

The Fearless Spectator

By Charles McCabe, Esquire



It has been observed by several swinging sages down through recorded time—like the kid who wrote Ecclesiastes, and Montaigne, and Jimmy Cannon—that there is no notion under the sun so goofy that SOME group of nuts will not go for it. Big.

Of the things which appeal, however fleetingly, to large numbers of the credulous, there's nothing like the panacea—the remedy for all diseases. Like the glance of the cobra or a really lousy movie, the panacea has a riveting fascination.

In my youth, we had the formula of Mr. Coue—"Every day in every way, I'm getting better and better." It worked pretty good, too, though there were a few who bothered to ask, "Better and better at what?"

Some of the ranking brigands and blackguards of the time, by repeating the magical formula, became bigger and better brigands and blackguards.

Recently we have had blackstrap molasses, safflower-seed oil, nuts and seeds of a recondite nature, and yoghurt. Each of these nostrums were guaranteed as a passport to eternal felicity. They had about as much staying power as the hula hoop, alas.

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It appears that the next of the cure-alls to be inflicted upon us will be, believe it or not, seaweed.

Prentice-Hall, the book house, is coming out with a book by Ian J. Rose called "Faith, Love and Seaweed." In it, the author will tell the stirring tale of how his son, Murray Rose, became an Olympic swimming champ in 1956 and 1960 through this uplifting trinity of goodies.

As for gobbling up the old algae, Mr. Rose has this to say: "The earlier you adopt this way of life, the better the results are likely to be."

But it is never to late to bring about some improvement. We have seen many older men and women add extra years of happy living by following only a few of the ideas offered here."

Among these ideas: "Choose a food store as you would a doctor." That is, choose a bodega with a high plankton content.

I have no doubt that faith and love are mighty important things in making a champ out of your kid, although hatred and rejection work pretty good, too.

The old competitive spirit, as we honest Irish psychoanalysts know only too well, is just another form of kicking the bejabbers out of Daddy-O because he swiped Mummy's love from us.

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But that algae, which are to fish what grass is to cattle, can turn a weak-kneed little sissy into a veritable Teddy Roosevelt (or Murray Rose) is a proposition I gag on. Just a bit.

I think marijuana or corn flakes might be just as good a maker of champs. Or better.

It is my estimate that young Mr. Rose became an Olympic champ because he was a hell of a good swimmer. And DESPITE his diet chosen from a smorgasbord of 70 different kinds of seaweed. And despite all that dandy love and faith old Daddy-O admits to dealing out.

Seaweed has a distinct advantage as a food for the Gayelord Hauser set. It tastes like hell. No self-respecting health-food nut would ever think of ingesting anything he LIKED. In that strange world, masochism is all.

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When I think of these elevating cure-alls, my mind goes back to one George Herman Ruth, known as the Babe. The Babe hit more home runs than anybody, and was maybe the greatest natural pitcher of his time. And he did it all on hot dogs and beer.

He got his faith and love from a father who abandoned him to a Baltimore orphanage. He once ate 20 hot dogs or so, and the resulting malaise was rightly referred to as "The bellyache heard 'round the world."

The Babe was so good he could even have made it on seaweed. And I daresay young Rose was so good he could have made it on hot dogs.

Big Car Drivers Eye New Threat

Out-of-state driver Dee Jones is proving to be a big

Davis Faces Challengers In CJA Race

Gene Davis, the top point man against California Jalopy Assn. competition, will have his hands full against a rugged field of veteran drivers this afternoon at Ascot Park in Gardena.

Davis will be challenged by Bill Foster, 1962 stock car champ; Lloyd Dane, winner of last week's main event; and Eddie Gray, three time late stock car title-holder.

Qualifying will begin at 1 p.m. with the first race, a trophy dash, scheduled to start at 2:30 p.m.

headache to the top drivers in the California Racing Assn. Jones, from Phoenix, Ariz., has yet to win a main event but still ranks second in CRA point standings behind Bob Hogle. Jones, Hogle and one-armed Allen Heath will hook up Wednesday night at Ascot Park in Gardena for a CRA 30-lap speedfest.

In almost every race this season, Jones has finished in the top five places. The Arizona pilot drives a Chevrolet while Hogle will be behind the wheel of an Offenhauser.

Heath has been a big winner in Vel's Torrance T-Bird, one of the rare fuel-injected bombs in big car racing.

Also a threat is motorcycle champion Don Hawley.

Every Wednesday night's races start at 8:30 p.m. preceded by one-lap qualifying on the half-mile dirt oval at 7 p.m.

Torrance Kegs Nab Second-Round Title, Force Playoff Game

Once again the top team in West Coast Slo-Pitch League competition, the Torrance Tappa Kegs picked up two easy victories over Redondo Beach on Friday to win the second-round championship. The two triumphs ended the regular league year for the Tappa Kegs and forced a playoff with first-round winner Los Angeles for the circuit championship. Kega manager Chuck Ryan says the playoff will probably be held on the weekend of Aug. 12 and will be a best two out of three tournament.

CALLING his outfield great and his infield tremendous, Ryan predicts Torrance will go on to whip the Old Timers in the playoff. "We have the best team we have ever had," Ryan claims.

On Friday, the Kegs gained revenge over Redondo for a first round licking by taking 5-0 and 8-1 triumphs in a doubleheader in Torrance Park under the lights.

IN THE opening contest, Ray Magnante, Chuck Schoendienst and Jim Reynolds went 2 for 3 at the plate to pace an eight-hit Kega offensive. Schoendienst and Reynolds also clubbed doubles.

Redondo was limited to three hits in the first tilt.

Torrance pounded out 10 hits in the final league encounter of the season to back up the four-hit hurling of Rick Ryan. Ryan was hurt by an error in the second contest and the lone Redondo run was unearned.

WIELDING a big stick for the Kegs in the final tilt were Tony Couch and Ed James, with two hits apiece, and Chuck Williams, who slammed a double.

Combining statistics from both games, Magnante went 3 for 4 with two RBIs, Couch was 3 for 5 and Schoendienst hit at a 3 for 6 clip.

FIRST PLACE in the second round went to Torrance with an 11-1 record. Gardena, with two more games left to play, currently has an 8-2 mark while El Segundo and Manhattan Beach will battle it out for third place.

NTE Wins Two Tournament Tilts

North Torrance East Little League gobbled up two victories the past week to reach the semi-finals of the District 27 All-Star Tournament.

On Wednesday, NTE earned a 7-4 triumph over Torrance American Little League as Art Frasier threw a four-hitter and drove in two runs with a first-inning homer to pace the victory.

Frasier struck out seven and walked three to survive a

3-run, fourth-inning homer by Tim Lauderdale and a fifth-inning fence-buster by Dave Gasper.

RON BRADY drove in two runs for the winners with a home run in the fourth frame and Steve Morrison drove across the final earned NTE run.

On Friday, NTE earned a 4-2 decision over North Torrance West with Alan Gizzi chucking a four-hitter, striking out three and allowing four walks.

MIKE DEMPSTER drove in two runs for the winners while Greg Pischel was responsible for a third tally. Dave Skaggs accounted for all the NTW runs with a third inning blast.

Prior to its loss on Friday, North Torrance West had advanced with a 1-0 victory over Pacific Coast Little League. Dick Estendo allowed eight hits, fanned eight and walked two in taking the win from Chris Wilson.

WILSON GAVE up only three hits, whiffed 11 and walked one, but he made one fatal mistake—he allowed a third inning homer by Dave Skaggs.

Skaggs wound up going 2 for 3 at the dish. Jim Thomas collected the only other hit for NTW. Wilson went 3 for 3 for the losers while Craig Hrehor added two more safeties.

LOMITA advanced in the tourney with a 3-1 win over Harbor City before falling 3-2 to Torrance National Little League on Thursday.

Against Harbor City, Troy Coggins threw a one-hitter, fanning 12 and walking four. The lone Harbor tally came on a home run by Fred Barry.

For Lomita, Gary Gazeley and Steve Boehn ripped home runs.

TORRANCE National went with Phil Roeder and Craig Preston on the mound and depended on three home runs to knock over Lomita ace Gary Gazeley.

Daren Vom Steeg, Chuck O'Brien and Mike Abrams cleared the fence for the winners.

Gazeley threw a three hitter, fanned seven and allowed only one walk. Joe Aintablain drove across the only earned Lomita marker.

Aquacade, Carnival Scheduled

"In Daze of Knights" has been selected as the theme for the Torrance Recreation Department's eighth annual aquacade and carnival set for Aug. 9 at the city's plunge and recreation center.

Tibby Bova and Jean Gregory, whose synchronized swimming classes at the plunge will participate in the aquacade, are in charge of the choreography and direction of the water show.

Jim Armstrong, whose efforts will also provide the "Music for a Summer Sunday" series at Torrance Park, will direct staging and variety aspects of the event.

Huge Field Eyes Ascot Park Title

Over 50 cars will start tonight in the Figure Eight stock car Mid-Summer Championship at Ascot Park in Gardena.

Starting time is 8:30 p.m. with the time trials scheduled to get underway at 7 p.m.

Topping the action will be a 15-lap main event offering double championship points. The 20 fastest qualifiers of the night will start in the feature.

OTHER RACING on the night's card includes four 8-lap heat races, a four-lap trophy dash and a six-lap race for women drivers.

Favored in the main event will be Gardena's Ben Steele, who currently holds a 420-

point lead in the war for the point championship.

STEELE HAS won three main events over the tricky criss-cross circuit that crosses in front of the stands.

Joe Drew, with two main event wins, is in second place while Bob Hobbs remains just 10 points behind Drew.

JACK FRICK, the hottest thing in local racing the last three weeks, has two straight main event wins and a fourth-place to his credit.

Among the 14 lady drivers entered in the six-lap women drivers are Myrna Queener and Helen Knight of Torrance.



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LONG FALL . . . Cowboys will help Torrance celebrate its eighth annual Ranchero Days next weekend by riding in a Rodeo Cowboy Assn. approved rodeo. Above, a bareback bronc get all four feet off the ground in a soaring effort to dislodge his cowboy burden. Bareback bronc riding has been a standard event in rodeo for the last quarter century.

Craig Moore Leads Pacific With .406 Batting Average

Statistics released by the Pacific American Babe Ruth League reveal that not a single individual dominated any two batting departments.

came out on top in the hitting percentages with 26 safeties in 63 times at the plate for a .413 average. Larry Tyner, also of the Athletics, hit away at a .406 clip while Oriole John Eng-

elhardt and Athletic Mike Potchka collected .400 averages.

Included among the top ten in the league were Steve French, Tiger, .394; Dale Reis Red Sox, .391; Steve Hertzog, Tigers, .375; Brian Grady, Red Sox, .359; Steve Parker, Yankees, .344; and Clyde Ford, Red Sox, .340.

IN THE home run derby, Mike Patterson of the Red Sox, Reis, and Engelhardt each clubbed two fence-busters to share the power crown.

Jim McPherson of the Athletics rapped 23 runs across to lead the league in RBIs, French, 21; Tyner, 19; Parker, 16; and Hertzog, 15, also wound up in the top five.

TIGER Gordon Mossman stole 22 bases to top the circuit in that department. Engelhardt and Moore each swiped 17 bases to tie for the second slot.

Deadlocking for third place, Ron Driesler of the Orioles and Tiger Gary Mullen picked up 15 stolen bases each.

Gable House Tabs Winners From Classic

Six winners in the weekly Golden State Singles Classic were announced recently by the Gable House Bowl in Torrance.

Winning in the Class A division were Ben Becker, 676; and Stan Korhuniak, 257. In the Class B division, Bud Hamilton, 601; and Max Welch, 230, walked off with top honors.



GOOD GROUP . . . Named to the Torrance Central Little League All-Star team are (front, L to R) Ricky Clayton, Randy Barnett, Robert Thornton, Pat Lucarelli, Dik Johnson, Mike Barber and Randy Carter. In the second row (L to R) are coach Joe Carter, Greg Waters, Bob Bachman, Robert

Fernley, Marty De Wan, Anthony Romero, Dennis Bener, Bill Yancey and manager Ed Unrein. Torrance Central was defeated in the first round of All-Star Tournament play by Torrance American.