

# Peebles on Stand; Denies He Lied at Quiz

## Torrance Press-Herald

Published semi-weekly Wednesday and Sunday by King Williams Press, Inc. Entered as second class matter January 30, 1914, at Post Office, Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879.

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Series II, Vol. 1, No. 79



3238 Sepulveda Blvd., Torrance, California — Wednesday, March 31, 1965

By Carrier 50c Per Month  
By Mail \$12 Per Year

10c Per Copy 56 PAGES



**TORRANCE WINNERS . . .** Mike Pavlik, Southern California Gas Co., left, compares his Spinak Commerce and Industry Trophy with two other winners, James P. Becker, Jimmy Visceglia City chairman's trophy, and Lt. Don Hamilton, Torrance Police Department, Silver Award plaque for police departments. Awards were given out at the annual United Crusade awards banquet recently.

## Mayor Loses Power To Appoint Boards

Mayor Albert Isen lost his right to appoint members of the city's Airport Commission last night, giving up without the battle he promised a week ago.

Councilmen voted to adopt an ordinance which makes each councilman responsible for an appointment to the commission. Appointments are, however, subject to approval by a majority of the council.

"Some future council will certainly regret this," Isen declared. "You've heard you can't fight city hall—well, I can't fight City Council with only one vote."

**THE NEW** ordinance is nearly identical to one adopted some months ago for the city's Civil Service Commission. It expands the commission from five to seven members, in addition to giving individual councilmen appointive power.

## Teen Years Should Be Best Years

The teen years should be the best years of everybody's life but they very seldom are.

So said Dr. Barney Katz, on "Pre-Teens and Teens—The Stormy Years" at Torrance High School. The lecture was second in a series of four co-sponsored by the Torrance Adult School and the Torrance High PTA.

Laying the cause of teenage dissatisfactions to "improper pre-teen preparation," Dr. Katz characterized the teen-ager as one whose intellect has fully developed, who enjoys independence and a variety of interests and activities with an absolute minimum of responsibility.

The mayor previously has appointed all members of the commission, subject to approval by a majority of the council.

Throughout the debates on the Civil Service and Airport Commission changes, Isen has charged the selection procedure "lends itself to politicking." The mayor maintains he has never refused to nominate a person who got four votes during the personnel sessions at which appointments were discussed.

"This is merely a gratuity or patronage for individual councilmen," he charged during last week's debate.

**IN THAT** debate last week, Ross A. Sciarrotta Sr. said he had "never been able to muster enough votes" to have one of his candidates named to a commission—other than those where direct appointments are made—in three years on the council.

"It's easier for seven men to find one than for one man to find seven," Ken Miller said. It was Miller who asked for the week delay to study the change.

Councilmen first planned only to increase the size of the commission, but had second thoughts when Miller raised the issue of "being consistent."

Councilmen say they hope

### Opens Today

## Zone Quiz Set By Grand Jury

Hearings on a charge by Torrance City Councilman George Vico that an attempt was made to influence his vote on a beach front zoning proposal were scheduled to open before the County Grand Jury today. Vico was expected to be an early witness.

At a hearing before the Board of Supervisors in January, Vico introduced a letter from R. D. Kellier, president of Sovereign Development Co., offering him first right of refusal on a restaurant pro-

posed for the top floor of a high-rise structure.

Vico implied the letter was an attempt to influence his vote.

Supervisors postponed action on a land swap proposal then under discussion and ordered the district attorney to investigate the charges.

The pending land exchange was again put over by the supervisors yesterday during the board's regular meeting.

Supervisor Burton W. Chace's office said a report on the investigation may be received by next Tuesday.

Other candidates include Adolph Bialecki, Joseph Bishop, William A. Goodman, Mrs. Virginia Miller, Michael Moore, Dr. Lester L. Sacks, Mrs. Beverly E. Schwartz, Dr. Richard A. Sullivant, Lawrence E. Townsend, H. Arch Williams Jr., and Donald E. Wilson.

All candidates have been invited to participate in a Candidates' Meeting, sponsored by the Torrance League of Women Voters, next Wednesday evening. The meeting will be held in the Torrance Recreation Center at 8 o'clock.

## 'Shoot-Out' in Local Bar; Shots Hurt Five

### Perjury Charges Denied; Mayor Gets the Blame

Former city manager Wade Peebles took the stand in his own defense Tuesday afternoon and was scheduled to resume testimony this morning as his trial on perjury entered its seventh day in Los Angeles Superior Court.

Defending charges that he lied to a state attorney general's inquiry about police surveillance of an ex-councilman and about a swimming pool, paid in part by a Torrance developer, the former city manager denied both allegations.

**REPLYING TO** questions of his attorney, Joseph Rosen, Peebles fixed the blame for the surveillance and subsequent arrest of former councilman Robert B. Jahn on Mayor Albert Isen.

Peebles said Isen insisted on the arrest on at least two occasions after an alleged plot against the mayor was uncovered in 1963.

The swimming pool, for which the developer put up \$2,700, was a wedding gift, Peebles has maintained.

**TESTIFYING Monday,**

**Board Election Timmons Withdraws From Race**

Sidney W. Timmons, an insurance agent, has withdrawn from the April 20 election for members of the Torrance Board of Education.

Timmons' name will, however, be on the ballot. His application for withdrawal was submitted too late to alter the ballot.

A change in his business plans was given as the reason for withdrawal. Timmons said a field period, originally scheduled May 1 in conjunction with an insurance school, had been advanced a month.

"In all fairness to those who would have supported me, I do not have the time to devote to the campaign," Timmons said.

Mayor Isen denied several times that he had ordered the surveillance and arrest of the former councilman.

During two and a half hours of questioning by defense attorney Rosen, Isen maintained that he learned of the surveillance only after Jahn's arrest on drunken driving charges.

The defense has contended from the start that the Jahn surveillance was ordered by Isen.

**DEVELOPER,** Robert Burke testified yesterday that the \$2,700 swimming pool payment for Peebles was for engineering services. Burke said he had tried unsuccessfully to pay Peebles for designing a retaining wall which he estimated may have saved him \$40,000.

He told defense attorney Rosen that he had decided on the swimming pool as a way to repay Peebles.

The case may go to the jury tomorrow.

## Disaster Training In Area

The role of Red Cross volunteers in time of disaster is the topic being discussed at the disaster training sessions which began Friday at Regional Red Cross headquarters, 390 W. 7th St., San Pedro.

The 7:30-9:30 p.m. sessions scheduled on consecutive Fridays through April 16th are being conducted by Allen Quignon, volunteer disaster chairman of the Torrance-Lomita Red Cross Branch.

He has issued invitations for the conference to key volunteers from his own branch, as well as the Red Cross organizations in Gardena, Wilmington, San Pedro and Palos Verdes.

During the training sessions, volunteers are to be oriented on the over-all program of Red Cross disaster service and how it functions.

**QUIGNON SAYS** he will discuss how emergency assistance is given, how to provide medical and nursing services to disaster victims, how to make disaster surveys, how to manage mass shelters and how to give individual assistance to disaster victims.

Also to be covered are the immediate functions of volunteer leaders in time of disaster and disaster feeding operations.

"The importance of being prepared for disasters is emphasized every time disaster strikes a community where volunteers are not knowledgeable," Quignon says.



**ORCHID PRINCESS . . .** Surrounded by orchids, 11-year-old Marjorie Schumaker of Torrance waits for the opening of the South Bay Orchid Society's fifth annual show Saturday and Sunday in Alondra Park recreation building. Majorie will reign as a princess.

## Gunman Suspect In Jail

A 28-year-old unemployed shipyard worker was arraigned yesterday on charges that he triggered a shoot-out in a Torrance tavern early Sunday that left five persons wounded.

Frederick Arsenault, 1631 W. 251st St., Harbor City, was arrested about 12 hours after the shooting at the Dog Patch Bar, 1327 Cabrillo Ave.

Injured in the shooting exchange were:

Terry D. Ash, 21, critically injured with shattered spleen.

Frederick Amadrill, 28, removed from critical list Tuesday.

Hobart Bancroft, 45, treated and released.

Richard Garcia, 22, treated for minor injuries and released.

Mrs. Marilyn Curry, 28, treated for powder burns and released.

Officers Don H. Cook and Jim Bell arrested the gunman suspect in Long Beach Sunday afternoon. He made no resistance, they reported.

The shooting began early Sunday when an argument erupted, police said.

### First Step to Bowl

## Torrance Teens Compete In Annual Band Battle

Final countdown for 17 Torrance teenagers is under way for what could be an orbit to Hollywood Bowl appearances June 25 when they compete in Saturday's preliminaries of the Battle of the Bands at Morningside High School at 8 p.m.

Competing in the dance bands section are the Pagans, featuring Randy Powers, Doug Vogel, Sinclair Cleveland, Greg Williams, Chuck Paddock, Herb McCoy, Ron Lias, Bob Williams, Carl Childs, Gary Mull, Neal Shinder, Dale Stitt, Gary Anderson and Jim Crawley.

Appearing as solo vocalists are Sherrie Ann Schneider and Shirley Johns.

**FINALISTS** will be named for the Hollywood Bowl production after the April 24 preliminary at John Francis Polytechnic High School in Sun Valley.

Bowl performers will vie for division awards. A band or combo will be selected for a Sweepstakes Trophy as the outstanding entry in these divisions, and judges will single out three solo instrumentalists for special recognition.

Judging preliminaries are John Tynan, West Coast editor of 'Downbeat' magazine and Robert McDonald, Robert Fisher and Don Neilligan, music instructors at Los Angeles City College, East Los Angeles College, and Los Angeles Valley College, respectively.

**DIVISIONS** in the contest include dance bands, combos, school dance bands, solo vocalists and vocal groups. Admission to preliminaries is 50 cents. Tickets will be sold at the box office before each performance.

Battle of the Bands is sponsored by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation.

Among musical notables formerly featured in the Battle of the Bands are Elmer Bernstein, Henry Machini, Stan Kenton, Andre Previn, Gordon Jenkins and Les Baxter.

### Signal Bids Called . . .

Bids for installing traffic control signals, highway lighting, and channelization on Crenshaw Boulevard at the southbound ramp connections of San Diego Freeway were called by the state Monday in Sacramento. A total of \$20,300 has been budgeted for the work.

### Building Boom Noted . . .

Torrance was ranked third in Southern California in the number of homes built during 1964, according to a survey of the 14th southernmost counties in the state. Only Los Angeles and San Diego ranked ahead of Torrance. A total of 4,344 homes were built during the year, or nearly 1,000 more than fourth-ranked Long Beach. The survey was made by the research department of Security First National Bank.

### Candidates to Speak . . .

Candidates for the Torrance Board of Education have been invited to address the Riviera Homeowners Association meeting Monday evening. The meeting will be held at Parkway School, 220 Via Riviera, at 8 o'clock. Each candidate will speak briefly and answer questions from the audience.