

# Sports

## The Fearless Spectator

By

Charles McCabe, Esquire



I see where his excellency Fulton J. Sheen, Bishop Caesariana and auxiliary Bishop of New York, told a posse of sporting authors in a Chicago hotel lobby that "you don't see neurotics interested in sports."

Bishop Sheen's pronouncement poses a dilemma for a card-carrying Catholic, which I am. It is part of a Bishop's stock-in-trade to be right about everything. It is part of the laity's duty to be obedient to these bulls from on high.

But there is also the question of whether the high priestly authority is speaking ex-cathedra—from the seat of authority. If that is so, you just call on the power of faith and believe. Or else.

I shall assume that in matters of baseball, box-fighting and such, the Bishop is just speaking as a fan. As a fellow fan, I beg to differ.

I don't know where His Excellency has been looking these days, but it's not the same scene I've been watching. To paraphrase His Excellency's beloved Thomas Aquinas, it may be that neurosis, like beauty, exists in the eye of the beholder.

In which case, I've a pretty neurotic eye. I think sports' great contribution to our culture is that it keeps us here neurotics from flipping altogether. What with brooding about Mad Scientists blowing up the atmosphere, and Cruel Bosses tearing down our egos.

A McCabe Barroom Survey (the best kind) brought the almost invariable response from a sampling of sports fans: "Me, I'm no neurotic, but how about those guys who sit next to me?"

A sporting sage (me) holds that were it not for baseball, rassing, roller derbies, and shooting aggies and immies, the mental salons of our Nation would be jammed like grounds in a coffee can.

Sports tranquilize the rampant id. Which is why Fuhrers and Presidents and Kings are so hot for them. President Kennedy, for instance, would probably have a Bonus Army or something marching on the White House if the stock market crash had happened any other time than the baseball season. Even if the Senators are in the cellar.

The skull doctors hate sports like the devil hates holy water. Or the American Medical Assn. hates the late Mary Baker Eddy. The docs view watching fun and games, quite rightly, as an action in restraint of trade.

If the old Oedipus is frothing a bit, the fan bypasses indicated therapy and takes it out on Horace Stoneham, or Walter O'Malley, or some other kindly owner of a ball club.

There is nothing like an afternoon or evening out in the air, watching a number of lusty lads act out the intricacies of a field game, to keep down the incidence of wife-belting, mopery and other anti-social behavior.

It has been argued the incidence of rape and such would rise to astronomical heights in San Diego, a Navy town, were it not for the existence of Tijuana and its friendly borders on the other side of the border.

If neurotics were not interested in sports, I fear the stadia of this fair land would be as lively as Forest Lawn.

My trusty dictionary defines a neurotic as a laddie with "an emotional disorder in which feelings of anxiety, obsessional thoughts, compulsive acts . . . dominate the personality."

Is this not Joe Fan himself? In the throes of the fantods as Willie Mays holds a 3-2 count in the bottom of the ninth with two on, as he worries about the pennant and chews bag after bag of peanuts? If it ain't, I am Marie of Roumania.

## Senators Give Pirates First Tordena Loss

Suffering their first loss after 15 consecutive wins, the Tordena Colt League Pirates absorbed a 7-6 licking at the hands of the last-place Senators.

Bob Battaglia came in to relieve on the mound and stuck around to gain the upset nod for the Senators.

The Pirates managed to pull out a pair of wins last week, taking a 9-6 win from the Angels and whipping the Braves, 7-1.

Keeping pace with the leaders, the second-place Dodgers pulled through the week with two victories. The Dodgers ran roughshod over the Senators, 15-1, and 12-3, but fell before the third-place Braves, 5-3.

The Braves also suffered a loss as the Angels came away with a 9-4 decision. Still going strong, the Angels took a 14-7 win over the Tigers. The Tigers got back on the winning track with a 6-4 win over the Senators.

On Sunday at 1:30 at the Gardena Recreation Park, the Dodgers and Giants will tangle as the league leaders try to protect their position.

STANDINGS

	W	L	Ties
Pirates	15	1	0
Dodgers	10	4	1
Braves	9	7	1
Angels	5	11	1
Tigers	4	10	2
Senators	1	13	3

## Hawthorne Final Kegga Opponent In Western Loop

It will take a major upset tomorrow night to stop the Tappa Keggas from celebrating an undisputed first place finish in the Western Slo-Pitch League.

Hawthorne is the only obstacle blocking the Keggas path to the championship, and they will try to hurdle the Heseas in a doubleheader tomorrow night in Torrance Park.

Although the Kegs pace the loop with a 7-1 mark, a split with Hawthorne could force the league into a play-off to determine the second-round champ.

GARDENA is pressing for the top slot with a 6-2 record, and will oppose Santa Ana tomorrow, looking for a pair of wins and a Kegga defeat. Gardena is the only team to boast a victory over the Keggas this year, and had to break a 53-game win streak to achieve the honor.

HAWTHORNE should offer no problem to the Kegs since they beat them twice in the opening round of play. The Tappas won the first half crown with a 10-0 record, three full games ahead of the second place outfit.

Chuck Ryan will probably hurl both contests for the loop leaders. Ryan has posted a 10-0 mark for the year and gained two wins last week at the expense of then second place South Torrance.

GARDENA GOT past a tough foe in El Monte, taking two decisions from the Black-hawks.

South Torrance, trying to maintain their third place standing, will oppose El Monte. The Knight Owls stand at 5-3 and could regain the second place position should the Bulls drop a pair of tilts.

## Central Clubs Move Into Tie For Top Spot

Two wins for the Yanks, coupled with a loss by the Braves, moved the two clubs into a deadlock for first place in the Torrance Central Minor League standings.

The Yanks ran roughshod over the Giants to the tune of 17-5 and then came back with an 11-8 win over the Cubs. The Braves belted the Dodgers 15-7 but lost sole possession of first place as the Giants pulled an upset win.

BOTH CLUBS boast identical 15-7 marks with only one game left to play.

The third-place Dodgers picked up a win with a 19-3 massacre of the Cardinals. Taking advantage of a brother act, the fourth-place Giants whipped the Braves, 16-0.

Rickie Fenn hurled the shut-out with his brother Mickie on the receiving end.

REMAINING in fifth place, the Cubs walloped the Cardinals, 12-4. The Cardinals, in the cellar, are still looking for their first win of the year.

With the termination of the training club season, the Stars held on to first place with a 9-1-2 mark. Two wins for the Bears moved them into second place with a final 4-7 record, with the Angels third at 2-8-2.

## Redlegs Get Five Players On All-Stars

Topping the list of Southwood National Little League all-stars are five players from the Redlegs.

Mike Constantino, Chuck Farrar, Skip Hogue, Glen Males, and Jim Morgan were selected from Ralph Hogue's Redlegs.

The Dick Wachtler-coached Cubs and the Giants, fielded by Bill Lee, each landed three men on the squad.

RON BURCH, Terry Lorenzen, and Tony Wachtler were named from the Cubs. Cobby Lee, Dan Pritchett, and Mike Sellers were honored from the Giants.

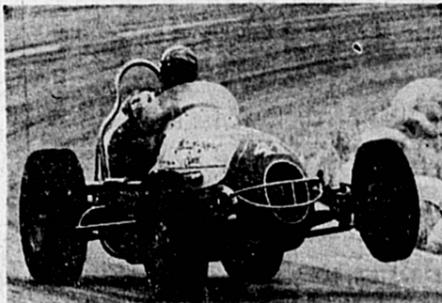
Rich Schwanbeck and Brad Virgil were named from Ed Mooney's Braves. Karl Winsheimer was named from Allan Butler's Dodgers while Ron Pedros was selected to play from Jim Hourigan's Cardinals.

OUT OF THE group, six of the players have been in Southwood Little League since they were eight years old. Hogue, Pritchett, Males, Virgil, Winsheimer, and Farrar are long-time veterans.

The all-stars also boast a powerful slugging array. Combined, the club has belted 43 home runs. Three of the boys have hit over 400 and eight have connected at better than a .300 clip.

HOGUE LEADS the hurlers with a 7-0 mark. Wachtler, 5-1; Pritchett, 5-3; Sellers, 5-1; Constantino, 3-1; Farrar, 4-0; and Males, 4-2, have been hitters' nightmares this season.

Ralph Hogue will manage the all-stars with Dick Wachtler coaching. The team will play North Redondo Little League at 5:30 p.m. Friday, July 20, at the Pacific Little League ball park on Manhattan Beach Blvd.



BILLY THE KID . . . Billy Cantrell, 49, wheels his new Offenhauser, in which A. J. Foyt drove to the 1961 national sprint car title, around a turn in preparation for Saturday night's race at Ascot Park.

## Red Devils Engage Two Clubs on Sunday

Three contests are on tap for the Torrance Red Devils this weekend after the local nine pasted a pair of foes last Saturday and Sunday.

The Red Devils will encounter San Pedro at Torrance Park on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. On Sunday, the locals will battle undefeated Culver City at 12:30 p.m. and take on the Dodger Rookies at 3:30 p.m. Both Sunday engagements will be played at Torrance Park.

Last Saturday, the Red Devils clobbered Hawthorne, 19-2, collecting 17 hits in the process.

WINNING HURLER Irv Pa-

lica also led the Red Devils at the plate, crashing five safeties, including a home run, two doubles and two singles.

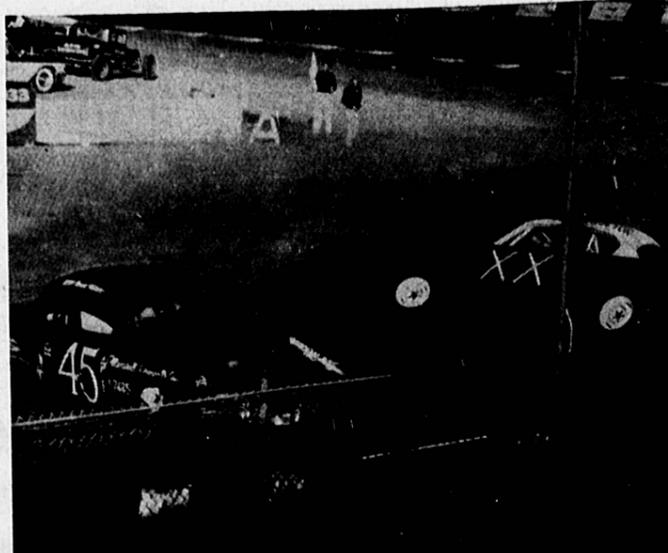
John Cambon, Carey Hubert, Rick Hood, Steve Waters and Steve Clark each picked up two hits for the winners. Cambon and Hood connected for the circuit in the rout.

SUNDAY'S encounter against the Torrance Bullets was equally one-sided as the Red Devils ran up a 16-0 win.

Sixteen hits boomed off Red Devil bats with Clark collecting a grand-slam homer among three hits to lead the way. Waters picked up four safeties and Steve McLean and Hubert reached base safely on three occasions.

Waters also collected a home run for the winners. CAMBON, Palica and Hood picked up two safeties for the Devils.

Don Coit went the entire route on the mound, limiting the Bullets to four hits to take the win.



CALAMITY STRIKES . . . Two of the top stock car drivers at Western Speedway tangle in recent accident. Marvin Helms, who has just been hit by Clem Proctor, is beginning to flip. Both came out unharmed and will be seen in Sunday afternoon's nine-event program. Racing begins at 2:30 p.m. with time trial at 1 p.m.

## Rathburn No-Hitter Paces Pirate Win

Dennis Rathburn hurled a no-hitter in guiding the Tordondo Little League Pirates to a 9-6 victory over the Angeles.

Rathburn whiffed 13 batters, RBI walks, coupled with errors, produced the six Angel tallies.

Rathburn got credit for two RBI's with a double, and teammate Jon Schaffer walloped a 180-foot double.

It was a pitcher's battle all the way as Richard Hirigoyen and Kenny Stichel teamed up for the Angels and allowed only three hits.

HIRIGOYEN had eight strikeouts in five innings and Stichel whiffed two men in one frame of work.

Jerry Briscoe went the full route on the hill as the Cards easily took the measure of the Phillies, gaining a 17-5 win. Jeff Ernst hit a triple and a single and Terry Anderson slugged a three-bagger to pace the Card attack.

BEHIND THE chucking of Glen Wales and Dick Marshall, the Seals romped over the Stars, 11-6. Lyn Nash and Larry Bergeron handled the hill duties for the losers.

The Seal pitchers paced the hitters as Marshall slammed two doubles and a single and Wales clobbered a pair of singles.

ROBERT STREATER belted two singles and Jon Gromberg connected for a double and a single to head the losers.

Relief pitching by Steve Voisin and tight defensive play by Mark Kupper plus heavy hitting boosted the Padres to a 15-11 victory over the Beavers.

TRIPLES by Ed Bowling and Larson put the Padres ahead to stay. Bob Pauley and Bob Hibbard slammed a pair of hits and Voisin helped himself with three safeties in the win.

## Athletics Thrash Giants, Snare Ruth Championship

Behind the three-hit hurling of Steve French, the Athletics won the Pacific American Babe Ruth League crown with a 14-1 decision over the Braves.

Scoring early, the Athletics pushed over eight runs in the first frame to clinch the victory. Bob Green paced the attack for the winners, slamming three hits, including a double.

Clinching at least a tie for second place, the Indians whipped the Yankees, 6-4, behind the mound work of Bruce Muhonen.

ON SUNDAY at 1 p.m., the Pacific American 13-year-old

## Local League Named to Host Ruth Finals

Three days of Babe Ruth District Play-offs will be hosted by the Torrance Babe Ruth League on its field at Plaza Del Amo and Western.

The first game will be played Saturday, July 21, at 3 p.m. with a doubleheader scheduled for the following day at 1 p.m. On Saturday, July 28, the final contest will begin at

## Phils Capture National Title For 2nd Year

Booming bats and a stingy mound crew have given the Torrance National Little League Phillies the loop championship for the second consecutive year.

Mike Van Kralengen and Charlie Curnutt between them accounted for sixteen wins, three no-hitters and four shut-outs to pace the Phillie mound staff. All of the team's wins were credited to the duo. The Phils finished with a 16-4 mark.

Van Kralengen finished with an 8-2 mark, throwing one no-hitter and two shutouts. Curnutt wound up with an 8-1 slate, chalked up two no-hitters and two shutouts.

THE MOUND pair were also heavy hitters. Van Kralengen accounted for eight home runs and Curnutt slugged six four-baggers.

Three members of the Phillies were voted to the league all-star team. Van Kralengen, hitting .492; Curnutt, hitting .457, and Bill Bradshaw, batting at a .321 clip, were honored.

MEMBERS OF THE championship nine included manager Jim O'Toole, and coach Gene Corey Sr.

Players were Mike Abrams, Jerry Armstrong, Bill Bradshaw, Tom Braddock, Steve Bynum, Ron Clark, Gene Corey Jr., Charlie Curnutt, Dean Holmes, Jerry Norman, Greg Perkins, Craig Preston, Mike Van Kralengen, Steve Van Kralengen, and David Wise.

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