

Dan Graham Honored Again



Press-Herald
SPORTS
A-6 JULY 2, 1967

Baseball Is Everything

The regular Little League season is quickly coming to a close for most leagues around the country. By now many people have experienced their first or possible another in series of Little League campaigns.

What happens to folks during these two or three months were brought out in an article by Mrs. Corena Green of Silver Spur Little League in Palos Verdes and are recreated at this time.

★ ★ ★

That guy who wrote the song about "loving those lazy, hazy days of summer" was battling about 333 in my book. It is certain he never had two boys in Little League.

Crazy, yes, but lazy and hazy, never!

Certainly no one can be lazy who plays in two or three games a week, attends six or seven more, practices several days a week and the other 26 hours a day tosses a ball against the garage door. Mothers, naturally, is constantly on her toes waiting for the next "whack!"

There is nothing hazy about minds which record in perpetuity each double play, each infield fly, each home run and all batting averages for the big leaguers, the Little Leaguers and the semi-pros in the locality.

"Crazy," I will not argue. That's us!

To say we are a baseball family would be the gross understatement of the year. However we do have competition for the title "Baseball Family of the Year." We have a friend whose swimming pool is in the shape of a baseball diamond so games can be continued in the water.

Without the proper perspective you may think that it is unreasonable for our boys to demand that their pancakes be cooked in the shape of Sandy Koufax. If we ever need family counselling we would probably consult an umpire instead of the Family Service League. Our tool shed has a remarkable resemblance to a dug-out.

The rumor that a long central hall in our home is a bowling alley in a base canard. Actually it is a miniature bull-pen. Once both of the boys developed their pitching control, we had it painted and guests can hardly see the inch deep gauges. Of course at night we have to keep the lights off in adjacent rooms because of the star-studded effect resulting from particularly deep holes.

★ ★ ★

As a vehicle for teaching the Three R's baseball has no peer.

At three and one-half years of age, number two son watched a freight train pass and said, "Daddy, why does it say 'Cincinnati' on the side of the choo-choo?"

Both boys could read the National League standings before "Run Jane Run" meant anything to them. "Milwaukee," "Minneapolis," "Baltimore," "Philadelphia" and "Pittsburgh" presented no problem. When they started to school however, they found these words a little difficult to work into a composition on "How a Moth changes into a Butterfly." A 200 word essay on "What I did all summer" was also pretty challenging. "I played baseball" left 197 words to go.

Arithmetic was a pushover and both boys taught their teachers a few things about percentages.

As for penmanship, every sheet of foolscap in the house is meticulously covered with detailed handwritten charts of batting averages and league standings. Letter writing is a snap with so many things to write to old friends about — such as the names of all the local Little League teams, who is leading and why.

Father is not immune. He religiously attends all Little League organizational meetings so he can volunteer his wife's time and energy. Not to be outdone, both boys follow suit for team duties, such as snack stand slave. This year Good Old Mom outfoxed them and signed up for early morning duty (coffee and donuts) on the Fourth of July. Son's game was postponed until 11 o'clock because of a playoff game leaving G.O.M. at noon frying hamburgers for the winning team and all the loyal rooters.

Official duties for Mom also include chauffeuring, scorekeeping and uniform washing.

★ ★ ★

Here begins another tale. I once knew a mother who ironed her son's uniform. He never made All-Stars but, by golly, he was the best dressed (and most embarrassed) kid in the league.

This is not my problem. Rather it is glomming onto the uniform long enough to wash it. It is worn for games. For a while it was worn to bed. It is worn under jeans and jackets to all Dodger games. To keep warm is the excuse. It is considered unlucky to wash it. As a matter of fact the first time I got my dishpan hands on it, we lost the game. I am now more careful and sneak it off to the washing machine when the Dodger-Giant games are being televised and no one paying any attention. Of course I miss an inning or two of the game but after all, cleanliness is next to Godliness.

I once told my son there are other things in life besides baseball and he asked me "What?"

FOOTBALL TICKETS ON SALE

The West Torrance Lions Club has started ticket sales for the annual South Bay All-Star High School Football Game. The game, featuring the 48 outstanding graduating seniors in the area, will be Aug. 10 at El Camino.

Prices for tickets are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for students. The mailing address for orders is Lions All-Star Football Game, P.O. Box 3055, Torrance.

Featured in the game will be All-American quarterback Danny Graham of Bishop Montgomery High School.

Proceeds from the game go to the Southwest Association for Retarded Children.

Perez Also Picked For All-CIF Team

Danny Graham, the all-purpose Bishop Montgomery High School athlete, has been named CIF "AA" baseball player of the year. Rich Perez, who fashioned a 10-0 record for the Knights, was selected among three pitchers on the first team.

Class Held In 'Horse Husbandry'

Among the credits counted as the spring semester ended this month at the Kent-Meridian High School near Seattle, Washington, were those for a course in "Horse Husbandry."

Probably the first of its kind in the country, this course was conceived by a young teacher named Jim Elmquist who, prior to embarking on a teaching career at Fresno State College, had been a working cowboy and rodeo performer and still owns and trains his own Thoroughbreds. So popular has the "pilot" course proved, adults in the school district are clamoring for an evening course for the fall semester.

It all began with a joking remark to the Vocational Director who didn't think it a joking matter. Thus encouraged Elmquist prepared a full semester outline, presented it to the State Educational Department which promptly approved it as a part of the curriculum of the Agriculture Department.

Filling the course was no problem. On the contrary, enrollment had to be limited and students screened to determine sincere interest in a possible vocation with horses.

It proved to be no "snap" but a course prepared on the college level. In addition to class work there was a program of field trips which included visits to breeding farms and to the back stretch at Longacres race track.

Kent-Meridian High's Horse Husbandry course may be the first of its kind, but it probably won't be the last. The equine population too has been exploding in recent years and there is an apparent growing interest in riding among young people.

Toros Play Match Today In Atlanta

The Los Angeles Toros of the National Professional Soccer League attempt another win over the Atlanta Chiefs today in Atlanta Stadium.

The Toros, currently playing their finest ball of the year, edged the Chiefs, 2-1, in the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Wednesday. Cirilo Fernandez and Ron Crisp scored the key goals.

In two prior meetings the teams tied 1-1 and Atlanta blanked the Toros 3-0.

Tuesday the Toros play a Fourth of July afternoon game in Yankee Stadium against the New York Generals. Los Angeles holds 3-2 and 2-0 decisions so far.

Vukovich Favored At Ascot

A star-studded field of 50 drivers, led by Billy Vukovich of Fresno, Bob Hogle of Buena Park, and Billy Wilkerson of El Monte, is set for Monday evening's annual "Firecracker Fifty" CRA Sprint Car racing program at Gardena's Ascot Park. Racing starts at 8:30 p.m. on the half-mile clay oval.

A gigantic fireworks display will follow the racing.

Currently the hottest young driver in the nation, Vukovich will seek his 18th feature win of the season in the main event. He will pilot the famed Morales Bros., Offenhauser powered "Tamale Wagon" in which he won two CRA features this year at Ascot.

Billy faces stiff competition from Hogle, 1963 CRA driving champ and winner of two CRA mians at Ascot this year. Hogle returns to the drivers seat of the Darwin Maxson, Offenhauser special from Downey. He drove Vuky's Morales Bros. special to a win at Ascot last weekend, while Vukovich was racing in the Midwest.

Wilkerson is currently leading the CRA point race and has won two CRA mains already this year. He'll pilot the Ernie Duncan, Chevy V-8 special from La Habra in the evening's eight event card.

Other top flight entries include, Paul Jones of Torrance, younger brother of Parnell Jones, 1963 Indianapolis 500 winner; Steve Kenick of Temple City, Ascot's one lap track record holder at 21.31; Lee Robinson of Spring Valley, a four time winner on the CRA circuit this year; and Jack Brunner of Gardena, 1961 CRA champion.

Dave Bing Keeps Busy

Dave Bing, of the Detroit Pistons, the National Basketball Association's 1966-67 Rookie-Of-The-Year, has had little chance to relax during the off season. In addition to working in the manager-training program of Michigan's largest bank, Bing has averaged five speaking engagements per week. He already has been booked for appearances at several basketball camps, including three in the east, during the weeks ahead.

Bing has one major complaint: No time to cut his lawn.

Pennant Race Ends Tuesday

Three teams are involved in the major championship at Tordondo Little League.

After winning the first half, the Cubs (7-3) finished a game behind the Braves (8-2) and Dodgers (8-2) for the second half.

The second half winner was decided yesterday to determine which plays the Cubs Tuesday for the league title.

The Dodgers got into the runoff by upsetting the Cubs, 1-0, Thursday on Kurtis Gentile's 15-strikeout pitching effort.

Senior Nine Names First All-Star Team

Pacific Coast Little League of Torrance has named Ted Wallace manager and Tom Conaty coach of its first Senior Division Tournament team.

Members of the team are Wayne Crosby, Jim Depke, Richard Letz, John O'Brien of the Pintos; Dave Mexico, Dennis Paulson, Dan Spagnoli, Scott Wallace, Tod Wallace, Dave Whitford of the Broncos, Sherman Keenan, Gary May, Jim Henry of the Mustangs; and Mike Kimbell of the Wranglers.

Alternates are Chuck Akins, Rick Seldman, Jim Hall, Kurt Hoyt, Greg Reed and Steve Wilson.

Races Held Twice Weekly

Twice weekly programs will continue here this week over the paved half-mile oval at San Gabriel Speedway, officials announced.

The schedule this week calls for NASCAR super stocks to cavort on Friday night and the CAR super modifieds or "Flying Wings" on Saturday night. Both shows get green-flagged at 8 p.m. after time trials at 7.



PLAYER OF THE YEAR... In the CIF "AA" baseball ranks, Danny Graham of Bishop Montgomery wrapped up his high school career with his selection as the outstanding player in his division. He was also honored as the football player of the year last fall. (Press-Herald Photo)

Torrance Softball

OPEN SOFTBALL AT TORRANCE PARK		
W	L	Pct.
Miller's Garage	0	0.000
So. Bay Church	1	.889
Misguided Nine	4	.556
60 Radar Sq.	4	.556
So. Bay Club	3	.333
D. & G. Sporting	3	.333
T.R.W. Semi Con.	7	.222
Airesearch	1	.111

MONDAY SLO-PITCH AT WALTERIA PARK		
W	L	Pct.
30th St. Ath. Club	2	.778
Dandoy Glass	3	.667
Orain Sports	4	.556
Focle's	4	.556
Barker Trucking	3	.333
Nike's	3	.333

INDUSTRIAL SOFTBALL AT TORRANCE PARK		
W	L	Pct.
P.S.M.	7	.875
Airesearch	6	.750
Continental Device	2	.750
Fan Steel	3	.750
Magnavox	4	.500
Cosmo-dyne	4	.500
P.P.G. Ind.	1	.250
Foods Co.	1	.250
Electron Dynamics	0	.000

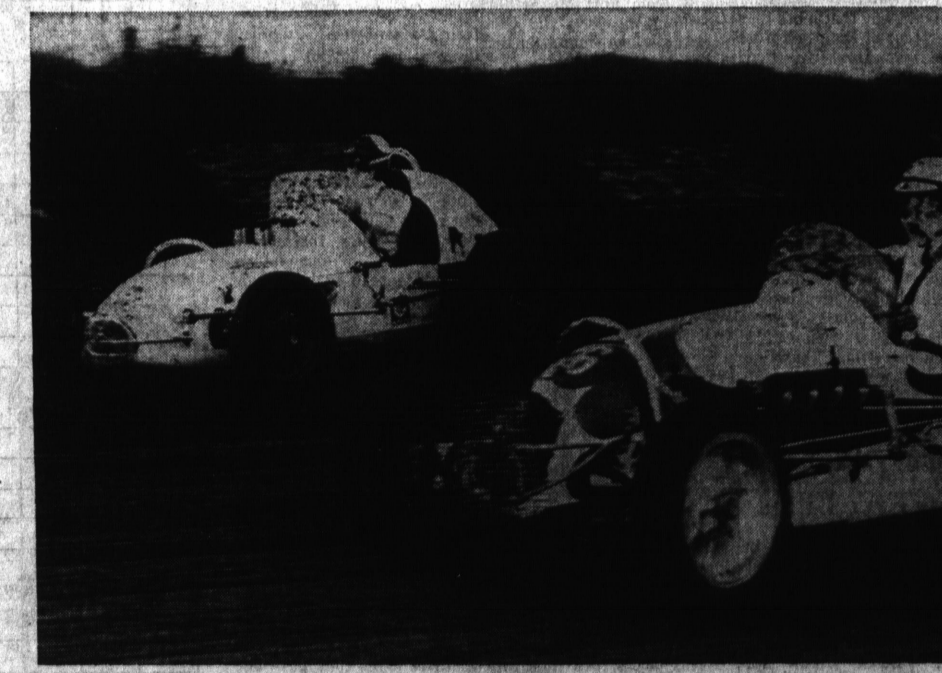
CHURCH SOFTBALL AT McMASTER PARK		
W	L	Pct.
So. Bay Church	6	1.000
No. Redondo Chap.	2	.750
Lawn, Ch. Christ	2	.750
Torr. Ist. Luth.	2	.714
Christ King Luth.	3	.429
Wilm. Ist. Assem.	2	.286
Calvary As. God	1	.143
Gardena Bible	0	.000

SUNDAY OPEN SOFTBALL AT EL NIDO PARK		
W	L	Pct.
Burgmaster	5	1.000
Micro	2	.667
Cougars	2	.400
DC 9	1	.200

MONDAY SLO-PITCH AT McMASTER PARK		
W	L	Pct.
Drifters	1	.889
Firefighters No. 1	1	.889
Aerona	4	.556
Spartans	3	.333
Successors	2	.222
Ampco Metal	1	.111

FRIDAY SLO-PITCH AT WALTERIA PARK		
W	L	Pct.
Key Realty	5	1.000
C.E.A.	2	.667
Rolling Hills Club	2	.667
Prairie Ave. Ch.	1	.200
Tedeco	1	.200

NORTH TORRANCE		
W	L	Pct.
Braves	5	1.000
Pirates	12	.600
Giants	6	.600
Cubs	7	.438
Phillies	8	.438
Redlegs	8	.438
Cards	8	.438



FIREWORKS ON THE RACETRACK... Skyrocketing around Ascot Park tomorrow will be the CRA sprint cars, including these two piloted by Paul Jones (on the outside) and Bill Vukovich on the curve. The "Firecracker Fifty" will run in conjunction with a fireworks display Monday night.