

S. Farmington Crowned State LL Champ

It's history the South Farmington Nationals are writing in Little League baseball this summer.

Never before has a team from the Farmington League made it through a district tournament. But the Nationals today are celebrating as Michigan's 1970 state champs after knocking off Harper Woods, 2-1, and then blasting Muskegon, 11-1, in the state tournament at St. Clair over the weekend.

There'll be little chance for the Nationals, managed by Fred Wenson to relax. Saturday they travel out of state to play the Ohio champs at Maumee, near Toledo. If successful there the Nationals will

advance to the national regionals, to be held in Indiana. From there it could be on to Williamsport, Pa., for the World Series of Little League baseball.

BUT AS FAR as Manager Wenson is concerned, his charges, picked from the six teams in the National League of South Farmington's LL program are just playing each game one at a time.

"There's no other way you can do it," explained Wenson. "When you're in Little League tournaments, it's one defeat and out. You can't be looking ahead past your next game, because there's very well might never be a tomorrow that way."

The story of the Nationals' success is the story of great pitching, plus a power-loaded lineup.

While Dave Duelo personally has pitched five victories — one a perfect game — there's no discounting the work of Jay Cummings, either. He has

hurled three tournament wins. It was Duelo who downed Harper Woods and Cummings who pitched the win over Muskegon — a victory that turned out to be an easy one after the Farmington bats found the range in the fourth inning.

The game had gone scoreless — this crucial game for the state crown — for three full innings.

Farmington had kicked away a great chance in the first inning when Ken Medelis and Dave Cleland singled and Kevin Hickey walked in between to load the bases. But none was able to come home.

In the fourth, you'd have thought that Farmington had Willie Horton or Frank Howard in the lineup. O' maybe Mickey Mantle or Willie Mays.

Jim Brown and John Carney walked. Up came Vince Egged. Boom! Egged cracked the ball out of the park for a three-run homer.

South Farmington led, 3-0. This was just the beginning for the Nationals. Medelis and Duelo singled and with two outs Cummings came to bat. Pitchers aren't supposed to hit, but Cummings showed 'em differently. He duplicated Egged's drive and the South Farmington team now had a commanding 6-0 lead.

In the fifth, Brown walked, Carney was safe on a fielder's choice and Egged singled to fill the bases.

When Medelis walked, Brown was forced in and Hickey stroled to the plate. One swing

by Hickey did it. A grand slam homer.

That was all the scoring for South Farmington and when it was all over there was more silverware — the state trophy — to take back to Farmington.

Duelo had given up an early run and his mates, meantime, were held scoreless until the last of the sixth — the final inning in Little League play.

With one out, Jay Cummings singled and was awarded second when he was obstructed by a Harper Woods infielder. Then Duelo sacrificed him to third from where he came in on Jim Vogt's single. Vogt stole second and Carney then ripped a double to chase in Vogt with the winning run.

Hickey will carry a .439 batting average into the game at Maumee Saturday. Egged is batting .363, Duelo .353, Vogt .291, Medelis .268, Carney .271 and Dave Cleland .240.

Duelo, who already has won 23 times this season, will get the pitching call.

Here are the 14 boys who make up the South Farmington State Little League champs:

Ken Medelis, Kevin Hickey, Dave Cleland, Dave Duelo, Jay Cummings, Jim Vogt, Jim Brown, John Carney, Vince Egged, Sherman Stinson, Dan Sutton, Jim Gallagher, Bruce Habermehl and Dan Marlon.

Announce Plans For Citywide Golf Tournaments In Livonia

Two medal play, handicap tournaments will crown the men's and women's 1970 golf champions in the City of Livonia.

The meets, first of the kind to be presented solely for residents of Livonia, will be staged at the Whispering Willows golf course during the 20th birthday celebration of Western Wayne County's fastest growing city.

Announcement of the twin tournaments was made by John Dufour, director of the Livonia Dept. of Parks and Recreation, and Pro Gary Whitener of Whispering Willows. The course is operated by the DPR and is owned by the City of Livonia.

The 18-hole event for the gals will be staged on Friday, Sept. 11 with flights and prizes for the various winners. There will be an entry fee of \$5 for the handicap event.

The men's tournament will be over the 36-hole route on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 12 and 13. It will be conducted in flights with handicaps and an entry fee of \$15.

Golfers, residing in Livonia, desiring additional information or planning on filing entries may secure additional information from Whitener at the golf course or at the Dept. of Parks and Recreation office on Farmington Road in Livonia.



FIRING FAST BALL past a batter is the big thing for Dave Duelo, 12-year-old pitching star of the South Farmington Little League team which won the state championship over the weekend. Dave is one of the principal reasons for the success of the team and boasts 24 consecutive victories. (News & Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

World Series Berth Goal Of GC Pony 9

Garden City is enjoying its finest hour ever ... when it comes to baseball.

The All Star Pony League team, managed by Skip Wilfong, and coached by Chuck Carneghi, has become the toast of not only Garden City ... but the area ... the state and yes the entire mid-west part of the country.

Little wonder!

GARDEN CITY won its district tournament ... then went on to win the state ... and last weekend swept three straight games to capture the regionals at Lafayette, Ind.

Starting Thursday, Garden City takes part in the national sectionals at Jacksonville, Ill., and if successful there against four other rivals — starting with Boulder, Colorado, in the first round ... well, it'll be on to Washington, Pa., and the World Series of Pony League baseball later in the month.

Garden City never before has come so far in baseball.

A year ago the Pony Leaguers won the state title, only to be knocked out in the regionals.

On that occasion, Wilfong was in charge. He's come back to do better this time.

The tourney at Jacksonville will be conducted on a two-defeat and out basis.

WILFONG WILL have his ace one-two pitching combine of Terry Dobbs and Steve Orr ready.

Dobbs has hurled six victories. Orr four in tourney action thus far, as Garden City has won 10 without a blemish.

It was Dobbs who toiled twice at Lafayette. Each time he went against Murray, Ky., winning, 3-2, in the first game and then, 12-0, in the deciding game.

In between, Orr won over Lafayette, 7-1.

Besides pitching brilliantly, Dobbs and Orr have joined with Jerry Herbst in pounding the ball merrily around.

Dobbs allowed two hits and fanned 14 in the first game at Lafayette.

Livonian Gets His Ace

After golfing for 20 years, J.L. Webber of 18310 Pershing, Livonia, made his first hole-in-one on the par three sixth hole with a 160 yard shot using a six iron.

Webber, who is 44, was one under par with a 36 on the nine hole course at Dearborn Hills Golf Course.

A member of the Ford Graphics League, he was playing with K. Mautz and F. Van Dusen.

His mates scored twice in the first, twice in fourth, twice in the fifth and twice in the sixth. Orr and Dobbs each had two hits. One of Orr's clouts was a homer.

AGAINST LAFAYETTE, it was Orr with a five-bitter. He struck out eight and walked five.

Herbst slugged a two-run homer and so did Gary Ferencich. Dobbs meantime drilled a homer with nobody aboard.

Dobbs whiffed 12, more in beating Murray the second time. He again allowed two hits.

The game was stopped under the 12-run-lead rule when Garden City scored in the top of the sixth inning.

Dobbs knocked in four runs with two doubles and a homer. Marty Hackman also drilled in

four mates with three singles.

Garden City broke the ice with three runs in the first inning on singles by Jim Wisniewski, a walk to Herbst, a single by Orr, an error putting Lou Salvatore on and a hit by Hackman.

In the second, there were four more runs when Wisniewski doubled, Herbst reached base on an error, Dobbs doubled both in, Salvatore walked and Hackman singled in one after a passed ball.

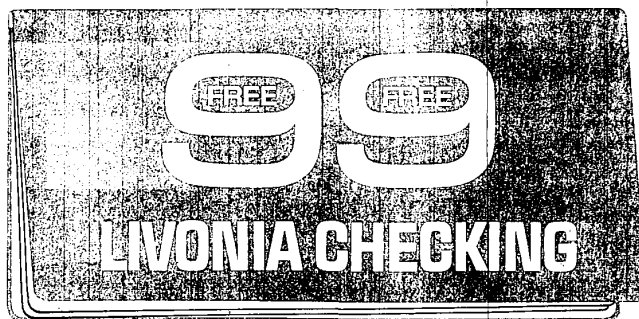
Hackman's single chased in two more runs in the fourth and in the fifth Dobbs homered after Herbst walked.

Then in the sixth Gary Carneghi walked and stole second. When the catcher's throw sailed away into the outfield, he came home with the 12th run ... and that's where the game stopped.



NOW WHAT? — That seems to be the question that Pitcher Dave Duelo, of South Farmington's Little Leaguers, is asking the catcher. Generally it's a high fast one that Dave throws and generally the batter has quite a bit of trouble getting his bat around.

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