

# Lack of Tested Material Hampers Tartars as Track Season Begins

## L. A. RELAYS SATURDAY TO OPEN SPORT

Coach Pete Zamperini is not beating any drums for his Torrance high school track squads in the faint hope that his minuscule aggregation of inexperienced track and field contenders will perform any miracles this coming season. Instead he is just hoping for the best that will come his way—a very few firsts, a scattering of seconds and a brace of third positions.

Last week he sent a couple of relay teams against Narbonne and San Pedro in a practice meet but lack of experience and lack of track material did not permit the Tartars to come galloping home flushed with high anticipation any remarkable scores in Marine League meets next month.

Saturday, Coach Zamperini is taking a contingent to the Los Angeles high school field at the L. A. City Relays, starting at 10 o'clock. Torrance is in the fifth division for this event, will compete against teams from Banning, Gardena, El Segundo, Canoga Park, Jackson, Verdugo Hills and Wilson for the medals that are to be awarded the first three place winners in track events, the first five in field events.

**Field Entries Uncertain**  
Tartar entries will be as follows: Class A Shuttle Relay, Ted Yasunaga, Roland Justice, Teruo Hata and Bill Stewart. Four-man two-mile relay: Joe Von Kralingen, Ralph Pina, Richard Pierson and John Hall.

Class C 440: George Tompe, Heroshi Hamada, Bill Parton and Yasunaga. Class B and C One and one-half mile: Don Hitchcock, Gerald McDonald, Eugene Hatter and Leo Stecker. Class B 660: Hatter, Fred Russell, Richard Miller and Stecker. Class A four-man 850 relay: Leroy Richardson, Rex Monson, Stewart and John Hall.

Individual Torrance entries in the field events are uncertain but possibilities are: Roland Andrews and Gene Borchard in the Class B shot put; Leroy Richardson in the Class A shot put and Bill Parton in the Class C broad jump.

The official roster of the 1939 Tartar track and field teams was announced this week by Coach Zamperini. Revealing mostly aspirant hopefuls, the list of prospects for whatever honors may come the Tartars' (Continued on Page 6-B)

# The Herald's Sport Page

## SPORT SHOTS

By BOB LEWELLEN  
Attention, Lovers of Wild Life . . .

How many of you sport fans, hunters and lovers of wild life, know that this is the Second Annual National Wild Bird Conservation Week? It is, and dates from March 19 to 26, according to Bascom J. Scott, Torrance's most ardent sportsman and owner of the Torrance Electric Shop. Scott has stamps to sell to you hunters who wish to help this most ardent sportsman and owner of the Torrance Electric Shop. Scott has stamps to sell to you hunters who wish to help this most ardent sportsman and owner of the Torrance Electric Shop.

**Torrance High Has Potential 880-Yard King . . .**  
Things are looking good for Coach Pete Zamperini, as far as the 880-yard dash is concerned. Young Johnny Hall, 18 year old senior, and one of the main-springs of the coming Tartar season is in the first high school time of 2:02. Hall believes that before the season ends he will be able to step the distance under even time. Coach Zamperini informed Sport Shots that he believes the young man will take the Southern California meet this year.

**Class "C" Runner Going Strong . . .**  
A few weeks ago the writer of this column remarked in "type" that a local Freshman, Gerald McDonald was going to show members of the Marine League and Southern California how to run the 880-yard dash. He is already "strutting" his stuff. Two weeks ago Gerald broke the old Class "C" record held by Louis Zamperini, traveling the distance in 1:34. Well, he really turned the heat on and finished strong in 1:33. The present record is 1:34.2. The above time of Gerald will not count as records, inasmuch as they were made in practice, but he certainly is throwing the old glove in the faces of other runners in the southland.

**Former Tartar Baseball Star Going Places . . .**  
You followers of the National Pastime, will remember "small, but mighty" Elmer McGahn, who pitched for Torrance high school, during the days of Bernie Donahue. Back in 1927 McGahn pitched a no-hit, no-run game against El Segundo. Last year McGahn played for Bellingham, Washington, had a good year, and won 16 out of 20 games for the club. This year the former Tartar mound king is trying out for the Hollywood team. According to reports of the "grape-vine", he is really making a bid for a steady berth in the Coast league.

**Showed Fans That He Is Ready for Fast Year . . .**  
Last week in the Long Beach Relays, Torrance's number one citizen and hero of all high school athletes of the nation, Louis "Champ" Zamperini, showed track fans of Southern California, that he will threaten the established world mark in the mile dash—used to be called run.

In the first half mile of the Frosty Martin Invitation mile run, Louis ran 2:07 . . . at the three-quarter mark he was officially clocked in 3:14, and was going away strong. He was his coach, Dean Cromwell gave him the high-sign to take it easy . . . so Zamperini eased down on his speed, running the last quarter in 68 seconds. He had a new meet record of 4:20. The local runner usually burns up the track in the last lap, around 55 to 57 seconds. If he had been allowed to run his own race, he would have been clocked at the fast early season time of 4:11 or 4:12 . . . But he did one thing, and that was what the lovers of track on the Pacific Coast wanted . . . proved that he is able to give the "big boys" of the east a run for their money. So mark this down in your little leather book . . . Louis Zamperini will go undefeated this year in the mile run, and may break the 4:00 mark in the event . . . Watch out Glenn Cunningham!

## Banning, Pedro Tied In League Baseball Race

Tomorrow afternoon the Torrance Tartars face their toughest baseball opponent of the season when they will go to San Pedro to play the up-and-coming Pirates. Banning will take on Gardena at Wilmington and Narbonne will go to El Segundo.

Taking an early lead and hanging on throughout the full seven innings, Coach Wayne Sloss' Narbonne high school baseball team scored its first win of the season last Friday afternoon, defeating Torrance high 5 to 2 in a featuring Torrance game at the city park diamond.

Whelchel, pitching for Narbonne, allowed five hits, struck out seven batters and gave one walk. Hale was nicked for nine Narbonne hits, struck out six Gauchos and allowed two walks. Hale caught for the Tartars.

**PIRATE ACE FITCHER NO-HIT, NO-RUN GAME**  
Tadashi Kishishita, San Pedro high's premier pitcher, entered baseball's hall of fame at Gardena last Friday, hurling a no-hit, no-run game to give his Pirates a 2 to 0 win in a Marine League contest. It was Kishishita's third shutout triumph of the season.

Mixing a deceptive fast ball with a puzzling array of other offerings, he completely baffled the Gardena batters, allowing but three men to reach first. Two of these advanced on walks, the other on a questionable in-field grounder which was officially scored as an error. The Japanese youth fanned four batters.

As a result of the victory, San Pedro retains a share in the league lead with Banning.

**BANNING BLANKS EL SEGUNDO NINE**  
With Pitcher Leonard Rodriguez hurling airtight ball, Coach Gene Patz' Banning high school baseball team blanked El Segundo high 7 to 0 in a Marine League encounter at El Segundo last Friday. The Banning Pilots, the guests of honor who gave San Pedro for league honors to date. Two of Banning's wins have been by the shutout route.

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## Sports Night by Legion is Gala Affair

Sports—football, basketball and track—paraded in the form of 15 outstanding athletes and one potential young trackster Tuesday when the American Legion post held its second annual "Night of Champions" in the clubhouse crowded with men of the community. Presented, was the first similar event last year, by Robert Lewellen of the Herald staff, the stag assembly proved to be a stellar attraction.

The guests of honor who gave sport talks were Louis and Pete Zamperini, Gerald and Charles Grubb, Leo Rosset, Bob Trezise and Johnny McFadden of this city; U.S.C. Torrance high school and Loyola respectively; Barney Willis, sprinter; Al Kruger, grid star; Doyle Nave; Rose Bowl game hero; Capt. Payton Jordan and Bob Peoples, Trojan track stars—all of U.S.C.; Bob Link, Bernie Flaherty of Loyola, and Johnny Hall, of Torrance high school—the potential track hero.

Other special guests were Frank Lawver, Torrance high graduate, who entertained with accordion solos; Anthony Zamperini, father of Louis and Pete, and Warner Jenkins, sports editor of the Redondo Daily Breeze. All of the guests enjoyed the gathering as much as their Legion hosts and urged Lewellen to repeat his invitation to attend the third annual event in 1940.

A meat-pie dinner was served before the entertainment program by Jim Wilkes and James R. Scott, assisted by other members of the post. More than 125 attended the stag affair, which won much applause. Each guest spoke briefly on the sport he followed and many gave illuminating sidelights on college competition in the nation's sport pages.

**Who Will Be "MISS TORRANCE" For 1939?**



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## New Gaucho Track Dedication Set for March 30

The official dedication of the new Griffin field at Narbonne high school is slated for March 30 when tracksters from South Gate and Cathedral tangle with Narbonne.

Anxious to see if newcomers can overbalance the toll taken by graduation and ineligibility, Lomita track followers await the results of this meet.

Losing the best hurdler in the league and possibly in the city when Carl Oses was ruled ineligible, the Gauchos are basing their hopes in timber events on newcomers Gus Kroeson, Bob Patrick and Leo Stark.

In the sprinters Harry Hagedorn, Ralph Palmer will vie for honor with Junior Peck, school record holder, expected to win the 440. Berkeley Maes and Ernest Combs will take care of the half-mile with "Chase" Alvarado rated to give inconsistent Charles Dadds a good race in the mile.

In the field events the Gauchos' weakness appears to be in the pole vault and broad jump with Vernon Hart and Bob Wilson dominating the high jump and shot put respectively.

"Here She Comes!"—Adv.

## Rubbermen Take Merchants 5-4

Staging an uphill battle, the U. S. Rubbermen came thru with a 5 to 4 decision over the Torrance-Lomita Merchants in a 10-park diamond last Sunday. Tuberville, catcher for the Rubber team, scored hitting honors, delivering two doubles and a single. For the local club, Sullivan, second baseman, registered with four hits in five times up. Willis held the visitors to one hit for the first seven innings and then the latter went in as relief. The latter was nicked for nine safes. The T-L squad collected 12 hits off Blasinski.

**Snake Rated Superior To Groundhog Forecaster**  
LORAIN, O. (U.P.)—Racey, a 5-foot blue racer snake, has emerged from his winter hibernation to challenge the ominous groundhog predictions of a long winter.

"Why," said F. L. Montgomery, who owns the snake, "Racey knows more about weather than a field full of groundhogs. And when he comes out early, it means just one thing—spring is just a few weeks off!"

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