

# He Throws Weight Around

By LARRY EVE  
Staff Writer

The dull thud coming from the basement of the Birmingham YMCA each Thursday evening is a somewhat torturous being administered to the errant youth of the area.

It's barely Ross Faustino teaching the "honorable" art of judo. The thuds are heard because the students (both teens and adults, men and women) are learning Ukemi or falling, for the uninitiated.

FAUSTINO, a Detroit policeman for 20 years, spends several weeks teaching his pupils the correct way to fall.

"Falling the right way in any direction makes judo practice safe and gives confidence in what you are doing," he said.

"Proper falling techniques also help prevent injury."

FAUSTINO is a veteran judoka (judo man). He began learning judo in his early teens at a Detroit YMCA.

He LIVED in a pretty rough neighborhood when I was a kid, the six-footer smiled, "and I had to learn to take care of myself."

FAUSTINO pointed out that the aims of judo are actually threefold: physical development, efficiency in contest and mental development.

It is not as many people think a series of death-dealing blows on the back of the neck or a David throwing a Goliath over his shoulder," he said.

FAUSTINO explained that in Japanese the word judo when translated literally means "gentle way," to teach all of my pupils to have body control but not to be brutal, and to practice discipline and courtesy," he said.

"I INTERVIEW each person interested in learning judo and if they show any brutal tendencies I won't let them take the class."

FAUSTINO has been teaching judo for about 15 years and is the proud owner of a black belt.

A black belt is the sign of a champion in judo circles and is the highest award that can be attained.

A KNEE INJURY prevents him from taking part in judo matches.

ROSS FAUSTINO

FAUSTINO has taught judo to all types of people.

He was an instructor at the Detroit Police Academy.

He has given his many classes at the Y in the metropolitan area but still finds time to instruct the nurses in several area hospitals to defend themselves and to give private lessons.

He has given his many years on the police force, including several years

in the precinct "crust." Faustino has had to use his judo techniques numerous times.

"I HAVE NEVER injured anyone with my judo," he proudly says. His police record shows he has 11 arrests in the precinct citations to his credit.

FAUSTINO's pretty wife, Pat, and his two children, Jerry, 13, and Robert, 13, are judo experts in their own right.

Pat, who usually accompanies her husband to his classes, is the holder of the black belt. The highest honor a woman can attain.

"WOMEN CAN'T COMPETE with men in judo competition," the small blonde explained, "as they can't throw her 200 pound plus husband to the mat."

Pat always helps her husband out when there are any women in his classes. (There are several enrolled at the Birmingham Y.)

"It makes them feel more at ease," she smiled.

Both of the boys have been practicing judo since they were four. Each has a purple belt, the highest award a youngster can obtain.

They can start to work on his black belt as soon as he reaches 16. It takes at least nine months to reach the goal and some participants never reach the top spot.

WHEN QUESTIONED about the type of person interested in judo, Faustino, was quick to reel off the names of movie star James Cagney and the actor who plays Curtis LeMay. Both are black belt owners.

FAUSTINO is looking forward to the month of June when over 400 judo experts from around the world will gather in Detroit for a series of matches.

# He's Excited About Plans For Roger Williams Concert

Eugene Parmenter is a busy man this month.

Besides operating his florist business, he is deep in planning for the forthcoming Roger Williams concert.

Parmenter is chairman of the concert committee for the Birmingham Lions Club. He himself is first vice president of the club.

Parmenter looks forward to the concert Tuesday at Gross High School auditorium with eagerness and confidence.

"The entire membership," he said, "is enthusiastic about it and is proud to bring such a popular artist to Birmingham to present a program which we are sure will prove to be enjoyable to all who attend."

"MANY OF OUR friends will remember the appearance of Roger Williams here some four years ago. They were exceptionally pleased with the variety of the program and the warmth and friendliness of this artist."

"This is our first endeavor to present two concerts each year. Parmenter continued, and we felt that a second appearance by Roger Williams would be well received since many of our patrons and friends were unable to attend his previous performance."

"The success that we have enjoyed to date in our concert presentations has aided the Birmingham Lions Club greatly in furthering its work with boys and girls, in the field of conservation and in our support to the Leader Dogs for the Blind."

PARMENTER has lived in Birmingham for 42 years. He and his wife and five children live at 649 Lakeview, Birmingham.

Tickets for the concert, which will be held at the school on the night of the concert from any Lion or at Wilson Drug, K.I.A., Marty's Records, Walcott Pharmacy, Mills Pharmacy, Grinnell's or Birmingham Clearers.

# Police Report Notes Drop In Accidents

Total number of accidents investigated by Birmingham Police dropped from 1960 to 760 last year, according to an accident summary announced by Police Chief Beasley Monday.

Personal injury accidents dropped from 199 to 195 with personal injury accidents reduced from 292 in 1960 to 275 last year.

No fatal accidents occurred last year as compared to two in 1960.

PRINCIPAL violations that were factors in the accident totals were right-of-way violations, 272; following too closely, 197; and improper overtaking, 117. Moxley noted that these violations were contributing factors in approximately three out of every four accidents that occurred last year.

For December, 1961, property damage accidents, 25 and persons injured, 37.

RIGHT-OF-WAY, following too closely and improper overtaking also were indicated as leading factors in the December, 1961 accident summary.

Chief Moxley said more selective enforcement will be used in 1962 to reduce the number of violations in an attempt to reduce the number of accidents.

Civic, Industrial Leaders Elected

Six new faces have been added to international institutes, improve group of civic, industrial, business and professional leaders listed on its 1962 Board of Directors. Mr. William H. McCaughey, Jr., Birmingham was elected to the board. Dale Brubaker of MacManis, John and Adams Advertising Agency was also elected to the new board.

Others were John DeCarlo of Crestway Drive and Neil P. Coppen of Santa Barbara Drive. Re-elected board members are Martin Buzel of Lone Pine Road and Lee A. White of Brookside Drive.

# STRICTLY FRESH

Some persons feel that the most chaotic thing they can think of is one luncheon check and four women.

It is felt by some that the task is rapidly going the other way.

way of the American buffalo, to which he bears a strong resemblance.

Sometimes it seems that half the questions a woman asks her husband are only to make him feel good to be able to answer them.

# MSUC to Dedicate New Science Building

Leading scientists took part in a symposium at Michigan State University Oakland Saturday on improving science education. It marks the dedication of MSUC's new \$2 million science and engineering building.

MSUC ALSO is launching a new kind of science-engineering program in which majors in the various fields of engineering such as civil, chemical or mechanical have been abandoned in favor of emphasis on engineering's fundamentals—mathematics, chemistry and physics—together with engineering applications.

training them in techniques that will be obsolete tomorrow.

SPEAKERS at the dedication ceremony which preceded the conference were Chancellor D. E. Varner of MSUC, State Senator Elmer R. Porter, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and State Rep. Henry M. Hogan Jr.

The science and engineering building is the first one on the MSUC campus to be provided by gifts or bequests. The science and engineering building, a total of 185,000 square feet of floor area, is located on the east side of the campus, between the teaching and research laboratories, faculty offices, library, and classrooms, as well as supporting facilities for instruction in mathematics, chemistry, physics, the life sciences, and engineering-science.

# The Birmingham Eclectic Features

FEBRUARY 15, 1962 PAGE 7

## NATURE NOW

# Banana a Large Herbaceous Plant

On a recent visit to the Conservatory at Belle Isle, we saw the banana in fruit. We had previously observed this plant growing in the tropics all the way to Israel and back to the florists.

The banana is one of our largest herbaceous plants. There are about seventy species in the Musaceae family which includes our well known banana and the striking 'bird of paradise' plant which we frequently see in a tropical setting or at the florists.

THE BANANA grows to the size of a small tree but it is an herbaceous plant with a subterranean trunk. What resembles a trunk is only the persistent, woody leaf bases of the stem.

The large flowers are born on a nodding spike three feet or more in length. They have three large purple-rod bracts. When the yellowish petals drop, the pistil of the flowers develop into a circle of bananas as we see them growing on a tree.

Each plant bears only one bunch of fruit after the other. The new plant takes its place. Where bananas are grown commercially, the old plants are cut down and a seasonal crop is started from a shoot from the old stalk.

BOTANICALLY THE banana is an angiosperm. The tiny black seeds which are scattered through the flesh of the ripe fruit are rudimentary. They are not longer fertile. Thus the plant can only reproduce itself vegetatively.

Bananas are extensively cultivated throughout the tropics and are native to the Malay region. They were known to the Arabs and the Greeks and remained a curiosity until rapid transportation made it possible to bring such perishable fruit to market quickly.

BANANAS ARE CUT green at a period in their development corresponding to the length of time it will take them to reach their proposed destination. Even in its unripe stage the fruit must be carefully handled.

To prevent bruising the stems are wrapped in plant fiber and packed to the nearest shipping point. Here they are further protected by large plastic bags to await shipment.

BEFORE THEY are loaded the bunches are sorted for stem and ripeness. Acceptable stems weigh from 50 to 60 pounds each and about 90,000 of these make a load or shipment. Refrigerated ships with temperatures of 52 to 56 degrees are used for this purpose.

When the fruit reaches its market, it is consigned to a "ripening" room where temperature, humidity and atmosphere are controlled. Some of which are cooked like sweet potatoes. In the tropics these are called "plantains." On a visit to Puerto Rico you scribe commonly at them as a vegetable.

Bananas are nutritious and are easily digested even by babies. Any who can forget the delights of the fabulous banana splits! Bananas were concocted at the corner drugstore for the special delight of the adolescent?

## DOWN TO EARTH

# New Plant Exploring A Fascinating Hobby

By ALICE WENSSEL HURLINGAME

You can be an explorer every day when you are a home gardener. Seeking new types of plants can become a fascinating hobby. In the Baldwin Public Library there is "The Plant Buyers Guide" to help you with your detective project.

SUCCULENTS we provide you with a vast array of plants to collect if you have a sunny window. The Jade plant is one selection which can be grown and pruned to give a real Japanese prole. Succulents have thick, fleshy leaves that store water.

Christmas Cactus is a member of the cactus family and a succulent group. Your grand-children always had an abundance of flowers on her plant at Christmas time as well as Easter because she kept her

IN PERSON DR. J. C. WILLIAMS COMPANY  
Groves High School  
113 Mills and Everett  
Feb. 20th - 8:30 P.M.  
Sponsored By The Birmingham Lions Club

POTTER Moving & Storage Co.  
no. 1 specialist in storage agent of  
POTTER Moving and Storage Co. 2253 COLE MI 4-6412  
G. C. JOHNSTON Service - Repair Plumbing and Heating  
Phone Midwest 4-5540 Birmingham-1691 Big Beaver Rd

It Pays to Take Care of Your Car with Guardian Maintenance  
FEATURED "STEER AND STOP" SERVICES FOR SAFER WINTER DRIVING  
Your General Motors Dealer offers complete "STEER AND STOP" services for safer, surer driving. His factory-trained service specialists check and correct your entire brake system... accurately align the front end. Factory-approved replacement parts are available if required. Modern, up-to-date equipment is used to assure a quality job. Protect yourself, your family and your investment with quick, complete Guardian Maintenance "STEER AND STOP" services today!

# Yogis Bear Watching

Learning to be "yogis," these Birmingham-area residents begin their weekly yoga lesson at Birmingham YMCA with a relaxing posture. From left are Bill Peterson, 6716 Ridgeway, Birmingham; Mrs. M. L. Harris, Cranbrook School, Bloomfield Hills; and Mrs. Thomas E. Jones, 20 Valley Way, Bloomfield Hills. They are students of Mrs. Helen Swan, (foreground), of Royal Oak. The yoga instruction to improve physical fitness is one of the many adult and youth programs offered at the Y, which is currently waging its annual membership campaign.

FRESHLY GATHERED chestnuts can be planted in a pot and kept moist; they will produce a small tree in a couple months. This would be an excellent idea for a Christmas tree. The chestnuts to plant out later to re-emphasize the powers of creation. English walnuts can also be grown in this manner.

Happy Plant Exploring.

BEST KIND OF CARE FOR THE BEST KIND OF CARS AND TRUCKS  
GUARDIAN MAINTENANCE  
CHEVROLET • PONTIAC • OLDSMOBILE • BUICK • CADILLAC • GMC TRUCK