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David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**GETTING BACK TO FIRST IN TIME...**Westfield White's Jack Love, No. 10, dives back to first base before Springfield's Daniel Madden can get the ball. Westfield White stopped Springfield, 10-0, at Gumbert 2 Field in Westfield on July 7.

**REVER, MURPHY COMBINED FOR TWO-HIT SHUTOUT**

**WF White 12s Grab 10-0 Win Over Springfield in 5 Innings**

By DAVID B. CORBIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Fresh off a wonderful experience at Cooperstown, the Westfield White 12U baseball team and coaches quickly refocused and claimed a 10-0, five inning victory over Springfield at Gumbert 2 Field in Westfield on July 7.

While at Cooperstown, the Westfield White had the opportunity to compete against some of the finest teams in their age group from across the country, including as far west as California.

"It was a fantastic trip. The team played against some really tough competition, and they did a great job while they were there. They were happy to have played," said Westfield Coach Rich Pardo, who added with a chuckle. "A bunch of them were taller than I am and a few of them had mustaches to boot."

*Probitas Verus Honos*

"There were a lot of differences. We were allowed to use the big barrel bats up in Cooperstown. Now we went back to the regular bats that they are used to, so we wanted to make sure that the kids are keeping their normal swing. But I think the other big thing was we wanted to make sure we are going to keep playing our level of competition. We want to make sure we play our game then we will be fine," Coach Dave White said.

Against Springfield, Westfield White pitchers Zach Rever and Colin Murphy combined for a two-hit shutout. Rever pitched the first three innings, allowed one single and walked no one, while striking out four. Murphy tossed the final two innings, allowing just one single and a walk, while striking out three.

"We had Murphy and Rever out there and they throw a lot of strikes. Rever really mixes it up a lot then Murph comes in. When you throw strikes in the summer league, they got guys behind them making plays. It's that simple. But they really know

how to mix it up with different speeds to confuse the batters," Coach Chris Love said.

Darren Teixeira and Jacob Pereira had Springfield's only hits, and Teixeira drew the only walk.

In the meantime, Westfield White was making contact with the ball, and leadoff hitter Jack Love rapped an RBI single and a double, while scoring twice and drawing a free pass. Luke Pardo also went 2-for-2 with a walk, an RBI and two runs scored. Murphy singled, scored once and had

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*D. Blair Corbin's*

Blue Devils Raiders

**Walk Down Memory Lane**



Taken from the archives of *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* — www.goleader.com

**July 7, 2012:** Seven games in Cooperstown did not seem to slow down the Westfield Blue 12-year-old baseball team. After one day's rest, the Blue put together a strong pitching performance, assisted by fine defensive plays to go with an offensive assault to defeat Summit, 9-4, at Gumbert 3 Field.

Starter Ryan Chirichella pitched three shutout innings, allowing four hits and no walks, while striking out four batters. Jack Johnson went 2-for-2, which included an RBI double, a walk and three runs scored. Jake Obgarten delivered two singles, an RBI and a run scored.

**July 9, 2011:** Opportunities knocked and the Westfield Blue 12s took full advantage of them, plating

two runs in the fourth inning and five more in the fifth to break open a tight game en route to a 9-3 victory over the South Orange/Maplewood Villagers in Central Jersey All-Star League action at Gumbert 2 Field in Westfield. The Blue kept the Villagers in check with the effectiveness of starting pitcher Victor Cruz and reliever Matt LaCorte. In his three innings, Cruz allowed six hits and two runs but yielded no walks, while striking out three. LaCorte pitched three innings of no-hit ball, fanned three and walked one Villager, who managed to score in the sixth inning.

**July 8, 2010:** It was not exactly a loitering situation, but the Sofa Kings were caught lounging by the Stage House, 11-3, in the first game of a double header in Scotch Plains Men's Softball League action at Jerseyland Field. "Mr. Hustle", Scotty Savarese led the trampling with a pair of singles

and a double, with four RBI and a run scored. Veteran Mark Nies lashed two doubles and a single, scored twice and added an RBI. Brian Dayton also went 3-for-3, with a double, a run scored and an RBI.

**July 10, 2009:** Four home runs, a triple and eight doubles set the pace for a wild baseball game that concluded with the Westfield White 11s holding off a valiant comeback from the Cranford Cougars to claim a 15-9 victory at Gumbert Field. Westfield White's victory evened the face-to-face battles between the two rivals at two games apiece.

Chris Rinaldi cleared the bases with a grand slam home run, scored twice and added a fifth RBI to Westfield's 14-hit attack. Nick Mele hammered a two-run homer and Vince DiFilippo drilled a solo blast, added a single and scored twice. Cougar Brandon Kane (2 RBI) started their scoring with a solo homer to center. Sean Leahey (RBI) went 2-for-2 with a pair of doubles and two runs scored. Chris Szekeres (run scored) rapped a pair of doubles and had three RBI.

**July 5, 2008:** Westfield White cashed in on a pair of walks followed by wild pitches and got a key double play at the right time to nip the Westfield Blue, 4-2, in the semifinals of the Cal Ripken District 12 10-year-old tournament at Booth Field in Scotch Plains. Westfield White shortstop Christian Rinaldi came up

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VERY CLOSE PLAY AT HOME BASE...Westfield White 11s catcher Brett Robertshaw puts the tag on Cranford Cougar Alex Beato as he slides home in the fourth inning at Gumbert Field on July 10, 2009.

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