

'We Hate Teachers,' Vandals Write on Blackboard



FLAVIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LOOKED LIKE THIS WHEN VANDALS COMPLETED A RAID ON FACILITIES OVER THE WEEKEND.

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COURT FREES TORRANCE COUPLE

Says Local Court Erred On Schedule

A Torrance couple has been released from the county jail on their own recognizance after their appeal claiming they had been denied due process of law on child neglect charges.

Claude Bishop, 40, and his wife, Marjorie, 39, of 1608 Cabrillo Ave., were charged with child neglect after their son, Michael, 4, died Christmas day. A coroner's report showed cause of death was congenital hydro-encephalitis, water on the brain.

THE COUPLE claimed in their appeal that they should have been tried within 30 days of their arrest. In the writ of habeas corpus filed by their attorney, Archer Zomloch, it was contended that Torrance Municipal Judge Donald Armstrong erred in not informing the defendants of their legal rights to a speedy trial. In defending the local judge, a deputy district attorney claimed Judge Armstrong tried to protect the couple's legal rights. The case was set for trial and Zomloch appointed the couple's attorney but it would have been "an abuse of due process" to have forced Zomloch to proceed with the trial by the 30-day deadline of Jan. 24, the deputy district attorney said.

THE PUBLIC prosecutor claimed that the appointment of Zomloch served as a waiver of the 30-day deadline and was "good cause" for a continuance. The couple served 71 days in the county jail. They were ordered released after the appellate court took the petition for the writ under advisement.

Smith Trial Under Way in Long Beach

Trial is under way in Long Beach Superior Court for Billy Romain Smith, 21, of 21927 S. Harvard Ave., who is accused of kidnapping and armed robbery.

He faces a possible death penalty since the kidnapping accusation also includes armed robbery. He was arrested last October after a San Pedro woman said she was kidnapped from in front of a Western Avenue supermarket, driven to a home construction site and robbed of \$13.

Smith is charged with two counts of kidnapping and one each of attempted kidnapping and armed robbery. The other counts involved two women Smith allegedly accosted in a laundromat.

Polio Clinic Set

A \$1 polio and tetanus clinic will be held Thursday, March 15, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Fern - Greenwood School, Torrance Boulevard and Fern Avenue.

Scout Center Dedication Scheduled Next Sunday

Torrance's scout center on Plaza Del Amo south of Carson Street will be dedicated Sunday at 2 p.m.

The dedication will include a flag raising ceremony and tour of the building. Color guards of Girl and Boy Scout troops will participate in the flag raising.

W. E. Walton, scout center chairman, will introduce civic leaders and give a brief history of the structure. Members of the Torrance Junior Woman's Club and Torrance Civitans will serve as hosts.

The brick building consists of an assembly room which has a fireplace, kitchen, and several patrol rooms. The District Girl Scouts will use an office in the structure. Showers have been included for use by traveling scout troops. Ground was broken in 1958 on land leased from the city. A great portion of the work was done by volunteer labor of individuals and Torrance service clubs.

The center is now sponsored by the Torrance Junior Woman's Club, California Federation of Woman's Clubs Junior Membership, and the Civitan Club. Original incorporating sponsors included the Rotary, Civitans, Lions, Kiwanis, Optimists, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Chamber of Commerce, Woman's Club, Junior Woman's Club, American Legion, and Local 1414 of the CIO.

Events to be held in the structure will include adult training, banquets, meetings, dances, and overnight programs.



RESTORING LINE . . . Crews dig through muck resulting from broken water line under the Santa Fe Harbor Line tracks near Carson and Madrid to restore roadbed. Traffic over the rail line was interrupted late Tuesday, and by yesterday morning at least four trains headed for the harbor were being delayed, Santa Fe officials said at the scene. (Herald Photo)

Council Chided for 'Slow' Action on Sump

Charges that his group received no direct answers from city officials at a citizens' meeting Monday night were hurled at Councilmen the following evening by a spokesman for North Torrance residents seeking to eliminate a sump which cost the life of a 6-year-old Whittier lad last week.

Jerome Satuloff, sales engineer living at 2007 W. 279th St., told Councilmen "we received no direct answers, no solutions," at the Monday meeting at the Arlington Avenue Elementary School which was attended by several members of the City Council and other city officials.

SATULOFF SAID the residents of the area wanted immediate filling of the land at 178th Street and St. Andrews Place "at no cost to the property owner," and wanted the land used for something besides the proposed trailer park which has been planned for the site. He also asked for a report on the zoning status of the property.

Mayor Albert Isen, who had spoken to the group the previous evening, told Satuloff that the answers would be forthcoming at the 7 p.m. pre-Council meeting called for next Tuesday. He defended the city's response to the emergency when Satuloff complained that a week had passed since the drowning of the Whittier boy.

"YOU'LL FIND this City Council is just as fast as any other," Isen said. The Council formally voted to order developer R. A. Watt to fence the area, ratifying an order which went to Watt from the city last week.

AT THE SAME TIME, City Manager Wade Peebles was instructed to take informal bids for fencing material and erect a fence along city property in the area.

A crowd estimated at near 300 attended Monday night's meeting called by Satuloff. Members of the audience charged that real estate salesmen told them the area was scheduled to become a park in the near future, and Mayor Isen suggested that they might consider civil litigation on that matter.

PEEBLES TOLD the group that the landowner had taken

Books, Paper Strewn About City School

Principal Robert Dexter of Flavian Elementary School — with the assistance of other school officials and the Torrance Police Department — has his cap set on apprehending the vandals who printed, "We Hate Teachers" on the blackboard in Room 10 and then set about tearing up the room, though not necessarily in that order.

Three Hurt In Crashes

Two passengers and a motorcycle rider were injured in traffic accidents early this week.

Passengers in two separate sedans suffered minor injuries and were treated at Little Company of Mary Hospital after the two-car collision Sunday at Sepulveda Boulevard and Osage Court.

Injured was Louise Balinowska, 50, Los Angeles, passenger in a car driven by Arthur John Obrien, 43, of 5500 Torrance Blvd., and Lucille Fite, 43, of 4640 Sepulveda Blvd., passenger in a car driven by Frederick Dorris Fite, 58, of the same address.

Police said the Fite vehicle collided with the rear of the Obrien sedan.

A motorcycle rider, John Arthur Mucoid, 17, of 139 Via La Ciruela, Redondo Beach, suffered minor injuries Monday morning when his cycle was involved in a collision with a pickup truck driven by Norio Umekita, 36, Gardena.

The accident occurred about 7:30 on Pacific Coast Highway west of Ocean Avenue.

Workshop Set In Politics

Nine two-hour workshops on politics are scheduled each Thursday at 4 p.m. in the chamber of commerce office.

The action course in practical politics contains information about everyday politics. It is down to earth, forthright stimulating and instructive, according to Roy Chilton, discussion leader.

The only bright spot, Dexter told investigating officers Monday morning, was that whoever broke into the school bent on vandalism took time to remove the flag from the standard, fold it neatly, and place it on a dusted table where it remained untouched amid the rubble of the raid.

Otherwise, the vandals, believed by school officials to be students, did a thorough job. They threw books, papers, school supplies, potted plants, dirt, and chalk throughout the entire room. Walls and desks of the room had been smeared with ink, paste, glue, chalk and dirt, and equipment such as the record player, globe, and first aid kit was heavily damaged.

Damage was estimated at several hundred dollars by school officials.

Nixon Here For Address March 20th

Richard M. Nixon, candidate for governor, will speak Tuesday, March 20, before a combined meeting of South Bay, Harbor, and Palos Verdes Peninsula Republican organizations.

The session is scheduled for 8 p.m. in the South High School cafeteria, 4801 Pacific Coast Hwy. Since the cafeteria seating capacity is about 800, persons will be seated on a first come, first served basis, according to Mrs. John Kerr, president of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Club of Federated Republican Women.

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A Penny for your Thoughts

"Do you think Torrance should have a municipal auditor?" the Pennies photographer asked persons in downtown Torrance.

Preston Truex, San Pedro: "I don't know if I have the right to say yes or no since I live in San Pedro, but when I attended San Pedro High I attended dances on Friday nights in Torrance's old auditorium. As far as I could tell the old one was well used."

Mrs. Ben Smittle, Wilmington: "Any city with a population of 109,000 could probably put an auditorium to good use and draw upon the population of surrounding communities in its use. It would be nice to attend functions in this area instead of going into Los Angeles."

Joseph Venezia, Anaheim: "Yes, definitely they should have one. I attended school, church, Boy Scout, social and civic events in the old one in the 10 years I lived in Torrance. I thought sure they would have a new one by now."

Mrs. Earl Brugman, 1723 Juniper Ave.: "Yes, I think one could be put to good use. My church has its own facilities but I'm sure there are churches and other organizations which could use an auditorium. When my son was a scout we had an annual dinner in the old auditorium."

(Continued on Page 2)