

## Publicizing Prep Sports

By HENRY BURKE  
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Torrance could become a Prep Town. It was pointed out in a prior column how much our school system could be improved athletic-wise if at least the four schools were in the same league. But there's more to it than that. Fans like things to talk about too and they would be happier to know more about their favorite athletes.

While this is a typical town where the "man-in-the-street" expresses his feelings over the retiring of a Sandy Koufax or the selection of a Rose Bowl participant, he would also be willing to pluck down a buck-and-a-quarter to watch a high school basketball game worth a word or two at the barber shop the next day.

High school athletics can be every bit as exciting as a professional or college sports events. There is not a great deal of difference between the Lew Alcindor or Ron Taylor in college than the same two when they were in high school a couple years ago. The basic difference is they made it to the bigtime and their publicity extends far beyond the hometown newspaper.

Publicity can mean a great deal to a high school athletic program. You can see the difference in the attendance at a basketball tournament or in the attitude of the players by the manner they are publicized.

We have a number of prep athletes in the Torrance area who are marvelous "drawing attractions." If more could be said about them than their statistics, they would become amazingly popular.

Sure, it is all right to publish a "coach of the year," but what happens when the "worst coach of the year" is named?

See how much more interesting this column reads when it is reported that Bart Johnson of Torrance and Danny Graham of Bishop Montgomery both like the same girl friend. The touchdown passes and free throws suddenly mean a lot more.

Mike Sellers of West and Jeff Marsee of South are two of the greatest distance runners in the history of Torrance. They will compete against each other this month at the Sports Arena Invitational Track Meet. They could both run the 2-mile in 9 minutes flat, but not until it was printed that they despised each other would it sink in.

When basketball player John Pleick decided two summers ago to transfer from Bishop Montgomery to El Segundo, the first question was, "Who did the 'fast' job of recruiting?" Nobody ever found out.

It is possible that some high school coaches get away with similar antics because they are "protected" against press interference!

When opposing coaches hold grudges against each other, and refuse to see each other after the game, it is no difference than some pro teams. But it would be interesting to know if something during the game caused this reaction.

Even the satiristic expose of the South High School football team dreamed up here a little more than a year ago was simply a handy gimmick. Quite a number of people suddenly became interested in the Spartan football team. South's all-losing season of 1965 was better publicized than the past team which won three games.

The 1967 high school basketball season could be as interesting as anything uptown, if only somebody would make an issue of "How the Midgets of Beverly Hills Play Basketball," plus "What It Takes for Redondo Coach Rex Hughes to Commit a Technical Foul!" and "Why Jim Hanny Really Left South High!"

Meanwhile, there must be something we can uncover about Morningside!

## Only Los Angeles Area Will Not See Super Bowl

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, own the Coliseum," Supervi- vice president of the Colise- um Commission, has urged Pete Rozelle, commissioner of the National Football League, to change the decision impos- ing a television blackout on the Super Bowl Football Game in the Los Angeles area.

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# Sportsman of the Year: Danny Graham

Selected as the "Torrance Sportsman of the Year" for 1966 is Danny Graham, a three-sport high school athlete.

During his freshman and sophomore years a school rule limited students to participation in two sports, so Graham was restricted to football and base- ball.

But due largely to the absence of Graham from

the basketball scene that year, the restriction was lifted.

The odds against an athlete excelling in more than one or two sports are reflected in the fact not more than three or four students compete in three sports at any high school. But Danny Graham is out- standing in football, basketball and baseball. His best is football. For two years he has been among

the best quarterbacks in the state. His 27 touchdown passes this year were not approached by anyone and his 47 TD passes lifetime (3 years) are a CIF record.

Graham's second best sport is baseball. He is a consistent .300 hitter who wheels and deals as a base runner and shortstop. Dan does not have the height (5-10) to be a great scorer in baseball, but he is a playmaker, good ballhandler, and he can be counted upon for 10 points a game.

Compared with others, he resembles a John Brodie (football), Maury Wills (baseball), and typi- cal basketball player. To a fellow student at Bis- hop Montgomery High School he is Danny Graham, the quiet 18-year-old senior who contributed so much to championship baseball and football teams in 1966.

**THE OUTSTANDING "Team Effort of 1966"** is bestowed upon the Bishop Montgomery football team which had an 11-1 record and the Torrance varsity basketball team which went 33-2 during the 1965-66 campaign.

Montgomery's only football loss was 34-27 to Morningside in the semi-finals of the "AAA" playoffs. The Torrance basketball team lost to CIF champion Sierra at the same stage of the "AAAA" playoffs.

Looking back over the three most cherished in- dividual triumphs were West High's 2-1 baseball win over CIF champion El Segundo, Montgomery's 58-26 football rout of rival Fermin Lasuen, and Mike Sellers (West) mile victory in the CIF track and field meet.

Bruce Cooke pitched a one-hitter in the baseball win for West, but his team lost two other outings against the Eagles.

Montgomery ran up a 58-0 score against Lasuen before easing up in their monumental football game.

"Coach of the Year" honors go to Dick Scully of South High School. Scully is a wonderful credit to the profession of physical education and has devel- oped a number of champions in track and field and cross country. He is capable of personally running 10 or 20 miles a stretch to help train a student run- ner for an important meet. Great athletic achieve- ments require hard work, an indictment of Scully's endeavors.



**SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR** . . . Danny Graham, All-CIF foot- ball player is the Press-Herald's top athlete of 1966 for his all- around performances in football, basketball and baseball. Graham

is a senior at Bishop Montgomery High School where he played on championship football and baseball teams during the year. (Press-Herald Photos)

## Lakers Set For Busy Schedule

Four outstanding attrac- tions await basketball fans this week in what shapes up as the Lakers' most exciting week of the season.

Tonight Fred Schaus club entertains St. Louis. Thurs- day night the Lakers are in Oakland to face the San Francisco Warriors in a game that will be telecast in color over KTTV (11) and broadcast on KNX (1070).

Friday night the Lakers re- turn home to host the world champion Boston Celtics at 8:30.

Sunday the Lakers play at the Long Beach Arena at 7:05 p.m. with the New York Knicks. The Knicks come off a 121-115 over LA last week, before 16,253 fans at Madison Square Garden.

## Harbor College Opens Season

The Harbor College basket- ball team will commence Western State Conference ac- tion tonight at Santa Barbara City College.

Series totals between the schools put the Hawks ahead 2-1.

Next Friday the Seahawks will be hosts to the Beavers of Trade Tech College at 8 p.m. in the Harbor College gym.

## METROPOLITAN CONFERENCE

# Long Beach Expected to Defend Junior College Basketball Title

The unpromising task of unseating defending champ- ion Long Beach for the Metro- politan Conference basketball title got under way yesterday with a full round of games.

Second round of games is scheduled this Friday with Valley at East Los Angeles, El Camino at Santa Monica, Long Beach at Cerritos, and Rio Hondo at Bakersfield.

Nearly every team in the conference—according to the testimony of the coaches—will be improved over last season.

Trying to keep Long Beach out of the state playoffs fig- ures to be a formidable as- signment. The Vikings are bolstered by the return of four regulars and by the pres- ence of Trent Gaines, all-CIF co-player of the year at Long Beach Poly.

In their second game, the Vikes lost to Santa Ana, 69-65, but since have reeled off 11 straight victories for an over-all 12-1.

Regulars back from the team that compiled a 31-2 mark last year include Harry Williams, Joe Ware, Carey Bailey, and Mack Calvin. Other valued help comes to Coach Chuck Kane from Long

Beach Poly in Gaines, Ken Booker and Shawn Johnson. Booker was All-CIF.

"We're not as physically strong as last year," said Kane. "But we're quicker and we have good shooting."

Rio Hondo will be flooring a new team that has put to- gether a commendable 7-8 re- cord under the guidance of Coach Len Craven.

Craven's Sierra High School five won the big schools CIF title last season (defeating L.B. Poly) and had an over-all 29-1 record.

Inexperience and lack of muscle are Craven's chief concern, but his front line has adequate height with center Jay Kennedy (6-7) and for- ward Bob Ballou (6-6).

Individually, Bakersfield's Bill Winston is one of the top junior college players in Cali- fornia. But his return may not be enough to offset heavy graduation losses.

Top shooter in Coach Pete Nestande's tough double post attack is Mike Wells. The Gades are strong on the boards and on defense. They compiled a 6-4 non-confer- ence record.

The El Camino team had an 11-4 pre-conference mark.

Coach George Stanich's (6-8), Larry Crowell (6-5) and Warriors are bereft of height, Barry Quinn (6-4), Crowell, Quinn and guard Jim Boyd are the most dependable

scoring and hustle make them dangerous. Stanich lost height and physical strength with the graduation of Alan Lep- per (6-5) and Jim Lloyd (6-4).

He'll have another major re- placement to make at mid- year when center Steve Wright leaves.

One of the most interesting games scheduled tonight will be Valley (12-5) vs. Santa Monica (9-4).

But Valley boasts unusual shooting depth, with the first eight men averaging between eight and 15 points.

At Santa Monica Coach Tom McGarvin lost lettermen in wholesale lots, but his re- cord shows he's survived it re- markably well.

His rebuilding job centers around Cliff Penny, at 6-9 the tallest starter in the confer- ence. Corsair forward Frank Flack also has solid star mak- ings and goes 6-7.

Coach Jim Killingsworth rates his Cerritos Falcons (12-6) as improved, though some- what lacking in speed.

The Falcons have good shooting balance and a tall front line of Paul Ruffner

## Lomita LL Arranges Signups

Lomita Little League will hold its annual signups Jan. 22-29. To be eligible a boy must be between 8 and 15 years of age and live in the area bounded by Western Ave., Palos Verdes Drive North, and Lomita city lim- its on the west and north.

One parent must accom- pany the boy to register and provide proof of age. All boys must register at this time, in- cluding those who were on a team last year.

Registration will be ac- cepted at Navy Field Jan. 28 and 29 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Navy Field is located at West- ern Ave. and Palos Verdes Drive.

The following are signup stations for signup during the week: 1931 Turrell St.; 1968 W. 241st St.; 26220 Mur- ad St.; 2369 W. 253rd St.; 25119 Oak St.; 1751 W. 244th St.; 25847 Viana Ave.; 28 Aurorad; 2259 W. 253rd St.; and 1754 W. 256th St.

Boys whose ages are 13, 14 and 15 will compete in the Senior Division on a standard field.

**TELECAST**  
The Los Angeles Lakes vs. San Francisco Warriors pro- basketball game Thursday night will be televised 'live' and in color on KTTV at 8:30 p.m.

## Knights Earn 62-61 Verdict

Montgomery edged Notre Dame, 62-61, in a non-league basketball game last night.

Steve Sciarra and Rick Sabosky led the Knights with 20 and 19 points.

Montgomery plays Loyola at home Friday in another practice contest.

Montgomery (62) Notre Dame (61)  
Sabosky (19) F Tawelczyk (9)  
Yarmolovich (10) F Frear (14)  
Gambetti (4) C Groff (13)  
Graham (2) G J. Vella (10)  
Sciarra (20) G C. Vella (7)  
Montgomery 11 20 13 18-62  
Notre Dame 15 17 14 18-61  
Scoring subs: Montgomery —  
Worm (7); Notre Dame — Mason (5).