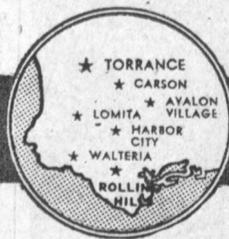


# Injured Athlete Regains Consciousness

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VOLUME XII, NUMBER 75

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1961

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**NEW FASHION IN PICKETING**—Ellis Albertson, owner of Park Barbershop, 1970 Pacific Coast Highway, Lomita, annoyed with pickets of Local 881 who were marching in front of his shop carrying strike placards, this week came up with an unusual idea. He hired two professional models to carry placards declaring that his establishment was NOT on strike and had them also walk the picket line. Here models Mary Cobb, 22, and Pat O'Neil, 19, pace picket Mel Ball on the line. Albertson says business has increased greatly since his own pickets went to work.

# Two Juveniles Stage Holdup, Crime Spree

## Local Youths Turn Selves in After Rampage

Two armed juveniles held up the manager of a Torrance liquor store Tuesday night and made a clean getaway with \$175 they lifted from the till.

Then, only a few hours later, one suffered a change of heart, hailed a passing Los Angeles City squad car and gave himself up. He revealed the name of his accomplice and city police sheriff's deputies immediately took the two into custody.

Deputies turned the two over to Torrance officers who said that they have made full confessions to robbing the Plaza Liquors, 23421 So. Western Ave., and to participation in several other unsolved burglaries and robberies all over the area including the early Tuesday evening roadside holdup of market owner Alfred Dorr and his wife, Elizabeth.

himself, and his companion, in.

Juvenile officers from each of the surrounding areas as well as sheriff's officers will interview the suspects today to determine if they are involved in the series of burglaries and holdups that have been occurring throughout the South Bay area.

## County Forced To Condemn on Hawthorne Blvd.

### ROADSIDE HOLDUP

In the latter complaint, Dorr, of 4314 Palos Verdes Drive North said that he had stopped with car trouble when the two appeared, pointed a pistol at them and said:

"This is a stickup. Stay as you are."

Mrs. Dorr disobeyed the command, ran into the street in spite of additional threats, and stopped a passing car. When the car halted the two youths ran.

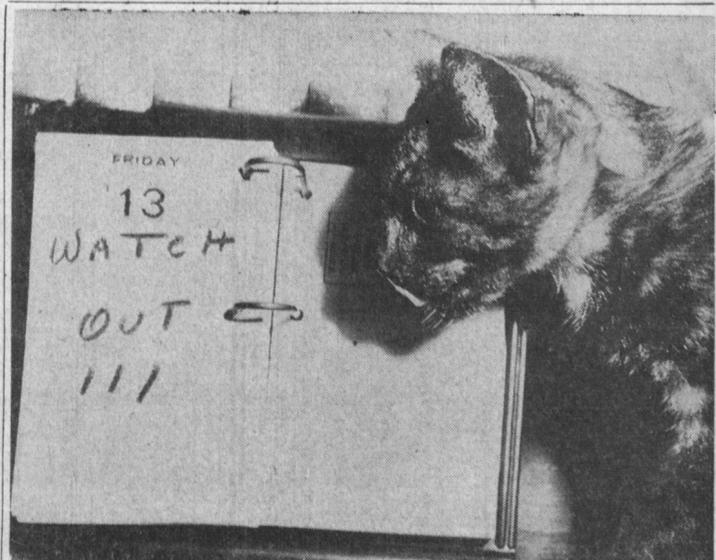
Investigating officers said that one of the two, both of whom live in the Los Angeles City strip, asked the treasurer of his car club what he should do and was told to "give himself up."

The youth went outside, waved down the first police car that he saw and turned

County officials reported Tuesday that condemnation action will be taken to acquire title to rights of way needed for the widening and improving of a certain portion of Hawthorne Avenue in Torrance.

The area to be acquired contains a total of 1,236 square feet and consists of two 17-foot corner cutoffs and a rectangular-shaped parcel approximately 18 feet by 40 feet on the easterly and westerly sides of Hawthorne Avenue, running northerly from the southeast corner of 242nd Street and Hawthorne Avenue to the southwest corner of Pacific Coast Highway and Hawthorne Avenue.

Owners of the parcels refused to accept the appraisal figure of \$17,773 by the County Engineer.



**WATCH OUT TOMORROW**—Superstitious Torrance residents will probably stay in bed all day tomorrow with their heads tucked under the bed-clothes as Friday the Thirtieth strikes for the first time in 1961. Others

will watch out for broken mirrors, walking under ladders and spilled salt. However, take it easy, drive carefully, and we'll probably all survive until Saturday.

## COULD RESCIND LICENSES ...

# Councilmen Charge 'Pressure' Tactics by Trash Collectors

Charges of "high pressure" salesmanship by franchised and licensed rubbish collectors in the city and threats to rescind the licenses were discussed Tuesday evening by Torrance city councilmen.

Councilmen were unanimous in their disapproval of the methods used by some of the collectors who had, apparently approached businessmen and industrial plants and told them they would "have to contract" for their services after the city stopped collection of rubbish from commercial and industrial plants after February 28.

Meanwhile, in a letter addressed to all commercial and industrial customers of the City of Torrance rubbish collection service, City Manager George Stevens

early this week officially notified that the service will terminate for all but one—and two—family residences at the end of next month.

**ACTION TAKEN**  
Action was taken in response to numerous requests for the elimination, or drastic reduction, of the deficit now suffered by the rubbish collection service.

**PRIVATE COLLECTORS**  
Many commercial customers maintained that they preferred private collectors to City service because of the greater specialization offered by those firms, including furnishing of containers and bins, backyard pickup, and combined disposal for multiple units.

Stevens pointed out that ten privately operated rubbish disposal firms are licensed to do business in the city of Torrance, thereby providing for negotiations on a competitive basis.

After thus examining the situation, Stevens concluded, it was decided that offering a combined service, mingling garbage, combustibles and non-combustibles, to occupants of single family and duplex residences only, with a single weekly pickup by City trucks, would be the most acceptable solution to the problem.

## ANSWER TO CRITICISM

# Torrance Police Officer Tells Policy And Problems That Confront Department

Captain John Maestri of the Torrance Police Department Tuesday released the official statement of the department as city officials studied letters from businessmen criticizing current law enforcement in the community.

In the sharply worded statement, Maestri said: "Recently the question of the crime situation in the city of Torrance has come up among the businessmen and citizens. The Police Department is fully aware and is constantly up to date with the situations.

We are combating this situation with every means at our disposal. So at this time I wish to state the police Department's position in regards to this situation."

**STATEMENT OF POLICY**  
"We fully realize that all news is published in the newspaper, which is only right, the citizens should know what is taking place in their city; and it is, and always will be, a policy of the Torrance Police Department to let all the citizens know what is going on. Our policy for the future will be the same as it has been in the past, that of continued cooperation and endeavor."

"The Police Department fluctuates with the different trends that may confront them. They combat

this by reassignment of personnel which are available. As examples we will point out the summer vacation period. The children or teen-agers are out of school and with their built up energy during the first few weeks of vacation period cause quite a bit of difficulties in the beach areas and other parts of the city. Also traffic accidents are on the increase during this period of time that more people are traveling. We reassign our personnel to combat this situation. These reassignments may take place three or four times a year depending on the situation."

**RAPID GROWTH**  
"The rapid growth of our city has presented a great problem. It creates a problem."  
(Continued on page 2-A)

# Torrance Youth, in Coma Since Injured At Jan. 1 Party, Regains Consciousness

A young Torrance athlete, who had lain in a coma since he was injured in a New Year's eve fracas, regained partial consciousness yesterday, according to a report from hospital officials.

James Hester, 17, of 1937 Middlebrook Road, a freshman at El Camino College, sank so low at one time that he literally "died" but was revived through the use of mouth-to-mouth resuscitation by his physician.

The youth suffered a skull fracture and definite

brain injury when he was knocked down and his head hit a curb at a post-midnight party.

He had lain unconscious at Little Company of Mary Hospital since and has gone through two sessions of brain surgery in an all-out attempt to save his life.

Hester, according to witnesses, was a bystander at the fight which developed at 1512 El Prado Ave.

Investigating officers said that the youth was struck from behind, while his hands were still in his

pockets, by a houseguest at the home where the party was held. Youth who struck the blow was not indentified by police but was said to be a student at College of Pacific.

Hester was named to the Metropolitan Conference football team in 1960 as an outstanding griddler of Torrance High.

Hester became partially conscious Tuesday evening and was able to recognize his parents. However, prognosis of physicians remained "critical."

# Lomita Boulevard Improvements Okayed by Supervisors Tuesday

A county-wide agreement for improvement of portions of Lomita Blvd. and providing additional land for the Harbor City playground was approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Burton W. Chace said portions of Lomita between Normandie Ave. and Belle Porte Ave. are in unincorporated County territory and the City of Los Angeles. The portion of Normandie Ave. from Lomita 116 feet northerly is entirely within the County.

Chace said that since improvement of the street in Los Angeles would leave the sides of the street in the County unimproved, it is desirable for the County to improve its segment of the streets concurrently with the City.

County's share of the improvement is estimated at \$66,100. The City of Los Angeles will acquire all rights of way, prepare the plans and administer the contract, Chace explained.

Although only a portion of the land to be acquired will be needed for the roadway improvement, the entire frontage property between Frampton and Belle Porte will be purchased, with the unused portion to be used for additional land for the Harbor City playground.

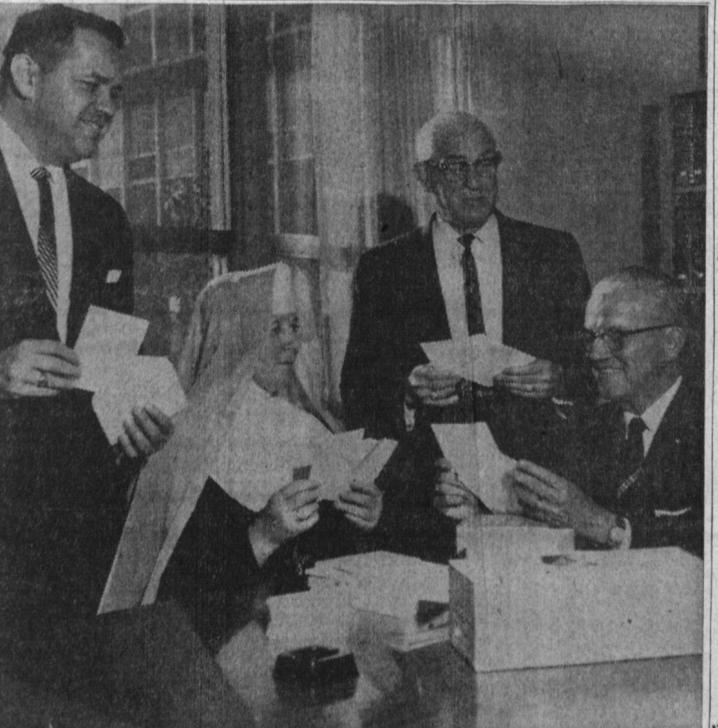
Supervisor Chace and City Council President John S. Bibson agreed to take this step last October, calling it one "that will be of general

benefit to all residents of the area."

The new agreement continues the project started several years ago by the County west of Western Avenue and in a joint city-county project between Avalon Boulevard and Wilmington Boulevard in the Wilmington area.

Tentative arrangements have already been agreed upon for continuation of this full-scale improvement through Wilmington, Chace said.

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**LAST MINUTE ARRANGEMENTS**—Shown planning Founders dinner for Little Company of Mary Hospital, scheduled for January 25 at the Plush Horse Restaurant, are George W. Schneider, second vice president; Reverend Mother M. Patricia, hospital director;

Sam Levy, president of the hospital's advisory board; and Fred Mill, first vice president. Dinner will celebrate the first anniversary of the Torrance medical facility. Judge William McFaden will serve as master of ceremonies. (Story on page A-2)

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