

Montgomery Springs Grid Upset

The Fearless Spectator



By Charles McCabe, Esquire

A rich and strange outcropping of baseball's top strata was an outfielder named William Ashley Sunday, called Parson, and later Billy.

Parson Billy holds two precarious purchases on immortality.

On the afternoon of May 22, 1883, he played his first game of baseball for the Chicago White Sox. He struck out four times.

After he got out of baseball for evangelism he became the bucko most responsible for afflicting the nation with prohibition, 1919-33.

The Parson called himself "A Rough Riding Soldier of the Cross." His personal popularity was unbelievable, and pales utterly such lads as Billy Graham, who once wanted to be a big-league first baseman himself. The Parson said he made more Christians than any man of his time.

He used to mount the stage, tear off collar and tie, and go into a frenzied pitcher's windup "to strike out the devil." He said, "If the English language gets in my way, I walk all over it."

The thought of a whiskey barrel drove him crazy. It was, he said, "more dangerous than a barrel of gunpowder."

He added, "I will fight the whiskey business until hell freezes over, and then I will get a pair of skates and fight it on the ice."

"I drew a sword against the whiskey business 22 years ago, and I will not sheath it until the undertaker pumps me full of embalming fluid."

"But before I die I will tell my wife to have my skin tanned for drum covers and to send boys beating on these drums my message against the whiskey business."

Billy won and lost his booze fight in his lifetime. In 1931, the year before Prohibition was repealed, he said: "We have put the saloon back in hell where it belongs, and no one of you will live long enough to see it brought back again."

"If Al Smith thinks he can do it, let him try. He can no more make this country wet again than he could hope to cross the Atlantic Ocean on a grindstone drawn by cockroaches."

Billy's relations with the Lord were cozy. After a physical collapse in Memphis, he told reporters: "I've two strikes left. The Lord is with me, my friends are praying for me, and I'm going to live to be a hundred. The Lord and I have been partners for 36 years."

He was born in 1853. He played with Cap Anson's Chicago club for five seasons. He was with Pittsburgh for two years, and spent his last baseball year with Philly.

On a hot afternoon in 1887, the Parson got gloriously fried in a Chicago saloon with fellow ballplayers Mike Kelly, Buck Ewing, and Johnny Ward. (All of whom were later "killed by drink," according to Billy.) As he told it:

"It was Sunday afternoon and we got tanked up and then went and sat down on a corner. Across the street a company of men and women were playing on instruments—horns, flutes and slide trombones—and the others were singing gospel hymns that I used to hear my mother sing in the log cabin in Iowa, and I sobbed and sobbed."

"... I arose and said to the boys, 'I'm through. I am going to Jesus Christ.'"

The most mesmerizing preacher since John Wesley was born that day. Somebody estimated 80 million people—two-thirds of the nation—heard him rattle on. At a New York revival he preached to a million and a quarter people. Nearly 100,000 came forward and renounced their evil ways.

Billy's first-day strikeout performance with the White Sox was a harbinger of his later career. He never could hit. But he was the fastest man in the league, and stole the most bases.

Heat Wave Cripples Two Sports Events

Sports was a member of the lengthy list of activities severely hampered over the weekend by the unbroken heat wave that has held the Southland in its grip since Wednesday.

All four Torrance high schools had athletic events postponed because of the weather, which reached 108 degrees on Thursday but dropped to 101 degrees on Friday.

West High was the hardest hit. The Warriors scheduled football contest with Carson, originally set for Friday afternoon, was called off. Instead, the two young high schools will tangle tomorrow afternoon at 3 p.m. on the Carson gridiron.

ALTHOUGH a stiff breeze momentarily cooled the Southland Friday afternoon, the Long Beach State Invitational cross-country meet was also rescheduled for tomorrow.

Facing their stiffest competition of the season in the annual meet will be runners from North, South, Torrance and West high school.

Border Invaders Upend Saxons

Knights Nab Second Non-League Victory

Years of football frustration were swept from memory by Bishop Montgomery Friday night as the Knights recorded one of the most spectacular athletic upsets in Southland sports history. Inexperienced and light, Montgomery roared to a 37-12 triumph over CIF playoff veteran Lutheran High as it dominated the game in every conceivable manner. Although outweighed at least 25 pounds per man, the Knights charged for 27 first downs, completed 16 of 20 aerials for 356 yards and tacked on another 263 yards on the ground for a net total of 619 yards.



6 GREGG PETERSON, Sports Editor SEPTEMBER 29, 1963

Padres Bombard Hapless Spartans

"Some of the boys just did not care to mix it up," was the way South High football coach Dave Tollefson explained his team's one-sided defeat at the hands of Fermin Lasuen on Friday.

South went down to its tenth consecutive pigskin defeat as the defending CIF "A" division champs hammered out a 40-0 victory with a fierce second-half explosion.

"They are good but we were miserable. Some of our kids

Hollypark Population Increases

Many of the finest trotters and pacers in America are arriving at Hollywood Park for the Western Harness Racing Association's rich autumn season which begins Oct. 1.

Racing Secretary Wesley H. Meyers anticipates an invasion of more than 700 horses, lured by the offering of nearly \$1 million in purse money during the 35-day meet.

Midnite Hardy, the 5-year-old pacer son of Hardy Hanover, is one of the equine population's early arrivals.

OWNED AND trained by Charles W. Dean of Illinois and driven by youthful Howard McCullough, Midnite Hardy blazed to four sub-two minute miles within the space of four days at the Illinois State Fair last month.

Top money in the Illinois State Fair Aged Pace came to Midnite Hardy with straight heat wins of 1:58 and 1:59 2/5. He came back four days later to annex the Ann Rutledge Pace, again in consecutive dashes, in 1:58 and 1:58 1/5.

THE MAJOR target of Midnite Hardy's Hollypark campaign will be the \$50,000 American Pacing Classic at a mile and one-eighth on Saturday, Nov. 2. Among Midnite Hardy's expected rivals during the season will be such classy pacers as Irvin Paul, 1962 Classic victor; Stephan Smith, Royal Rick, Gamecock, Lehigh Hanover, Henry T. Adios, Adora's Dream and Mrs. Budlong.

Heat Wave Cripples Two Sports Events

Sports was a member of the lengthy list of activities severely hampered over the weekend by the unbroken heat wave that has held the Southland in its grip since Wednesday.

All four Torrance high schools had athletic events postponed because of the weather, which reached 108 degrees on Thursday but dropped to 101 degrees on Friday.

West High was the hardest hit. The Warriors scheduled football contest with Carson, originally set for Friday afternoon, was called off. Instead, the two young high schools will tangle tomorrow afternoon at 3 p.m. on the Carson gridiron.

ALTHOUGH a stiff breeze momentarily cooled the Southland Friday afternoon, the Long Beach State Invitational cross-country meet was also rescheduled for tomorrow.

Facing their stiffest competition of the season in the annual meet will be runners from North, South, Torrance and West high school.

MONTGOMERY was a heavy underdog. Lutheran went to the CIF Small Schools playoff finals last year and had 15 men returning.

On the other hand, only four Knight lettermen returned from last year's squad that finished with a 1-8 record. In addition, Montgomery boasts a backfield average of 154 pounds and a line average of 166 pounds.

JERRY LENINGER recorded Montgomery's first tally of the game in the opening quarter as he went over from three yards out.

Before halftime, the Knights tallied on an eight-yard toss from Doug Dedeaux to Dennis Blackburn and a three-yard plunge by Russ Moore.

MOORE'S scoring effort was set up by and 89-yard pass from Dedeaux to Blackburn.

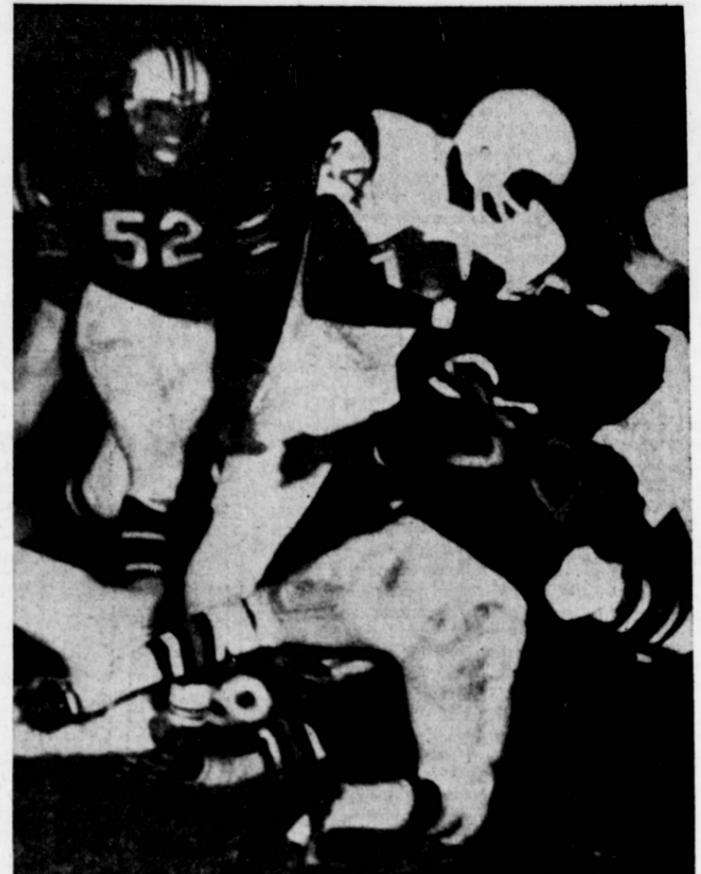
In the third period, Moore uncorked for a 50-yard TD gallop with Leininger contributing the extra point. Second-string quarterback Armond Lemieux then got into action with a 40-yard touchdown bomb to Mike Crosbie.

RICHARD WILLIAMS latched on to a Lemieux aerial in the final quarter and galloped 75 yards for the last score of the game. Both of Lutheran's tallies came in the third quarter against the BMHS reserves.

Lemieux, a junior quarterback, completed four of four passes. Dedeaux also held a hot hand, winding up with 12 completions in 16 attempts.

DEFENSE was also a string Knight forte as three Lutheran punts were almost blocked by the quick-moving Montgomery defenders.

Head BMHS mentor George Swade, in his second year at Montgomery praised all of his starters.



LEADING MAN . . . Lincoln High speedster Walter Jones cracks into North defender John Rance (33) in Friday night's non-league fray as Saxon center Bob Jones (52) hustles up to help make stop. After the game, Lincoln players felt North hit as hard as any team they had met. (Herald Photo)

Ineffectual Offense Costs North Victory

Scratch North High as a contender for the Sky League pigskin championship.

If Friday night's performance was any indication, North will have its hands full picking up a third place in the new circuit, much less a championship.

Upstart San Diego Lincoln used its massive line and cat-quick backs to full advantage Friday to record a 12-7 non-league triumph against the winless Saxons.

LESS than four minutes had elapsed in the opening period before Lincoln had recorded its initial tally. Five plays after recovering a fumble on the North 14, Walter Jones went seven yards around left end to tally.

Speed paid off for Lincoln with less than four minutes gone in the third quarter as Jones streaked around his own left end and this time went 85 yards for the clinching tally.

NORTH'S ONLY counter came with 3:33 showing on the clock in the last period. John Rance latched onto a screen pass from Sam Elliott and sped 24 yards for the Saxon TD. Bill Cunerty converted.

Lack of passing kept North in the hole all evening and forced the quick Saxon backs to run up against an eight-man Lincoln line.

FIVE TIMES the punchless North offense failed to take advantage of genuine scoring opportunities. The Saxons penetrated as far down as the Lincoln six-yard line without punching across.

On other occasions, North went down as far as the 9, 11, 15, and 29 yard stripes without hitting the end zone.

ONE OF THE big moments of the game came for North with just 48 seconds left in the first half when Len Dameroy recovered a Lincoln bobble on the Hornets' 35-yard line.

In three plays, North went down to the six before time ran out just before the ball was snapped.

MINUTES INTO the third period, another big break materialized of which North was incapable of taking advantage. Senior end Kent Hiner fell on a San Diego fumble on the Lincoln 15-yard stripe.

North moved up to the nine-yard stripe with Dave Hubert carrying, then lost the ball on downs at the 15-yard line.

It took Lincoln only one scrimmage play to score the winning touchdown against the demoralized Saxons as Jones turned on the steam and went the full 85 yards.

SPORTS SCENE

Inglewood Stuns Bay League Foe

Inglewood High established itself as the Sky League football favorite Friday night with a stunning 28-0 decision over Bay League title-pick Santa Monica.

Halfback Nick Gyuricza scored twice and quarterback Neil Baker cut loose on scoring tosses of 80 and 3 yards to lead the Sentinels in their second straight upset. Last week, Inglewood pasted Mount Carmel.

Aviation ground out its second triumph behind the running of All-Pioneer League halfback Joe Burton as it walloped Paramount, 32-14. In their opener, the Falcons grounded John Glenn High.

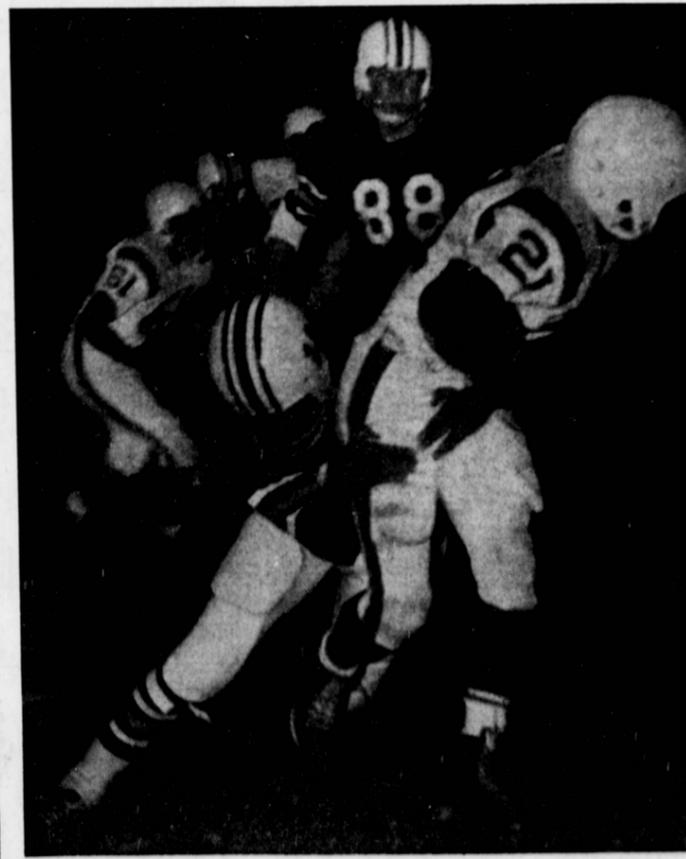
LEUZINGER, a darkhorse for the Sky League title, ripped

past Lawndale, 25-13, for its second victory. All-Bay League signal caller Eddie Pease recorded three touchdowns for the veteran Olympians.

Two first half touchdowns proved enough of a margin for Palos Verdes in a 13-0 decision over weak Morningside.

LENNOX PUSHED all of its points across in the second quarter and hung on for a 12-5 triumph over Culver City in another non-league gridiron war.

In a pre-season City battle, Gardena upset highly-rated Westchester, 13-7. The Mohicans, co-winners of the Marine League title last year, scored all of their markers in the first two periods.



EMERGENCY STOP . . . North High defender Rudy Suarez (14) puts the clamps on Lincoln High halfback Ken Keye during the San Diego eleven's 12-7 victory Friday night on the Saxon gridiron. Looming in the background for North is end Cliff Specht (88). (Herald Photo)