

Blue Devils Hold Off Raiders in Sectional Semi

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game and allowed only two hits, while walking four and striking out eight Blue Devils. Reliever Pat Cuccurullo faced three batters and walked one.

The 10-11 Blue Devils' first key defensive play came in the bottom of the first inning. Raider Willy Gale beat out an infield single then stole second base. After Carlone struck out Jonny Ramos, Dean Kirian walked. Mike Dieu (2-for-3) rapped a single to right. The relay from right-fielder Christian Ho went to Carlone, who noticed that Gale was midway between third and home. As Gale juked toward third, a rundown ensued. Carlone tossed to Victor Coustan at third who then fired to catcher Mike

The Raiders were on the verge of answering offensively in the bottom of the fourth. Tyler Stines (2-for-3) sizzled a leadoff single past short then Chris Smith looped a one-out single over short. But when Dallas Lorenzetti rapped a hard grounder to short, Caminiti scooped it and fired to second baseman Christian Pansini, who turned and fired to Kohler at first to complete an inning-ending double play.

"That hurt! Dallas Lorenzetti hit it. He hit the ball hard. There's nothing else we could ask him to do but hit the ball hard. Hats off to them. They still had to make those plays and they made them," Coach Higgins said.

popped just in front of the left-centerfield fence. Dieu wiggled an RBI single and Stines followed with a single. Angelo DiNizo's bunt resulted in a throw that caused the man covering first to pull his foot off the bag. With the bases loaded and no one out, Carlone struck out the next two batters then Catanzaro relieved and got Canavan to hit a hard grounder to Caminiti, who fired quickly to first. This time Kohler really demonstrated his flexibility and performed a full split to make the out.

"It's nice to have a 6'-4" first baseman," commented Blue Devil Head Coach Bob Brewster.

Wilkinson quickly got the first two batters out in the top of the seventh but then began to fire and walked Jake Bencivenga and Charlton. Cuccurullo relieved. Pansini tapped a grounder to short that was bobbled, loading the bases. McIntyre stepped to the plate and drew a walk, which allowed Bencivenga to strut home with the third run.

Catanzaro got all three Raiders out in the seventh, which would set the Blue Devils up for a trip to face the second-seeded Ridge Red Devils, who defeated Bridgewater-Raritan, 11-1.

"We hit a lot of balls hard at them today. On one hand, we think we missed opportunities but on the other hand, we just hit a lot of balls hard that didn't fall. They made a couple of good defensive plays and that's the way the game goes some times," Coach Higgins said.

The Blue Devils have been on a role, having pulled off a big, 3-2 win over top-seeded, fourth-ranked Bayonne in the quarterfinals.

"We have had our ups and downs. We are flying high right now! They are a good team but why not us? That's what we've been saying all year," expressed Caminiti as he was dusting off his dirty uniform.

The Raiders did have an amazing season, which consisted of a 2-6 start to an 18-9 finish. The Raiders had 12 games decided by one run, winning six and losing six, and four games decided by two runs, winning two and losing two. The Raiders lost their first four one-run games before turning the tables. Along the way, the Raiders captured their fifth Union County Tournament crown.

"That's how our senior class is. They are a class act. They work hard and they compete. They are talented and they deserve the recognition they got this year," Coach Higgins said.



FLYING IN FOR THE SCORE...Blue Devil Andrew Caminiti, No. 9, flies in for the score as Raider catcher Chris Smith awaits the throw in the fourth inning of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 semifinal game in Scotch Plains on May 29.

Charlton, who made the tag on Gale. In the second inning, Blue Devil first baseman Danny Kohler would demonstrate his stretching ability to make a putout.

In the meantime, Wilkinson retired the first 10 batters he faced before Blue Devil Andrew Caminiti slapped a one-out single to right. Sean Flynn lined out to center for the second out. Next, Wilkinson caught Caminiti off base and attempted a pickoff. Instead, Caminiti went the other direction and dove into second.

"I was off a little too far so I had to get to second," Caminiti commented.

That decision paid off for the Blue Devils as Kohler lined an RBI single to center, allowing Caminiti to round third and score the first run.

"I had to get him home. I got a good pitch and drove it to center," Kohler said.

After Wilkinson struck out the side in the fifth, Blue Devil third baseman Coustan smothered Gale's hard grounder and converted it to a putout to help Carlone also retire all three batters.

Opportunity arose again in the sixth for the Blue Devils but it did not initially appear so. Pansini's long liner to left was hauled in by Canavan for the first out. Matt McIntyre drew a walk but was gunned down attempting to steal second by Raider catcher Chris Smith for the second out. Caminiti hit a popup in foul territory between home and first. But it was dropped. Instead, he drew a walk then sped to second on a passed ball. Flynn tapped a grounder to third but the throw to first was offline and Caminiti looped home to score the second run.

Trailing 2-0, the Raiders began their sixth inning with Kirian's double that

toppled second-seeded Belleville (10-3) before dropping a very close, 1-0, decision in the semifinal round to the Chatham Cougars, who went on to win the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 crown.

As the starting pitcher, Gardiner in 109.1 innings struck out 162 batters, allowed 44 hits and walked 75, while hitting nine batters to finish with a 12-6 record. Gardiner did have a few games where she did experience some

GARDINER LED WITH .524 AVG.; SCHWERTDFEGER RBI

Softball Cougars Made UCT, Section Semis; Finished 14-6

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

Featuring only three seniors in the lineup, the Cranford High School softball team with a strong sophomore influence had a very productive season. The Lady Cougars advanced to the semifinals of the Union County Tournament (UCT) and to the semifinal round of the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 Tournament to finish with a 14-6 record.

drove in seven runs and scored six times, while walking twice and stealing two bases. Senior Grace Kisly contributed a hit, an RBI and a run scored.

Sophomore first baseman Morgan Heim recorded a .397 BA (25-for-64). She led the team with eight doubles, while adding a triple and two home runs. Heim also was walked three times, was hit by a pitch three times, stole seven bases, knocked in

control problems but although the Cougars lost the 1-0 heartbreaker to Chatham in the section semifinals, she tossed perhaps her best game of the season with a one-hitter, while striking out 11 batters and walking just two.

Sophomore Gabby Moreno was the backup pitcher and was on the mound for 29 innings, allowing 29 hits, 16 earned runs and 14 walks, while re-



RECORDING HER 100TH CAREER STRIKEOUT...Cougars sophomore pitcher Morrigan "Mugs" Gardiner is presented the game ball after recording her 100th career strikeout in a regular season game against the Westfield Blue Devils.

After winning their first three games by double digit margins — Kent Place (15-0), Governor Livingston (13-1), Elizabeth (12-1) — the Cougars experienced a tough 3-0 setback to the Roselle Park Panthers, who became the eventual repeat UCT champions. The Cougars then won six of their next seven games, which included a 6-1 victory over a tough AL Johnson Crusaders team. That streak ended

11 runs and was second on the team in scoring with 18 runs.

Sophomore shortstop Liz McCaffery anchored the infield but as the leadoff hitter, she led the team in scoring with 24 runs, while recording a .366 BA (26-for-71 with 13 RBI, five doubles and two home runs. McCaffery, who drew a team-leading 10 walks, also led the team with 10 stolen bases.

with an 11-0 home loss to then undefeated Westfield and in that game sophomore pitcher Morrigan Gardiner recorded her 100th career strikeout.

Receiving the fourth seed for the UCT, the Cougars defeated Oak Knoll (10-3) and Jonathan Dayton (5-4) before bowing to Westfield (8-5) in the semifinals. As the seventh seed in the sectional tournament, the Cougars blanked Payne Tech (10-0) then



ALWAYS IN THE THICK OF THE ACTION...Cougars senior catcher Erin Schwerdtfeger, with ball, was always in the thick of the action this season. This action occurred in the Union County semifinals against the Westfield Blue Devils.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
BOROUGH OF GARWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Garwood Public Schools will hold a meeting on June 25, 2019. The board will open the meeting with a Strategic Planning goal setting meeting at 6:30. Regular session will begin at 7:30 pm and go immediately into executive session.
Action will be taken.

Debi LeBrun
SBA/BS
1 T - 06/06/19, The Leader Fee: \$12.75

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY

NOTICE OF AGREEMENT

The Township of Cranford has entered into an Agreement with Garden State Fireworks, Inc. This Agreement and Resolution No. 2019-206 authorizing said Agreement are available for public inspection at the office of the Municipal Clerk.

AWARDED TO: Garden State Fireworks, Inc., P.O. Box 403, Carlton Road, Millington, New Jersey 07946
GOODS AND SERVICES: Fireworks Display
FEE NOT TO EXCEED: \$ 10,000.00
DATE: May 28, 2019

Patricia Donahue, RMC
Township Clerk
1 T - 06/06/19, The Leader Fee: \$18.87

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF WESTFIELD WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2133

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, CHAPTER 13 (STOP INTERSECTION-ELIZABETH AVENUE AND BOYNTON AVENUE)

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the foregoing ordinance was approved for final adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield at a Regular Meeting held on June 4, 2019.

Tara Rowley, RMC
Town Clerk
1 T - 06/06/19, The Leader Fee: \$17.85

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF WESTFIELD WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 2134

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY, TO PERMIT OVERNIGHT PARKING ON WEEKENDS

Notice is hereby given that the foregoing ordinance was approved for final adoption by the Town Council of the Town of Westfield at a Regular Meeting held on June 4, 2019.

Tara Rowley, RMC
Town Clerk
1 T - 06/06/19, The Leader Fee: \$15.81

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Town Clerk
1 T - 06/06/19, The Leader Fee: \$15.81

WESTFIELD AREA REAL ESTATE

THE TIME IS NOW TO MAKE YOUR MOVE

 <p>720 Fairacres Ave, Wstfld \$919,000</p>	 <p>41 Prescott Turn, Clark \$459,000</p>
 <p>18 Trails End Ct, Wstfld \$985,000</p>	 <p>41 Normandy Dr, Wstfld \$701,000</p>
 <p>531 Bradford Ave, Wstfld \$950,000</p>	 <p>827 Dorian Rd, Wstfld \$560,000</p>
 <p>302 Bloomingdale Ave, Cmrfd \$479,000</p>	 <p>15 Van Buren Ave, Cmrfd \$440,000</p>

MAKE IT THE BEST MOVE! **Get in touch 201.259.8291**

VIRGINIA GARCIA

www.TopTownsNJ.com

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