

Little League Playoffs Set

The Little League District 26 Major Division Tournament has been scheduled for Monday, July 15, to Saturday, July 27.

The playoffs will be concentrated at Central Redondo Little League's McCandless Field at Ripley and Inglewood Ave.

A three-game area tournament will be at San Pedro Eastview Little League's Di-Carlos Field at Gaffey and Capitol St. These games will be Saturday, July 20, and Monday, July 22.

The sub-sectional game

between the champions of District 26 and District 27 will be at McCandless Field.

The Section 6 games will be in Santa Ana. The southern California tournament will be at Lompoc and the Western Regionals will be in Portland, Oregon.

The World Series is in Williamsport, Pa., from Aug. 20 to 24.

During the two-week period from Aug. 10 to 26 the first annual Gary Cup double elimination championship tournament will be held in District 26 at Tordondo

Field, Champions from each league in the district have been invited.

The tournament will be in honor of Gary Diaz, a former South Redondo Little Leaguer who is the first victim of the Vietnam War from the Little League district.

Pairing for the all-star tournament are:

Monday, July 15—Central Redondo vs. Pacific.

Tuesday, July 16—South Redondo vs. Lunada Bay.

Wednesday, July 17—Tordondo vs. Sunset.

Thursday, July 18—Southwood vs. North Redondo.

Saturday, July 20—Riviera vs. Monday's winner; Rolling Hills vs. Wednesday's winner.

Saturday, July 20 (at Eastview)—Palos Verdes vs. Silver Spur; Eastview vs. Malaga Cove.



THEY COME IN ALL SIZES... Two members of the Tordondo Little League Senior Division Cardinals discuss the opposing pitching while getting ready to bat in a recent game. At the left is Willie Kalvin, 15-year-old pitcher who hit four home runs during the season. The little guy is Tommy Berwick, the Cards' popular 13-year-old second baseman.

Can Baseball Grow Up?

(This is the third in a series of articles on baseball in Torrance)
By HENRY BURKE
Press-Herald Sports Editor

Young boys made up their minds by idolizing Mickey Mantle and Willie Mays that playing conventional baseball was much more appealing than playing with a softball.

The trend works the other way for the working man. The ex-high school ball-player may try some type of semi-pro baseball for a couple years. He may even get into a red-hot 12-inch softball league, but the more often he strikes out the sooner he settles for some slo-pitch which is best described as a batter's delight.

Playing ball is a frustration when a player is unable to hit the ball once in a while.

Ten years ago Little League Baseball made the game more acceptable to the average kid by moving to the pitcher back from 44 to 46 feet.

Major league baseball, on the other hand, took some of the popular offense out of the game in recent years by increasing the strike zone.

Little League refused to fall back into a problem it corrected a short time before. Not only does the batter have a chance in Little League, but the "old" strike zone keeps the baseball out of the range of a boy's head.

The number of major leaguers who have been "beaten" this season has caused considerable concern among club owners. The number of Little Leaguers kept out of the hospital through mandatory use of headgear (helmet), is one of the great features of the program. It is spreading to high school and professional baseball.

Safety is one characteristic in baseball which can preserve the batter as the predominant hero in the game.

Taking everything into consideration, Little League Baseball found that the standard baseball diamond was best equipped for boys 13, 14, and 15.

Since the inception of Senior Division many approaches for handling of a program of this age group have unfolded.

It was first preached that the lack of boys' interest in baseball after the age of 12 decreased the availability of participants in subsequent play.

A graduate program was set up to draw players from no less than two Little Leagues.

Recruiting of established "star" Little League graduates became almost a custom. It was not uncommon for a league in the so-called graduate level to draw players from six or seven Little Leagues. Tremendous all-star teams were developed.

Almost obscure was the dwindling 13-year-old participation.

Babe Ruth League resolved that special training for 13-year-old players would encourage their interest. All-star tournament play for this age group was also introduced on a state basis.

The Babe Ruth League has done a good job for the 13-year-old, but recruiting has not been all enduring.

WITHIN the past year, three Senior Divisions have been organized by Little Leagues convinced that an adequate graduate program did not exist in their boundaries.

The Senior Divisions, in this case, restricted their boundaries solely to the territory of the Little League and have fielded four to five teams each. Two leagues are expected to increase to at least eight teams next spring and are entertaining the idea of a farm system.

None of the other existing programs were seriously affected by the Senior Division this year, but almost 200 more boys of the age 13, 14, and 15 played baseball this spring compared with 1966.

WHEN LITTLE LEAGUE Baseball took on the added responsibility of sponsoring a baseball program for boys 13, 14, and 15, careful research was given to the batter and base runner.

Three critical points established were:

- The pitching distance must be as favorable as possible for the batter.
- The same helmet used by Little Leaguers would be required of the senior players.
- A non-steel cleated shoe would be adopted to prevent spiking and twisting injuries.

The Phillies have pulled ahead by two games over the Mets going into the final four games of the Senior Division.

Giants, Pirates Are Tied

Torrance American Little League will take time out from its torrid pennant races tomorrow to announce the Senior Division and Major Division tournament teams between games of a holiday doubleheader at Seaside Field.

In the majors the Giants and Pirates are tied for first place with 19-4 records. The Pirates went 12 innings Sunday to beat the Tigers, 4-3, and the Giants went two innings of a resumed game to blank the Dodgers, 1-0, for a combined 9 inning win.

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SENIOR DIVISION			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Phillies	14	6	.700
Mets	12	8	.600
Astros	11	11	.500
Twins	8	12	.400
Cards	7	15	.318

MAJOR LEAGUE			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Giants	19	4	.826
Pirates	19	4	.826
Athletics	12	11	.522
Tigers	19	14	.577
Red Sox	8	14	.364
White Sox	7	15	.318
Dodgers	5	18	.217

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Browns	12	4	.750
Tigers	10	6	.625
Pirates	8	8	.500
Cubs	7	10	.413
Dodgers	6	10	.375
Yankees	6	11	.353

CONTINENTAL LEAGUE			
Team	W	L	Pct.
White Sox	14	2	.875
Giants	10	6	.625
Athletics	9	7	.563
Red Sox	6	11	.353
Orioles	3	13	.188

More than 50 of the West's top drivers, led by Bobby Hogle of Buena Park, Billy Wilkerson of El Monte, and Jimmy Oskie of Maywood, will invade Gardena's Ascot Park for Thursday night's annual "Firecracker Fifty" sprint car sweepstakes.

The large field will take to the half-mile clay oval for a full eight-event card. The fastest 21 qualifiers of the night will start the 25-mile feature race. Racing starts at 8:15 p.m. Qualifying runs are at 7 p.m.

Hogle will go after his seventh California Racing Association feature victory of the year. The 1963 CRA driving champion is currently on top in the 1958 CRA point race. He will pilot the Morales Bros. Offenhauser powered "Tamale Wagon" from Anaheim.

Wilkerson was the 100-lap Memorial Day classic winner. He drives a Chevy V8 powered racer for Ernie Duncan of La Habra.

A triple-header program is on tap at the criss-cross course.

Annual Ball Game To Help Kiwanis

To raise funds for crippled and underprivileged children throughout the Southland, Kiwanis will sponsor its 29th annual benefit baseball game August 5 between the Los Angeles Dodgers and Pittsburgh Pirates.

Tickets for this National League game at regular Dodger Stadium prices are available from Kiwanis clubs and members. The names of all Kiwanis clubs is available by calling 272-3400.

Sprint Car Races Set For Fourth

It is important that tickets for the event are obtained from Kiwanis, it was stressed by Game Chairman Hap Halligan of the sponsoring Kiwanis Crippled Children Foundation. He noted that funds to help needy children are raised only from tickets sold by Kiwanis.

Each participating Kiwanis club retains a portion of its ticket sale funds to use for youth projects within its individual community.

Help offered through Kiwanis includes medical and surgical treatment, orthopedic devices, crossed eye corrections and hospital bed costs. Expensive and long-term cases are handled through the Kiwanis Crippled Children Foundation of West Hollywood.

Mantle Gains All Star Berth

Mighty Mickey Mantle of the New York Yankees was named to the American League All-Star team for the 16th year Monday as injured Al Kaline of the Detroit Tigers was passed by for the first time since 1955.

Press-Herald SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 1968

D-1

Wild Pitch Ruins Game

Bob Gibson failed to match Don Drysdale's shutout record, but he did win the match.

Before a sellout crowd of 54,157, the Dodgers ended Gibson's scoreless streak in the opening inning Monday night, but stopped there and lost to the league-leading Cardinals, 5-1.

Gibson started with a string of 47 shutout innings and needed 12 to break Drysdale's recently established record.

The Dodger run came on a wild pitch with two out in the first inning. It was a let-down tantamount to ending an eight-course gourmet dinner with a lollipop. Gibson managed to lick it, along with his wounds, and finished with a nine-hitter for his seventh win in a row and 10th of the year.

When it was over, Gibson said Drysdale's record may stand forever.

After Gibson disposed of the first two Dodgers on a grounder and a pop-up, Len Gabrielson and Tom Haller singled to right, placing runners at the corners.

Because the ball was slick from the moisture on the outfield grass, Gibson asked second base umpire Doug Harvey for a change. Harvey told him only the plate umpire can change baseballs, an

Angels Acquire Sherry

The Angels, in search of relief pitching, have acquired ex-Dodger World Series star Larry Sherry and rookie Andy Messersmith from their Seattle farm team.

Pitcher Jack Hamilton, 29, was sold outright to Seattle and Jim Weaver was optioned to the PCL club. Hamilton is 3-1 this season but he has been hampered by a rib injury.

Sherry, who will be 33 this month, joined the Seattle team after being released by Houston this spring. He has pitched 35 innings while compiling a 1-2 record and 1.29 ERA.

Messersmith, 22, working both as a starter and in relief for Seattle, has a 6-7 record with a 2.96 ERA for 85 innings.

U. S. Olympic Team Wins

The touring U.S. Olympic basketball squad made it two straight over the Finnish national team Monday night by downing the Finns, 82-60, behind a second half fast-break attack led by center Spencer Haywood and guards Mike Barrett and John Clawson.

Agajanian Schedules Two Races

One of the big motorcycle racing programs of the season is scheduled Friday and Saturday.

J. C. Agajanian has programmed a twin bill over the Fourth of July weekend.

There will be flat-track racing on Friday and steeplechasing on Saturday. Both shows start at 8:15.

As an added highlight, there will be the unique sidecar cycle starts on Saturday evening. The two-man jobs have been providing a unique, if sometimes scary, type of competition.

Saturday's steeplechase meet will be a final shake-down for many of the riders before the 50-lap U. S. steeplechase championship at Ascot in late July.

Agajanian announces that prize money for the Nationals has been raised to \$7,500, making it the richest steeplechase race in the country this year.

appeal that was to be answered by Shag Crawford.

Gibson's first pitch with the new ball was inside to lefthander Ron Fairly, hit the dirt and eluded catcher Johnny Edwards. Gabrielson dashed home and jumped on the plate with both feet.

"It was a fast ball that got away from him," said Edwards. "It hit the inside edge of the batter's box. I couldn't get to it."

"I don't know how I ever managed to pitch five shutouts in a row," he said. "I don't see how anyone can do it. It's tough to pitch one shutout and it takes a lot of luck."

"For Drysdale to pitch six in a row is unbelievable. It's possible no one will ever break it."

Gibson said he threw as hard as he ever has, was thinking of the shutout at the start, but couldn't gain his control.



BOAT RACER... Clem McCullah of Torrance, owner of the race boat "Psych Edelic" leaves a fantastic wake as he spins out in circle racing competition.

Clem is favored to win the Independence Day Regatta at Long Beach Marine Stadium. Racing begins at 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Boat Racing Began as Hobby

In 1956, Clem McCullah bought a cruising boat of relaxation and fishing. But Clem could not relax. He entered the Off-shore Long Beach to Newport Boat Race in March of that year and won in a cruising craft. In June he took a first in the Catalina Cruiser Race, with his wife, Audrey, as co-pilot.

After a summer of such victories, Clem bought his first inboard — a Chrysler-powered SK Racing Runabout, "Flying Home II," and entered it in the Salton Sea Race. During practice, Clem flipped and "Flying Home" didn't make it.

In 1960, he flipped another new boat, "Flying Home III" and, although the boat was totalled out, Clem escaped serious injuries.

In 1963, with still another "Flying Home" — this time "IV" — Clem joined APBA to race in the SK class. At Long Beach Marine Stadium, he won the featured SK Inboard Race in the Regatta of Champions.

As if to say he was jinxed, Clem flipped again and this time it took a patrol boat and liver all night to locate the boat and complete rescue operations.

At the Marine Stadium in

1964, he drove Ron Woodruff's SK ("Rat Fink") to win in the Circle Racing Competition. Because the McCullah-Woodruff Team looked promising, Ron had Leonard Schiada (famed "Schiada Boats") build a Super Stock for Clem to pilot.

Powered by Chevy and named "Psychedelic," she took second, third, first and third on her first four times out. A first and second followed at Long Beach in April '68—second at Parker, Arizona, a first in the Memorial Day competition

at the Marine Stadium and a first at San Diego June 18, 1968—all in Circle Competition.

Clem and his wife and children reside in Torrance where Clem works at American Standard.

In the Super Stock class, Don St. John of Inglewood had been the favorite with "Shockwave," but the McCullah-Woodruff Team has upset the St. John victories. They're expected to do so again in the Independence Day Regatta tomorrow at Long Beach Marine Stadium when racing starts at 11 a.m.