

# TORRANCE KNOCKED OUT OF CIF, 62-58

## Compton Powers to Impressive Victory In Second Round Play

By STEVE LESCHER  
Herald Sports Editor

Displaying flawless accuracy, a fired-up Compton basketball squad abruptly burst Torrance's CIF bubble Friday night as the Tarababes roared to a 62-58 triumph in a Central Division play-off game before an enthusiastic overflow crowd at Millikan High School in Long Beach.

Out of action Tuesday with a first round bye, Compton came back with devastating force to employ a full court press from the opening tip-off and led throughout the encounter with margins of 10 to 18 points.

However, it took all the Tarababes had—plus the final buzzer—to hold off a final Torrance effort which rapidly closed the gap to a scant four digits only to have time run out.

**Ruffell Gets 18**  
Center Rich Ruffell closed out a brilliant high school career by garnering high point laurels with 18 tallies although constantly bottled up by Compton's full-court zone press. Tarababes sharpshooters Roger Thrall and Bobby Smith took runner-up honors with 16 and 15 points, respectively.

Champions in the rugged Coast League, compiling a 12-2 record, the Tarababes put their press to work early and rolled to a 6-0 edge before Torrance could hit the backboard, although coming to life in the second half, Torrance had considerable difficulty in hitting during the early stages of the game and never held an advantage on their opposition.

**Early Troubles**  
The first quarter told the story of the final game outcome as Smith, one of the top playmakers in the CIF, engineered his teammates to a commanding 22-11 bulge.

Following the first disastrous eight minutes, the Tartars kept in close pursuit of coach Louis Joseph's aggregation but the early lead proved unsurmountable. Compton led at intermission 35-21 with its first five in action all the way.

Connecting with deadly accuracy throughout the evening, the victors held a substantial 50-34 advantage going into the hectic final chapter of play. Using a pressing defense successfully for the first time in the game, Torrance thundered down to the wire four points shy only to have time, which was kept on the sidelines due to the fact that Millikan had no clock, end their effort.

**Tighten Gap**  
With four minutes remaining, Compton led by a comfortable 58-46 margin before the Tartars hit for 12 points in

the final moments of play. Jerry Mathews and Dale Mead also tallied in double figures for the locals with 14 and 11 points, respectively, as did Compton's Ray Reed, who accounted for 13.

The two squads met three times during the practice season with Torrance coming up with 58-50, 48-40, and 72-65 triumphs. However, the fourth time proved the charm for the Tarababes who advanced to the CIF quarter finals and meet Covina Tuesday night. In the first three meetings, Torrance employed the full court press but Friday the situation was completely reversed.

**Successful Season**  
Although ending in defeat, Torrance celebrated its most successful hoop season in 1956-57 as coach Fanny Markham's squad compiled a respectable 20 victories in 29 outings.

Included in this record was a 9-3 Bay League record which placed the Tartars second to powerful Santa Monica. Also achieved and of most note was the first CIF play-off invitation in the history of the school.

With tremendous school support behind them, as was exhibited both against Morning-side and Compton, the locals successfully opened CIF play with a 51-45 triumph over the Monarchs Tuesday night.

Included in the Torrance campaign were victories over such strong CIF squads and Long Beach Jordan, Compton, Notre Dame, Alhambra, Santa Ana, and Mira Costa.

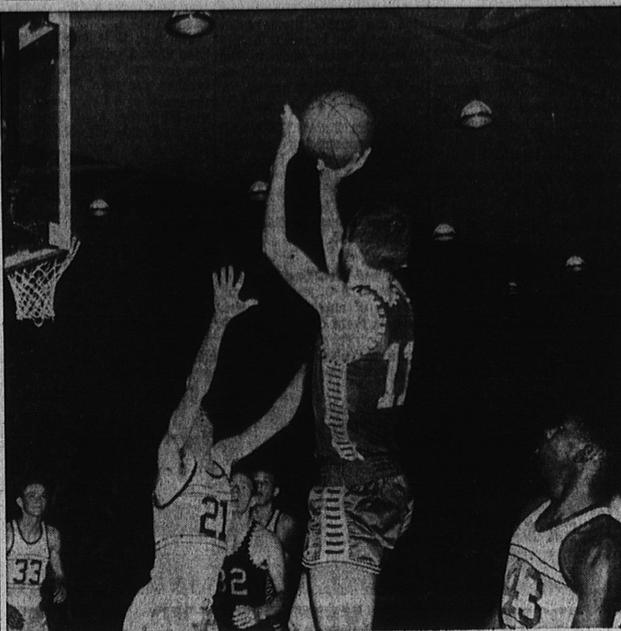
Torrance also possessed the third top scorer in the CIF in the person of Ruffell. The Tartar center was also number one in Bay League scoring while forward Mathews ranked number three. They boasted 20.5 and 15.1 averages, respectively.

**Score by quarters:**  
Torrance: 11 10 13 24-58  
Compton: 22 15 18 12-62  
Scoring Subs: Torrance—Venable, 6; Taylor, 1.

**Samohi Upset By LB Jordan**  
Bay League champion Santa Monica became the first major victim of CIF Play-off action Friday night when Long Beach Jordan came from behind to down the Vikings 63-57 at Long Beach City College.

The Samohi loss wiped out the last local entry in competition as Torrance of the Bay League and Beverly Hills and Morning-side in the Pioneer Loop fell in the first two rounds of competition.

Mt. Carmel and El Monte remain top threats for the coveted Central Division crown with LB Jordan and Compton rated dark horse chances.



(Herald Photo by Richard Broce)

**HEADED FOR THE HOOP . . .** Torrance forward Gene Crenshaw accurately aims for Compton basket for two points in final stages of Friday's CIF Central Division play-off battle at Millikan High. Making a vain attempt to block the shot is Tarababe center Dick Perry (21) while Compton's stellar forward Roger Thrall (33) and Ray Reed (43) and Tartar Jerry Mathews (32) are also in on the action. Compton held on to early lead to win 62-58 and advance to quarter finals. In background is overflow Torrance roofing section.

### New Hours for Recreational Swimming Set

To avoid disappointment on the part of throngs of local swimmers who utilize the El Camino College pools on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings, college officials have drafted new provisions for use of the campus facility.

"These rules are outlined," Merl F. Sloan, director of student personnel, said today, "to permit the greatest number of people to enjoy the pools during community swimming hour."

Facilities will be open from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. each Friday night to adults, 18 years and older and to children accompanied by one or both parents. From 8 until 9 p.m. the pool will be available on Friday evenings to adults only.

Three one-hour swimming periods have been established at 9, 10, and 11 a.m. on Saturdays for all persons 7 years of age and older. Younger children will be admitted only when accompanied by a parent, Sloan revealed.

### CIF Scores

| Team                                   | Score |
|--|-------|
| Sweetwater 49, Newport Beach 45.       |       |
| Mt. Carmel 62, Alhambra 45.            |       |
| El Monte 57, Burroughs 46.             |       |
| Long Beach Jordan 63, Santa Monica 57. |       |
| Covina 24, Cotton 33.                  |       |
| San Diego Hoover 51, Helix 44.         |       |
| Compton 62, Torrance 58.               |       |

### Tartar Booster Club Honors 18 Student Leaders

Eighteen Torrance High School student activities were paid tribute here Thursday night by the Torrance Boosters Club as one of its first major activities.

Meeting in the social hall of the First Christian Church, the group was served a turkey and dressing dinner, and then heard reports from student representatives from the 18 campus organizations.

Tartar Penny Benard served as mistress of ceremonies and introduced representatives of the Varsity Club, Torrance News Torch, Art Club, Tartar Band, Tartar Choir, Thespians, Tartar Ladies, Health Career Club, Rally Club, Jr.-Hi-Y, Sr. Hi-Y, Tri-Hi-Y, Boys' League, Girls' League, Girls' Athletic Assn., Pep Squad, California Scholastic Federation, and the Tartar Knights.

Guest speakers were Doug Moir, active in the Boosters, and A. D. Farrell, of Santa Monica, who explained the operations of the highly successful Santa Monica Boosters Club.



**BAY LEAGUE ACES . . .** Scoring and defensive stalwarts Rich Ruffell (13) and Jerry Mathews (32) were honored this week with selection to first team All-Bay League honors. Ruffell received unanimous acclaim for the second year. He ranked number one in Bay scoring while Mathews ranked third. The duo were considered two of the top rebounders in the league.

### ALL-BAY LEAGUE SELECTIONS

| PLAYER             | SCHOOL       | YR.   | POS. |
|--------------------|--------------|-------|------|
| <b>FIRST TEAM</b>  |              |       |      |
| Chester Clark      | Centennial   | Sr.   | F    |
| JERRY MATHEWS      | TORRANCE     | Sr.   | F    |
| RICH RUFFELL       | TORRANCE     | Sr.   | C    |
| Tom Bennett        | Santa Monica | Sr.   | G    |
| Perry Bates        | Santa Monica | Sr.   | G    |
| <b>SECOND TEAM</b> |              |       |      |
| Mike McConnell     | Mira Costa   | Jr.   | C    |
| Larry Beard        | Santa Monica | Sr.   | C    |
| Gary Cunningham    | Inglewood    | Jr.   | C    |
| Ron Love           | Centennial   | Sr.   | G    |
| Mike Rogers        | Mira Costa   | Sr.   | G    |
| <b>THIRD TEAM</b>  |              |       |      |
| Larry Gross        | Santa Monica | Sr.   | F    |
| Roger Nichols      | Santa Monica | Jr.   | F    |
| Walt Frazier       | Leuzinger    | Sr.   | C    |
| Phil Herman        | Redondo      | Soph. | G    |
| GENE CRENSHAW      | TORRANCE     | Jr.   | F    |

## TORRANCE HERALD Sports

MARCH 3, 1957 TORRANCE HERALD Five

### El Camino Nine After First Win At Orange Coast

Still seeking their initial win of the season, El Camino's baseball squad plays host to Orange Coast Tuesday afternoon on the Warrior diamond. EC completes a busy week with a Thursday clash at Pasadena and then entertain Pierce Friday.

Coach Doug Essick is in a rebuilding year with only five returning lettermen. Headed by Bob Aspray, Camino will have one of its strongest pitching staffs in many years.

With Aspray and lettermen pitchers Tom Vanderpool, Ed Saunders and Ralph Hemp aided by rookies Dick "Butch" Badger, Jim "Red" Lynn, and Dick Thompson, the Warriors will be a tough opponent on mound defense.

In early games the Warriors have been light on the sticks and good on the defense. Main defensive strength lies in second bagger Dave Watt. The keystone sacker is one of the fastest glove men in the junior college ranks and is wanted by many professional teams. The Warriors' record to date shows four losses, two of them low-scoring affairs.

The defeats have been at the hands of Compton (4-3), Loyola (10-1), Orange Coast (3-1), and LACC (9-3).

Main Warrior weakness is the left side of the diamond. At shortstop the Warriors have two question marks. Earl Well, a three-year lettermen in high school, has been out of action for a year and needs to regain speed and confidence.

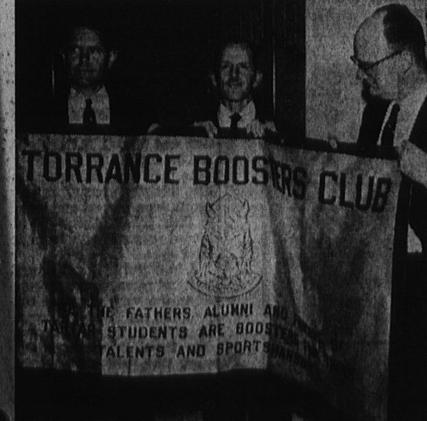
Roger Colwell, just out of the Navy where he was an all-star shortstop, is sidelined with a leg injury and will not be counted upon until he is in good shape again. Colwell will probably prove the fastest man on the team when in shape.

The Camino team will count heavily on the bats of Dave Watt, Ed Saunders, Ralph Hemp, Dick Weber, and Skeeter Smith.

With four games to go, the Warriors have yet to get a starting combination and will have to find one more good pitcher.

The Warriors lost four All-Metro players from last year, pitcher Jerry Nicholson, shortstop Jerry Ott, catcher Wally Newberry, and All-American third baseman Jack Evans.

**MINING DEVICES**  
Continuous mining machines cut and load coal in a single operation. Single types have been developed that are capable of producing two to five tons of coal a minute.



**BOOSTERS BANNER . . .** Admiring the new banner of the Torrance Boosters Club at a banquet Thursday night honoring Torrance High Students are (left to right) Carl Ahee, Torrance High principal; C. Bertolot, president of the Boosters; and Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools. Eighteen Tartar student groups were honored by the Boosters.

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