

2 area boxers train for Junior Olympics

By BRAD EMONS

Hard training will be the call of order for two young brothers in the next few months.

Brian and Eric Cole are aspiring to be the best in a sport they have fallen in love with—boxing.

The young Plymouth Township brothers will train almost three hours daily in preparation for the upcoming Junior Olympics to be held May 10. Eric and Brian currently belong to the Ann Arbor Boxing Club, the host club of the Michigan tournament, which will be held at Ann Arbor Huron High School.

Eric is a 13-year-old eighth grader at East Middle School and is the defending Junior Olympic champion in the Class C division at 90 pounds.

A year later, Eric is now 5-2, 105 pounds. With almost a year's experience, Eric will now compete in Class A

open division in his age and weight group.

"My brother Brian got me interested," said Eric. "I went with him to the U-M Intramural Building and started right away."

Eric caught the eye of trainer Roosevelt "Stacy" McKinley, head coach and program director of the Ann Arbor Boxing Club, which uses the U-M facilities.

"I started working with Stacy on my footwork and steps right away," said Eric.

AS A NOVICE, Eric was lightning quick and caused trouble for numerous opponents in his class and age group. He had trouble lining up opposition.

"I have a quick jab and good left hook," said Eric. "Speed is important."

Eric was impressive in a series of exhibitions. He is just coming off a break and will now train heavily right

up until the Junior Olympics.

In a typical workout, Eric said he'll work on footwork, shadow box, spar, use a heavy bag for three rounds and practice on the speed bag.

"We exercise a lot and jump rope," said Eric. "Exercising makes you strong."

Eric idolizes some pretty good boxers. He gives a lot of credit to his current coach, McKinley.

"He's the greatest," said Eric about the Ann Arbor club director.

Eric also admires professionals Tommy Hearns, Sugar Ray Robinson and Joe Louis. The young Cole also has his sights set on the 1984 Olympics.

"I want to be a part of that," said Eric.

Brian, a 15-year-old sophomore at Plymouth Salem, got interested in boxing after watching the United States team on television in the last Olympics held in Montreal.

"I've been boxing for about 1 1/2 years," said Brian.

The older Cole started boxing in the Ann Arbor club after viewing a few fights at Cobo Arena.

HE ALSO VIEWED the rapid development of Melvindale pro Mickey Goodwin, who trains at the Kronk Recreation Center in Detroit.

Last year in the Junior Olympics, Brian lost a close split decision in the 119-pound class.

Brian has now sprouted to 5-11 1/2, 156 pounds.

Like his brother, Brian possesses a strong jab and tough left hook. He will train with his brother every day and will compete in the open class in the May 10 Junior Olympics.

"That is going to be my biggest tournament ever," said Brian. "I'm going to do strenuous work right up until that tourney."

The two brothers have their mother, Jean, in their corner.

"My mother favors boxing," said Brian, "but at first she was scared."

"My mother drives us every day to Ann Arbor to work out," said Brian. "She's the best."

Unlike Eric, who strictly enjoys boxing, Brian has also competed in wrestling and track.

The 1984 Olympics are far away, but not in the minds of two brothers from Plymouth Township.

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New coach prepares OLSM

By TOM BAER

St. Mary Athletic Director Bob Shoemaker called on an old friend to fill a vacancy on his coaching staff this spring.

The friend is Stan Sulinski, and he accepted the job as head track coach at the all-boy parochial school in Orchard Lake. Shoemaker and Sulinski had coached together at the old St. Gregory High in Detroit.

"Bob got in touch with me about the track job at St. Mary," Sulinski said. "I said, 'If you really can't get anybody, let me know.' He let me know."

So now, Sulinski, a counselor at Detroit Redford High, has the task of molding some 35 hopefuls into a track team. St. Mary begins its season Friday in the Class C-D portion of the Huron Relays at Eastern Michigan University.

Despite the good turnout, Sulinski

predicts an "average year" for the team. Graduation robbed OLSM of some of its best tracksters from last season, he said.

"We're not deep in any event, really," Sulinski said. "We have one individual in each event who can hold his own. But we could be hurting when it comes time to put together a relay."

"Our best events should be the pole vault, the discus and the sprints."

Sulinski will be counting on senior

Jon Masztakowski, who cleared 13 feet in the pole vault and finished first in every dual meet last season. Another veteran is junior Phil Wasieleski, who vaults and runs the 100- and 220-yard dashes.

Some other returnees are seniors Matt Martin (shot put, discus) and Jim Roll (distance events), and juniors Bruno Strzelewicz (sprints, quarter mile) and Dean Thompson (hurdles, half mile). A junior transfer student, Peter Griffin, has been looking good in the quarter mile, the coach said.

OLSM will participate in the Spartan Relays at Michigan State University on April 6. Then comes a long inactive spell until April 24, when the team opens its dual-meet season at home against Center Line St. Clement. Opponents are being sought to fill the void, according to Sulinski.

A former football and track coach at St. Gregory and Detroit St. David (both now closed), Sulinski last coached at Detroit St. Hedwig four years ago.

"I like coaching track," he said. "I like the combination of the individual and team effort that you have in track."

WL Central coach resigns

The Wall Lake Central basketball team will open its 1979-80 season with a new coach.

Viking head coach Ken Smith has announced his resignation. Smith officially vacated the position last week, even though he had been contemplating the move since last November. He cited excessive time demands as his primary reason for leaving.

"My wife and I decided to adopt two kids," Smith said. "And, added to the two sons we already have, I feel that I should devote more of my time to my family. After all, the kids are one, two, three and four-years-old."

Smith has accepted a position as an assistant coach at Orchard Lake St. Mary for next season, but only because that job offers him more flexible hours. He said that "it was a chance to have

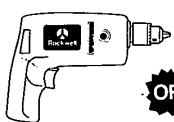
a coaching job on a name-my-own-hours type of basis, and that was just too good to pass up."

Smith will rejoin longtime friend Tim Domke at St. Mary. He was an assistant under Domke three years ago at West Bloomfield High School.

With Smith at the helm the past three years, Viking squads have experienced some difficulties winning. Central won just one game this past season, and finished 3-16 the year before.

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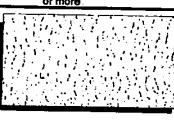
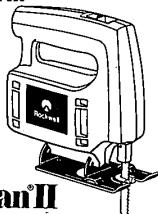
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