

Membership In Local Boys' Club Nearly Doubles

The Torrance Boys Club, still in high gear, doubled attendance of previous meeting in the Moose Hall last Monday night with many guest speakers turning out to congratulate the group on their proposed activities.

Lt. Col. Pat Boyle, veteran of the European Theater, spoke in regard to the many obstacles that may be encountered by the club and how the boys could easily combat these obstacles.

Elmer "Red" Moon was there to say a few words to the gang about forthcoming plans for the club. Adrian Thornberry, former Navy specialist has been selected by the Vets to conduct a

PHILLIPS IN A. A. U. TITLE

Tulsa's Phillips Oilers, three year National AAU basketball champions, meet 20th Century Fox in the feature game of a triple header in the Long Beach Municipal auditorium Sunday evening. The auditorium is now equipped with glass back boards giving those customers seated behind the hoops an opportunity to see the play.

class in wrestling and muscle building. Thornberry got on the ball early after being appointed by the Vets and is now busily arranging for a gym so the boys may workout in his class.

Jack Hood, newly elected president of the club, presided over the meeting. B. J. Michels, V. F. W. chairman of the club committee and Raymond Cook, boxing instructor and committee member, directed the meeting. Another meeting is scheduled for Monday evening, 7:45, in the local Moose Hall.



THE "GUS" . . . Popular Elmer "Gus" Muehler, catcher for the Gardena Browns, leaves March 4 to start spring training with Little Rock, Ark., of the Southern Association. Gus is a former Naibonne high school graduate, where he was a star on the diamond for three years. He played with Torrance American Legion team until recently.

Elmer Muehler Signs With Little Rock

Elmer "Gus" Muehler, former TAL catcher who is now grabbing them with the Gardena Browns is perhaps the most sought after ball player in the district, and that is quite a statement inasmuch as the Torrance and Lomita boys are red hot right now with the national scouts.

Muehler has had offers and counter offers from the Cardinals, Browns and the Southern Association, not to mention a few others whose names were lost in the mad scramble to sign the Lomita catcher. Gus said that each time he was ready to sign on the dotted line a wire would come through the pen, blinding the glitter of pending gold.

Monday night the wrangling ceased, and in the presence of a Cardinal scout the 18-year-old Muehler accepted a more generous offer from Little Rock, Ark., of the Southern Association.

Bob Williams, who pitched for the Hollywood Stars last year will also join the Little Rock ball club, Gus reports, and the two will leave for their spring training March 4.

TAL Defeats Water Giants

Barney Henderson took the mound for the Torrance American Legion ball club Sunday and took the visiting Water Giants for a 10 to 0 victory during his six innings of hurling. Henderson also made his turn at the bat pay off with a triple and a double for the day's work.

W. Mallory pitched eight runs to the TAL crowd before being relieved in the seventh by Miles who held Torrance to two runs for their three hits.

Lefty O'Reagan, popular TAL hurler, grabbed the mound spot in the seventh, also drove in two runs in the eighth with a hard single that scattered the Water Giants about the field.

Batteries: Henderson, Lefty O'Reagan, H. Jackson and Kin-cannon. Mallory, Miles and Curry.

SUN VALLEY

Latest reports are that Sun Valley Lodge will not be open for summer business. The Lodge will probably open in the Fall, ready for a full winter season.

STRIPTSEES

By John P. Stripling
"With, or without an Orchid to friend or foe, I'll Tee" an opinion wherever it may go"

Hazards and Traps . . .

When we were a mere stripling, mother used to warn her son to stay clear of the poolroom because our older brother had once spilled his knowledge into our parlor regarding the vices in such low places. It seems that our bud had lost a few dollars to some of the slickers that chose to hang out there in order to catch suckers ready for the picking.

Not having any money in our pocket even in those days, but having a terrific thirst for what went on in the dens so vilely painted, we naturally investigated and found that a lot of guys could make a living just hanging around the poolhall. The most interesting were the pool "hustlers." These guys had a fair knack for "needling" their opponent at a game of billiards. Lose a few to the sucker and then up to the bet and you know the rest.

All very vile. Oh yes. But, oh how interesting to see a sucker out to take advantage of a poor shot, then see the guy lose his pants on the final game.

It was however, on the green where we first saw a fortune change hands. Sporting blood and a desire to take advantage of your fellow man seem to prompt these bets.

The wager was needed by a triple-threat golfer, sportsman, gambler, who after a few years of trimming the local wealth of the course, became very well known. He was nicknamed after a luxury liner, just in case you may have met the old boy, but in this case we'll just refer to him as Triple-Threat.

Can't Beat an Honest Man

Triple-Threat often told this scribe in those early days: "You can't beat an honest man, son."

It was a long time ago, but I've never taken a dime from a man who wasn't watering at the mouth for my money.

The first time we saw him play on the course was in a foursome and it is remembered that he played a fair game but was constantly complaining of the course. This was no way to win friends among his party who were all sponsor-members of the exclusive club of which he was well aware. The needle was pricking at their skins and they soon let him know that it was not the course that held him a good number of strokes behind the rest of the part.

They were good golfers and it was obvious that Triple-Threat did not handle his club with the consistency. The "Threat" had resented their accusations and soon made a bet on the next hole. He acted frustrated and angered to foolishness when he made a bet of \$50. These actions were perfectly normal in a man who has a lot of dough and desires to scare somebody out by putting some of it up.

The club members laughed themselves sick when they heard him easily on the next hole and relieved him of a hundred and fifty dollars. How happy they were to take advantage of old Triple-Threat. And the old boy made the act even better by acting the spoiled child in losing to them. He raised the ante on the next hole and as he did so, he seemed boiling mad, cursing the course and his bad luck.

Needless to say he lost to them again. Needless to say that they were even more pleased at his frustration and his three hundred dollars. The argument got so furious that he stormed off the course and retired to the club room. There he appeared to sulk with a quart of boot-leg whiskey. What an act. The late John Barrymore would have hated him for the gift.

When his tormentors finally came in they saw their sucker drowning his sorrows in drink. He smiled up at them and apolo-

gized for his action on the green, but insisted that all he needed was a drink and he could beat them easily. Everyone of course had another laugh.

The "Needle"

Then he put it to them in a semi-drunken condition that he was, after all, a left handed golfer (and he was) but didn't have any left handed clubs. Eye brows were raised and the winks made their rounds. "So you think you could play a better game if you had some left handed clubs?" He was asked. "Oh sure," he said a little tipsy, "some day I'll come out here with a set of my own clubs and will wager \$1000 that I can beat the lot of you. Yeah, I'll bet \$10,000," he concluded and beamed all over.

Again the brows went up and a toupe was seen to slip back on one of their wealthy hosts. "Do you have \$30,000, Mr. Triple-Threat?" One of them asked. The "Threat" was indignant at this question, and replied: "You may insult my game, sir, but have a care with those personal remarks." It was very funny; very funny in fact, but it rang of steel and left little doubt as to his financial status.

The wise guys goaded him plenty. And he very innocently needed them. They guy with the shuffling toupe just couldn't stand to see Triple-Threat's dough and soon produced a set of left handed clubs. Triple acted a little reluctant when confronted with the left-handers and asked that they wait until he went to his hotel room and brought back his own.

This excuse would not work. He then asked that they give him odds because the course was so busy. After a little haggling they consented to three to two odds, and still the "Threat" wanted more. It began to look as though the old boy was just bluffing all along and they were quick to tell him so. He was indeed trapped and had no alternative but to accept their terms.

The Pay Off

We will say this for the "Threat" that he chanced the first two holes, just in case they would venture to up the bet, but they didn't and he then settled down to one of the finest exhibitions of golf that our eyes have ever seen, beating the suckers 18-15 and nine for the course. Two of the suckers developed back fever about the 10th hole and were two very sad sacks when they reached the 18th.

Triple-Threat stayed around town for nearly a month and took an estimated \$300,000 from the local sports in more ways than any of them care to remember. He told us later that he had only \$1000 in cash when he hit the local crop plus a \$2000 diamond ring and a \$3500 automobile. It was the diamond and the car that suggested wealth.

There are many stories about the "Threat" who was nicknamed after a mighty vessel, and these stories all have a way of proving that you can't beat an honest man at a gamble.



FIGHTS AT BOWL . . .

Tony Dominguez (above) of Wilmington, a promising, light-heavy-weight just back from three years of Army duty in the South Pacific, will fight Buddy Turner, off the U.S.S. Lexington, in an "Army-Navv" show which tops the amateur boxing show in the Wilmington Bowl tomorrow (Friday) night.

Dominguez And Lopez Go In Top Spot

Two of the Harbor area's favorite flistic sons, light-heavy-weight Tony Dominguez, just back from three years of Army chow in the South Pacific, and John "Pecewee" Lopez, runner-up in the Southern California Golden Gloves tournament two weeks ago, will fight feature bouts on the amateur boxing show in the Wilmington Bowl tomorrow (Friday) night.

Dominguez will engage Buddy Turner, off the U.S.S. Lexington, in a rematch. The pair have fought twice in the Bowl in recent weeks, each taking a best-of-five decision after four hectic hours.

Lopez, rated by many as one of the most promising youngsters in the West, will square off against a Compton College football player, Bobby Corkhill, who served as a Tartar quarterback during the grid season last fall and who made an auspicious debut by whipping touted Joe Zozoya of the Navy base in his first fight last week.

Balance of the show, the first bout beginning at 8:30 p.m., will carry out promoter-matchmaker Joe Craig's usual theme, action from song to song.

The 1946 baseball season should be very successful for the Tartars, as they have practically an all veteran squad. The infield has an all letterman lineup, among whom are: Bill Stanley, 3-year letterman; Al-Marino, 3-year letterman; G. Bennett, two year letterman; Joe Walters, who plays winter ball with the T. A. C.; Bill Johnson and Marwin Jarratt, both from last year's squad. Leroy Schwenk, another holder from 1945 will probably start in the outfield.

The 1946 tennis team will be trying to defend the championship of 1945. Lettermen from last season who will be out this year are: Bill Stanley, Kenny Kesson, Bud Smith, Ed Page, Jim Meyer, and Don Fulton. Along with these boys, who will make the bulk of the team will be Paul Moser, 1944 letterman, Herbert Curley, Milt Long, Ralph Jakubowski, and Jay Stroh.

The squad should be quite capable of taking another championship this season.

TEST COOLING SYSTEM

Whether the cooling system of your car is in need of an internal bath is easily determined. If the water shows discoloration when the drain plug is opened, it means the system is not functioning as effectively as it may be. The water radiates heat much more quickly when it carries no scale impurities. Incidentally, the scale forms an insulation around the cylinders which tends to hold the heat in them.

First Round In Church League Ended

This week brings an end to the first round of Torrance "Y" Church basketball League. Competition has been keen, particularly with the entry of one more team sponsored by the Catholic Church. The First Christian Church leads the league with 4 wins and no losses.

Three teams are tied for second place, First Baptist and St. Andrew's with two wins and two losses, and the Catholic Church of the Nativity with one win and one loss.

The Methodist team now in the cellar has lost two of its four games by very close scores. The remainder of the second round schedule is as follows:

Thursday, February 21, Baptist vs. Catholic.
Tuesday, February 26, 7:00 St. Andrew's vs. Methodist. 8:00 Christian vs. Baptist.

Thursday, February 28, Catholic vs. Christian.
Tuesday, March 5, 7:00 St. Andrew's vs. Christian. 8:00 Catholic vs. Methodist.

Thursday, March 7, Catholic vs. Baptist.
Tuesday, March 12, 7:00 Baptist vs. Methodist. 8:00 St. Andrew's vs. Catholic.

Citizens of Torrance are encouraged to attend these games and cheer their favorite team. The basketball ability has been on a high level and there has been no charge for the games.

Fire Destroys Harbor City Asbestos Plant

Fighting for an hour to quell the flames that blazed high into the air, firemen report the wooden asbestos factory, 26002 Bellepointe ave., owned by E. Roberts and Ben Tregoe was destroyed Thursday night with an estimated loss of \$12,000.

The fire started, according to reports, when exploding anti-mony slack, used in the making of rock wool by the Weber Insulation Co., ignited. It was said that the structure had been used as an oil smelter in the first World War.

He and Ed W. Barry, also a former resident of this city, left here about a year ago to build their trout camp and located 16 miles south of Boulder Dam. Dutch and Ed are responsible for opening this stretch of water to the fishermen. Their mailing address is general delivery, Boulder City, Nev.

Globe Trotters In Long Beach Spotlight Again

Those guys are here again—meaning of course the original Harlem Globe Trotters who are undoubtedly the foremost exponents of basketball technique. The Trotters, an all negro group of renown fame, appear in the Long Beach Municipal auditorium Monday evening for their seventh straight year.

Fans who have seen these roving Harlem boys in previous years will know that the Trotters are capable of doing things with a basketball that are positively unbelievable. This time the boys are matched with the bewhiskered House of David, who are well known hoopers in their own right.

Also featured during the evening is Jesse Owens, famous track star, playing with his Kansas City Royals, a cage team that ran up 63 consecutive wins during a recent tour. The Royals lost the 64th game last week to the Portland Eagles.

Jesse's hoop stars will tangle with Mexico's seven-time National Champions, the Chihuahua State Teachers.

Owens also will give an exhibition in that sprint technique which made him a world star. Reserve seats are suggested for this event as previous records reveal early sell-outs.

Local Men Form Trout Camp Near Boulder Dam

E. H. "Dutch" Flother, a former resident of this city, left here about 17 years employed by the Columbia Steel Co., was back in town the other day to tell

the Torrance Herald about the good fishing at his Willow Beach Trout Camp. Flother also brought in pictures of the many catches hooked by fishermen there.

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BIG DANCE

SAT. NIGHT, FEB. 23
AT THE
V.F.W. HALL — LOMITA
MUSIC BY
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JUMBO HOT DOGS 15c — CHILI 25c
STEAKS DINNERS 60c — CHOPS

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Prospects Of Torrance High Viewed By Smith

By BUD SMITH
The track hopes of Torrance High School are quite low this season. Although there is some fine individual material, the team never isn't up to par.

Greatest hopes lie in Gene Holloman, Bob Everts, and Stewart Cooke. Gene, who is a two-year letterman, will compete in the sprints. Bob Everts, the half miler, has run the 880 in times that peril the league record. Stewart Cooke, who took third place in the 440 finals last season, will again run the quarter mile. Paul Mitchell and Norman Baker will take care of the hurdle events.

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