Group of Douglas Workers Fight With Swords for Fun, Exercise

A person walking through the Torrance plant of Douglas Aircraft nowadays, might overhear the following conversation:

"How did you do with your sabre last night?"

"I slashed through 19 guys with my sabre, but the twentieth one got me."

"Tough. Better luck next week.'

No, you wouldn't be hearing the nefarious plottings of a cabal of killers, you'd be listening to a couple of members of the Douglas "Aguilas," (Eagles) an amateur fencing organization which belongs to the League of American Amateur Fencers, a large and well-known organization.

The Aguilas meet every Monday night from 7:30 to 9:30 to have a go at it with foil, epee and sabre, just for fun.

Whacking at each other with long, sharp metal objects may not sound like the safest kind of exercise, but actually, according to Jeep LaMont, secretary of the Douglas Club, fencing in America is pretty tame compared to the German interpretation of the sport.

In Germany, where a scar is a mark of honor, men have to have at least one bout with the sabre before they can get into the officers' club. And they don't wear masks over there.

In German style, the duelers square off with large, ugly sabres in their fists and toss a coin. The winner of the toss gets to take 12 vicious whacks at his opponent with the sabre, and his opponent can only defend himself, not attack. After the 12 slashes, the opponent is patched up, his cuts are stanched and bandaged, and if he is able to continue he gets to turn the tables and take 12 cracks at the first guy.

Dueling as a means of settling debts of honor was outlawed in 1938, LaMont says. The last major duel took place in France where the French Ambassador challenged seven cabinet members to a duel for insulting his wife. He had disabled three of them before the law was passed outlawing dueling in France. This law eventually became international.

So the Aguilas fence for fun and exercise. There are 33 members of the local club, which is affiliated with the Douglas El Segundo club. Twenty-two of the members are from the Torrance plant. Seven are women.

The club, which is in its first year here, meets each Monday at the Boy Scouts Clubhouse at 325 E. Grand Ave. in El Segundo. The Aguilas will start a beginners class on Jan. 28 at Douglas, and all employees are invited to attend and learn the fine art of fencing.

The sport has become quite popular throughout the United States during the past few years, LaMont says. In 1939 there were 500 fencers in the United States. In 1953 there were 11,000 active members of the Amateur Fencing League of America.

Monday night, an inter-club championship was held between the Torrance and El Segundo branches. The championships are held in three fields—foil, epee and sabre—one a week for three weeks.

The distinction between the three types of sword is this:

The foil is the regular, Doug Fairbanks type of sword, with a tipped point, to prevent injuries. The epee differs from the foil in weight—it weighs three-and-a-half pounds and a foil weighs less than two—and the epee is also novel because it is wired for sound. When a dueler makes a touch, an impulse is sent through a long cord attached to the sword, and a buzzer sounds.

The sabre weighs two-and-three-fourths pounds, and is three-eighths of an inch wide. The target areas differ with the three instruments also. For the foil, a touch must be made on the torso, excluding the arms and head, which is covered by a mesh mask; the entire body is the target for the epee; and for the sabre, a slash strike above the waist to count.

A fencer gets one point for each touch in the target area and the first one to get five points wins the bout. If you manage to wade through 20 opponents in one night, you emerge the champion of your class.

The fencers square off in a strip of ground that is 30 inches wide and 60 feet long, and they are closely watched by four judges and a director, who call out the touches, in a foil or sabre bout.

Even though the swords are tipped, and the fencers wear tough canvas jackets that are four layers thick, a touch (or touche, as the French would put it) raises quite a welt, and the sport thus becomes quite a strenuous one. Even though most bouts last only about eight minutes, Lamont has seen two evenly-matched opponents have at it for an hour and 40 minutes before a winner emerged.

There are five classes of fencers — prep, novice, junior, intermediate, and senior — and all of the club members are in the novice class, except George Sievert, the fencing master. Sievert, who teaches the Aguilas how to wield the sword, is a two-time Canadian champion.

LaMont added that it seems that a person over 30 years of age progresses better in the fencing art than a younger person, even though he says that it takes 20 years of fencing to really become good at it.

LaMont would like to form a beginner's class in Torrance for local citizens. He says it's all kinds of fun, and all you have to buy is your equipment. Anyone interested can contact him at his home, 17027 S. Crenshaw Blvd.

Moon Benched by Injury, Tartars Lose to Vikings

Crippled by the loss of Bob "Harvest" Moon in the first quarter, the Torrance Tartars were vanquished easily by Santa Monica Friday 67-52 on the winners' court.

Moon came up with a sprained ankle after being knocked down by a Viking player in the first period. To add insult to injury, Moon had a foul called on him for charging as he was picking himself up off the floor.

Bob Boss filled ably for Moon, holding Samohi's center to nine points and scoring nine himself, but he couldn't replace Moon's 18 point per game average. And without the tricky guard in there to drive in and crack the Vike defense, the pressure was put onto Bob Guerra and Jerry Farrar, Tartar forwards.

But this dynamic duo came through smiling. Guerra potted 15 points to top his team, despite a bad charleyhorse suffered in the first quarter, and Farrar sank 11.

To Meet Redondo

The Tartars meet Redondo, which lost to Inglewood 47-41 Friday, Tuesday afternoon on the home floor.

Besides Moon's ankle, which may respond to treatment by time for the Tuesday game, and Guerra's charleyhorse, Harold Philip also hit the injury list when he broke his nose in the final quarter.

So the Santa Monica game was disastrous in several ways for the Tartars and the locals will no doubt have bones to pick when the Vikes visit the local hardwood on Jan. 29 for the next meeting between the two squads.

Douglas Pots 20

Jackie Douglas, boy sensation, paced the Samohi scorers with 20 points and Leonard Bourget ringed 14.

The week's games threw Santa Monica into first place in league standings and locked Torrance, Beverly Hills, Inglewood and Redondo in a tie for second. Beverly killed Leuzinger 71-25 in a Friday "game."

The Tartar JVs also suffered a setback at the capable hands of the Vikings by a 49-32 margin. Ron Petrilli led the locals with 12 and Jim Lawrence tanked 10. The Tarbees followed suit by losing 33-21 despite Leroy Golden's 14 markers. The Tartar Cees saved the day, however, by winning 29-27 in overtime.

Torrance (52)		(67) Santa Monica
Guerra (15)	F	(20) Douglas
Farrar (11)	F	(14) Bourget
Boss (9)	C	(9) Griffiths
Moon	G	(17) Behling
Hester (7)	G	(7) Smith

Scoring subs: Torrance—Smith, 2; Forth, 2; Vanderpool, 1; Sousa, 1; Philip, 4. Santa Monica: Larez, 4.

CLEARANCE TELEVISION JANUARY SALE

The Tee Vee Corp. has one big sale a year. January is the month all floor models are cleared out at prices you cannot afford to pass up. A marvelous opportunity for you to acquire a Brand New Televislon of a Top Quality Brand, with a full factory warranty at a tremendous savings . . . Since we have only one or two of each model we suggest you come in as soon as possible. Terms: 10% down with 24 months to pay on Bank Terms. 17" Hoffman Model 7M112 Sale $179.95 Table Model Mahogany was $229.95 a Saving of $50.00. 17" Emerson Model 716 Sale $179.95 Table Mahogany was $229.95 a Saving of $50.00. 21" Hoffman ½ Door Console Combination Sale $369.95 was $485.00 a Saving of $75.00. 21" Hoffman Console Model 21P307 Maple Sale Price $279.95 was $339.95, a Saving of $60.00. 21" Hoffman Model 21M121 Sale $199.95 Table Model was $279.95 a Saving of $80.00. 21" Emerson Full Doors Model 732 Sale $329.95 was $399.95 a Saving of $70.00. 21" Philco Model 2230 Table Model Sale $199.95 was $259.95 a Saving of $60.00. 21" DuMont Model Wakefield Console Full Door Mahogany Sale $359.95 was $435.00 a Saving of $75.00. 21" DuMont Model Ridgewood Full Door Mahogany was $425.00 Sale $349.95 a Saving of $75.00. We have our own Service Department. Full 1 year service and parts warranty $49.95 optional on any new 17" or 21" TV sale. The Tee Vee Corp. is located at 619 W. Compton Blvd. in Compton. The Tee Vee Corp. is open Sundays and evenings.

There are also two stores in Long Beach to serve you, located at 4512 Los Coyotes Blvd. and 3300 Atlantic Ave.

(Adv.)

This Week

Tuesday, Jan. 19
Big Five vs. Linch Motor Sales, 7 p.m.
Treskes Men's Shop vs. Lee's Banner Drugs, 8:05 p.m.
Fenwick's Shoes vs. Redondo Eagles, 9:10 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 20
Al's Knolls Drugs vs. Harvey Canteen, 7 p.m.
Gil Bennett's vs. Torrance Teachers, 8:05 p.m.
Harbor Hornets vs. Allen's Burgers, 9:10 p.m.

TOUCHE . . . Jeep LaMont, a material review inspector at Douglas Aircraft, is on one end of the sword above, and we don't know what's on the other end, but we're glad it's not us. LaMont demonstrates a lunge above and in the insert, (lower left) wearing his fencing mask, he "kills" an opponent with a jab to the heart. It's all part of a game called fencing played by a club at the local plant of Douglas Aircraft. The foils used are tipped and practically harmless. Notice the strap around the wrist which holds the foil to the hand.

Showcard Class Offered

A new class in the art of showcard writing will be offered by Long Beach City College starting Thursday, Feb. 4, it was announced this week. The class will meet from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. for nine weeks.

OIL STATES

Oil is produced commercially in 27 of the states.

City Asked for $3075 to Install Backstop, Fence at Baseball Park

A request from the City Recreation Department for an allocation of $3075 to construct a backstop and chain-link fence around Torrance baseball park will probably come up for discussion at the Wednesday agenda meeting of the City Council, Harry Van Bellehem, recreation director, said Friday.

Because of dry rot and corrosion, the old, wooden backstop, constructed by the WPA, has been torn down, making Torrance "the town without a baseball diamond."

Van Bellehem hopes to receive the allocation from the city and get the backstop up in time for the baseball season at Torrance High School, which uses Torrance Park as its home field. The Tartars' first practice game is Feb. 15, Van Bellehem said.

In the meantime, the Recreation Department has been preparing the field for the baseball season by having 170 truck loads of dirt dumped, graded and rolled over the outfield. Formerly rough and uneven, the outfield has smoothed out under the new topsoil, the Recreation director said.

Rubber-top sprinklers also are being installed in the field and planting of outfield grass will follow their completion.

The sad lack of facilities for baseball in this city of 44,000 people was deplored by Van Bellehem, who pointed up the fact that, even after the backstop and fence are up, there will still be no stands or bleachers for potential fans to sit upon at the field.

Plans call for a 35-foot backstop fence behind home plate and about 125 feet of fence along each baseline. Van Bellehem has asked the Southern California Edison Company to inspect the present light poles at the field to determine their degree of deterioration.

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GIBBS —SHOE REPAIR— 1313 POST AVE.—TORRANCE While You Wait

Allen's Sets 2 New Marks in City Loop

Allen's Burgers set two early season records in the city cage leagues Wednesday night when they tacked up a 64-38 win over Al Knolls' Drugs to set a team scoring record, and Danny Montgomery roped 23 points to set an individual scoring mark.

Montgomery's performance broke the previous record for the year—17 markers—hung up by Herb Curley, manager of the Fenwick team, on the opening night of play in the Tuesday League, according to Red Moon, city athletic director.

The win held Allen's in a first place tie with Harvey Canteen, which bumped the Torrance teachers 42-25 in a Wednesday hassle. After trailing 10-15 at the half, Harvey rallied for 22 points in the third stanza and held the Teachers to a lone free throw by Pete Petrat. Wendell Vaughn paced the Harvey offense with 14 points.

In a third Wednesday game, Gill Bennett's turned on the heat in the second quarter to rack up 18 points and a 26-11 bulge at halftime, which they held easily to coast to a 39-28 victory over the Harbor Hornets. Joe White led the winners with 12 points and Chris Taylor, of the Hornets, took high point honors with 15.

Tuesday Games

An early season titanic looms in the Tuesday league this week. Fenwick's Shoes and the Redondo Eagles, tied for first place with two wins and no losses, will clash in the 9:10 p.m. game Tuesday night in a hassle that should decide a lot of things.

Fenwick's held on the top spot last week by dumping Treskes Men's Shop 54-33, with Manager Curley leading the Fenwick deadeyes with 16 tallies. Forward Bob Dittmar led the losers and was high scorer of the game with 17 bells.

Ed Coury's Redondo Eagles, with Martin Dietrick southpawing 15 marks through the string, mashed Don Merrell's 47-32 in the opening Tuesday affair. Kris Janicich and Bernie Carmona potted nine apiece to lead the losers.

In the third Tuesday game, Banner Drugs rallied to top Linch Auto Sales 50-38 after trailing 21-10 in the opening quarter. Bob Weiss, playing his first game for the winners, scored 12 points, and Darrell Riggs, doing likewise for the losers, tallied 13, to take high-point laurels.

Standings

WEDNESDAY LEAGUE

	W	L
Allen's Burgers	2	0
Harvey Canteen	2	0
Gil Bennett's	1	1
Al's Knolls Drugs	1	1
Harbor Hornets	0	2
Torrance Teachers	0	2

TUESDAY LEAGUE

	W	L
Fenwick's Shoes	2	0
Redondo Eagles	2	0
Banner Drugs	1	1
Linch Motor Sales	1	1
Big Five	9	2
Treskes Men's Shop	0	2

BOX SCORES

WEDNESDAY LEAGUE

Allen's Burgers (64)		Al's Knolls Drugs (38)
R. Chambers (16)	F	D. Rickard (6)
I. Keyes (13)	F	B. Sommers (14)
B. McBride (10)	C	L. Mort'son (6)
D. Montgom'y (23)	G	L. Bryant (2)
J. Nady (1)	G	B. Kulp (10)

Scoring Subs: Allen's Burgers: Orrin Pollock (1). Al's Knolls Drugs: Al Roberts (1).

Score by Quarters:

Allen's Burgers	23	32	51	64
Al's Knolls Drugs	13	21	37	38

Harbor Hornets (28)		Gil Bennett (39)
R. S. Mullin (2)	F	C. Camou (8)
S. Zimmion (2)	F	J. White (12)
C. Taylor (15)	C	E. Brookes (3)
W. King (4)	G	H. Theod'ls (10)
S. Garrison (2)	G	G. Bennet (4)

Scoring Subs: Harbor Hornets: Herman Williams (1). Gil Bennett: Bill Schutts (2).

Score by Quarters:

Harbor Hornets	6	11	21	28
Gil Bennett	8	26	32	39

Harvey Canteen (42)		Torrance Teachers (25)
B. Johnson (4)	F	J. Higgins (8)
D. Crable (3)	F	N. Dallas (6)
D. Cowlishaw (5)	C	B. Moore (10)
M. Meusborn (1)	G	H. Behrens (1)
D. Satterwaite (5)	G	P. Petrat (1)

Scoring Subs: Harvey Canteen: J. Hutcherson (2); W. Vaughn (14).

Score by Quarters:

Harvey Canteen	4	10	32	42
Torrance Teachers	8	15	16	25

Officials for all games: Ronnie Dean and Dan Moon.

TUESDAY LEAGUE

Redondo Eagles (47)		Big Five (32)
B. Huffman (3)	F	K. Merrell (0)
J. Brey (7)	F	D. Yeargin (0)
M. Dietrick (15)	C	E. Yetman (3)
R. Welton (0)	G	D. Gregory (0)
C. Stacy (0)	G	M. Moore (2)

Scoring Subs: Redondo Eagles: Marty Acosta (7); Earl Stark (9); Roy McClelland (2); D. Espinosa (9). Big Five: Kris Janicich (9); Dale Epsler (3); Bernard Carmona (9); Don Merrell (3); George Hill (2).

Score by Quarters:

Redondo Eagles	9	24	32	47
Big Five	6	18	27	32

Treskes Men's Shop (33)		Fenwick Shoes (54)
J. Gunderson (0)	F	W. Newland (0)
H. Dittmar (17)	F	C. Hawley (10)
R. Hulsenga (7)	C	H. Curley (16)
D. Dicks (0)	G	A. Shankman (0)
P. Jones (0)	G	J. Miller (0)

Scoring Subs: Treskes Men's Shop: George Lee (3). Bob Sykes (3). Fenwick Shoes: Roy Ruebel (14); Jim York (14).

Score by Quarters

Treskes Men's Shop	8	21	25	33
Fenwick Shoes	15	30	35	54

Linch Auto Sales (38)		Banner Drugs (50)
S. Torres (6)	F	C. Weyman (10)
D. Davis (6)	F	F. Hardy (10)
G. Pace (6)	C	C. Schildm'er (1)
B. Benjamin (2)	G	B. Eisele (5)
D. Driggs (18)	G	J. Nelson (5)

Scoring Subs: Linch Auto Sales: Harold Hatfield (6). Banner Drugs: Bob Weiss (12); Fabian Abram (6).

Score by Quarters:

Linch Auto Sales	21	26	31	38
Banner Drugs	10	28	39	50

Warriors Set for Unbeaten LBCC After 73-63 Win

By FRED CLAIRE
Warwhoop Sports Editor

Two unbeaten Metropolitan Conference basketball teams, El Camino and Long Beach, will meet head-on Tuesday night at 8 o'clock in the El Camino gym in what may well prove to be the Metros "game of the year."

Both El Camino and Long Beach have won three straight league games. El Camino is seeking revenge for an early Viking defeat, suffered in the deciding game of this year's Sam Barry Tournament.

The game will match the league's two top scorers, El Camino's Allen Herring and Johnny Mitchell from Long Beach.

Coach Tom Bailey's Warriors have a full-size job in attempting to stop what many consider to be the greatest Long Beach City College basketball team of all time.

Top Bakersfield

The Warriors registered their third straight loop victory on Friday night as Bill Baron and Al Herring combined to score 44 points and lead the way to a 73-63 win over Bakersfield on the victors' court.

It was the first time the one-two punch of EC's Herring and Baron had struck hard since early this season.

The game was Baron's first league start this year. The Torrance boy had been taking back seat to John Kivlen after Camino hit a slump.

Warrior Guard Ron Heusser tallied 11 points to trail behind Herring, 24 points, and Baron, 20 points, in the EC scoring parade.

El Camino (73)		Bakersfield (63)
Baron (20)	F	Russell (13)
Baker (9)	F	Barkey (18)
Herring (24	C	Holiday (18)
Nethercott (9)	G	Brown (5)
Heusser (11)	G	Qualman (7)

Scoring Subs: Bakersfield: Mills (3)

City, Little League Grads Discuss Union

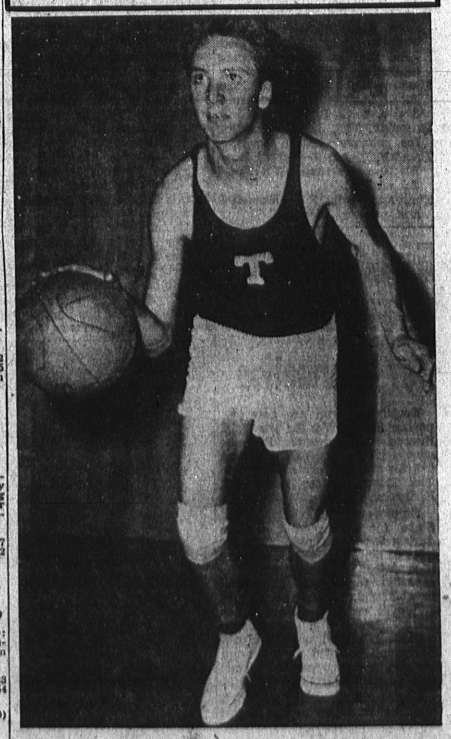
Plans to unite the Recreation Department sponsored Pony League for boys 13-15 with a group of Little League graduates and join a national boys' baseball program got under way at a recent meeting of a group of 15 fathers of teen-age boys.

Bill Deasy was named to head a committee of five which will investigate several organized groups, with the national Pony League to top the list. The Pony League — "Protect Our Nation's Youth" — carries on a national program of baseball for boys who have passed the 12 year old Little League age limit.

The city, which sponsored a Pony League last summer, plans to unite with the independent group rather than compete with it, according to Harry Van Bellehem, recreation director. The boys will play at Torrance Park, if it is ready by then.

Trappers of the California Department of Fish and Game accounted for 4410 predatory animals during October. The bag included 63 coyotes, 35 bobcats, and 5 mountain lions. Nine mountain lions were bountied by private hunters.

Meet The Tartars '54 Basketball Team



DENNIS HESTER . . . One of two juniors on the Tartar starting five, "The Menace" played end in football, distinguished himself by scoring the only TD against Loyola. Hester has worked his way from a second-string post to a starting guard spot on the cage group and is daring anyone to take it away from him. (Herald photo)