



ED MERANTE & SON



## SOCCER IS FOR THE VERY YOUNG

Soccer is for the very young as the young at heart. Although the Lancers "all-nations" players quip that in their countries boys learn soccer shortly after they learn to walk, it began here just two years ago.

In the summer of 1970, Little Guy Soccer opened its first season. Born in Rochester, Little Guy Soccer was the brain-child of Lancer director Edward Merante, who now serves as chairman of the Little Guy program in Chili.

From a modest beginning in Chili, Little Guy Soccer spread throughout Monroe County. By the end of this season, the towns will field about 500 boys and 80 girls to the LGS program.

This season, the Little Guy Soccer is joined by the Monroe County Youth Soccer Association . . . and at last count, the teams numbered 175.

Even as the season progresses, new teams are being added. Although an accurate count is difficult at this time, it's safe to assume that there's over 5,000 youngsters participating in organized soccer.

According to Howard Oaks, president of the Monroe County Youth Soccer Association and Edward Merante, "there's NO bench warmers in the league." Every boy plays at least half of every game.

The youth officials as well as the Lancer management view the league's players as tomorrow's professional material. Today, it's summer and fun fitness . . . tomorrow it is high school and college soccer . . . and after that it's the major league.

We invite you to watch these youngsters throughout the county . . . and some will even appear before the Lancer game.

So . . . come out and see the future pros of our great country.

