

# Japan Wins Little League World Series

By HENRY BURKE  
Press-Herald Sports Editor

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa.—Wakayama, Japan, won the 22nd Little League World Series Saturday, defeating Richmond, Virginia, of the Southern Region, 1-0.

In reportorial form the first paragraph is a capsule summary of the final game in a 5,000 team single elimination series that started back on July 15.

In reverse order it is easy to trace the World Champion back to our own tournaments in Torrance.

Before Wakayama defeated Richmond, the Japanese won a 3-0 shutout from Bolsa Little League of Santa Ana, our Western Region, Southern California, and California Section 6 champion.

You might recall Bolsa defeated Hawthorne American Little League back on Aug. 3 and a couple days earlier Hawthorne American won a nine inning 4-3 game from Southwood Little League. Southwood, on the other hand, knocked off North Torrance East, 5-0, in a sub-section (District 26-27) game.

The task of putting on a hometown district playoff

is a dedicated effort, but the responsibility of handling a Little League World Series is out of the world.

To make the World Series more ideal this year, and to replace a condemned body of temporary grandstands, it was necessary to erect a \$300,000 reinforced concrete stadium. A magnificent facility has been completed and I promise to have pictures posted for Little League people intrigued by the program. It would not do justice to describe Little League headquarters in a newspaper column, but it is tempting enough to travel 3,000 miles from home every year to enjoy this week of baseball under such splendid atmosphere.

The final game was carried Saturday on the ABC network "Wide World of Sports." This year the network risked the threat of rain and handled the game "live." One of the game announcers was Jim Piersall who flew in the day before from Los Angeles.

Piersall, like the other 20,000 people, was scorched by the mid-day heat and humidity, but a flash rain struck one hour before game time and the tarp was pulled over the field. Although thousands of people ran

for cover for the moment, they came back to jam every spot in sight for the hour and 20-minute game.

This year on TV you may have noticed there were no player interviews. The language barrier is one reason.

The new stadium does provide television with splendid facilities along with the press and radio. The games were handled by 10 radio stations.

Roger Miller of Richmond became quite a hero by hitting three 2-run home runs against Canada for an 8-5 victory. He had never hit more than one in a game before. A couple of the motor hotels where his people stayed promptly displayed his name for all to notice.

The eight teams which play in the World Series represent five languages, but all the youngsters become acquainted in a hurry. The swimming pool and mess hall are perfect for socializing. The dining room is in use for 12 straight hours daily and a doctor and two nurses live with the 112 boys on the compound.

One of the nurses said the Japanese boys are by far the most popular and the boys from Nicaragua are the "lovers."

The eight teams take part in all phases of the pageantry of the tournament on an equal basis, although there has to be something special about going home with the World Championship. On the day of the championship game a parade is held on the field with three bands and drill teams.

Even after the game there were many touching moments. From the field level the two finalists left the stadium, climbed the long stairway to International Grove where their camp is located, and greeting both teams with a great expression of fondness were the six teams eliminated in earlier games.

Early Sunday morning, after a final breakfast at the camp, three buses took the eight teams to Washington, D.C., for a 48-hour visit. The Japanese team will have a brief stopover in New York before going to Honolulu. They have already been to Disneyland.

By the end of the week, somewhere around the stroke of midnight, the magic of Little League will change back to something more normal—like it did for Cinderella.



THAT'S THE OLE BALL GAME . . . This was the margin of victory: one run scored by the Japanese representatives to the Little League World Series held last weekend. The visitors from the Orient beat a Richmond, Va., team 1-0 for the championship. Read the exclusive story of the series by Henry Burke, Press-Herald Sports Editor, who was on-the-scene at Williamsport, Pa. (Press-Herald Photo)

## Press-Herald SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1968 D-1

### Rams Are in a 'Dyer' Dilemma

Henry Dyer, the "big man" of the Rams running backs, is among that group of players maintaining a nervous balance between the regular and reserve squads.

At 230 pounds he is the largest ball carrier of the team's current croup of running backs, but after two seasons with the Rams he has never carried the ball once in a league game.

To Dyer, who was drafted fourth in 1966 after building a career as a Grambling fullback second only to that of the redoubtable Tank Younger, this is a discouraging fact of life and he hopes his performance during last week's 35-13 loss to the San Diego Chargers will finally tip the scales in his favor.

His rushing total of 56 yards topped all other runners on both clubs and his 4.3-yard average per rush was also high. He accumulated 34 yards on four pass receptions. Of the eight first downs by rushing that the Rams achieved during a dismal evening, Dyer accounted for four, and he caught a pass for a fifth. His efforts drew warm words of praise from coach George Allen.

Last season he was again the fourth-best ball-carrier during the pre-season games and his average was exceeded only by Les Josephson. But he hurt a knee in the Cleveland contest and it never fully healed. He spent

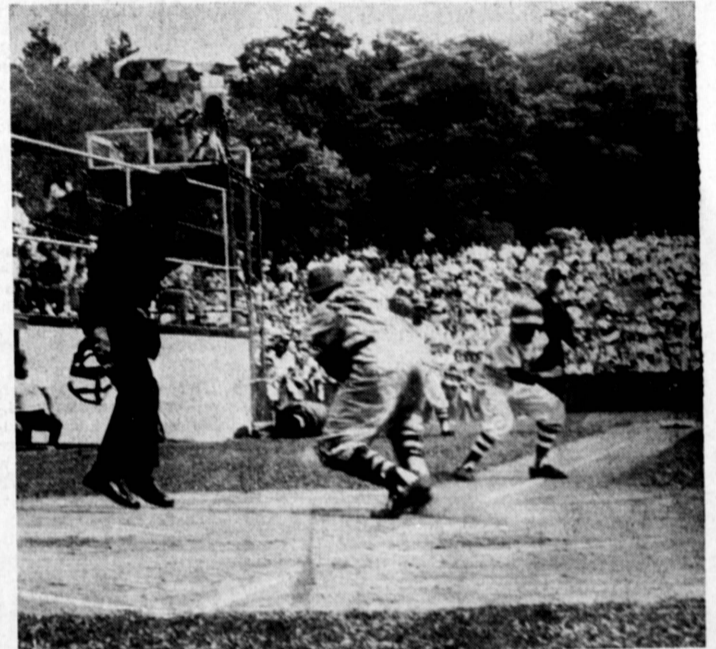
the entire league season with the inactive group. After further examination last winter disclosed a cyst in the knee he underwent surgery and now says he is once more in perfect condition.

"I am certain I can succeed if I get enough work. However, we have a lot of running backs on the squad and everyone except Tommy Watkins has been on the active or inactive roster for three seasons. Watkins, of course, is a seven-year veteran from the Browns and Lions. They all has as much pro experience as I have, some a lot more."

Henry is a power runner, rather than a fancy artist. He hits hard with good speed, and when he is tackled he will usually spin a yard or two extra. "I'd prefer to run around 'em," he grins, "but most fullback plays go up the middle, so I have to run over 'em."

He ran over 'em so consistently during his four-year college career at Grambling that he scored 312 points and gained 2,811 yards, 1,025 in his senior year alone. In one game he rolled up 224 yards. The Rams sent Younger down to look him over and Tank came back with a glowing report: "He can't miss."

That is Dyer's dilemma: he can't quite score a hit, either. But he faces the future with hope and determination. "I'll keep giving it all I have. Josephson made it big his fourth season. Maybe I can in my third."



CAUGHT IN A RUNDOWN . . . This was just some of the action that went to make up the Little League World Series. Here the representatives from Japan lose their lead runner in a rundown late in the championship game against Richmond, Va. They didn't need this run though, as they won a 1-0 shutout on just three hits. (Press-Herald Photo)



BIG FOUR . . . Torrance High's grid coach Harold Warfle, standing, bases much of his pre-season hopes around his four offensive and defensive tackles; from left to right, Terry Waters, Greg Waters (cousins), Wayne Petersen, and Mike Verna. The Tartars will be attempting to make a comeback from a disappointing 0-7-1 1967 campaign. (Press-Herald Photo)

### Dodgers Set Full Card Of Television Viewing

Southern California baseball fans are in for a full weekend of action Aug. 30 to Sept. 1 as the Los Angeles Dodgers meet the San Francisco Giants in a KTTV triple header sports package.

Airing in color and live from the Bay City's Candlestick Park, each of the National League games will be preceded by a Dodged Dug-out report and followed by a Dodger Scoreboard.

With Jerry Doggett and Vin Scully calling the game proper, as well as handling the Scoreboard, Dodger Dug-out as usual will be hosted by Bill Welsh, Channel 11,

executive director of sports and special events.

Visiting with Welsh at 7:15 p.m. Aug. 30 will be pitcher Jim (Mudcat) Grant and L. Presco Thompson, Dodgers' newly appointed vice president and general manager; while at 12:10 p.m. next day, it'll be outfielder Len Gabrielson, pitcher Jim Brewer and director of scouting Al Campanis.

The pre-show at 12 noon Sept. 1 will feature manager Walt Alston, batting practice pitcher and bullpen boss Carroll Beringer, pitcher Mike Kekich and Golden Glove Award-winning first sacker Wes Parker.

### Football Openings for Pee Wees 10-12

The Pee Wee Division of Torrance Jr. All-American Football has openings for boys weighing 70-95 pounds who were born in 1956, 57 or 58. Practices are at West High from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Interested boys can sign up at the field.

### Camino Previews '68 Grid Schedule

El Camino College's football team opened its 1968 season today when the Tribemen reported for physicals and suited up for the first time.

Scrimmages with Riverside College and the EC Alumni squads will provide the Warriors with some pep-up action prior to their opening bout of the season with Laney College in Oakland.

EC gets to "break the ice" as the Warriors open their 1969 Metro schedule against Pasadena Saturday, Oct. 5, in Murdock Stadium.

Last season PCC finished third in the Western State Conference, while the Warriors placed second in Metro action.

Out of the six conference battles remaining, five of the games will be with teams that seek revenge

against EC. The Warriors, who ended the season with a 6-1 Metro record, beat all their opponents but one—Bakersfield. The Renegades handed EC a 34-8 defeat which forced the Tribemen to settle for second best, while Bakersfield walked off with its ninth consecutive victory and the Metro grid championship.

However, the Warriors will get their chance at revenge when they host Bakersfield Saturday, Nov. 2 during EC's Homecoming show. Nonetheless, the Warriors have more than just a 34-8 score to settle with the Renegades. EC hasn't beaten Bakersfield since 1956.

The other five EC grid battles include Oct. 12, at Cerritos; Oct. 18, at Santa Monica City College; Oct. 26, L.A. Valley at EC; Nov. 9, at L.A. Pierce; and Nov. 16, at Long Beach City College.



CHAMPION COMES HOME . . . Jennie Walsh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Walsh of Torrance, will make a guest appearance in the South Bay Figure Skating Club's 6th Annual Ice Show scheduled Sept. 1 and 2 at the Olympic Ice arena in Harbor City. Jennie won the Grand Prix International De Patinage De Saint Gervais in figures and freestyle while in France.

### Prep Football

## Torrance Tartars Rebuild Following Dismal Season

(This is the third in a series of six articles describing the football prospects for 1968 of West, Carson, Torrance, South, North and Bishop Montgomery high schools. Today's story covers Torrance High's Tartars.)

By TIM O'DONNELL  
Press-Herald Sports Writer

Torrance High's football Tartars, once respected as a formidable power in the Sky League, stumbled through a dismal 0-7-1 season last year, ending up in the cellar.

Asked if he was looking for better things from his gridders this year, third-year coach Harold Warfle told the Press-Herald, "We

have to look for better; things can't get much worse than they were last season."

One of this year's improvements will be the size of the front line. 1967's line averaged a scrawny 163 pounds; this year it stands at a respectable 207.

"One of our main problems last season stemmed from the inexperience of our starters. We had a lot of younger kids at key spots; most of them are returning this year, with a year's experience under their belts," Warfle explained.

The Tartars will welcome 11 lettermen into the ranks from last year's squad. Warfle has eight defensive starters and seven offensive starters from last year.

Most of these men played both offense and defense.

Kim Brooks, who handled "about 50 per cent" of the quarterbacking duties last season is returning, along with end Mike McGuire—whom Warfle plans to convert to a halfback.

Jerry Walls is slated to fill McGuire's spot at end, along with either Steve Petrat or Mike Olmstead. McGuire will "go both ways," also playing in the defensive secondary.

David Starr, a transfer from Narbonne High School in Lomita, will fill both the offensive guard and defensive linebacker spots. He will receive help on the line from Terry and Greg Waters, Wayne Petersen, and Mike Verna.

Candidates up from the Bee team include Rick King, quarterback; Don Goss, offensive end; Stuart Myers, halfback; and Rudy Barnett, fullback.

Warfle explains that he is not rebuilding from the ground up; rather, he is hoping his young players get into an experienced unit. He promises to field a lot of young talent.

The best the Tartars could manage all season in 1967 league play was a tie from Culver City High School. It is this corner's bet that an increase of size on the line and experience all over the lineup will produce a drastic change in the record by the time November rolls around.