

Mike Callas

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Coliseum Jottings

FIRST NIGHTER—He was not a baseball fan. He came to Los Angeles County in '48, fresh from college with a business degree. He detested the Hollywood Stars and Los Angeles—imitation he said of the real thing. When the Dodgers got to town in '58, I extended an invitation to come see the real pros play. He was too busy. Besides, baseball was for the half-wits. When the Braves came to town last week-end he suddenly decided to be my guest. The Dodgers lost in eleven innings. Why the long story? Me and my big mouth! He wants choice seats for every remaining Dodger game at the Coliseum! A baseball fan was born . . . at my expense!

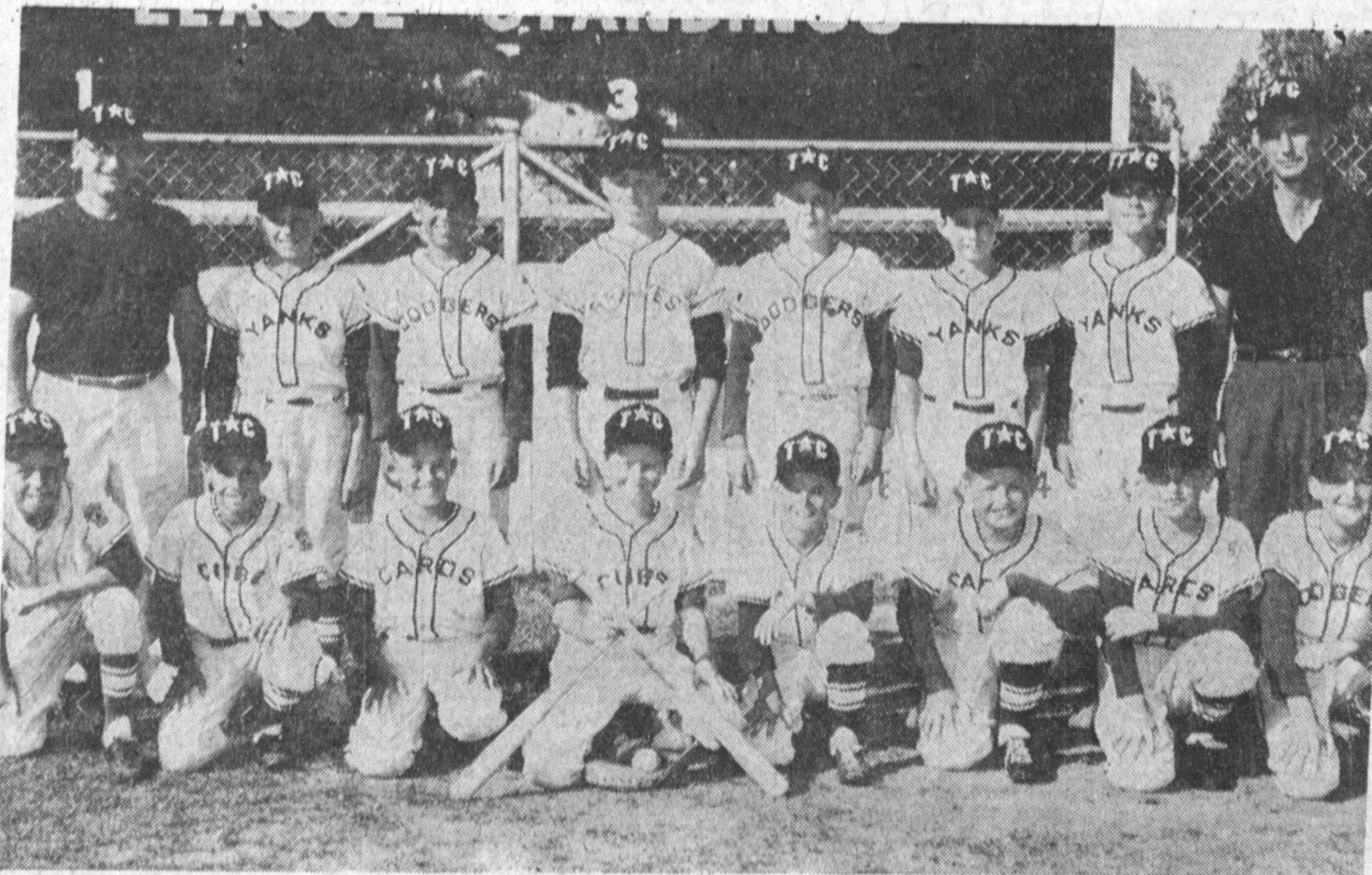
WHAT'S WRONG WITH GILLIAM? Maybe he's in a mild hitting slump and perhaps he made a few errors before the team left on the road. But that's not what's wrong with Jim Gilliam. While on the bases he seems to be in a fog worse than the one that hovers over Candlestick Park. During the last week of play at the Coliseum . . . he got nipped stealing several times, caught asleep on a two-out single while on second and failing to advance more than one base, didn't bother to run out a towering pop-up which was dropped by the visiting infielder, barely making first base. Someone should find out what's ailing him. He's too good an all-around player to falter in the stretch drive ahead.

BURDETTE THE SLUGGER. Most fans see the nervous antics of the Braves' ace twirler by simply attending a Dodger game or listening to Vince Scully describe his gyrations on the mound. Just before Milwaukee's turn at bat in the eleventh inning of the only game the Braves won while in town, Lew hit the water fountain in the player's tunnel behind home plate. After he cooled his mouth, he lit a cigarette and tried to relax. I'd of sworn that he was smoking a prohibited weed because of the emotions evident in his face. The popular brand I recognized, however. The Milwaukee bat-boy yelled at Lew that he was on deck. The righthander took another drag and before O'Malley could mentally count the huge gain in dollars and cents, Lew lofted one over the left field screen. The rest is in the rule-book as a Brave victory. Since Saturday night, however, I have switched my nicotine brand. What's good for figity Lew is certainly good for a worn-out sportswriter. Maybe I'll make Dodger bat-boy next year.

NO SCREEN AT FORBES FIELD. It will be 18 days before the Dodgers return to Los Angeles and the left field screen. The short fence hitters on the squad will have it rough at Forbes Field, the last of a three-game series on tap today, with the Pirates. Perhaps the only Dodger to make a science of hitting the left field screen is left-handed batter Wally Moon. During the last long home stand, Wally managed to hit over .320. Almost all his pokes hit the screen or came near it. On the road now Moon must re-adapt his style to suit the ballpark he's playing in. Tough assignment for the hustling Dodger mainstay! Close Dodger observers wonder if Wally would be able to maintain a decent average once the team switches to Chavez Ravine. With the talent they have waiting in Spokane—they should wonder? Moon will make it, however, I'd bet my last written word.

DODGERS AND YANKS IN WORLD SERIES. Although I felt that Cleveland would take the American League pennant this year, and that the Dodgers would finish out of the money, it begins to look as if it will be the Yanks and the Bums in the October classic. The Yankees because they are the best of a poor lot, and the Dodgers because the youngsters on the squad are causing the old-timers to begin to wonder about their jobs—thus creating a hustling ball club. I'm spoiled, I'd like to see another Series in Los Angeles, rather than watch it on TV.

Ruth Playoffs Here



LOOKING CONFIDENT are the Torrance Central Little League All-Stars. They are, top row (left to right) Manager John A. Tweedy, Gene Bliss, Tommy Thomson, Doug Kelsey, Jack Weyt, Jim Crockett, John Ziemke, and Coach Earl Clayton. Bottom, (left to right) Brent Williams, John Randall, Chris Smith, David Flamons, Roger Blekely, Greg Strayer, John Osborn and Mike Leech.

Photo by Photo Arts

Del Amo Field Hosts Finals of Tournament

With both Torrance entries out of the running, the city's own Del Amo Field at the corner of Western Ave. and Del Amo Blvd., will be the site of the state Babe Ruth championships this weekend, with four clubs seeking the California crown.

Opening the final round of Babe Ruth Tournament play will be the Brawley-Imperial-Holtville All-Stars vs. the Sepulveda-Panorama champs at 1 p.m. Saturday.

At 4 p.m. Pasadena tackles El Segundo, with the two winners meeting Sunday at 1 p.m. for the state title. The Babe Ruth Tournament trophy is on display until noon Saturday at Torrance Cycle Shop.

Torrance, which last year boasted the state champs, lost its opportunity for a second straight state crown last weekend. After the Nationals handed Pacific-American a 7-2 shellacking behind the five hit pitching of John

Cambon, the locals were handcuffed by the El Segundo entry, 2-0 Sunday.

Berri Maxwell hurled the whitewash at the locals, allowing only one hit, a single by Dennis Welch.

Tom Hartley went the distance for the Nationals, giving up seven safeties. With the score 1-0 in the fourth, Hartley was kept out of serious trouble by his mates who executed a triple play.

With runners on first and second, the batter hit a sharp ground ball to Welch at second, who flipped to Cambon at short, who stepped on the bag and relayed to first for the double play.

The runner on second tried to score and was thrown out at the plate.

El Segundo got its second run in the sixth frame, putting together three base hits for the tally, but the locals failed to capitalize on four El Segundo miscues, while playing errorless ball themselves.

Americans Grab District L. L. Title

Jim Foster's dramatic sixth inning home run, gave the Torrance American Little League team a 2-1 victory over North Torrance, for the district 27 championship at Kessel field Saturday.

Today at 4 p.m. the Americans meet Buena Park at Hawthorne in the first round of sectional competition, after winning their fourth district title in the last six

years. John Snneep hurled a four-hitter, for his 26th consecutive win in the last three years. Snneep has never been beaten in a little league game.

The winner of today's game will face the Hollypark district 37 champions which drew a bye in first round play Saturday. Talon field in Hawthorne is located at 120 and Van Ness Ave.

Mr. Virgil Answers Mr. Bell's Letter

1 August, 1960

Mr. Mike Callas
Sports Editor
Torrance Press
3238 West Sepulveda Boulevard
Torrance, California

Dear Mr. Callas:

With regard to an open letter from Mr. E. Bell of Los Angeles which was printed in your edition of last Thursday, July 28, I wish to make the following reply. Mr. Bell has offended and insulted many people in the Southwood National Little League of Torrance and in Little League Baseball in general, and the record should be set straight. It is one thing to be misinformed, but it is quite another matter to make the serious charges levied by Mr. Bell, which charges are completely unfounded and without fact.

The only statement Mr. Bell made correctly was, "I cannot understand why a personal friend of the manager of the Beavers was allowed to umpire the game." In our league, Mr. Bell, as in many other Little Leagues, ALL of the umpires are personal friends of ALL of the managers and coaches and league officers, etc. Now, perhaps you still cannot understand the situation, Mr. E. Bell, but that is the way our league is operated. You owe Mr. Jack Biddle, Mr. Will Provence and Mr. Joe Maxim, the umpires at the game you have so inaccurately written about, your most humble apology, for it is their integrity and honesty, not their ability nor judgment, that you have challenged. The Southwood Little League does not pretend to have the most capable and experienced umpire staff on the Pacific Coast, nor even in the City of Torrance, but we do consider the integrity of the entire staff to be above reproach. The charges you make, Mr. Bell, are very short, if any, of constituting libel.

Furthermore, Mr. Mac Watson, coach and acting team manager for the Indians, who suffered a heart attack during the game and passed away a short time later at the hospital, had stated prior to the game that he felt that Jack Biddle was one of the best umpires his team had played under the entire season and that he was glad that Jack had been able to make this particular game and was happy to have him umpire behind the plate. Further testimony to the absurdity of your biased statements, Mr. Bell!

Regarding your statement that "the friend of the Beavers" told the Indian team that they would have to continue or forfeit the game after Mac Watson had been taken to the hospital, this statement is wholly untrue! The atmosphere at the field was understandably one of gloom and dejection following the departure of the ambulance, although we did not learn until the sixth inning (two innings later) that Mac had not survived the attack. The game was continued by mutual agreement following a consultation

(Continued on Page C-8)

Bowlers Gather for Late Event

One hundred bowlers plus many spectators gathered at the Gable House Bowl 22501 Hawthorne Blvd. in Torrance July 30, from midnight to 3 a.m., to participate in the gaiety of the "Moonlight Bowl."

High series for the evening was a 512, which was bowled by Betty Koop. The low series of 270 was bowled by Matt Anderson. There were seven honors given.

August 6 and 13, 1960, there will be two other "Midnight Bowls." Reservations can be obtained by calling FR 8-2265.

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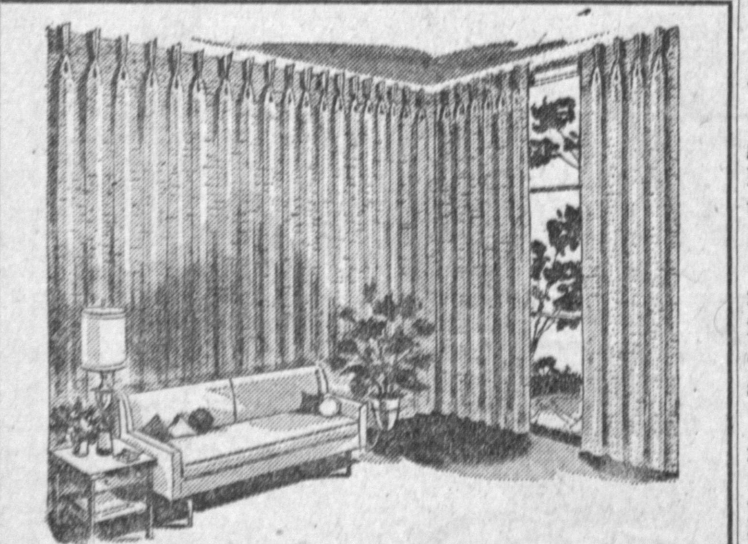
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