

# Boxer shows winning form

**WIN OR LOSE**, nobody can accuse the Farmington High School baseball team of not trying.

The Falcons, under coach Tony Wenson, have devised a most unique and creative pre-conditioning program.

First thing they did was to hire a body conditioning expert, Stacy Wenson, wife of coach Wenson, runs the team through a vigorous assortment of exercises from basic calisthenics to Aerobics.

Next comes the punching bag. The punching bag? Believe it or not, Wenson has in-

stalled two speed bags similar to those used by boxers. The Falcon players take turns working out on the bag.

The purpose: It improves hand-eye coordination, an integral component in the art of hitting a baseball.

"We've done some investigating," said Wenson. "We've consulted optometrists, ophthalmologists, college coaches and pro scouts to see what would help develop better baseball players. They all agreed that developing good hand-eye coordination would be the best place to start."

Thus, the punching bags.

**TO HELP GET** the players enthusiastic about this bizarre training method, Wenson, with the help of his father, called in an expert last Tuesday.

Hilmer Kinty, former world lightweight champion and current top-ranked junior welterweight, stopped by Farmington High to give the baseball team some pointers.

Kinty demonstrated the proper techniques of both hitting the bag and jumping rope — both, he said, "would help you guys get the bat on that fast-ball and those little curves you're going to be seeing."

"I bet you didn't think I knew anything about baseball," Kinty added with a smile.

Let's you think punching the bag is a waste of a baseball player's time, consider Joe Bob Wenson, brother of coach Wenson. Wenson worked out with the punching bag heavily prior to last year. As a freshman on the Falcons' varsity last year, Wenson hit over .400.

While not all of that success can be attributed to the bag, no one, certainly not either of the Wensons, will doubt that it helped.

—Chris McCosky



Punching the bag helps improve hand and eye coordination. After a few lessons from Kinty, Brad Tobin (left) makes it look easy.



Hilmer Kinty (above) enjoyed demonstrating his skills to the team while Mike Christensen (left), a member of the Farmington High School baseball team, shows off his rope-jumping technique. The exercises are designed to improve the performance of the ball club.

Staff photos by Randy Borst

## memory lane

Memories, memories... have we got the memories. And we'd like to share them with you. Using local newspaper files, we're dishing up generous slices of life in the Farmington community from 40, 30, 20 and 10 years ago.

**FEB. 3, 1944** — A PILOT AND his student escaped with minor injuries when the light plane in which they were flying crashed into a clump of trees near Krist Airport on Orchard Lake Road north of 12 Mile. Pilot Frank Tipper, 21, and student Victor Bullard, 22, were questioned by police. The two Detroiters were not detained.

"SMART PEOPLE in Farmington?" asked the Around the Block column. "You bet your life — and one of the luckiest in this category is Mrs. Harry Smith of 2309 Grand River Avenue. On Wednesday morning the 'Know Your America' program called Farmington 1546-W — that's Mrs. Smith's telephone number — and asked what river was used to form the project at Boulder Dam, and although Mrs. Smith didn't have her radio on, she was able to give the correct answer — the Colorado River. She won \$50. We're sure happy to have such nice people in Farmington. Our congratulations, Mrs. Smith."

**ANOTHER AROUND** the Block item noted, "Winter wonder hit Farmington with the beautiful snowfall on Monday. Did you have the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of it, and notice what a lovely, still morning it was? It's high time we had a little bit of real winter. O.K. — don't throw that snowball."

**SHORT ITEM:** "Mr. Arthur Lamb was in Pontiac on business last Saturday." Another short: "Korea's civilization is 43 centuries old."

**CLASSIFIED:** "WANTED — Ride to Bomber Plant, 7 or 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 or 5 shift. Tel. 380, Brookdale, 2 doors off Grand River."

**FEB. 4, 1954** — APPROXIMATELY \$3,000 was collected in the APRIL and CINCINNATI areas during the March of Dimes Mothers' March Jan. 28, according to Mrs. James Lillie, southwest Oakland County chairman. Farmington-area Girl Scouts joined the mothers in the annual march on polo.

**RICHARD HANNAH**, 14, of 33480 Bostwick, was bitten on the leg by a dog owned by Mrs. Russell Pagel of 34163 W. Nine Mile Road Feb. 1. Hannah was treated by a local doctor, and Mrs. Pagel was instructed by Farmington police to keep the dog tied and under observation for 15 days.

**SOME 100 QUALIFIED** voters of the Woodbine Subdivision Water District in Farmington Township are expected to vote Feb. 9 in a special election to name five new water commissioners. A special polling place will be set up in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Miller, 28169 Wildwood Trail.

"FARMINGTON HIT THE air waves and sight waves last Saturday night, and very pleasantly, too," noted the Around the Block column. "If you happened to be watching and listening to Channel Two, Station WJBK-TV, you saw a Barbershop quartet composed of Jerry Brumm, Werner Maki, Jim Hill and Gordon Ayers, Farmington High stu-

dents, do their stuff. They did a mighty fine job of representing their school and their community."

**CHISCO AND SPRY** were on sale at 79 cents for a three-pound can at Farmington Meats, 33419 Grand River. Also on special: Robin Hood flour at \$1.89 for a 25-pound bag.

**FEB. 6, 1964** — JOSEPH DEVRIENDT, Farmington's director of public safety, walked away from his office in the new municipal building for the last time Jan. 28, having retired at age 65 after 35 years of service to the community. DeVriendt came to Farmington in the spring of 1920 after serving a year with the Michigan State Police.

A ZONING ORDINANCE, which would block multi-dwelling structures, was adopted Feb. 4 by the Village of Wood Creek Farms. A planned multi-dwelling housing project "would tend to destroy existing property values, create traffic and transportation problems, enhance the danger of fires, increase the requirements for police protection, violently disrupt the general trend and character of the building and population development and destroy this established rural area of natural beauty..." according to a statement issued by village officials.

**PROPERTY OWNERS** of Springland, LaMeura Estates and the southern part of Forest Hills subdivisions were to meet Feb. 14 with Farmington Township Supervisor Curt Hall to discuss the possibilities of extending into these subdivisions the 24-inch water main now being installed along 11 Mile Road.

"HOP TO IT, gals... give your guy Jockey 'Honey Bunny' underwear," advised an advertisement for The Men's shop in Farmington. The garments were "... boxers beautifully aged with a 'beating heart' surprise," and priced at \$1.95.

**FEB. 6, 1974** — A TRIP TO THE corner grocery store became a chilling brush with murder for Joseph Ugrin of Farmington Hills. "I'm still kind of shaky," said Ugrin after the body of William N. Jones, 61, of Detroit, was dumped in front of his house just a mile from the Farmington Hills police station. Jones, a retired auto worker, had been shot once in the head and dumped on the quiet residential street. Ugrin told police he thinks he heard the shot.

**POLICE FROM LIVONIA**, Farmington and Farmington Hills raided a house at 34474 Rhonwood in Farmington Hills and confiscated approximately \$15,000 worth of goods apparently burglarized from area businesses. Police arrested six people, including four who lived at the address and two from Warren.

**THE ANNUAL JAYCEE** play, planned for March 22-23 at Harrison High School, will have a historical theme this year. The work will be the Jaycees' concept of Farmington history, done as a light-hearted musical comedy.

A GUNMAN ROBBED Bill's restaurant at 12 Mile and Orchard Lake roads in Farmington Hills Feb. 4. Employees told police of a man armed with a small handgun robbed them of \$160.

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