

***BOLEY, ROOT PREVAIL ON MOUND FOR FIVE-HITTER; HUMISTON DOUBLE, SINGLE, RBI*****Westfield White 11s Silence Berkeley Heights on July 4**By **DAVID B. CORBIN***Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times*

Sparks did come off the "metal sticks" of the Westfield White 11-year-old baseball team, but strong pitching performances from Blue Devils Sean Boley and Sean Root silenced the potentially dangerous bats of Berkeley Heights in a 10-0 victory at Gumbert 2 Field in Westfield on Independence Day.

Boley pitched the first two innings, allowing two hits, while walking none. Root started in the third inning and allowed only one hit in each of his three innings on the mound, while walking none.

"It was a really good performance. We had a tough game last night. I was concerned that there would be a little letdown after a tough win last night, but they played great," Westfield Head Coach Steve Root said.

To Berkeley Heights' credit, the little Highlanders struck out only once.

"We have done a lot of batting practice lately to avoid strikeouts. We did have only one strikeout, which I am very proud of them for," Highlander Head Coach Joe Graziano said.

Highlanders Ryan Davey, Jamie Murray, Damon Ippolito, Colin Dooley and Aaron Schwarz each had a base hit in the five-inning game. Andy Serretti, Tommy Martin and Anthony Graziano each had two plate appearances,

while Noah Harder, David Vill and Noah Truncala each had one plate appearance.

Westfield White totaled nine hits and every batter had either a hit, walked or scored a run.

Matt Leone had a pair of RBI singles and scored twice in his three at-bats. JA Humiston doubled, had an RBI single and scored twice in his three at-bats. Thomas Colicchio went 2-for-3

sacrifice fly. Jack Cushing walked twice and scored once. Dylan Alfano singled, and Jake Saltzer scored once. Root walked and swiped a base.

"Their bats have been great all

Coach Root said.

Berkeley Heights pulled off two particularly fine defensive plays. In the third inning, shortstop Ryan Davey used his range to field a grounder up the middle and fired to first base for the out. In the fourth, Graziano sprinted to chase down a difficult fly ball in centerfield.

"We had two good defensive plays today that let us extend the game a little bit longer. Unfortunately we were on the short end of the stick, but these guys worked hard. The Fourth of July is always a good day to get out and play baseball," Coach Graziano said.

Westfield White got its bats sparking in the bottom of the first inning to ignite a three-run assault. Colicchio slashed a single to right field, stole second and slipped to third on a wild pitch. Cushing walked and stole second. After Colicchio scored on another wild pitch, Humiston and Leon ripped back-to-back RBI singles.

Berkeley Heights' best threat came in the second inning when Murray and Ippolito each singled but both were left stranded. Westfield White answered with two more runs on two hits to take a 5-0 lead. In the third, DeRosa's sacrifice fly scored Leone.

In the bottom of the fourth, Saltzer reached base safely and dashed to second on a wild pitch. Boley chopped an RBI single and advanced all the way to third on a throw to the plate. Colicchio added an RBI groundout to second. Humiston doubled to left. Leone looped an RBI single over first base and later scored on DeRosa's single to left to give Westfield a 10-0 lead.



David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader and The Times*  
SLIDING INTO SECOND BASE WITH A DOUBLE...Westfield White's JA Humiston, No. 2, slides into second base with a double in the fourth inning against Berkeley Heights at Gumbert 2 Field in Westfield on July 4.

with an RBI and scored twice. Boley had an RBI single and scored twice. Thomas DeRosa had an RBI single and an RBI

season. We have been hitting the ball really well top to bottom. I keep trying to tell them to be patient at the plate, take a lot of pitches, and when they see one they can drive, they can rip it,"

***Probitas Verus Honos*****BALLYHOO**

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