

Quarterback: Danny Graham

BY HENRY BURKE
Press-Herald Sports Editor

Little has been said about Danny Graham except the game-by-game accounts of his two-year sports career at Bishop Montgomery High School. Recently he was named to an All-California Prep Football Team for 1966. When reduced to the leading "giants" returning from 1965, the task of picking the best quarterback prospect left little to those other than Graham.

What we know about him is he completed 71 of 117 passes for 1,192 yards and 13 touchdowns. Not only is Dan a fine passer, but he is a fine runner and plays on defense.

In basketball Graham is a consistent 10-point man and rarely goes through a baseball game without at least one hit. Going into his senior year Dan has three varsity baseball letters.

As a freshman Graham was quarterback of the junior varsity football team (Class B division). The team had a 6-3 record. As a sophomore Graham became the No. 1 man in the Knights' varsity backfield. He was a one-man offense then.

The 1965 record at Montgomery was 8-1. Four of the victories were against inferior teams. Rather than run up big scores against them, Coach George Swade split the offense between his first and second teams. A more greedy attitude could have led to all kind of records for Graham. Instead Montgomery High developed important reserves for the coming grid season.

The Knights have also taken on a more ambitious schedule, starting off a week from Friday against Mira Costa of the Bay League.

Three of Montgomery High's Camino Real League counterparts are in the thick of the prep picture this year. They include onetime CIF champion Fermin Lasuen, defending league champion Crespi, and rival St. Bernard's.

When asked what game he was looking forward to the most, Graham said, "Mira Costa! They are first on the schedule."

Bishop Montgomery's type of discipline shows in Dan. You have to marvel at the way he has been reared. It's a surprise he doesn't turn himself in for intercepting a pass or stealing second base!

When it comes to talking about his goals in sports, Graham states frankly that he wants to become a college All-American. If he doesn't make the grade as a professional football player, baseball will do.

Danny has not given much attention to any other professional aspirations other than maybe business.

Why sports? "Some kids like to go surfing. I like sports. I don't like to lose. In sports I play to win!" Graham said even more frankly.

Dan has received overtures from a number of universities and before the end of the year there may be more offers than imaginable.

Because his left eye is not 20-20, Dan discounts his chances of attending the Air Force or Naval Academy which have beckoned him. He sees no need for junior college and hopes his 3.3 grade average will carry to a major college as a freshman.

A product of the parochial school system, Graham attended St. Catherine Labouré School through the eighth grade. He took an entrance exam at Loyola High in Los Angeles. During the summer Graham decided against traveling to school in Los Angeles each day and applied for Bishop Montgomery instead.

Dan was satisfied with a comment he heard from Coach Swade that a proud athletic program would be developed at the school. The youngster appreciates the progress at Bishop and does not regret enrolling at the school.

Dan credits Coach Swade and his staff for helping him physically. The 17-year-old senior was put through a conditioning and weight program each summer following his freshman year. He is a solid 170-pounder now.

Graham throws what is called a hard pass. He says there is always a moment when his receiver is open. He has a knack for picking the spot. When he calls a pass play Dan has his mind made up who his prime target will be. He also figures on a safety valve, but never bothers with more than two potential receivers.

Gone from the Montgomery offense through graduation are two of Graham's favorite pass catchers—Ends Mike Leamy and Tom Hansen. Dan says he will probably throw more to his backs this year. He also believes Steve Patterson, a junior, is an excellent end prospect.

Describing his backfield, Graham says Chuck Bongard is a good quick elusive runner who will also be one of his favorite passing targets. "Bob Comstock does a big job as our open field runner and Ed Gilles should be the workhorse for short yardage," said Graham.

Dan's father, George Graham, is active in the school's booster club, but Dad leaves all decisions pertaining to sports to his son. Dan is the baby of the family. A sister and brother are both married.

At Bishop Montgomery High School, however, the baby-face wonder boy ranks as "head of the family," and the entire campus is waiting in the wing for Danny Boy to pick up where he left off at the end of last season.

County Supervisors Adjourn In Memory of Joe Venable

County Supervisors adjourned their meeting Tuesday in honor of Joseph W. Venable, Jr., Torrance Babe Ruth League manager.

"Mr. Venable's work in the youth baseball movement will long be remembered," Supervisor Burton Chace said. "He did much to make better men out of today's boys."

He served as manager for Babe Ruth League baseball teams for 14 years.

A memorial scroll of Tuesday's adjournment will be sent to his widow, Mary Venable, of 2059 Middle-



VETERAN QUARTERBACK . . . Danny Graham of Bishop Montgomery High School is rated one of the best backs in the state this season. He will be in action a week from Friday against Mira Costa High School when the non-league season gets under way. (Press-Herald Photo)

Foursome Obtained By Blades

Four players from the Chicago Blackhawk organization have been acquired for the 1966-67 Western Hockey League season by the Los Angeles Blades.

The four are Dick Meissner, left wing; Wally Chevrier, defenseman; Gary Kilpatrick, defenseman, and John Stanfield, left wing.

The quartet will join General Manager Coach Ferny Flaman's Blades against their ex-Blackhawk teammates at the Sports Arena for an exhibition match Saturday, October 1.

Meissner, 26, played with both the Boston Bruins and New York Rangers (171 games) before joining the Blackhawk organization.

Kilpatrick, 23, is a 6'1, 185-lb. youngster playing his fourth pro season. With St. Louis for the 1965-66 campaign, Kilpatrick saw action in 67 games.

Both Stanfield, 24, and Chevrier, 28, worked last season for Buffalo of the American League.

Bob McCurry, center on the 1946-48 Michigan State football squads, was Spartan gridiron captain three times.

Press-Herald

SPORTS

SEPT. 14, 1966

TRAVELING TEAM

Warriors Hike To Costa Mesa

It will be like going into seclusion Saturday when the West High Warriors travel to Costa Mesa for a series of control scrimmages against Gahr and Escancia High Schools. The three-way test will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Coach Fred Peterson of West is sticking pretty much with the same offensive lineup he announced at the start of the practice campaign.

Only Dave Boyd, sidelined with a sinus condition, has been spelled at right end by

Craig Carver. Rick Schwanbeck is at left end.

The tackles are Mike Ment and Steve Renz and the guards are Allen Coward and John Black. Center is Skip Hogue.

Gary Swanson is quarterback and he has Joel Hons at flanker back. The running backs are Gary Singleton at full and Bill deWaide at tailback.

Coach Peterson said his team is a little ahead of last year in every category except passing.

Little League Funeral Held for Keith Hagmaier

BY HENRY BURKE

A Little League funeral was held yesterday for Keith Robert Hagmaier. More than 200 friends, including 11 members of his North Torrance West Little League team, attended final rites at McMillan Memorial Chapel in Gardena.

Keith died from injuries Friday when struck by an automobile. The car went out of control near Yukon Avenue and 187th Street, jumped the curb and hurled through a fence where Hagmaier and a companion, Terry Burnett, 10, were standing.

Death of Keith prompted his parents, Earl and Hope Hagmaier, to request assistance from the boy's Little League in planning funeral arrangements. Marty Martindale, manager of the Twins team with whom Keith had one more year to play, arranged to have 11 teammates dress in formal uniform and act as honorary pallbearers.

The players wore their regular white playing uniform, a white shirt, black bow tie, and white boutonniere. The deceased was dressed in the same attire. A baseball and glove were at his side.

At graveside services the boys stood on both sides of the bier. The boutonnieres were placed on the casket.

Martindale said the ritual was a significant way for the parents to express how the family felt about Little League. He said the occasion was not ordinary and called for a formal-type theme by the Little League team.

Martindale said it was the first time most of the youngsters attended a service of this nature and there was an important lesson learned by each boy.

Officiating at the service was Rev. Sidney Lawson of the First Methodist Church. Interment was at Inglewood Park Cemetery.



KEITH HAGMAIER

FOOTBALL REPORT

Offense Stressed At Prep Workouts

At least a couple "babes" figures in the varsity football plans at North High School, according to Coach Ed Levy.

Jerry Ball appeared to have the quarterback job all to himself after taking over for the Henry Lopez last year, but Jerry's experience is matched by Dan Hansen who picked up almost as much savvy with the Bees.

The mention of Hansen brings gleam into the eyes of Levy. There's nothing like having at least two quarterbacks around, as indicative of last year when Lopez broke a leg before the first game.

The other bright spot among the newcomers is Tim Dillard who fills at an otherwise weak right end spot. Dillard will be particularly tough on defense.

The Saxons lost one of their top returning linemen—Mike O'Leary—to Rolling Hills on transfer. "We'll miss him," said Levy.

After 10 days of practice Levy named Steve Eide and Dillard at end and Steve Sharp and Walt Wheelis at tackle.

The guard positions are far from a sure thing, but John Ross, Mike Craig and Richard Brewer are among the contenders.

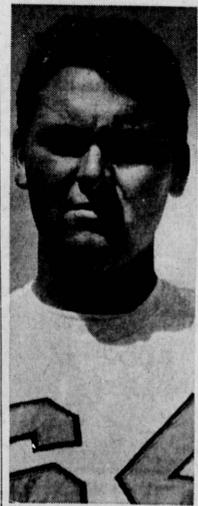
The center job is a toss up between Jim Blue and Bill Burgess.

Richard Gonzales seems to be Levy's favorite in the backfield at left half. Steve Combs is the present fullback and Chris Farasopoulos is running at right half.

Sharp and Wheelis give North two talented tackles. Rick Francis, a junior, can be counted on at tackle, too, said Levy.

The Saxons have been stressing offense. The team will operate from a multiple-T formation.

The team lacks depth, but



MIKE O'LEARY
To Rolling Hills

Levy feels the squad will make a much better all-around showing than last year.

North High's annual Blue-and-White game will be played Friday night at the school stadium.

The big tipoff at South High will come Friday night and Saturday when the Spartans are put through back-to-back scrimmages. Friday's show will also be the annual Green-and-White tussle at 7 p.m. Lightweight action is also featured.

After a good night's rest the teams will go through the paces against Bishop Montgomery Saturday morning at South. The varsity portion of a control scrimmage is 10:30 a.m.

Torrance High is dickering for an early week control scrimmage, but Coach Harold Warfle said an appointment has not been confirmed.

Warfle claims he has not had enough time in his new position as head coach to evaluate the Tartars. He has put off for a few more days the announcement of a starting line-up.

Warfle said Dave Kline is sidelined with a groin injury, making the backfield particularly uncertain at this time.

Mark Hornbeck is expected to be the big gun in the backfield. With him the Tartars will be more of a threat than a year ago.

In contention at quarterback are veteran Bill Bynum, former Tarbabe Dennis Watkins and former Cee player Kim Brooks.

Football Begins In Pop Warner

The Torrance Pop Warner football season will commence Sunday. Five pee-wee teams, two midget teams, and one junior bantam team have been fielded for the boys' tackle football program.

Home games will be at West High School. Schedule of games this week has the pee-wee Bolldermakers taking on the Lomita Falcons, the Oilers opposing the Knights, and the Mustangs going against the Vikings in home debuts. Games begin at 1 p.m.

The midget Steelers have a home opener against the Manhattan Beach Waves at 3 p.m. while the Chargers travel to Hawthorne for a game against the Hornets.

The junior bantam home opener is against the Gardena Meteors.

President of the Torrance Pop Warner Football Association is Dave Dawson. Members of the board of directors are Jim Schaeffer, Bud Watson, Paul Kohl, Norm Olsen, Monty Monahan, Richard Amos, Louise Amos, Jim Savino, Pat Espinosa, Jean Deshler and Don Merrell.

Head coaches are Tom Stanley, Bolldermakers; Marv Scott, Knights; Everett Warner, Mustangs; John Sarpolis, Oilers; Ludd Keehn, Vikings; Frank Christiansen, Chargers; Tom Chalakee, Steelers; and Bill Kostich, Tigers.

The Pop Warner teams will play a 10-game league and non-league schedule in the South Bay League.

Rams, Bears Clash Friday

"Would you rather have the Bears coming into the Coliseum with one victory under their belts? Will they be tougher because they lost their opener?"

This was one theme of questioning aimed at Rams coach George Allen after his team's 19-14 opening-day victory over Atlanta last Sunday, and Allen did not supply the anticipated answer.

"No, the Bears' loss won't make them any tougher or easier for us Friday night. And I still think they're the team to beat for the title."

"It just doesn't matter to us. They are a good team and they'll come at us. . . . We're certain of that. And we won't forget they lost their first three games last year and then won nine of their next ten."

Forty-six El Camino College Warriors travel to Phoenix, Arizona, next Friday to kick-off the 1966 football season. Game time is 8 p.m.

First home game for the El Camino squad will be Sept. 24 against Los Angeles Pierce College in Murdock Stadium.

Lakers Drill at Loyola

Training camp for the Los Angeles Lakers opens Thursday at the Loyola University. After four weeks of informal workouts it is apparent at least four rookies will be in strong contention for the final 12-man roster.

Coach Fred Schaus will have his 15 ball players together for 11 practice sessions in six days before the team departs for Duluth, Minnesota, and the start of a 13-game pre-season tour.

Highlight of the pre-season activity will be an October 2 double feature at the Sports Arena which pits the San Francisco Warriors against the Cincinnati Royals and the Lakers against the Philadelphia 76ers. Regular seat prices will prevail. Tickets are now on sale at the Sports Arena.

Number one draft choice Jerry Chambers of Utah, a shooting sensation, and ex-Trojan John Block, the high-scoring USC center, converted to a forward, have been especially impressive during early workouts.

Gary Ryerson Signed by San Francisco

Gary Ryerson, pitching star for Rolling Hills High School and the Connie Mack champion Toradena Bullets, has been signed by the San Francisco Giants to a professional contract.

He was given a bonus estimated at \$50,000. His contracts guarantees a college education, it was reported.

Gary plans to attend Arizona State University at Tempe. He will join the Giants in spring training at Casa Grande, Arizona.

Ryerson began his baseball career with Rolling Hills Little League 10 years ago.

El Camino Heads for Phoenix JC

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