

# 'Connie Mack' Tops Summer Sports

## Red Devils Give Bullets Trouble

This is the seventh in a series of articles on youth baseball in Torrance. Featured is the South Bay Connie Mack League.

By HENRY BURKE  
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Around the Fourth of July the Red Devils of the South Bay Connie Mack League are hotter than firecrackers. Saturday they popped Hawthorne, 6-4, and Monday they blistered the league-leading Tordena Bullets, 2-1.



DICK WHITE

Dick White, a South High first baseman playing in the outfield for the Red Devils, exploded a two-run home run in the sixth inning for the 2-1 conquest of the Bullets.

Torrance High pitcher Steve Kealey turned away 16 Bullets on strikeouts and gave up four walks and five hits, going the 9-inning route for the victory.

Kealey's 3-0 win over the Bullets to open the Connie Mack season is Tordena's only other loss of the season. The Bullets have a 7-2 record. Beach Cities is second with 6-2, and Torrance's Red Devils have closed to gap in third place with a 6-3 record. West Los Angeles is also 6-3.

The four other teams in the league are Hawthorne, Long Beach, San Pedro and Westchester, but about the only challenge for them now is to spoil the bids of the frontrunners and entertain the big league scouts in their talent search.

The Red Devils and Bullets, which draw players from most high schools in Torrance, have had Larry Bradshaw, Al Deravin, John Marsden, Ty Goodman, Al Thompson and Al Van Lue signed professional contracts since last season, and Steve Sogge enrolled at USC for football and baseball.

After becoming heroes in Little League, Pony League, Babe Ruth League, Junior Legion and high school baseball, players in Connie Mack League build quite a following. This was particularly noticeable Monday when the Red Devils and Bullets met each other for the fourth time this season and a crowd spilled over the bleachers and encircled the backstop beyond both dug-outs.

Outstanding players in Connie Mack ball are so close to the "bonus" stage in baseball that team managers have little trouble acquiring playing talent.

Bo Palica, manager of the Red Devils, played pro ball several years in the Pacific Coast League and briefly with Baltimore of the American League.

After leaving pro ball, Bo joined his son, Irv, in Torrance American Little League in 1955, then went through the ranks of Babe Ruth League and finally organized his own Connie Mack squad six years ago.

Bo said, "I heard several people talk about starting a Connie Mack League, but wound up doing it myself." The team has been sponsored by Red Devil Fireworks from whom the team name is derived.

The Bullets, organized a year later by Bob Pryor, a Babe Ruth League manager and Torrance baseball commissioner, got their name from the sponsoring Torrance Police Association.

Pete White, owner of Torrance Electric Shop, was instrumental in getting both teams off the ground financially.

The Bullets are the defending national Connie Mack League champions, having defeated Louisville, Kentucky, for the championship at Springfield, Ill., last summer.

On the way to winning the national title the Bullets defeated the Red Devils twice in sectional tournament play. This was done despite the Red Devils' championship over the Bullets in the South Bay League.

Among their four games this year, the Bullets won twice in the Los Angeles County League, but the Red Devils won both times in the Connie Mack League. Both managers agree the Connie Mack victories are more preferable.

The cost of operating each team is likely to run over \$2,000 annually. Including the cost of making the rounds to the national championship last year, the Bullets had a \$6,100 tab a year ago.

Essentially, each team draws its players from five high schools. The Bullets have North High, Gardena, West, Serra and Loyola. The Red Devils come from Carson, Narbonne, Torrance, South and Palos Verdes.

In order to provide for better baseball at Torrance Park, lights were improved a couple of years ago. Bids now have been received by the city for additional bleachers, and gradually Torrance Park is regaining a splendid baseball atmosphere it enjoyed in the days prior to World War II.

## CONNIE MACK LINE SCORES

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Tordena Bullets	7	2	.778	—
Beach Cities	6	2	.750	1/2
Torrance	6	3	.667	1
West Los Angeles	6	3	.667	1
Hawthorne	5	5	.500	2 1/2
Long Beach	5	6	.455	3 1/2
San Pedro	2	6	.250	4 1/2
Westchester	2	7	.222	5

**Monday's Results**  
Torrance Red Devils 2, Tordena Bullets 1.  
**Sunday's Results**  
Beach Cities 11, West L. A. 8.  
Hawthorne 4, Westchester 3.  
**Saturday's Results**  
Torrance Red Devils 6, Beach Cities 8.



ATTRACTING LARGE CROWDS . . . At the Connie Mack League baseball games are the Torrance Red Devils and Tordena Bullets of the South Bay League. Team managers are Bo Palica (left) of the Red Devils and Bob Pryor of the Bullets. In photo at right Dave LaRoche of the Bullets plows into third base as third baseman Dennis Timpe and Pitcher Steve Kealey await throw from right field in Monday night's game. The Red Devils won, 2-1, before overflow crowd at Torrance Park.



(Press-Herald Photo)

## Tappa Keggs Beat Stars In Overtime

Tappa Keggs returns to West Coast League slo-pitch action with a pair of home games against El Segundo Friday night at Torrance Park at 8 p.m.

Winner of the first half of the season with a 9-3 record, Tappa Keggs is current 3-1, tied with Los Angeles in second place, a game back of Redondo at 4-0.

Redondo travels to San Pedro for a twin-bill Friday, while Los Angeles plays at Santa Ana. Gardena meets Long Beach.

A Sunday evening all-star series between Tappa Keggs and the West Coast All-Stars almost stole the show from fireworks display at Rowley Park in Gardena.

After the two teams went 11 innings in the first game, the nightcap had to be called after the ninth, tied at 4-4, to make way for the sparklers.

Torrance Tappa Keggs won the opener, 5-6, on a two-run homer by Andy Meyer over the 210-foot fence with Jim Reynolds on base.

The all-stars committed three errors in the game, all in the third inning, and Bob Ryan, Chuck Schoendienst, and Ed Williams got singles in the rally for a five-run Keggs spurge.

Joe Watt of the all-stars slammed out a pair of home runs, one in the fourth with none on and another in the sixth with two aboard.

The Stars' left fielder Mike Bahanieu fielded Chuck Ryan's base hit in the bottom of the regulation seventh inning and threw out Ron Jackson at the plate to prolong the game. Gary Beech came up with a double play in the ninth to cut off another Keggs rally.

Mick Ryan had three hits in the 11-inning win.

In the second game the All-Stars scored their four runs in the first inning as Stan Katz hit a three-run homer.

West Coast Stars	001 103 000 010-6 10 3
Tappa Keggs	005 000 000 012-8 14 1
DeGrace, Katz (7) and Towles;	Wyzard, Ryan (6) and Heimer, Meyer.
Tappa Keggs	010 102 000-4 13 2
W. Coast Stars	400 000 000-4 9 1
Ryan, Schoendienst (2), Wyzard (7) and Meyer; DeGrace and Towles.	

## DEBUTANTE

A record list of 183 eligibles was announced today for the 15th running of the expected \$60,000 gross Del Mar Debutante, the famed feature for the 2-year-old fillies at the seaside meeting opening July 27.

## BOWLING LEAGUE

David McBride was elected president, Marvin Donsker, vice president, and Dorothy Carson, secretary - treasurer of the newly formed Torrance - Lomita Board of Realtors Bowling League.

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## Ken McBride To Greet Local Fans

Angel star Ken McBride will greet his fans at Great Western Savings' South Bay office (17400 Hawthorne Blvd. at Artesia) Saturday, from 11:30 to 2 p.m.

McBride will pose for photos with local fans who bring their cameras and will give hundreds of autographed pictures of himself or any Angel player, said branch manager Dennis Chojnacki.

Also making a guest appearance will be KMPC personality Fred Hessler.



KEN MCBRIDE

## Recreation Softball

**FRIDAY SLO-PITCH**

S. Bay Engineers	001 000 0-1 7 0
Hollywood Riveters	000 000 0-0 7 2
Sportsmen	000 000 0-0 7 2
Durant and Peterson; Trudell and Randolph	
Key Realty	010 000 2-3 9 4
Wild Mustangs	500 000 2-8 14 2
Johnson and Martin; Johnson and B. Giscomi	
Tom Cats	
A Go Go	302 410 0-14 20 2
L. A. Blades	500 020 1-7 19 2
Pagan and Raiche; Roberts, Schula (6) and Schula, Gray (6).	
HR-Holly (Tomcats)	

**CHURCH LEAGUE**

Lawndale Church of Christ	410 100 0-4 2 4
Hermosa Church of Nazarene	300 110 0-5 7 3
Hamilton and Knauas; McCurtain, Belch (1) and Moreno	
First Lutheran	109 64-20 15 1
Gardena Bible	120 03-6 5 4
Johnson and McNeer; Schmidt (4); Greenacre, Christen (4) and Ward	
HR-Faith (Lutheran)	
First Church of Nazarene forfeited to Calvary Assembly.	
Redondo First Baptist forfeited to North Redondo Chapel.	

## Fishing Report

First sportfishing catch of albacore was made last week—but the longfin turned out to be a misguided soul swimming with a school of bonito. Fish and Game verified the 10 lb. fish, however, as a real albacore. It was caught off Huntington Flats, instead of in deep, warm, blue water where it belonged.

Art's Landing in Balboa is in constant touch with the Fish and Game and commercial albacore trollers now patrolling between Cortez Bank and Guadalupe Island and as soon as the first "close enough" catch is made the long-range sportfishers will join in the longfin fun.

Meanwhile, back at the "coastal ranch," things are really humming. Last week the barracuda run was slow, but this week it is back in high gear. There are "solid" logs all the way from Salt Creek down to The Barn. And they are weighing in to 10 lbs.

Hallbut made a strong comeback as skippers varied the catches on the boat from the Three B's — barracuda, bonito and bass. San Onofre was the best spot with the water ideal for slow drifting.

## Heinis Dumps Hornaday

Marvin Heinis of North Hollywood is the new PRA 100-lap champion at Saugus Stadium after Ron Hornaday fizzled in the "Firecracker 100" super stock car classic Saturday night.

Heinis, 1961 Pacific Racing Assn. point king, led all the way from the third lap and saw Hornaday, the pre-race favorite eliminated on the 56th lap, minus his right front wheel.

## Proctor Tops Stock Drivers

A battle for the 1965 superstock car racing championship will highlight Sunday afternoon's nine event program at Gardena's Ascot Park, 183rd St. at So. Vermont Ave. Racing starts at 2 p.m. with qualifying runs at 1 p.m.

Less than 25 points separate the two top drivers in CAR's super-stock car points. Clem Proctor of Paramount leads with 380 points.

Proctor will drive a Dodge convertible Sunday as he takes on a forty car field. 3:30. Admission is \$1.

## Swimming, Diving Championships Set

Three of the United States' top ranked breaststroke swimmers will meet in the 7th annual Los Angeles Invitational Swimming and Diving Championships Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Los Angeles Swim Stadium.

University of Southern California's 7th place Olympic finisher, Wayne Anderson, his teammate and Olympic gold-medal winner for breaststroke in the medley relay, Bill Craig, and the 1965 National AAU Indoor 100 and 200 yard breaststroke champion, Ken Merten, are the latest entries in this swimming and diving classic.

Merten, a junior at Southern Methodist University and a native of Pacoima, Craig from Glendale, and Anderson from Santa Clara are hopeful of being selected to the U. S. Team competing in the World Student Games at Budapest, Hungary this August.

In addition to the men's breaststroke dual at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, a fierce 100 meter freestyle race is expected between the American record holder and silver Olympic medal winner in the 100 meter freestyle, Sharon Stouder, and Canadian Olympian and 4th place finisher at the Tokyo Olympics, Marion Lay.

Miss Lay has already done 1:03, and Miss Stouder, who has been suffering from back injury, while not in her best shape, will still be favored to give an outstanding performance. Her Olympian teammate from City of Commerce, Jeanne Hallock, has also entered along with Erika Bricker, another Olympic team member. From Arizona comes Claudia Clark who recently won the Linwood Invitational.

In the women's 3 meter diving competition, Olympian Sue Gossick from Westlake Aquatic Club, will face formidable opposition from Patti Sims from City of Commerce and Shirley Teeples. The latter two have placed in the first six nationally in the 3 meter springboard event. This event highlights the Friday, July 9th diving program. Preliminaries for swimming start at 9:30, diving prelims at 1:00, and finals at 3:30. Admission is \$1.



READY FOR ANOTHER SPIN AFTER ROLLING OVER . . . Crewmen restore car to mobile condition after it cracked up in recent Ascot Figure 8 race. Held Wednesday and Sunday evenings, the criss-cross races continue throughout the summer.