

# Baseball

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ment, and Drew Hanson (Brighton) and Lorenzo Ferguson (Detroit) had other commitments.

Concealed had lost several other players along the way; Pike, See, Ghannam, Steiger and Taylor, who was 12-0 this summer, were the only players with the team the entire season.

Consequently, the team was nearly excluded from playing in the district tournament due to a lack of players when its roster number dwindled to eight.

At literally the 11th hour (11:30 p.m. on the night before the first district game), Concealed added Gritter and Bull from the Holland Lakeshore Cubs.

Bull and Gritter met the team on the field a half hour before the first game. Bull caught all four district games, and Gritter played left field.

After winning the district,

Concealed was able to draft two additional players — Lawson from the 18-year-old Michigan Bulls and Humbert from the Bay Area Merchants.

Chris Ghannam, who took over as manager of the team early in the season, guided Concealed to 31 victories in its last 34 games and an overall record of 41-11.

"Were it not for the dedication of the original team members and their love of the game, it would not have been possible for us to persevere through this difficult time," assistant coach Jim Taylor said.

"It was truly a test of character for these young men. Gritter, Bull, Lawson and Humbert were absolutely essential to our success and possessed the same character as the rest of the team."

The roster also included Mike Hardy (County Day); Michael Hardy served as an assistant

coach.

## Manlie World Series

The BaySide Yankees captured the National Amateur Baseball Federation's Junior Division (15-16) World Series for the fifth consecutive year at Northville High School.

Meanwhile, Livonia Travel, which lost a heartbreaker in the opening round to the Yankees, 6-4, split its final two games.

Mario D'Herin (Redford Catholic Central) had two hits, including a homer and two RBIs, as Livonia Travel defeated the Lexington (Ky.) Dixie Bulls, 7-4.

Casey Rogowski (Redford CC) went 3-for-4 with a double, while Mike Fisher (Farmington Harrison) contributed two hits in three trips, including a double.

Livonia Travel starter Roy Rabe (Livonia Stevenson), who gave up two runs over the first five innings, earned the victory.

Jon Ritzler (Stevenson) finished up, allowing two runs over the final two innings.

The Absecon (N.J.) Comets edged Livonia Travel, 2-1, behind Larry Larnad's 2-run homer in the second inning.

Livonia got its only run on consecutive singles by D'Herin, Rogowski and Fisher. D'Herin led Livonia Travel offensively by going 2-for-3.

Chris Ross was the winning pitcher, tossing a six-hitter, while Brighton pick-up Eric Biehl, the Livonia Travel starter, took the loss.

Derek Fox (Farmington High) pitched six scoreless innings of relief for Livonia Travel, giving up just three hits and two walks while striking out five.

Livonia Travel finished the year 55-9 overall.

## Bandits tops at Oxford

The South Farmington Bandits won the 14-year-old division of the Oxford Invitational last month.

John Waisanen and Matt Whitmer combined to pitch a one-hitter as the Bandits opened with a 4-3 win over the Clinton Township Hurricanes.

The Bandits rallied from a 7-0 deficit in their next game to defeat the Shelby Township Greyhounds, 10-7, scoring all their runs in the last two innings. Whitmer was the winning pitcher.

South Farmington remained unbeaten with a 6-3 victory over Fenton in eight innings.

Kris Wong paced the hitting with three hits, including a home run, and Nick Hippler had two triples among his three hits.

Tim Hasted's leadoff homer got the Bandits started right in the final game, which resulted in

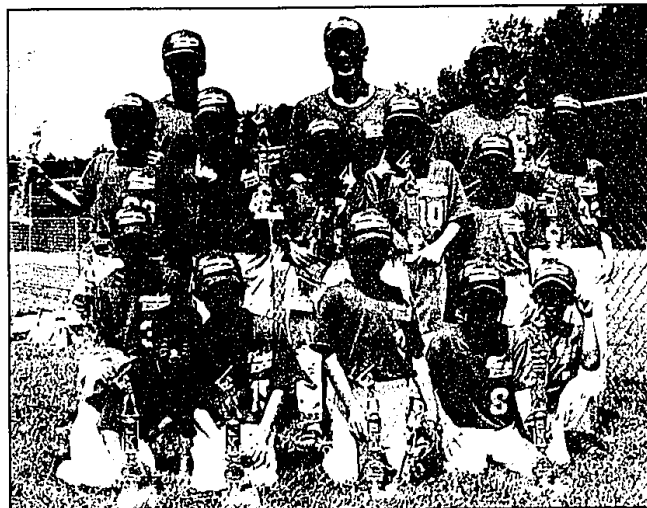
a 9-3 victory over St. Clair Shores.

"We played in the federation division, even though we're not a federation team," Bandits manager Steve Pelletier said. "The kids proved to themselves they can beat some very good teams."

The Bandits, who have 13- and 14-year-olds on their team, finished the season with a 33-9 record.

The roster also includes Jim Kay, Jake Ghannam, Brad Hoch, Tony Luttmann, Adam Pelletier, Marcus Mancotti and Sean Sugrue. The Bandits are coached by Dan Whitmer and Bruce Wong.

"This is a great group of kids," Pelletier said. "They worked hard and had a lot of fun this summer. It was especially gratifying to know all the players contributed to a great season."



8-and-under Blues: The South Farmington players are (kneeling, left to right) Paul Greenwood, Brooks Tuyn, Harvey Martin, Zach Crawford, Andy Harris, Chris Egged, (middle) Nick Hammer, Jon Castine, Jon Falvo, Thomas Whiting, Andy Lentz and Paul Kaberline. The coaches are (back row) Don Egged, Rick Tuyn and Larry Miller. The Blues won the Elba Invitational July 26-27.

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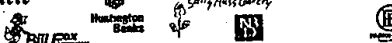
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