

FROM THE BRIDGE

Is Colt League The Answer?

By BILL SCHIPPER—Sports Editor

Is Torrance's youth baseball program cutting its own throat and sacrificing quality for quantity with its variety of leagues for youngsters in the same age brackets?

After examining this city's diversified program I have to believe that we're going the wrong way down a one-way street by not conforming to a uniform pattern for baseball-minded youngsters by mixing up the programs for 13-16 year old boys with Babe Ruth, Pony, and Colt league, which are in direct competition with each other.



DAVE HAWYARD

Dave Hayward, Area 6 Director for the Pony-Colt baseball leagues, tells me that Torrance is missing the boat by not establishing a Colt League franchise here.

"There's a definite need for Colt League baseball in Torrance", he said, "and there's an open boundary in the city ready and waiting. The area would take up the similar boundaries which supplies players for the Central and North Torrance Pony Leagues".

Pony baseball is for 13-14 year-old boys while Colt is the next step up the ladder, for 15-16 year olds.

In direct competition—but which had an earlier beginning here—is the dwindling Babe Ruth (13-15) program which is played on a regulation size diamond.

Pony ball is played on a scale version of the regulation diamond, with shortened fences and pitching mound and 75 foot base paths.

Colt is played on the regulation diamond with 90-foot base paths.

Inasmuch as all of the volunteer youth baseball programs are set up for the same purpose, Pony baseball administrators are seeking to consolidate with the Babe Ruth League on a national scale in order that there would be a complete and competent program for youth where they can compete effectively from eight years to a minimum of 16 years.

Little League baseball already caters to boys 8-12, where they would graduate into Pony (13-14), and Colt leagues (15-16) and finally the American Legion and Connie Mack programs.

The main reason for the consolidation plan, Pony people contend, is that 13-year-old boys cannot effectively compete with boys 15 on a full scale diamond. As a result, they ride the bench.

How about it parents, are your 13 year-old sons playing much ball in Torrance's three Babe Ruth Leagues?

To illustrate, Redondo baseball officials brought in Pony baseball two years ago despite a booming and established Babe Ruth program.

Today Babe Ruth League no longer exists in Redondo, and we hear the beach-city people are glad of it.

In Torrance, youth baseball backers have been carrying on a private "civil war" over boundaries, play-rights and expansion problems since the Pony program was set up here.

As a result, all are hurting, but none will publicly admit it.

Despite the definite need for the Colt program here, I doubt if it'll be established—at least for awhile—unless somebody swallows a little pride and give an inch or two for the overall good of the youth, the city, and themselves.

Pat Hogue, Torrance's baseball commissioner over 13 Little, Pony and Babe Ruth leagues, is all for Colt League baseball.

Pat is even a team manager in the Beach-Cities Colt League, which makes its home in Redondo. In fact, Pat was recently named as manager of the Beach-Cities all-star team.

This column is not intended as a slap in the face of Babe Ruth League baseball. Last year a Torrance all-star aggregation took the Southern California championship and in a few weeks Del Amo Field in Torrance will host the state tourney playoffs.

But in light of the facts, it's my opinion that the program is defeating its own purpose.

Baseball for youth is no longer a "sandlot" pastime. You might even call it big business. And the activity of youth in their formative years is about as big and important a "business" as there is.

A natural and made-to-order stepladder baseball program cannot be shunted much longer without a lot of unnecessary harm and sacrifice.

We're hoping that a sensible end to the volunteer youth baseball "cold war" will soon be met.

How about it?

Rams Nucleus Returns

THE LAS ANGELES RAMS' world championship season in 1951 unquestionably can be called the high-water mark in the colorful history of the team.

Among the brightest stars on a roster which reads like a who's who of pro football were the incomparable quarterback, Bob Waterfield, and ends Elroy Hirsch and Tom Fears. Linebacker Don Paul anchored an aggressive defensive platoon.

On the bench, Coach Hamp Pool, one of football's greatest technicians, called the offensive shots.

Early last January Waterfield returned to the Rams as the new head coach. He promptly selected his coaching staff. First the same Hamp Pool. Don Paul was next. Then Waterfield tapped Fears to coach his ends.

And when Ram owners named Hirsch to succeed Pete Rozelle as general manager, the nucleus of L.A.'s greatest team had returned as a unit just nine years after they led the Rams to the world title win over the Cleveland Browns.

And after last year's disappointing season, Los Angeles fans must be wondering if it is an omen of good things to come.

We all might know Aug. 19 when the Rams renew their annual pre-season spectacular with the "newlook" Washington Redskins at the Coliseum.

Coliseum Comments

A SELF PROCLAIMED baseball expert (Larry The Dodger Hater), a barber (Bobby Calkins), myself, and another sports editor took in the Dodgers-Cubs get together Friday night and we all got quite a kick out of the barber's non-professional comments on seeing the Coliseum 'stadium' and his first professional baseball game at the same time.

I jotted a few down: "My gosh, look at that leftfield fence. I know even I could hit it over that thing. Man, these righthanded hitters oughta romp . . . And they played the World Series here? . . . Does Ernie Banks have more home runs than Babe Ruth? . . . Bring in Drysdale! . . . No wonder the Cubs are in last place with Tappe catching . . . Man, I wanta see someone knock it against the scoreboard . . . That guy (Frank Howard) sure is big. Jeez he hits the ball hard . . . All-star game? What's that? . . . (After the Cubs ran up a 3-1 lead) The Dodgers are nowhere . . . (After L.A. wrapped up its 5-3 win) Man, they're gonna win the pennant . . ."

Independent Builders 'Lose' First Game—Via Ineligibility Forfeit

12-1 Victory Wiped Off Books as First Half Ends

The Independent Builders softball team lost its bid for an undefeated first round and undisputed possession of first place in the fast-moving Industrial League this week when a protest lodged by Harvey Aluminum over Independent's use of an alleged ineligible player was held up by athletics director Red Moon.

Therefore the Independent team, which slugged out a 12-1 "win" over Harvey on Tuesday, was marked with a technical forfeit loss for its first setback of the season, putting the builders in a two-team tie for first place at the close of the first half of play.

INDEPENDENT and the South Bay Church of God own equal 8-1 records going into the second round. First and second half "champions" will play off at the end of the season for the city's softball title. The forfeiture hassle arose this week when Independent Builders' manager found it necessary to use an unregistered player in his first game of the season. League playing rules allow roster additions up to the 7th game. Tuesday's was Independent's 9th.

RED MOON, in explaining the forfeiture declaration, said that according to the rules he had no alternative but to do so. The ineligible player went 2-4 at bat, scoring three runs. He also stole three bases.

Independent pitcher John Wright saw his two-hit, 15 strikeouts go down the drain with the ruling. The only run he gave up in the game was a homer by Gene Clark.

Independent batters swatted 14 hits off Bill Gipson, including two each by six players.

IN A LETTER explaining the forfeiture to Ray Estes, Independent manager, Moon wrote: "After having checked the players' records in my office, I find that the use of the player in question was in violation of section C of Rule No. 7 governing player eligibility. As you are aware, section A requires a player to register before playing and section C prohibits a team from adding a player

Reinert Scores 14 in Bacon's 78-61 Victory

George Stanich's Bacon Ford (El Camino) basketball team scored its first Alhambra Summer League win Friday evening, 78-61 over Phelps-Terkel (USC) at Mark Keppel High.

Bacon Ford maintained an 8-12 point lead throughout the contest and had an 11-point halftime edge.

Harry Dinnel and Jack Runyan tied for high point honors with 17 each, while Bill Reinert, tall guard from Torrance High, came off the bench to score 14.

Bacon returns to the summer hardwood Monday against Slater Co. at 9 p.m. at Mark Keppel High.

Bacon Ford (78) Phelps (61) Grates (5) Cahalben (5) Boyd (4) Hillman (16) Ruhnyan (17) F. Duncan (9) Cattivera (14) Ledger (11) Dinnel (17) Hoffman (12) Halftime score—Bacon 27, Phelps 16. Scoring subs—Bacon: Karavas (4), Reinert (14), Murphy (6), Phelps—Jansen (2), Barr (6).

AAU SUMMER LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
Kirbys Shoes	4	0	1.000
Hotshots	3	1	.750
Armond Supply	2	2	.500
Broadway Federal	2	2	.500
Lincoln Sporting	1	2	.333
Pikes Restaurant	0	3	.000
Galbraith Sporting	0	3	.000

Softball Standings

INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE (First Round Final)

Ind. Bldrs.	W	L	GBL
SB Church of God	8	1
Harvey Alum.	6	2	1 1/2
Maurys Cafe	6	3	2
Ryan Aeros	6	3	2
Post Office	3	6	5
Harbor Hornets	3	6	5
Border Markets	3	6	5
Aeronca Mfg.	2	7	6
Lucy's Lambs	0	8	7 1/2

Score

*Independent 12, Harvey 1 (Harvey declared winner via forfeit due to Independent's use of ineligible player.)

Second Round Scores

Ryan Aeros 4, Border Mkts. 3. SB Church 10, Maurys Cafe 5. Aeronca 16, Luck's Lambs 4.

SLO-PITCH BLUE LEAGUE

Tappa Keggas	W	L	GBL
Fire Dept. "B"	5	4	4
Old Pros	5	4	4
City Employees	4	5	5
RB Post Office	2	7	7
Torrance Tigers	2	7	7

Scores

Fire Dept. 11, Tigers 2. Tappa Keggas 1, Old Pros 0. City Employees 3, PO 0.

SERVICE LEAGUE

Elks Club	W	L	GBL
Torrance Kiwanis	6	2	1
Merchants	6	2	1
Walteria Kiwanis	5	3	2
Optimist Club	3	5	4
Sportsmen Club	2	6	5
Torrance Herald	2	6	5
Lions Club	1	7	6

Scores

Merchants 8, Walt. Kiwanis 2. Herald 5, Lions 0. Elks 10, Optimists 4. Torr. Kiwanis 10, Sportsmen 8.

RED LEAGUE

Just for Fun	W	L	GBL
Ron's Landscapers	5	2	1
Inglewood Farms	4	3	2
Columbia ERA	4	3	2
St. James Church	4	3	2
St. Lawrence	3	4	3
SB Church of God	2	5	4
Pacific Perforators	0	7	6

Scores

(No games scheduled).

Torrance Plans Dodger-Day At Coliseum

An outing to a Dodgers baseball game is planned for teen-agers under auspices of the Torrance Recreation Department.

The journey to see the Dodgers play Pittsburgh is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 21 and the cost is \$1.

Reservations may be made by contacting the Recreation Department offices at 1511 Cravens Ave. All fees include both bus transportation and admission charges.

Spartettes Lose Twin Bill Despite Grand Slam Home Run

The Spartettes were involved in the first doubleheader in the Girls Softball League Wednesday night at Walteria Park, and they came out second best in both encounters. In the first game, Southwest Park defeated them 15 to 11, for their first victory.

THE SECOND game produced the first grand slam home run of this season. It came in the first inning, and was delivered by the Spartettes' catcher, Leda Davis. However, it was all for naught, as the Rebels hung an 18 to 8 loss on the Spartettes.

Rebels 103 5 18 15 3. Spartettes 400 4 8 1 8. Crams and Pitack; Acosta and Davis.

STANDINGS

A Team	W	L	R	H	E
Rebels	3	1	1,000		
Esabs	2	1	.667		
Chargers	2	1	.667		
Southwest Park	1	3	.250		
Spartettes	0	5	.000		

Rams Trade Pitts to Dallas Cowboys for Guard Al Barry

The Los Angeles Rams Friday acquired offensive guard Al Barry, former Southern California star lineman, from the Dallas Cowboys in a trade for Hugh Pitts, rookie linebacker on the 1956 Ram team.



THE TORRANCE HERALD JULY 10, 1960

EIGHTH SHUTOUT OF SEASON

Tappa Keggas Escape With 1-0 Slo-Pitch Victory Over Old Pros

The unbeaten Tappa Keggas scored their eighth straight shutout in nine games Wednesday when they nipped the Old Pros by the narrowest of margins, 1-0, in the Blue League in what must go down as one of the tightest contests in Torrance's 10-year slo-pitch history.

The defending Southern California 16-inch champs produced the only run of the game in the first inning on doubles by Stan DiMaggio and Ray Magante and a single by Bryan Stephens.

AFTER THAT it was goose-eggs all the way as Stephens and Chuck Ryan for the winners and Bo Palica of the Old Pros dueled in the squeaker.

Swim Instructions Begin at Benstead Plunge This Week

Swimming instruction for teen-agers and adults will begin this week at Benstead Plunge, according to the Torrance Recreation Department.

Eight lessons will be given to teen-agers starting at 5:30 p.m. Monday and continuing for four weeks.

Lessons for adults will start at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday and eight semi-weekly sessions are planned.

There is a \$2 pool charge for either class.

Grunion Run At Southland Beaches Tonight

Grunion, which were expected to make their first run of a four-night invasion of the Southland's shoreline last night, will return tonight from 11:15 to 12:15 according to the department of fish and game.

The elusive silverfish will also run Monday and Tuesday evenings before taking a 12-day "shore leave."

The grunion will make one-hour beach landings from 12 midnight to 1 a.m. Monday and from 1 a.m. to 2 Tuesday night.

Hunters are reminded that fishing licenses are required of all persons 16 years of age or older and that the grunion may be taken by hand only. There is no bag limit.

IN THE SERVICE League, the rambling Torrance Elks held onto their one game edge with a convincing 10-4 triumph over the Optimists as Dutch Neumann socked another home run.

The Torrance Kiwanis and the Merchants remained one game back by logging 10-8 and 8-2 wins, respectively.

The only shutout in the Service loop was arched by big Jim Haines of the Torrance Herald as the newsmen clipped a seven-player Lions Club team 5-0, scoring all their runs in the first inning. Jack Hanna homered for the Herald.

BASEBALL TODAY American Legion

Lomita vs Torrance at Torrance Park, 12 noon; Redondo vs South, Torrance Park, 1:30.

Connie Mack Torrance vs San Pedro at Lennox High, 3 p.m.

COMPARE

Comparison Proves HOME SAVINGS AMERICA'S LARGEST & STRONGEST Is Your Best Place To Save

ASSETS OVER \$769,000,000

FIRST IN SIZE
Assets of Home are by far the largest of any state or federal chartered association anywhere in America. A New All-Time National Record.

FIRST IN STRENGTH
Home's reserve fund of over \$60 million is the strongest in the history of the savings and loan industry and nearly twice as strong as the next largest association.

FIRST IN SAFETY
Behind your savings account at Home stands the safest home loan portfolio of any major financial institution in America. Each account is insured to \$10,000 by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation. Also, Home has a perfect 71-year-old withdrawal record. And savers have never lost one single penny.

FIRST IN CONVENIENCE
Wherever you live, work or shop in the Southland, America's largest and strongest association is conveniently close. You have all the advantages of America's leading association on the friendly community level.

FIRST IN SERVICE
Small or large transaction, new saver or old...you and your savings are always important to Home. Home has a tradition of putting you first that goes back to 1889.

AS USUAL, HOME PAYS THE HIGHEST RETURN ON INSURED SAVINGS CONSISTENT WITH SAFETY

4 1/2% current annual rate

HOME SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

AMERICA'S LARGEST AND AMERICA'S STRONGEST

PEACE OF MIND SINCE 1889

TORRANCE 1511 Cravens Avenue at El Prado FA 8-9244

OFFICE HOURS 9 A.M.-4 P.M. Mon.-Thurs. 9 A.M.-6 P.M. Friday

FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN INSURANCE CORPORATION... MEMBER... FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK SYSTEM