

Council Gets Beach 'Hot Potato'

EC Grid Mentor Hurt in Water Skiing Mishap

Norm Verry, head football mentor at El Camino College, was seriously injured in a water skiing accident last week at Lake Tahoe.

Verry, who lives in Manhattan Beach, reportedly suffered a concussion and possible internal injuries. He was unconscious for 11 to 12 hours following the accident.

Don Jurk, faculty member at El Camino, said he spoke to Verry on the telephone Thursday night and said he was in good spirits.

The injured coach is hospitalized at Washoe Medical Center. He and his family were camping near Lake Tahoe when the accident occurred.

It was not known if Verry will recover from his injuries in time to start the 1957 grid season at the local college.

Prices Drop As Gas War Starts Here

John Q. Citizen got a break last week, as prices went down instead of up.

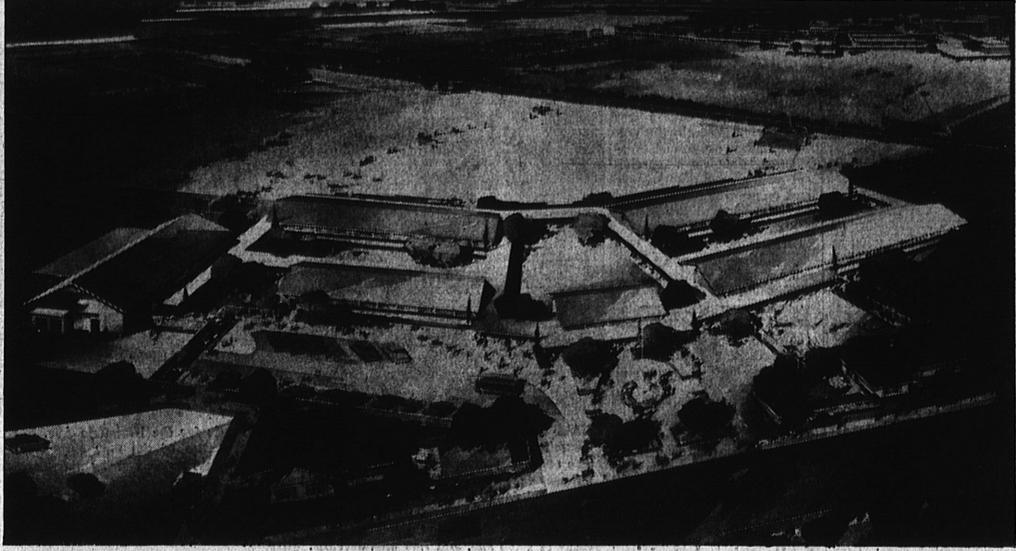
Gas stations throughout Torrance were cutting prices in a gas war that affected an estimated 75 per cent of stations throughout Southern California.

The executive committee of the Southern California Service Station Assn., Friday, conferred with Attorney General Pat Brown, asking him to curb the price cutting spree by enforcing the California Unfair Practices Act.

Meanwhile, gas prices at independent stations dropped in most cases to about 24.9 cents for regular gas, while major stations were selling regular for about 26.9 cents. This represents a drop of three to four cents in most cases.

There was no agreement on how and where the price battle started, but John A. Touhey, executive secretary of the SCSSA, blamed the cutting on major oil companies' release of gasoline overproduction to independent dealers at cut-rate prices.

Touhey said that if the gas war continues "it won't be long before we'll have to start laying off workers and customers will have to start serving themselves in many stations."



NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL . . . This architect's drawing shows the plans for the new Calle Mayor Elementary School, scheduled to be built south of Calle Mayor and immediately north of the new South High School. Designed by Architect Roy Donley, who also designed South High

and Edison Schools, the new school is expected to open some time during the 1958-59 school year. It will relieve some of the double session problems at Seaside School, now the city's largest school.

Lomita Boundaries Approved by Board

Lomita incorporation backers won a clear-cut victory last Thursday as the County Board of Supervisors approved city boundaries as originally submitted.

All requests for exclusions were denied by the board. A hot election battle in October was expected, as opponents of incorporation continued to fire salvos against the proposal.

Mrs. Dessie Myers of the Lomita Property Owners and Registered Voters, charged that most of the signers of the original incorporation petition were not in favor of incorporation. Instead, she said, they signed the petition because the high school petition distributors got 50 cents a name or because they were told it was the only way they could receive free sidewalks.

Tea, Doll Show Set At Auditorium Friday

The Torrance Recreation Department is sponsoring a Mother and Daughter Tea and Doll Show on Friday, Aug. 16, from 1 to 3 p.m. The event will be held in the Torrance Civic Auditorium located at 1349 El Prado.

This annual show is directly tied in with the program in progress at the parks and playgrounds.

when Lomita became a city. Largest exclusion request came from Sidebotham Corp., whose board of directors went on record protesting inclusion in the proposed city.

L. H. Chandler, representing Chandler's Palos Verdes Sand and Gravel Co., who he said owned one-half of the Sidebotham corporation, spoke in favor of the incorporation.

Chandler said his firm was in favor of the move and opposed the exclusion of the Sidebotham property. Others at the hearing were representatives of the Lomita Citizens' Committee Against Incorporation. Spokesmen complained that many of the signatures on the cityhood petitions were invalid.

Limit "Logical" Supervisor Burton W. Chace said the city limits as submitted by incorporation sponsors are "logical."

A date for the election will be set next Tuesday by the County Board.

Estimated to contain in excess of 11,400 inhabitants, the new city of Lomita would be bounded on the north and west by Torrance, on the south by the proposed city of East Rolling Hills Estates and on the east by the city of Los Angeles.

July's Permits For Buildings Hit \$1,819,471

Building permits during July totaled \$1,819,471, bringing the year's total to \$11,529,833, according to Walter Bradford, senior clerk in the city engineer's office.

The figures compared with \$4,921,784 in July, 1956, and a 1956 total of \$34,450,783. Biggest permit was taken out by the Torrance Unified School District for four maintenance buildings at the school offices, 2335 Plaza del Amo. Cost will be \$573,000.

The Jan Investment Co. took out \$500,591 in permits for 25 homes in the 3800 block of 178th St. and seven triplexes at 3802-20 W. 174th St.

B. A. Wechsler got permits for two 12-unit apartments at 16820-4 Yukon Ave., valued at \$155,076.

An eight-unit apartment at 212 Palos Verdes Blvd., valued at \$52,000, is planned by Peter Xenias, while P. and B. Smith will build a five-unit apartment worth \$27,792 on Arlington Ave.

Partly Blind Youth to Get 2nd Chance

City Civil Service Board members will reconsider the case of a partially blind young man seeking employment as a city park maintenance man.

Walter Pinkard, 23, has been turned down by the board because of his visual defect but the city council requested reconsideration.

A new medical report will be studied Sept. 4 and his case will then be reviewed.

Rivets Reports

Rivets was all smiles today as he related the weatherman's prediction of clear and sunny skies for the area.

To add to the bonus forecast, there'll be NO SMOG.

For those who spend their Sundays at the beach, it should be just about perfect. Rivets said, with a high of about 80 degrees.

High and low temperatures for the past week were Thursday (78-58); Friday (80-58); and Saturday (80-60).

Strike Prohibits Full Opening of Schools

Faring better than South High, the new Narbonne High School on Western Ave., at least will be open this September.

Although some juggling of classrooms may be necessary, school administrators declared the plant will be in operation come the first day of school.

Students in the South High attendance district, will attend classes in both Torrance High School and Torrance Elementary School, probably until late in the year.

Strike Blamed The current building strike was blamed for the completion delay of the two new schools.

Some 45 classrooms at Narbonne await the end of the strike. These rooms can not be finished until the strike is settled, officials said.

Facilities for 100 students have now been completed but enrollment is expected to hit 1500 Sept. 16. It may be necessary to use the cafeteria as classrooms, Narbonne administrators declared.

Evaluate Progress Construction stages of each of the different buildings will be evaluated this week during a tour of the new plant by school officials.

If the strike is settled within the next week, the classrooms may be finished in the near future, with the minimum of inconvenience.

However, every lost working day of construction now will

Planners Return Hotel Zone Case

The Torrance Planning Commission Wednesday night tossed a hot potato back into the laps of the City Council, as it sent the controversial Don-Ja-Ran hotel-motel problem back without recommendation, except that a hotel instead of motel be placed on property along Torrance Beach, on the southern city boundary.

At the request of the Council, the Planners had been studying possible rezoning of the property to single-family residential use from the present hotel-use classification. The Council was miffed because they felt that Don-Ja-Ran was planning a "motel-type" building instead of the resort hotel the Council had expected.

Motel Hit During stormy hearings before the Planning Commission nearby residents flayed the plans for a "motel" on the site, charging that the plans for the development had been misrepresented to them.

Wednesday night, however, a group of residents led by M. Williams, 201 Via El Toro, indicated that they were willing to compromise on the issue, to have single-family units along the beach and a hotel development at the top of the hill. The Don-Ja-Ran Corp. officials took a dim view of this plan, although they had earlier offered to compromise.

A letter from the board of directors of the Hollywood Riviera Homeowners Assn., signed by President Ben J. Russell, urged the city officials to take a "firm stand" against a motel development.

Matter Returned By a 6 to 3 vote, the Planning Commission voted to send the whole matter back to the Council without recommendation. This was done over the protests of Commissioners Bert Lynn, William King, and Laurence Wing, who felt the whole discussion should be postponed 60 days to try to work out a compromise.

Commissioner Lynn indicated he was in no hurry to reach a solution, declaring that if more time were taken a better development probably could be arrived at.

In a case involving adjoining property, Planners voted for parking zoning on four lots and part of two others, and for residential zoning for 20 others in the area just south of Torrance Beach.

Residents of this area had attacked plans to build apartment house along the waterfront. They declared that these would cut off their views.

Action Started The apartment developers have started legal action to prevent the rezoning, and Commissioner John Mulvihill

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Council to Eye Possible Change of Airport Bonds

The Torrance City Council will hold a special meeting at 9 a.m. tomorrow morning to reconsider the \$1,000,000 airport bond issue, tentatively scheduled for Oct. 29.

Although the original bond proposal, as passed by the Council, called for revenue bonds, which would be paid off solely out of airport revenues, it will consider tomorrow whether the method of financing should be changed to general obligation bonds, which would be guaranteed by the city.

According to City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier, further investigation showed that the interest rate on revenue bonds might run considerably higher than that on general obligation bonds.

Revenue bonds, he said, would depend entirely on airport revenues to pay them off and to the investor, involved a greater risk, due to the possibility that the airport revenues might not be sufficient to meet the obligation and because the airport has a "recapture clause," by which it could be taken over by the government.

General obligation bonds would require that the city underwrite the bonds, the city attorney said, but would not necessarily cost the taxpayer. City officials anticipate that airport revenues will cover the cost of the bonds.

If Councilmen postpone a decision on the type of bonds to be put up for vote, they might also change the date of the recreation bond election, which also was scheduled for vote at the same time.

At its special meeting, the Council also will consider the lease of the "triangle" at Crenshaw Blvd. and the Pacific Coast Hwy.

H. Wood Playground To Close for Summer

Howard Wood School Playground will be closed as of Aug. 16, according to the Torrance Recreation Department.

The closing of the playground is due to a changing and shifting of personnel duties and requirements.



TICKETS, ANYONE? . . . These three attractive women will soon become familiar faces to those who forget to put a penny in the parking meters. Riding motor scooters, the trio went on duty Friday and began writing overtime parking violation tickets. Shown are (from left) Mary Jo Vaughn, Acting Police Chief Percy Bennett, Virginia Gruenke, Mayor Albert Isen, and Mary Ann Hays.



NORTH TORRANCE SCHOOL . . . Phillip S. Magruder Elementary School should look like this when it is completed during the 1958-59 school year. Plans for the school were completed by Rule, Dietz & Conkle. To be located

at 186th and Amie Ave., it will serve many of the children who now go to El Nido School. The present El Nido School will be torn down to make way for a school for the severely mentally handicapped children.