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Musical Boxer

Willson Elected New President of B'ham Tennis Club

Officers of the Birmingham Tennis Club were elected recently by the executive board.
Officers for the 1948 season are: president, J. Curtis Willson; 1st vice-president and secretary, Ray C. Sackett; 2nd vice-president, John Shiner; treasurer, Ralph M. Dunbar Sr.

The permanent executive board
for he's establishing a minor in music as well.

members include the above named officers and Robert Muzzy and Wayne C. Smith.

Plans for the coming year include numerous inter-club matches and tournaments. Word has been received that a center for holding an officially sanctioned tournament during the early part of the 1948 season. National rankings of tennis players are based on officially sanctioned tournaments only.
Development of the younger tennis players of this area is one of the principle objects of the tennis club and special arrangements are being made to help them this year.



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MSC Boxer Finds Musical Ability Aids Ring Career

Jack Tierney
EAST LANSING, Mich.—Jack Tierney, 146-pound veteran on Michigan State college's boxing team who mixes music with boxing, came pretty near becoming an orchestra personality instead of an athletic coach for which he now is preparing.

"It takes timing and lots of it to become a fighter, and I learned patience in practice while playing my trumpet in a band," Tierney declares.

The 25-year-old junior from 727 S. Adams road, Birmingham, starred in athletics at Royal Oak High school.

Following graduation from Royal Oak, Tierney enlisted in the Air Corps at Scottsboro, Ala., and volunteered for the post band. This brought him face to face with many interesting experiences, both musically and pugilistically.

Of major importance was the fact that Tierney was required to practice with the post band at almost the same hour each day that boxing practices were held, with the result that he had to do a lot of fast talking to keep his commanding officers satisfied.

After winning early matches, members of the post band became more interested in watching Tierney in the ring than having him around during band practice. Soon they tagged him as the "musical boxer."

Boxing brought him face to face with many top-flight performers while in the Army. One was Carlo Chavez, a top-flight featherweight of reknown today.

Losses Close Decision
While stationed at Langley Field, Va., Tierney traveled back to Michigan to oppose rangy Art Pries in an amateur bout in Detroit. Throughout the hard-fought battle, Tierney stuck with his man but lost a close decision.

Throwing his gloves in the corner for awhile, Tierney picked up his trumpet and joined the band to play for bond rallies, USO shows and visiting celebrities. He appeared with Bing Crosby and Bob Hope in a show at Bolling Field, Washington, D. C.

Following his discharge from the services in 1945, Tierney enrolled at Michigan State. Two years ago he joined the Spartan boxing team and, fighting as a 130-pounder, won one match while losing four decisions. His victory was via the knockout route against Georgetown U.

Moves Into 145-Lb. Class
Believing that the 130-pound weight required him to trim down to a light of weakening himself, Tierney this season received permission from Coach George Makris to move up to the 145-pound class.

His first appearance as a 145-pounder came last December against Maryland in the Sugar Bowl fight at New Orleans, La. Against Roland Hyde, one of the top prospects in their defending Southern Conference championship team, Tierney fought to a draw in an engagement which divided opinion among the ring-siders. Many thought the Birmingham lad had won.

Since coming to college, Tierney shifted his study in order to major in physical education. He's not forgetting his trumpet, however.

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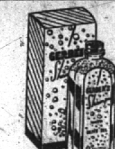
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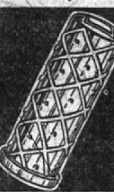
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