

Prep Elevens Condition for Football

Josephson On the Run

Look for a big improvement in the Rams' running game this season, and particularly in getting that third-down short yardage.

That's the confident prediction of the Ram ball carrier currently leading the ground assault. Fullback Lester Josephson, one of the team's four captains, is already off to the best start of his pro career, and the over-all running attack has improved with him. He got another chance to sharpen his game against the AFL Chargers in San Diego Sunday afternoon, 50-7.

But what makes the picture rosier for local fans is the fact the team gain has come about with its big one-two punch still flexing muscles on the sidelines. Dick Bass and Tommy Mason aren't expected to make their starts until perhaps the final pre-season game with San Francisco.

In three games Josie has already carried the ball more times and gained greater yardage than he piled up during the entire pre-season and league schedule last year. What's more, he's scored two touchdowns; in all of 1966 he failed to cross the goal once.

What has brought the difference? "More experience," he says. "Playing oftener is a tremendous help. I get the feel of the game better. I have learned to run with my head up, permitting me to see the blocks and hit the holes more quickly as they open up.

"The offensive line is working together better as a unit, too. That makes my job behind the line easier."

The big (220 pounds) blond from South Dakota is making a powerful bid for his old back-up job behind Bass, with Henry Dyer and rookie Jeff Jordan also in contention. There's another furious battle going on for the running halfback spots, with Willie Ellison, Jim Stiger, Mike Dennis and Vilnis Ezerins scrapping for the right to team up with Mason.

Josie sees this as all to the good. "Competition is what makes a team great. I look for us to be much further ahead at the start of league play than we were last year. We all know Coach George Allen's system better, we know the assistant coaches and how they think, we're a more mature club all around."

The Rams' first meeting with the Chargers, which backers of the latter club have been yearning for since the inception of the AFL, is being taken in stride by the L.A. players.

"We've looked at a few films, just as we do for all teams," says Josephson. "We've got scout reports. We don't really know much about their personnel, but they're in the same spot, so I guess we're even. We'll just play our own game. As a member of the offensive squad, I've only watched films of their defensive team. They have some good men. But we aren't going on any crusade."

Josie is still boding the Rams' six special units that take care of kickoffs, punts and field goals and defense against them, and he takes a special pride in their work.

"You can win or lose a game quicker on kickoffs and punts than any other way," he declares. "They're a vital part of the game and need a lot of practice. We work 15 minutes every day on a special unit drill. Its value was shown last week against the Browns by the ease with which we smothered their on-side kick late in the game."

Les says the players are looking forward to the new split divisions which will result in two league playoffs. "With only four games in each division, nobody is going to be out of the race until it's practically over. I think the fans will like it."

Twin Harness Program Set for Hollywood Park

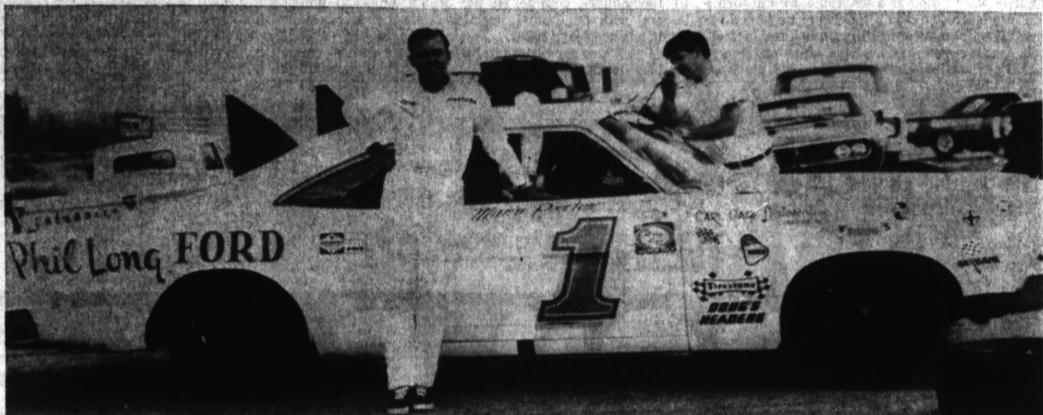
Racing fans will get a slate with two highly-competitive features — the \$10,000 Santa Barbara Trot and the \$8,000 Pomona Pace.

The Santa Barbara matches Lumber Son and Meteor II again, the pair finishing one-two in the \$10,000 Hollywood Trot opening day. Also the two top drivers at the meeting, Robert Farrington and Jack Williams, Jr. will tangle in the one-mile event, with Farrington, the nation's leading driver handling Meteor II and Williams guiding Lumber Son.

Expecting to challenge the top pair in the 12th edition of the Santa Barbara are Ohio Special, Blaze Hope, Rodney Hill, Knight Valor, and Prince Kam. Senator Frost was clocked in 1:59 4/5 in 1968.

The Pomona Pace finds Dugo attempting to record another 2:00 mile, the 9-year-old son of The Intruder posting the first "magic mile" of the meeting last week with a 1:59 4/5 effort.

Slated to go against Dugo are Oso Slo, Bout Due, Armbr Frank, Palamas Peak, Frosty Dale and Free Heater. Mr. Budlong, a three-time winner of the event, holds the race record with a 1:58 1/5 timing in 1965 when the race was held at Santa Anita.



STOCK CAR ENTRY . . . Marvin Porter of Torrance is shown with the 1967 Ford he will pilot in Sunday night's 100-lap NASCAR late model stock car race at Ascot Park in Gardena. Porter is one of the favorites in the large field of 1967-66-65 model new cars. Also on tap is a complete program of PRA Figure 8 stock car racing.

JESS HILL TO SPEAK AT CLUB

Jess Hill, USC athletic director, will be speaker at the South Bay Athletic Club's first luncheon meeting of the fall Friday at 12:15 p.m.

Football Coach Vincent McCullough of El Camino College will head the organization during its third year.

The sports group meets weekly at the Plush Horse. A luncheon is served for \$3.

Members engage in contests to select winners of high school, collegiate and professional games.

Three Days Of Racing for Auto Bugs

Top racing drivers in the West will see action during the Labor Day weekend at Ascot Park in Gardena as they battle for \$10,000 in prize money for two nights of racing.

Sunday night a double header card feature the NASCAR late model stock cars in a 100-lap championship race. The weekly program of Figure 8 stock car racing will be held Monday evening the annual 100-lap Labor Day CRA sprint car racing speedstakes is slated for the speedway. Also on the card is a giant auto thrill show, following the night's eight event Indianapolis-type car racing program.

Monday evening the annual 100-lap Labor Day CRA sprint car racing speedstakes is slated for the speedway. Also on the card is a giant auto thrill show, following the night's eight event Indianapolis-type car racing program.

Monday evening the annual 100-lap Labor Day CRA sprint car racing speedstakes is slated for the speedway. Also on the card is a giant auto thrill show, following the night's eight event Indianapolis-type car racing program.

Cerritos Set For Final Metro Year

Cerritos College Falcons this fall will face another tough schedule of some of the top junior college grid teams in the state.

Five games at home and four away are slated for the 1967 season, beginning with the Orange Coast College Pilgrims on Sept. 16. The first three games, with Orange Coast, Phoenix College (Sept. 30), and Bakersfield College (Oct. 7) will be played at Cerritos Stadium.

The Falcons will travel to Long Beach for the traditional rivalry game with the Vikings Oct. 14; return to meet Los Angeles Valley at Cerritos on Oct. 21; and travel again to El Camino, Oct. 28, and to Rio Hondo, Nov. 4.

The final home game with Santa Monica City College on Nov. 11, will be the Homecoming event, and the Falcons will finish the season with East Los Angeles College there Nov. 17.

Results at Hacker Haven

Hacker Haven held its club championship tournament in which Bill Carlson was first, Ace Barnhart second and Chip Bristol, third.

In the junior putting contest Jack Tucker was first, Susan Wolford second, Julie Dawson third and John Ne fourth.

Getting a hole-in-one during the week were C. M. Nelson on No. 6, Mike Cooper and Bob Stone on No. 2.

Press-Herald SPORTS

AUGUST 30, 1967 D-1

Chicago Rescued By Guy Rodgers

It goes without saying that what made the Chicago Bulls "go" in their first National Basketball Association season was Guy Rodgers.

One of the smallest performers in pro basketball, the Gallant Guy from Temple University, is the biggest thing to hit Chicago pro basketball.

Rodgers created a new N.B.A. assist record with 908 feeds and finished the 1966-67 season scoring at an 18 point per game clip, has found a new home and loves it.

Wherever you go these days in Chicago's famed Loop, people are talking about the classy Rodgers and how by his deft passing and accurate shooting he converted the city into a permanent pro basketball citadel.

Much of the credit for this new attitude in the town that once was professional basketball's graveyard (buried there are the Gears, Stars, Zephyrs, Packers and Majors) must go to Owner Dick Klein and Coach John (Red) Kerr.

Together they apparently resorted to some form of witchcraft when they lured Guy away from San Francisco in a pre-season deal that surprised everyone in basketball.

At the start of the past season the experts said the baby Bulls would be lucky to win 20 games in the highly competitive NBA.

Klein and Kerr knew the experts were right at the time the predictions were made. They knew, too, that the only way to escape chaos in their first season was to secure a quarterback for their neophyte club. He had to be a man with experience and leadership ability. They found what they were seeking in Rodgers who is only 6-feet in height but a man of huge stature on the court.

"I was happy in San Francisco," he says, "but Chicago is now my town and I hope to play here the rest of my career. The fans have been great to me and I've really come into my own with the Bulls."

On Tuesday and Thursday evenings there will be an open softball league consisting of eight teams playing one round.

The slo-pitch leagues will have six teams playing two rounds.

League fees are \$50 per team for slo-pitch, and \$65 for softball teams. League fees include officials, SCMAF registration, game ball, and team trophies for first and second place winners.

League fees are \$50 per team for slo-pitch, and \$65 for softball teams. League fees include officials, SCMAF registration, game ball, and team trophies for first and second place winners.

Little League Crown Won by West Tokyo

West Tokyo, Japan, became the first Little League team from the Pacific area to win the World Series at Williamsport, Penn. Tokyo defeated East Trail, British Columbia, 3-0; Newtown-Edgemont, Pa., 4-1; and North Roseland, Chicago, Ill., 4-1, for the title.

The champions are expected to receive a "royal welcome" when they return home today. The West Tokyo team won eight games to represent the Far East in the only "world series" of its kind.

Prior to arriving in Williamsport, the world champions spent 40 hours in Gardena and were taken to

Defense Is Key To Rams

In four pre-season games, the Rams have limited their opponents to a touchdown per week to go with a 4-0 record for the summer squabbles.

Last week the Kansas City Chiefs of the American Football League piled up nine touchdowns in a 66-24 rout of the Chicago Bears. The Chiefs' record is also 4-0.

And Friday night the super defense will meet the super offense in the Coliseum. Kick-off time is 8:05 p.m.

"We know Kansas City can score but we think we can hold most teams," Ram Coach George Allen said today. "And I am also pleased by the progress of our offense."

A combined offense-defense effort resulted in a 50-7 victory over the San Diego Chargers Sunday. The Ram offense scored 3 times, the defense tallied twice on interception returns, and special teams even got into the scoring act on a punt return by Wendell Tucker.

With four interceptions Sunday, the Rams have now run their pre-season total to seven. Offensively, rookie back Ellison gained 52 yards in four carries, showing his rushing average to 4.8.

Winter Leagues Planned

Winter leagues in both slo-pitch and softball in Torrance will begin the week of Sept. 18-22 and will continue through November. The deadline for entries is Sept. 5.

Entry blanks are available from the Recreation Department sports office, 3031 Torrance Blvd.

The slo-pitch leagues will be offered at Torrance Park Monday and Wednesday evenings. The Monday night leagues is for all league non-winners in the past year. The Wednesday night league is for all league winners, tournament winners and teams from the West Coast Slo-pitch Association.

On Tuesday and Thursday evenings there will be an open softball league consisting of eight teams playing one round.

The slo-pitch leagues will have six teams playing two rounds.

League fees are \$50 per team for slo-pitch, and \$65 for softball teams. League fees include officials, SCMAF registration, game ball, and team trophies for first and second place winners.

Santa Barbara Is 'Big Thing'

"A whole year of winning doesn't mean a thing if you don't do well at Santa Barbara." That sums up the attitude of sports car racers from all over the West.

Traditionally wrapping up the West Coast amateur racing season, the Labor Day weekend Santa Barbara Races have assumed the role of unofficially determining the toughest competitors in the West.

Like the USC-UCLA football titanic, a losing year is made all right with a win in the "Big One," and a good year can turn bad with a poor showing.

BONUS BABY After Ron Blomberg signed an estimated \$75,000 bonus contract as the Yankees' No. 1 choice in the free-agent draft, his mother commented: "I knew he wasn't going to become a doctor, lawyer or accountant. So he might as well become a ballplayer."

BOYS CAN SIGN UP FOR SOCCER

The American Youth Soccer Organization's South Section will register boys for the 1967-68 soccer season Saturday, Sept. 9, at Jefferson School. The school is at Tallman and Carson streets. Registration will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Boys under 16 years of age as of July 1 are eligible. A fee of \$4 will be required at the sign-up. Bill Wolstencroft announced. He said coaches are also sought for the program.

Wolstencroft can be reached at 377-2846.

Lakers Start Practice in Loyola Gym

With seven days to prepare for their first pre-season game, the Los Angeles Lakers will open training camp next Wednesday at Loyola University.

The Lakers will drill Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings of next week and conduct two-day drills on Sept. 11, 12, 13 and 14 before departing for Honolulu to clash with Western Division champion San Francisco Warriors.

Missing from camp will be rookie candidate Cliff Anderson who is recovering from knee surgery. It is expected to keep him out of action until mid-October.

Due to the short period of time before the first game, and the need for Coach Bill Van Breda Kolff to familiarize himself with the personnel all training camp sessions will be closed to the public.

The "new look" Lakers, sporting new royal blue and gold uniforms, will make their first public appearance in the southland on Oct. 1 in a pre-season double feature at the Long Beach Sports Arena.

The "new look" Lakers, sporting new royal blue and gold uniforms, will make their first public appearance in the southland on Oct. 1 in a pre-season double feature at the Long Beach Sports Arena.

Green Bay Is Favored

The Green Bay Packers and the Kansas City Chiefs will battle it out for the football championship in the Super Bowl for the second straight year, according to a pre-season poll of sportswriters published in the current issue of SPORT Magazine.

The Green Bay Packers and the Kansas City Chiefs will battle it out for the football championship in the Super Bowl for the second straight year, according to a pre-season poll of sportswriters published in the current issue of SPORT Magazine.

Agajanian Sponsors Motorcycle Programs

J. C. Agajanian has carded a double-header of motorcycle racing to start the Labor Day weekend Friday and Saturday evenings at Ascot Park.

The twin meets will serve for most of the drivers as a final prep for the upcoming Eight-Mile national championships, set for Saturday night, Sept. 9, at the Vermont Avenue course.

Agajanian reports the entries of Gary Nixon, Baltimore, and Mert Lewwill, San Francisco, who are running one-two in the U. S. motorcycle race this year. Nixon has 254 points to lead Lawwill's 334.

South Coach Debuts

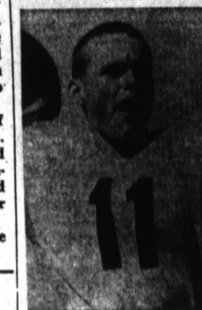
High school football practice is under way in Torrance. The coaching staffs at the five public and parochial schools will spend a week putting their 1967 gridders through a conditioning program.

The only new coach is Herb Richey who succeeds Ken Swift at South Torrance. Richey was formerly at Baldwin Park High School.

Fred Peterson will handle West High for the third year. Ed Levy is a 6-year man at North and Hal Warfle is in his second year at Torrance.

Starting his fifth year at Bishop Montgomery is George Swade who spent the summer coaching all-star teams in the Catholic Big Brothers and Lions East-West games.

After a week of conditioning, players will put on the pads a day after Labor Day. Two-day drills will continue until school opens on Sept. 13.



COY HALL West

A "record" 62 football prospects reported to Coach Peterson at West High. He is optimistic about the Warriors, although his ace quarterback Coy Hall will miss the first month with a broken right hand.

Coy injured the hand while handling a refrigerator. Jim Parton is filling in a quarterback.

All-Pioneer League back Dave Boyd should help develop the Warriors into a league contender, according to the coaching staff.

Baseball player Chuck Farrah, a junior, turned out for football and Coach Peterson was pleased about it.

He also picked up a couple of junior transfers. One is Jerry Bogan, an end from Western High, and Bob Oliver, a halfback from Hawaii.

The B-team has 49 players on hand and the Cees have 83 with more coming every day, according to Peterson.

Montgomery

Coach George Swade of Bishop Montgomery greeted 53 varsity football candidates at the start of pre-school practice Monday.

The varsity team is the defending Camino Real League champion. The Knights will play four non-league games against Mira Costa, South, Lawndale and Northhoff before opening its league campaign Oct. 20 against Fermin Lassen.

Besides the varsity, 40 boys are on hand for junior varsity and 50 for Class C football.