There may have been a time, early in the current season, when the powers-that-be in the junior tennis circuit had never heard of 14-year-old Erin Ashare.

That time — if there ever was one — is long past. The eighth-grader at St. Hugo of the Hills school in Bloomfield Hills is making a name for herself in

She finished in the top 15 in the Girls' 14-year-old-and under division in the National Indoors championships at the Franklin Racquet Club in Southfield. She was a semifinalist in both the Junior Orange Bowl tournament in Coral Gables, Fla., and the Tropicana Easter Bowl tournament in Edgewater, N.J.

And she won the Western Indoor

Louisville, Ky.

'The wins, and her progress at the big tournaments — she beat Amanda Brown, the No. 1 ranked Girls' 14's player in England, at the Orange Bowl tournament — have brought Ashare a long way in a short time.

"When I was about 9 years old," she clared.

playing."

Ashare swam and took ballet lessons

Ashare swam and took ballet lessons when she was younger, but once she found tennis, that was it.

"I like it a lot," she said, "love it."
And there isn't much chance of her taking up any other sport.

"I'm satisfied with tennis," she de-

PART OF THE appeal for Ashare is going to places like Coral Gables and Louisville for tournaments. She says that tournaments are "fun," and that it's nice meeting other children. The way players are housed during the tournaments facilitates making friends

But, then, they don't really need to. They see each other so much during the year that it would be a little like writing to the kid down the street. Of course, living with another family does have its problems. For example, what do you do when you have to play against the girl you're staying with?

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as nice meeting other children. The way players are housed during the courasments facilitates making.

"Most of the time I'm boused with a friend," said Ashare, and we stay at someone's bouse."

The children on the circuit really dort get a chance to correspond, according to Ashare. ASHARE DOESN'T play all the tour-

Louisville."

Perhaps not coincidentally, the tournaments in Midland and Louisville were both Ashare wins.

"I like it better with the family," she said. "It's more cominortable."

Ashare said her goal is to one day be a professional tennis player, like Tracy Austin, for example. She has the two-hand backhand that is required equipment for most young alwayer, these what do you do when you have to play against the girl you're staying with?

"That only happened once," said Ashare, "that happened at the Easter Bowl this year in N.J. We just didn't atk much at all."

Playing in big tournaments in front of big crowds away from home can also be somewhat nervewracking.

"I like hitting, in practice," said Ashare, "because I'm real consist-hashare. "I usually like that more because you get so nervous in tournaments."

That doesn't mean that she doesn't like what she's doing.

"When it's all over with," said

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<u>Former USBA president</u>

Davey is now a Hall of Famer

Chuck Davey, Birmingham insur-ance executive who has been promi-nent in all phases of boxing for four decades, will be formally inducted into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame in ceremonies May 12 at Cobo Hall as a highlight of the annual Michigan Week observance.

highlight of the annual Michigan Week observance. Joining him in the valhalla of the state's athletic elite will be former Lion lineman and Bloomfield Hills resident Alex Karras, all-time bowling great Joe Joseph and the late former Lion coach George Wilson. Few inductees into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame have had such a multi-faceted career in their favorite sport as Davey. He is best remembered as the No. 1 TV sports figure of the early '30s — a graceful stylist with blinding speed who put together an unbeaten string of 39 bouts in the pro rank to the line string of 39 bouts in the pro ranks. He chalked up 25 KOs, won 12 deci-

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sions and fought two draws in a sensa-tional career that lifted him to a world welterweight title bout with the great Kid Gavilan. Davey won new admirers for his gallant stand against Gavilan, losing when he was unable to come out for the 11th round.

HIS RECORD AS AN amateur was

HIS RECORD AS AN amateur was even more outstanding.

He is the only fighter who ever won four NCAA championships. At 17, he took his first NCAA crown as a Michigan State University freshman. He was voted the outstanding boxer in the NCAA tournament three times. His coach called him the greatest collegitate fighter of all time.

For 15 years Davey served as the boxing commissioner of Michigan until he was replaced early this year. He won internationally approval for his efforts to encourage amateur boxing and

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to spark the resurgence of the pro grane here.

He was a founder and the first predient of the United States Boxing Asso-ciation, which seeks to up-grade the sport in this country.

His colleagues on the World Boxing Association paid high tribute to him on several occasions when he was named a vice president of that body. He has headed every key subcommittee in the WBA.

headed every key subcommittee in the WBA.

DAVEY, WHO HOLDS A master's degree in education administration from Michigan State, never intended to make professional boxing ihis life's work. As an amateur star, he decided

to get into pro boxing in order to earn enough to launch himself on a business career.

Davey had a fine pro career, beating

mand big purses, which tire.

He had made enough to begin what an enormously successful press.

He had made enough to begin what has become an enormously successful career in the insurance business. Presently, he heads one of the top 10 New England Life agencies in North America, directing the multi-million-dollar operation from his command post in Troy.



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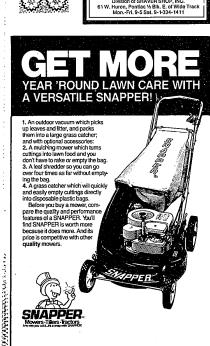
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