

Mike Callas



Little Leaguers Start Season

BATTLE RAGES BETWEEN BILKO AND 'KLU' FOR 1ST BASE JOB

PALM SPRINGS: Thursday morning the sports pages, and some front pages throughout the country carried an Associated Press wirephoto depicting the ex-President of the United States, Dwight Eisenhower, signing baseballs for Steve Bilko and Ted Kluszewski. Along with Ike, the players wore broad smiles. They had to, numerous "birdies" were focused on them. However, it's a certainty here that all is not strawberry syrup and hot cakes with the Angels' pair of first sackers.

Although most everyone in Palm Springs is assured of a job come regular season it still takes just nine players on the field. "Big Klu" and Bilko are desirous of 'securing the job at first for themselves. They don't want to share the position. They realize that playing every day is most important to the success of their bats.

Bilko is a likeable guy, much more so than the fellow who wore the sergeant stripes on an old TV comedy series. He's warm and friendly to the press and the public he comes in direct contact with. He's as eager to succeed in the majors as any kid on the squad. When this reporter asked what his chances were of playing steady he replied that "Rigney will probably use me against left-handers and 'Klu' against the pitchers who throw from the right side. The platoon system. But I feel good and want a chance to bat against both types of hurlers. I'm grateful to the Angels' front office for giving me another break in the majors. I don't want to let them down."

Kluszewski is also a serious and pleasant ballplayer. Batting .293 with the White Sox last year—mostly as a pinch hitter and when he was suffering from some ailment—Ted has convinced the newsmen covering the Angels that he isn't going to sit on the bench regardless what kind of pitcher the opposition throws at them. "I know I can hit righty's and lefty's, I did before. I'm in the best shape I've ever been in during my career. And when the season is here I'll be in the regular lineup," the once great home run hitter told us. **RIGNEY MUM ON PLANS**
The final decision as to

who to play and when, of course, rests with peppery manager Bill Rigney. His single comment on the Steve and Ted situation is: "It's too early to tell. I'll have to see lots of both boys." And Rigney was not just being evasive. He is not familiar with Bilko except for Steve's short stints in the National League. Up to now it's been the record book for Bill. The ex-skipper of the Giants has seen "Klu" when the latter was in Cincinnati and Pittsburgh.

As it stands today, one week and two days of spring training, the scribes in camp favor "Klu" as the regular Angel first baseman. This reaction is normal, as Ted is much more familiar with major league pitching, while Bilko has seen more of the minor league stuff. Autry, Reynolds and Haney would rather see Bilko prove that his claim to first base is more valid than Ted's. If Steve played steady and connected regularly, the owners would be pleased with the continuous large gate. To the Los Angeles fans Bilko is something real, while Ted is someone from back East who played heroic baseball for the Sox in the 1959 World Series and a former terror in his best years with the Reds.

No matter how much reasoning goes into the selection of the player and the position he is to play, an element loosely defined as emotion enters the scene. That intangible substance (is that what it is?) tells us that Steve rates another chance and if given, he might surprise everyone, including himself.

MHS Track Stars Meet Serra, Riis Schools Thursday

Bishop Montgomery cinderhoppers are half way through the pre-league track sessions for the 1961 season, school officials stated yesterday.

Opening Feb. 7, the season will continue with a three-way meet with Serra, Riis and Montgomery on Serra's track next Wednesday.

Other meets scheduled include the March 11 Notre Dame Relays.

League meets will open March 24 at Montgomery

when the local A's, B's and C's romp against Mary Star and Fernin. April 7 Montgomery will host St. John Vianney and on April 14 will journey to the tracks of Alemany High.

On April 22 they will host Santa Monica's A, B and C squads and on April 28 will visit the St. Bernard campus.

Balance of the meets will be away from home. May 2 the squad will attend league meet preliminaries and May 5 they will take part in the finals.

Teams will also take part in the SCIF preliminaries on May 13, the SCIF semi-finals on May 20, and the finals May 27 and June 3.



BOWS OUT—Noel Smith will play his final game of the 1960-61 season with the Pepperdine College varsity basketball team Tuesday night against University of Loyola at Inglewood High School. Action gets under way at 6 p.m. when the Frosh clubs of the two schools clash, followed by the West Coast Athletic Conference encounter between the two schools. It will be their third meeting of the year, with Pepperdine still seeking its first victory in the cross-town rivalry. Smith, a graduate of Mira Costa High School, is in his sophomore year at Pepperdine, and will see action as forward in the season's hoop finale.

Weight Lifting Champ to Appear at Warrior Gym

Benefits of body building will be demonstrated at El Camino College March 9 at 11 a. m. in the women's gymnasium. Walter Marcyan, Pacific Coast professional weight lifting champion, will demonstrate the three competitive Olympic lifts used.

Marcyán, manufacturer of body-building equipment and publisher of the magazine, "Physical Power," says, "We are of the firm belief that athletes in all sports benefit by weight lifting. The magazine and gymnasium that I operate are directed toward proving this."

NEVER TOO OLD
At 48, Marcyan is in perfect condition. He says, "I have been body building for years. In 1949, when I won the championship, I was 36. That should prove that you are never too old to benefit by body building."

Gene Moze, operator of a health club in Pasadena, will assist Marcyan.

El Camino College uses some of Marcyan's equipment in its body building program and is in the process of enlarging its facilities.

Students, coaches and interested community residents are invited to attend the demonstration Coach Norm Norm Verry of the college announced.

Varsity Baseball Scheduled for Bishop Montgomery High Reported

Varsity baseball schedule for the Bishop Montgomery High School nine was announced this week by sports officials of the school.

On March 7, Montgomery High will open the season against South High of Torrance on the SHS diamond.

Other games on the schedule include: March 10, Chaminade at Montgomery; March 13, Serra at Serra; March 21, Torrance High at Torrance.

April 11, St. John Vianney

TT's Run Today At Gardena's Ascot Stadium

The year's largest motorcycle field, 92 riders, is ready to compete today at Ascot Stadium, Gardena, in a 16-event TT program over the spectacular 9-turn obstacle course that includes a 10-ft. barrier jump.

Racing begins at 2:30 p.m., practice laps at 12:30 p.m., and the program sets the two-wheeled stage for the year's biggest race, the 100-lap Jimmy Phillips Memorial, March 26 at Ascot.

Early favorite for this Sunday's 15-lap expert class main event is Dick Hammer of Lakewood, holder of course record of 13:01.29, set last month. Gunning for revenge will be northern California's Dick Dorresteyn of San Pablo, who spilled when pressing Hammer on the 10th lap last time out. Dorresteyn held the former record of 13:04.1, so has a double aim—beat Hammer and get that record back.

DANGEROUS
Gary Sowell of Inglewood is rated the dangerous jockey for Hammer and Dorresteyn to contend with, while dark-horse is Jim Goldsmith of Long Beach.

Sowell was only a bike's length back of Hammer in the February "main" after battling the winner wheel to wheel for the last five laps.

Goldsmith was a close third and is in great shape after winning 21 straight TT scrambles without a loss.

Don Hawley of Inglewood joins the field after missing the last race while the field includes such jockeys as Sammy Tanner and Dick Van Leeuwen of Bellflower, Jack O'Brien of Santa Monica, Ed Kretz of Monterey Park, Ralph White of San Diego, Johnny Muckenthaler of Garden Grove, Stu Morley of Los Angeles and many more.

Duane Shodley, Ocasalora, Iowa; Dal Baker, Santa Ana; Bill Riley, Costa Mesa; Jeff Sperry of Bakersfield, and Hank Fishburn of Santa Ana are among leaders in the B division.

County Volleyball Championships Set March 27-30

Providing a wholesome outdoor activity during Easter vacation, the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation will sponsor its first annual Seaside Volleyball Championships at Manhattan Beach Pier from Monday, March 27, through Thursday, March 30.

Competition will be open to teams comprised of high school boys and girls and to teams comprised of junior college men, according to the director, N. S. Johnson.

Deadline to submit team entry fees will be Saturday, March 16, at Recreation District III regional office, 3644 West Manhattan Beach Blvd., Lawndale. Information and entry blanks may be obtained by writing this office or calling DA 3-4070. Entry blanks are available also at all county parks in the South Bay area.

Competition on sand volleyball courts north of the pier will be from 9 a. m. to 3 p. m. each day. All teams must be comprised of non-rated players. Individual trophies will be given winners and runners-up of the finals.

On the opening day, Monday, March 27, games will be open to teams of high school boys. Tuesday, March 28, the games will be for teams of high school co-eds. Wednesday, March 29, the play will be for junior college men's teams.

Finals in all classifications will be Thursday, March 30, with awards to be made at 3 p. m.



Now is the time for you expert, intermediate, or beginning bowlers to sign up for summer leagues at Gable House.

SUMMER FUN

Jerry Homel plans many new scratch and handicap leagues for those who want them. Another good feature planned for summer league day bowlers is that the nursery will be open for youngsters 0-7 years. For the 7-15 years olds there will be planned activities, movies, T. V., games etc. upstairs in the meeting room. So what more could you ask for in the baby sitting department while Mom has a joyous 2 or 2½ hours of fun bowling? Sign up now and don't be left out. Work hard these next eight or nine weeks of winter league and get your average up to where you really want it.

TROPHY WINNERS
Two ladies went over the 200 mark last week at Gable House and they are Bert Balsiger, Babe Perchers, 221, and Elizabeth Secrist, Ryan Electronics, 201.

Two men bowlers broke the 250 barrier and they are Emanuel Coppola, Dairyman, 259, and R. R. Fitch, Pittsburg Plate Glass, 251.

A bunch of juniors hit 200 and over and they are Steve Wirtz, 245 Greg Adams, 216; Roy Turnwall, 214; Jim Debona, 209; Tim Heacox, 209; B. Martin, 207; B. Black, 204; Grag Hart, 200; and Eddie Kita, 200.

Seven 6-7-10 split conversions were picked up last week. The following league bowlers receive the honors: Karin H. Halli, Inge Matlock, and Shirley Wolpert from the Guys & Dolls league Pat Jones Toots No. 1; and Virginia Underwood, Sundowners. Congratulations.

LEAGUE OF WEEK

I have concluded the Tuesday leagues and can now give the just honors to the Wednesday Gable House leagues.

The Wednesday morning Top Notchers Scratch League holds the week's title. This league is composed of ten teams, three lady bowlers each.

Team 6 (Green Strippers) is in first place with 45 wins and 30 losses. Team 8 (The Jesters) are breathing down team 6's backs with 44½ wins and 30½ losses, only a half game out.

Team 6 members and their averages are as follows: Dolores Wick, 135; Pat Harold, 117; and Darlene Cope, 136. Team 8 members and their averages are as follows: Shirley Giles, 123; Ginny Frazer, 128; and June Pillen, 119. Dot Downer of team 3 (Lazy Bones) holds the high league average of 144.

The high scratch game and high scratch series are held by this reporter, 202 and 521. The high game next in line is held by Dolores Wick, 193 and Dot Downer has the next high scratch series, 518.

This league has only nine more weeks to go, so anything can happen.

GABLE GAB

Ruth Caudle's free 50 & Over Bowling class will be held this morning at 10 o'clock. This class is growing like the Thursday afternoon spare pick-up class. Ruth says her class has grown from three to about twenty members. Keep this Sunday class in mind and bring your friends.

For a little additional information to the bowlers who know Norm and Mel Bet, they have the fortune of being owners of the Midway Club at 162nd and Hawthorne Blvd. If you are in the neighborhood, you have an invitation to drop in and see them.

Local Air Explorers Help Launch Gliders During San Diego Meet

Members of the Torrance Air Explorer Squadron 377A, sponsored by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce joined Air Explorers from Lennox Squadron 261 and Whittier Squadron 939 at Torrey Pines Gliderport, San Diego on the weekend of February 25th to assist the Associated Glider Clubs of Southern California and the San Diego Junior Chamber of Commerce with the 15th Annual Pacific Coast Midwinter Soaring Championships. Glider enthusiasts from all over Southern California compete for the coveted Montgomery Memorial Trophy.

Traditionally the Air Explorers of the Los Angeles Area Boy Scout Council have served with such duties as assisting the starter to launch the graceful vehicles from the cable tow or the airplane tow. They measure distances from where the glider pilots drop their flour bombs to the target bulls eye and also measure from the glider's nose to a pre determined point for the spot landing event. The Air Explorers also helped to keep the many visitors in the safe spectators zones. The boys had the opportunity to learn much about the construction and operation of gliders as well as to pick up the lingo of a glider pilot.

Tryouts, Signups For Tordena Colt League Slated

Tryouts and registrations for the Tordena Colt League will be held for all boys 15 and 16 years of age who are residents of Torrance and Gardena at the North High School baseball diamond in mid-March, group officials announced this week.

Starting Saturday, March 18, and continuing through Saturday, March 25, sign-ups and tryouts will be held every day at 9 a. m.

Men wishing to coach or manage one of the six teams in the league may report directly to the ball field on any of these dates. It was announced by E. W. Beck, secretary of the local organization.

Canoeing Club

An organizational meeting of a canoeing club is slated Monday night, according to the Torrance Recreation Dept. Interested Torrance adults are invited to attend. Session is slated for 7:30 p.m. at Victor E. Benstead Plunge, 3331 Torrance Blvd.

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