

FARMINGTON —  
FARMINGTON HILLS  
SPORTS  
SCENE

### Grand opening planned

Suburban Hockey will have its grand opening celebration and open house at the new Suburban Training Center in Farmington Hills noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 20. The public is welcome and admission is free.

The 70,000-square-foot facility features two NHL-size ice surfaces, pro shop, skate sharpening, snack shop and a full-service fitness center. Free skate sharpening and pro shop discounts will be available June 20.

Activities will include ice skating, test-the-speed-of-your-shot activity, pictures on the ice-resurfacing machine, Pepsi Pop Culture games and more. Prizes will be available, including a hockey weekend in Toronto provided by Advantage Travel.

Registration for fall youth hockey leagues and summer instructional programs will take place June 20, too.

Teams looking for summer conditioning ice time and weight training facilities can call the Suburban Training Center at (248) 888-1400.

Suburban Training Center is located in the Farmington Hills Industrial Park, south of the intersection at Ten Mile Road and Grand River, west of Halsted, at 23990 Freeway Park Dr.

### Picnic with the Tigers

The Detroit Tigers, the Tigers Wives Association and the Boys and Girls Clubs of southeast Michigan are joining together for the first picnic in the Park on Sunday, July 12, at Tiger Stadium.

The event, which will begin about 45 minutes after the end of the Tigers-Blue Jays game, will allow fans the chance to enjoy a picnic on the Tiger Stadium Field and mingle with members of the Tigers.

Picnic in the Park is limited to 300 guests and due to early sales by the Boys and Girls Clubs, only 200 tickets remain. Tickets include food and drink plus admission to that day's Tigers game. Tickets cost \$30.

Tickets to the picnic include a game ticket are \$75 with all proceeds going to the Boys and Girls Clubs of southeast Michigan.

To purchase tickets or have more information, contact the Boys and Girls Clubs at (248) 203-1260.

### King & His Court to visit

Eddie "The King" Feigner will lead his four-man team, The King and His Court, against a nine-man team at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, July 4, at Kennedy Field (Southgate Civic Center) as part of the Little Caesars USSSA Fastpitch National Invitation Tournament.

Feigner has pitched nearly 10,000 games in 60 years, including 238 perfect games and 930 no-hitters. He has 8,500 victories and once won 187 games in a row.

He has struck out more than 8,420 batters pitching blindfolded. For ticket information, call (734) 625-1069.

### Girls running camp

The 16th Annual Buddies and Pals Girls Running Camp will have two sessions July 28-Aug. 1 and Aug. 2-8 at the Brighton Recreation Area.

The cost for one session is \$165, which includes food, room and T-shirt. A two-week camper special is offered for \$250. A non-refundable deposit of \$65 is required. All fees must be paid by Friday, June 25.

The camp consists of two workouts per day (Monday through Friday), an individual race on Saturday, guest speakers, a 3-to-1 athlete to coach ratio and two movie-and-pizza nights.

Gary Servais, cross country coach at Mercy High School, is the camp director. Checks should be payable to Servais. Send all inquiries to him at 29300 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336.

### Adult hockey sign-up

The Farmington Hills Adult Hockey Association is registering teams for the 1998 season, which starts Sept. 8 at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

There will be four age divisions with eight teams in the 18-and-over, 12 in the 30-and-over, eight in the 40-and-over, six in the 47-and-over.

Registrations are being accepted through Saturday, Aug. 1, or until each division is full. The cost is \$505 per team for all divisions.

Players of all skill levels are welcome. For more information, call the FHAHA at (248) 471-6004.



## He's fighting his way to the top

■ The undercard for the "Rumble On The River" Tuesday night includes a fighter known to some Farmington Hills residents. Scott Buchzeiger, who grew up here, will fight a junior lightweight bout. The fights will take place in an open-air arena at Chene Park next to the Detroit River.

In the face of doubting friends, sports stereotypes and presumably long odds, Scott Buchzeiger wanted to be a boxer.

That was five years ago and Buchzeiger, known in the boxing community simply as Scotty Buck, would be the first to say he still has a ways to go.

But he has done well in a rugged sport in which you'll be hard pressed to find other white suburban mortgage brokers like him getting into the ring.

"People where I live think it's a joke," said Buchzeiger of his budding career. "They think you have to be in poverty; they think you have to be Black or Mexican to fight, but that's not true. All you have to do is want it."

"I'm definitely breaking the stereotype. But I'm way past that."

Buchzeiger, who was raised in Farmington Hills and recently moved to Southfield, has been fighting professionally for the last 4½ years and has compiled an 11-5-1 record with nine

knockouts. He will try to add to his victory total Tuesday during the "Rumble On The River" at Chene Park on the Detroit riverfront.

The event starts at 8 p.m. and is the creation of Tommy "Boom Boom" Johnson and his New Champions Promotions. Buchzeiger will fight a six-round junior lightweight bout against Chico Croot of Ypsilanti on the undercard.

Buchzeiger, a bachelor who turns 27 on Thursday, trains at Johnson's New Champions Gym in Redford and plans to sign a promotional contract with him.

Johnson, the former IBA featherweight champion of the world and current IBF junior lightweight champ, thinks Buchzeiger has the potential to be a champion, too.

"Scotty is to the point we want to start getting him ready for a title fight," Johnson said, adding Buchzeiger might fight for one of the

continental titles. "My goal is to put a belt around his waist by the end of the summer."

"Scotty used to be a puncher; he used to just fight a lot. Now he's learning how to box, how to be smart in the ring. I see a bright future for Scotty."

The 132-pound Buchzeiger, who moved up from featherweight and plans to go no higher, said his success in the ring is nothing less than amazing.

"I had no amateur background," he said. He started as a kick boxer and had only five amateur fights. "The improvement in my skills has been incredible, especially over the last six months."

He credits his new coach, Dave Gray, and Johnson, who frequently spars with him, for making him a better boxer.

"(Johnson) has helped me tremendously," Buchzeiger said. "I can say he's a master. My brother said he's Yoda. You don't get any better than him."

Buchzeiger said Johnson and others at New Champions have taught him to think in the ring and see a fight as a chess match.

"My style has changed," he said. "I

used to be a brawler; now I'm more of a boxer-puncher. One of my best assets would be my power."

"Tommy has shown me a bunch of different styles, because he's been around. He's getting me away from being a one-dimensional fighter and saying 'OK, there's other ways to do it.' He's making me more of a universal fighter."

Despite his professional status, boxing is really a hobby for Buchzeiger, who works full time for Shore Mortgage in Birmingham.

"That's my top priority, because I can't box forever," he said, adding he couldn't be happier with his circumstances.

"Everything is going my way. I have my dad (Leon) behind me, and Tom Johnson wants nothing but the best for me. When things are like that, you can't do anything but succeed."

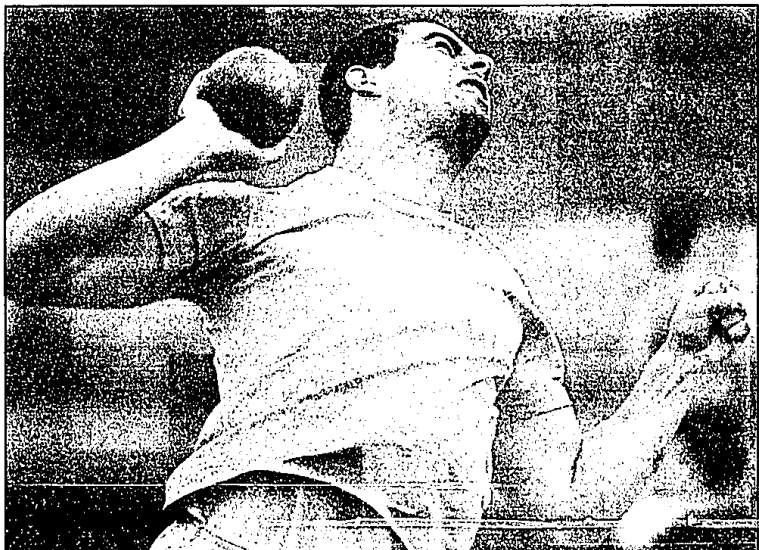
Buchzeiger hasn't convinced his friends, whom he says show little interest in his boxing career, he made a wise choice for a hobby. The question he is often asked is "Why boxing?"

That used to bother him, he said. But several years of experience and some

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## On the fast track

### Farmington schools place 7 on Observer squad



All-Area thrower: North Farmington senior Kirk Moundros doesn't fit the image of a big, hulking shot putter, but he was certainly one of Observerland's best, earning first-team, all-area honors.

If you succeed, you will be rewarded. That could be the theme of the 1998 All-Observer boys track and field team, which is filled with seniors and members of the area's top squad — Plymouth Salem.

The Rocks had a fantastic season, winning a regional meet, the Western Lakes Activities Association title and the Observerland Relays championship.

Salem ended its season by taking eighth place in Class A state competition, which proved to be one of the fastest meets in history.

### ALL-AREA TRACK

Leading the Salem all-area contingent of three individual athletes and three relay teams is senior Ian Searey — the 1998 Athlete of the Year.

Searey made the squad with his performance in the 800-meter run (1:53.6), but he also excelled in the 400 (50.9) and 1,600 (4:37.0) and is a member of Salem's outstanding 1,600 and 3,200 relay teams.

Searey was one of the many seniors to be honored this season. Only three non-seniors made the team in individual events (Farmington Harrison's Derek Laskowski, Livonia Churchill's Ryan Kearney and Plymouth Salem's Nick Allen).

The 1998 team also includes five All-Observer repeaters: Searey, Kenney, Westland John Glenn's Harden James, Harrison's Keith Battle and Livonia Stevenson's Rob Bittle.

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