'Ay Borge Maskin "

observing

If you're a Little League advocate, read elsewhere. You won't like the following.
It's not anything we deliberately have manufactured. It's a story we feel we should report.
George Lerchen, once a Detroit Tiger, once a Cincinnati Red, once a minor leaguer, now makes his home in Garden City.
He's the superintendent for a construction company, but hasn't lost his 'interest or love for baseball.
A year ago, George was asked to manage a Little League team in Garden City. He graciously accepted.
His tour of duty lasted one season.
By his own choosing.

By his own choosing. But let's let Lerchen tell his own story.

But let's let Lerchen tell his own story.

"I THOUGHT it would be fun trying to teach a group of youngsters baseball... baseball the way I learned it in my 12 years in organized leagues — four in the majors.

"I'd go to practice and work hard with the kids. They worked hard, too. They didn't fool around much.

"We'd practice all phases of the game. We'd work on batting and pitching, fielding and running.

"In the workouts the boys did everything great I used to go home from practice very happy with what I saw.
"Something seemed to happen between the practices and the games, however. The boys would forget what we practiced, what we told them.

rem.
"They'd start playing badly.
"The first few times I figured, 'well₄ the season is young; they'll learn.'
"But the story kept repeating itself as the ason went on. I'd go home mumbling. I was lad. My wife would try to talk me out of my bes.

wad. My wife would try to tak me out. In blues.
"I'd get the feeling that maybe I was wasting my time and my energy."

LERCHEN, AS STATED earlier, stuck it out for one year. They wanted him back in Little League this season, but he had different ideas. "The opportunity was presented for me to manage the Garden City West team in Connie Mack. They're high school boys . . mostly from West High where they had a winning season this past spring. manage ...
Mack. They're high school ...
West High where they had a winning season.
West High where they had a winning season.
What a difference working with these boys. You tell them something and they work on it in practice and use it in games.
"They seem to appreciate what you have to say and it certainly has paid off for them so far in the young season."

"SHIP PAUSED ...
"The Leaguers.

LERCHEN PAUSED

He reflected about the Little Leaguers.

"Maybe, it was wrong for me to blame the boys on the team.

"Perhaps they actually were a little too young at the ages of 10-12 really to comprehend and retain what we were trying to tell them.

Hend And retain what we were trying to them.

"But, there was something else that got me.

"I'm all for winning, too. But I had the feeling—and still have—that in the cases of youngsters, what comes first has to be teaching and
perfecting the fundamentals... that when the
boys master the techniques of the game they'll
win and enjoy what they're doing more.

"But, as I said, the parents just didn't seem
to want that.

"It was WIN and WIN" and WIN."

FROM WHAT he now sees Lerchen hones.

FROM WHAT he now sees, Lerchen hopes that there'll be others who'll jump aboard the bandwagon and help with the managing and coaching on sandiot teams.

These are the boys who need help more," Lerchba said. 'Il's the young teenager who finds himself in a vulnerable position, more so than the kid of 10 or 12.

The 17 or 18-year-old involved in baseball or some other sport during the summer is less apt to wander off the course and get involved with the law.

wander off the course and get involved with the law.

"There's something extra nice about the kids in this Connie Mack League.

"None of the boys has a girl-type hairdo. They are supported to the most part.

"The disriptined for the most part.

"The disription of the host part.

"The are supported to the involved and learned the importance of teanwork. It'en appet that will help them as they go onth life."

Lerchen would like to see the number of teams reverse themself in the area.

"Instead of a town like Livonia having 140 Little League teams and only six or seven for boys of high school age, it should be the other way around. The same should hold true in all communities. We'd all be better off."

Agree."

Eddie Geigner you see it, now you don'

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AMERICAN LEGION FRIDAY — Farmington at Mil-



Wert was picked as a utility infielder by Manager Dick Wil-liams of the Boston Red Sox, who'll guide the American League's best against the cream

League to best signification of the cream of the common of



FOURTH TIGER named to the American League All-Star squad is Third Baseman Don Wert, He joins Catcher Bill Free-han, Outfielder Willie Horton and Pitcher Denny

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE finally has got around to following the American League next year and operate in two sixteam divisions. Originally, the senior circuit and said it would function as one IP-team circuit after San Diego and Montreal Joined as expanded to the senior of the senior senior that there is no senior to the senior senio

ton,
The NL has forced the Amer-

son; Greg Lindry, the Lions' No. 1 pick from Massachusetts, handled the East quarterback-ing and clicked 14 times for 160

ing and clicked 14 times for 10 years.

Jerry DePoyster of Wyomling another Lions pick, booted four conversions for the winmers white Pall O'Pell, recovered a big fumble and also caught a 40-yard pass.

The game's big star was their man their part of the period of

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Sports World--In Brief Form

Wert Fourth Tiger Named For All Stars

teur Athletic Union. Owen re-placed William Kreifeldt, who returns to the post of sports information director at Wayne State University,

The NL his forced the American to re-establish a 162-game schedule for 1968 after the American had said it would cut back its slate by six games. Under the revised divisional setup, the two winners will meet for the league crown and the right to enter the world series.

THREE DETROIT LIONS
TRATERS distinguished them.

draftees distinguished them-selves in Friday's East-West College All-Star game that kicked off the 1968 football sea-

GOLFERS

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Footloys, Etonics, naton & Murphys, etc



Bunning, the ex-Detroit Tiger ace, now with Pittsburgh, When he beat Philadelphia, 10-1, Friday, it marked his first victory in two months. His overall record for the season now is 4-9,

THE AMERICAN-OWNED Ribero captured the Irish Sweepstakes and made a lot of folks reach. Odds-on favorite Sir Ivor finished second with VAI D'Aoste from France third in the 11/2 mile race.

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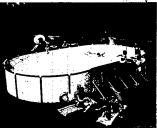
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