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RINALDI SLASHES 2-RBI TRIPLE, PATTERSON 2 SINGLES, 3 RBI; TIBBALS TRIPLES, SCORES

Westfield 14U Girls Rumble by N. Edison in Softball, 7-4

By DAVID B. CORBIN

Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

North Edison scored four runs in the top of the fifth inning and appeared to be on the verge of victory, but the Westfield 14U girls regained their composure to plate three in the bottom of the inning and another three in the sixth to emerge with a 7-4 win in Parkway Invitational Softball League action at Memorial Field 2 in Westfield on July 22.

"We started out 2-4 and now we won three games in a row. I think this game is a sign of their

maturity. They really came together as a team. They didn't panic. The left the panic up to me," chuckled Westfield Head Coach Tony Borg.

Both teams' pitchers made it difficult for each teams' batters and Maria Panarese took to the mound first for Westfield and tossed shutout ball until she ran into difficulty in that fifth inning. Muriel Maloney relieved with two out in the fifth and pitched the remainder of the way, allowing just two singles, no runs and no walks, while striking out four.

Jessica Jason pitched the first five innings for North Edison and permitted only one run and two hits in the first four innings, while walking two, until she gave up the three runs in the fifth. Emily Tavares pitched the sixth inning, yielding three runs, on two hits, a walk and a hit batter. Interestingly, Westfield had only one strikeout.

"We try to get them to be patient, but we also try to get them to be aggressive at the right time and get on base. They had good pitching. The second pitcher threw hard and the first pitcher threw us off-balance a little bit, so we had to adjust, and we did," Coach Borg said.

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