

STAN GONTA ON ALL-CIF TEAM



Six TORRANCE HERALD DECEMBER 31, 1959

FROM THE BRIDGE

1959 Has Been A Great Year

By BILL SCHIPPER—Sports Editor

1959 has been a great year! In the fabulous world of sport, both locally and nationally, it's been a year of thousands of thrills, chills, upsets, downfalls, high points and low points, surprises and disappointments. In short, it's been unforgettable. It would be impossible to recount all of the memorable sports incidents, but in the brief space allotted here I'll turn the clock back and recount some of what I feel were of our outstanding sports stories.

At the top of the list, of course, was the resurgence of the Dodgers and the world series — an incredible rise from 7th place to the National League and world championships; Wally Moon, Larry Sherry, Charlie Neal, Duke Snider, Gil Hodges, Don Drysdale, and the entire team provided the southland with probably its most outstanding glory-flag since the '32 Olympics.

Babe Ruth Championship

Then there was the southern state championship for the local Babe Ruth League baseball all stars, putting Torrance on the baseball map . . . South High copped the Crescent League baseball title in only the school's second year of existence . . . and repeated with a co-title in football as the result of a thrilling upset win over a previously unbeaten El Segundo team . . . both North and Torrance had championship and undefeated Bee football teams.

Torrance High's Stan "Buddha" Gonta became the third player in the school's history to be named all-CIF in football . . . Tartar Bill Reinert was named to the all-Beverly Hills Tournament Basketball team . . . and El Camino College's Tom Reddin, who thrilled South Bayans with a tremendous and deadly jump shot, was named on the all-Southern California JC basketball team.

Iowa scored an expected but thrilling Rose Bowl win . . . local fans saw the Sports Arena rise to the skyline . . . pro-basketball and Wilt (the Stilt) Chamberlain made their L. A. debuts.

Also, the city's two great universities sponsored a college holiday basketball tournament . . . Professional boxing began another rise with new and colorful promotions; championship bouts become a regularity in L. A.

Two All-Star Games

1959 was the year that two all-star games were played . . . a third major league and a second pro football conference came off the planning boards . . . the Yankees played the Dodgers at the Coliseum, and then the Bombers flopped in the A.L. . . . South High was selected to enter the Bay League after Santa Monica was "transferred" . . . Torrance, after a long and topsy turvy stay in the "big time", is reduced to "AA" CIF classification as it enters the Pioneer League . . . North went into the Bay League.

And, the Rams flopped, Gillman "retired" . . . UCLA upset SC . . . upstart South upset Torrance in football . . . Rodger Ward won the Indianapolis "500" . . . Ingemar Johansson stunned the sports world when he did what he had calmly predicted, knock out Floyd Paterson.

Samohi Didn't Win

Santa Monica didn't win a football championship . . . plans for West High were drawn up . . . a 90 pound "wonder", Mike Pritchard, quarterbacked Bishop Montgomery's Bee football team . . . Torrance beat North in basketball . . . Len Ehlers, a Torrance High graduate, helped set a two man 10-mile record at El Camino College.

Dean White, a local bowler, picked up an almost impossible 7-10 split, and was awarded by the American Bowling Congress . . . Pop Warner football was destined for this city . . . El Camino made it past the second round of the Sam Barry Memorial Basketball Tournament . . . the Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation's slo-pitch softball championships were held in Torrance . . . an Amble basketball program was set up in the city . . . a phone was installed in South High's gym . . . an all-girl's track meet was held, and South High's Marie Acosta scored a triple win.

Sport followers will be a long time forgetting 1959.

Resolution

It's time for new year's resolutions: I resolve not to make any.

I'm for — watching the Rose Bowl game on television. I'm also for, popcorn, the Dodgers, intra-city athletic scheduling, peanuts, good movies, UCLA, Sid Gillman, the Tartars, Knights, Saxons, Warriors and Spartans, girls, rootbeer floats Rich Ruffell, and new year's eve parties.

I'm against — athletes who don't hustle, pessimistic coaches whip-yielding bosses, squeaky typewriters, loud telephones, anonymous letter writers, new year's resolutions, dull basketball games, big word users, fast ball pitchers with no fast ball, curve ball pitchers with no fast ball, quarterback who can't throw, and basketball players who shoot too much.

But, I'm all for everyone having a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Bring on 1960.

Lineman Becomes Third Tartar in History to Make All-CIF Grid Team

Stan Gonta, Torrance High's do-everything senior middle guard, was named to the first string all-Southern California (small school's) football team today by the Helms Athletic Foundation.

Gonta, a 6-ft., 220 pound two-year varsity letterman, became only the third griddier in Torrance's 13 year history in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) to be named to an all-CIF team.



PARNELLI JONES

Parnelli Jones Fifth in Auto Race Standings

Veteran late model stock car driver Bob Ross, of Lakewood, was named NASCAR Pacific Coast Champion in final 1959 standings released by officials of the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing.

Parnelli Jones of Torrance was fifth.

The final standings are:

1. Bob Ross, Lakewood 1428
2. Lloyd Dane, Buena Park 1280
3. Scott Cain, Santa Monica 1118
4. Marvin Porter, Lakewood 1112
5. Parnelli Jones, Torrance 1070
6. Eddie Gray, Gardena 1036
7. Johnny Potter, Sacramento 1024
8. Lucky Long, Lakewood 992
9. Mel Larson, Phoenix 992
10. Bob Perry, Hawthorne 802

Under the promotion of Bob Barkhimer and Tony Coldewey, the late model stock cars open their '60 racing season at Ascot Stadium, 182nd and Vermont on Sunday afternoon, Jan. 10th with a seven event program open to American manufactured stock cars from 1957 through 1960 models.

Gas-Drifter Duels Feature Lions Opening

Hottest stars in the gas-drifter field will clash in a series of duels Sunday, to feature the opening of 1960 day racing at Lions Drag Strip, in Long Beach.

Only the top array who have consistently turned speeds of around 160-m.p.h. will be eligible. First-round eliminations will be by drawing, said Director Mickey Thompson.

Seven top-flight entrants named today will include Dude Martin with the famed Dragmaster of Oceanside, which has hit 163.2, and Tommy Ivo, young Van Nuys TV actor, with his new dual-Buick job.

Others in the closely rated array are Lefty Muddersbach, Rivera (dual Chevy), Glenn Ward, Garden Grove barber (super-charged Eds e l); Jack Chrisman, Compton (Chrysler, Sidewinder J); Glenn Stokey, Redondo (super-charged Chrysler) and the Langford-Brown-Koulouan team of Lomita (blown Olds).

Over 250 vehicles will take part.

There will be no increase in the usual \$1.00 admission, Thompson said. Gates open at 10:00 a.m. with first gas-drifter elimination runs starting at 1:30.

60 Schedule For Industrial Cage League

The schedule for the Torrance Recreation Department's Industrial Basketball League has been released by Red Moon, adult athletics supervisor.

Games will be played on Tuesday evenings at 7, 8, and 9 at the North High School Gymnasium.

FIRST ROUND

Jan. 5. Aeronca vs. Ryan Aeron Manor Barbers vs. City Employees Gen Telephone vs. Harvey Alum.

Jan. 12. Harvey Alum. vs. Manor Barbers City Employees vs. Aeronca Ryan Aeron vs. Gen. Telephone

Jan. 19. Manor Barbers vs. Ryan Aeron Aeronca vs. Gen. Telephone City Employees vs. Harvey Alum.

Jan. 26. City Employees vs. Gen. Telephone Ryan Aeron vs. Harvey Alum. Aeronca vs. Manor Barbers

Feb. 2. Aeronca vs. Harvey Alum. Manor Barbers vs. Gen. Telephone City Employees vs. Ryan Aeron

SECOND ROUND

Feb. 9. Manor Barbers vs. Manor Barbers Harvey Alum. vs. Gen. Telephone Ryan Aeron vs. Aeronca

Feb. 16. Aeronca vs. City Employees Gen. Telephone vs. Ryan Aeron Manor Barbers vs. Harvey Alum.

Feb. 23. Gen. Telephone vs. Aeronca Harvey Alum. vs. City Employees Ryan Aeron vs. Manor Barbers

March 1. Manor Barbers vs. Ryan Aeron Harvey Alum. vs. City Employees Aeronca vs. Aeronca

March 8. Gen. Telephone vs. Manor Barbers Ryan Aeron vs. City Employees Harvey Alum. vs. Aeronca

'Ruth League Registration Set Jan. 12

Torrance Central Babe Ruth League president Bill Korchensky has announced that registrations will begin Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. at Greenwood Elementary School.

Boys 13, 14 and 15 years old, as of Sept. 1, 1960, will be eligible to compete in the program. According to Korchensky, and boy and either parent must be present to fill out registration application.

Tryouts will be held at a later date, to be announced.

The Central Babe Ruth League field, which was recently renovated by a parents' committee, is located at Plaza Del Amo and Western Ave.

ALL-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (SMALL SCHOOL)

FOOTBALL TEAM

First Team

POS. PLAYER SCHOOL Ht. Wt. YEAR
E—Buddy Ortega, Mary Star of the Sea 6' 170 Senior

E—Roger Clark, South Pasadena 6' 170 Senior
T—Fred Engel, Tustin 5'11 185 Senior
T—Gilbert Achter, Mission 6' 1 200 Senior
G—Larry Sagoupe, Chino 6' 205 Senior
G—Stan Gonta, Torrance 6' 220 Senior
C—Jack Barnhart, Paso Robles 5' 9 195 Junior
B—Don Johnson, South Pasadena 5'11 180 Junior
B—John Sheeler, Hart 5' 8 171 Senior
B—Gary Holman, Brea-Olinda 5'11 175 Junior
B—Ray Sanchez, Mater Dei 5'10 175 Senior
B—Larry Rubidoux, Beaumont 5'10 170 Senior

ALL-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (LARGE SCHOOL)

FOOTBALL TEAM

First Team

POS. PLAYER SCHOOL Ht. Wt. YEAR
E—Dave Johnson, L.B. Wilson 6' 2 185 Senior
T—Mike Giers, L.B. Poly 6' 4 184 Senior
E—Ken Fraser, Muir, Pasadena 6' 225 Senior
T—Mike Brown, Mt. Carmel 6' 215 Senior
G—Damon Bame, Glendale 5'10 175 Senior
G—Bruce Johnson, Hawthorne 5'10 185 Senior
B—Willie Brown, L.B. Poly 6' 2 225 Senior
C—Malcolm Weaver, Redlands 5'11 175 Senior
B—Lonzo Irvin, L.B. Poly 6' 225 Senior
B—H. D. Murphy, San Diego 6' 182 Senior
B—Ken Graham, Santa Monica 6' 185 Senior
B—Bill Gaydosh, El Monte 6' 175 Senior

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ALL-CIF GUARD . . . Torrance High's Stan Gonta, a 220 pound senior, was named to the all-CIF (small school) first string today by the Helms Athletic Foundation. Gonta, a recent unanimous all-Pioneer League selection, became the third griddier in Torrance's history to make an all-CIF team. (Crotty photo).

El Camino Suffers Second Loss, 73-66, to LACC

El Camino wound up battling for third place honors with Long Beach at the Sam Barry Memorial Basketball Tournament last night after the Warriors were hung by Long Beach 73-66 in a crucial semi-final round game at Glendale College.

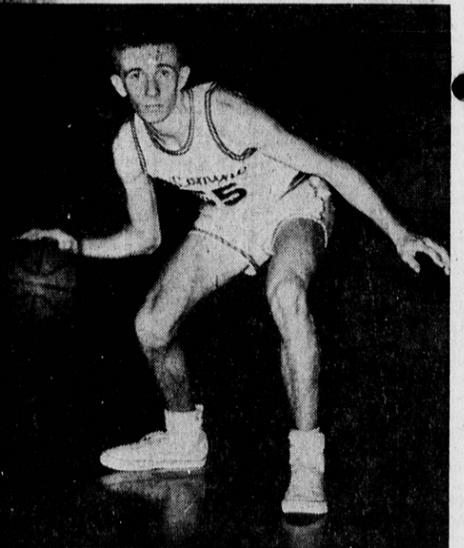
LACC and Bakersfield met in the championship game. Although the Warriors were burst by LACC, the Warriors reached the finals for the first time in several seasons and stood a good chance of landing one cager on the journey team—Jack Runyon.

TUESDAY LACC came back from a one point deficit at the 5:24 mark to run away with the ball game. The Cubs and Warriors had shared the lead 11 times in the final 20 minutes after LACC had taken a 37-33 lead at intermission. The score was tied five times in the second half.

But after the 5:34 point the outcome was never in doubt. LACC, which had a previous 75-71 overtime victory over El Camino, took a 60-58 lead on a 12 foot jump shot and a free throw and never relinquished it.

Coach George Stanich's Camino quint — which showed slow down effects from a 88-84 triumph over host Glendale the evening previous — was further put in the hole by LACC's 6'6" Joe Spinks, who pumped in two field goals and two free throws in the final two minutes. Stanich added three foul shots to LACC's scoreboard in the final minute of play.

WARRIOR JACK Runyon — who totaled 21 points for the game — was mainly responsible for bringing El Camino back



SCORING WHIZ . . . Jack Runyon, El Camino College 5'11", 145 pound guard from Inglewood High, has blossomed into scoring whiz for Warriors. Runyon tallied 79 points in three Sam Barry Tournament games to lead team in that department and become possible all-tourney candidate. El Camino went against Long Beach last night in Glendale for third place in the 10th annual tournament.

from its halftime deficit. The agile 5'11", 154-pound guard rammed in a game-tying bucket at 37:37 and later sent two long jump shots into the cords to give the Warriors a brief edge.

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