



HEADING FOR PORTLAND . . . Members of the 8 to 10 year old Squirrels of the Bay Harbor Minor Hockey Association will be in Portland Saturday and Sunday to compete in a 2-game total point series for the Western States Championship. Members of the team are (front row) Jamie Black, Hugh Elder, Rick Corwin, Dale Hayes, and Howie Lobb. In the back row are Coach Bill Davidson, Mark Cuffel, John Davidson, Jim Begin, Lorne Wilton, John Perez, Manager Mel Corwin, Dwayne Strege, David Bender, and Assistant Coach Don Begin.

Another Speedway

Construction of the \$25.5 million Ontario Motor Speedway has advanced to the 352-foot central activities building and main clubhouse.

That was the latest report from Robert L. Johnson, design and construction coordinator for Stolte Co. of Oakland which is building the modern racing plant on a 700-acre site 40 miles east of Los Angeles.

The track, which borders the San Bernardino Freeway (U.S. Interstate 10) within the city limits of Ontario, is scheduled for completion in mid-1970. Tentative plans point to an opening race date of July 26, 1970.

Johnson said grading work has proceeded far enough that the speedway's two main courses — a 2½-mile oval and a 3.23-mile road racing circuit are taking form. Paving of the tracks will commence in August, following the completion of tunnels and installation of a vast underground electronic network, utilities and piping.

"We are moving roughly 15-20,000 cubic yards of dirt each day," Johnson said.

This phase of the project involves more than two million yards of earth to be used as the berm support for nearly a mile of grandstand seating which will offer virtual 100 per cent viewing for spectators.

The main grandstand building situated at the track's start-finish line will offer elevated seating, restaurant and lounge facilities and special stadium suites, as well as house the administrative offices, race control headquarters for officials, and facilities for the press.

Upon completion, the speedway's initial seating capacity will accommodate 140,000 spectators with 85,000 permanent grandstands seats, plus another 55,000 in temporary steel bleachers.

Southern California's rainiest winter in history did set the project back 25 days, according to Johnson. The timetable, however, should be back on schedule within "a couple of months." The completion date is not affected, he said.

To illustrate the tremendous scope of the project, Johnson said the 300-acre infield area bounded by the Indianapolis-type oval track is big enough to hold two Disneyland amusement parks. The fully landscaped area includes two large lakes, which will be used as irrigation reservoirs. Two 800-foot wells already are pumping at a rate of 1,000 gallons of water per minute.

Competition plans for the speedway are aimed at a variety of major events involving Indianapolis-type championship cars and stock cars on the oval, various classes of road racing machines including the high-powered sports cars and a championship caliber drag race, on the OMS quarter-mile dragstrip.

Sanctions are being sought from the four leading racing organizations in the United States — U.S. Auto Club (USAC), National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR), the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) and the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA).

Financing for the project was raised through tax exempt mortgage revenue bonds by the Ontario Motor Speedway Corporation, a non-profit corporation organized by the City of Ontario.

Press-Herald SPORTS

MARCH 26, 1969

D-1

Unsold Most Valuable

Wesley Unseld of the Baltimore Bullets has been named the most valuable player of the National Basketball Association. Balloting was among NBA players.

Unseld becomes the 14th winner selected by Association players.

Unseld is the first rookie since Wilt Chamberlain (1960) to win the Podoloff Cup. It wasn't even close. The poll was a landslide. He totaled 310 points in a 5-3-1 voting tabulation.

Willis Reed of New York was second (137) and Philadelphia's Billy Cunningham (93) followed by Elgin Baylor of Los Angeles (89).

It was Unseld, a brawny 6 foot 7, 245 center, who stepped in and led Baltimore from the bottom of the NBA's Eastern Division to the top.

Something of a question mark before the season began, Unseld quickly quelled all fears that he might be too slow or too small to play center in the NBA.

"I call him the Computer," said Bob Ferry, a 10-year NBA veteran who sometimes backs up Unseld in the pivot.

"That's because as soon as you tell him something, he does it. You don't have to wonder if it will happen or will he mess it up, or will he feel like doing it. No, he just does it. And he does it right every time.

"Things that took me 10 years to learn to do, Wes can do now — because he has so much quicker reaction than I did."

Teammate Ray Scott, a seven-year veteran, might have spoken for all Bullets when he said:

"They love Wesley in Baltimore. He's the one who tied it

all together for us. He's the one who made it possible for every man to do his own thing."

Before Unseld, Baltimore moved with all the smoothness of an off-center beach ball. Then there was Unseld — a leaping elephant on the backboards who

got rid of rebounds so quickly he sometimes hit guards in the back with passes.

Unseld averaged 14 points during the season and 18 rebounds. Neither figure came close to leading the league. For a rookie, his defense is excellent

but no one compared him to Bill Russell. In the pivot, his passes were functional if not spectacular and his shooting only adequate.

Eliminate the Unseld factor, however, and the Bullets might find life in the NBA as miserable as ever. "It's hard to believe one guy could make such a difference in a team," Atlanta's Richie Guerin has observed.

Initiative Opposed On Inglewood Vote

Forum owner Jack Kent Cooke today urged Inglewood residents to vote "NO" and defeat the proposed initiative ordinance heading the Municipal ballot April 1.

"Several months ago I became convinced that my fears were unfounded concerning traffic and other problems which might occur as a result of night harness racing," Cooke said.

"Actual experience during this past season of night racing fully confirmed that no such problems developed. I see no reason to expect that they will develop in the future."

Cooke said that his opposition to the proposed ordinance was also based on the widespread bad effects the ordinance would have, if enacted.

"I must confess I had no idea that so many worthwhile com-

munity activities would be affected by the broad language of this ordinance," Cooke said.

"Hollywood Park for many years has opened its facilities to civic, charitable, religious, and social groups," Cooke said. "It would be ironic as well as unfortunate if this ordinance passed and these community events were banned."

Cooke urged voters to vote "NO" and defeat the proposed ordinance Tuesday, April 1, saying:

"The establishment of Hollywood Park as the permanent home of Western Harness Racing, Inc., has added a substantial economic force to the community. The Forum, Hollywood Turf Club and Western Harness have combined to establish Inglewood as the sports capital of the West."

Cerritos Way Ahead In Baseball

It is still only March, but the Metropolitan Conference baseball campaign has taken on the look of a runaway with Cerritos in control of the standings. The Falcons have been beaten only once and are cruising along three and a half games ahead of Long Beach and Bakersfield, who are tied for second.

This week's schedule finds Santa Monica at Bakersfield, Pierce at Cerritos, Pasadena at El Camino, LBCC at Valley, Long Beach at Pierce, Valley at Pasadena, El Camino at Santa Monica, SMCC at Pasadena, Valley at Cerritos, Long Beach at El Camino, Bakersfield at Pierce, and (Saturday) El Camino at Pasadena.

Dan Anderson Makes All-CIF

Dan Anderson, the outstanding guard from North High School, has been named to the All-CIF first string basketball team.

During the 1967-69 era in which North High won three straight basketball championships, Anderson has been a regular with the Saxons. The 6-2, 175 pound playmaker, scored 568 points in the 29 games of his senior year for a 19.6 average.

Larry Hollyfield of Compton was chosen the CIF player of the year.

Compton High School, winner of 62 straight basketball games over a two year period — 32 games in 1968 and 30 games in 1969 — and holder of back-to-back CIF titles for the second time in the school's history, placed three players on the three ten-man teams selected by the Helms Athletic Foundation.

The other two Tarbabe choices are guard Lewis Nelson on the first team and forward Donald Womack named to the second squad.

Bill Armstrong's Compton crew won five playoff games over Norwalk (98-68), Arroyo (94-66), Bellflower (46-33), Ventura (56-51), and Sunny Hills (59-55).

Hollyfield, according to coach Armstrong, is simply the "best forward in the CIF." Larry led his team in scoring and had a 56 per cent shooting mark from the floor. He averaged 18.8 points in 30 games, scoring 565 for the season.

The title brought to five the number won by Bill Armstrong during his 12 seasons at Com-

ton. Under his direction, teams from Compton won crowns in 1958, 1961, 1963, and 1968-69. The Tarbabe have won seven overall crowns, when you add the pair won by Kenny Fagans' 1951-52 crews.

Compton and Ventura both placed three players on the CIF teams, while Notre Dame, Huntington Beach, Muir, Sunny Hills, Covina, and Troy placed a pair each. Sunny Hills, only a second

place finisher in the Freeway League to Troy High, was the "AAAA" finalist team, along with Compton. The Lancers whipped four fine teams before going down to a closely contested defeat at the hands of the Tarbabe.

Covina (65-58), Pacific (74-53), Huntington Beach (64-58), and Notre Dame (71-65) all fell victims to the sons from Sunny Hills.



TEAM LEADER . . . Averaging a 72-stroke score for the El Camino golfers this year is Bob Henry. The Warriors face Valley Friday at Palos Verdes Country Club.

El Camino Faces Vikings in Track

The Long Beach City College track team invades El Camino College Friday for a Metropolitan Conference meet.

The Warriors are winless in the conference so far.

The Long Beach Vikings should be plenty tough, according to EC Coach Bob Myers. "Long Beach always has good jumpers, sprinters and hurdlers," Myers said.

Last year, Long Beach tied L.A. Valley for the dual meet championship and came in second in the Metropolitan Relays.

El Camino has had some bright spots in its disappointing season. Sophomore Tony Baker has done well in the mile and two-mile, setting a new college record in the two-mile at 9:22.6.

Dan Kenney and Joe Huley have been winners in the high

jump. Against Pasadena last week, Huley placed first in both the long-jump and high-jump.

Shot-putters are Rod Mansfield, Dennis Hudson, and Greg Millward.

"The Warriors, with a young team, have the potential and may just surprise a few people before the season is up," Coach Myers said.

Inglewood Relays Scheduled

Despite the weatherman's gloomy forecast for the month of April, Southland prep spikers are continuing their onslaught on the record books.

Many sprint and hurdles times have been aided by gusty March winds, but track buffs throughout the Southland look for consistently lower times in all events as the invitational season gets into full swing in the next few weeks.

Among the top meets scheduled this week are the 21st annual Inglewood Invitational Relays, Thursday and Friday at Sentinel Field in Inglewood; the Pasadena Games, Saturday at the Rose Bowl; the Long Beach City Relays, Saturday at Long Beach City College, and the Beach Cities Invitational at Newport Harbor High on Saturday.

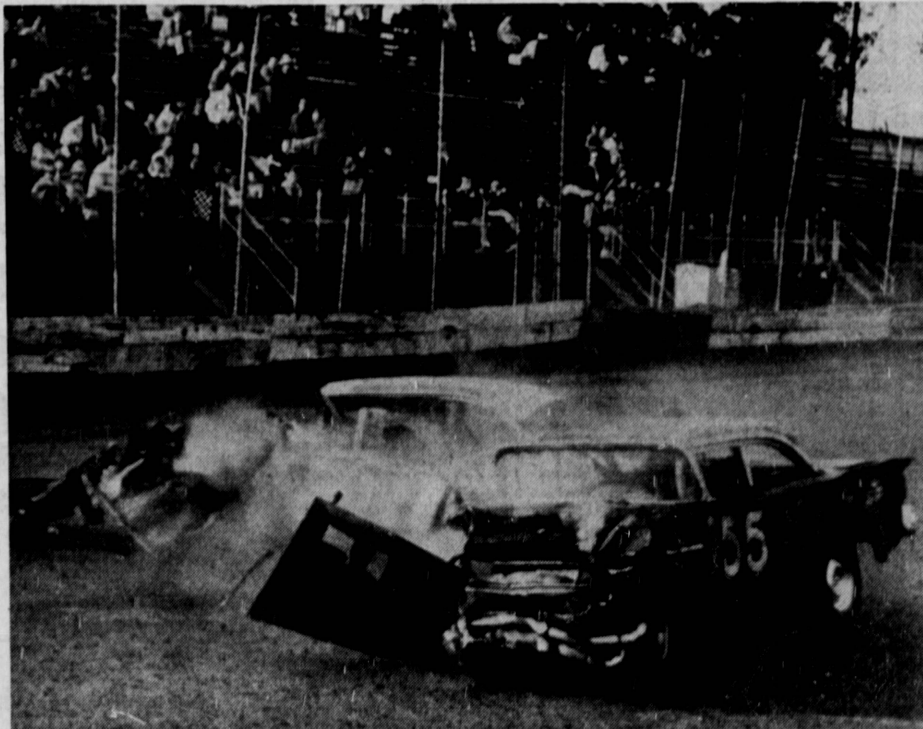
City Holds Basketball Playoffs

Boys basketball playoffs have been scheduled this week in Torrance.

City championships will be Saturday in the North High School Gym, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

League play ended for most of the 142 teams last Saturday.

Teams which placed first and second in their individual leagues are participating in the playoffs. Leagues include the Skyline for fifth and sixth graders, Rocky Mountain for seventh and eighth graders and the Big Ten for high school boys.



SPECTATOR SPECTACULAR . . . Colliding head on with another race car at Scott Park is George Dahlheimer of Torrance, piloting Car No. 255. A field of 75 cars will be back in action Sunday during the Figure 8 program.