

BULLETS SNARE NATIONAL 'MACK' BASEBALL CROWN



NATIONAL CHAMPIONS . . . The Tordena Bullets, new Connie Mack champions, pose at International Airport on their return Monday from Springfield, Ill. Team members include manager Bob Prior, coach Al Egnantuk, Jack Crist, Ron Sells, Mark O'Connor,

John Marsden, Jay Baker, Derry Deravin, Mike Brooks, Steve Sogge, Dave McCormick, Brent Nickoloff, Mike Tuffley, Ralph Novotney, Hoagy Wong, Rol Oguin, Ed Deboer, Hal Smith, Rod Poteete, Mike Engle and bat boy Gary Prior. —Press-Herald Photo

One-Hitter Gives Title to Tordena

The Tordena Bullets are sitting on top of the world. At least the Connie Mack baseball world.

Team play and pitching depth propelled the Bullets past eight other teams in Springfield, Ill., and paid off in the Connie Mack baseball championship for the Torrance-Gardena youths.

Jay Baker spun a one-hitter in Sunday's championship game as Tordena shutout Louisville, 4-0, to pick up all the marbles.

Baker, a former North High southpaw, allowed only one walk while fanning 11 men as Tordena finished up a week-long stint in Springfield. The Bullets arrived home Monday.

A single run in the fourth inning was all the support Baker really needed—and he drove over the run himself.

Mike Brooks singled to open the stanza and moved to third on the heels of two successive walks. Baker then squeeze bunted Brooks home from third.

With the sacks still loaded, Hoagy Wong laid down a drag bunt to bring Jack Crist around with the second tally of the inning.

Tordena added an insurance run in the fifth stanza when John Marsden and Steve Sogge belted consecutive doubles. In the seventh inning, the Bullets merely iced the cake as Sogge walked, stole second, took third on an infield out and scored on a wild pitch.

Sogge, who handled the catching chores for Bob Prior's Bullets, went 8 for 14 in the tournament, hit a 375-foot home run, stole four bases and cut down four men attempting to steal.

According to Prior, the Bullets all but won the tournament Friday night when they overcame a four-run deficit to trim host Springfield, 5-4.

The Bullets trailed Springfield 4-2 going into the sixth frame before cutting the margin with a pair of unearned runs. In the bottom of the seventh and final inning, six consecutive hits got Tordena off the hook.

Sogge tied the game with a two-run single and Jack Crist won the contest when he successfully bunted with the bases full. Crist's squeeze bunt gave Dave Rasbue the win in relief.

Saturday, 6-ft. 6-in. Rod Poteete unleashed a five-hitter, fanning 10 men while issuing nary a single free pass, as Tordena nudged Seattle, 2-1.

Tordena opened the scoring in the second when Crist connected on a two-out home run with the sacks empty. In the next stanza, Wong doubled Ed Deboer home from third base for what proved to be the winning run.

Seattle attempted a comeback in the sixth inning and wound up pushing over a single run.

Saturday night, three teams had 3-1 records. Tordena, Atlanta, Ga., and Louisville flipped to determine who would automatically go directly into the finals and which two teams would have to playoff.

The Bullets won the toss and moved directly into Sunday night's championship game. In a playoff game, Louisville nudged Atlanta for the right to meet Tordena.

Victory in the Connie Mack World Series capped, a remarkable year for Prior's crew. The Bullets finished only second in the rugged South Bay League and then came on to win the Southern California and Western Regional tournaments and qualify for the Springfield series.



SEPTEMBER 2, 1964 GREGG PETERSON, Sports Editor 41



GOOD JOB . . . George Vico, a City Councilman and perhaps Torrance's Number One baseball fan, congratulates Bob Prior, manager of the Tordena Bullets, on the team's championship play. Vico led a delegation of fans which met the team at International Airport Monday. —Press-Herald Photo

LOS ANGELES WINS

Old Timers Stun Kegs In SCMAF Tournament

The Los Angeles Old Timers registered a 5-4 upset win over the Taft-Alan Tappa Keggas Sunday night at Torrance Park to win the seventh annual Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation slo-pitch tournament.

The Old Timers upended three other opponents before surprising the Tappa Keggas in Sunday's championship. Prior to the Torrance tourney, the Kegs had won the Redondo and American Softball Association slo-pitch tournaments.

Los Angeles rammed over three runs on three hits in the final half of the last inning to overtake the Tappa Keggas. Previously, the Old Timers had tallied twice in the fourth inning on only one hit.

Local Driver Will Compete In Road Race

Bob Goebel is the latest Torrance driver to enter the 22nd Santa Barbara Road Races Saturday and Sunday on the airport course.

Goebel, 41, of 23106 S. Kent Ave., will drive his Sprite in G Production competition during the two-day holiday weekend event.

It will mark Goebel's third appearance of the season following races at Willow Springs and Riverside.

Youths May Still Register to Play Pop Warner Ball

Pop Warner football registration is still open.

Youths interested in competing with the Torrance Pop Warner Association may sign up any week night from 5 to 7:30 at the West High School practice field.

Registration is open to boys from 10 to 14 years old and weighing from 65 to 125 lbs. Boys will participate on teams with players comparable in age and weight.

The Torrance Pop Warner Association will field approximately seven teams of 33 players each.

Ex-Spartan Mound Ace Moves Up

Ex-South High pitching great Ken Turner has been promoted by the Los Angeles Angels.

Turner, who formerly toiled for the San Jose Bees of the California League, was recently moved up to the Hawaiian Islanders of the Pacific Coast League.

The former Spartan earned the promotion by compiling a 10-6 record with San Jose and chalking up a 3.00 earned run average.

IN HIS first appearance with Hawaii, Turner turned in three innings of no-run relief pitching to pick up a win.

Former University of Wisconsin star Rick Reichardt has moved up to the Angels. Reichardt, the Angel's vaunted bonus baby, had 19 RBIs and four home runs after 17 games with Hawaii.

Another high-priced bonus baby, Tom Egan of Pico Rivera, is connecting at a steady .263 clip with seven doubles, four home runs and 16 RBIs in 32 games at Quad Cities of the Midwest League.

EGAN WAS signed by the Angels immediately after he graduated from El Rancho High.

THE TAPPA KEGGAS

scored once in the sixth inning and three times in the seventh frame to momentarily take a lead.

Ed Moise and Ken Weiss both went 2 for 3 at the dish to back up Seymour Odens' seven-hit pitching for the tournament champions. Mick Ryan and Tony Couch also collected two safeties apiece, but it was not enough to stop Chuck Schoendienst from picking up his second loss of the year against 22 victories.

Los Angeles drew a bye in the opening round of the tournament and then proceeded to rout Loud's Machinery of Pomona, 24-1; hang a 4-2 loss on the North American Valkyries and trim the Hughes El Segundo Hustlers, 3-2.

The Keggas also drew a bye in the first round and then routed the Torrance Firefighters, 14-1. The Kegs snagged a 7-0 forfeit win over St. Lawrence and advanced to the finals with a 3-0 triumph over the Gardena Castoffs.

A FORFEIT knocked one of the tournament favorites out

in the second round. The Redondo Beach Buys had a first-round bye and then forfeited a game to the North American Valkyries because of an ineligible player.

Redondo had previously finished second to the Tappa Keggas in the Redondo tournament and were co-favorites to capture the SCMAF crown.

In first round action, the North American Valkyries collected a 7-0 forfeit over the Torrance Eagles, Loud's Machinery earned a 5-3 win over Time Out of Torrance, the Torrance Dog Patch Kids recorded a 10-2 triumph over the Riverside Threshers and the Torrance Orthopedics claimed a 14-1 decision over Pomona Unimart.

Other first round games found St. Lawrence whipping the Gardena Comets on a forfeit, the Torrance Falcons taking El Monte Hoffman Electronics, 8-2, Valley Resurrection gaining a forfeit win over the Long Beach Youngbloods, Torrance Rose Bud Dairy downing Sam's Chevron, 10-7; and the Gardena Castoffs routing Torrance Columbia Construction, 10-1.



WELCOME HOME . . . A banner and a crowd of proud parents, friends and city officials welcomed the Bullets home Monday afternoon at International Airport. Tordena clinched the Connie Mack championship Sunday night following nearly a week of close competition between one of the nation's top 16-to-18-year-old teams. Bob Prior also managed the Bullets to the Southern California and Western Regional championships.



PROUD CHAMPS . . . Jay Baker (left) and Steve Sogge display the trophy presented to Tordena for winning the Connie Mack World Series. Baker threw a one-hitter in the championship game while Sogge, a catcher, went 8 for 14 in the tournament, slammed a 375-foot home run and stole four bases. (Press-Herald Photos by Jerry Reynolds)

Ascot Park Sets Three Programs

A huge three-night speedfest is scheduled by J. C. Agajanian over the Labor Day weekend at Ascot Park in Gardena.

Friday night, the American Motorcycle Association-sanctioned flat track races on the half-mile oval will mark the return of Sammy Tanner, winner of the Grand National 50-mile race at Springfield, Ill., and Ascot point leader Elliott Schultz.

The United States Auto Club midgets will take over for a 100-lap national championship race Saturday night.

SUNDAY NIGHT, the steeplechasers will appear for a 20-lap main event over the jumps and around the lakes.

Tanner will be given a royal welcome after his victory over a coast-to-coast field of riders in the 50-miler. Previously he had won the national 8-mile championship

at Ascot for the second time. Schultz has won 13 Ascot main events this year compared to six for Tanner.

ALLEN HEATH and Billy Cantrell top an impressive list of driving talent for Saturday night's 100-lap USAC classic.

Also entered are Paul Jones of Torrance, Bob Hogle, Lowell Sachs, Colby Scroggins, Porky Rachwitz, Hal Minyard, George Snider and Dempsey Wilson.

Sid Payne and Eddie Mulder, a pair of three-time winners, will head the pack in Sunday night's steeplechase over the seven-turn Ascot course. Also competing will be Bob Bailey of Torrance, Clark White, Dave Palmer, Skip Van Leeuwen and Jack O'Brien.

The program is the final TT race at Ascot before the third annual 50-lap Grand National over the same twist-inning course Sept. 26.