

Playgrounds suffer

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Continued from Page 1

newcomer to the program, held its eighth fitness olympics last Tuesday at Harrison High School. Around 100 youngsters were involved.

"It gives the kids a sence of team camaradreir," said Jef Farland of the Farmington Hills Parks and Recradion Department, explaining why he likes the meets. "And when they go on to the Metro Meet it gives them a sense of belonging to their community." "We try to teach the physical-fitness aspect of it," Farland continued. "We try to teach the kids that you just don't go out there and do it. There's a procedure of practicing, warming up and being physically fit."

West Bloomfield is a community where the number of participants in the local meet seems to remain constant. Some 55 youngsters turned out for the meet last week, and Community

Coordinator Craig Monahan hopes to take 3 8 of them to the Metro Meet.

"It seems to be the same kids every year," Monahan said. "We seem to have a hard-core, track-oriented group. The Metro Meet is great. It gives the kids a basis for pride in their community.

Bill Sherman, the park superintendent of Metropolitan Beach and the chairman of next year's Metro Meet, came up with a good reason why the fitness meets should continue.

"This program is for the non-varsity athlete," Sherman said. "This is the typical kid from the typical playground.
"There are a lot of good programs around — Little League, Babe Ruth, the AAU stuff. But they've for the serious athlete. This (the fitness meets) are for the rest of them."

Hopefully, they'll be a bunch of 'the rest of them."

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Troy teams take early exits

Livonia sides stun Midwest foes

For two powerhouse soccer teams from St. Louis, Mo., their trip to Livonia last weekend was not a

happy one.

And that overjoyed a pair of local teams.

Two boys' squads, the 16-and-under Arsenal and
the 12-and-under Livonia Cardinals, toppled the
highly touted St. Louis teams, sponsored by An-

the 12-and-under Livonia Cardinais, topiled the highly totated St. Louis teams, sponsored by Anheuser-Busch, enroute to capturing their age group titles in the Midwest Regional Soccer Championship at Schoolceaft College.

The Schoolceaft College crowned but the title meant advancement only to the Arsenal, a team caached by John Starcevich of Northville with players from Northville, Plymouth, Livonia and Dearborn Heights.

The Arsenal's 3-0 victory over the Wisconsin Falcon Kickers in the 16-and-under division qualified them for the North American championships starting Aug. 20 in Victoria, B.C. The four regional winners from Canada, together with the four U.S. regional champs, will vie for the title of North American championships champions of the starting Aug. 20 in Victoria, B.C. The four regional champs, will vie for the title of North American championships that

regional champs, will vie for the title of North American champs.

The 16-and-under boys is the only division that has such a championship, and the Arsenal is the first Michigan team to qualify for the tournament.

THE REGIONAL CROWNS won by the Arsenal THE REGIONAL CROWNS won by the Arsenal and 12-and-under Cardinals topped the accomplishments of the six local teams. In girls' play, the Troy Rockies won their 12-and-under first-round contest, 2-1 over the Minnesota Burnsville Bandits before losing to the Olio South Chicamat Cardinals in the quarterfinals, 6-0.

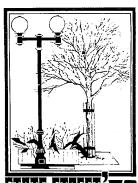
The Livous landway advanced to the 14-and-under the Cardinals and the Cardi

The Livonia Hawks advanced to the 14-and-under semifinals, besting Wisconsia Bew Wawes, 2-1, in the quarters. The Minnesota Burnsville Stars top-pled the Hawks in the semis, 4-0, and the Livonia squad lost in the consolations, 1-0, to Illinois Naper-ville Blue Stars. We have the first-round contest, 3-lover Wisconsin Dynamite, but lost in an overtime shootout, 4-3, in the quarters to Nebraska West Omaha Sonics.

The boys' 14-and-under Livonia Cardinals blasted lowa Tim Orbill Chevrolet, 7-0, in the opening round but lost to Indiana's Indianapolis North Side Saints, 3-2.

TEAMWORK ACCENTED the two titles won by local teams. "The boys were playing together and complementing each other," said Starcevich.

John Cluett, coach of the victorius Cardinals,

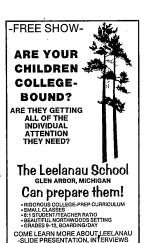


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soccer

compared his team's win with an American classic

in sports history.
"To me, it was like the American hockey team in the (1976) Olympics, 'Cheett said. 'I guess they lelled. All their biorhythms must have been in order, or whatever. They just got it to gether.'
The Anseanl's 3-0 win over the Wisconsin squad the Anseanl's 3-0 win over the Wisconsin squad ment, necessary to be the the contract of the Company of the

in the semis was the key victory for the local squad.

"THE SEMIFINAL will be more memorable,"

"THE SEMIFINAL will be more memorable," Stareevich said. "There's probably no better team than the Anheuser-Busch squed. It (St. Louis) is a power place for soccer," agond 32 minutes into Stoyanovich pounder of post 32 minutes into Stoyanovich pounder the Accessal the early advantage, but St. Louis knotte it at 1.1 with advantage, but St. Louis knotte it at 1.2 with advantage, but St. Louis knotte it at 1.2 with advantage, but St. Louis knotte it at 1.2 with advantage, but St. Louis knotte it at 1.2 with advantage, but St. Louis knotte it at 1.2 with advantage, but St. Louis knotte it at 1.2 with advantage in the score after one 15-minute overtime.

Stoyanovich finally got the game-winner midway

Stoyanovich timally got the game-winner midway through the second overtime on an assist from Metz. The two teams battled 92-degree heat for 110 playing minutes before a winner emerged. The Arsenal, unbeaten in seven Bonanza Express Soccer League (BESL) games, got strong offensive performances from Steve Starcevich, Jeff Wright, Metz and Stoyanovich and solid gealtending from Terry Harshfield, who allowed just two goals in the tourney.

tourney. Other team members include Chris Banyai, Bob Bowling, Matt Crook, Scott Gala, Ken Israel, Mike

Kolacz, Kevin Paterson, Eric Pence and Mike Re-nehan.

FOR THE CARDINALS, the route to the cham-pionship was arduous. The 12-and-under Cards were a modest 5-5 in BESL play and had a "Sunday inx" to overcome.

jim't to overcome.

All the boys were individual stars in the Livonia 'MI the boys were individual stars in the Livonia 'MIAC league,' Cluett said. 'So the first thing we had to do was get them to play as a team. We had to the cach them to work together as a team — that was the challenge.'

But it wasn't the only obstacle the Cards had to overcome. At the Robbie Tournament in Toronto June 28-27 and at the Wolverine III tourney at Schoolcraft July 3-5, the Livonia team lost to eventual samilar to Memorial Day weekend, the Cards lost in the Buckeye Tournament in Cincinnati to an eventual semifinalist.

All the losses came on Sundays, leaving Cluett to ponder how to overcome the apparent jinx.

All the losses called in Johnston, rearing others to ponder how to overcome the apparent jinx.

Fortunately, the state cup game against the WSSL Kicks was at Schoolcraft on a Wednesday (June 16), and the Cards prevailed, 2-0.

IF THERE WAS a jins, it didn't hold up in the Midwest tourney finals against St. Louis, a team undefeated in 73 previous games. Trailing 1-0 at the half, Billy Adam tied it for the Cards three minutes into the second half with the assist going Darin DeRoeck.

Brian Daniel then converted the game-winner, on

Brian Daniel then converted the game-ximer, on assists from Adam and Rob Orsucci, with 11 minutes left to play. With sweeperback Jeff Hilden providing steady defense and Jeff Beneix playing tough in the goal, the Cards hung on for the title. Cluett gave credit to winger Chris Speen, a team leader and sparkplug, and praised the team's ability to come together in the tournament. Other members of the champion Cards are Jim Chendes, Terry Forrester, Ted Lukiewski, Chris Oxley, Tinc Pulice, Clris Sproull, Brian Thomas, Chris Volpe and Jeff Zawislak.

