

LITTLE LEAGUE SERIES

# Mobil Oil Rescued Central Torrance

This is the fifth in a series of articles on youth baseball in Torrance. This chapter covers the Torrance Central League.

By HENRY BURKE  
Press-Herald Sports Editor

Sandwiched among the industrial complex a few hundred feet southwest of Prairie and 190th St. is Mobil Field, home of Torrance Central Little League and Pony League.

Central's 200 boys, the smallest in numbers among the nine Little Leagues in Torrance, play baseball at two identical ball parks whose backstops form a triangular back-to-back setting with the larger Pony League field for 13 and 14 years old.

The brick concession stand, with its more recently constructed second-story meeting room is shared by both baseball programs.

Ground work for developing the facilities was investigated by John Tweedy and Jim Wayt, two persons identified with youth baseball in Torrance for more than a decade.

Torrance Central Little League, first, was practically a backyard project of Paul Shinoda who provided the construction of the league's first ball park next to his nursery business at 182nd St. and Crenshaw.

When the San Diego Freeway wiped out Shinoda's property, he kicked in \$1,800 to get new ball diamonds started and General Petroleum's A. E. Thompson made the land available for the project and provided the scoreboards.



JERRY YANCEY



HERB DUGGER

Shinoda, Wayt, Russ Hines, Dr. Burt Easley, Bob Fernley and Jerry Yancey have since served as league president.

Yancey was recently elected to his third term for the 1965-66 season.

Yancey credits Herb Dugger, one of the parents in the league, with an outstanding job of re-construction at the field in the past five years. Concrete block dug-outs, scorer booths at both fields, a centrally located flagpole, and the additions to the storage and concession building were installed largely due to Dugger's efforts. His wife, Betty, is auxiliary president.

Tweedy arranged for a crew from Chicago Bridge and Iron Works to erect the backstops, and Bert Lynn later acquired other building materials for the fields. Lynn has served as the league's chief umpire the past three years.

Clarence Tyler, in his third year as player agent, has been with the league since 1957.

One problem the league has been unable to master are gophers which constantly undermine the turf.

While holding sectional tournament play at the major field in 1963, games were interrupted by gophers peering out at the crowd from the outfield. The critters retreated only when the umpire went after them with a baseball bat.

The league has gone so far as to contact the Department of Agriculture for assistance.

# Press-Herald SPORTS

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JUNE 23, 1965



HELPING OWN CAUSE . . . Chuck DeSario (left) of the Stars and Wilton Aoki of the Colts play baseball in the training league of Central Torrance Little League. They combined to sell 500 tickets for last Saturday's pancake breakfast at Certi-bond. The league raised \$1100 at the event. (Press-Herald photo)

## Bullets Win Two; Devils Lose Twice

The Tordena Bullets won two games and the Torrance Red Devils lost twice in last weekend's South Bay Connie Mack League baseball play.

Tordena, Beach Cities and West Los Angeles share first place with 4-1 records.

Next Saturday the Bullets take on Hawthorne at Torrance at 8 p.m. and the Red Devils meet San Pedro at 2 p.m. at Daniels Field.

On Sunday the Bullets go against the West Los Angeles Westsiders at 2 p.m. at Palisades High and the Red Devils tangle with Westchester at 3 p.m. at Loyola University.

The Bullets won both victories at Torrance Park, beating Westchester, 9-3, Saturday, and coming back with a 3-2 win over the Long Beach Blues on Sunday.

Marty Morris and Dave LaRoche each collected two hits in the Westchester win, then LaRoche came back to pitch the victory over Long Beach. The Bullets were out-hit by Long Beach, 7-4, but in the sixth inning Jack Crist singled home Joe deLuca and Morris knocked in LaRoche and Crist with the winning runs.

The Torrance Red Devils dropped two games to the Long Beach Blues, 3-2, and the West Los Angeles Westsiders, 9-0.

Against Long Beach the Red Devils led 1-0 in the second on a single by Cubby Muse and a sacrifice fly by Dave Bowman.

After Long Beach scored in the fourth, the Red Devils went ahead 2-1 again in the fifth on a walk to Jim Hegley, bunt single by Steve Kealey, a sacrifice bunt by Larry Snyder and a ground out by Dick White.

Long Beach scored twice in the bottom of the fifth, getting the eventual winning run on a throwing error. On Sunday Jerry Catalano threw a 5-hit shutout at the Red Devils.

The winners started off with five runs in the first inning and got to Kealey, Nick Van Lue and Jim Kegley for 13 hits.

Red Devils . . . 010 010 000-2 2 1  
Long Beach . . . 000 120 000-3 5 2  
C. Camou and Tempo; B. Grajeda and Gerrado.  
Carpet Consultant 000 200 0-2 5 0  
Laven Insurance . . . 000 020 0-0 5 0  
White and Birdtail; O'Dell and Schlauch.

MEMORANDUM LEAGUE  
Road Runners . . . 000 020 0-2 7 5  
North Bears . . . 100 002 0-3 9 3  
Ford and Aarup; Pendrick and Wannus, Walker (5).  
Torrance Police . . . 450 000 1-8 8 3  
Covenant . . . 012 010 0-4 15 4  
Poling and R. Slagy; Zeig and Congelliere.  
HR—Goudy (Police) and Barbee (Covenant).  
Kings Men vs. Lawful Loafers, postponed.

Hammer Joins Motorcycle 'Jockey Club'

Dick Hammer of Lake-wood, who gained his motorcycle fame as a steeplechase racer, moves in to the elite group for Friday night's flat track program on the scorching dirt half-mile oval at Ascot Park, Gardena.

During the past four weeks he's shown more speed on the flat track than at any time during his two-wheeled career that began with his novice competition in 1959.

Now, he's ready to join Sammy Tanner, Dan Haaby and Ralph White as among the riders to beat every Friday night in the 15-lap Expert class main event of the weekly AMA thrill show.

Curtice Named Athletic Chief

Jack Curtice, who three years ago joined the University of California, Santa Barbara athletic department staff as head football coach, has been named the school's athletic director, Chancellor Vernon I. Cheadle announced today.

Curtice, whose appointment is effective July 1, takes over the reins from Stan Williamson who has retired due to ill health.

# New Little League Job for Schnepf

John Schnepf, Little League district administrator from Torrance, has been put in charge of District 20 in the Pomona, LaPuente, Whittier, Hacienda Heights and LaMirada area.

Schnepf served as District 27 administrator from 1962 until recently when he became proprietor of a Pizza Palace in Montclair. His successor here will be elected at a district meeting Thursday night at 8 p.m. at Garrett Field, Van Ness and 190th St.

Leagues in District 27 which will elect a new administrator are Torrance American, Torrance National, Torrance Central, Pacific Coast, North Torrance West, North Torrance East, Freeway, Victoria Park, Harbor City, Lomita, Carson and Dominguez Little Leagues.

Schnepf was appointed to the administrative position four years ago after serving as assistant to Walt Butler, and having completed two years as president of the Torrance American Little League. Schnepf was active with the league since 1954.

Following his election to a 3-year term of office in 1962, Schnepf attended a weeklong adult training seminar at Williamsport, Pa. He participated in Little League Congresses at Chicago, Anaheim, Los Angeles, New York and Washington, D.C., biennially since 1957.

A year ago John was tournament director of the Western Regional Tournament at Garrett Field.

Bob Rumbo, a two-year president of Freeway Little League, was named District 27 tournament director for the 1965 playoffs.

Tournament details will be explained at tomorrow night's meeting along with the election.



JOHN SCHNEPP

## SHRINE HIGH GRID GAME SET JULY 29

Tickets for the 14th annual Shrine North-South All-Star School Football Game and Pageant, scheduled for Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, July 29, are scaled at \$5, \$3 and \$1.50.

Pitting hand-picked high school gridders from northern California against the southland's best, the mid-summer classic is recognized as the top prep all-star game of its kind in the nation.

Proceeds are earmarked for the operation of the Los Angeles Shriners Hospital for crippled children.

A pre-game and half-time intermission pageant, featuring a cast of more than 5,000 performers, again will highlight the charity extravaganza. Costumed drill teams, marching bands, Shrine patrols and equestrian units will participate in the colorful prologue, supervised by Pageant Director W. Earl Shafer.

The 25-man teams will assemble in Los Angeles for pre-game workouts on July 17.

## Hungarian Swim Event Scheduled

The United States swimmers and divers, who provided Uncle Sam with the bulk of the Olympic medals at Tokyo, will again be called upon to uphold United States prestige this summer with the announcement that a U.S. men's team will enter the World Student Games at Budapest, Hungary.

In addition to a men's national team of swimmers and divers, a team of women will represent the United States in competitions at Cardiff, Wales, Monaco, Lisbon, Portugal, and possible participation in the Spanish championships.

## Softball Results

OPEN LEAGUE	
Aerona . . . . .	000 001 0-1 8 1
Torrance Bears . . . . .	000 000 0-0 3 2
C. Camou and Tempo; B. Grajeda and Gerrado.	
Carpet Consultant 000 200 0-2 5 0	
Laven Insurance . . . . .	000 020 0-0 5 0
White and Birdtail; O'Dell and Schlauch.	
MONDAY 5:00 PITCH	
Torrance Elks . . . . .	100 010 0-2 5 0
St. Lawrence . . . . .	202 000 2-4 8 3
Along and Moon; Jelonek and Rice.	
HR—Lydo (Elks).	
Breeters . . . . .	000 230 8-14 14 2
West Warriors . . . . .	210 032 9-5 13 7
Johnson and Cole; O'Connor and Beardslee.	
Vaughan Realty . . . . .	200 710 0-10 12 3
Dandy Glass . . . . .	250 020 0-6 10 4
Kirkpatrick and Becker; Cudeback, Dandy (4) and Cornwall.	
MEMORANDUM LEAGUE	
Road Runners . . . . .	000 020 0-2 7 5
North Bears . . . . .	100 002 0-3 9 3
Ford and Aarup; Pendrick and Wannus, Walker (5).	
Torrance Police . . . . .	450 000 1-8 8 3
Covenant . . . . .	012 010 0-4 15 4
Poling and R. Slagy; Zeig and Congelliere.	
HR—Goudy (Police) and Barbee (Covenant).	
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## Huge Catch At Pierpoint

When the half-day boat, Matt Walsh, docked at Pierpoint Landing last Saturday, after the morning trip, old timers at the Landing remarked that fishermen on board had one of the best catches of fish taken off the local fishing grounds in a number of years.

## STOCK CAR RACE

# 200-Lap Feature Set for July 4th

NASCAR's finest Pacific Coast late model stock cars and drivers return to Ascot Park's rugged half-mile, dirt oval Sunday night, July 4th, to stage a 200-lap Grand National speedfest, coupled with a complete fireworks show.

The NASCAR stockers revisit the 10,000 seat Gardena racing plant following their highly successful Ascot "500" last Memorial Day.

More than 33 brand new Buicks, Fords, Mercs, Chevies, Dodges and Plymouths will be wheeled out for the 200-lapper, plus '64 and '63 cars.

Expected to top the long list of NASCAR stars competing will be the amiable Ascot 500 winner, round Bill Amick of Portland, Ore., winner over 1965 point leader Marv Porter of Hawthorne by two laps.

Porter, Amick, and '64 Pacific Coast NASCAR champion Ron Hornaday of San Fernando, will compete in the "200" on Firecracker Day.

Another certain entry will be San Fernando's Bob Price, the huge, powerful new '65 Buick Wildcat, which had its maiden outing in the Memorial Day marathon.

Price admittedly had a few bugs in the big Buick, mostly in handling, but Bob claims these have been remedied, and the big Wildcat should be roaring to go July 4th evening. The Wildcat finished the Memorial Day 500 in the second ten.

NASCAR west coast representative Art Atkinson is keeping the wires buzzing with the main office in Daytona Beach, Fla., endeavoring to line up several of the southeastern and eastern NASCAR name drivers for the event.



PIONEERING CONSTRUCTION . . . Of Little League and Pony League fields at Central Torrance's Mobil Field were (left to right) James Wayt and John Tweedy, league officials, and A. E. Thompson, manager of General Petroleum.

# Eleven Different Drivers Claim Figure 8 Victories

Eleven different drivers have won ARA Figure 8 stock car main events at Ascot Park where the fender-busters stage their eight-race programs every Sunday and Wednesday night at 8 p.m.

Only Nick Thomas of Gardena, Eddie Sauer of Redondo Beach and Troy Still of Lomita have been able to put together a pair of wins in the rough-tough "Eights" so far this season, but with races now staged each Wednesday evening in addition to the regular Sunday night session, it's almost safe to say that one of the trio will break this mark.

An examination of the drivers to win a single main to date reveals a pretty good cross-section of Southern California. Included in the list are Lawndale's renowned "Wild Man," Leon Garrett; Ed Gahler of Torrance; Otto

Hayes of Los Angeles; Vernon Toms of Bell; Ted Shuster of Compton; Bob Hobbs of Torrance; Ed Ferro of Lomita and Jim Powell of Bell Gardens.

Powell provided the opening Wednesday night crowd last week with one of the most spectacular accidents ever seen on Ascot's cross-course. Jim hit one of the logs at the intersection

going north during the main event, and started to roll . . . nine or ten times at least.

Knocked unconscious, Powell was revived in time to escape a fire in the front end of the car.

Fast action by ARA official Pat Patterson, with his ever-ready fire extinguisher, prevented serious injury to Powell who was merely shaken up.

Four species of birds are currently nesting at Brown's

Island, including the great blue heron, the black crowned night heron, the snowy egret and the American egret.

At least six of the nesting migratory birds are believed to have been shot—some while still in their nests—with a possibility that several more might have fallen victim to malicious foul play, the Department of Fish and Game reports.

The bodies of more than three dozen of the legally protected birds were discovered on the remote, swamp-circled island by Game Manager Roy Saucerman and a Woodland newspaper reporter gathering information on the unique rookery.

Evidence at the scene indicated that several of the birds, protected by federal as well as state law, had been shot to death, apparently with a .22 rifle.

The island, accessible only by boat, is mostly privately owned except for a small portion used as a spoil area by the City of Stockton.

It is reported to contain more than 200 active heron nests at the present time.

Professional Formula Racing Grand Prix cars, studded by nine potent Lotus-Fords, stage the first race of its kind on a new 5/8 mile six-turn road course at Ascot Park. Saturday night, June 26, with an eight-race program at 8 p.m. topped by a 25-lap main.

A complete F.I.A. racing sedan card supplements the formula racers. Gates open at 6 p.m., with qualifying set for 7 p.m.

A host of top drivers, led by 1964 formula junior national champion Ron Herrera of Los Angeles and Barry Blackmore of San Marino, winner of the recent Santa Barbara Road Races in class, will tool the famed Lotus-Fords.

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## Frank Ota Bats .254

First baseman Frank Ota of Torrance, Calif., was a key member of the Dartmouth College baseball team which tied for second in the Eastern Intercollegiate League and posted an 8-2 New England record.

Ota, 19, brother of last year's varsity captain, Henry, played first base although standing only 5-9. He also led the team with RBIs with 11.

Frank is majoring in history at Dartmouth. At Gardena High he ranked tenth in his class of 430. He also played baseball and basketball.

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## Malicious Shooting Of Herons Reported

Full-scale state and federal investigations into the illegal and apparently malicious shooting of an undisclosed number of herons and egrets at one of California's largest natural rookeries at secluded Brown's Island, Contra Costa County, are under way.

At least six of the nesting migratory birds are believed to have been shot—some while still in their nests—with a possibility that several more might have fallen victim to malicious foul play, the Department of Fish and Game reports.

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