



B. Lucas    D. Bowen    J. Farner    P. Wischerath    T. Bobenread    J. Milligan    S. Lalor    P. Vallas  
 E. Lalor    B. Miller    J. Lehman    L. Baehre    B. Brandl    J. Rich    P. Kerber    T. Miller

## Amherst "Connie Macks" To Play For State Title

Amherst Team to Compete in State Tourney at Watervliet on Friday

The Amherst Connie Mack Little League All-Stars proceeded through their third level of competition last week end at Waverly, N. Y. by defeating Batavia Americans 2-1 on Friday and Johnson City Nationals 1-0 in 7 innings on Saturday. The Ed Lalor managed locals now embark for Watervliet (Albany) and the New York State championship between the four sectional winners. Game time on Friday is 3:00 p. m.

The Connie Macks opened the Batavia game with the same script, Johnny Lehmann labeled one over the fence for the first run. This was the fourth of the six play-off games in which John had homered in the first inning. Bob Lukas' single in the second was the only other hit off Sam Guarino, who was tough in the clutch. In the fourth, a walk to Jim Milligan, followed by passed balls and a hard shot which the shortstop fumbled off Paul Vallas' bat produced the second and eventual winning margin. In the meantime, Tom Bobenread was breezing along in full control, and for 5 2/3 innings had a no-hitter. Guarino then laced a line single to right, stole second, and, on a grounder toward first, he scored. The last batter was retired by Joe Rich to Lukas.

On Saturday, Johnson City furnished the opposition in the excellent, homey atmosphere of the Waverly Stadium. For six innings, played in the time of less than an hour, the fans were treated to a magnificent display of baseball at its best. Rival pitchers Jim Milligan and Steve Narsavage were in complete control and received

errorless support as all of the boys of both teams rose to the occasion. Although Jim had nine strikeouts to Steve's none, not a single runner advanced to second base. For the Connie Macks, John Farner walked in the third and was left stranded; Tom Bobenread opened the fifth with a line single and then was doubled off first as the rival shortstop raced deep into left for an over-the-shoulder catch and threw to first. In the sixth, Jim Milligan singled to center but died on base. Dick Planausky's single in the third, Bob Wells' walk in the fourth, and Jim Pollack's single in the fifth put J. C. men on first but they expired there.

First man up in the seventh, facing a new pitcher, Wells, who replaced Narsavage, old reliable Johnny Lehmann proceeded to blast the game wide open with another drive over the left-field wall, a shot which was ticketed from the moment it left his bat. In the last half, Bob Holbert scratched a blooper in the infield with no outs. Milligan, with complete composure, forced a pop to Vallas at third, a liner to Farner in right, and then set down the final batter on strikes.

Of special mention were two grounders handled by Paul Vallas at third, a pickup by Pete Kerber at short, an outstanding backhand stop by Joe Rich at second, and sparkling stretches by Bob Lukas at first. In addition, Jim Milligan made a stabbing stop of a liner, picked it up and threw out the runner, and then made two eye-opening plays on attempted bunts to retire runners. All in all, the Connie Macks gave a demonstration to be ranked with the best.

Some of the boys are now engaged in the Connie Mack play-off championship this week as the first-half winners, the Senators, meet the undefeated second-half winners, the Red Sox, the former managed by Elmer Manspeaker and the latter by brother Si.

The team will depart from Amherst Thursday morning for Watervliet where they will be guests of the state tourney officials, for a banquet Thursday evening, along with the sectional winners, from last Saturday's tourneys at Glens Falls, Haverstraw, and Levittown. Friday's doubleheader starts at 3 p. m., with Saturday's final scheduled for 2 p. m.