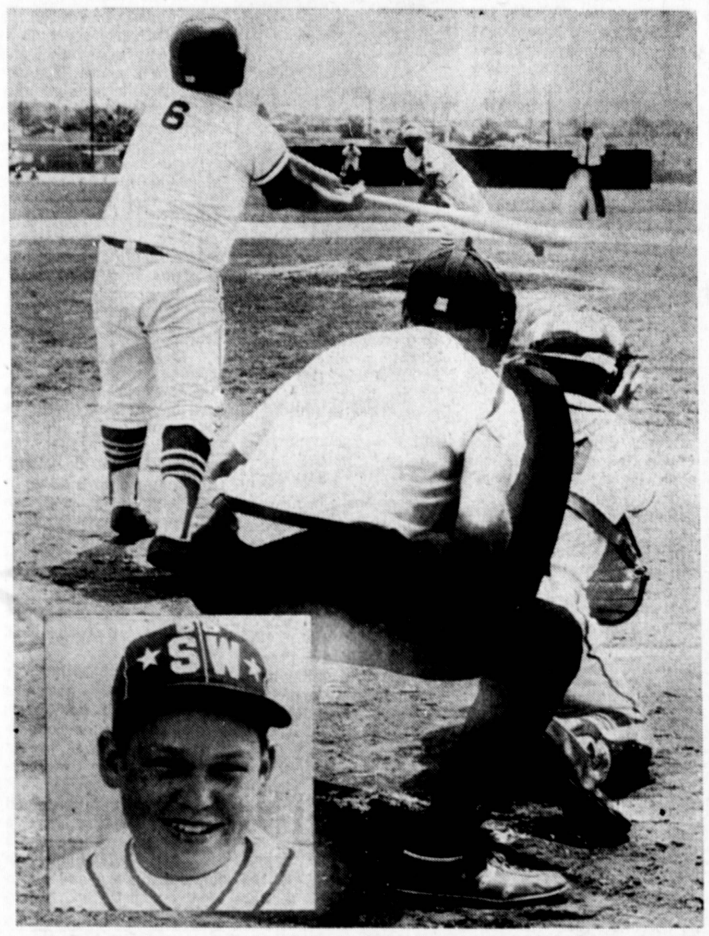
Southwood Little League 'All-Stars' Oppose Hawthorne



HEAVY HITTER . . . Rick Livingstone (6) of Southwood Little League has led his all-star team to five tournament victories. He has four home runs in five games. Southwood will meet Hawthorne American Little League in a Section 6 game this evening at Santa Ana. In this photo the pitcher is Ryan Shuler and the catcher is Brad Cameron of Riviera. The umpires are Bob Hultgren behind the plate and Ed Shober at second. Southwood won this game, 3-0. (Press-Herald Photo)

North Torrance East, Riviera Are Eliminated

Southwood an d Hawthorne American Little League battle each other this evening in a California Section 6 semi-final game at Santa Ana Northeast Little League Field.

Southwood won the District 26 championship Saturday at McCandless Field in Redondo with a 3-1 win over Riviera and came back Monday to blank North Torrance East (District 27 champion) by a 5-0 score.

Steve Haston pitched both Southwood victories. His 3-1 win over Riviera came in the sixth inning when Jeff Martinsen socked a bases-loaded single to break a 1-1 tie and score David Carson and Haston.

Southwood led 1-0 in the first inning when Chuck Fick came home on a balk. Pitcher Ryan Shuler homered in the bottom of the inning for Riviera.

* * *

NORTH TORRANCE East won its District 27 title in the fifth inning when the team's only hit of the game was a two-run homer by Charley Barbosa. The ball hit hit the top of the fence before going out.

East scored victories over Pacific Coast, 8-1; Torrance Central, 1-0; Victoria Park, 5-4; and Carson, 2-1.

* * *

SOUTHWOOD beat North Redondo, 12-2; Lunada Bay, 3-1; Eastview, 2-0; and Riviera, 3-1.

Haston pitched a 2-hitter for his third tournament win Monday night against North Torrance East.

The game was scoreless until the top of the fourth when Chuck Fick singled and went to second on a passed ball. Rick Livingstone was intentially walked and Haston singled to load the bases. Fick scored on a wild pitch.

In the top of the sixth Livingstone was hit by the pitcher and Lee Hanley ran for him. Tom Bliss singled home Hanley and scored himself on Donald Lynes' single.

Dan Thomas, who had two hits, hit a home run over the left field fence.

Haston did not allow a North Torrance baserunner to get to second base. He gave up one base on balls.

The game ended on a beautifully executed ground ball double play with Tom Bliss, Paul Sutton and first baseman Don Moore handling the ball.

Hawthorne American (District 37) defeated Compton Victory Park, 8-0, at Ladera Field.

In the lower bracket Bolso (District 55) defeated Long Beach Dutch Village (District 38) 3-0, and Santa Ana Sunset (District 30) defeated Whittier Laffingwell (District 56) by a 6-1 score.

SECTION 6

Southwood	000 104—5	8	1
N. Torrance East	000 000—0	2	2

Haston and Fick; Humphries, Nakagawa (6) and Bowen.

DISTRICT 26

Southwood	100 002—3	6	0
Riviera	100 000—1	4	2

Haston and Fick; Shuler, Lehto (5) and Cameron.

DISTRICT 27

Carson	001 000—1	5	0
N. Torrance East	000 02x—2	1	0

Saffell and Cox; Gizzi and Bowen.

Press-Herald SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1968 J-1

Pac-Am Takes Crown

Chris Rossberg pitched his fourth tournament victory to give Torrance Pacific American Babe Ruth League the 13-year-old championship of Southern California Saturday at El Segundo.

Pacific-American was unbeaten in seven games, defeating Santa Fe Springs, 6-4, in the finals.

Santa Fe Springs scored four runs in the first inning, but Pac-Am got four back in the third inning to take a 5-4 lead.

After giving up the four runs, Rossberg blanked his opponents for six innings.

The victors got 10 hits, including two by Jeff Donnan, John Kirk and Brad Wutherich.

The four-run rally by Pacific-American in the third included singles by Donnan, Steve Roach, Kirk, and John Heim. Two walks, two errors and a stolen base also figured in the inning.

The Babe Ruth 13-year-old tournament is double elimination and is limited to a Southern California play-off.

DRUGS USED

The Board of Stewards at Caliente Race Course suspended three trainers and a veterinarian after finding amounts of the drug Azium in the urine of three horses which each finished in the money earlier this month.

GROUP SHOT . . . Representing Torrance schools in next week's Lions All-Star football game will be Glynn Winter (70) of South High, and Tom Hundley (71), Terry Cooper (76), Rick Schwanbeck (86), Dave Boyd (22), Princess Gayla Chilcotte and Gary Marconi (40) of West High. (Press-Herald Photo)

Finances Lacking in Legion Ball

(This is the seventh in a series of articles on baseball in Torrance.)

By HENRY BURKE
Press-Herald Sports Editor

Torrance should have five American Legion baseball teams — one for each high school.

Even with five Legion teams the need for increased participation in baseball for boys 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 is imminent.

Two years ago Torrance had a strong Connie Mack League program for the older boys. Twice the Tordena Bullets won World Series recognition. But a territorial dispute and the absence of old management dissolved much of the program.

* * *

JUNIOR LEGION baseball has been around for many moons, but it has never been a polished baseball program in Torrance. It was not until a team from South High won the state tournament championship last summer that Legion ball was taken seriously around here.

But teams are sponsored in conjunction with four high schools for the primary sake of keeping high school prospects in shape. The teams are supervised by high school coaches.

American Legion Post 170 of Torrance is the sponsoring agency, but the actual financing of teams is done on a piecemeal basis.

If Post 170 had to finance four or five Legion teams, it would play havoc with the organization's budget.

The Torrance Post found it most appropriate last year to put on a dinner for its teams and bought trophies for the champions last year, but the real heroes in this program are the people who coffed up the nickles and dimes to pay for the balls and bats and entry fees.

Not only are improvements needed in the financing of these four Torrance teams, but the idea of splitting them up into two leagues is equally outmoded.

American Legion teams deservedly have "priorities" over all standard size ball diamonds in Torrance. The quality of play in American Legion is often better than high school ball, particularly among teams that cater to high school gradautes.

Draft Eyed By Van Lue

By TIM O'DONNELL
Press-Herald Staff Writer

"I'm sure looking forward to this year's expansion draft; that should be my big break." So says Nick Van Lue, former Carson High star baseball player as he ponders his future in professional baseball.

However, Nick is currently making his OWN breaks, and doing quite a job at that. He is currently the regular first baseman for the Spartanburg Phillies in the Philadelphia Phillies organization, Spartanburg, South Carolina.

With the season a little more than half over, Van Lue is leading his league in six (count 'em) categories: 20 homers, 65 runs batted in, 28 doubles, 55 runs scored, 160 total bases, and 8 sacrifice flies. But he's not entirely pleased with this seemingly outstanding performance.

"I'm only hitting .285, and I know I can hit over .300 in this league." Although he is the league's best home run hitter, Nick does not "press" for homers. "I just try to meet the ball, and the home runs just seem to come."

Originally signing with the Atlanta Braves, Nick signed with Philadelphia last summer as a free agent, began to play regularly (he has not missed a game in a season and a half), and started his war on opposing pitchers.

Last year, coming up in midseason, Nick tied the home run record and led the team in batting average. He was voted most valuable player.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. "Peck" Van Lue, 413 W. 233rd St. At Carson High Nick was selected for the all-city team three years straight, twice as a first sacker and once as a pitcher. He was all-city co-player of 1965.

GOING FOR A RIDE . . . Nick Van Lue, three times All-City selection and 1965 co-player of the year launches home run No. 20 in his stint with the Philadelphia Phillies' minor league club in South Carolina. Van Lue, a graduate of Carson High School in 1965, hopes his break into the major leagues will come with this year's plans of expanding both the senior and junior circuits. In his third season of professional baseball, Nick is hitting home runs, doubles, sacrifice flies and batting in runs all at league-leading clips. He also holds the lead in total bases and runs scored.

Football Teams Loaded With Torrance Players

As the Lions' All-Star Football Game approaches, Aug. 8, it is a good bet Torrance athletes will have a key role in the outcome.

Fourteen football players from Torrance's five high schools will be featured among the 60 all-stars who clash in the traditional East-West prep rivalry at El Camino College.

If you're a die-hard Torrance fan, you'll have to cheer for the West All-Stars, since it has 10 of the city's residents on its roster, including All-CIF back Dave Boyd of West High.

Boyd figures to be the backbone of the West attack, coming off his outstanding season last year. He gained 1,843 yards and scored 28 touchdowns in 1967. He will be running the plays of his high school coach Fred Peterson.

Other Torrance high school products who will see plenty of action on the West squad will include linebacker Pat Kealy from Bishop Montgomery, lineman man Terry Cooper of West, guard Glynn Winter of South, and safety Steve Patterson from Montgomery.

Also scheduled for West duty are tackle Tom Hundley, end Rich Schwanbeck and defensive back Gary Marconi of West; and defensive back Jim Roach and halfback Mike Ramirez of Montgomery.

On the East, four Torrance all-stars will log plenty of playing time. They are defensive backs Rick Creighton, Dan Hanson and Guy Sutryk of North; and guard John Gist of Torrance.

The game figures to be a wide-open contest, pitting a powerful East offense against a rough-and-tumble West defense.

More than 5,000 fans are expected to be on hand to watch the East go after its first victory in the four years of the classic. Game time is 8:20 p.m.

In preparation, both squads are undergoing two-a-day drills. Coach Gene Vollnogle has the East working out on his home field at Carson High, while Peterson has his charges drilling at West High.

Pony League Series Won By West 9

West Torrance Pony League used a pair of walks and an error to score two runs against San Pedro for a 2-1 victory at Manahan Field in Torrance Sunday.

George Lusic outpitched Larry Farrah, 3 hits to 1, and struck out 17 batters in losing the game.

West Torrance moves into the sectional playoffs along with Rolling Hills, which ousted Redondo, 10-7, at Live Oak Park.

The sectional are scheduled this week at Manahan Field, 190th Street and Van Ness.

West Torrance	000 200 0—2	1	2
San Pedro	000 001 0—1	3	1

Farrah and Green; Lusic and Stevens.

South Takes Control of Legion Play

The American Legion baseball team from South High, controling team in the Area 4 playoffs, needs a victory over the losers' bracket finalists to qualify for the state tournament.

South defeated both the Long Beach Flyers and Morningside in championship round games and will decide the title against one of them tonight at Blair Field. South must win either the first or second game to finish on top.

South scored eight runs in the early innings to beat Morningside Sunday, 8-4. Dennis Rector pitched the victory.

Dick Foulk beat the Long Beach Flyers, 6-0, on Saturday.