**2014 Northern Classic**
Wow, what a sensational finish to a frantic two days of softball in Traverse City!  The Northern Classic, beset by a Friday monsoon, picked up steam on Saturday and Sunday, and when the dust settled, it was the Batbusters coming out on top in 10U, and the Mid-Michigan Heat making a Triple Play of the 12U, 14U and 16U divisions.

The Batbusters and Livingston Breeze headlined a solid field of teams in the 10U division.  Both teams played extremely well in reaching the finals on Sunday, but in the end the Batbusters powerful offense and excellent pitching proved to be the formula for winning as they got by the Breeze, 10-2.  Congratulations, ladies!!!

From that point on, the Mid-Michigan Heat came, saw, and conquered.  Never before has an organization captured three divisions in a Northern Classic tournament, but the Heat did it on Sunday.  In the 12U group, the Heat met the TC Cherry Bombs in a rematch of the Charlevoix tournament finale the week before, won by the Cherry Bombs.  In the Northern Classic final, The powerful Cherry Bombs team held a 3-1 lead in the fifth inning when the Heat erupted for three runs that, three outs later, proved to be enough for the win.  Two great teams, and a great 12U division finish....

In the 14U division, the Heat wore down a game TC Thunder Red squad, winning the finale by a 6-1 margin.  Mid-Michigan's Heat used solid pitching to go along with a steady offense that tacked on run after run to win the 14U divsion for the first time in Northern Classic history.

Likewise, the 16U title was the first Northern Classic title for the Heat.  The Heat's senior squad shut down Brown's by a 7-0 score in the last game of Sunday's schedule to make it a trifecta for the Midland-based organization.

Congratulations to the Mid-MIchigan Heat teams and the Batbusters for earning 2014 Northern Classic titles, and to all teams for their solid play.  Thank you to all of the parents, grandparents, family and friends who showed patience with Friday's weather, and who turned out to cheer on their favorite players throughout the weekend.