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plained, "I don't want anything to get by me, especially on this field. It's going to roll all the way to the fence, so I tried to do everything I could for Michaela."

Aware of the Cougars' moxie, the Blue Devils felt they needed some insurance in the bottom of the sixth. Pietrewicz sizzled a single past first. When Stogner slammed her double to left, Pietrewicz turned on the burners and scored all the way from first to add some icing.

"I had two strikes on me and I was trying to fight off all my pitches until I got the one that I liked. The one I liked I hit it hard on the ground," Pietrewicz said.

"I was trying to get more insurance runs for the game and close it out, so getting Em[ma] in was something I wanted to do. It was a little bit high. I turned on it. It felt great coming off the bat and

bringing Em[ma] was great," Stogner described.

"We definitely showed up to play today. We wanted to get our revenge. We wanted to win the county tournament. We put everything we had today. Some things didn't go our way, obviously, but we were definitely here to play and definitely came to hit," Schwerdtfeger said.

In the first three innings before the Blue Devils found success, Gardiner struck out several batters on her wicked high risers.

"We adjusted very quickly. Once we got going, everyone kept hitting and we got runs," Stogner said.

Schwerdtfeger was put to the test several times with close calls at home plate.

"On the one where I dove back to the plate, I would definitely be bias to think she was out but I

gave it my all, tried everything I can. Some calls in our base running, they didn't go our way but you know what? You got to work with what you got. We tried," Schwerdtfeger expressed.

Two Cougar popups and a strikeout in the seventh earned the 14-1 Blue Devils their trip to the UCT Championship game to face the second-seeded Roselle Park Panthers, who defeated Benedictine Academy, 2-1, in nine innings. Last year, the Panthers defeated the Blue Devils, 2-0, for the title, so a spirited performance could be expected.

"We played them twice this year and Roselle Park always plays us well. Maddie Hummel always pitches us well. I think if we come in with the same confidence we play with, we will be able to get the job done," Gagliardi said.

"We are really looking forward

to that game, especially for redemption of last year. If we come out with the same energy as today, I think we are going to be fine," Pietrewicz added.

"Once we get the bats going, get a rally started we are unstoppable," Stogner concluded.

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