

"LOOKING 'EM OVER"

With Mike Callas Jr.

Most Valuable

Just after the close of last year's World Series a friend of this reporter argued over several cool ones as to what Dodger was the most valuable to the club during '59 play.

My learned one, a fellow scribe, applauded the merits of Larry Sherry. "Why if it wasn't for Sherry the Dodgers couldn't of gotten into the series." Although we conducted a spirited session no decision was reached. My vote was cast for Dodger pitching coach, Joe Becker.

Contacted early yesterday and asked who would I choose as the one who would help the Dodgers most this year I stuck to my post-Series choice and labeled Joe Becker as the valuable key to Los Angeles hopes in '60.

Perhaps the greatest single reason for Becker's selection by this corner is Joe's masterful handling of the Dodger's young crops of pitchers. Becker spent hours whipping Podres, Drysdale, Sherry, Koufax, McDevitt, and Craig into shape during the early weeks of pre-season play to where this comparatively young bunch are about ready for the Dodger opener just nine days hence.

Alston Confident

During the later stages of the '59 campaign I asked Walter Alston how he determines his pitching choice other than the usual rotation plan. "It's simple," Walt confided, "I pick my man after consultation with Joe Becker. He knows more about twirlers than I'll ever know."

Talking with Becker you get the impression that all Joe wants you to believe is that he's just a glorified practice catcher. His successful pitchers are that way because they did it themselves Becker tells you. Then when you chat with the mound corps your told that if it "wasn't for Joe I would be back in Spokane or one of the other farm clubs."

Becker recalls with some amusement the case of Danny McDevitt. "In 1957 Danny was considered wilder than an Elvis Presley song and dance routine. It seemed as if Danny would become the number one free-pass giver in the game. I guess he settled down in '58 and '59 cause that base-on-balls is no longer in his repertoire." What Joe forgot to say was that he worked diligently with Danny to calm the little guy and inspire confidence. McDevitt is now considered a control pitcher and the quiet one, as he is called by his mates, will tell you Becker's responsible for it.

Pitching True Test

Discussing what the Dodger chances are for repeating we get the same answer from most everyone. Opinion has it that the club will need good, steady pitching to win the pennant this year. Dodger hitters are not the greatest in the league therefore the heavy duty is with the pitchers.

Winning the pennant without a 20-game winner on the staff is a difficult feat we admit, however, it is reassuring to know that Dessen has left the club and not our most valuable, Joe Becker.

Nicholas Praises Western Hockey Held at Sports Arena April 6-7

Take it from no less a sports authority than Bill Nicholas, general manager of the Los Angeles Coliseum and Sports Arena, the Western Pro Hockey League puts out an excellent brand of the exciting, rough and fast ice sport.

Bill took an excursion into the Northwest and caught games at both Vancouver and Seattle.

"I was very much impressed with both teams and the caliber of hockey played," Bill said in discussing the approaching Western League's President Cup championship playoffs April 6-7 at the Sports Arena.

"I took the time to talk to one of the referees, a man who has officiated in both the National and Western Leagues."

"He admitted there is very little difference in the play of the two leagues. The NHL players are somewhat mature, some are bigger but many of the Western players are from the National League and others are on their way up."

Nicholas also pointed out that among the most interested spectators at the April 6-7 games here will be members of the Los Angeles Coliseum Commission.

"The Sports Arena was designed and built with ice hockey in mind, and we're hopeful of getting the best we can. Believe me, the two Western League finalists will be scrutinized and the reaction of Southern California fans closely studied."

Nicholas admitted that there are several seekers of a Western League franchise for Los Angeles next season. In this regard, league president Al Leader of Seattle told Don Sorensen, President of the Los Angeles Junior Chambers of Commerce the other day, that expansion to Los Angeles will be a major item on the agenda of the annual league meeting in May.

Sorensen's organization, that put over the highly successful United States-Czech pre-Olympic games in February, is sponsoring the playoffs for the encouragement of more hockey in the Southland.

Hottest gossip is that among the bidders for a Los Angeles Western League franchise is the NHL team with a farm club in the Western circuit. That could be the New York Rangers, Montreal Canadiens, Detroit Red Wings or Boston Bruins who have working agreements with, in order, Vancouver, Spokane, Edmonton and Winnipeg.

Conjecture on that could be endless, but the thinking might be to play in the Western League a few seasons then move Los Angeles into the NHL, or transfer the home team here with the roots established and the fans screaming for more.

Whatever the thinking, pro hockey is headed for Los Angeles just like football and baseball—it can't stay away.

The start will be the Western Hockey League playoffs April 6-7. Currently Vancouver is leading Edmonton and Victoria is leading Seattle in the semifinal playoffs. The two survivors then head for Los Angeles.

Fishing License Needed to Dig Clams, DFG Warns

If you are planning your vacation and good weather outings now, and those plans include clam digging, the Department of Fish and Game reminds that a fishing license is required for the taking of clams.

The Sportfishing Regulations state, "A sport fishing license is required of any person 16 years of age or older, including members of the Armed Forces, for the taking of any kind of fish, mollusk, amphibian or crustacean in California waters."

Three Torrance Teams to Enter Big Track Meet

Three Torrance high teams will participate in the Inglewood high track relays next Thursday and Friday.

Cinder speedsters from both the Pioneer and Bay Leagues will take part. South High of Torrance is a strong entry. North High and Torrance have shown much improvement in recent meets and may surprise some of the experts.

The meet will be held on the afternoon of Thursday and the evening of Friday.

100 Cars Set for Derby Today

More than 100 cars will be on hand for the opening of the 1960 season at the Gardena Stadium this evening, when the first Destruction Derby of the year will be presented.

The evenings program will begin at 7 p.m. in order that families will be able to leave the stadium at an early hour. Fun for the children, will include several of television's top clowns, including, Bozo, Skipper Frank and Uncle Luther, also on hand to MC the show will be Dick Lane.

Last year's leading driver, Howard Walton of Hawthorne, will return this year leading a four car team of drivers. Walton hopes to stay in front in the 1960 points.

His top competition will come from three other drivers, "Dynamite" Dite Wall, of Los Angeles, "Roughhouse" Roger Hazher, of Wilmington, and "Beastneck" Al Cooper of Paramount. These drivers were the top four in 1959.

Other favorites entered include: Jerry Dobbs, El Monte; Joe Breedlove, Gardena; Ray Mallata, Fullerton; Orvil Allen, Monrovia; Lamar Anderson, Manhattan Beach; Don Donavin, Long Beach; Johnny Foster, Torrance; Don Blevins, Wilmington; Jim Bartosh, Los Angeles; and Arley Seranton, Compton.

A special event for lady drivers only will be an extra highlight of the evening show. Hila Paulson and June Lewis of Compton are favored to take all money in this event, but could be stopped by some of the 15 other girls entered. Others include: Helen Knight, Torrance; Carol Wilcox, Huntington Park; Gerri Lloyd, Torrance; Margie Ficker, Bell Gardens; and Doris Bruntz, Alhambra.

Admission for adults is \$1.75, with juniors \$1 and kids under eight free.

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PRESS Sports



HOCKEY ENTHUSIASTS will see Paul Masnick, 5-9, 165 pound center for Victoria, Wednesday and Thursday night during the Western League play-offs at Sports Arena in Los Angeles. Masnick is from Regina, Sask., and formerly played with Montreal.

DFG Sends Eggs to Brazil

One hundred thousand rainbow trout eggs from the Department of Fish and Game's hatchery at Mt. Whitney will be sent to Brazil next month. This State's fish and game department has cooperated with Latin American nations from time to time in providing California species that are adapted to environments in those countries.

In return, Brazil has offered to make available to California several species of inland and marine fish which may be capable of sustaining themselves in California waters.

1960 TORRANCE AREA

Baseball Directory

The baseball aggregation statistics listed below have been compiled by staffers of the PRESS to better acquaint readers with the make-up of Little, Pony and Babe Ruth Leagues of the Greater Torrance Area. If your team is not listed write to Sports Editor, Torrance Press, 3238 W. Sepulveda Blvd., with information.

LITTLE LEAGUE

Little League baseball is for boys born between July 31, 1952 and Aug. 1, 1947.

TORRANCE CENTRAL LITTLE LEAGUE
President—Russell Haynes (FA 8-3162).
Players Agent—Jim Wray (FA 8-0176).

Boundaries—Hawthorne Blvd. on the west; 190th St. on the north; Crenshaw Blvd. on the east; and Carson St. on the south.
Registration—Completed.
Tryouts—Completed.
League Dates—March 27 at 9 p.m. at Torrance American Legion Hall.

Opening Day—Undecided.
Location of Ballpark—Mobi Park, corner of entrance at 3400 190th St. (northwest corner of General Petroleum refinery). Shiloh Field (minor field), 182nd St. at Crenshaw Blvd.

LOMITA LITTLE LEAGUE
President—Ted Coopins (DA 4-2735).

Players Agent—Mrs. Bill Howell (DA 4-5921).

Boundaries—Torrance city limits on the north; Walnut to the end of Ocean View Ave. on the east; end of Ocean Ave. to back of Pennsylvania Dr. on the south; Pennsylvania to Pacific Coast Hwy. to Crenshaw to 241st St. on the west.
Registration—Completed (135 boys to date).
Opening Day—Saturday, May 14.
Location of Ballpark—Chandler Field, Narbonne Ave., north of Palms Verde Drive North.

NORTH TORRANCE LITTLE LEAGUE
President—Bob Simon (DA 4-3915).

Players Agent—Sam Johnson (west), FR 9-2577; John Miller (east) DA 4-8349.

Boundaries—(west league) Hawthorne Blvd. on the west between Redondo Beach Blvd. and 190th; north boundary Redondo Beach Blvd.; south boundary 190th St.; east and west bisected by Glenburny 182nd; Palms (east league) east city limits term boundary between Redondo Beach Blvd. and 190th.

Tryouts—Completed (544 boys).
Get Acquainted Dates—March 26, Gardena Elks Club.

Opening Day—Sunday, April 24.
Mixed Yippee Party—May 6.

Hard Times Dance—June 18, Gardena VFW Hall.
Location of Ballpark—Domínguez Park, 190th and Beryl St., Torrance. (Redondo Beach city limits).

RIVIERA LITTLE LEAGUE
President—Jack Holmes (FR 5-3915).

Players Agent—Fran Andrews (FR 4-8956).

Boundaries—Pacific Coast Hwy. on the north; Torrance city limits on the south; Nancy Lee through the center of Via El Sereno on the east and the Pacific Ocean on the west.

Tryouts—Completed.
Tryouts—March 26 and April 2 at lower Kistel Field.
Location of Ballpark—Lower Kistel Field, Pacific Coast Hwy. one half mile west of Hawthorne Blvd.

ROLLING HILLS LITTLE LEAGUE
President—Jack Palmer (FR 7-2522).

Players Agent—Jack Rathwell (FR 3-7344).

Boundaries—Miraflores area, Rolling Hills area, Dooleray area, Large Vista area; City of Rolling Hills, Strawberry Lane area, Westfield area.

Registration—Completed.
Tryouts—Completed.
Start of Practice—March 26.
League Dates—April 23.

Opening Day—April 24.
Location of Ballpark—Rolling Hills Little League field, entrance off Rolling Hills road, north of Palms Verde Drive North.

LITTLE LEAGUE (Cont.)

SOUTHWOOD LITTLE LEAGUE
President—Walter Virgil (FR 4-8048).

Players Agent—Paul Halbach (FR 4-3568).

Boundaries—Hawthorne Blvd. on the east; Sepulveda Blvd. on the south; Torrance city limits to Del Amo on the west; Del Amo to Hawthorne Blvd. on the north.

Tryouts—Completed.
Location of Ballpark—To be developed at Emerald St. between Anza and Victor St.

TORRANCE AMERICAN LITTLE LEAGUE
President—Carl Binford (FR 5-5159).

Players Agent—John Scheppe (FR 5-6453).

Boundaries—Redondo city limits on the west; Sepulveda Blvd. on the north; Madrona Ave., Lomita Blvd., Hawthorne Blvd. on the east; Pacific Coast Hwy. on the south.

Registration—Continued during first two tryouts.

Tryouts—Completed.
General Meeting—Wed. March 23 at 7:30 p.m. at Calle Mayor School to announce teams.

Opening Day—May 7.
Location of Ballpark—Del Amo Field, Plaza Del Amo, one block west of Western Ave.

TORRANCE NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE
President—Ronald Schaefer (FA 8-3500).

Players Agent—Ralph Schaefer (FA 8-3500).

Boundaries—Carson St. on the north; Western Ave. on the east; southern Torrance city limits to Crenshaw to Sepulveda to Hawthorne to Carson on the south.

Registration—Completed.
Tryouts—Completed.

Opening Day—May 7, Saturday.
Location of Ballpark—Del Amo Field at Plaza del Amo, one block west of Western Ave. and Barral Field, one block southeast of Carson and Crenshaw.

PONY LEAGUE
Pony League is a baseball program for 13 and 14-year-old boys born between the dates Aug. 1, 1945 and July 31, 1948.

PACIFIC-RIVIERA PONY LEAGUE
President—John Klinech (FR 5-2225).

Players Agent—Leo La Porte (FR 4-7973).

Boundaries—Starting at the ocean, Torrance city limits on the south to Torrance city limits on the east; North on Crenshaw to Lomita; west on Lomita to Hawthorne; south on Hawthorne to Pacific Coast Hwy.; west on Pacific Coast Hwy. to Avenue 11; south to Camino del Campo and west to the ocean.

Registration—Through tryout date.

Tryouts—Completed.
Location of Ballpark—Kistel Field, 4000 Pacific Coast Hwy. just west of Fish Shanty.

NORTH TORRANCE PONY LEAGUE
President—Ronald Kiner (FR 4-5913).

Players Agent—Slim Wheelis (DA 4-0879).

Boundaries—Redondo Beach Blvd. on the north; Torrance city boundaries on the east; 190th St. and the south; Hawthorne Blvd. on the west.

Registration—Being continued until tryouts at president and players agent's homes.

Activities—Dance, April 9; Mixed Yippee Party April 20.

Tryouts—Completed.
Location of Ballpark—21 1/2th Park, Kineshite Ave. near 182nd St. and Hawthorne Blvd.

Tartars Blast Spartans; Take City Championship

Torrance whipped South Side to move not only into third place of the Pioneer Baseball league but to top the city championship. Coach Irwin Kasten's lads had previously trounced North High.

North High Hosts Redondo Nine Next Tuesday

By Jim Laird

North High will host Redondo next Tuesday afternoon at 182nd St. and Yukon Ave., starting at 2:30 p.m. Each team has a 2-2 record to be tied with Hawthorne and Inglewood.

North High's last victim was Hawthorne which was defeated 10 to 1. Coach Robert Shoup's proteges lead the South Bay league with a total of 40 hits, followed by Mira Costa with 32 and Santa Monica showing 27 bingles.

Ten more games of which five are at home, will be played by the North Torrance outfit. North High is hitting over the .300 mark.

Torrance team went on a batting spree in the third frame when they put across six tallies on two hits, three walks, one hit batter and three errors committed by the losers.

Hubert, Hoague and Kehoe who toed the mound for North High each yielded one blow. Leading batters for NH were David Marsden, catcher; Duane Merrill, first baseman, and Van Patten, center fielder, who each came through with a single.

Hawthorne got its lather in the seventh stanza off of Kehoe. Score by innings was as follows:

North High	016 111 0-10
Hawthorne	000 000 1-1

Standings of teams:

	W	L
Mira Costa	8	1
Santa Monica	3	1
Hawthorne	2	2
North High	2	2
Redondo	2	2
Inglewood	2	2
Leuzinger	1	3
Morningside	1	3

South High Treks to Culver City

South High will travel to Culver City next Tuesday to meet the home team starting at 2 p.m., in a Pioneer Baseball league fracas.

On Thursday South High will host Beverly Hills aggregation, beginning at 8 p.m.

Tom Richardson, Kasten's ace, went the entire route, giving up nine scattered hits and striking out two South High batsmen. Offensively, Erv Ealina, right fielder, led with the stick by getting 4 for 4 including a double. Left fielder Steya Parker, prevented a South High rally when he pulled off a fielding gem by grabbing a smash by Cliff Roy, right fielder for the losers, in the top half of the seventh. In the sixth, Joe Austin, first baseman of South High, spanked a homer for the team's only run.

Next Tuesday will see Torrance at home to Lennox starting at 8 p.m. Torrance has a 2-2 record, winning over Beverly Hills and South High and dropping games to El Segundo and Culver City. The El Segundo squad leads the pack with an unblemish record of 4 straight while Culver City is knotted with Aviation for second, each with 3-1 status.

Coach Kasten, who sent Richardson to the mound again Tuesday, said:

"Richardson is allowed to pitch no more than nine innings in a week."

AMBLE Cage Final Standings

Amble League cagers played their final games last week with the Torrance Recs ending the season on top in Wednesday play and the South Bay Church of God leading the pack in Thursday action.

Last week's results were as follows: Wednesday: Torrance Recs 19, HRSportsmen 20; Torrance Press 23, Redondo Hawks 20; and Sheriff's Men over Christian Men by forfeit. In Thursday competition the Old Pros 24, Vagabonds 12; Post Office 28, Tappa Kegs 21; and the Calif. Bank forfeit to South Bay Church of God.

Final Standings

Wednesday League
Torrance Recs 9 1
Redondo Hawks 7 3
Torrance Press 6 4
HRSportsmen 5 5
Christian Men 2 8
Sheriff's Men 1 9

Thursday League
SB Church of God 9 1
Old Pros 8 2
Post Office 5 5
Tappa Kegs 4 6
Calif. Bank 2 8
Vagabonds 2 8

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