

## **BIG LEAGUE SOFTBALL WORLD SERIES**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### ***Little League Softball World Series – Big League Division***

#### **Lights, Camera, Action!!**

#### **“We Do It Big!”**

***Kalamazoo, MI*** – For the first time in the history of the Big League Softball World Series, the championship game (scheduled for August 12, 2009) will be televised live in prime time on the ESPN family of networks. This will be the 16<sup>th</sup> consecutive year Vanderberg Park will be the site of the Big League Softball World Series (and the 30<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of hosting a softball world series in Kalamazoo). The 2009 tournament dates are Thursday, August 6 through Wednesday, August 12.

The tournament format for the 2009 edition of the Big League Softball World Series will also see a dramatic change. Previous World Series have included pool play with the top two teams in each of the two pools advancing to championship play. The new format will have each of the 10 teams play one another in a round-robin format. At the conclusion of round robin play, the two teams with the best records will play for the title of Big League Softball World Series Champions.

In addition to the increase in the number of games played and the opportunity for each of the 10 teams to play one another, the actual days of the World Series are moving to a Thursday – Wednesday schedule. Highlights of the new schedule will include eight games being played each day Friday through Sunday.

**For additional information about this event, please call Bud Vanderberg (Tournament Director) at (269) 345-3123, Debbie Sloan at (269) 501-5456 or Sandy Weiser at (269) 352-9668.**