

Bass Is Fine; He Got Help

Dick Bass gained 1,090 yards in 1966. Last year he netted only 627 yards. You conclude from this that Bass had a mediocre season in 1967, right? Wrong! To the contrary, this was head coach George Allen's comment after he and his staff had completed their exhaustive, post-season grading of their 1967 team.

"Part of the reason for Dick's lower yardage total is the help he got from Josie (Les Josephson) and Tommy Mason. Those two were able to take some of the work load off Bass. I agree with Casey Stengel when he used to say he would rather have three 15-game winners than one 20-game winner."

Yardage totals are important, but they are only one part of Allen's post-season grading system for each runner. It is their work in some of the other departments that drew highest praise from their boss.

The vital department of blocking, for instance, found Bass, rated by most persons as the greatest runner in Rams history, doing a fine job.

"Dick's blocking for the passer graded 93 per cent," Allen points out, "and this was by far his best since he's been in the league. His blocking on running plays received a grade of 76 and that's an improvement over 1966, too. Dick is proud of these marks and he has every right to be!"

Allen also is proud . . . proud of the work of all of his corps of running backs, their play in 1967 and their promise of 1968.

"We've got a lot of versatility with this group and you've got to have this to win a championship. Bass can play either running back spot, so can Josie. Mason can play running back or one of the pass receiving spots and both Tommy and Willie Ellison are top kick returners. Ellison and Josephson are strong on special teams."

Versatile and certainly the surprise of '67 was Josephson, who finished his season in the All-Star Pro Bowl game.

"Josie had an outstanding year," Allen says. "He led the NFL in rushing during the pre-season and finished the regular season as the Coastal Division's leader. When you consider that 1967 was his first full season as a regular, you know how much he can improve this year."

Josephson, who showed a grade of 95 per cent on pass protection and a run blocking percentage of 71, also came in for praise from offensive backfield coach Ted Marchibroda.

"He's really showed us something as a receiver," Ted smiles. "It's vital to our attack and there were a lot of games when Josie made difficult catches that were decisive."

Decisive, too, in 1967 were some big plays by Mason, the former Viking who proved his infamous knees once again are sound.

"I anticipate Tommy having a big year in 1968," Allen relates. I plan to use him considerably more . . . his presence does a lot for a team. The way he filled in at Chicago is typical of what I mean."

Allen had reference to a corner-turning game against the Bears which followed the only Rams defeat of the Coastal title chase and two ties. With this key game in the balance, Mason completed a long TD pass to Bernie Casey and then played a big part as a receiver in the next drive.

"Tommy filled in on a minute's notice for Jack Snow in Miami, and we'll give him some work as an outside receiver this summer so he can play there if needed," Allen states.

Young Willie Ellison, who was obtained on the draft choice gained in the Mason-for-Minnesota deal, impressed his coaches not only as a runner, but as a tackler, too.

"He showed us a lot of desire on special teams," Marchibroda claims. "In fact, he won our award four times on those units. That's rare for a running back. Willie's our fastest man (4.5 in 40) and when he gains experience, he'll be a real good one."

T.C.I. Aluminum Wins City Title

T.C.I. Aluminum, with a no-hit performance from pitcher Gene Fitch, defeated Airesearch 4-0 to capture the Torrance citywide softball championship Wednesday night at Torrance Park.

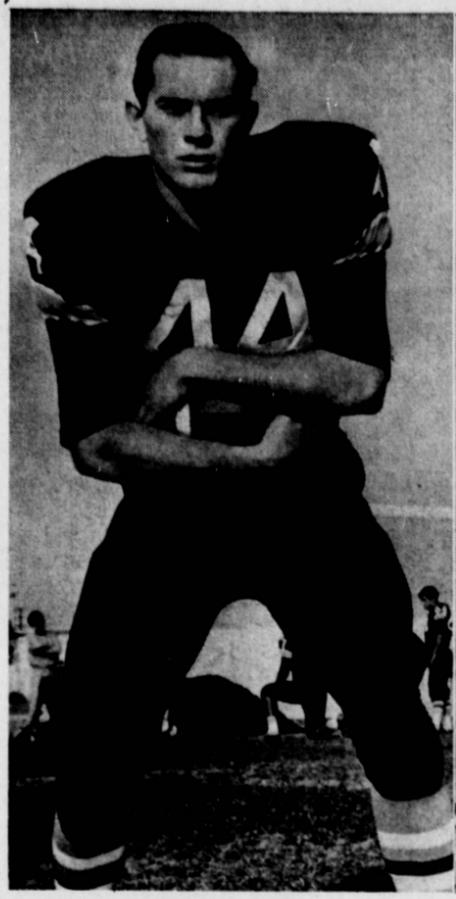
The annual tourney features the winners from the four Torrance Recreation Department leagues meeting headon to determine the city champion.

Opening round action saw Airesearch, Industrial

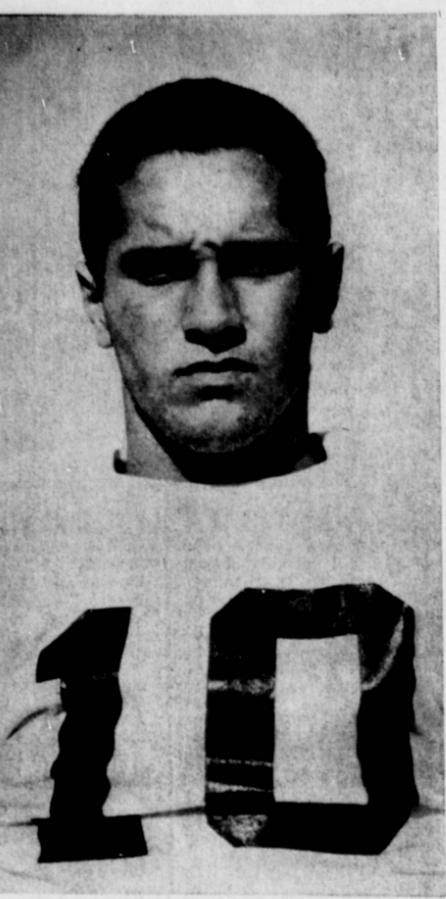
League winners, slip by the Cougars of the Sunday Open League, 2-1 in 8 innings.

In another hard-fought first round game, South Bay Church of God, Church League champs, found the going rough as Gene Fitch for T.C.I. refused to give up a run, edging South Bay 1-0.

In a playoff for third place, South Bay Church of God, on home runs by Mike Brooks and Pat Reynolds breezed past the Cougars for a 5-0 win.



FORMER FOES JOIN FORCES . . . Bob Bartlett, left, and Danny Graham, who clashed in the Lions All-Star Football Classic last summer, are now teammates and probable starters on this year's UCLA Bruin squad. Graham, the most heralded quarterback ever to come out of Bishop Montgom-



ery, and Bartlett, Carson High's fierce fullback, will begin training Wednesday following the summer lull between spring practice. Both offensive stars in high school, they have been moved to the defensive unit.

Recreation Standings

MONDAY OPEN SOFTBALL LEAGUE Final Standings			
W	L	Pct.	GB
T.C.I. Aluminum	12	2 .867	
Stuffy's Cafe	12	3 .800	1
South Bay Club	8	6 .571	4 1/2
Bill's Breeze	7	7 .500	5 1/2
Parhats	7	7 .500	5 1/2
Outcasts	6	8 .429	6 1/2
Airesearch	3	11 .214	9 1/2
Fort MacArthur	1	13 .071	11 1/2

TUESDAY and THURSDAY INDUSTRIAL SOFTBALL LEAGUE Final Standings			
W	L	Pct.	GB
Airesearch	11	3 .786	
TRW Semi-Cond.	9	5 .643	2
Cont. Device	9	5 .643	2
Fansteel	9	5 .643	2
Hapa	8	6 .571	3
Magnavox	8	6 .571	3
Tri-Dair	3	11 .214	8
Harbor Hornets	1	13 .071	10

FRIDAY and SATURDAY CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE Final Standings			
W	L	Pct.	GB
Church of God	12	0 1.000	
Lawndale Church	9	3 .750	3

MONDAY SLO-PITCH at McMASTER PARK Final Standings			
W	L	Pct.	GB
Redondo Chapel	8	4 .667	4
Pacific View	6	6 .500	6
First Lutheran	5	7 .417	7
Calvary Assembly	2	10 .167	10
Four Square	0	12 .000	12

SUNDAY OPEN SOFTBALL LEAGUE at EL NIDO Final Standings			
W	L	Pct.	GB
Cougars	5	2 .800	
Samsco	3	3 .500	1 1/2
Lloyd's Uniform	2	3 .400	2 1/2
Rejects	2	3 .400	2 1/2
Carson Elks	4	6 .400	4
V.I.P.	3	8 .375	5 1/2
Hi-Shear	1	9 .100	7 1/2

MONDAY SLO-PITCH at WALTERIA PARK Final Standings			
W	L	Pct.	GB
Dep'able Trophies	15	0 1.000	
Church of God	11	4 .733	4
Dandoy Glass	7	8 .467	8
Barker Trucking	6	9 .400	9
Tiki Girl	4	11 .267	11
Buggy Wheel #2	2	13 .154	13

MONDAY SLO-PITCH at McMASTER PARK Final Standings			
W	L	Pct.	GB
North End	13	2 .867	
Buggy Wheel #1	12	2 .800	1
Firefighters #1	10	5 .667	3
Aerona	6	9 .400	7
Ampco Metal	2	13 .154	11
Spartan	2	13 .154	11

TUESDAY SLO-PITCH at McMASTER PARK Final Standings			
W	L	Pct.	GB
Firefighters #2	13	2 .867	
Gold Key	11	4 .733	2
H. P. Sportsmen	11	4 .733	2
Sopwith Camels	4	11 .267	8
Irvine & Keehn	3	12 .200	10
Successors	3	12 .200	10

THURSDAY SLO-PITCH at EL NIDO Final Standings			
W	L	Pct.	GB
Whiz Kids	14	1 .928	
Daily Breeze	13	2 .857	1
Pencil Pushers	5	9 .357	5 1/2
Torrance Rotary	5	10 .333	6 1/2
T.E.S.P.A. Tigers	4	10 .286	7 1/2
Four Square	3	12 .214	11

Attention, Swimmers!

Torrance swim team members will begin the post season at the Victor E. Benstead Plunge Monday, September 9. All interested South Bay swimmers may participate on the team during the post session although during the summer months membership is limited to Torrance residents. Tryouts will be held from Monday, September 9 to Thursday, September 12 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the Benstead Plunge. There is a \$4 fee each month.

"At UCLA," Bartlett told the Press-Herald, "Everybody was a star. Out of the 22 men that were freshmen on football scholarships, only about a fourth of them were linemen or defensive stars. Almost everybody was a super scorer." Coaches were able to spot the defensive potential in Graham and Bartlett, and played them at defensive back and linebacker, respectively, in spring training. Bartlett was selected frosh captain and received the Pike Memorial Trophy, given traditionally to the frosh chief. Bob was played strictly at linebacker, and is nothing but grateful for the switch from fullback. "I wouldn't want to be on offense here; all they do is block, block, and block some more," Bartlett reported. Graham feels equally happy to be on defense.

Prep Football

Potential Is There, Colts Must Rebuild

(This is the second in a series of six articles describing the football prospects for Carson, West North, South, Torrance and Bishop Montgomery high schools. Today's roundup deals with Gene Vollnogle's Carson High School Colts.)

By TIM O'DONNELL
Press-Herald Sports Writer

Gene Vollnogle, head coach at Carson High School in Carson, has lost only one Marine League game in the past two seasons. Last year his Colts finished second to Gardena, and won the Marine League and L.A. City championships the year before.

But this year he has done something rather unique among high school grid coaches. He has admitted his team will probably not win the city championship . . . most likely not even their league.

"We are in a period of rebuilding our squad from top to bottom," he told the Press-Herald. "We lost our quarterback, our end, our offensive line, and our center, just to name a few key positions."

Graduation has a habit of taking its toll on high school football teams each June, but few squads have been hit harder than Vollnogle's. There are, however, plenty of bright spots in a seemingly dim future for this season.

"We are young—a better word would be inexperienced," Vollnogle reported. "But we do have some

tough lettermen returning, and playing time is all the younger kids need to work themselves into a possible second place finish."

Returning lettermen from last year's squad include Chuck Spanski, a defensive back whom Vollnogle is thinking about switching to halfback—or at least having him go both ways; J. T. House, another defensive back who will get a shot at split end; Leo Heredia, a fine defensive end and halfback; and Chuck Scocio, a two-year Jayvee letterman who will be at tackle.

Vollnogle is looking for good things from transfer student Fuatua Leomiti, whom he calls "the strongest man in the school." Leomiti weighs 240 lbs., and has bench-pressed 350 lbs. "He is very fast for his size, and we are thinking about him at fullback," the head coach reports.

All candidates for Carson's varsity team are undergoing a physical fitness program designed by Vollnogle to get them into shape solely by running, agility drills, quickness drills and calisthenics.

The program runs for an hour and forty-five minutes each weeknight beginning at 6 p.m. Under league rules, no pads or footballs may be used in pre-season practice until sometime next week.

"The physical fitness program we have here will be a big asset to us," Vollnogle said, "because if we can be in better shape than our opponents, we have a jump on them."

It has been proven further that injuries decrease proportionately in high school football to the degree of conditioning of athletes can put themselves through prior to actual games.

Carson, perennial champions in baseball, emerge each year in football as underdogs to Gardena. Vollnogle offers his reasoning for this:

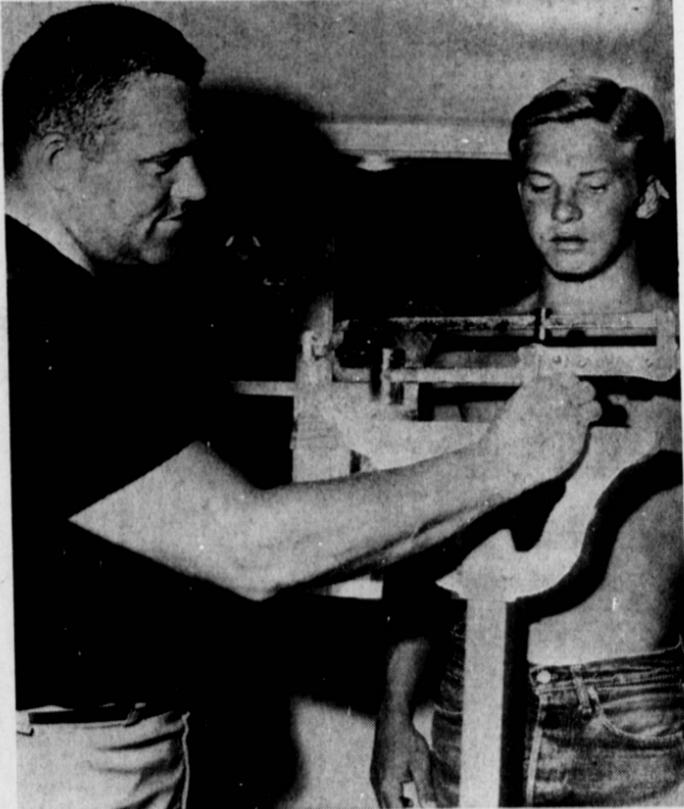
"They have so darn many kids going there—about a thousand more than Carson—that the number of ball-players who turn out gives them somewhat of an edge."

Los Angeles City leagues are not divided by population as are CIF schools, but are set geographically.

"This presents a disadvantage for the school with a smaller enrollment," Vollnogle said, "but it makes for much better school spirit and rivalry—we wouldn't have it any other way."

Rebuilding a team from inexperienced players from Jayvee and Bee teams is not an easy job for any coach. But Vollnogle is equal to the task, and has the record to prove it.

This season will be trying for players and coaches, and will test everyone's ability to learn by getting knocked around. But with the fine program of pre-season training Vollnogle has developed, coupled with his habit of producing winning clubs from almost nothing, it is reasonable to assume that Carson's Colts won't have to apologize to anybody.



WEIGHS IN . . . Carson High School's football coach, Gene Vollnogle, weighs defensive back Chuck Spanski prior to a physical fitness workout. Vollnogle is faced with the job of rebuilding his entrant in the Marine League grid race this year after losing many key players to graduation.

New Bruins Scoring Days Are All Over

Danny Graham, high school All-American selection from Bishop Montgomery's 1967 championship football squad, and Bob "Cowboy" Bartlett, Carson High's bruising fullback who lifted the Colts to the City Championship in his senior year, were billed as the top stars from their respective teams in last summer's Lions East-West All Star Game. Now they find themselves teammates on the UCLA Bruin squad.

The two went head-to-head in the all-star clash, Bartlett piling up yardage that gave the East an early lead, and Graham tossing the touchdown that gave the West victory in the final seconds.

Both boys elected to attend the Westwood campus on grid scholarships, and both starred on the frosh team last season. However both of them were in "new" defensive roles.

High school stars generally "go both ways," that is, they play offense and defense. However Graham and Bartlett got most of their notoriety from ball-carrying or throwing.

Graham was selected to three all-America teams, as was Bartlett, and was rated one of the best high school quarterbacks in the nation. Bartlett too was a scoring standout, being a strong, powerful runner.

But at UCLA coaches decided to turn the talents of the two prodigies in the other direction.

Graham was noted for his fine tackling ability, and Bartlett was rated as an outstanding linebacker, but fans like scoring, and reporters like to write about touchdowns.

"At UCLA," Bartlett told the Press-Herald, "Everybody was a star. Out of the 22 men that were freshmen on football scholarships, only about a fourth of them were linemen or defensive stars. Almost everybody was a super scorer."

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Bartlett was selected frosh captain and received the Pike Memorial Trophy, given traditionally to the frosh chief. Bob was played strictly at linebacker, and is nothing but grateful for the switch from fullback.

"I wouldn't want to be on offense here; all they do is block, block, and block some more," Bartlett reported. Graham feels equally happy to be on defense.

"I just want to play," he said, "and where I play is up to the coach; anywhere is okay with me as long as I'm in there." Danny was "in there" most of spring practice, and ended up as a starting back.

Bartlett had a tough job to do: he was faced with the problem of going up against a man that had the third highest playing time last season. Bob has apparently earned the starting bid from coach Tommy Prothro.

The mention of Prothro's name brought immediate reactions from the sophomores.

"He sure doesn't waste words," said Graham, "he really gets the job done. It's not like high school, where the coach has to worry about what you do off the field; Coach Prothro wants 100 per cent on the gridiron, and then just asks that you conduct yourself like an athlete."

"You can't really get close to him," reported Bartlett, "because he always talks through his coaches. He is a tremendously intelligent coach, and can talk on any subject you want. He is high on things like agility drills, running, and quickness drills. You really have to work for him."

Graham, a Business Administration major, played frosh baseball where he led his team in everything, as he was accustomed to doing at Bishop Montgomery.

He will go out for varsity baseball this year, although this will cut into his spring football program. "The coaches don't mind if they think you are good enough to play professionally," he said. Since he was drafted by the major leagues out of high school, there isn't much doubt that he's a potential pro baseball prospect.

Bob and Danny have a great deal of respect for each other. Graham about Bartlett "He's very tough; a good strong linebacker. The guys like him, though they kid him about his Texan accent and call him 'Cowboy'."

Bartlett about Graham: "He worked himself into a nice spot; he's a great all-around athlete who can do everything. Some people didn't figure he'd make it at defense, but he just flat beat everybody out."

Look for both Bartlett and Graham to start UCLA's first game this season, and get a lot of time in. Also watch for both men to become standouts for the Bruins for the next three years.