small ball and finesse base running came into play for White. Stern drilled a leadoff single, successfully stole second and drew an overthrow to third, and scored on Owen Murray's single to right. Hess punched a single to center and Colwell smacked a two-run double.

SPF answered with three runs in the third. O'Brien and Heath both walked and Porchetta cracked a two-run double, advanced and scuffed the plate from third.



Fred K. Lecomte for The Westfield Leader and The Times
 NO STOPPING THIS GUY...Coming in hard on SP-F Blue catcher Joey Cianciotta and scoring on Anthony Porchetta's double is Westfield Blue Parker Hess. Additionally the shortstop rapped a single in both the third and fifth inning.

fired in time to Weisholtz at second. "Definitely pitching, defense! There were a couple of blemishes in the middle innings but the kids held it together. They were business-like in their approach and I could not be more proud of them," said SPF Head Coach Jason Weisholtz. "I told them before the game starts, first pitch strikes. Connor and Matthew are both capable of doing so. It was their turn. I wanted them in there and there is no one better than those two in that spot. Fortunately we're deep in pitching with eight arms I can go to."

WF White starting pitcher Justin Lin allowed three runs on three hits, struck out one and walked five in two innings. Lefty Rowen Oberman permitted only two hits, fanned six bat-

down, make the play, catch the ball first then complete the play by making the throw. It's all about building little things from the ground up. This is a great group of kids. They listen really well. I have three fantastic coaches with me. We work together as a team. You said it earlier: it's about the camaraderie. We're very cohesive and we've been that way since day one. Scotch Plains is a very, very talented team. They're very well coached and that's the kind of team I feel our team needs to keep up with."

SPF's first run came in the bottom of the first when Weisholtz worked a walk performed his three acts of thievery. Blue took a 4-0 lead in the second. Porchetta doubled to centerfield. Joey Cianciotta and George Leighting

"This is my first year coaching in Westfield. I have been a fan for the past five years. It's great and enjoyable to be involved with the program and the community," concluded Coach Murray. "These kids get very, very excited to see themselves in your newspaper. You and Dave (Corbin, Sports Editor) talk about them. Their pictures are in the paper and in no small measure that is something that they take great pride in. To have your hometown paper come out and take great professionals like you guys to have this kind of interest and give them that kind of coverage. It's about them feeling good about the game and knowing that they're doing something worthwhile."

Westfield White 003 000 3
 Sc. Pl.-Fanwood 133 00x 7

S. Pl. Men's Softball League Standings:

A DIVISION (As of July 12):

TEAM	W	L	T
Outsiders	11	1	1
Investors Savings	13	2	
Deegan Roofing	8	6	1
SJI Industries	6	7	
Pav-Con	3	12	
ACI	0	13	

B DIVISION:

TEAM	W	L
Cepp's	13	5
DJ's Limo	13	6
Sofa Kings	12	7
Hocus Pocus	11	7
Delasal	10	9
T&J's	8	11
Val Decorators	7	11
Family Investors	0	18

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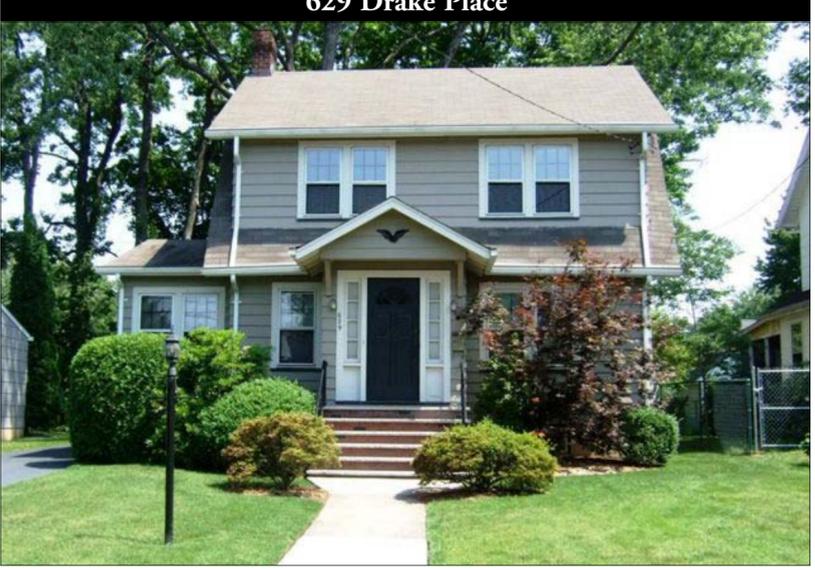
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