Farmington's Fisher, Fox help make Livonia Travel team a big hit on diamond

Tigertown hits the spot this summer for Livonia Travel's Connie Mack (ages 16-18) base-

ball team.
Winning five consecutive games over the Fourth of July weekend in the Firecracker Tournament in Storling Heights, Livonia Travel has carned an attematic berth in the 18-year-old USSSA World Series in Lukeland, Fla., spring training home of the Detroit Tigers.

home of the Detroit Tigers.

"This was a great tournament for our guys," Livonia Travol manager Bill Rabe said. "We had not had a day off sines school got out. We had a great tournament in Fort Wayne Ind.) and took a few lumps in Cincinnati, but came home to win the toughest tourney around."

It took sight innings but Livo.

tourney around.

It took eight innings, but Livonia Travel managed to gain a 1211 victory over the Michigan
Tigers in the championship final.

Chris Woodruff (Redford Catholic Central) staked Livonia

Travel to a 3-1 lead with a first-

Travel to a 3-1 lead with a inst-inning homer.

The Tigers tallied four runs in-the fifth to take a 9-4 advantage, but Livonia responded with five in the bottom of the sixth sparked by Cassy Rogowski's bases loaded double.

Don Martin's 2-run homer gave the Tigers an 11-9 lead, but Livonia answered with three in the bottom of the eighth.

Bob Malek started the rally with a single followed by walks to Dave Lusky (CC) and Rogowski (CC).

Mike Fisher (Farmington Hills Harrison) then singled in a pair

Woodruff then walked to load

Roy Rabe's infield hit was mis-handled as the Tigers attempted to turn a double play, bringing home the game-winning run.

Livonia Travel starter Dale Hayes (Westland John Glenn)

pitched the first five innings, allowing soven runs. He was relieved by Derek Fox (Furmingston), who pitched to four batters without getting an out. He was replaced by Dave Lusky, the eventual winner. In the teurney opener, Fisher and Rogowski each homered and knocked in three runs as Livonin Travel dropped the Metro Hawks, 9-5.

Corey Cook (Livonia

Hawks, 9-5.

Corey Cook (Livonia Churchill), the winning pitcher, gave up five runs over five innings. Justin Draughn (Churchill) came on to earn the

save.

In the second game, Livonia dumped the Tigers, 9-7, as Fisher, Malek and Woodruff each homered, while Rabe (Stevenson), Brent Zak (CC) and Mario D'Herin (CC) collected two hits apiece.

apiece.
Pitchers Jon Ritzler (Steven-son) and Fox combined for the

23-4 overall.

"It was an accomplishment for a Class A team to finish fourth in a Men's Major," Quartuccio said.

Fox tossed a three-hitter as Livonia made it three straight with a 10-0 triumph over the Northwest Ohio Mavs.

Brott Wells (Churchill) and Fisher each had two hits and three RBI.

three RBI.
Livonia reached the championship game with 6-5 triumph over Steele's as Mark Cole (CC) allowed just three hits over six innings before giving way to Rabe, who earned the save.

Fisher homered in the win, while Hayes and D'Herin each had two hits.

on Tuesday, Rogowski's RBI sacrifice fly scoring Brent Zak (CC) in the top of the seventh was the difference as Livonia turned back host Birmingham at Groves High School, 6-5.

An infield single by Zak followed by a Malek single set up the game-winner as first-place Livonia improved to 10-1 in the Little Caesar's Elite League and

Fisher clubbed a pair of homers — a 2-run shot and a solo blast. Woodruff was 2-for-4 with a homer and three RBI. Malek added two hits.

Ritzler, the winning pitcher, went the distance.

He retired the first 12 batters He retired the first 12 batters in order before settling for a three-hitter. Ritzler struck out five and walked two. On Monday, Livonia scored a 7-1 victory over the Downriver Roms.

Rabe pitched a two-hitter, fan-ning seven and walking five. Pat Cash and Matt Gabrielli tallied the Rams' only two hits.

Mike Coopersmith (Walled Lake Western) suffered the loss.

Rabe pitched a three-hitter last Thursday as Livonia bounced the Michigan Rams, 13-3, in a mercy-rule shortened

Rabe and Fox each collected three hits apiece to pace a 13-hit

attack. Hayes added two hits,

nttack. Hayes added two nits, including a homer.

On July 1, Livenin Travel suffered its first lengue defeat and the first lengue defeat and t

Cole, in relief of Malek, suf-fered the loss.

The Clarkston 6-run uprising amo after Cole had retired 10. straight batters and allowed just:

Malek doubled three times in

ne defeat. On June 30, Livenia downed Cn June 30, Livonia downed-the Riverview Rams, 8-5, 4s-Lusky was the winning pitcher, He allowed five hits over five innings while fanning five before giving way to Rabe, who carned the save.

Malek went 3-for-3 with three runs scored. Lusky and Fox each contributed two hits.

Jimmie's: A softball team so good it gives others the Willies

Larry Quartuccio just can't

Larry Quarteers — give it up.
Despite a recent job transfer to Florence, Ky., Quartuccio still spends his weekends managing one of the state's premier men's stow-pitch softball teams.
We've had this team tegether — 20 vare." Ouartuccio said.

"We've had this team tigether for 20 years," Quartuccio said.
"I've thought about giving it up, but I've been at it so long.
"The phone bills get kind of high with all the long-distance calls, but I still enjoy it. It's weath it."

worth it."

The tenm is known as Jimmio's, but it also has three other sponsors — Varsity Athletics, a

sporting goods store; Easton, the aluminum bat maker; and Ques, Quartuccio's company which does screening and embroidering

does aercening and embroidering of sportswara raparel.
Last weekend in Milwaukee,
Jimmies stopped up two levels and finished fourth in the City of Festivals Coca-Cola Men's USSSA Majors Tournament.
That tourney field included the top two ranked teams in Men's Major, Lighthouse/Worth and Siarra Power, along with Wesel/Hague, ranked No. 1 in Class AA.
The Westland-based team, ranked No. 3 in Class A, is now

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Plaintiffi Equivest, Limited Partnership -vs- Defendant(s): Georgene M.
Tezzi, Morel Corporation, Susan Antanascuski.

Attorney: for Plaintiff: Joseph L. Zande (P57645), P.O. Box 4010, East Lansing, Mi 48826 (517) 333-7718

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the leash. How can we prevent this?

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is called the Gentle Leader headcollar. The nose loop is not a muzzle but a stignal to your pet that you are the past leader. In the cautine social scene, the dominant analmal will grasp the subordinate's muzzle in his mouth. The collar endricles the dog's muzzle in a similar manner letting him know that you are his leader in his own language.

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Torward.

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"Serving the community for over forty-one years." SMALL ANIMAL HOSPITAL, P.C. 32635 Northwestern Hwy (248) 626-1854 "We See Blg Dogs Too"

said.
On June 13-14, Jimmies won a
Major NIT in Cloveland.
In Milwaukee, the fences were
325 feet with 301 being the tour-

nament minimum.
The balls vary from a 44-core (somewhat deadened) to as high as a 50-core (the most lively).
Tt's still pretty much a game of power," Quartuccic said.
They've made advancements the last four years. The game has changed.

the last four years. The game has changed.

With Easton as a sponsor (based in Van Nuys, Calif) you have the best bat out there.

The average age of the Jimmies roster is 30.

Westland John Glenn productions you have the best bat out there with third baseman Mark Matchulat, also 42, of Redford.

The 6-foot-4, 265-pound Sampson is one of the team's batting leaders. He hit.631 in Milwaulenders.

kee.

"I like to call them 'seasoned' players — both are starters," Quartuccio said.

Livonia Churchill product Scott Hille, who batted .818 en route to All-Tournament honors in Milwaukee, provides power at catcher and DH.

Another Glenn grad, Chris Scheffer, also catche. and can hit the long ball.

He was a nose guard during his football days at Central Michigan University.

But Quartuccio doesn't necessarily rely on brute strength.
"I often go opposite of the flow," the Jimmies manager said. Tilke a good mix.
"Most teams build on home run power, but we have a couple of guys who weigh 180.
"We take a lot of pride in defense: I've been to a lot of world tourneys and you're not wond for the mold for the mold for the mold for the season of the contract of th

Quartuccio employs a different strategy.

We only use three outfielders

Recker was a former standout relief pitcher for Livonia Adray

with five guys in the infield," he said. "We don't play with a rover. We can get by with three out-fielders because they're very very quick."
Conter fielder Johnnie Simpson, who commutes from Kalamazoo, batted .818 in Milwaukee.
He is flanked by left fielder Scott Janack of Belleville, an all-tourney pick in Milwaukee, and right fielder Tom Leugyel of Melvindale.
"And we're fortunate to have two pitchers who are the very best," said Quartuccio, referring to former Redford Thurston High product Raffi Kostogian and John Glean grad Scott Nastally (now of Carden City). "I wouldn't trade them for anybody."
Rounding out the infield is first baseman Jason Riggs (Monroe), shortstop Randy Windham (Monroe), middle infielder John Recker (Farmington Hills Harrison) and Grag Tome (Farmington).
Recker was a former standout

in the Livonia Collegiate Baseball Leggue.
Key reserves include Brian Donehue (Livonia Franklin), Rubin Gonzales and Eugene Bezue. Quartuccio's son Tony is an assistant coach. The process for putting a team together starts in February. That's when the schedule is set. After several summer road trips, the season culminates in the USSSA Class A World Series, Sept. 4-7, in Shawnee, Kan.

Kan.

"You have to have total dedication from the guys," Quartuccio
said. "Everybody has to be there
at each tournament barring a

at each tournament barring albrother or sister getting married,
"All our guys usually get in on.
Friday nights, then we have a
meeting to go over things.
"I usually do business up here
on Thursdays and that's when
we practice. It starts in March."
Then the process begins all
over again for 1999,
And it's a good bet Quartucciowill be back for his 21st season.

Concealed Security's Pee Wee Reese team rules tourney

The Concealed Security Pee

The Concealed Security Few Wee Reese team of 12-year-olds captured its division of the Fire-creaker Classic in Warren during the July 4th holiday weekend. The team improved its record to 33-0 with six victories in the cournament, played at Halmich Park in Warren. Concealed Security nipped the FX Cubš of Macomb, leaders of their Fee Wee Reese division, by a 6-5 score in the championahip same.

game. Mark McDaniel of Goodrich

went the distance, striking out seven, to up his record to 8-0. Chuck Pate of Taylor, and Mike Krause of Garden City each had

Krause of Garden City each had two hits.
Concealed Security opened the tournament with a 13-2 victory over the Troy Cardinals as Redford's Jason Krug rnised his record to 6-0. Krause went 3-for-4 and Krug 2-for-2 in the win.
The Detroit Rangers foil to Concealed Security, 9-1, in the second game of the tournament behind the three-hit, five-strike-

out pitching of Tim Kalczynski (1-0) of Farmington. Kalczynski went 3-for-3 and had three RBI, Robert Reznick

had three RBI, Robert Reznick went 2-for-3, as did Michael Monterey of Farmington Hills, Anthony Volpe of Farmington Hills and Krug.

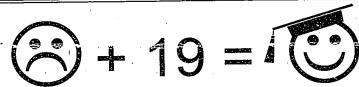
McDaniel then pitched his team to a 10-3 victory over the Wayne Bandits, allowing just one hit and going 3-for-3 with three RBI. Krause, Kalezynski, Reznick and Volpe each had two hits.

Concealed Security wound up playing the Kosty Braves twice to reach the championship gamer

to reach the championship game; winning the first game 10-2 and the second, 6-3.
Chris Rigley of Redford, now 5-0, won the 10-2 game. Krauseg McDaniel and Kalczynski each

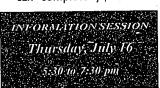
McDaniel and Kalezynski each collected two hits.

Pate raised his record to 9.6 with a one-hit, five-strikeout performance in the 6-3 win. He also went 2-for-2 while Kyle Miller of Farmington Hills went 3-for-4.



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