

Ram Creed: The Big Play

It is now an official Ram creed, as coach George Allen said in the noisy Coliseum dressing room after last Friday night's last-minute 23-21 win over Cleveland: "We always believe somebody will make the big play."

It is satisfying when it comes from an established star like Roman Gabriel, Bernie Casey, Deacon Jones or Irv Cross. But it is a special thrill when it is achieved by a back-up player, one of the obscure members of the special units. Like Tony Guillory . . . or Dave Pivec.

Pivec relived the magic moment this week as the Rams prepared for the season's third pre-season battle, this time against the Dallas Cowboys at the Coliseum Saturday night.

"Even when we were looking so bad earlier in the game," he recalled, "along the sideline we kept telling each other, 'We'll get 'em.'"

"Then, after we had tied the score and had them in a punting situation on their own six-yard line with less than a minute to play, I remember thinking as I went on the field with the punt-rush team: 'This is just like last year again Green Bay.' I remembered how Guillory had blocked a Packer punt for the big play that helped win the game for us.

"Actually, I wasn't supposed to be on the punt-rush team at all. I was filling in for Jack Pardee, who was injured. I had only practiced it once and I had to ask Pardee what to do.

"But when Cleveland's punter, Don Cockroft, started his kick, nobody blocked me. Since we were in a nine-man rush, their fullback had to make a choice and he took Guillory. Maybe he also remembered Tony and the Packer game. Willie Daniel, who was next to me, kept off the outside man. I had a clear shot at the ball.

"When it hit me on the left arm and bounced clear back of the end zone, I was excited because we had stopped the kick. But that's all it meant to me at the moment. It wasn't until I ran off the field and everybody was yelling and jumping up and down that I realized it had won the game.

"The only criticism I got was from Dave Cahill." Pivec grinned at his big teammate. "He said if I hadn't blocked it so hard he could have recovered it in the end zone and had a touchdown himself."

It was only the second time Pivec had scored a point in his three years in the National Football League. The other occasion was equally satisfying. He took a two-yard pass from Gabriel for a touchdown last fall against his old teammates, the Chicago Bears.

Since the Rams picked him up as a free agent when the Bears waived him in 1966, the ex-Notre Damer has been a reserve tight end playing—and only rarely—behind the durable Billy Truax. He gets his only other action on the punt return team and in special blocking situations when the Rams utilize two tight ends.

Pivec was a first-string end at Notre Dame for two varsity years, teaming with another well-known Ram, Jack Snow. "Jack and I tied one season with eight catches apiece," Dave said. "As you can see, we didn't throw much. Then I went to Canada and played with Toronto for two years at a tight end and line-backer. I got 32 receptions my first year and let the Eastern Division in yards per catch.

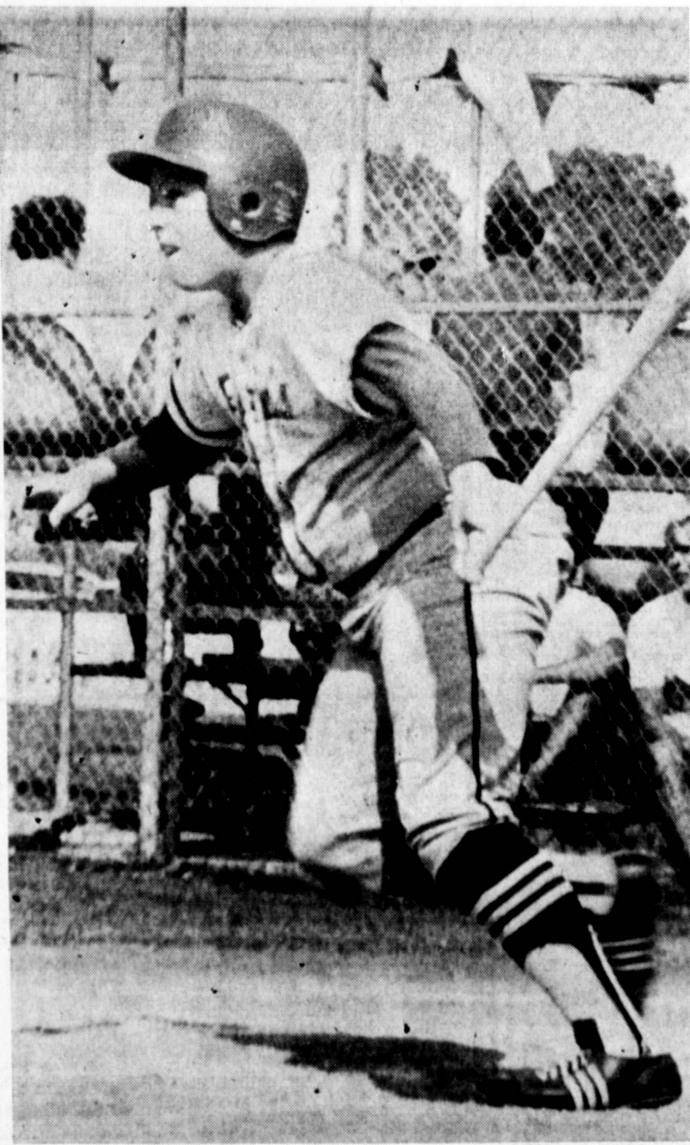
"But all through college and in Canada I never scored a touchdown that actually won a game. I blocked a field goal once at Notre Dame, but that safety against Cleveland was the first time I decided a contest personally."

The Bears had drafted Pivec as a future, but when he finally reported from Canada he weighed 250 and the Bears needed guards, so he was made a guard. It didn't work very well. Pivec got his weight down to 230 and was a tight end again. He now plays at 225.

Dave says the Rams' success in blocking punts and field goals (Cross blocked two Cleveland field goal attempts) is no accident. "Our special teams practice more than any other club in the league, I am sure. We worked on that nine-man rush only two days before the Cleveland game. There aren't many situations where we can use it—it may not come again all season—but when it happens we'll be ready for it."

Pivec hopes the lightning will strike for him again, but he doesn't expect any thrill to surpass the one he got in the dressing room after last week's game when his teammates presented him with the game ball.

"It was the first game ball I ever received. All my life I've wanted one. Maybe I didn't deserve it, but I sure ain't gonna give it back."



LINER TO CENTER . . . On his way to first base with a single is Gary Biesecker of Central Redondo Little League, one of four teams playing this evening at Tordondo Field in the Gary Cup Tournament. The playoffs are among championship team from all leagues in District 26. Central Redondo Cards defeated Tordondo and Palos Verdes in its first two games and go against the Southwood Redlegs today at 5:30 p.m. (Press-Herald Photo)

Basketball Team Goes to Mexico

Former Redondo and Aviation High School basketball players play three games in La Paz, Baja California Thursday through Sunday.

Headed by C.I.F. "Player of the Year," Paul Westphal, the 7-man squad will leave Los Angeles International Airport at 2 p.m. Thursday aboard Aeromexico's Mexico Flight #141. Dave Hayward, sports chairman of the Sister City Committee, will act as official representative and escort for the group.

Harry Jenkins, former All C.I.F. star at Redondo Beach, will act as player-coach for the team.

The squad consists of Paul Westphal, 17, 6'2 1/2", 185 lbs., High School All-American C.I.F. Player of the Year, who broke the C.I.F. scoring record. A graduate of Aviation High School (Redondo Beach), Westphal will enter U.S.C. on a basketball scholarship.

Other players are Anthony Chaffins, 18, All-Bay League at Redondo High, 6' 1 1/2", 185 lbs., and will enter Pepperdine College on a basketball scholarship; Steve Sims, 18, 6' 4", 178 lbs., was All-Bay League while at Redondo High and was named Pepperdine's "Most Valuable Player" in last year's Freshman Team; Sam Bunch, 17, 160 lbs., 5' 11", All-Pioneer League in both Basketball and Baseball from Aviation High (Redondo Beach); Alan Oddi, 18, 6', 160 lbs., All-Bay League at Redondo High;

Rob Fowler, 17, 5' 10", 140 lbs., All-Bay League at Redondo High; and Harry Jenkins, 22, 6', 190 lbs., All-C.I.F. in both Basketball and Baseball at Redondo High. (Now a senior at Pepperdine College, Jenkins been player-coach of Redondo Beach Sister City teams in basketball and baseball for five years.)

The team will be guests of the Mexican National Tourist Bureau and the La Paz Sister City Committee while in Mexico.

ALL-STARS LOSE AT LANCASTER

West Covina eliminated West Torrance from the Pony League regional playoffs Sunday and will compete in divisional games at San Diego this week.

West Torrance reached the finals by defeating Reseda-Tarzana, 4-2, and Lancaster, 7-6.

West Torrance 000 020 02-4 9 0 Reseda-Tarzana 200 000 00-2 3 7 Furrish and Green; Larson, Cross and Bernard. West Torrance .000 204 1-7 7 1 Lancaster .210 211 0-6 6 2 Lane and Green; Browning, Tippet, Miller and Taylor.

Picnic Ends Season for Girls Teams

The South Bay Girls Softball League will hold a picnic for all girls who have participated in the league and their families on August 21.

Planned activities include an all-star game and the presentation of individual trophies to the top three teams in the league along with an additional award given to the girl who displayed the most outstanding sportsmanship.

Presently four teams are tied for first place in the nine-team league. Vying for first place are the Paladines from Central Torrance, the Whippits from South Torrance, the Peanuts from Redondo Beach and the Kiwanettes from Lawndale. Each team has five wins and one loss.

Girls from ages 14 to 18 participate in the softball league sponsored by the Torrance Recreation Department Games are played at El Nido Park, 18301 Kingsdale, every Monday and Wednesday starting at 7 and 8:30 p.m.

Satchel Paige, 70, Returns to Majors

Satchel Paige, the famed Negro athlete whose age has been estimated at up to 70 years, was signed by the Atlanta Braves Monday as an adviser and possibly as a part-time pitcher.

Braves President William C. Bartholomay said Paige will be on the active roster through this year and will be retained in one capacity or another through the 1969 season. This will permit him to qualify for the major league pension plan.

"We expect Paige to get into shape and to be ready to pitch when called upon," said Bartholomay. Paige, still without any trace of gray in his hair,

PREP FOOTBALL

'Long Beach' League Toughest in History

Realignments of Southern California high school leagues this fall will make the Moore League one of the

toughest in the CIF southern section history.

With the addition of perennial Pacific League power El Rancho and its 2,905 students, who will replace Downey, the Moore League will boast an average enrollment of 3,160, nearly 500 more than the second largest Citrus Belt at 2,670.

Lakewood (3,950) and Millikan (3,700) already rank 1-2 in the CIF directory listing, with Poly (3,020), Wilson (3,000) and Jordan (2,400) rounding out the league.

El Rancho will replace Downey in all sports and will also join the league in wrestling and gymnastics.

Downey, however, will remain in the league at least

for one year in both its strong sports, water polo and swimming.

Warren and Downey also will continue to compete in golf in the Moore League with all the Long Beach schools and El Rancho.

Downey moves in to the Coast League this fall, replacing Lynwood which goes into the San Gabriel Valley League.

With the addition of El Rancho, a school that has made the playoffs in football nine years in a row, football playoff arrangements also will be changed.

CIF personnel indicate that the Moore League plus the Angelus and Sunset league will be able to have three schools represented in the large school playoffs for the first time, provided there are three representative teams.

In all probability, this would only come about if there were three teams with only three losses among them.

Gary Cup Reaches 3rd Round

Two upper bracket (unbeaten teams) games in the Little League Gary Cup Tournament will be played at Tordondo Field this evening at 5:30 p.m.

Playing on Field A are the Central Redondo Cards and Southwood Redlegs and playing on Field B are Silver Spur Pirates and Riviera Tigers.

Southwood won a 10-1 game from the Pacific Bears and a 2-1 win over the South Redondo Dodgers.

Riviera won a 4-3 game from the North Redondo Mets on Sid Adams' 3-run homer.

Tordondo's Tigers came back from a 3-0 shutout loss to the Central Redondo Cards to hand the Eastview Dodgers an 8-1 defeat Monday.

Silver Spur, represented by the Pirates, came up with a 7-0 shutout over the Sunset Mustangs in the first round.

Larry Frederick of the Central Cards socked a home run in the 3-0 win over Tordondo and repeated it in Sunday's 4-2 win over Palos Verdes.

Jerry Milligan collected a home run, double, and two singles in Tordondo's win over Eastview.

Pacific and Eastview have been ousted from the double-elimination playoffs.

Tordondo's Mark Reed homered against Eastview.

Mike Hamilton of the Sunset Mustangs homered in a 13-2 win over North Redondo last night. South Redondo beat Palos Verdes, 7-1. Both losers were eliminated.

Table with 2 columns: Team Name and Score. Includes teams like Laund Bay, South Redondo, White and Sumrall, etc.

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Swim Meet Held

The Torrance swim team held its annual novice invitational swim meet Saturday and Sunday with 18 teams from Southern California entering more than 500 swimmers in 69 events.

Trophies were given to the first, second and third place winners in each event. Ribbons were awarded to swimmers placing fourth through sixth. Ribbons were also presented to first place heat winners.

Claremont's swim team was the meet's high point winner with 307 points.

Torrance's swim team placed second with 275 points. Marleen Musulin and Don DeBaun were the individual high point winners for the Torrance swim team.

Individual and relay team trophy winners from Torrance were Chuck Adamson, Peter Adamson, Phillip Allen, Darlene Cananough, Don DeBaun, Chris Millson, Peter Millson, Marleen Musulin, Lynn Pearce, Bill Simkiss, Jim Simkiss, Robin Travis, Debbie Ward, Eric Whitby, and Sandy Ward.

Swimmers receiving ribbons for individual events were Chuck Adamson, Peter Adamson, Teresa Buckels, Chip Carmichael, Barry DeBaun, Don DeBaun, Greg Graffi, Maria Mason, Chris Millson, Peter Millson, Marleen Musulin, Bill Plotkin, David Shaver, Jim Simkiss, Jim Simkiss and, Debbie Ward.

Results of the county finals at Victoria Park in Gardena on Saturday evening were: Eric Whitby, first place in the 50-meter breast stroke.

Jim Plotkin, seventh place in the 50-meterback stroke. Bill Simkiss finished fifth in the 200-meter freestyle.

Chuck Adamson finished seventh in the 50-meter breast stroke. The freestyle relay team comprised of Chuck Adamson, Bill Simkiss, Jim Simkiss, and Russell Rollins placed sixth.

New Code Set for Football

The Junior All-American Football Federation has taken over most of the boys' tackle football in the Southland and has set up its ground rules.

The federation includes boys football in San Bernardino and Riverside counties, Orange County, and North-eastern Los Angeles County as well as the South Bay area.

It has set up a nine-point program.

1) To set up standard playing rules.

2) To bring closer supervision and regulation of teams playing in the area.

3) To bring through local publicity, a better understanding of this game for boys to the people so that with their increased interest and help, more boys may have the opportunity to play.

4) To publicize and promote the organization of football for boys from 9 to 15 years of age.

5) To set up standard rules and regulations so all teams will play under equal conditions of age and weight.

6) To inspire youth to practice the ideals of citizenship and character.

7) To bring area youth close together through the means of common interest, sportsmanship, fair play and fellowship.

8) To impart to the game elements of safety, unity and intelligent supervision.

9) To keep the welfare of boys first, foremost and entirely free of adult lust for glory.

The program will be composed of five age and weight division.

Denny McLain Has Won 16 On the Road

Denny McLain, backed by a seven-hit attack which included two RBI by Norm Cash, Mickey Stanley and Jim Northrup, pitched a five-hitter to score his 16th successive victory on the road and his 24th win of the season Monday night as the Detroit Tigers beat the Cleveland Indians, 6-3.

McLain, who has a 24-3 record, is attempting to become the first 30-game winner in the American League since Dizzy Dean in 1934. He struck out five and walked only one batter in winning his sixth consecutive game. McLain is 16-0 on the road and 8-3 at home.

The Tigers spotted the Indians a 1-0 lead in the fourth on Tony Horton's 10th homer of the year but bounced back with single runs in the fifth, sixth and seventh innings and wrapped it up with three in the ninth. Horton hit his second homer of the game in the ninth after Russ Snyder walked to drive in the other two Indian runs.

Bolsa Goes To Portland

Bolsa Little League (District 55) won the California Southern Division championship at Lompoc Saturday and will compete in the Western Regionals Thursday at Portland, Oregon.

Bolsa defeated San Diego and Woodland Hills in the divisionals.

Following the Western Regionals the World Series will be played at Williamsport, Pa., Aug. 19-24.

Fund Raising Is Contested

Officials of the Torrance Junior All-American Football Association have issued a statement that their organization is not soliciting donations for a "Pop Warner" Show Fund and that such an activity does not benefit the youth football program in Torrance.

The statement was released by Marjorie E. Reece, public director for Torrance Junior All-American Football Association.

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