

Mike Callas

CUS D'AMATO, THE FORGOTTEN MAN

It will be a week tomorrow since Floyd Patterson knocked out Ingemar Johansson to get back his heavyweight crown. A feat never accomplished by anyone in the heavyweight ranks of fighters.

Immediately after the fight, those that heard the bout never got a chance to hear what Floyd's disbarred manager Cus D'Amato had to say about his boy. Radio announcers talked to most everyone but neglected the man who had the most to do in bringing Patterson to the championship.

Regardless of what you've read regarding D'Amato's suspension and your feelings as to whether the State of New York was just, it goes without saying that the 51 year old white-haired manager did much to groom Floyd for this fight with Johansson.

In a story appearing in the New York Times, written by James F. Lynch, two weeks before the championship match, D'Amato was quoted as saying that "I don't have to be up there (Floyd's training camp) to talk to him. I keep in touch by telephone."

Knew Patterson Would Win

D'Amato was very confident that his boy would recapture the title. To Lynch he said: "After the fight, I'll climb into the ring as the crowd acclaims Patterson as the first heavyweight champion to regain his title."

Those that watched the fight via theater-TV saw D'Amato do just that. However, no one bothered with him. It was as if D'Amato had a bad case of mumps or measles.

Also in the story by the New York Times writer, Amato was pictured as a philosophical tutor. He rejected the theory that he was a father image to Floyd. He said, "I regard Patterson as a friend, not a son. He could have become champion with anyone as a manager, he's that good. I do like to think, though, that I had something to do with his development, not as a champion, but as a man."

Not Shy Any Longer

Before the first Ingo fight Floyd was known as that shy champion. During the year that he had, prior to the second battle June 20th, something happened. He began to talk about what he would do to Johansson and his confidence in himself was so inspiring to the odds-makers that given another day he might have been favored to beat Johansson.

What think Joe Louis gave to Patterson is questionable. I don't think Louis hindered Floyd during his training chores. But I like to think that Cus inspired the youngster mentally. That trainer Dan Florio gave Patterson the right physical instructions and watched that Floyd would not over train for the match.

Whether Cus D'Amato was guilty as so stated by the New York Boxing Commission you couldn't prove it by me that he did Patterson any wrong. Floyd had to be a man, not a boy, to come back and beat Ingemar. The person most responsible was Cus D'Amato.

PRESS Sports

Former THS Track Coach Takes SJS Job

By Gary Palmer
Former Torrance High track coach, Vern Wolfe, moves up to the college coaching ranks when he takes charge of the frosh spikers at San Jose State in the fall.

The likeable mentor, who has turned out some of the nation's top track athletes in his relatively short coaching career, will have his hands full at the Northern California school.

Noted for its track teams, San Jose has had nothing but talent on its frosh cinder squads the past two seasons. Under Coach Bert Bonanno, the SJS veerings compiled the enviable mark of 24 consecutive dual meet victories, and naturally it will be up to Wolfe to keep the skein unbroken.

Wolfe, who tutored the likes of Don Kasten, Bob Kulp, Larry Roy, Buzz Zamora, Dennis Hester, Jim Stanford and Harold Phillips, while at Torrance in '53 and '54, had great success after leaving THS.

At North Phoenix High, Wolfe, a former pole vaulter himself, had the privilege of coaching the first 15-foot high school vaulter—Tom Brewer.

He also handled shot putter Dallas Long, now at USC. Long is recognized as one of the top three men in the nation with the iron ball, having held the world record at one time in the sea-saw battle with Parry O'Brien and Bill Nieder.

Wolfe will work hand-in-hand with head coach Bud Winter at San Jose in the fall. Winter, highly regarded on the nation's cinder circuit, is an assistant coach on the U.S. Olympic track team.

Most coaches would be more than pleased with a 9.5 sprinter, but Bob Brooks, who boasts that time at San Jose, has been no more than an also-ran for the Spartans. In four years of competition at San Jose, Brooks won only one race, and that, because his rival teammates did not compete. He had to settle for third place behind Ray Norton, regarded by many as "the world's fastest human," and "Bullet" Bobby Povner from Pasadena in the southland.

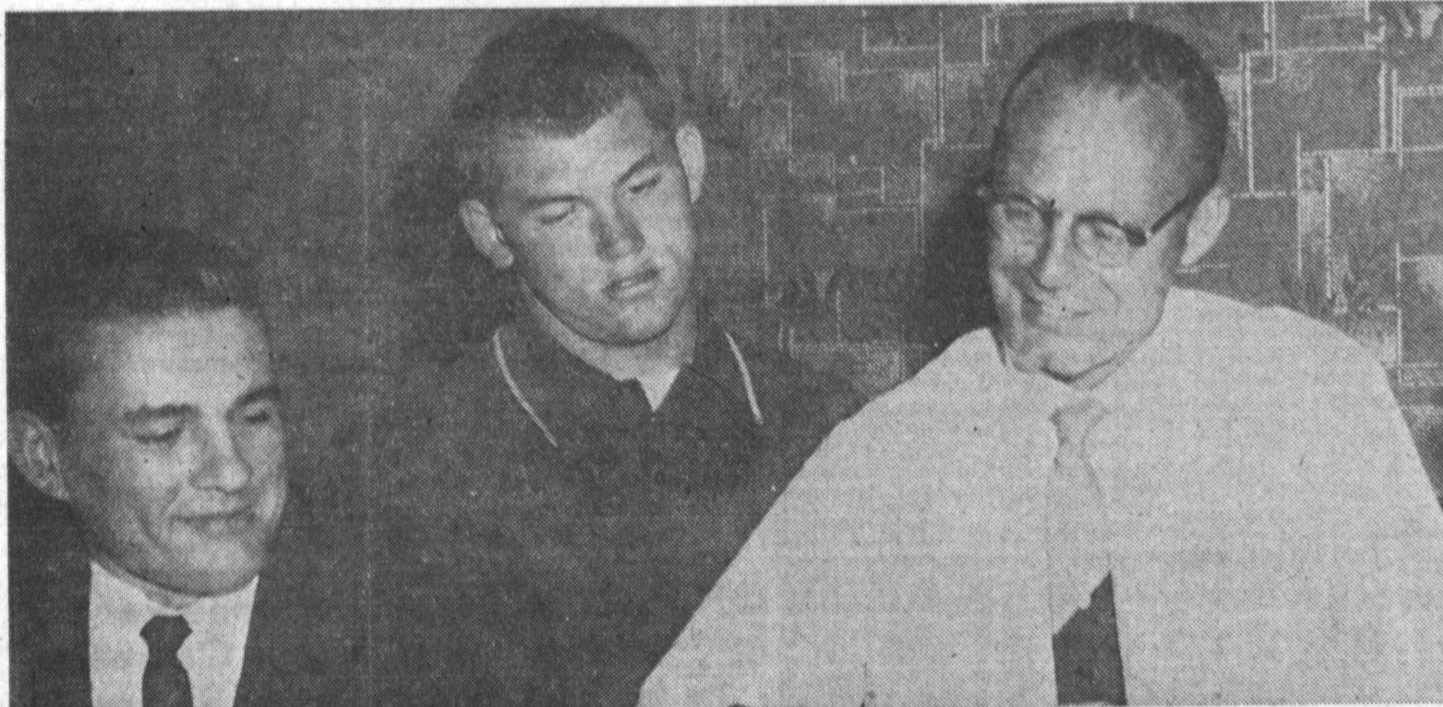
While Brooks ran a 9.5 hundred, Povner zipped the distance in 9.4 and Norton, on more than one occasion, was clocked in 9.3.

Wolfe will have his work cut out for him, but the former Torrance High mentor, who at the age of 38, has already attained heights few coaches ever realize, will have an opportunity to add to his prestige at one of the nation's top track schools.

The majority of pedestrians who were killed or injured in motor vehicle accidents during 1959 were crossing between intersections. The next most frequent area of pedestrian-motor vehicle accidents was at intersections without signals where crossings were improperly made.

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Tartars' Gonta on Shrine Squad



STRATEGY FOR THE STARS—A lot of the South Shrine Football team's hopes will bank on this quartet and they are getting a little jump on rivals for the North-South Shrine Classic that will be held in the Los Angeles Coliseum Aug. 5. Checking formations with salt shakers at a recent team

meeting are, left to right: Stan Gonta, Torrance High School tackle; Pete Beathard, El Segundo quarterback; Coach Ray Vernoy of Huntington Park; and Paul Burelson, Inglewood High School end.

Hopes to Help South Regain Victory Form

Big Stan Gonta, Torrance High's outstanding griddier for the past two years, will be one of 25 high school graduates bearing the city's banner in the annual Shrine North-South Football Classic at the Coliseum Aug. 5.

The yearly tilt, always a hard-fought battle, pits the best from the northern half of the state against the top southern California grid stars, and Gonta figures to be one of the best.

Standing an even six feet and weighing 215, the Tartar stalwart made a name for himself in the past football season with his defensive prowess.

Gonta was named to the first team on the Pioneer League All-Star squad as a tackle, vindicating his earlier selection on The Press' All-City Team.

The Tartar ace figures right in the middle of things for South coaches, Ray Vernoy and Ray Solari. Vernoy, of Huntington Park, and Solari, of South Pasadena, are counting on "Big Stan" to operate as an interior lineman for the victory-starved South squad.

Gonta plans to continue his education in the fall at USC.

Following wins in the first four Shrine classics, the South has gone without a victory, holding the North to one tie while dropping the other three contests.

If the South is to rise again, there's a good chance Gonta, rather than General Lee, will be leading the way when the opening whistle starts the ninth grid classic this August.

More than 43% of the victims of fatal motor vehicle accidents last year were passengers in cars exceeding posted speed limits.

Second Round Play

Torrance Legion Hosts Gardena

By John Whitacre

Torrance American Legion post 170, managed by Ozzie Grimes, opens second round Bay league action today, hosting Gardena at Torrance Park: Game time 1 p.m.

The central legion has compiled a 4-1 record and is currently tied with South Torrance, not including yesterday's game. Gardena, with a 3-2 slate, will try and pull the Bay league into a three way tie.

Tommy Ohta Gardena High's All-City hurler, will handle the pitching chores.

Southpaw Ray Wilson is scheduled to start for Grime's crew. Wilson has only started one game; losing a 1-0 heartbreaker to South.

Gardena handed South its only loss, upending them 10-2. Bob Werhan will be seeking his fourth win in as many starts, when South travels to El Segundo today. When these two teams met in the first round, South romped to a 6-0 win.

Manager Grime's of the central post, is expected to start: Jim Baker catching, Wilson pitching, Jim Armstrong at first base, Terry Greason at second, with Jack Golphnee and Eleazar Ybarra rounding out the infield at short and third.

In the outer gardens, it will be Bob Clark in left, Tom Richardson or Joe Montgomery in center, and Rick Jacobs rounding out the outfield in right.

After today's legion game, Bo Palica's Torrance Red Devils, a Connie Mack team, will host Hawthorne and Billy Morris is expected to hurl for the locals. As of this writing they have compiled a 2-2 record in league play. Game time 3 p.m.

Today's Legion Schedule
Redondo (Horne 1-2) at Lomita (Ellsworth 1-2).

South Torrance (Werhan 3-0) at El Segundo (King 2-1)
Gardena (Ohta 3-0) at Torrance (Wilson 0-1).

Cusson's Clouts Pace Panks to 13-3 Win in National LL

By John Whitacre

Gene Cusson's two tape measure home runs gave the Dandoy Glass Yankees a 13-3 win over the Optimist Cubs, in the featured action of the Torrance National Little League.

Cusson's sixth and seventh home runs of the season were both a 100 feet beyond the 180 mark in Del Amo Park, soaring high over the trees. Fred Kindell, 11 year old for the Cubs, hit his second and third round trippers of the season in the game.

On Thursday, the Phillies defeated the Braves 1-0, as John Chechoski pitched a one hitter for the winners. Rick Moton, Braves hurler, went five innings stranding 10 runners on the base paths. The Phillies scored the important run in the bottom half of the sixth, however, when Steve Horen doubled and Fred Carpenter singled him home.

Cusson and Lou Maynard of the Cardinals lead the home run derby with seven apiece. Gary Fulton has hit five for the Braves, while Larry Snyder has connected four times for the Yankees.

Leading the league in the pitching department is Snyder of the Yanks with a 5-2 record, following him are Horen, Phillies, and Danny Kling, and Rick Moton of the Braves who each have posted four wins against two defeats.

In today's action, the league leading Yankees will send Jim Hartley to the hill, against the Stars Jim Sonju. In the second game Horen will hurl for the Phillies, while Maynard will go for the Cards.

June 21
Cubs — 200 001 — 3 2 0
Yanks — 204 07X — 13 11 3

June 22
Phillies — 000 000 — 0 1 4
Phillies — 000 001 — 1 5 1

June 23
Braves — 000 000 — 0 1 4
Phillies — 000 001 — 1 5 1

June 24
Moton and Lorenzen.
Czechoski and Carpenter.

June 25
Moton and Lorenzen.
Czechoski and Carpenter.

June 26
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Czechoski and Carpenter.

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Awards Given Cub Pack 761C
Cub Scout Pack 716C held recent awards ceremonies at Carr School. Vern Smith, awards chairman, made the presentations. Receiving badges were:
Bobcat pins: Bill Derry, Dennis Elliott, Randy Fleming and Troy Stanton.
Wolf badges: Bill Derry and Randy Fleming.
Lion badges: Ricky Denney and Mike Markson.
Arrow awards: Wayne Workings, David Hodges, Tom Smith, Paul Gogales, Steve Lange, Mike Markson, Paul Kramer, Brian Rix, Ronny Hansen, James Waldon, and Eddie Arney.

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