

Hot Lines

By Al Coast

The ego of a normal hunter or fisherman is so far out in space, that even with our present expanded space program, it would be impossible to reach it. This is proven every year by an organization called the "Southwest Button Club." This association is made up of 100 Rod and Gun Clubs. This covers some 6,000 members who, each year, compete for the largest fish, biggest deer head or the heaviest wild pig, of all species.

The Torrance Rod & Gun Club is always well represented by some trophy size fish and game. This past year was no exception. Gene Meacher, known in club circles as preacher, due to his long winded explanation of procedure in club meetings, came home with two nice trophies. One for the largest Kokanee Salmon and the other for the largest Brown Trout. Ernie Strong, local trailer tycoon and ex-commercial fisherman hauled in a trophy for the largest Skip Jack. Joe Bertuzzi bagged the largest wild pig.

Speaking of trophy size fish and game, some of the records of our club include albacore over 40 lbs., calico bass 12 lbs., white sea bass 65 lbs., halibut 52 lbs., opal eye 6 lbs., surf perch 4 1/4 lbs., hammerhead shark over 600 lbs., bluefin tuna 35 lbs., yellowtail 45 1/2 lbs., and deer of over 250 lbs. field dressed. Almost every member has contributed to our long list of big fish and game.

We have a bass derby at Lake Cachuma, Sunday. Weigh-in time 2 p.m. Our wandering steak dinner host finally put in his appearance at the last meeting. Harry Seeman, local photographer, said he was snowed in at Crestline. Naturally he was fined by Club Prezy, Jim Perrine, which was collected by the Rotund Terror of the Trap Range, one "Bad News Murphy." For you readers who are not members of our club, you are missing out on a lot of fun. Don't forget, we are expanding, so come on over and join up.

I understand Murphy broke 150 clay pigeons in a row. This is a new record for our club. This was at the Dominguez Range. Is there any difference in trap ranges as far as size, speed and flight of clay pigeons?

Our Stinger Derby last Friday night, at Los Alimitos Bay, was almost blown out, but some of the hardy members put in their appearance and one 50 pound stinger was landed. This semi-monster was landed by Roy Wright.

For the surf addict, there are a few scattered perch between Redondo and Manhattan Beach. Lots of small corbina close in. White sea bass fishing at San Diego has been stormed out. Local lakes are still high and dirty, which makes for scratchy fishing.

Don't miss next weeks news, we will divulge some pertinent info on surf fishing as to how and where.

Late! Late! Flash! — Your writer picked up six surf perch to 2 1/4 lbs., using softshells. These were taken at Hermosa before dark.

Words of Wisdom

Don't let short height keep you from dreaming of a career in basketball. L.A. Stars player Dick Halway told a group of eighth-grade athletes this week.

Halway, who measured five-feet-four inches and tipped the scales at 120 pounds when he graduated from high school, was one of 15 adults who described their professions at a career day program for elementary school students.

Attending the four-hour event at Magruder Elementary School were youngsters from Madison, Perry, Edison and Yukon Elementary Schools.

Because he was short, Halway told the youngsters, he specialized in cross-country and tennis in high school—but managed to get in half an hour's daily practice in basketball on his own time.

When growth came in college, he was ready to show his stuff, the 33-year old stocky blonde athlete recalled.

"Sandy Koufax never played baseball till he got out of school," he said. "He was a basketball star."

As for the workaday details of a career in sports, Halway told the youngsters, professional players usually start out earning \$10,000 to \$12,000 per season. Baseball players have a pension fund, he said, but basketball players do not.

Drawbacks to a sports career, according to the basketball player, include mental and physical strain players undergo.

"The best advice I can give you," he commented, "is to get good grades. You'll need them to get into a good university; and that's where they're scouting for All-Americans."

WITH 300 COMPETITORS GOING IN MORE THAN 100 CLASSES THE 6TH ANNUAL HOT ROD MAGAZINE CHAMPIONSHIP DRAG RACES AT RIVERSIDE INTERNATIONAL RACEWAY ON MARCH 16 WILL BE ANOTHER GREAT ONE... BUT THE EYES WILL BE ON TWO MUSTANG FUNNY CARS THAT MARK THE RETURN TO THE DRAG STRIPS OF SPEED MERCHANT MICKEY THOMPSON. ALTHOUGH HE'S NOT DRIVING HE FEELS HIS CAR CAN BEAT EVERYBODY... THEY'VE ALREADY DONE 199 MILES PER HR.....



Rain Helped Condition Hollypark Race Track

Hollywood Park's main track is open for training for thoroughbreds preparing for the 1969 season.

Early use of the one-mile oval by the more than 700 thoroughbreds already on hand for the 75-day season, according to John Maluvius, is due largely to the surprisingly strong helping hand received from "Mother Nature" during a two-month reconstruction period.

"We had hoped to have the track ready by March 15," Maluvius explained, "but because of the great amount of moisture received during late January and early February, the track shaped up much faster than expected and came to hand in excellent order. This has enabled us to open it nearly a week ahead of schedule."

Maluvius pointed out the unusually heavy amount of rainfall (approximately 28 inches) received this year nearly washed out plans for the scheduled opening.

"Up to a point, the rainfall was welcomed. But had it continued for another week, the track would have been too soft to work and we would have been in trouble. But everything has turned out perfectly."

Reconstruction of the Hollypark strip, under the supervision of Track Foreman Jack Farmer, began in January when 300 tons of coarse silica sand was slowly worked into the track, up to a depth of 10 inches.

"We disked the track and furrowed it, hoping for a little rain, but prepared to use our long-boom water wagon if it wasn't forthcoming," Maluvius explained.

"We only used the wagon about four times and then the rain hit us. The furrows held the

water and enabled us to get plenty of moisture to the sub soil and thoroughly soak the base.

"The rains made it much easier to rip the track deeply and provided for an excellent blending of materials during the final stages of the program. I feel the track now has more spring and bounce to it than it ever had in the past."

"We have added a new hydraulically-operated harrow

with larger, 24-inch rollers to use in conditioning the track during the meeting and I believe it will be a valuable addition to our equipment pool."

Hollypark's half-mile training track, which held up magnificently well during the heavy rains, will continue to be available to horsemen through the coming season from April 11 to July 23.



TRACK STAR... Ron Johnson of West High School, an outstanding junior middle distance runner, was timed at 1:58.6 in a meet against Redondo last week.

Favorites Listed in Big Leagues

St. Louis and San Francisco in the National League and Detroit and Oakland in the American League have been established as the betting favorites to win divisional baseball titles.

St. Louis and Detroit are listed at 5-2 in the Eastern Division, while San Francisco was rated 6-5 and Oakland 2-1 in the West.

The odds:
National League: East, Cards 5-2, Cubs 3-1, Braves 4-1, Phils 6-1, Mets 25-1, Expos 300-1; West, Giants 6-5, Dodgers 5-2, Braves and Reds 3-1, Astros 100-1, Padres 300-1. American League: East, Tigers 5-2, Orioles and Indians 3-1, Red Sox 7-2, Yankees 10-1, Senators 200-1; West, A's 2-1, Angels, White Sox and Twins 3-1, Royals and Pilots 200-1.

Don Thrapp To Compete At Riverside

Don Thrapp of Torrance is entered in the sixth annual Hot Rod Magazine Drag Championship Saturday and Sunday at Riverside International Raceway.

Thrapp will drive a '55 Thunderbird.

The 23-year-old racer will be going for the Street Eliminator title in his E/Gas classed car.

Thrapp's best speed is 112.43 miles per hour in an elapsed time of 11.97 seconds.

Pritchett's Hit Beats Cerritos

Coach Chuck Freeman's El Camino baseball team rallied from behind with a three-run triple by Danny Pritchett to dump Cerritos, 9-6, Tuesday afternoon on the Warrior diamond.

The victory moved the Warriors into a tie for first place with Cerritos in the Metropolitan Conference standings with a

3-1 record. El Camino plays at Pierce this afternoon and is host to Valley College Saturday in Metro baseball action.

In Tuesday's victory, El Camino fell behind, 4-1, after five innings. Pritchett's game-breaking triple with the bases loaded in the bottom of the seventh put El Camino ahead, 6-4. It was part of a six-run uprising in the game's outcome.

Press-Herald SPORTS

B-2

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1969

TORRANCE LOS' TO MONARCHS

Morningside High scored four runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to beat Torrance, 3-2, in the first game of the Sky League season on Tuesday.

Rob Boyes, a basketball player, smashed a 3-run home run to end the game. The first baseman had three hits.

Bob Martin gave Torrance a 2-run lead in the second inning with a home run. Winning pitcher Tom Boyes gave up only one other hit to the Tartars.

The same teams played yesterday at Torrance.

In the other opening games Rolling Hills nudged Culver City, 2-1, and Palos Verdes downed Leuzinger, 4-2.

BAY HARBOR SQUIRTS WIN HOCKEY MATCH

The Squirts of the Bay Harbor Minor Hockey Association won a 7-1 victory over Burbank Sunday at the Olympic Ice Arena.

Dwayne Stregre and Howie Lobb picked up a hat trick. David Bender had three assists and Goalie Rick Corwin was credited with 16 saves.

The 8 to 10 year-old Squirts will go to Portland March 29 and 30 to compete in a 2-game total point series for the Western States Championship.

The Harbor Minor Hockey Association is for boys 5 to 20 years of age.

Members of the Squirts are Mark Cuffel, John Davidson, Jim Begin, Lorne Wilton, John Perez, Dwayne Stregre, David Bender, Jamie Black, Hugh Elder, Rick Corwin, Dale Hayes, and Howie Lobb.

The team coach is Bill Davidson and the assistant coach is Don Begin. Manager of team is Mel Corwin.

Hot Rods Roar at Raceway

Two unusual twin-engine gas dragsters will be on the bill of fare for the sixth annual Hot Rod Magazine Drag Races Saturday and Sunday at Riverside International Raceway.

They are the NHRA record-holding Freight Train driven by Bob Muravez of Burbank and the Odd Couple, a wild creation piloted by Art LeColst of Van Nuys.

A familiar sight for the last three years on local trips, the Freight Train is one of the most popular machines in the sport. With Muravez driving it then, the twin-Chevy rail was the first gas dragster to break 200 m.p.h. and 7.50 seconds, two years ago in Wilmington.

A late comer in gas dragster racing, the Odd Couple has roared to prominence in recent weeks with good showings at the NHRA Nationals and the Bakersfield U.S. Fuel and Gas meets.

It is powered by two different kinds of engines, one Chrysler and one Chevrolet, that give it total cubic inch displacement of 810.

Top marks to date for LeColst have been 198 m.p.h. and a screaming run of 7.50 seconds in the quarter-mile.

Qualifying on Saturday is expected to be torrid on the Riverside asphalt, as gas dragster drivers pare their number down to eight for Sunday eliminations. Their big inducement is a \$700 top eliminator prize, plus \$750 posted by Union Oil Co., which will be pocketed by the winner on Sunday.

Gas dragsters will provide competition in one of the eight eliminator brackets — as an estimated 300 drivers race everything from 230 m.p.h. fuelers to family sedans they drive to the track.

Gymnastics Event Set For April

America's finest men and women gymnasts will compete against their international counterparts April 25-26 at Long Beach Arena in the first annual U.S. Gymnastics Federation World Invitational Cup.

The event will be two championships in one — the U.S.G.F. Nationals, with as many as 100 top men and women competing, and the World Invitational Cup featuring elite fields of six men and six women only.



SYMBOL OF FRIENDSHIP... Dr. and Mrs. Giorgio de Stanfani and their son Emmanuel greet Supervisor Kenneth Hahn and present him with a stone as a symbol of friendship between the people of Italy and Los Angeles. Hahn is an ambassador to bring the 1976 Olympics to Los Angeles.

New Title Holders Expected in NBA

It is fairly evident as the 23rd season of the National Basketball Association draws to a close that three new title holders will appear in the Association's five major scoring categories. Only veteran Wilt Chamberlain of Los Angeles will retain his titles in rebounding and field goal percentages.

Larry Siegfried of the Boston Celtics with 321 foul throws out of 369 attempts for a .870 percentage is well ahead of the field in this department.

Oscar Robertson of the Cincinnati Royals is set to replace Chamberlain as the assist champion and the San Diego rookie Elvin Hayes is displacing Detroit's Dave Bing as individual scoring champ.

Hayes, with 2,069 points and a 29 per game average, is well ahead of runner-up Earl Monroe of Baltimore (1,878 tallies and a 25.7 game average) who jumped from fourth place to second during the past week.

Chamberlain, with a .575 field goal average, is fairly certain to hold onto his crown, leading runner-up Jerry Lucas of Cincinnati with .555. Wilt has a big margin in the rebound department, sailing along at a 21.2 per game average with 1,544 retrievals. He is followed by Bill Russell of Boston with 1,366 grabs for a 19.8 per game average.

Robertson should finish at the top of the assist column. He now has 703 feeds and a 9.8 per game average, while Len Wilkens of Seattle trails with 617 and 8.4.

Even

That seems to be the consensus of opinion at various restaurants in our town. At least this'll be the first time in a long time that we'll be able to prepare for gal St. Paddy's Day.

Take a name, for instance, could possibly be Irish. But Gerard staff are preparing on that note and "when real men are expected large numbers."

They've even been vented by Guy C. "Irish Parisienne" for that day plus other surprises up Maison Gerard. verly Drive in B day.

Then Nick pitching a lulu too, at his Jet that'll include hats, the works. Patrick's Day fun no minimum, at policy prevailing of Irish songs, to along buffs with noodling at the p.

Bill is one of plished piano around. Not only that he knows to back as well as rent numbers. A to do is request and from that huge piano out. Bill says he ear but he kept caught between.

Speaking of when owner N mention one day ing to change the spot and went of how, was sure l.

Boy, how wro Went tooling by recently and w attracted to on La Cienega That's right, it job Nick had do of the building a ment is amazing for what was another building Now the Jet Ro the crowd. Whoe it knew what about.

Then in hon Saint there's to happening at M food Grotto at 17 Avenue I in Red

For that day has been conco that ace mixo and it's been Fann, whatever it sure sounds ze

It's made v menthe, blackbe cream and is to luncheons and about that!

Rememb Grotto is open Fridays and S Angeles provide ment. If you w servation, give 375-1483.

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