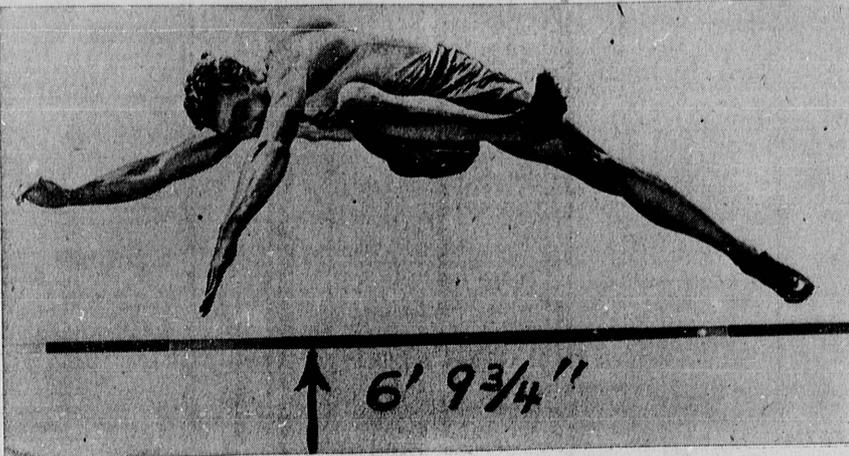


Helms Hall Honors Torrance's Bill Stewart



ROOM TO SPARE . . . This unusual photograph was taken at the moment that Bill Stewart broke the National Senior AAU high jump record and tied the world's record with a historic leap of 6 ft. 9 3/4 in. in Philadelphia. Notice how much he cleared the crossbar. His body is a good two-

and-a-half feet over the bar and his trailing foot cleared it by at least four inches—a truly phenomenal leap. Stewart tried again after the above jump. He set the bar at the magic seven-foot mark—but missed.

Name Jumper to '44 Dream Team

One of the world's great athletes, high jumper Bill Stewart of Torrance, was honored posthumously this week when the Helms Athletic Foundation named him to their mythical 1944 Olympic team.

Stewart's widow, the former Jean Hathaway, now Mrs. Milo Roberts of Lomita, was presented with a scroll from the Helms Foundation this week which bears such international names as Barney Ewell, Buddy Young, Gil Dodds, Cornelius Warmendarm, Les Steers and Cliff Bourland.

All were athletes that would have represented the United States in the Olympic Games in 1944—if they had been held. But the war stopped the Olympic Games, and the war also stopped the fabulous career of Stewart, who could have been the first man in the history of the world to jump seven feet in the air. Stewart was killed in 1944 in a crash in the North Sea after flying more than 50 missions as a bomber pilot.

Feats Listed
Among the more amazing feats of the Torrance bouncer were: 1) holding the world's high jump record for one hour; 2) jump record of the National Junior and Senior AAU marks, both in one and-a-half days; 3) jumping over seven feet in practice; 4) jumping 6 ft. 7 3/4 in. while still in high school; 5) setting and breaking his own Marine League record in two high school years; 6) setting the Torrance High School varsity high jump and broad jump records and the Cee high jump record, which all still stand.

If Bill could have gone on, he unquestionably would have surpassed all, according to his coach, Pete Zamperini, brother of famous miler Louie. Pete coached Bill while he was at Torrance High, where he was graduated in 1939.

Bounce Phenom
"He was my boy," Pete remembers fondly. A handsome, curly-haired youth, 5 ft. 10 in. tall, Stewart had a phenomenal bounce—the type of leg spring that allowed him to take off five feet before he reached the crossbar and cover 18 or 19 feet in the air. He often landed all the way out of the pit.

The biggest day in the youth's short athletic career probably came in 1941 when he leaped an amazing 6 ft. 10 3/8 in. to set a new world's record. Bill registered his leap in an invitational meet in Provo, Utah. Unfortunately, at just about the same time, on the same day, a lad named Les Steers jumped 6 ft. 10 and 25/32 in. in Oregon—about three-eighths of an inch higher than Stewart.

Learns Next Day
Stewart, elated that he had been the first man in history to jump 6 ft. 10 in., did not learn until the following day that his moment of glory had been indeed a brief. His world's record lasted for about an hour—the difference between Mountain and Pacific Standard time.

Stewart first caught the public eye when he casually entered the Long Beach Relays in 1951, unattached, and set out for the high jump pit. To the event had been billed in all the papers as a do-or-die duel between the nation's two greatest high jumpers, Steers of Oregon and Johnny Wilson of USC.

But Steers failed to show up and Wilson and his teammates Gil LaCava, found themselves being pushed to their limits by an unknown upstart—a Torrance truck driver named Bill Stewart.

Stewart cleared every height the first time and finally went over 6 ft. 7 and 15/16 in. as Wilson and LaCava fell by the wayside. The jump was a new Relays record and obtained Stewart reams of newspaper space and national recognition. It was called the biggest track "upset" in years. Here was a match for the fabulous Steers, the columnist said.

Steers, Stewart Meet
And they were right. Because that same year, in June, Stewart and Steers met at a National AAU meet in Philadelphia. Zamperini recalls that he had given Stewart instructions not to start jumping until Steers did. But Steers was late and when he got there, the bar already was up to 6 ft. 4 in.—a pretty fair jump.

But Stewart cleared it and the bar went up to 6 ft. 6 in., where both jumpers went over it. Then it was moved to 6 ft. 8 in. and both made it again. Steers missed at 6 ft. 9 in. but made it on his second try and the bar went over the AAU senior record—6 ft. 9 3/4 in.

Stewart jumped it and Steers missed. Then Steers made the leap and Stewart missed. The battle raged on, with Stewart finally taking the record under a rule which gives it to the jumper with the least number or falls on a height. This tied the official world's record for the high jump.

On the same week-end, Stewart set a new Junior AAU standard by leaping 6 ft. 8 5/8 in. After his record-smashing performance in the senior meet, Stewart had the bar raised to seven feet and tried the impossible—but missed.

Made It Once
He didn't always miss, however. Zamperini tells of a day when Stewart was just in practice and he had the bar set at 7 ft. 2 in., just to practice his "kick." Zamperini, just for experiment, said "Why don't you try it, Bill?"

Bill did—and made it. The excited Zamperini immediately ran for a tape measure and found, after subtracting the sag in the bar, that the fabulous Stewart had leaped 7 ft. 3/4 in. The mark could not be official, of course. Jumpers are still trying to make it official, as a matter of fact.

Jumps Parked Car
A terrific broad jumper as well, Stewart holds the Torrance High School record in the event 22 ft. 11 in. set in 1939; the high jump mark—6 ft. 6 3/4 in., and the Cee high jump standard—5 ft. 10 5/8 in.

The Torrance lad entered USO where he participated in fresh men track for one year, but he was forced to drop school because of finances. Then the war came along and he enlisted. His heroism in action earned him the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with clusters.



REMEMBERING . . . A great honor came to a great athlete this week, ten years after he was killed in the service of his country. Mrs. Milo Roberts, of 25606 Pennsylvania Ave., Lomita, the former Jean Hathaway, holds the scroll presented by the Helms Foundation to her first husband, Bill Stewart, Torrance's fabulous high jumper, who was killed during the war. The scroll honors Stewart as a member of the mythical 1944 Olympic Games track team.

Reds Win 'Little Ruth' Loop Title

Co-Captains Evan Harris and Gene Crenshaw starred as the Reds of the Recreation Department "Little Ruth" League closed their third straight win to capture the league crown Thursday.

Harris tossed a one-hitter and Crenshaw pounded a triple to right center with one man on to feature the hitting attack as the Reds doused the Blues 6-2, to remain undefeated in league play.

In a Friday final, the Browns defeated the Grays 5-3 to throw the rest of the loop into a three-way tie for second place.

Loses Plate
In the first game, Blues pitcher Ken Buchanan had control trouble, walking six Reds to allow four runs on no hits in the third frame. Russ Vanderpool got the only hit off Harris in the first frame with two mates aboard. After that, the little southpaw blanked the Blues for six frames.

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'Birds Plan To Join Rio Hondo Loop

Sunday baseball will continue weekly at Torrance Park until Dec. 5, when the Bluebirds, city adult team, join the Rio Hondo League, which will be composed of teams from cities of the South Bay and other areas, according to Jack French, Bluebird manager.

Scheduled for this Sunday is a game with Stillman Rubber. When the team joins the Rio Hondo league, which is affiliated with the Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation, it will play one week at home and the next away.

Some of the cities which may have teams in the league are Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Hawthorne Park, and South Gate.

The Merchant-sponsored Bluebirds, recently rejuvenated, entered the SCMAF Tournament but were eliminated in the semifinals last week.

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Sports
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Five

Orioles Go 11 Innings To Win Twi-Light Title

After a ding-dong ten-inning pitchers' battle, the Orioles cut loose with four hits and four runs in the eleventh to drop the Braves 6-2 and win the championship of the Recreation Twi-Light baseball league in the second of a three-game playoff Wednesday.

Singles by John Sherkey, Charlie Valencia, Toby Venable and Sherwood Tierman sparked the rally and handed Tom Mills his first defeat of the season. Tom Vanderpool did a masterful job for the winners, allowing only four hits and whiffing 15 in the eleven inning marathon.

HERE'S THE REASON FOR LEECH'S HAPPY SMILES

Tartar Varsity Baseball Coach Dick Leech had reason to smile this week as he glanced fondly over the statistics of the just completed Twi-Light League for high school age boys.

One name, especially, brought forth peals of happy laughter from the mentor. That one was Ron Anderson, who will be a junior next year, and who led the league in batting, pitching and fielding. He rapped .304, fielded .959 at pitcher and first base making only two errors in 73 chances, and won five while losing only one on the hill.

Anderson also was a star of the Babe Ruth League and played American Legion ball, too, during the summer. He threw batting practice for the Hollywood Stars Thursday night—a good break for a high school sophomore, 16 years old.

It was a "look-see" for the Stars, who will undoubtedly follow Anderson's further progress at Tartarville with avoculous eyes.

Complete statistics on the league follow:

Players Appearing 30 or More Times at Bat				Players Appearing 29 or Less Times at Bat			
Name	AB	H	Ave.	Name	AB	H	Ave.
Ron Anderson	56	17	.304	Tom Vanderpool	26	9	.346
Charlie Valencia	50	14	.280	Bob Clifford	12	4	.333
Toby Venable	47	13	.277	Manuel Ollouque	26	8	.308
Sherwood Tierman	45	12	.267	Mike Bertolo	28	8	.286
Chuck Farrington	48	10	.208	Roger Bohne	21	6	.286
Mary Gallagher	40	10	.250	Jerry Mathews	11	3	.273
Chuck Todd	31	7	.226	Jack Anderson	23	6	.261
Gene Crenshaw	26	6	.231	Herm Cobrea	8	2	.250
Jim Schmidt	31	6	.194	John Sherkey	21	5	.238
Tom Mills	20	4	.200	Myron Schmidt	21	5	.238
				Ed Gales	19	3	.158
				Ken Simpson	23	3	.130
				Bob Walker	5	1	.200
				Jack Hanon	24	2	.083
				Tom Pfeifle	26	2	.077
				Paul Rowe	13	1	.077
				Chuck Davis	15	1	.067
				Chuck Collins	22	1	.045
				Duane Cooke	24	1	.042

Tony TRABERT
THE BEST BET TO WIN BACK OUR TENNIS SUPREMACY
AND THIS IS WHERE IT STAYS
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