Hearns views amateur boxing

Thomas Hearns, a gangling, soft-spo-ken 20-year-old, has captured the fancy of the Detroit-area boxing crowd. The wellerweight, if he defeats Bruce Curry tonight in Olympia Stadi-um will be the second se

um, will have won as many profession-al bouts without a defeat as he has

al bonts without a defeat as he has lived years. From Hearns' first pro outing No-vember 25, 1977, when he recorded a second-cound TKO over Clacinal's Jerome Hill Hearns stopped Harold Weston from New York, on a seven-round TKO, the Detroiter has been pro-gressing toward a shot at the world Championship. Hearns started boxing when he ac-companied a Tied to boxing when he ac-companied a Tied to box Mile pro-gressing through the competitive ama-teur ranks. Naturally, whenever the object of a sport is to batter an opponent into sub-mission, parents and prospective parti-cipants should be concerned about safe-

OK, Thomas Hearns. Let's say you had a son who was interested in joining a boxing club. Since you've been active in the ring half your life and you're now making money there, what factors would be important in your evaluation? "A good coach, someone who really knows boxing," said Hearns in a barely audible voice. gressing through the second se knows boxing audible voice

WB soccer champs crowned Two goals by Brad Brodsky, the last oming with less than one minute re-Two goals by Brad Brossky, the last coming with less than one minute re-maining in the second overtime, helped the Cougers to a 2-1 win over the Wolverines in the 9-10-year-old cham-jonship of the West Bloomfield Soccer League last Sunday. Crach Ed Brown is Cougers got some outstanding défensive play from goalie Richard Winkelman and fulbacks Todd Brown, Larry Cavalloro and Bri-an Sterling, Mickey Hanana socred the Wolverines ione goal. The Cougers had advanced to the finals alter a 2-1 victory over the War-tors on Saturday. Marty Wolf socred both markers for the Cougers. In the 7-49-year-old division, goalie Johany Erskin recorded his eighth Sopped the Express, 2-0 in Summday's final.

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"Someone who really knows how to work with kids," he continued. "You

Gloves and AAU champion in 1975, a national AAU finalist in 1976 and a na-tional Golden Gloves and AAU titlist in 1977.

PARALLELING Hearns' successful pugilistic career has been the develop-ment of amateur boxing clubs in the western suburbs.

Amps crowned
Amps

volves performing for show and the lat-ter for dough. The biggest change, according to Hearns, is that the professional needs more a four-to-15 round bout as opposed to going all-out for three rounds like the amateur. "In boxing, you're in there for one thing — to take care of business and go on to other things," said Hearns.



have to have patience. Not everyone is a fast learner." Hearns said that he didn't know what qualities marked the good coach from a bad coach when he started at King Solomon, but he took to the sport like a bee to hone Hearns usually does just that, from the moment he steps into the ring and begins staring at an opponent with his penetrating brown eyes. Seven of Hearns '19 victories have come on knockouts within the first three rounds.

Solomon, but he took to the sport max a bee to honey. "I was doing really good at it. As I went down the line, I felt it might be will volume the said. There are differences between bor-ing as an amateur and as a professional other than the fact that the former in-volves performing for show and the lat-ter for dough. IN SPITE OF having a great amount of natural talent, Hearns sub-scribes to the philosophy that hard work can sometimes be the great

equalizer. He said that he hasn't really been

He said that he hash't really been doing things that much differently now than he did in his amateur days. "I try to work a little harder, put in more hours and more effort," said Hearns. "Boxing is a sport I really en-iov doine."

Joy doing." He also realizes that for every Thomas Hearns who has made a dent in the boxing world, there are hundreds of Joe Palookas who have been dented

by the system

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