

The Fearless Spectator

By

Charles McCabe, Esquire



Just how much will John Q. Sucker take? No one will really ever be able to answer that question, but you can't say it's not for trying, by the con artists.

New frontiers in malarkey have already been broken in the forthcoming nuptials of Mr. Sonny Liston and Mr. Cassius Clay. They have contracted to fight, or something, next February.

These two laddies are closer than Piper and Heidsieck these days. This thing of theirs could well be *The Waltz of the Century*.

Neither principal is unacquainted with what makes the grass grow. It's been flying in every direction lately, in an effort to guarantee the \$8 million gate the promoters are talking about.

There is every reason—meaning an \$8 million gate, largely from closed-circuit telly—why this fight should be held.

Otherwise, and if the Fix isn't already in (which is unlikely, the fight would be simply a case of legalized murder. The whereases were still wet in the contract when the first New York odds on the outcome were quoted: Liston, 4-1.

These figures are generous to the capacities of Mr. Clay, who has had less than 20 fights in his professional career and had difficulty subduing a British pug named Henry Cooper in London last June 18.

I have argued, and there are those who agree with me, that any fight where the odds are wider than 2-1 simply should not be held. The answer is in the odds themselves: scrambled brains, or a fix, or both.

The upcoming felicity was summed in an A. P. Wirephoto sent out the day the deal was closed in Denver. An enraged Cassius, glorious in white tropical suit, was pictured about to throw a haymaker at the champ, who was seated next to him at the lunch table.

Cassius was being forcibly restrained from his try at mayhem by several members of his entourage. "I'll eat him alive," said Cassius.

The champ, iridescent in an "executive-style" gray suit with vest, remained seated. He smirked happily through the provoked attack. The fotogs snapped away, the caption writers did their stuff, and newspapers printed the art. All, mark you, in the name of good, clean fun.

This kind of gaudy garbage is about as funny as a crutch, or the finer points of a hanging. But, like they say, who's gonna argue with an \$8 million gate?

The night before, Cassius turned up at Liston's Denver home in "his personal bus," honked the horn and challenged the champ to come out and fight. In the bus was former champ Joe Louis. Louis as it happens, wants to promote the waltz in Los Angeles.

Next day Liston held up a pair of large mink-covered boxing gloves in front of Cassius. He told the famed, young, international beauty he was going to use them on him "so I won't hurt your pretty face."

Cassius joined in the jolly by play by retorting that if Liston knocks him out, "I will kiss his feet in the ring. I will crawl out of the ring and kiss his feet and say he's the greatest. Then I'll take the next jet out of the country."

This is pretty sick humor. What may be the biggest draw in boxing's history hangs on two tasteless clowns, neither of whom has ever demonstrated any capacity to handle anyone stronger than a pork-and-beaner.

What we saw in Cassius' "threats" and Liston's mink boxing gloves is but prologue. Wait until the hot-air brigade really gets into action! Any obscenity may be expected. I shouldn't be surprised if we get wirephotos of Liston getting extreme unction just before the fight. Or Cassius being proposed for the Nobel Prize for poetry. Or peace.

If you can believe the Liston-Clay fight, you can believe anything. John Q. Sucker will believe, I fear. And why should he not? He's the guy who fights our wars, ain't he?

Camino Cage Coach Optimistic As Season Opener Approaches

Santa Ana Will Host Hopeful ECC Quintet

Fresh from two successful scrimmages, El Camino College will open its 1963-64 basketball season tomorrow night at Santa Ana junior college.

El Camino finished with a modest 13-14 record last year, but scrimmages with the Loyola University Frosh and the San Fernando Valley State College junior varsity indicate a big improvement on the part of the Warriors.

Park Department Sets New Class

Skin and SCUBA divers' applications for the 13th Underwater Instructors' Certification Course set to begin Jan. 18, are now being accepted by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation.

Applications can be obtained from county parks and recreation's Underwater Unit, 155 W. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles 15.

A HIGH degree of swimming proficiency, both on-the-surface and underwater, is required of applicants. Divers who register will be submitted to a two-day examination to determine eligibility.

County parks and recreation, internationally noted as a pioneer public agency in under-

water safety programs, has certified 310 underwater instructors since the creation of its Underwater Unit in 1954.

Eighty thousand SCUBA and 45,000 skin divers have been trained by certified instructors in the past nine years.

"DESPITE THIS striking number of divers trained by our certified instructors, there has never been a swimming fatality among them," notes Supervisor Burton W. Chace, whose coastline supervisory district sees the greatest diving action in the Southland.

The seven known diving fatalities which occurred in the 1962-63 fiscal year along the county coastline were attributed to lack of training.

Garcia was Camino's second leading scorer last year with a 12.4 average. A 5.9 product of Santa Barbara, Garcia won All-Metropolitan Conference honorable mention last year and is expected to lead the Tribe in scoring.

JIM LLOYD, a freshman from Aviation High; and Clark Canfield, a transfer from Glendale City College, are expected to help the Warrior offense.

Lloyd, a 6-5 All-Pioneer League first team selection, averaged 19.2 points per game last season. He was the Pioneer loop's top scorer. A good inside shooter and outstanding rebounder, Lloyd will alternate at center, where he seems to score the majority of his points.

CANFIELD is this most talked about newcomer on the squad. He averaged 25.5 points a game in his senior season at South Pasadena High School and tallied 18 markers in a one-half stint against Loyola.

In his initial performance at El Camino, Canfield hit on 6 of 9 field goal attempts and continued four assists.

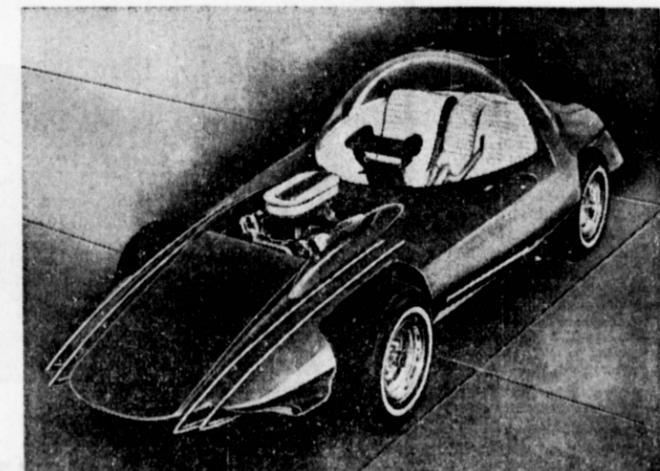
EL CAMINO will open with 6-10 Dan Caton in the pivot position. Caton, from Redondo Beach, has not played any high school ball, but his height should be valuable on both the offensive and defensive boards. His shooting also shows promise of coming around.



SKYSCRAPER . . . Standing head and shoulders above his El Camino College basketball teammates is 6-10 center Dan Caton. Dwarfed by Caton are backcourt candidates Bob Tracey (56) and Bob Garcia, a returning letterman. Caton is one of the top Camino cage prospects this year although he did not play varsity basketball in high school. Camino coach George Stanich pulled the sophomore out of a physical education class.

TORRANCE HERALD Sports

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DREAM CAR . . . The Ford "Silhouette," a car of the future designed by Bill Cushenbery for Ford Motor Co., will be displayed Dec. 5 through Dec. 8 at the Shrine Exposition Hall in Mickey Thompson's Auto-Board and Speed Show. The annual event will be open from 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Dec. 5 and 6 and from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Dec. 6 and 7.

DEFENDING CHAMPS

Torrance Collects Second Winter Horsehide Win

Unbeaten in Los Angeles County Winter Baseball League action, the defending champ Torrance Bullets will encounter the Torrance Red Devils on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. on the El Camino College diamond.

The Bullets chalked up their second triumph of the circuit campaign Sunday, stringing four big innings together in a 12-7 triumph over the Watts Giants.

Seeking his second consecutive triumph, Jay Baker took over mound chores in the fourth frame and went on to record the victory. The former North High ace sent six men down swinging and walked five.

JOHN MARSDEN, a sophomore at West High, started for Torrance and struck out three and walked one before giving way to Baker. Marsden came out when Watts rallied for two runs and four hits.

Twice the Bullets were forced to come from behind. The Giants started off with two runs in the first frame and one more in the second inning.

Bob Wallace, and a single by George Carr.

In the fourth stanza, the Watts nine earned a 7-4 bulge, touching Baker for two of the three safeties he allowed. Before the inning was out, Torrance came back to go ahead for good.

JACK CRIST walked, Deboer

forced Crist, Buchanan walked, and Marsden, Wallace and Dave LaRoach singled to give Torrance four runs and an 8-7 bulge.

Two more Bullet runs came across in the sixth stanza on Carr's double. Another two tallies were added in the seventh on Crist's single, Deboer's double and Marsden's single.

Schools Sponsor Cage Tournament

Sixteen "B" basketball teams will compete in the fifth annual Torrance Unified School District basketball tournament scheduled Dec. 4 through 7.

First round games are scheduled in the North High gymnasium, the South High field house, and on the Torrance High court. Semi-finals and the championship game will be played at Torrance High.

Opening round games on Wednesday, Dec. 4, will pit North and Hawthorne, Beverly Hills and Mira Costa, and Aviation and Leuzinger on the North High court.

ACROSS TOWN at South, Morningside will battle West, South will meet Culver City, and Inglewood will engage Redondo. Two games will be held

at Torrance High. Santa Monica will tangle with Palos Verdes and Torrance will meet Lawndale.

Game times for the preliminaries will be 3 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. During the finals on Saturday, Dec. 7, third place teams will play at 1 p.m., consolation teams will meet at 2:45 p.m. and championship squads will tangle at 4:30 p.m.

NEW TO this season's tournament will be the selection of the outstanding player of the tournament and 10 all-tourney selections. For the first time, championship team members will receive individual medals. Trophies will be awarded to the first, second, third and consolation teams.

High Schools Release Basketball Schedules

NORTH HIGH			SOUTH HIGH			TORRANCE HIGH			WEST HIGH		
DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE
Dec. 4-7	Pacific Shores Tourney	Redondo	Dec. 4-7	Pacific Shores Tournament	Redondo	Dec. 4-7	Pacific Shores Tourney	Redondo	Dec. 4-7	Pacific Shores Tourney	Redondo
Dec. 13	Redondo	Redondo	Dec. 10	Torrance	Torrance*	Dec. 10	South	Torrance*	Dec. 13-14	Round Robin Tourney	South
Dec. 14	Mira Costa	Mira Costa	Dec. 13	Bishop Montgomery	South	Dec. 13	Mira Costa	Redondo	Dec. 17	Bell Gardens	Bell Gardens
Dec. 17-21	Beverly Hills Tourney	Beverly Hills	Dec. 14	Fermin Lasuen	South	Dec. 14	Redondo**	Redondo	Dec. 26-31	Covina Tourney	Covina
Jan. 10	Morningside**	Morningside	Dec. 18	Centennial	South*	Jan. 2-7	Compton Tournament	Compton	Jan. 7	Beverly Hills	Beverly Hills*
Jan. 14	Torrance	North*	Dec. 20	West High	South*	Jan. 10	Redondo**	Redondo	Jan. 10	El Segundo**	Torrance
Jan. 17	Culver City**	Culver City	Dec. 26-31	Covina Tournament	Covina	Jan. 17	Mira Costa**	Mira Costa	Jan. 17	Torrance**	Torrance
Jan. 21	South High	South*	Jan. 2-7	Compton Tournament	Compton	Jan. 21	North High	North*	Jan. 21	Culver City	Torrance*
Jan. 24	Beverly Hills**	North	Jan. 10	Redondo**	Redondo	Jan. 21	West High**	Torrance	Jan. 24	Aviation**	Aviation
Jan. 28	Hawthorne	Hawthorne	Jan. 17	Mira Costa**	Mira Costa	Jan. 24	Hawthorne**	Hawthorne*	Jan. 28	St Bernards	St. Bernards*
Jan. 31	Leuzinger**	Leuzinger	Jan. 17	Mira Costa**	Mira Costa	Jan. 28	Lawndale**	Torrance	Jan. 31	Lawndale**	Lawndale*
Feb. 4	Inglewood**	North*	Jan. 21	North High	South*	Jan. 31	Leuzinger	Leuzinger*	Feb. 4	Lennox**	Lennox*
Feb. 7	Morningside**	North	Jan. 24	Palos Verdes**	South	Feb. 4	El Segundo**	Torrance*	Feb. 4	Lawndale**	Lawndale*
Feb. 11	Culver City**	North	Jan. 31	Santa Monica**	South	Feb. 7	Aviation**	Torrance	Feb. 7	El Segundo**	El Segundo
Feb. 14	Beverly Hills**	Beverly Hills	Feb. 4	Hawthorne**	Hawthorne*	Feb. 11	West High**	Torrance	Feb. 11	Torrance**	Torrance
Feb. 18	Inglewood**	Inglewood*	Feb. 7	Redondo**	South	Feb. 14	Lawndale**	Lawndale	Feb. 14	Aviation**	Torrance
Feb. 21	Leuzinger**	North	Feb. 11	Mira Costa**	South	Feb. 18	El Segundo**	El Segundo*	Feb. 18	Lennox**	Torrance*
			Feb. 14	Palos Verdes**	Palos Verdes	Feb. 21	Lennox**	Lennox	Feb. 21	Lawndale**	Torrance
			Feb. 18	Hawthorne**	South						
			Feb. 21	Santa Monica**	Santa Monica						

*Games begin at 3 p.m. All other games begin at 8 p.m.
**Denotes Sky League game.

*Games begin at 3 p.m. All other games begin at 8 p.m.
**Denotes Bay League game.

*Games begin at 3 p.m. All other games begin at 8 p.m. except Mira Costa and Redondo, which start at 7 p.m.
**Denotes Pioneer League game.

*Games begin at 3 p.m. All other games begin at 8 p.m.
**Denotes Pioneer League game.