



PONY MAJORS TOURNAMENTS

2006 CHAMPIONS: THE PIRATES



**1st row from left: Will Cembalest, Yorke Rhodes IV, Miles Dixon, Noah Zucker, Colin Davy
2nd row from left: Hunter Burkhart, Willie Upbin, Daniel Weintraub, Rafael Misak,
Tanner Burkhart, Max Zolberg
3rd row from left: Mark Burkhart, Liz McBride, Yorke Rhodes III; missing: Khalil
DeGraffe**

Congratulations to the 2006 Pony Tournament Champions: The 78 Pirates, coached by Yorke Rhodes. The Pirates' pitchers, Will Cembalest, Hunter Burkhart, and Willie Upbin, combined to pitch at 3-0 a one-hitter against the gritty 78 Yankees, coached by David Joseph. It was a pitchers battle all the way.



The scoring came in the bottom of the 2nd inning when Miles Dixon hit a double scoring Yorke Rhodes IV for a 1-0 lead. Then in the 4th inning Willie Upbin hit a triple that drove in Rafael Misak and Tanner Burkhart which proved to be the rest of the games' runs.

The Yankees had strong pitching from Tyler Vincent, Zachary Farber, Mitchell Black and Graham Wolff. Their never-give-up attitude extended to a last inning charge led by a triple by Devon Joseph. But the Pirates hung tough and won the game.

The Yankee traveled the long road to the finals. First they had to win two games to capture the 8th seed position. Then they had to play the highest seeds to reach the finals. And the morning of the finals they had to play their semi-final game, because the originally scheduled game had been postponed due to rain. That semi-final was a great, close game in which they held onto a final inning charge by team 6 (coached by Bill deBlasio) to win 3-2.

Congratulations to all the players and coaches for being well-prepared and being completely respectful to each other.