

# "LOOKING 'EM OVER"

With Mike Callas Jr.

## DODGER "PITCHER"

Every night about five, prior to a night game at the Coliseum, a tall, good-looking ex-major leaguer from the city of Torrance makes his way to the pitcher's mound and fires his "fast ball" at Dodger batters. He's listed as a batting practice pitcher with the Los Angeles Club and to everyone in the game of baseball he is known as mild-mannered, easy going George Vico.

Just a few days ago we talked with George under painful conditions. Dr. Wood of the LA staff had just finished his stich work on Vico's right ear. While serving up a "fat one" to Johnny Roseboro, George forgot to duck away from a screaming line drive sent his way by the Dodger catcher. After the good doctor mended Vico's hearing apparatus, we took the ailing George to the press box for some hot coffee and chatter.

"How is it that you pitch batting practice?" we asked of the rapidly recovering resident of our All-American City.

"Ever since I quit as an active player I've missed the game. This is the only way I know to stay with it."

**CAREER STARTS IN 1940**  
"George, when did your baseball career begin?"

"I started playing ball in 1940 when I was 17 years old."

"Where?"

"In Michigan and Kentucky—Class C ball, then to Class B with Winston-Salem of the Piedmont League in North Carolina. I played first base and right field—then in early '43 I went into the Navy."

"When did you get back in baseball?"

"In 1946 I joined Portland of the Pacific Coast League. At the end of the season Detroit scout Bernie DeViveros told me to report to the Tigers for spring training in '47."

"You finally made big time."

"No. Although I hit .480 during spring training, the club felt I needed another year on the farm—so back I went to 'ortland."

"Then when did you become a major leaguer?"

"I hit over .300 in Portland that year and our manager, Jim Turner, felt that I was ready, so in '48 I began the season with Detroit."

"That must have been your greatest moment."

"Yes, it was, and even greater after I hit a home run with a man on—my first time up as a big leaguer."

"What else do you recall during that initial year in the majors?"

"The last game of the season and Bob Feller. Hal Newhouser pitched beautifully, beating them 7-3, and I got 2 for 3 off the great Feller."

"How long did your major league career last?"

"Just two years—through the 1949 season, my best year, I hit .265. I was considered the second best fielding first baseman in the league. However, no hit, and I was sent down."

"Did you ever get back?"

"No. Although I was good enough for minor league play I never was able to become 'good enough' for the majors. I played with Seattle after leaving Detroit, then to San Francisco and finally to Hollywood in 1955."

"You ended your playing career in '57 I understand, after the Stars moved to make room for the Dodgers in '58?"

"You're right. I quit before I was told to—although I felt I had a couple of good years left."

"What did you do then?"

"During the '57 season I got a job with the Dominguez Estate Co., a good job, and rather than take off with the Stars for what might have been the beginning of the end I retired."

**RECOMMENDS ALTERNATE SITE TO DODGERS**  
"What do you do for Dominguez?"

"I'm an assistant land lease manager."

"What proposal did you make to the Dodgers on behalf of your company?"

"When the club moved to LA we offered the Dodger brass an 1100 acre site at 190th and Avalon. We even asked them to make their own terms but nothing ever came of it."

"What did the Dodgers tell you?"

"That they had only one site in mind for their new stadium—Chavez Ravine—and were not considering an alternate one."

"Is the offer still good in the event further legal action hampers the Dodgers from building at Chavez?"

"Yes it is, although that site is now being considered for the 1963 World's Fair because of its proximity to three freeways."

"I also understand, George, that you are interested in Torrance politics?"

"Yes I am. I will run for councilman in April. I sincerely believe my qualifications are good and that I can serve the people properly if given half the chance."

**Boys Set Fire**  
Firemen battled for nearly five hours Wednesday night extinguishing a fire in a shed at the Star Brick Co., 17799 S. Western Ave., set by four boys. The youngsters, ranging in age from 7 to 12, were turned over to juvenile officers. No immediate estimate of the damage to machinery was available.



GEORGE VICO

# PRESS Sports

## If You Go to Alaska for Work Better Buy Round Trip Ticket

Planning to visit Alaska? Then be sure to bring money and buy a round-trip ticket ahead of time, warns Murray Love, Manager of the Torrance Local Office, California Department of Employment. The blunt truth, Love said, is that job opportunities are scarce and living costs are high—from 19 to 50 percent higher than in Seattle, for example. He quoted M. E. Weir, Director of the Alaska Employment Security Commission, as stating that unemployment figures usually run higher for Alaska than elsewhere in the United States. In March nearly 20 percent of the labor force was jobless, compared with an average 5 percent nationally. "The resident work force in Alaska is more than adequate for most employer requirements," Weir stated. He added that no immediate large increase in employment is expected for Alaska.

Love said the Torrance Local Office, at 2007 W. Carson St., receives monthly up-to-date Alaska job information. Persons with an eye to going to the 49th state should by all means visit the local employment office to learn what, if anything, might be available in their line of work. "If you start out for Alaska regardless," Love concluded, "don't forget that round-trip ticket and plenty of money to meet your living expenses while you are there."



**ADMIRE TROPHY**—Shown admiring the trophy to be awarded to the winning team of the Los Angeles-Bay Cities little league tournament are Tournament Director Paul Rizer; Miss Hawthorne of 159, Diane Hansen; and Hank Bolding, 1957 Carson St., Torrance. Young Bolding is a member of the East Lennox all-star team that is vying for the championship this weekend at Talon Field, Hawthorne.

## Last Summer Golf Lessons Signup Looms

Anyone for golf? Aug. 10 marks the last chance for adults to learn links skills in this summer's golf instruction program offered by the Torrance Recreation Department.

The final session at Sea-Aire Golf Course, 22730 Lupine Dr., will begin on that date. Classes are slated twice weekly or three weeks on Mondays and Wednesdays, or Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Mixed classes are scheduled for 5 and 7 p.m. while ones for women are slated for 6 p.m., according to Coach Bill Wood.

Fee for the six-lesson course is \$6. Practice balls and clubs are furnished by the Recreation Department.

Persons interested in the program should visit the local employment office to learn what, if anything, might be available in their line of work.

"If you start out for Alaska regardless," Love concluded, "don't forget that round-trip ticket and plenty of money to meet your living expenses while you are there."



**WATER SHOW**—Giving a collegiate touch to from left, of Brent Moser, Judy Wolf, Janet Thomson and Jerry Kiel perched on a Model A Ford. Admission will be free. p.m., is this sporty looking quartet composed, —Press Photo

## Bowling News

Bowl-O-Drome's Tuesday night Ladies Handicap wound up their summer session with Mary's Col or Bar taking top honors, 1 1/2 games over Vel's Ford and George's Linoeum sharing second, followed by 3 down by the Torrance Flower Shop quintet in for third. Season series high capped by team-mates rolling for George's Linoeum, L. Terrill and L. Riegel, both posting powerful 618 tallies. Terrill connecting with an impressive 528&90—618 and Riegel with her 516&102—618. High game honors whipped up by Livingston Jewelers keyler L. Keeney. Scattered the ten-pins for a sizzling 228&27—250 effort to top the gals in the solo column.

The P.M. squad hold a two game edge over the Lords and Central Body Works in the Drome's Monday Men's Commercial loop rounding out the 12th week of their summer meet. Torrance Police ride in fourth, only three back of the leaders, followed by Frank's Best Mehring and Hansen, Golden Do-Nut and the Post Office mob. B. Tabor heads the season series honor roll with his hefty 605&102—707 three game total while V. Newton, King's Men hurler chalked up a whopping 255&16—271 single to ride on top of the seasons high game score-board.

The Stingers lead the pack in the early Tuesday night Mixed Four loop, hanging onto a five game margin after completing the 13th week of summer play. The Splits, Torrance Heater Service and Interstate Painting share a crowded second, followed one down by the Schlitz & Hamms. Seasons series topped whipped up by The Wild Ones', D. Adams, who connected his three for a rousing 626&42—668 tally and N. White, representing the Torrance Heater mob, scoring with a terrific 582&51—693 to lead the gals. The Mixers', H. Costanzo rolled up a neat 224&46—270 pitch, claiming the seasons individual high game for the men, while D. Albright, rolling for the league leaders tops the gals efforts with her towering 246&19—265 single.

For quick and best results, call your ad in to Press classified at FA 8-2345.

**PIZZA from 45c**  
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## OCEAN FISH REPORTS

**LONG BEACH (Belmont)**—One boat, 29 anglers, 54 yellowtail, 263 barracuda, 42 bonito.  
**WILMINGTON (Seaside)**—One boat, 20 anglers, 17 yellowtail, 200 barracuda, 123 bonito, 277 bass, 2 calico bass, 23 miscellaneous and local.  
**SAN PEDRO (22nd St.)**—Four boats, 109 anglers, 184 yellowtail, 440 barracuda, 123 bonito, 277 bass, finishing San Clemente and local.

**REDONDO**—Five boats, 147 anglers, 447 barracuda, 22 yellowtail, 228 bonito, 79 calico and bull bass, 3 barges, lots of mackerel, some halibut, bonito.  
**LONG BEACH (Pierhead)**—Six boats, 198 anglers, 6 bluefin tuna, 1097 barracuda, 116 yellowtail, 55 calico bass, 338 bonito, 1786 barracuda, 169 calico and bull bass, 376 anglers, Horeahoe Kelp, Catalina, 16 bluefin tuna up to 23 lb., 242 yellowtail, 1786 barracuda, 169 calico and bull bass, 319 bonito, 44 miscellaneous, 6 halibut, 8 rock fish, all tuna caught off Catalina.

**SANTA MONICA (Sporting)**—Seven boats, 107 anglers, 122 barracuda, 145 bonito, 85 assorted bass, 4 small white sea bass.  
**SAN PEDRO (Norm's)**—Nine boats, 178 anglers, Catalina, Horeahoe Kelp, 212 yellowtail, 823 barracuda, 419 bonito, 7 white sea bass, 6 halibut, 2 calico bass, 23 miscellaneous.

**SAN CLEMENTE**—Four boats, 203 anglers, 6 bluefin tuna to 27 lbs., 15 yellowtail, 5 white sea bass, 4 halibut, 150 barracuda, 127 calico bass, 238 bonito.

For quick results phone your ad to Press classified, FA 8-2345.



**BUZZ FAZIO**

Brunswick bowling star, will appear at the Palos Verdes Bowl, 24600 Crenshaw Blvd., in an exhibition Wednesday, Aug. 12, from 3 to 6 and 9 to 12 p.m.—it was announced by Harry Cornfeld.

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## CAL GYM

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### CJA Hot Rods Run Today at Gardena

This Sunday afternoon looks to be full of thrills and spills, as the popular CJA Hot Rods take to the track at Gardena Stadium for a full eleven event program of races.

Starting at 2:30 p.m. with the first race of four laps for the four fastest cars, and going on up to the thirty lap feature race, it looks to be one of the best Hot Rod races of the season, with the best drivers in Southern California on hand for the days program.

Included among the top pilots who will be on hand will be such stars as: Art Atkinson, Pasadena; Bill Mangold, Compton; Ed Van Eyk, Gardena; Don Noel, Culver City; Bill Cantrell and Norm Malone, Riverside; Jack Austin, Los Angeles; "Irish" Jack Kelly, San Bernardino; Paul Jones, Torrance; Bob Hogie, Buena Park; Ernie Young, Lakewood; Termit Snyder, Los Angeles; Ray Bunch, Bell Gardens; Audie Madron; and more than 50 others who will be on hand promise it to be an afternoon to remember.

The managers of the stadium have set a special price of just \$1.50 for adults, with juniors at \$1 and kids under eight free.

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