

TORRANCE  
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# THE PRESS

3238 SEPULVEDA BLVD. — Phone DA 5-1515

VOLUME XIV, NUMBER 82

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1963

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## How Torrance Schools Aid Gifted Students

(Story, picture, Page A-2)

# SEX PHOTOS SPARK WAR ON INDECENCY

## City Council Orders Action Against Seller

Magazines containing lurid sex photos were shown to the City Council last night by Mayor Albert Isen and the Council unanimously voted to take criminal action against the owner of the establishment which sold them.

"This is probably the most shocking thing I have ever seen," said Councilman Ken Miller.

Mayor Isen brought the matter up during the period for oral communications and produced the magazines, which were passed from one councilman to the other.

It was said that the magazines were purchased by officer Cliff Smith, of the Torrance Police Department, from the establishment, whose address was said to be 17310 Crenshaw Blvd.

Mayor Isen called the photos an "outrage against the standards of the community," adding that it was "time to get tough."

The mayor said the photos showed male and female together in poses that were "not proper." He added that the owner of the establishment on Crenshaw had been warned and refused to cooperate.

The mayor said that, in his opinion, there was am-

ple justification for a criminal complaint, and that one should be filed.

It was said there were 12 different types of magazines involved and that they were available to juveniles at the place which sold them.

The mayor said that he believed the magazines violated the Federal code and used such words as "depraved," "corrupt," and "obscene" to describe the contents.

The magazines were discovered and purchased as part of a survey to determine if and where such indecent literature was kept and sold in Torrance.

A motion was made to take criminal action against the owner of the establishment and it was unanimously carried with Councilmen J. A. Beasley, Victor Benstead, Nickolas Drale, Ken Miller, Ross Sciarrotta, George Vico, and Mayor Isen voting in favor.

## Last Night at City Council

The City Council voted last night to rezone the Victor tract west of Anza Blvd. and including a strip to the east of Anza to conform to the Torrance master plan.

The vote was five to two with Councilmen Nickolas Drale and George Vico voting against the motion.

A motion by Councilman George Vico to remove John K. Eardley, a civil engineer, from the planning commission failed by a vote of four to three.

Henry Ross, who described himself as a civil engineer and a competitor of Eardley's, appeared to speak for Eardley.

"I don't know of a man of higher ethics," said Ross. "I can't think of anyone here who can come up to his standards."

Jack Gorman, the city engineer of Gardena, who once worked in the city engineer's office in Torrance, also appeared to speak up for Eardley.

"During my three and a half years with the city," said Gorman, "I found no one with more interest in the betterment of Torrance."

Glenn Miller, vice chairman of the ethical practice committee of the engineering society of California, said that an engineer cannot succeed if his ethics are

questioned.

"The ethical practices committee will make an investigation, if asked," he said.

Mayor Isen said that no bill of particulars was needed.

Councilman Ken Miller commented that he saw no evidence of wrongdoing.

"If it is a crime to abstain (from voting when matters in which a member of the commission is involved)," said Miller, "Then we all have to do some soul-searching."

Miller directed a question to Eardley about a matter which had come from the planning commission in which a variance was asked to allow only 108 parking spaces when 250 were indicated under the ordinance.

Eardley said that he had not recommended a lesser number of parking spaces than the number required.

## Wife's Death Turns Joy To Sorrow

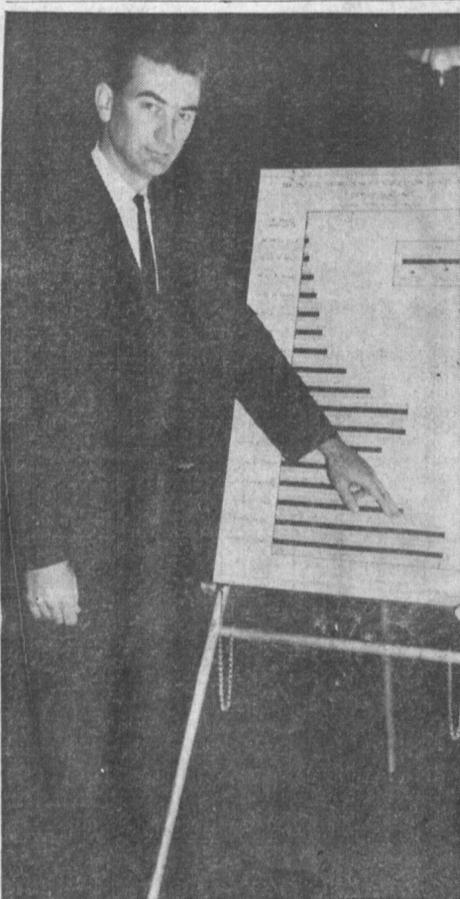
A planned celebration for a young Torrance police officer's graduation from the Sheriff's Academy Friday turned to a day of sorrow with the sudden death of his wife Monday after a shot of penicillin.

Lynda Eliason, 21, received the shot when she took her year-old daughter, Cynthia, to a doctor for treatment of a slight cold.

The mother mentioned to the doctor that she, too, had a cold.

Five minutes after penicillin was injected into her arm, Mrs. Eliason fell into a coma and died.

The shock was so great for her husband, Kevin, 22, that he had to be placed under sedation.



**A FRIENDLY REMINDER** to the South Coast area to wake up to its own greatness was given yesterday morning by Arch D. Hardymont, assistant vice president and manager of the research department of the Security First National Bank, who conducted an extensive study of this area economic growth and structure. He spoke at the Torrance Chamber of Commerce's monthly membership meeting. Hardymont said the South Coast area in many ways doesn't recognize its own great economic stature.—PRESS photo



**CROWNING GLORY** of Carol Stetson was created by Ron Power of Flavio Beauty College, Torrance, and won the trophy being presented by Councilman Ross Sciarrotta, of Torrance, for the best hair styling by a student. The presentation took place during the fifth annual alumni and current students-contests held at the Pen and Quill Sunday. Eighteen trophies were presented for hair styling and 12 for hair coloring.—PRESS photo

## Part One:

# A Story of Courage . . .

There doesn't seem to be much danger in an inner tube floating idly in the surf, and Charles Schmitt welcomed the sight of the one he saw on Sept. 5, 1959, the day after his 15th birthday.

Charles was an active boy on that day, endowed with a good physique, strong muscles, and a tremendous joy of life.

On that day, arduous hours of swimming had tired him and eagerly Charles grasped the inner tube, wriggled through it, and then lolled luxuriously on his back, the buoyancy of the tube doing most of the work.

Suddenly, the fury of a wave ripping in toward the beach clutched Charles. He was trapped by the rolling sea.

**MERCIFUL DARKNESS**  
The instant before the force of the water wrenched his body and savagely snapped his spine, Charles was aware that, "I was falling. I knew I was going to get hurt, but I couldn't do anything about it."

When the wave passed, Charles floated helplessly in its wake. Neck broken, Charles was not able to move.

"I desperately wanted someone to help me," Charles thought before merciful darkness closed over his mind. Someone did help Charles. He was dragged from the surf and taken to the hospital.

About three weeks later, Charles awoke to the bitter reality of a lifetime of paralysis which faced this once active, strongly-muscled boy, barely 15 years old.



**CHARLES SCHMITT** at the electric typewriter given to him by Douglas Aircraft Co. in recognition of excellence in school studies. He uses it for school work as well as his work as editor of school paper.—PRESS photo

"I felt sorry for myself," Charles recalls. "Up to my 15th birthday, I had a good life. When those things I loved were taken from me, I didn't want to go on."

**A TROUBLED ROAD**  
Today, Charles is able to carry out the activities of daily living — he can wash

his face, he can brush his teeth, he can comb his hair, Charles can dress himself. He can get from his wheelchair into a car, or bed, and back again. He can drive a car. Charles is the editor of his school paper. He is the president of the student body of Joseph Pomeroy Widney High School. But, it was a long hard and troubled road for Charles from Sept. 5, 1959, to today, three years and nearly five months later. (Next Week: Charles learns to live again).

## Letters

Dear Sir:  
Do you have any extra copies of the Torrance Press which would tell something of the history of the city of Torrance?

We are studying about the history of our city in Grade 3 and Grade 4 at Flavian School. Thank you.

Yours truly,  
Curran Grier

Editor's Note: Our Progress Edition, Feb. 17, will contain information on the history of Torrance and area. We will send Curran advance proofs of the edition's theme. If you have knowledge of our city's history, why not share it with the boys and girls of Grades 3 and 4 at Flavian School, 5038 Halison St., Torrance? You can send it to The Press and we'll forward it and, perhaps, what you send also can be used in our Progress Edition.

## Do You Know?

The following states were named for people. Who?

1. Georgia.
2. Louisiana.
3. Maryland.
4. New York.
5. Pennsylvania.

(Answers, Page A-4)



**DOWN COMES THE FLAG** as children of old Torrance Elementary School on Martina Ave. prepare to leave for new school on Lincoln St. Additional pictures, Pages A-4 and A-6. Story, Page A-7.—PRESS photo

## Inside the Press

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Entertainment \_\_\_\_\_ C10  
Food & Family \_\_\_\_\_ C1  
Women \_\_\_\_\_ C2

## Hello, Boys

Boys who are interested in getting a paper route can call The Circulation Department of The Press, DA 5-1515, any week day afternoon, except Wednesday, from 3 to 5 p.m. and call DA 5-0883 on Saturday afternoon from 3 to 5 p.m. for information on how they can get into business for themselves.