

# Farmington Falls Short

There are situations in which it pays to come close. Not so in sports.

Just as Farmington's American Legion Junior baseball team.

Manager Wally Christensen and his boys gained the zone finals at Ulica over the weekend. As late as the midway point in the championship game on Sunday against St. Clair, it was Farmington in command... although the margin was only one run.

But St. Clair came on like gangbusters, put together a three-run rally in the bottom of the eighth inning and wound up a 3-3 winner.

It was strictly "a show-down game."

Both teams had lost once before in the two defeat and out competition. There could be no tomorrow for either side.

Rick Krumm got the starting call for Farmington and was touched for a run in the first inning on two hits.

Farmington got even in the second when Joe Himmel-spach walked, moved around to third on a sacrifice and in-fielded and came home on Mike Snearly's single.

The 1-1 tie didn't last long. St. Clair tallied another run in the second inning to go to front 2-1.

That's how matters stood until the seventh as Krumm and John Dietlin of St. Clair matched each other's shutout pitching.

Came the seventh inning—Farmington received a couple of breaks.

With two out, Miles Kearney went to center and scored when Carl Misch singled. Misch circled the bases when the ball rolled through the center-fielder's legs.

Farmington now was on top, 3-2.

However, St. Clair swung through. Two singles and an error jammed the bases. After a forecast at the plate, a sacrifice fly scored the tying run.

Then followed another sacrifice fly and a single and St. Clair had two runners on base before Chuck Viane, who had pitched Saturday, was called on to get the side out.

The damage had been done. Farmington was blanked in the eighth and ninth innings and the season became history.

The losers made eight hits to St. Clair's seven. Snearly tied the losers with three safeties. Kearney and Jerry Tinkle had two each and Misch the other safety.

It marked the second time in three years that a Farmington team had lost in the zone finals. St. Clair now goes on to next week's state meet at Owasco in which a new champion will be crowned. Detroit Edison's defending state champs were knocked out last week at Lincoln Park.

Farmington had to fight

uphill in the tournament, after dropping its first game in the meet to Owasco, 6-1.

The Farmington team could do little with the pitching of Ken Sperl who took over the Owasco pitching in the first inning when starter Bob Elcher was injured.

Sperl struck out 14 and walked none the rest of the way while allowing only four hits.

The only Farmington run came in the third inning when Rick Krumm singled, stole second and third and scored on a balk.

Farmington used Rick Krumm on the mound in a losing cause. He gave up two runs in the fourth, two in the seventh and two in the eighth.

The next game saw Farmington bounce back to drub Mason, 10-2. Chuck Viane worked eight innings and Jerry Turner finished up for the winners.

Viane also poled out four hits in five times at bat, while Carl Misch had three for five, one a triple. Miles Kearney contributed a double to the victors' cause.

Farmington sewed up the game with six runs in the ninth inning when Snearly singled, Himmel-spach walked, Viane, Horton, Johnston and Kearney singled and Misch tripled.

In Saturday's action, Farmington blanked Owasco, 4-0, and then reached the finals by downing St. Clair, 5-4.

Viane turned in a six-hit shutout in the game against Owasco.

His mates scored once in the first inning on singles by Johnston and Snearly and a walk to Misch. In the third two runs were added on a hit by Kearney, a walk to Misch, and two errors. Farm-

ington counted once more in the ninth when Johnston singled, stole second and Misch singled.

Fine pitching in relief score.

The Farmington scoring began in the fourth inning when Himmel-spach doubled and came home on Snearly's hit. In the fifth, Tinkle singled and came across on a long homer by Misch.

The final two runs were cashed in the seventh. Perry singled, went to second on a wild pitch and scored on a single by Tinkle. Tinkle went to second on the throw home and scored on Webster's single.

**Observer**  
**Sports News**

Page ★ 2-B      Wednesday, August 10, 1966

## Dependable Nearing Trip to U.S. Meet

Dependable Hardtrome's baseball team of Redford Township went big time today.

And at the same time the Townshipers were going for the big time.

How come the double reference to the "big time"?

1—Dependable was squaring off against Mt. Pleasant at Tiger Stadium in the second of a best-of-three series for the Detroit Free Press state baseball championship.

2—The winner of the series wins a coveted trip to the All America Boys' Tournament at Johnstown, Pa. which starts next Thursday.

This is an honor which never has come to a team from the Greater Livonia-Free Press competition. However, teams from the Detroit sector of the newspaper's program have copped the national crown in the past.

Dependable, under the guidance of Al Turner and Bob Atkins, held a one-game edge against Mt. Pleasant as the teams met on the Tiger field.

The Townshipers with some solid hitting and defensive work won at Mt. Pleasant, 10-6, last Saturday in the opening action.

Rick Fisher pitched the first seven innings for the winners while Rich Barrym an finished up. Fisher gave up six hits, his successor two.

The game was a fairly tight one. As late as the eighth inning, Dependable held command by only two runs.

Here's the way the scoring went:

In the first inning, Dependable scored twice. Walks to Harry Kendrick and Terry Rothwell were followed by a two-run blast by Reg Barringer.

Dependable made it 4-0 in the fifth when Jim Sprout doubled, Rich Fisher sacrificed and Ronny Masson singled. A fielder's choice by Kendrick helped get Masson home.

So it was now 4-0, but Mt. Pleasant got a run in the fifth and two in the seventh to pull within a run of a tie.

With the pressure on, Dependable quickly erupted for two runs. Kendrick walked, Lou Banwert singled and Barringer was safe at first on a fielder's choice for one run. Then Bob Holmes singled in another marker and Mike Riley delivered a sacrifice, good for the third run of the inning.

Mt. Pleasant retaliated with two runs in the bottom of the eighth to make the score 7-5.

But in the ninth, the big Dependable bats again caught fire. Barrym doubled and walked home as Kendrick socked a long drive over the fence some 340 feet away.

Not to be outdone, Rothwell followed with another roundtripper to wrap up the scoring for the visitors from the Township.

The game was marked by some fancy defensive plays by Dependable.

Fisher picked one runner off second and another off first.

Dependable outfielders then cut down runners at second third and the plate.

In the event Mt. Pleasant were to win today, the deciding game of the series will be held at Detroit's Manz Field Stadium afternoon.

The trip to Johnstown will begin Monday for the team that emerges as the champion.

The National tourney is a double-elimination competition in which a team must lose twice before it is eliminated.

Representatives from more than 20 communities will contest at Johnstown.

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## All Stars Beaten by 7-3 Score

The Greater Livonia All Stars, comprised of standout players from the Detroit Free Press League made its bid for all-time honors last Saturday at East Lansing, but came out on the short end of a 7-3 score against Grand Lodge.

Coch Luck Birkett used four pitchers in the game played at Michigan State University.

Larry Sladek got the starting call and was followed to the hill by Duane Peltz, Ron Fair and Fred Davies.

The Livonia Stars had a good chance in the second inning when Neal Thomas and Paul Harpe singled. But neither was able to score.

Bill Goetz tripped with no success in the third.

The Livonians finally counted three times in the fourth. Chris Damania singled and Thomas was safe on an error. Roger Frayer and Sladek followed and the three runs were in.

Gary Birkett, Goetz and Frayer each got two hits for the Livonians.

Four members of the Livonia squad were picked to play with the State All Stars at Tiger Stadium today. Named were Frayer, Goetz, Birkett and Ford Simpson.



EVERETT THOMPSON, 14520 Penrod, Detroit, displays the trophy he received from National A Club of Detroit for being the first golfer to score a hole-in-one using a golf tee furnished by NBD. Thompson scored his ace on the 180-yard 12th hole at Western Golf and Country Club.

## Garden City Out, So's Redford 9 In Mack Meet

There'll be no state Connie Mack baseball championship with another hit.

Turner and Barringer each had two hits for the winners.

The fortunes then turned against Big Boy.

Trenton won from the Townshipers, 6-4, and Ann Arbor followed with a 7-1 win.

Terry Rothwell hit a two-run homer for Redford in the third inning and the team's other two runs came without the benefit of a hit.

Ann Arbor counted six times in the fifth inning, thanks to four errors and only three hits.

Dennis Syrios, Mike Donnelly and Hank Schoenbeck all pitched for Redford whose lone run came on hits by Paul Santangelo and Rothwell in the first inning.

Mack's got off on the wrong foot at Wyandotte losing to Monroe, 4-1, despite a six hitter by Joe Huber. Stan Wischowski singled, stole second and scored the lone Mack's run on Huber's single.

Then the Garden City team

and Dan Harris followed suit with another hit.

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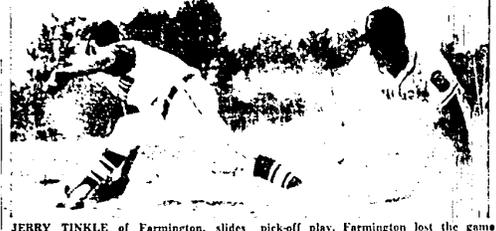
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CARL MISCH of Farmington crosses the plate after homering out a two-run homer in Sunday's action at Ulica. The homer, Clair, 5-3.



JERRY TINKLE of Farmington, slides pick-off play. Farmington lost the game back safely into first base on an attempted 5-3 to eliminate them from the finals.

## Livonia Lands in Playoff

Think to a victory the "hard way" Livonia's Pavel McDonough baseball team clinched a spot in the Greater Livonia-DeARBORN Class A playoffs.

Tas' right, the Livonians are now the Pavel-McDonough team and going into the eliminations will sport bright new uniforms.

It took a long time to find a sponsor," declared Manager Jerry Stockwell. "But patience has paid off for us... and maybe we can do something to reward our new backers."

The Livonians had to beat league leading Dearborn Adray to get into the post-season series in which the Redford Township "A" team also has qualified.

Beat Adray the Livonians did... by a 3-1 score and Pete Hembrough held the Dearborn team to just a pair of hits while his mates picked up three runs to bring their season's record to 10-10—the necessary .500 mark to qualify.

Singles by Paul Portney, Jerry Allen and Leonard Pihlstrom brought Pavel-McDonough its first run in the opening inning.

Then Allen knocked a homer in the third and he also chased in Ernie Bourassa with the final Livonia run in the fifth inning.

The victory over Adray came after King Boring of Dearborn had topped the Livonia, 6-1.

The only Livonia run was scored when Paul Portney walked and Jim Rose and Allen followed with singles.

Don Niemiec was the losing pitcher.

Adray, King Boring, Pavel-McDonough and Redford comprise the four teams who'll meet in the eliminations to be conducted on a two-game and out basis.

The tourney's winner will get a chance to play for the state title and a possible entry into the national ABC meet held each year in Battle Creek.

Completes Training

Marine Pvt. Lawrence S. Scheucher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Scheucher, 33129 Oakley St. and Marine Pfc. Patrick W. Elio, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin E. Elio, 29521 Munger St. of Livonia, have completed individual combat training at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Soldier Finishes Course

Army Pvt. Dennis W. Reed, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard M. Reed, 1122 Helen, Garden City, has completed a paid telephone operation course at the Army South-eastern Signal School, Fort Gordon, Ga.

Soldier Future M.P.

Army Pvt. Ronald K. Mathias, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert L. Mathias, 31707 Sheridan, Garden City, has completed military police training at the Army Training Center, Fort Gordon, Ga. The 20-year-old soldier is a 1964 graduate of Garden City High School and attended Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti.

## Observing SPORTS

By George Maskin

So, what's happened to the summer? Fall has to be around the corner when you sit by the television over the weekend and watch not one, but three different football games involving professional teams...

When Bernie Kennedy, Michigan sports editor of the Associated Press, looking down from the third deck at Tiger Stadium as the Tigers are splitting with the Chicago White Sox, remarks: "Imagine one week from tomorrow there'll be football!" The "tomorrow" is this Thursday—with the Lions hosting the St. Louis Cards...

When you drive through Hines Park and notice young men of high school age running down the side of the road, you have to know that they are getting ready for the start of practice two weeks from Monday...

When word filters down from Olympia that the Detroit Red Wings again will do their training at Grand River and McGraw and our Pistons make ready to start their drills just four weeks hence...

When the sandlot baseball season has just about run its course, except for championship encounters on the district, regional, state—and even national—levels.

Talking about baseball, this has to be the biggest day in the lives of some Redford Township youngsters—the boys who make up the Dependable Hard Chrome team and are playing Mt. Pleasant at Tiger Stadium in the state finals of the Detroit Free Press' annual tournament.

It's flattering, to say the least, that one of "our" teams has gone so far in the state-wide Free Press competition and has moved within an eyelash of winning a trip to Johnstown, Pa., for next week's All America Boys Tournament.

We have heard a great deal said about the "calibre" of sandlot baseball in the Greater Livonia area. It can't be that bad when you can come up with a team like Dependable, or one like North Redford's State Connie Mack champs of a year ago.

Much of the credit for the success of the Dependable team belongs to Al Turner and Bob Atkins, two men who have given most of their time, summer after summer, to young baseball players. Their efforts have paid off with handsome dividends.

The phone rang the other afternoon. It was Dick Simmons, the auto racer on the other end. "Hey, George," he inquired, "how did you get that stuff I'm in my '40's... almost 50, the story said."

We shrugged our shoulders.

"That's the way I think the track publicity man sent us the story," we countered. "Or maybe it was a typographical error."

"Well, I'm only 36," continued Simmons. "My friends and family have been ribbing me to death." So, there you have it... right from the man's own mouth.

You can see that men are just as vain as women... when it comes to their ages.

May we suggest that if you haven't already... you should order your tickets as soon as possible for the Lions' big exhibition game with the Baltimore Colts at Tiger Stadium on Sept. 1.

There's something special about this game. It more than brings together two of the arch rivals in the National Football League.

A good share of the proceeds will be turned over to the Children's Hospital by the Free Press. Last year, we're told, the hospital received over \$50,000.

Some in our Observer audience may hasten to say: "Why should we out here worry about a hospital that's in Detroit?" Well, simply, we're told that the Children's Hospital throws its doors open to kids from every-

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