

GRIDIRON BATTERY . . . North High Coach Ed Levy makes sure his quarterback, Rick Estrada, is ready to begin throwing to his favorite receiver, split-end Greg Taylor, Taylor and Estrada are

among 11 returning lettermen, although Levy has seven starters from a championship team that boasted seven All-League stars, all of whom have graduated. (Press-Herald Photo)

Prep Football

1967 Bay Loop Champions Lose Seven All-Leaguers

(This is the fifth in a series of six articles dealing with the football prospects for the coming season at Carson, West, North, South, Torrance, and Bishop Montgomery high schools. Today's story covers North High's 1967 Bay League Champion Saxons.)

By Tim O'Donnell
Press-Herald Sports Writer

North High's Saxon grid-ers were the championship team in the Bay League last season, sporting a 7-0-1 record. Coach Ed Levy's squad was lifted to this spot on the strong shoulders of players like quarterback Dan Hansen, halfback Eddie Maldonado, slotback Tim Dillard, and four other All-Bay League selections. This year, these names are gone.

"We have 11 returning lettermen from last year's squad," Levy told the Press-Herald, "but few of these boys were starters from that '67 team. We have some good talent coming up from the Jayvee and Bee teams, but that's about it."



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Still, the Saxons were last year's champs, and go into the season as top dogs—the team to beat.

"Santa Monica will be tough," said Levy, "along with Mira Costa, and West High is the darkhorse. But we're the champions, and they have to knock us off to get up there."

Helping Levy—in his 13th year as head grid coach at North—to keep from getting knocked off will be quarterback Rick Estrada, a starting defensive back last year; Greg Taylor, a split end whom Levy is also considering at safety; offensive and defensive guard Randy Quarry; and Steve Jackson, a slotback who was a varsity split end last season.

Mark Glazier, who was a halfback last year, will be converted to fullback. Two fine Bee players, Elvin Yoshida and Dave Skaggs, will be at halfback and alternate quarterback, respectively. Both will start on defense.

Prospective linemen include Bruce Fahrni, a tackle who will go both ways; offensive guard and defensive tackle Lary Post; right tackle and defensive end Dan Cleland; and two-way tackle Ty Nicosia, a returning letterman.

Greg Sutrich will handle tight-end duties, while Bill Weyberg will tie down left end. Neil Creighton will be at center. Levy has estimated his line will weigh around 190 pounds.

West High's entrance into the Bay League after winning the 1967 Pioneer League championship brought an immediate response from Levy:

"They will be a darkhorse simply because they are new; no one has seen them play in this league, and they did win their league last year. They figure to be right up there since they have their quarterback, their secondary, and several other key players returning."

Seven stars is a lot of talent to lose in one June, especially from a championship squad that build its style of play around them. But head coach Ed Levy has gone through 13 June graduations and has lived through all of them. He and his Saxons will come out of this one too—and don't be surprised if Levy's crop of newcomers shocks a few of the favorites. Are you reading, Santa Monica? Mira Costa? West?

(Next Week: South High School's Spartans.)

Allen Lauds His Secondary

"Your piano player has to play piano. You just can't forever be shuffling him from piano to drums to banjo."

Thus does maestro George Allen explain how his harmonious "Firehouse Four" played the sweetest music this side of Green Bay in 1967.

In the pre-Allen year of 1965, Rams defensive backs allowed rivals to complete 58.7 per cent of their pass attempts and, meanwhile, they intercepted only 11 passes in a 14-game schedule.

Last year, opponents managed only 47.6 per cent completions and the Rams intercepted a league-leading 32.

"It's obvious our deep defense was improved last year," Allen says, "and I expect them to improve again this year. They still are learning more about each other every week."

These are the capsule comments of Allen and Assistant Coach Tom Catlin on the four regular defensive backs:

"Eddie Meador had his best year since he's been in the league," Allen says. "A coach could not ask for a more dependable man than Eddie. He not only had eight interceptions (third best in NFL), he was in on a total of 100 tackles and that's a lot of hitting."

"But the thing that impressed me more than anything else was his performance after I asked him to take over punt returning. His reaction was typical of Eddie."

"He said to me, 'Sure, coach, I'll give it a try. It's been a while since I've tried it and I can't guarantee the distance on the runbacks, but I can guarantee I'll catch 'em.'"

"Eddie not only caught 'em," Allen continues, "but he wound up eighth in the league in returns. Out of 21 punts he handled he had only seven fair catches and he returned the other 14 for pretty good yardage."

"Irv Cross also doubled up by returning punts and he finished sixth in the final league stats."

"I thought Irv had a real fine year. He's another totally dependable man. He just loves the game, hustles every minute both in games and in practice and he has a great influence on the rest of the team."

Catlin's final breakdown of films indicates Lamson followed Meador closely with a total of 80 tackles and assists and Catlin was not surprised by the final count.

"Chuck is a good force man and he's a rugged tackler. He's got a lot of courage and he plays just as hard when he's injured," Catlin claims.

Allen predicts a big season for halfback Clarence Williams, whose interceptions total dropped from eight in 1966 to four in 1967. Catlin concurs.

"Clarence played several games when he was injured," Tom points out, "and he's grasping the total defense concept better. He's got a world of talent and will improve for the next four or five years before he reaches his peak."

Three players . . . Willie Daniel, Claude Crabb and Kelton Winston . . . backed up the four starters and each of the reserves had his moments of glory in '67.

Daniel started a crucial game at Wrigley Field, made an interception, covered strongly and was awarded the game ball after the victory. Crabb was the man who picked up the blocked punt against Green Bay and returned it to the five yard line to set up the game-winning pass. Winston had two interceptions in his lone pre-season start and contributed to special teams effectiveness.

Wild Mustangs Named 'Champs'

Torrance Wild Mustangs won the Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation (SCMAF) 16-inch Slo-Pitch Softball Tournament by defeating the Los Angeles Oldtimers 1-0 in the championship game played at Gardena's Rowley Park Thursday night.

In the bottom of the first inning Mustang centerfielder Bob Haydock doubled up the middle. Then with two outs, Bill Reinert, left handed first baseman, hit a line drive to right centerfield, scoring Haydock. That was the scoring for the game.

Los Angeles almost tied the score in the top of the seventh. With two out and Bero on third base, Silas hit a hard ground ball deep into the hole at shortstop. Gino Barnett, rookie Mustang shortstop, came up with the "play of the game" by fielding the ball off his chest and firing quickly to first base just ahead of the runner to end the LA threat and game.

Chuck Schoendienst, Mustang pitcher, limited Los Angeles to three hits, while the Wild Mustangs collected seven.

On their way to capturing the SCMAF Championship, the Wild Mustangs defeated Gardena Buggy Wheel 8-1, Redondo Beach Buoy 5-2, Gardena Royals 3-1, and Los

Angeles Oldtimers 1-0. The Gardena Royals, 1967 defending SCMAF champs, had to go 13 innings before beating Car Care Service from Ontario in the quarter finals.

Twenty six teams from Los Angeles to San Diego participated in the tournament. Other Torrance teams included Tappa Keggas, South Torrance Lions Club, and North End. The Tappa Keggas reached the semi-finals before being eliminated by Los Angeles 8-1.

Large team trophies and individual player trophies were awarded to the Wild Mustangs and the Oldtimers. In addition each Mustang player received the Official 1968 SCMAF Championship patch.

The Los Angeles Oldtimers are the 1968 West Coast League Champs while the Wild Mustangs won the league in 1967, the first year the team moved up to West Coast competition from Torrance Recreation League play.

Recently the Wild Mustangs won the West Coast Double Elimination Invitational Tournament in Torrance for the second straight year without a single defeat.

Wild Mustang players include Russ Bierley, Chuck Schoendienst, Bill Reinert, Claude Ragsdale, Steve Giacomini, Gino Barnett, Bob Williams, Stan Katz, Forrest Hunt, Bruno Giacomini, Andy Meyer, Cal Eubanks, Bob Haydock, John Emerson, Billy Price, and Viv Ordaz. Dr. Rod Stetson managed the team during the tournament.

Area Team Defeats Mexicans

Redondo Beach Sister City Basketball team defeated an All-Star Aggregation in La Paz, Baja California last week as part of the People-to-People Program.

Led by past and present Redondo and Aviation high school stars, the squad defeated the Mexicans 55 to 46 Thursday, 46 to 45 Friday, and 75 to 46 Saturday. All games were played at 8:00 P.M. under outside lights at La Paz College.

The locals were led by Southern California's "Player of the Year" Paul Westphal of Aviation who scored 40 points. Close behind were Alan Oddi 35, Anthony Chaffins 30, Rob Fowler 20, Harry Jenkins 19, Steve Sims 18 and Sam Bunch 6. Jenkins acted as Player-Coach for the team.

Redondo Beach City Councilman David K. Hayward, who is Sports Chairman of the Sister City Committee was the official escort.

Hosts in Mexico were La Paz Sister City Committee and the Mexican National Tourist Bureau.

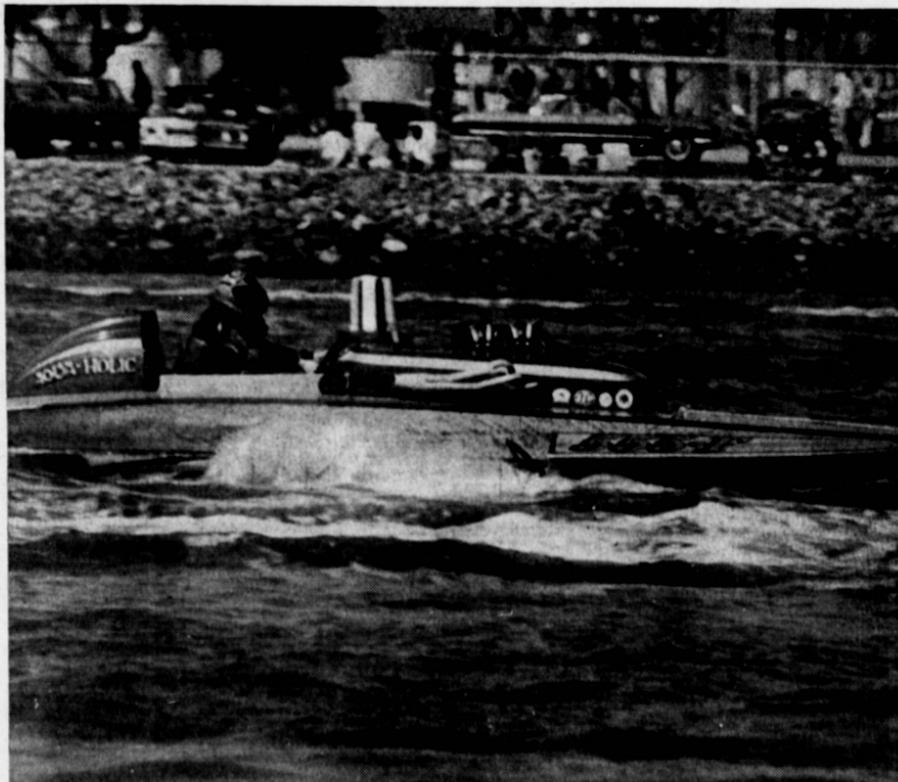
Girls Wind Up 1968 Season

Victor Park's Soc-it-to-me's won the deciding game in the Girls' Yellow Ribbon Softball City Championships against the Fumblebees from Greenwood Elementary 21-6.

Four teams representing areas from Greenwood, Anza, McMaster and WALTERIA participated in the softball tourney.

Playing in the two preliminary games the Fumblebees won their game versus the Unknowns from McMaster Park, 15-12, and in the second game the Soc-it-to-me's beat the team from WALTERIA Park 15-8.

Over 400 girls, ages 11 to 14, participated in the Yellow Ribbon Program sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Department. This was the first time that city-wide playoffs were held.



BREEZING TO VICTORY . . . Dick Powell of San Pedro, shown here coasting to his win at Marine Stadium Aug. 4 in the 1968 Nationals, will be featured in his "Aqua-Holic" speedboat in the last

"Closed Course" circle racing event of the 1968 season. The event is scheduled Sunday at Long Beach Marine Stadium.

Ourselves In Long Beach Capture Tourney

In the 3rd Invitational Young Men's Slo-Pitch Tournament, sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Department, the Lillies, after losing one game in the semi-finals, made an 8-2 comeback against Ourselves to win the championship.

Ourselves, the surviving team in the losers bracket, defeated the T.H.E. Beavers, defending champs from last year's tournament, 7-5, at WALTERIA Park. Ourselves, led by pitcher Mark Sleeth and Chuck Fernandez and Jerry Turner, also came out on top versus the Lillies, the surviving team in the winners bracket, with a score of 5-1.

Both teams with one loss each in the double elimination tournament vied in the deciding championship contest at WALTERIA. The Lillies, featuring the steady play of Capt. Pat Reynolds, Dan Brooks, Jerry Ryan and Dan Disrud, scored six runs in the sixth inning to break a tied score and defeated Ourselves 8-2.

Speedboat Racing Season Ends at Marine Stadium

Bay area speedboat champions will be battling Sunday for the last time this year. A remarkable season of wins takes them into the Marine Stadium for competition between — what is reported to be — the most impressive lineup of top boat racing names ever in one race.

Congratulations go to Dick Powell of San Pedro. As if it were not enough for Dick to expertly drive "Aqua-Holic" (owned by Mike Waters of Manhattan Beach) — a 266 hydroplane (the most powerful class, running at speeds over 140 mph!) — he piloted a Super Stock for the first time August 4, at Long Beach Marine Stadium, to capture the 1968 Nationals in that class.

Each of the ten classes competing in this type of racing are alike in that they all approach the starting line at nearly full speed, battle down the straightaways, converge on the one-bouy turns and have five laps to take the lead . . . but this is

where the similarity ends. "Closed Course" Circle Racing boasts six classes of hydroplanes (48 to 280 cubic inches), Super Stocks, Crackerboxes, SK and E Racing Runabouts for unparalleled spectator excitement . . . but drivers (the most expert included) rarely switch from class to class.

It was a tremendous blow to Super Stock veteran egos when a hydro pilot stole their Super Stock title!

Seated in Len Schiada's "Your Move," Powell proved an all-around boat racing ability — one that will not go unchallenged. Clem McCullah of Torrance has loudly voiced his opinion of Dick and claims "Psychedelle" can't be beat September 8, when the 19th Annual Labor Day Regatta will be run Sunday at Long Beach Marine Stadium.

This is the last opportunity for Clem to pit Ron Woodruff's Super Stock, "Psychedelle" (Palos Verdes) against the '68 title holder.

Sunday marks the last "Closed Course" Circle Racing event of the 1968 season and we'll have our eye on Dick Powell in both the Super Stock and 266 hydroplane classes.

Long Beach Marine Stadium beaches, grandstands and concession stands are available to fans for only \$2, children under 12 admitted free, for the race that will climax the entire 1968 Power Boat Racing Circuit. Members of the racing teams are friendly and welcome new fans — pits are open to the public at no extra charge.

Pits and main gate open early in the morning, engines roar at noon and racing draws to a close about 5:30 p.m.

Directions: take the San Diego Freeway to the Bellflower turnoff, turn west to Pacific Coast Highway, travel south on Coast Highway to Colorado or Westminster, turn west and follow the signs.