

# Tartars Sweep By Leuzinger To Open League

## El Camino Beats San Diego In League Opener 74-65

### Varsity Scores

#### 58-40 Win; Prep For Samohi Next

The Tartar cagers started the New Year right by pulling a clean sweep on Leuzinger High in the Bay League curtain-raiser Friday night in the home gym.

The Varsity casabamen, paced by Bob Moon's 19 points, surged into a first-place tie with Santa Monica and Redondo by coasting by Leuzinger 58-40. The JV's hung up a 40-35 win; Bees triumphed 37-27; and the Coes did likewise, 32-28.

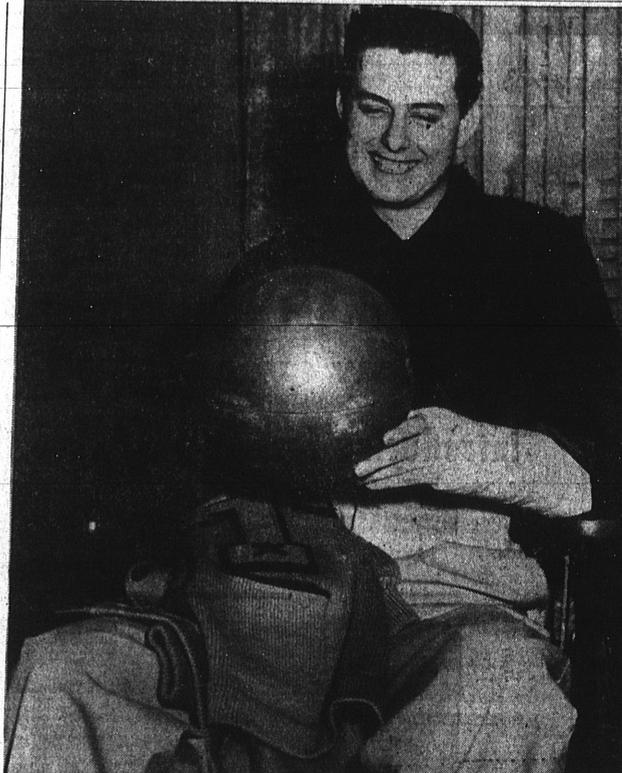
Don Forth, sidelined by a strep throat, was ably replaced by Dennis Hester, who spiked four points through the hoop. Bob Guerra wrapped nine markers through the ring, on four field goals and a free throw, Jerry Farrar scored eight, and Big Bob Boss stepped into the center spot and performed nobly, putting seven points.

It was no contest after the second quarter, when the point-hungry Tartars jumped into a 31-17 lead. In the third period, the Tartars ran away with the game, outscoring Leuzinger 19-11 to take a 50-28 lead. The Tartar second-stringers played the entire last quarter, scoring seven points to their opponents' 12.

The Tartars will meet a potent Santa Monica squad next Friday night on the Viking floor in the acid test for Coach Rex Welch's cagers. A win would put Torrance into prime contention for league honors, since Samohi is being prepped as the scourge of the league this season.

Al Redwater, with 11, and Jim Lawrence, 10, paced the JV attack; Norm Chambers and Leroy Golden scored 10 and 11 to lead the Bees, and third-string center Mike Kendall racked up 14 to spark the Coes attack.

Torrance (58): (40) Leuzinger Guerra (8) (3) Payne (8) (8) Barnes (8) (13) Robinson (8) (8) Galbraith (8) (8) Hamilton (8) (8) Hamilton, 8; Newberry, 3.



**WAIT TILL NEXT YEAR . . .** Former Torrance High School baseball and basketball player Robert Bowen hasn't been playing much basketball this year. He's been in bed for the past year recovering from injuries received in a '52 New Year's Eve accident. But throughout the year of slow recovery, he has remained cheerful and confident that he'll be back on the hardwoods and the diamond again some day. In the above picture, Bowen holds on his lap the varsity letterman sweater on which his baseball letter is sewn. (Merald photo)

### Courageous THS Athlete Cheats Death, Wins Battle

One year and ten days ago, on New Year's Eve, a young Torrance High School athlete was struck by a car and so seriously injured that doctors said he would not live out the night. But the test of a true champion is the ability to come up off the floor and win the fight, and Robert Bowen, the injured youth, is a champion. He not only lived through that New Year's Eve night, but he fought grimly toward recovery during all of 1953, through countless hours of pain and endless operations on his crushed body, and he's winning the battle.

**Gets Into Fight**  
The tragedy began when Bowen and a friend, Jerry Allison, another Tartar student, got into a New Year's Eve argument over who was to drive their car. They began to fight in the beam from the headlights, and during the course of the fracas they rolled into the darkened street where both boys were run over by a car.

Bowen was taken to Harbor General Hospital with multiple broken bones, including a double break in the left arm, a broken lower left leg, a fractured lower right leg, several broken ribs, and a broken back, which wasn't discovered until three months later.

He was unconscious for five days, and doctors did not think he could live. But the courage that had helped him win his varsity letter in baseball the year before, pulled him through the crisis. He recovered consciousness, winning the first round of the fight.

Allison also was hospitalized, but his injuries were less serious and he recovered in a few weeks.

**Year of Struggle**  
But for Bowen the year 1953 was to be one of constant struggle. He was hospitalized in January while doctors repaired his broken bones. In February, he was allowed to go home, still flat on his back. In March, another crisis struck. He returned to the hospital for X-rays, and doctors discovered that his back was broken and was not growing back together, but instead the bones were parting.

They operated and repaired his back, after which he had to wear a steel brace while the bones knit. The operation came none too soon. Doctors said that if the bones had parted just a little more, Bowen's spinal cord would have been severed and he would have been paralyzed.

Operate Six Times  
The back operation was one of six operations on Bowen during 1953. Bones were taken from his hip to replace crushed

### Linch, Allen's Look Like Power In City Leagues

Linch Motor Sales loomed in to early prominence by kerwholoping Treskes Men's Shop 51-24 Tuesday night in the opening round of the '54 Adult Basketball League, sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Department.

In other Tuesday night games, held in the Torrance High School Boys gym, Fenwick's Shoes edged the Big Five 36-32, and the Redondo Eagles got by Lee's Banner Drugs 40-35.

The power of the Wednesday Night League looked like Allen's Burgers after the opening round. Allen's trimmed the Torrance Teachers handily 47-26 in their first game of the season.

In the 7 p.m. Wednesday opener, the Harvey Canteen took a walk by Gil Bennett's 32-26 and in the 8:05 p.m. hassle, Al's Knolls Drugs had to go into overtime to take the Harbor Hornets into camp 43-31.

**STANDINGS**

(Tuesday Night League)

Team	W	L
Linch Motor Sales	1	0
Fenwick's Shoes	1	0
Redondo Eagles	1	0
Treskes Men's Shop	0	1
Big Five	0	1
Lee's Banner Drugs	0	1

\* Games behind leader.

(Wednesday Night League)

Team	W	L
Allen's Burgers	1	0
Harvey Canteen	1	0
Al's Knolls Drugs	1	0
Harbor Hornets	0	1
Torrance Teachers	0	1

\* Games behind leader.

### NEW FEATURE BEGINS

#### Readers Asked for Opinions On Controversies in Sports

By MARV HALL

George Marshall, president of the Washington Redskins, remarked recently that major league baseball will not go over in Los Angeles because baseball is no longer the national pastime. He contends that football is the "Great American Sport" now and has replaced baseball as the National Pastime.

Marshall adds that television has exposed baseball for "what it is" and, on the other hand, TV has boomed football to its greatest popularity.

He states: "Kids the past two generations have played football, not baseball. Football has the appeal, the dash, the crowd pull. Even high school teams make money."

Marshall can be accused of being slightly prejudiced, since he owns a football team, but does his statement bear a vein of truth?

**What Do You Think?**  
We thought it would be extremely interesting to find out what local readers thought about this somewhat rash statement. Other questions, too, in the sports field, seethe with controversy and beg to be aired pro and con.

For this reason, we hereby inaugurate a new feature of the Herald sports section—a "squawk box"—where readers can air their opinions on the various statements quoted herein. Arguments for and against Marshall's statement will be printed in the next edition of this newspaper—unless no Herald reader sees fit to disagree.

**How to Enter**  
To enter an opinion, write a letter to "Sports Editor, Torrance Herald, 1619 Gramercy, Torrance, Calif." Letters should be 200 words or less, and the more concise they are, the better chance they will have of being included in the column, to be entitled "IN THIS CORNER . . ."

**Must Be Signed**  
All letters must be signed, but names will be withheld upon request. The Herald reserves the right to edit each letter so that it conforms to the requirements of length, style, and good taste. Excessive profanity will be frowned upon.

The first question to be tossed about, therefore, is this: "Has football replaced baseball as the National Pastime?"

### Shakeup Moves Kivlen, Baker Into EC Lineup

By FRED CLAIRE

Warwhoop Sports Editor Lifting the lid off the 1954 Metropolitan Basketball Conference, El Camino Jaycee set back the Knights of San Diego, 74-65, Friday night at the El Camino gym.

Coach Tom Bailey applied a major shakeup after two successive pre-league losses, to bring about the initial loop victory.

Chuck Baker replaced Bill Baron at a forward position and John Kivlen started in Allen Herring's forward spot. Herring switched to the center spot while Tom Strawn, regular center, ended up on the bench.

The change, brought about to add more rebound strength and shake the Warriors from their slump, worked to perfection.

The Warriors took a 10-point lead as the first quarter ended, 23-13. Sparked by Allen Herring and Ron Heusser EC held on to gain a 34-31 half-time advantage. At the end of the first half, Herring had 11 points and Heusser 10 digits.

A well-balanced Warrior scoring attack totaled 17 markers in the third quarter and gave the locals a 7-point spread, but the "Border Bandits" of San Diego still were very much alive and threatening.

As in the first period, dependable Herring and Heusser struck to combine for 16 between them in a 23-point fourth quarter Warrior outburst. That was the ball game.

The Warriors "were in the hair" of San Diego's great scorer, Tom Pinkins, all night. Pinkins, who had a 27-point per game average at post time, was held to ten points.

El Camino's spectacular Herring ended the game with 22 points for top honors. Heusser tallied seven twenty.

El Camino (74) (83) San Diego Baker (10) F (8) Robertson Kivlen (9) F (16) Pitts Herring (22) C (10) Pinkins Nethercott (12) G (7) Flynn Heusser (20) G (10) Arredondo El Camino 23 34 51 74 San Diego 13 31 44 65

### This Week

Jan. 12 (Tuesday League)  
Redondo Eagles vs. Big Five, 7 p.m.  
Fenwick's Shoes vs. Treskes Men's Shop, 8:05 p.m.  
Linch Motor Sales vs. Lee's Banner Drugs, 9:10 p.m.

Jan. 13 (Wednesday League)  
Allen's Burgers vs. Al's Knolls Drugs, 7 p.m.  
Harbor Hornets vs. Gil Bennett's, 8:05 p.m.  
Harvey Canteen vs. Torrance Teachers, 9:10 p.m.

### Graybehl, Powell To Be Feted

Head Coach Cliff Graybehl and All-CIF tackle Ed Powell will be honored Saturday along with players and coaches from the All-City and All-CIF football teams at a Helms Athletic Foundation banquet to be held at Helms Hall.

### SPORTS

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Include phone number and brief data about yourself.

### EDDIE COLE MAY MOVE TO PCC

With the University of Idaho at Moscow casting about for a new grid coach after the coaching staff resigned in a body recently, the name of former Torrance High Coach Eddie Cole pops back into the big college picture.

Several local friends of Cole have indicated that the university could do worse than to look in its own back yard for a coach. Eddie is now the executive secretary of the California Coast Conference, some of the top football teams at the College of Idaho there.

Cole's record, in fact, with the week-end.

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