

Dream Of World Series Berth Smashed, 10-0

Farmington Blanked By Indiana Champs

It'll be an experience 14 young men from Farmington won't soon forget.

Neither will a great many adults in Farmington. Or hundreds and thousands of folks who reside in other communities.

For more than two weeks the story of the South Farmington Nationals had caught the fancy of not only the home folks but others in surrounding communities and down into Ohio, Indiana and elsewhere.

These were the kids who came out of a new Little League in Farmington. They weren't given much of a chance in tournament play.

But in the districts which started in Southfield,

then the sectionals, then the state and then the divisional and national regionals, the Nationals caught fire.

In 11 STRAIGHT games, the Nationals emerged victorious. This chain of wins took them from the district in Southfield to the national regionals at Kokomo, Ind.

The spree of wins carried Farmington to within one game—victory of qualifying with three other U.S. teams and four foreign champs for the World Series of Little League which started this week in Williamsport, Pa.

But that 12th victory and that ride to Williamsport never materialized.

In the northern regional final at Kokomo Saturday, Farmington was bombed out by Highland South, Ind., 10-0.

So, instead of Farmington, it's Highland South in Williamsport.

THERE WAS gloom among the Farmington contingent when it was all over in Kokomo. The team had come so far and just had missed out on the greatest honor that can come to a Little League team.

But, there really was no reason for any lasting unhappiness.

After all, how many teams win district, sectional, state and divisional titles?

How many get to the regional finals? In essence, Farmington wound up as one of the top eight Little League teams in the nation. That in itself is enough to remove some of the sting which came with the defeat against Kokomo.

Bob Dodge, the Detroit area Little League commissioner, hailed the Highland South team, just as he has saluted the Farmington team week after week.

"One thing those who have followed Farmington can say is that when we finally lost, we lost to a great ball team...one which should go places at Williamsport."

Manager Fred Wenson of the Nationals felt the same way.

"A fine team beat us. We have nothing to be ashamed of," said Wenson. "But let me say how proud I am of these kids of mine... what a job they've done. Sure, it's tough to lose, but these boys of ours can be proud for a long time with what they accomplished."

Wit pleased Wenson was the team's constant ability to come from behind.

It was that way in many games.

THERE WERE many clutch performances, like in the regional opener at Kokomo where Kevin Hickey homered with two on to provide the deciding blow.

There was the pitching throughout of Dave Dueto, who hurled a total of 23 victories during the season.

But under Little League rules, a pitcher can't toil in two consecutive games. So after beating Hyde Park, Dueto was not on the mound against Highland.

Jay Cummings, who got the start for Farmington, has been hurling brilliantly throughout the tournament.

At the time he gave up a grand-slam homer in the third inning when Jeff Hudson knocked the ball out of the park.

From then on Highland added four runs in the fifth and two more in the sixth.

Cummings probably would have had to pitch a perfect game to win against Highland because the Hoosiers' pitcher, Rick Domsic, was sensational. He allowed just two hits—one to Hickey and the other to Cummings.

In addition, Domsic fanned 12 and walked two. During the weeks ahead, there'll be more salutes around Farmington for their new heroes...salutes which are most deserved.

Redford Wins Two; Then Comes End

The turnaround can come fast in sports... as Redford Township's Adray League baseball team found out this past week in the All American Amateur Boys tournament at Johnstown, Pa.

Redford, managed by Bob Atkins, zoomed away in flying fashion.

Victories on the first two days put Redford in an enviable position. It was one of four teams left with a spotless mark when the third afternoon of action rolled around.

Then it was Redford vs. Detroit Oakland Tool.

THERE WAS double importance attached to this game.

1 -- Here were the Detroit and outstate champs from the Michigan Adray program meeting for the first time this year. It was like a state championship game...only it was being staged several hundred miles away.

2 -- This, perhaps, was the most pivotal game of the tournament...the winner would be sitting pretty, while the loser now would have to fight for its life in the two-deck and out action.

For the better part of seven innings, things looked extremely bright for Redford. When Oakland came to bat in the eighth, Redford had a 7-5 lead.

IN THE FINAL game at Johnstown, Redford was one out from victory in regulation time when Vince McGugan of Washington homered with two gone in the seventh.

Then it was his brother

Steve who drove in the winning run in the 11th.

Redford had scored twice in the first inning when Bill Holmes singled in Bruce Bara, who had singled and Rich Adams, who had walked.

In the second with two out, Dale Bjerke, Bara and Adams singled for another run.

In the fifth, Adams and Howe walked and when Holmes rolled to first and the ball was thrown away, one run scored. Then a double steal produced the other.

But Washington came back with two in the sixth and one each in the seventh and ninth after scoring once in the first.

Then Washington won it.

Bjerke started again for Redford. He gave way to Jeff Taylor in the second inning. Kirk Taylor came in for Jeff in the sixth, Jeff came back in the seventh and Bara finished up.

Bara and Holmes each had two hits for the losers.

IN THE GAME with Oakland, Lee Himmelbach homered in the second to get Redford rolling.

But in the top of the fifth Oakland scored five times to go on top, 5-1.

Then Redford came back with two runs when Bara walked, Adams and Howe singled. Holmes delivered a sacrifice fly and Kirk Taylor was safe on a fielder's choice.

Redford went ahead, 5-5, in the sixth when Randy Taylor singled. John Morrison sacrificed. Rich Adams tripled and then came home himself on an error.

Redford added a run in the seventh on singles by Himmelbach and Morrison and a swinging bunt by Tim Fox.

Holmes singled in the eighth... and what a fatal inning it was.

Just about everything happened, including a grand-slam homer.

It made no difference that Redford was to add an eighth run in the bottom of the eighth. The issue already had been settled.

Ironically, Redford piled up the most hits of the season -- 17. Adams had a triple and three singles... while Himmelbach, Randy Taylor and Fox had two hits each.

The 11 runs Oakland scored in the eighth inning constituted the second greatest number ever run up by a team in the tournament.

WHAT HAPPENED in the eighth was like a nightmare, especially for Redford. Oakland put the first 12 men on base... scored 11 runs and walked away with the victory, 16-5.

Downcast Redford was, but not out. The next afternoon against Washington, Redford battled for 11 innings before finally losing, 5-5.

That was all for Redford. The Townshippers returned home... the players started to think about school and football... Manager Atkins turned his attention to coaching Redford Union's football team.

In the end, it was what Atkins considered Redford's strong suit -- pitching -- that backfired.

REDFORD HAD come up with a pair of fine mound efforts on the first two days in the tourney, but then problems developed and the roof suddenly fell out.

Meantime, the Redford bats, which weren't particularly destructive in the regular season, swatted the ball merrily, but to no avail.

Nobody could deny Redford has experienced an excellent season.

The team had bounced back to repeat as Greater Livonia League Adray champs. In the state meet, Redford had to win two in a row from Lansing on the final day to grab the crown.

Redford did. In the nationals, Redford was one of the last six teams from an original field of 16 in what is regarded as the best tournament of its kind in the country.



SYMBOLIC OF VICTORY is this picture of No. 10 of the Indiana state Little League champions scoring against S. Farmington in the national regional finals at Kokomo, Ind. The SF catcher seems dazed at the way events went. Highland South beat S. Farmington, 10-0. (Observer photos courtesy Kokomo Tribune)

S'craft Gets Scoring Ace Of Bentley

There's good news for those who follow the activities of the Schoolcraft College basketball team.

Tom Guifoyle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Guifoyle, Ingram Ave., Livonia, tabbed as one of the most prolific scorers in Bentley High history, has enrolled at Schoolcraft and will be a candidate for the 1970-71 quintet.

Tom, who was voted the most valuable on the 1970 Bentley squad, holds the school scoring record for a single game with a 50 point spree last winter.

He had athletic tenders from several colleges but decided to start his collegiate career at Schoolcraft with the prospects of transferring after his second year.



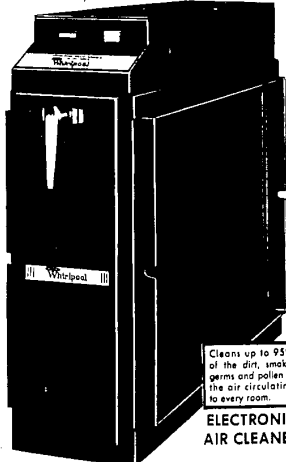
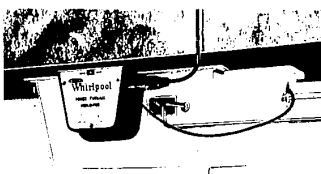
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SUPPORTERS OF S. FARMINGTON cheered for their favorites all the way even though it was apparent early that Highlands South, the Indiana state champion,

was going to be the winner. These fans never gave up and were cheering just as loud at the finish as at the start. (Observer photos courtesy Kokomo Tribune)