

Discover Kalamazoo



Kalamazoo County Convention & Visitors Bureau

For Immediate Release

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Kalamazoo's 28th Year of World Series Championship Play

"Little League" Softball World Series-Big League Division

Kalamazoo, Mich. July 20, 2007 – On Aug. 13-18, 2007, Vanderburg Park in Kalamazoo will host the The Big League Softball World Series under the direction of Bud Vanderberg, Tournament Director. Ten teams will compete for the title of Big League World Champions. The United States Regional champions from the East, Central, South, Southwest and West, along with the Canadian, EMEA*, Asia Pacific and Latin American representatives and host team Michigan District Two will vie for the world title. Pool play will determine the two teams in the final game, to be televised on a tape delayed basis by ESPN2 on Aug. 28 at 2 p.m.

The host team from District Two; Kalamazoo, MI defeated the champions of the East, District Five; Bristol, CT 7-5 in last year's championship game. Other participants included teams from: Grand Rapids, MI; Hallettsville, TX; Charleston, WV; Antelope Valley, CA. Windsor, Ontario; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and **Manila, the Philippines.**

Opening ceremonies and a picnic will be held at Vanderberg Park Little League Complex on Sun., Aug. 12 at 6 p.m. Twenty-nine pool-play games will be played Monday through Friday with the championship game on Sat. at 1 pm. The awards banquet is Fri., Aug. 17 at Western Michigan University's Bernhard Center. The Parade of Champions and Spirit Competition, honoring all series participants and the 28th year of World Series play in Kalamazoo is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on Sat., Aug. 18.

The Road to the World Series:

District: Because Big League Teams are district-wide, there are no district tournaments in Big League Softball.

State, Province or Country: This is the next major level of play beyond districts. However, in some states, provinces or countries where there are a large number of leagues, a sub tournament is played. All state championship teams advance to regional competition.

Regional Competition: This is the third basic level of play. There are nine regions in Little League. Big League championship teams from these nine regional tournaments advance to the

Softball World Series in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Regional play will be held in Wyoming, MI; West Haven, CT; Dunedin, FL; Seguin, TX; Palmdale, CA; Windsor, ON; Maunabo, Puerto Rico; Malate Manila, the Philippines and Kutno, Poland.

For more information on the Big League Softball World Series, contact Debbie Sloan 574-825-4433 or Sandy Welser at 269-323-2383 or call the media cell phone during the week of the series at 269-501-5456. www.softballworldseries.org.

**Europe/Middle East/ Africa*

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