

**ALL-TORRANCE BASEBALL**

# **Bruce Wade Gets 'Player of Year'**

By HENRY BURKE  
Press-Herald Sports Editor

A Torrance All-City prep baseball team has been named by the Press-Herald. Selected as the "player of the year" is Bruce Wade, a North High senior who pitched, played the outfield and was a clutch hitter in the Bay League.

Jim O'Brien of North High is the "coach of the year." His team had a championship 15-3 record.

Nine other players who make up the all-city team include Pitchers Bob Sharpe of Torrance, Irl Davis and Tom Thomsen of Bishop Montgomery and Bruce Cooke of West.

Fred Kendall, Torrance catcher, is one of two juniors on the squad. Infielders are Jeff Osborn of North, first base; Craig Moore of South, third base; and Danny Graham of Bishop Montgomery, shortstop. The second base position goes to Bruce Cooke who alternated there between pitching assignments.

Taking into consideration their all-around effectiveness in high school baseball, an outfield trio of Bruce Wade, Irl Davis, and Dave LaRoche was selected. LaRoche played first base, second base and pitched for West High.

Wade not only led the Bay League with 18 runs batted in, but his batting average was .352, his seasonal pitching record was 10-3, and he excelled playing North High's difficult left field.

Wade's top contributions for the Saxons' championship were best told in two crucial games against Santa Monica and Redondo. At the time the three schools were locked in a three-way bid for first place two-thirds through the season.

In an eight inning game against Santa Monica, both teams were engaged in a 7-7 showdown in the seventh.

Coach O'Brien sacrificed Wade's subsequent pitching assignment by using him in the eighth. Bruce gave up a run, but his single in the bottom of the inning figured in a 9-8 win.

Against Redondo Wade singled home the go-ahead run for a 4-3 lead in the ninth. He was rushed in to pitch in the bottom of the frame when Dave McCormick was injured after loading the bases with none away. A pop-up and double play gave Wade the save.

North finished the season with 11 straight victories before losing to San Bernardino Pacific in the CIF quarter-finals. Jeff Osborn batted 24-for-48 (.500) for North during the year.

West High tied El Segundo (13-2) in the Pioneer League standings, but the Warriors' lone win over El Segundo was a one-hitter by Bruce Cooke. Teammate Dave LaRoche concluded a four-year varsity career without winning a title or competing in the CIF playoffs. He was a team leader the four years.

Montgomery High won the Camino Real League title. Tom Thomsen was credited with two victories over runner up Crespi and Irl Davis was named the most valuable player in the league. He was a starting pitcher for four years for the Knights. Graham, a junior, has played shortstop since his freshman year.

South's Craig Moore batted .315, fielded .995, and was regarded the most spectacular third baseman in the school's history. South finished sixth in the Bay League with a 13-5 record.

Bob Sharpe is the pitcher of the year. In spite of five losses during the year, Sharpe had six shutouts and pitched shutout ball in three other partial games. He started the season with a 2-0 win over Rolling Hills and later went 15 innings of scoreless pitching against the Sky League champions.

Sharpe won a 5-0 one-hitter in the CIF playoffs against Mayfair and lost to Savanna, 1-0, in the quarter-finals.



**BRUCE COOKE**  
Pitcher - Second Base



**JIM O'BRIEN**  
Coach of Year

**JEFF OSBORN**  
First Base

**BRUCE WADE**  
Player of Year



**FRED KENDALL**  
Catcher

**DANNY GRAHAM**  
Shortstop

**CRAIG MOORE**  
Third Base

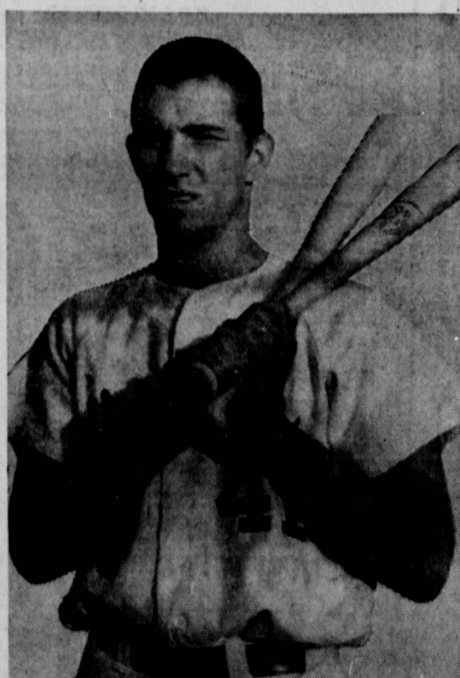


**IRL DAVIS**  
Centerfield

**TOM THOMSEN**  
Pitcher



**BOB SHARPE**  
Pitcher



**DAVE LAROCHE**  
Right Field

## **All-City Named in Baseball**

### **Sellers, Jay To Compete At Berkeley**

The only major state-wide high school athletic competition will be held Friday and Saturday with the C.I.F. (California Interscholastic Federation) track and field meet taking place at Berkeley.

The 2-mile race, a top attraction, will feature Southern Section champion Nike Sellers (9:12.0) of West High and third place Lenny Jay (9:12.8) of South High.

The state race will have a field of 27 runners, including Armando Valencia (9:10.8) of El Cajon, Keith Cooney (9:17.2) of Granada Hills, Ralph Gamaz, defending champion from Berkeley, and Peter Brang (9:12.7) of Baldwin Park.

### **Tappa Keggas Divides With Santa Ana**

Tappa Keggas divided a doubleheader with Santa Ana in West Coast Slo-Pitch action Friday, winning 6-1 and losing 2-1.

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Santa Ana	010	000	0-1 6 3
Torrance	130	002	8-6 6 1
Crone and Stark	Schoendienst		
and R. Ryan.			
Santa Ana	020	000	0-2 6 0
Torrance	000	001	0-1 7 2
Crone and Jarrett	C. Ryan,		
Schoendienst (6) and Mitchell.			

### **Legion Baseball Teams Begin Season Saturday**

Three Torrance teams will compete in American Legion Baseball during the summer. The season commences Saturday with opening ceremonies at Torrance Park set for 11:30 a.m.

Two Legion teams are sponsored by Bert S. Crossland Post 170. Commander Arthur Dupuis announced that Mayor Albert Iser would throw out the first ball. Introductions will be made by Coach Jerry McIlvaine.

McIlvaine's South Torrance team will play Redondo Beach (South Bay Post 184) at 12 o'clock.

The Torrance Blues and North Torrance Legion teams will participate in the field ceremonies at Torrance Park, but the North Torrance squad will play at North High at 1 p.m. against El Segundo "Red" team.

The Torrance "Blues" open their season at Palos Verdes at 1 p.m.

The South Torrance team will be coached by McIlvaine and Lee Trudell. Marvin Wood and Joe Kling will handle the Torrance Blues,

with Jim O'Brien in charge of the North Torrance squad. Members of the South Torrance team are Bubba Atkinson, Ron McDaniel, Steve Hertzog, Wade Linstad, Dick Foulk, Steve Krimel, Brent Barron, Bob Brooks, Dan Pace, Mike Jefferson, Steve Trudell, Mike Massenti, Pat Adkins, Jeff Wang, Steve Lehto and Dan Doty, recovering from a broken wrist.

North Torrance's team includes Bill McCann, Gabe Lensing, Cliff Wall, Jim Bachis, Daryl Masuyama, Phil Cadenhead, Larry Wing, Richard DeLay, Brian Smith, Royle Stillman, Chris Farasopolous, Ken Suler, Leon Smith, Art Frasquillo, Rich Gonzales, Jerry Ball, Craig Cochran and Jim Cox.

Among candidates for the Torrance Blues are Nelson Straley, Gary Nesenson, Chuck Bongard, Dan Graham, Dan Pritchett, Irl Davis, Mike Ramirez, Bob Comstock, Bill Murin, Jim Garbanati, Bart Johnson, Fred Kendall, Bob Sharpe, Mark Intermill, Bob Cano, Phil Duarte and Bill Bynum.