

Tartars Overcome Tough Hurdle.

The Fearless Spectator



By Charles McCabe, Esquire

We are told that the stern and Olympian visage of the Czar of Baseball, Mr. Ford Frick, is even more stern and Olympian these days.

The Czar is reported grieved about Don Drysdale and Friends, a new vaudeville act which played at Las Vegas the other day.

Mr. Drysdale, who sings, was accompanied at the Desert Inn in Las Vegas by Maury Wills, who plays a guitar; Willie Davis, a soft-shoe man; Milton Berle, a comic, and Frank Howard, Sandy Koufax, and Duke Snider, who provide locker-room type choral background. The gig stank, as might be expected.

Except for Mr. Berle, the entertainers are all members of the Los Angeles Dodgers, and thus a part of what is called Organized Baseball, or O. B.

They appeared on stage wearing their home flannel working bloomers. The act is called "The Stage Appearance of the Los Angeles Dodgers." One of the song numbers is a joke, kid—"Diamonds Are a Man's Best Friend."

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If you wonder why the Czar—the potentate of O. B.—should be worried about such a thing, it just shows how little you know about baseball.

Now O. B. is big on dignity, but that's not why the Czar is looking down his nose. He has no objection to the men being in show biz, nor does he rap their picking up a little outside scratch.

What he doesn't like is where they are picking it up. Las Vegas. Las Vegas is a place where people g-----.

O. B. is very sensitive about this. Because of the Black Sox scandal in 1919. This is a memorable date in American history—like Paul Revere's ride, and the sinking of the Maine.

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It was in 1920, when the scandal broke, that American youth learned the salutary lesson that our adored Demigods of the Diamond were just human like the rest of us—attainted by original sin, and clearly able to tell the difference between a dime and a doorknob.

O. B. threw eight Chicago players out of the game for life because they allegedly peddled the 1919 World Series to a body of obliging gamblers, one of whom may have been Arnold Rothstein.

The club owners were no better than they should have been. Some of them, like Charlie Stoneham of the Giants, were gamblers themselves. Charlie's credentials were so impressive that he was allowed to break a deck with the great Rothstein himself.

But the molycoddles who wrote for the newspapers made so much of the players' innocent little caper that the owners embraced virtue with a vengeance, and hired a righteous old egomaniac named Judge Landis to police the sport.

The judge took the owners seriously. In due time they hated his guts. They saw to it that his successors—including the incumbent, Frick—were as compliant as strands of silk in a soft breeze.

O. B. still continues to exact public probity from the boys in bloomers, and that is why the Dodgers at Vegas are grandiosely considered "not in the best interest of baseball."

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As a matter of act, Mr. Frick's much-publicized rectitude is wholly unnecessary. Oddly enough, baseball IS a clean game. Even if the players were so minded, which they are not, it would be a superhuman stunt for one man to fix a game, or one team to fix a 162-game season.

And even if a pitcher had a heart gravid with larceny he could never get away with throwing a World Series game with practically every grown male in the country looking at him on the telly.

These graceful little tribal obeisances to virtue by the Czar's office are, therefore wholly redundant; but not wholly wasted.

The Czar's slightly disingenuous advocacy of Simon purity for today's players, whether intended or no, brings up the fragrant past when some ballplayers were thought to be elfin little thieves rather than security-minded lads with black knitted ties who screams when their Kiplinger Letter comes late.

Mykkanen and Crew Wreck North Quintet

Hawthorne's Gary Mykkanen came into the North High gymnasium Friday night with a tremendous reputation. Mykkanen left the Saxon's basketball squad fully aware that his press clippings were 14 karat gold. All the huge senior did was pour 31 points through the hoop as the undefeated, Bay League-leading Cougars, throttled North's hopes of sneaking into the circuit championship by a 71-59 count.

With only one defeat on its loop record, North had hopes of upending Hawthorne. Mykkanen quickly doused the Saxon ambitions as he led a 38-point first-half Hawthorne attack which left North 16 points behind at intermission.

THE MAGICAL Mykkanen, a leading candidate for the loop's most valuable player, did have some help. Hawthorne's Mike Babineau chipped in with 19 markers and Ron Peterson added 10 more digits. Only three other Cougars even tallied, but no more was needed.

Two North cagers made valiant attempts to pull the game out of the fire. Rapidly improving All-League guard Carey Hubert pumped in 20 points and Mike Gratzke added 13 more for the Saxons. North's Don Ireland and Steve Van Camp hit seven digits apiece to no avail.

ANOTHER quintet gunning for loop laurels is next for North. On Wednesday at 3 p.m., the Saxons will host surprising Inglewood, still very much in the running for the crown.

The Sentinels' Steve Roth, averaging 19.80 points a game, will lead the invaders.



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Spartans Subdue Olympian Cagers

Although South High will not occupy the Bay League basketball throne this year, neither will the Spartans finish the season in the murky depths of the cellar.

Notching its second circuit victory, South roared past winless Leuzinger by a 74-60 count Friday night on its own court.

Three men cut loose with double-figure performances as the Spartans notched their third victory of the season. Don Denson lead South and tied for high point honors by

pouring 21 digits through the cords.

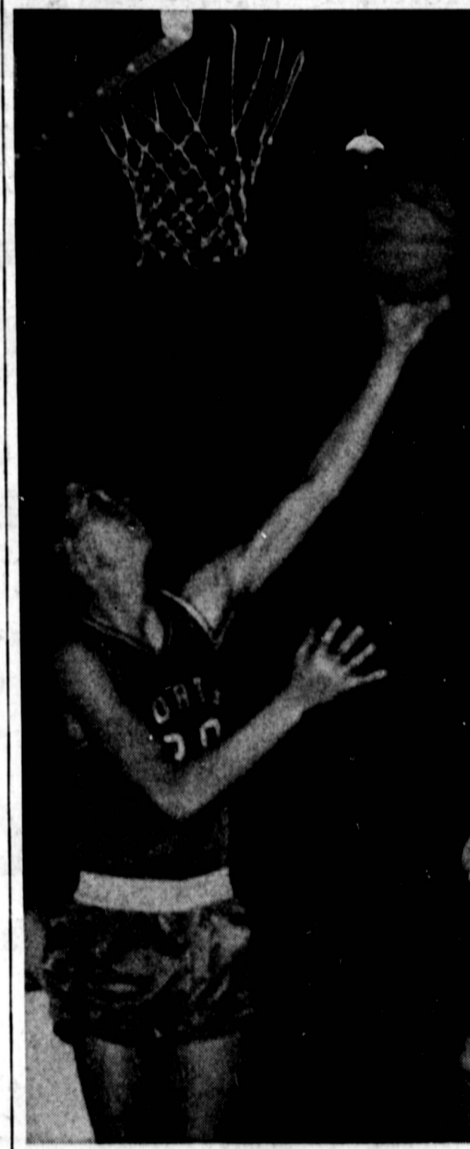
THE SPECTACLE-wearing Denson guided an early Spartan surge with his long shots. Also scoring heavily for South were Chuck Robinson with 19 markers and Ken Halland with 16 more points.

Leuzinger's John Hiles canned 21 points and teammates Randy McMichaels and Bill Dillard added 11 and 10 digits respectively.

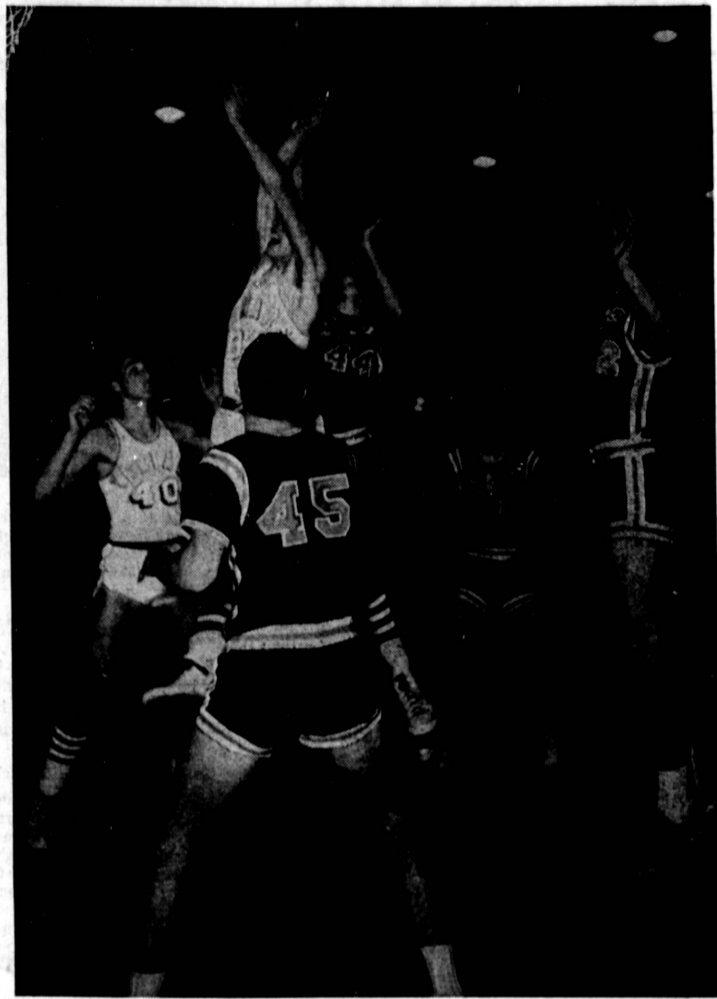
SOUTH roared to a 19-14 first-quarter lead, but was hard pressed to maintain it in the face of a full-court press by the Olympians. Hot shooting and backboard control by South managed to keep ball-thieving Leuzinger in hand. At intermission, South held a 38-31 lead and steadily increased it the remainder of the fray. The Spartans outscored the visitors 13-7 in the third period and posted a 23-22 margin in the final quarter.

THE SPARTANS' one-game winning streak will be in dire jeopardy on Wednesday as they travel to Mira Costa for a 3 p.m. battle.

Since its loss to undefeated Hawthorne, Mira Costa's hopes for the loop title seem to be ended, but the Mustangs must still be ranked as the Bay League's second best quintet. Guiding fast-breaking Michoi is the circuit's top scorer. In four games, Joe Ellison dumped in 82 points for a 20.50 average.



FUTILE EFFORT . . . North forward Mike Gratzke hooks in two final quarter points against Hawthorne Friday night, adding to his 19-point final total, in a vain attempt to keep the Saxons in the Bay League title chase. Hawthorne remained undefeated with a 71-59 victory. North's record is now blemished by two defeats. (Herald Photo)



HOLDING HANDS . . . Aviation guard Jim Lloyd holds onto the arm of Torrance forward Lynn Archibald over struggle for rebound in recent fray. Looking on from Torrance is Steve Waters while Jeff Brooks (45), Jim Campbell (11), and Rich Heyden (32), survey the scene for the Falcons. The Tartars handily whipped Aviation and went on Friday night to wallop El Segundo in a contest which may go a long way in deciding the eventual Pioneer League champion. (Herald Photo)

THS Five Conquers Undefeated Eagles

Rapid-starting Torrance fired into a huge early lead then withstood a late El Segundo surge Friday night to post a crucial 68-55 Pioneer League basketball victory on the Eagles' court.

Led by the league's top scorer, Lynn Archibald, Torrance galloped into a 32-16 lead at halftime and then outscored El Segundo in a wild final stanza to put the first blot

on the Eagles' loop mark.

Archibald pushed in 22 points from his forward slot, center Steve Waters muscled in for 12 markers and driving guard Ernie Clayton sliced in nine more to outdo the three double-point performances from ESHS.

USUALLY slow-moving, the Eagles were forced to run with Torrance, and as a result out-

scored the Tartars in only the third period by a 13-8 margin.

In the heavy-scoring final quarter, El Segundo attempted to match the rapid Torrance pace in an effort to overcome its lead, but was again outscored, 28-26.

Archibald's performance increased his average to 19.8 points per game. Formerly, Bruce Peters of Culver City held the lead with a 20.20 average, but his 14 point effort against West dropped is down to 19.1.

Centaur Demolish Warriors

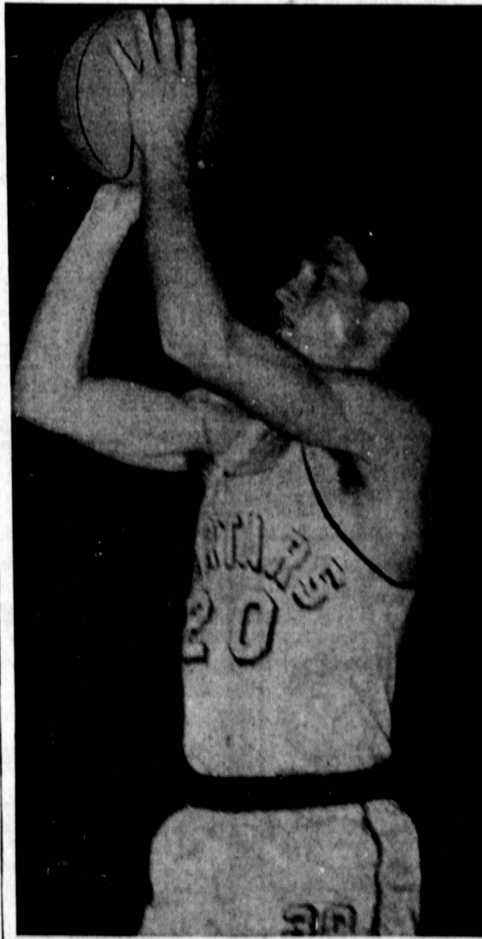
Power-packed Culver City maintained its Pioneer League lead Friday night with a lopsided 77-33 victory over outmanned West High.

The Warriors were completely outclassed from the opening whistle as four Centaurs connected in double figures. Culver held a 19-5 lead by the end of the first quarter, and by halftime, had pushed the margin to 32-16.

Still pouring it on, Culver moved out to a 55-29 margin at the termination of the third quarter, and held West to four points in the final stanza while picking up 22 more markers to make the rout complete.

The league's leading scorer, Bruce Peters, dropped his average considerably with a 14-point effort. However Ken Peterson with 17 markers, Jack Reilly with 20 digits, and Gary Warburton with an additional 11 points, picked up the slack.

Only West center John Cochran was effective, canning 10 points.



ALL-AROUND TARTAR . . . Steady John Ricci prepares to bucket two points in Friday's contest with El Segundo as Torrance mowed down a rugged obstacle in its path toward a Pioneer League crown. Ricci, a dependable scorer for the Tartars, was also a top-flight halfback on the THS gridiron crew that won the league crown and went into the CIF playoffs. (Herald Photo)

Renegades Dominate El Camino

Defending Metropolitan champion Bakersfield completely stalled El Camino's slow-down offense Friday night to take a 59-39 victory on its home court.

Although El Camino lacked height, the semi-stall offense established by Coach George Stanich plus accurate shooting and hustle had propelled the Warriors into the thick of the Metro race with a 3-1 record.

Bakersfield put an end to the Tribe's title hopes early in the contest. Camino succeeded in slowing down the run-happy Renegades for awhile, but finally the game's two top scorers, Bill Turner and Loren Thompson, guided Bakersfield into a 28-19 halftime lead.

TURNER, the conference's top scorer, tied Thompson for high-point honors with a 17-point effort. Only the Warriors' steady guard, Bob Garcia, with 13 points, bucketed more than five markers for EC.

Although Paul Bush came off the bench to give ECC help on the boards, the animal-like Gades dominated the rebounding department with their superior height.

CONSISTENT scoring by the Warrior front line had been sufficient in recent games to overcome the lack of height. However, usually steady Ron Lewis, Paul Ingleman and Bob Cliborn managed only eight points between them on Friday.

El Camino will attempt to pick up the scattered remains on Tuesday as East Los Angeles treks to Warriortown for an 8 p.m. encounter.

Knights Continue to Win

Well-balanced Bishop Montgomery maintained its Camino Real League basketball title chances Friday night with a smashing wire-to-wire victory over St. John Vianney on the Loyola University floor.

Four Knights wound up in double figures as Montgomery took the lead shortly after the opening toss up and built it into a 60-45 win. The young BMHS quintet grabbed a 13-12

lead by the end of the first period, and by intermission, had increased the margin to 25-20.

STILL glowing hot, the Knights came through with a 17-point third-stanza outburst to increase the bulge to 42-29 and clinch the victory.

Junior forward Tony Guginaina pumped in 19 points to pace Montgomery. Rugged 6-6 center Paul Deyden once

again controlled the boards for the Knights in addition to hammering in 16 markers.

TWO OTHER BMHS starters, both guards, junior Pete MacCarrone and sophomore Bill Brown contributed 10 points each.

The huge Deyden is the only Knight starter that new coach Roger Folsom will lose this year.

VICTORY increased Montgomery's second-place league mark to 4-1. The Knights dropped their opening loop tilt to leading Alemany, and have now come back to whip St. Bernards, Pater Noster, Crespi, and St. John Vianney.

On Friday, in an 8 p.m. clash at Serra High, Montgomery's title aspirations will get a stern test from rugged Fermin Lasuen.