

# Raiders Roll With Youth in '85

After two consecutive losing seasons, Varsity Softball Coach Jim Mason had little to lose in going with a "youth movement" on the 1985 squad. The gamble paid off as, with only one regular Senior starting player, the Raiders posted a 14-11-1 record.

The Senior starter was catcher Kelli Lies, the team captain. Recognized as one of the outstanding catchers of Union County, Kelli led the team in batting with a .429 average while setting all-time Raider single-season team records in home runs (9), hits (39), runs scored (37), and RBIs (33).

The Raiders found new strength on the mound with Kelli's sister Joley, a sophomore. With 13 wins and a 1.24 ERA, supported by a .391 BA, Joley Lies, on the mound, was usually "money in the bank."

Heide Katerba (.360 BA), at third base, and Carolyn McCann (.413 BA., 21 walks), at shortstop, provided performance and leadership suggesting an even brighter season in '86. Kelli (the '85 Team MVP), Joley, Heide, and Carolyn all received post season All-Area/County/State recognition from local media. With only 3 players graduating in June, and a JV squad with the best regular season in the Watchung Conference, the "Gamble of '85" could prove to be a real winner in 1986.



Above: Senior Kelli Lies, Captain and MVP, led the Varsity in batting while setting 4 single-season team records in 1985.

The 1985 Varsity and JV Softball Teams. Top Row, L-R: K. Wirth, B. Polito, T. Williams, A. Friedman, K. Johnson, D. Mikell, M. Gee, S. Hawkins, C. Yeager, A. Flattery, J. Lies, L. Cappachione. Middle Row, L-R: L. Reinhold, J. Lin, K. Lies, C. McCann, S. Thompson, D. Schaeffer, D. Catullo, S. Reimers, K. Geissler, S. Appezato, H. Katerba, K. Larkin. Bottom Row, L-R: M. Webb, V. Wussler, M. Novello, L. Dunn, A. Abbott, K. Schuler, W. Masters, J. Alboum, M. Buob.

