

# First in 1960— Wins Baby Race

Only ten days old and already a prize winner! . . . That's the record today of Christine Elaine Miller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy H. Miller, 16338 Glenburn Ave. in Torrance.

Torrance Press judges today declared the dimpled child the winner of the "First Baby of the Year" annual contest.

Records submitted and verified by Torrance Press referees established Christine Elaine as the first baby born in the new year of parents who also filled out the official contest form and entered the prize-loaded contest.

Hospital files show the baby contest winner as weighing in at exactly 6-pounds, ½-ounce at precisely 2:06 a.m. on Jan. 1st, 1960, thus becoming the winner by a safe margin from the nearest competitor.

**Parents New Here**  
Since the parents moved into Torrance as recently as September, the baby was born in their former residential area, at Daniel Freeman hospital in Ingle-

wood. Contest rules stated that while the parents must live in Torrance or environs, the baby could be born anywhere and still be eligible for entry into the annual contest.

The child's mother, Theresa Ann, 28, is resting at home after the baby's birth and both are in excellent spirits as well as health. The father, Roy Herbert Miller, 30, is employed as a machinist at the D-Velco manufacturing plant in Torrance.

**Boy or Girl Question**  
Asked whether they had any preferences regarding the sex of the expected baby, Mrs. Miller said, "At first we wanted a girl, then we decided we didn't real-

ly care one way or another as long as it was healthy and happy."

Miller laughed and remarked, "Anyway, it turned out as we first wanted."

Both parents hope for future additions to their family but firmly declare that they will never again express a preference.

Overwhelmed by first place when notified that they had won the contest, Mrs. Miller exclaimed in delight but retained her composure sufficiently to thank the Torrance Press for the many gifts.

When informed that Mayor Isen would present the first place Prize Letter of Authorization, Mrs. Miller simply said, "Oh, my!" But by the time the official party descended upon the Miller home in North Torrance, youthful and pretty Mrs. Miller was poised and friendly.

Miller was at home to enjoy the proceedings as he presently works on an evening shift.

And baby Christine? She failed to be impressed either way.

Prizes in the baby contest range from a high chair to a baby cup, from a saving account to a portrait. There's even a carton of cigarettes for the father.



MISS 1960—Christine Elaine is ahead of the game already as she triumphs in the annual First Baby of the Year contest, sponsored by the Torrance Press. Mayor Isen (left), presents Mrs. Roy H. Miller with a letter authorizing her to draw her many prizes offered by Torrance merchants. Father Roy is happy to win something for once.

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# THIEF SLUGS JEWELER

## Thug Escapes

Police are today still investigating a daring armed robbery of a Torrance pawn shop during the Friday afternoon rush hour.

The bold robber struck shortly before 5 p.m. on Friday, slugging and robbing Nat E. Ellis, 56, proprietor of the Ellis Loan and Jewelry, 1639 Cabrillo Ave.

## Consolation Award for Last '59 Tot

The last is not least in the annual baby contest sponsored by the Torrance Press, Baby Nancy Bunic, the last child to be born in Torrance Memorial Hospital on New Year's Eve, also wins a prize.

Parents Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph J. Bunic, 4119 W. 173rd Pl., were notified today that their daughter is the consolation prize winner. This prize is a handsome bound pastel-and-white new testament Bible offered by the Bible Book and Gift Shop in Torrance.

Little Nancy Beverly Bunic, consolation winner, entered this world in the last hours of 1959, weighing 7-pounds and 4-ounces and measuring a handy 19 inches.

**Busy Household**  
Her parents have been Torrance residents for the last seven years. Bunic, 36, is an engineer in a local plastics industry. The child's mother, Theresa Helen, 34, devotes her full time to homemaking — with good reason.

Five brothers and sisters share the Bunic home with the latest visitor. There are three sisters: Cathy, 7, Barbara, 5, and Margaret, 3. Then two brothers compete for attention: David, 8, and Tony, 15 months.

When asked if they had any choice about a boy or a girl, Mrs. Bunic just laughed and said, "My, no! We have some of each. We didn't care."

Mrs. Bunic's consolation prize will be available tomorrow.

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## Finders Not Keepers

## Diving Helmet Unusual Gift

YMCA officials in Torrance are today the grateful, if a bit bemused, new owners of a 62-pound brass and-copper navy diving helmet.

Just as unusual as the diving helmet itself is the history of the softly gleaming piece of underwater equipment. Three YMCA boys found the massive diving gear on the Colorado River in Arizona — hundreds of miles from the nearest deep water.

Douglas Hoffman, 19, Kevin Eliason, 19, and Fred Griffin, 15, stumbled across the apparatus on a lonely stretch of beach at Temple Bar, Ariz., while on a Christmas holiday boat trip up the Colorado River. Although Corroded almost black, the boys instantly identified the helmet for what it was and carried it away with them.

## Identification Becomes Possible

The solid 62 pounds of metal proved a heavy burden on the remainder of their nearly 150 miles of water travel but the lads stuck with it and returned triumphantly to Torrance with their rare trophy.

Many hours of hard cleaning and polishing ensued until the youths succeeded in restoring the helmet to a splendor close to its original condition.

As the black and green corrosion fell away, identifying marks appeared. When the lettering became legible, the boys read the following legend:

U.S. Navy Diving Helmet Mark V.  
Serial Number H 517.  
A. Schrader's Son, Inc.  
Mfg'd in Brooklyn, N.Y.

**History Still Unknown**  
Below this group of identify-

Escape Made  
Within a few minutes, it was all over and the bandit made good his escape on foot, heading north on Cabrillo Ave.

Police investigators say the neat and clean cut, youthful robber entered the shop and asked to see some revolvers.

The thug inspected several .22 caliber pistols, chose an H & R .22 caliber revolver, then whapped Ellis over the head with the weapon.

One witness, Sherrod Short of 1639½ Cabrillo Ave., observed the incident and helped furnish a description of the bandit.

**Uses Victims Gun**  
Ellis reported that the robber said he planned to use the pistol for target practice on the police marksmanship range.

When Ellis had completed half of the mandatory police report on handgun sales, the "clean cut" youth picked up the weapon and struck the older man on the right side of the head with the gun barrel.

**Alert Sounded**  
The bandit then fled on foot, taking nothing but the \$25 gun.

Police describe the bandit as about 21-years-old, 5'-6" tall, weight about 135-pounds, and wearing neat sports shirt and slacks.

Nearby police departments and other law enforcement agencies were alerted immediately. A sheriff's deputy at the Firestone station responded with the name of a possible suspect.

**Police Confident**  
Ellis, whose home address is 1681 Gramercy Ave., was not seriously injured by his assailant's attack.

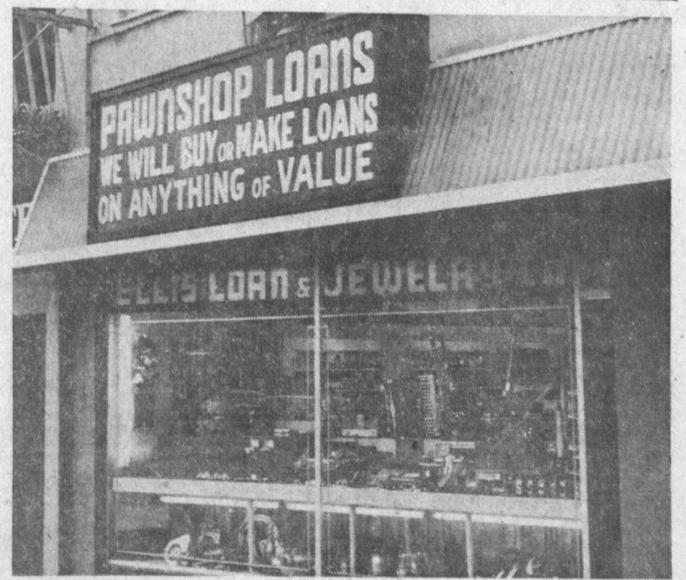
A number of police squad cars responded to the robbery alarm but by the time they arrived, the bandit had disappeared.

Police feel certain that they will wind up all aspects of their investigation in a short time.

## Harvey Aluminum Gets Army Contract

A Torrance firm has benefited by a total of \$91,478 in Army contracts, it was announced today.

Harvey Aluminum in Torrance received a \$59,812 contract for production engineering study and a \$31,664 research and development contract.



CRIME SCENE—This is the peaceful view today . . . yet on Friday evening, behind the cluttered windows of the Ellis pawn shop, brutal violence struck as proprietor Nate E. Ellis fell under a vicious pistol-whipping

blow dealt by a youthful robber. As a reminder of those savage moments, Ellis today wears a large patch on the right side of his head where the gunman banged him with a pistol barrel snatched from the pawnshop

## Hit-Run Suspect Remanded to LA Superior Court

Accused hit-run driver Willy Edward Sivley is free today on \$1500 bail but Compton Municipal Court has held him to answer in Los Angeles County Superior Court on his alleged felony offense.

Sivley, 25, surrendered himself to California Highway Patrol officers after a story about the incident and Sivley's "Wanted" photograph appeared in the Torrance Press.

The Highway Patrol charges him with leaving the scene of an accident in which motorcycle Patrolman Estel E. Adkins, 28, suffered serious injuries.

Sivley's attorney, Ned R. Nelson of a Los Angeles law firm, declares that he will enter a dismissal motion when Sivley appears in L. A. Superior Court on Jan. 20th at 9 a.m.

## Businessmen Named

Three Torrance businessmen have been nominated for re-election to the Southern California Employer's Council Board of Directors, it was announced today.

Louis Arbeter of Allen Jewelers, Paul Diamond of the Gay Shop, and Sam Levy of Sam Levy's are the Torrance employers so honored.

George Naylor of Torrance Hardware received a new nomination to the Board of Directors while James Squire of Squires was a hold-over nominee.

## Arms Violators Arrested

A rash of concealed weapons arrests hit Torrance this past week, police said today. At least five persons were arrested on concealed weapons charges. All of them violated the concealed weapons law with firearms and other devices carried concealed in their automobiles.

Judge Donald Armstrong, presiding in the Torrance Branch Municipal court, declared that he had considered more concealed weapons cases in the past week than he ordinarily encountered in a year of bench work in Redondo Beach.

**Deadly Arsenal**  
Police also noted the rise in such cases but were unable to offer an explanation. One officer observed that such things usually go in cycles, that there is often a rush of similar offenses within a given period.

Persons apprehended this past week on concealed weapons counts possessed a lethal variety of arms, including a shotgun, lengths of chain, and the customary pistols. One haul by police collected two concealed weapons in the same car — a shotgun plus a vicious length of taped chain to be used as a combination blackjack and mace.

**Meant to Use**  
According to law enforcement officers, several of the concealed weapons offenders were bent upon unlawful use of their firearms. At least two men admitted they intended using their estranged wives as targets.

**Gratefully Surrenders**  
Owings then surrendered and meekly accompanied officers to the police station for booking. Freed on \$525 bail, Owings appeared before Judge Armstrong on Friday and received a fine of \$105 after he entered a guilty plea.

The young Pendleton Marine of 2749 Lofty View Dr. in Torrance thanked police officers for stopping him from something more serious.

Police say that all of the concealed weapons charges in the past week were leveled against youths.

## Helmet Baffles Diving Experts

Navy and civilian diving authorities said today that the finding of the U.S. Navy diving helmet by three Torrance YMCA boys is a mystery — which will probably remain unsolved.

Officers at naval headquarters in Los Angeles explained that records are not maintained as far back as 1918 as a general rule.

**Who Lost It?**  
Private divers in the South Bay area said that many Model No. 1, Mark V Navy diving helmets were sold as war surplus and that the helmet was probably used during construction or maintenance of Hoover Dam.

Naval authorities declared that the only way to track the helmet to earth — or to bottom — would be to inquire of the manufacturer, still in existence as a subsidiary of another company.

**Expert Tells History**  
A South Bay diving expert, Hebe G. Brooks, 26344 Governor Ave. in Harbor City, said the helmet is of a type still in use by many old timers. According to Brooks, the helmet was manufactured right up until just before World War II, with slight improvement modifications made over the years since original production in 1918.

Civilian contractors used such helmets during the Hoover Dam construction period, Brooks said. Even after the dam's completion in 1936, divers are regularly employed to clear away trash from spillways some 110 feet beneath the surface.

**Guesses Stolen, Abandoned**  
"I don't understand how it got to Temple Bar," Brooks said. "It's too heavy to roll gently down the Colorado River — it'd be smashed if it did."

"Somebody must have been using it on the spot, maybe. Or else somebody stole it and dropped it there."

## Walteria Sump Project Before Planning Board

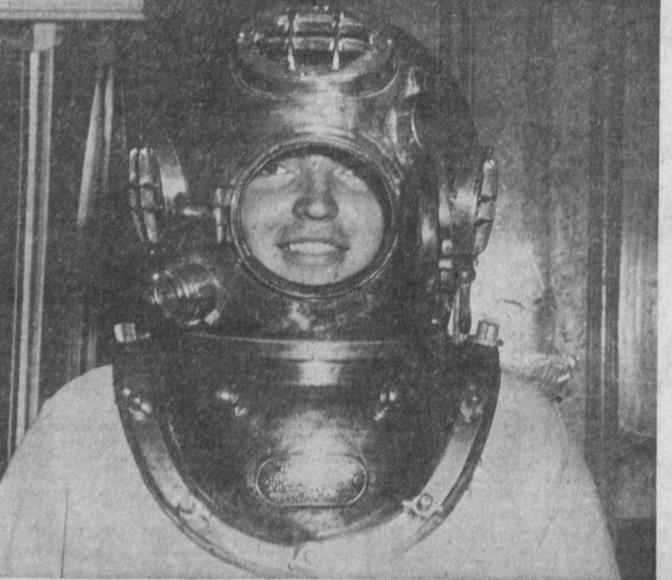
At least a portion of the Walteria sump project is under way today after the Torrance Planning Commission action of Wednesday night.

Commission members and spectators listened to the first hearing of a petition by Don Wilson, tract builder, to change the zoning in the Walteria Lake area.

Wilson petitioned for a change of zoning on property situated westerly of Ocean Ave. between Pacific Coast Highway and Lomita Blvd.

**Approval Sure**  
Experienced City Hall observers predict that the petition will successfully pass the Torrance City Council once it leaves the Planning Commission.

In another move also concerned with the Walteria sump project, Wilson presented the commission with a tentative tract map for the subdivision of Walteria Lake. The tract map contains some 736 lots.



MAN OF DISTINCTION—With great truth, Douglas Hoffman, 17107 Illinois Ct., asserts that not everyone walks around with a 52-pound brass deep sea diving helmet on his head. Hoffman's co-finders, Kevin Eliason of 22522 Marjorie Ave. and Fred Griffin of

4131 Paseo de las Tortugas dispute Hoffman's claim as dubious. "Anyway," say Eliason, 16, and Griffin, 15, "we discovered the helmet together." Both youths admit that they have tried on the helmet as well.



GIFT OF DISTINCTION—Douglas Hoffman (left) presents the Model Number 1 U.S. Navy diving helmet to Program Secretary Doug Cannon (right) who accepts for the Torrance YMCA. The 1918 vintage helmet looks in working order, although 19-year-old

Hoffman has shown himself wiser than his years by declining to test the apparatus. Discoverers of the helmet also had a look at Lake Mead and Hoover dam during their near 150 mile boat trip up the Colorado River during the Christmas holidays.