

Barr Must Build Tartar Ball Club From Ground Up for League Play

ONLY ONE PLAYER HAS EXPERIENCE

With but a single experienced player in the line-up, Torrance high must "build from the ground up" to put a hardball nine in the Marine League race that begins March 3. The sole "veteran" is Louie Briganti, who played the hardball game for Torrance two years ago. Louie is Coach Robert Barr's only candidate for the shortstop position on the Tartar squad.

But Barr isn't spending his time mourning about the greenness of his team. Instead of lamenting to the high heavens, the coach is going about his business of building a team out of 12 or 15 recruits. And, although he isn't popping off about the Tartars' prospects on the diamond this spring, he is hopeful that the revival of real baseball here will contribute toward outstanding teams in the next few years.

"You can't develop a ball club in two months," Barr pointed out. "Torrance tried softball last year without success. Now the boys are taking to the hardball game with real enthusiasm. We have all the equipment necessary to meet other squads in the Marine League. All we lack is experience and we'll get that this spring."

Squad Roster Told

Barr is training a trio of pitchers for the mound duties. They are Kenneth Perkin, Jimmie Daniels and Dick Hale. Daniels pitched the Tartars' first game against Hamilton in the L. A. City tournament and was nicked for 10 hits while his teammates failed to get a safety off Hamilton's chucker. Perkin and Hale served on the mound against San Pedro and held the Pirates to eight hits while the Tartars were collecting five.

Bill Hicks appears about the best bet for catcher with Bill Fulton and Roland Justice as reserves. Harold Jackson is holding down first base. Jim Daniels, Fred Hicks and Harry Slover are in the race for the second sack and Clair Johnson is third baseman.

For fielders, Coach Barr has Bill Fulton, Eddie Orr, Army Dowell, Eddie Dawson and Justice.

Home Games at City Park

The Tartars' first Marine encounter will be at the city park diamond (where all local games will be played) against Gardena March 3. Other Marine games are: Narbonne at Banning, San Pedro at El Segundo. The remaining schedule follows:

March 10—Banning at Torrance, San Pedro at Narbonne, Gardena at El Segundo.

March 17—Torrance at Narbonne, San Pedro at Gardena, Banning at El Segundo.

March 24—Torrance at San Pedro, Gardena at Banning, El Segundo at Narbonne.

March 31—El Segundo at Torrance, Narbonne at Gardena, Banning at San Pedro.

Trout Carious Fish

PLUMAS NATIONAL FOREST (U.P.)—Trout are much more interested in human beings than the average fisherman could ever be induced to believe, according to O. J. Erickson, Cow Hollow miner. Erickson, in a deep sea, diving outfit, has been mining extensively at the bottom of Feather river. He states that trout constantly swim around his outfit and peer at him thru the glass openings.

The Herald's Sport Page

SPORT SHOTS

By BOB LEWELLEN

Torrance Has Another Potential Track Great

Bill Stewart, 17-year-old senior, now attending Torrance high school, is in my way of thinking, the greatest athlete in the history of the local school. Track events have had their share of champions in the past. Luck, McFadden, Merrells, Wertz, and a host of others.

Stewart who has put the Tartars on the map in track, but here is a lad who will blaze forth the name of Torrance in a field event. Read this thumbnail sketch of Bill Stewart and figure it out for yourself.

First of all, young Stewart is a darn good student. He has all college entrance subjects, and maintains an above the average grade in his studies. . . . wants to be a Journalist. Takes an interest in school activities, was Commissioner of Athletics last year, and is serving on the Student Council this year. Graduates in June. Lives with his mother, and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Steadman of Portola avenue. . . . attended Torrance elementary schools. Turned in another direction—hitting. It is there that baseball men rave when speaking of Novikov to-day. He's a right-hander and rated one of the most powerful hitters seen among rookies in many a day. The record book also bristles with his batting performances.

In 1937 he played with Ponca City and finished second in the league for hitting with a mark of .361, just three points behind the winner. This, despite the fact that he broke an ankle in midseason. He slapped out 16 home runs in a league where you have to hit one a mile to get four bases.

Last year Novikov led the league in hitting while with Moline. He piled up a mark of .387 in 126 games, got 186 hits which went for a total of 315 bases, collected 28 doubles, 23 triples and 19 home runs.

Putter "Can't Miss"

LONDON (U.P.)—Prof. A. M. Low, who has never played golf, has invented a putter with which a player cannot miss. Its secret lies in a small lamp fitted to the shaft of the putter which shows a red light if the player does not move his club in a straight line with the ball and hole.

year (his Senior year) as he did in the past. . . . you will see some real jumping on the Tartar field. Many critics of track and field think that he is capable of leaping around the 6 ft. 7 in. mark this year. But that is a lot of space between the ground and the crossbar. . . . Stewart uses the Western roll. Fans of Torrance let's all get behind this young local lad and, when track season opens in April, attend the track meets, give him our moral support, and maybe, who knows, we will have another member on the coming Olympic games team.

Neva-Novikov of Bluebird Fame Now With Angels

Baseball fans who will soon begin jumping Wigley Field are going to see a former Torrance nightbal pitcher ace in action for the Angels as an outfielder. He is possessor of two monikers, the first being Louie Neva, the name he played under when he was twirling for the Torrance Bluebirds when that aggregation was making softball history back in 1932-33 and 34.

Now as Louie Novikov, his true handle, he will make his debut in Coast League hardball as one of the outstanding prospects in the whole circuit. Judging by glowing reports coming out of the Angels' "farm" at Ponca City, Okla., Novikov is due to be a diamond star of the first magnitude this summer. He has been conditioning at Ponca City and Moline during the past two years.

As a softball player for the Torrance Bluebirds, managed by that ardent sportsman, "Spud" Murphy, Neva-Novikov's main main forte was pitching. And that pitching! He did things with the oversized ball that delighted his fans, confounded opponent batters and amazed veteran softballers. He was the sparkplug that shot the local team to its S. C. title in 1933.

Has Impressive Record

As a rookie seeking recognition in the Coast League this year, his talents have turned in another direction—hitting. It is there that baseball men rave when speaking of Novikov to-day. He's a right-hander and rated one of the most powerful hitters seen among rookies in many a day. The record book also bristles with his batting performances.

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Compton Sons Win Inter-City Rifle Tourney

Nearly 50 spectators attended the inter-city Sons of Legion rifle match held last Sunday at the range near the city dump off Plaza del Amo. Compton's Junior marksmen won the match with scores of 897 out of a possible 1,000. Montebello was second with 888. Harbor City scored 873 and the Torrance team placed fourth with 816. Whittier, scheduled to enter the event, failed to appear.

High man for the match was Harbor City's William Alroy, son of M. E. Alroy, who was in charge of the contest. He shot a 192 out of a possible 200. Hugh Lanman of Lomita, shooting with the Harbor City team, was second with 191. Local judges were Commander Lyle Doan of the Torrance Legion post and Grant Barkdull.

Show Improvement

Distric matches are to be held next month in competition for the state Sons of Legion rifle tourney. The preliminary contests will be conducted by mail, according to Alroy, who is 1938 district Legion chairman for the Sons' rifle events.

Members of the Torrance team, who showed great improvement in finding the bull's-eye, and their individual scores were: Bobby Lewellen, 178; Marvin Lee, 168; Dean Barkdull, 165; Lowell Beckman, 153, and Charles Grubb, 152. In their first meet with Harbor City and Compton Jan. 29, the local team shot a 771 to 712 in three place. While the local team showed an improvement, amounting to 45 points, Marvin Lee upped his score 56 points—from 112 to 168—for the biggest individual gain.

Tartars Out of L. A. Tournament

Having been eliminated after two games, in the L. A. City tournament, Torrance high's Tartar baseball team is now undergoing a thorough re-amping and arduous practice preparatory for the Marine League diamond season.

Banning is the only undefeated Marine League contender in the tourney and will play Rills in the second round tomorrow. The play-offs are scheduled for Saturday morning and the final championship game is set for that afternoon.

Torrance high's pea-green ball club lost both of its games in the meet, dropping the opener to Hamilton 11 to 1 and the consolation to San Pedro 10 to 9. San Pedro is still in the consolation bracket. Narbonne lost to Gardena and the latter team in turn bowed to Fremont.

ADDITIONAL SPORTS (Continued on Page 7-B)

Ski Jump on Man-Made Snow



Orvin Ellingson, of the Auburn Ski Club, leaving the takeoff of the Treasure Island ski hill, in the international competition won by Reidar Anderson, world's champion. The hill is made of steel, 152 feet high. The finish is barely above sea level. The snow is crushed ice. Spectators sit in shirtless, in a warm sun, like they would at a ball game.

Zamperini Will Defend Title at L.B. Relays March 18 IF...

By ROBERT LEWELLEN

Because the event cracks open the 1939 track season in Southern California, Coach Dean Cromwell has attached a condition to Louie Zamperini's appearance in the Long Beach Relays as defender of his 1938 invitational mile title. Despite considerable ballyhoo emanating from the beach city which featured the Torrance high's "entry" in the Relays, The Herald learned this week that Zamperini has not signed a personal application to compete in the March 18 event.

Excessive Handicap Keeps Zamperini Out of Oxy Meet

Here's the story as it stands today:

Louie will defend his title and the impressive trophy he won by scampering 4:22 last year IF the Redouts twins, Wayne and Blaine, of Texas don't enter. Zamperini wants to race at the Relays but Cromwell, whose long range view of track and field events has earned him the title "Maker of Champions," points out:

Claim "Track Suicide"

The fact that the Redouts have run several 4:11 miles in indoor meets and are in mid-season form already; therefore, if Louie desires to uphold the honor of the westland his own personal record, he will have to extend himself, possibly to the detriment of his subsequent and more important meets.

It would be track suicide for Louie to run in the Long Beach meet against the Redouts so early in the season," Cromwell told Long Beach newsmen late last week. The Herald learned. He pointed out that Zamperini will compete in the event next month with the four-man two-

mile relay team from U.S.C. and the open mile if the Redouts don't come west to compete against him.

No word has yet been received from the Redouts and until their decision is received the matter stands as above; Zamperini from U.S.C. but is not entered as an individual competitor. Meanwhile Relay officials are trying to get full team entries from California, Stanford, Olympic Club, Fresno State and other schools.

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