

Getting your kicks

Soccer boom makes great big hit



All the youngsters are anxious to play. A coach in the Western Suburban Soccer League lends a helping hand.

Some 1000 youngsters enrolled from the Plymouth-Canton area this year.

Soccer continues to be one of the fastest-growing sports among young athletes.

The popularity was apparent in the recent play-offs of the Great Lakes Soccer League as Farmington teams traveled to Plymouth in quest of glory.

More than 1,000 youngsters are registered for Plymouth-Canton teams, and, based on the spirit of play in the playoffs, the sport is as enthusiastically received in the Farmington area.

One reason for the popularity is that a greater number of youngsters can participate in soccer, as compared to baseball, basketball, hockey or even football.

The sport also is very economical — all the players need are uniforms and a set of kn x-pads. Teams need only a set of goal posts, a soccer ball, and a field.

For educators, who are eyeing soccer as an addition to the prep sports program, another major consideration beyond economy is that soccer players are much less liable to receive injuries.

And educators and school board members are getting more and more pressure from soccer players, parents and coaches to begin and expand a prep soccer program in the schools.

The major reason, of course, is the expansion from year to year in the little league soccer leagues — such as Great Lakes and Western Suburban.

And most knowledgeable soccer persons will agree that the major impetus to the little league soccer program was the arrival of the Detroit Express and Trevor Francis to the Silverdome.



Photos by
Gary Caskey



A Canton defender runs down the ball in a game played at Centennial Educational Park. Just like all the little league sports (below), parents and friends make it a big event watching the games from right along sideline.

THE INSIDE * ANGLE

FESTIVAL GOERS will have a choice of events this year. The Farmington Area Jaycees are sponsoring a festival of their own at Twelve Mile and Drake during the Founders Festival. So far the plucky Jaycees are planning a bingo tent and a giant balloon for the site. Last year's rodeo and four-wheel drive events have disappeared from the Jaycee agenda. The Jaycees say that the average Farmington-Farmington Hills resident isn't interested in a four-wheel drive. The four-wheel drive club who co-sponsored the event last year said that they wouldn't return because they weren't given a fair mention in publicity about the event.

WHO WILL BUY A SLIGHTLY used governor's mansion? Time will tell in Farmington as the old Warner house, home of Farmington's only resident governor goes up for sale. Asking price is in the neighborhood of \$200,000. For that price the new owners will get to live with the marker the Farmington Historical Society erected on the front lawn. It's also one of the few places in the city where visitors can get a third story view of the area.

FARMINGTON HILLS CITY COUNCIL members were screaming over ice cream the other day when they had a hard time coming to a decision on the number of chairs to allow a local purveyor of the creamy summer treat.

They finally settled on six chairs for the ice cream parlor. The grateful and relieved owner invited the council for ice cream when the parlor opens. Only trouble is there are six seats allowed and seven council members. Angles would suggest that they take a vote on which member gets to eat his or her ice cream while sitting on a curb outside. By the time they come to an agreement, all their ice cream would be melted.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Farmington is celebrating its 150th anniversary as a congregation. To commemorate the event, the church is selling eight-inch plates with a sketch of the present church on Warner and Grand River and of the original building called the church on the hill. In addition, the dual sketches by Gregg Newsum, a church member are featured on stationery and kitchen tiles. A package of 14 sheets of writing paper is \$1.50 and the tiles cost \$3. Persons interested in buying mementos of the church can call the church office at 474-6573.

MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH from the past or present who wish to attend the homecoming brunch at the Botsford Inn on July 29

can still make reservations by calling the First United Methodist Church office. There are 40 reservations still waiting to be filled. The brunch, scheduled for 1:30 p.m., will cost \$8.50 a plate. The festivities at the Botsford follow a morning church service and procession from the site of the old church to the present building.

RABBI EFRY Spectre, of Adat Shalom Synagogue in Farmington Hills, will talk about the annual meeting of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry at 12:40 p.m., July 12 on WDET-FM, 101.9 on the radio dial.

ANGLES CONGRATULATES Catherine Bennett, a 1971 graduate of Farmington High School. Ms. Bennett, the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Gerald L. Bennett of Farmington, has been selected as a vocal and conducting participant in the July Aspen Music Festival. A student at Albion College, she will be an apprentice to the Chicago Lyric Opera during fall semester. Sounds exciting.

ANOTHER in Farmington is Grace Vernava, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Vernava of Compton Circle. She will be listed in the 13th annual edition of Who's Who Among American High School Students, 1978-79, distributed by Rand McNally and Co. Ms. Vernava will be a senior at Our Lady of Mercy High School in the fall. She is a member of the Young Democrats of America and would like to attend Harvard University in 1980.

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