

Taft's Open House tradition: Faculty, parents congregate

Taft's faculty members are now preparing for the school's annual "Open House", to be held on Tuesday, October 29. This gives all parents and interested members of the community the opportunity to investigate the school and converse with the teachers and members of the administration.

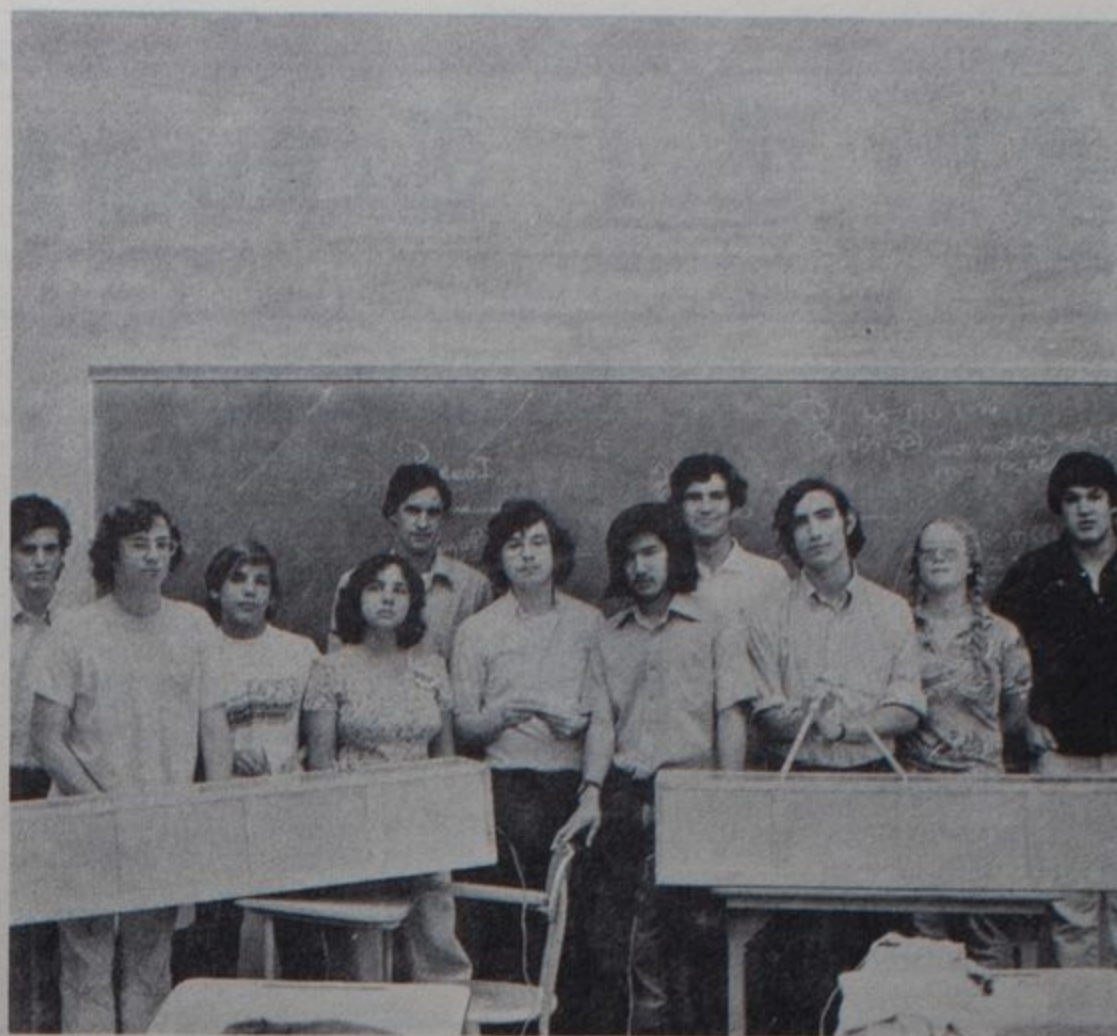
According to Bruce McWilliams, Tribune Liaison, Cabinet is holding an open meeting, permitting the visitors to examine precisely how student government at Taft functions.

After speaking with a few department chairpersons, it became apparent that most teachers have nothing special planned for that evening: "just to be there," as said by Mr. Rothfarb, head of the Math Department. Ms.

Beatty, chairwoman of the English Department explained that some teachers will be receiving parents in their own classrooms, some in the library, while others will meet guests in the English study center, located in E-123. Parents will be shown around the center, and explained the purposes of certain classes and courses. Mr. Gendloff, head of the Foreign Language Department expounded that the only deviation from last year's itinerary is that each class will meet separately, instead of everyone congregating in Taft Hall, as done previously. Mr. Solkovitz of the Social Studies Department uttered his opinion that nothing original was scheduled, and that all they plan to do is "explain the teaching program to those parents who care enough to show up."

According to Mr. Luskin, the Boy's Vice Principal, Open House grants those persons attending a chance to observe the school facilities, meet particular teachers, express any concerns or problems with students, or set up conferences with the faculty. Moreover, Mr. Luskin revealed that he personally favors the teachers meeting parents in their own classrooms, rather than having the whole departments together, though he did not say why.

Apparently not everyone acknowledges the contribution of this activity, though. When asked for her opinion of Open House, one Taft educator proclaimed, "These such events are purely for exhibitional purpuss and are realistically of no beneficial or significant value."



Taft's Knowledge Bowl Team. From left to right; Peter Cohn, Alex Duke, Matt Epstein, Regina Epstein, Lynn Bianco, David Estrin, Ferric Fang, Mark Reda, Gary Ostroff, Karin Carter, and Scott Black.

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Rehearsal of "Sheila Levine is Dead and Living in New York" involves (L to R) Marty Goldberg, Bess Motter, Linda Raven, Jim Feldman, Paula Freeman and April Winchell.

Photo by Kaniger

Taft's play production groups Preparing for drama festival

Taft's montage of thespians is currently planning for participation in the annual drama festival to be held on Saturday November 2. This event, open to junior and senior high schools all over the bottom section of the state is sponsored by the Drama Teacher's Association.

This year Taft is entering a variety of scenes including an original idea by Ken Fermoye entitled, "Out of the Depths". Adam Leipzig is directing and also performing in a scene from Euripides' classic play "Trojan Women", along with Barbara Zimbleman, Bernadette Bransch, Alexa Buchahan, Lauren Knipping, Kelly Richmain, Theresa Lippert, and Tammy Shockly.

For the humorous scene, play production is producing a section from the book "Sheila Levine is Dead and Living in New York" by

Gail Parent, and for the Individual humorous monologue, Bob Kent is presenting a scene from "Play It Again, Sam." "Look Back in Anger" by John Osborn is to be entered under the category of the dramatic monologue, which will probably be performed by Dave Ulmer.

An improvisational group, consisting of Mike Vigil, Lauren Kipping, Karen Hirschfield, and

John Pallock will also be entered; along with a pantomime assemblage that will be chosen from the beginning drama class.

Mrs. Cabral, the drama teacher, explained that each scene is roughly directed by a student at the onset of rehearsal which she continues the improvement of the performance saying "I worked hard so I'd like some credit."

New counseling method Adaptable for students

Taft began its fall semester this year with a new more efficient counseling system than the one used previous to this year. The new system is designed to make counseling more adaptable for the students.

This new system has many advantages which the old one did not possess. Some of the advantages are that it provides a greater opportunity to prevent behavioral and attendance problems from occurring. A counselor will be on duty at all times to help a student and no student must wait long to see a selected counselor. Also the system affords better utilization of clerical time and enables students to receive better information regarding vocational planning and opportunities.

The new system is split in three different categories with so many counselors assigned to each. The first category is Educational, dealing with high school and post-high school planning. There are four counselors working in this department, they are Mr. Hughes, Mrs. Imbach, Miss Itria, and Mrs. Sloan. Mrs. Sloan is a member of the Educational department but is just concerned with the counseling about scholarships and colleges. Vocations, the next category, has to do with career exploration, awareness, and planning. The counselors assigned to Vocations are Mr. Coleman and Mrs. Goodenough. The last category is the Personal and Social Team which is preventive and adjustment counseling. Mr. Furlong and Miss Stephens work with this department.

The counseling system used previously at Taft was an alphabetical system done according to the first letter of your last name. You were assigned to one counselor only and if that counselor was unavailable then you would have to wait until he or she wasn't. If you needed counseling about something immediately and your counselor was busy then perhaps with some luck another counselor would have helped you. The new counselor system apparently is a system changed for the students.

PTA turnout less than overwhelming

"Put Taft Ahead" is one of the slogans used for advertising the Taft Parent-Teacher Association. There was a P.T.A. drive between October 7, and October 11, 1974.

Mr. Stewart's fourth period class came in first with 275% which is 2 3/4 membership per person. Because of their participation in the drive each of the students will receive a certificate for one cheeseburger, one order of french fries, and one coke free, from McDonalds.

Mrs. Ruggerio whose class placed second with 262%, will also be honored with a certificate that will give each student a regular hamburger and a coke.

The official drive is over, but that doesn't mean the P.T.A. isn't accepting any more memberships. There is a box in the main office where students can put their contributions. Mrs. JoAnn Gumbert, Membership Chairman, is disappointed with the drive. Between the students and teachers there are approximately 3700 people. Strangely enough the P.T.A. only got 1185 members to join, which

is less than half of all the people that could have joined.

One of the many funb raisings the P.T.A. is involved in is the Taft Calendar. It is events like these that help to support the P.T.A. and Taft.

Most of the money earned goes directly back to the Taft students, in ways which may not be noticeable to the average person. Some of

the benefits provided by the P.T.A. are blood banks, dental clinics and eye clinics. Any surplus money is either given to the student body fund or used to buy equipment that is needed for the school.

This year Mrs. Beth Williams is president of the P.T.A. Moreover, there are many parents involved with the P.T.A. who help in various ways.

Amnesty Action - Study Group Petitions Attacks

There is a club at Taft many people probably do not know exists. It is called the Amnesty Action and Study Group and it is not as technical as the name would indicate. The club is primarily concerned with amnesty for draft evaders. "Some people believe that President Ford did not go far enough in his plan," a member said. The club is organizing writing attacks on various politicians and is also circulating petitions from different organizations concerned

with amnesty. They were also planning to have a debate on the amnesty topic two weeks ago but no one could be found to speak in opposition to total amnesty. The debate will be rescheduled when opposition can be found.

Although amnesty is the primary concern of the club they also discuss other topics such as the plight of the United Farmworkers of America. They recieved a letter from Caesar Chavez asking for contributions of food and clothing for

the striking laborers. The club is now starting to plan a food drive to help them out.

"Anyone who is concerned about what goes on in this world especially in the areas of amnesty and social injustice should join the club or at the very least come to one meeting," said one of the members of the club. The club meets in room B-104 about every 2-3 weeks. Club meetings will be announced over the loud speaker.

By Tom Bolton
and Shannon Jones

"Who are we playing this week?" This is a question which undoubtedly gets asked many times during each school week here at Taft. But to one distinct group of students here at Taft, the most important question is not "Who", but rather "What are we playing this week?" These students are the members of the official Taft High School Marching Band and their pom-pom waving counterparts, the Drill Team.

Although they seem to find themselves over-shadowed by the popularity of the Varsity Football team, the Band and Drill Team still seem to be able to make their presence known in several positive ways. By far the most important function of this precision group is to help promote school spirit. The student who could squelch all feeling of school spirit after being con-

fronted with the Band and Drill Team forming a giant "T" on the field and playing the school fight song, would truly be putting his or her powers of negative thinking to the test. And for those people who are willing to put aside an occasional slight imperfection, the pure entertainment value of the half-time shows presented each week is not to be under-rated either.

Watching the Band and Drill Team on Friday nights might give

songs, and the Drill Team members are given their routines' one for each song, and one day in which to learn them. On Tuesday formation sheets are distributed to each member of the Band and Drill team and they practice a full period each day during 5th period and often into lunch for the remainder of the week. Thursday could be likened to the dress-rehearsal for a play, because in addition to the 5th period practice, after-school practice is held from 3:30 to 5:00.

ably greater.

The individual student can pretty well decide what kind of effect Band and Drill Team has upon them and upon the student body as a whole, by attending a few football games. But how do the Band and Drill Team members themselves feel? In talking to one member of the band, we were able to get a clearer picture of the pros and cons of this group as it exists out-do the other schools' band.

On the other hand, however, it

much needed according to most, are new uniforms. Although each year a push is made for new uniforms, the price per uniform is an inhibiting factor, at least according to Student Cabinet.

But new or old uniforms, the band still plays on. This year, the veteran Drum Major, Ferric Fang, is again up front leading the Band, along with a new addition to the scene, Lisa Kehyies, who is the first girl in Taft history to break into the Major Leagues. Majorette Leagues? Doing a fine job at the helm again this year, is director Mr. Ken Kamp.

Basically, being in Band or Drill Team provides each member with the opportunity to be with "lots of nice people", to combine talents in working towards each week's goal of out-doing the other schools' band, but more importantly, of serving Taft and helping to bring more school spirit to the members of the Student Body.

One for all, and all for one

the viewer the impression that what is being performed on the field is an easy task. On the contrary, much dedication and many long hours go into the preparation of each week's show. Each week's preparation begins on Monday when the Band members are given their music, usually for 2 or 3

Overall, each member of the Band and Drill Team spends about 8 hours a week during school practicing for their half-time shows on Friday. This figure may not seem all that large, but when added to the time spent out of school practicing music and routines, the amount of time becomes consider-

is felt by many members that more respect from the students is necessary. This lack of respect tends to arise because of some of the eccentric antics which always seem to be a part of artistry. Perhaps if both students and Band members were to change a little bit, the situation would be alleviated. Also



The Taft Drill Team is now ranked fifth in the City. They are close with Marching Band and make a great team as far as the halftimes go. Their numbers have included the theme from the film "The

Sting" and "Good Vibrations". Coached by Mrs. Carol Haas and Mr. Ken Kamp, they prove to be ready willing and able on the field.

Photo by Primes

Jail, Powder Puffs highlight Boost Better Spirit Week

Some of the goings-on this Boost Better Spirit Week were the tremendous Banana Eating Contest and the Marshmallow Counting Contest, both of which had a super turn out. This semester's "Week" evolved into one of the best in the history of Taft, and all because of the efforts of Sue Stovall the Director of Spirit this semester.

Tuesday's activities included the Powder Puff Football Game which was held during lunch with the participation of pad-clad girl teams tackling and running for the downs. The red team was coached by Darell Krasnoff and Bill Spooner and the white team was under the supervision of Charlie Young and Rick Stern. The male cheerleaders, complete in skirts, cheered both teams on with the help of the female yell leaders in baggy red, white and gold sweaters.

A sweetheart's chance to "paint the bull" was presented on Wednesday with the "Paint the Bull Marriage Booth." For a dime, the participants were allowed a square to paint with the cheery colors provided.

Thursday, to continue the festivities, a pep rally was lead by Taft's outstanding and undefeated Football team, the Marching band and drill team (and flagteam). All groups helped boost school spirit, which is a necessity of any school.

Topping off the week was the announcement of the Homecoming

Queen and princesses. The girls who were nominated were: Jodi Bauer, Cathleen Corey, Lori Crowley, Pat Deacon, Denise Larson, Holly Pickerell, Debbie Thomas, Heather Telford, and Ricki Vinyard. The Winners were announced last Friday night, but the results were not available at press-time. Prior to the evening's activity, the Taft jail was filled to capacity

with various dastardly members of the Student Body.

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Stepping out for a night on the town

By Tracy MacDonald

Last Saturday night I attended a Houston Flournoy fund-raiser with three of my colleagues, Jack Kerrigan, Lenny Lieberman and Denise Pasetta. It was supposed to be a handshake affair with the usual political jabberwocky that follows the arrival of the star politician. It was a poorly planned affair, with the refreshments consisting of potato chips and pretzels in a cardboard box and lukewarm Coke, Ice Tea and Seven Up. Flournoy gave a speech which said nothing and then went to shake hands.

The press secretary was supposed to be the big event; we were the unaccomplished journalists who knew nothing, so we were expected to swarm around him to hear words of wisdom. After twenty minutes of "wisdom", we were all sure that if he was the learned professor, we were all going into another profession besides Journalism. We all agreed that if we left, it would be the best thing for all of us, and it was. We decided to hit Hollywood.

Hollywood has got to be one of the most amazing towns in the world. The people are all different and yet, they are all the same, it is mass confusion just trying to figure out if a person is a conservative or a liberal.

We walked through various shops, full of water pipes and adult games, hats and rings and other obscene things; it was exciting to get away from it all. I'm hooked on the voluptuous valley and all its comparative peace and quiet; I

really wasn't sure what to expect there. I thought more along the lines of ten-inch platform shoes and gallant sequins plastered across a large-chested girl, but it was a fairy tale. Most of the people there had Walabees on, they wore jeans and Hang Ten shirts, it was suburbia in the confines of the city. The ladies of the evening and their "bosses" were almost the only good thing around, they were of interest only to me, because I am a people watcher and their moves were interesting. An occasional transvestite was a welcome change and all of the people who pretended to be other than heterosexual were amusing with their tacky clothing, double jointed wrists and the phony lisps that gave them away.

Together we barely had enough money to buy a Thrifty ice cream cone for each of us and we were all famished, it seemed to be a constant search for the absurd with our stomachs growling long enough to remove our interests. It was time to leave or die on Hollywood Blvd. of starvation... Until Jack produced the Mastercharge and we were free! Unknown to us, the section of Hollywood Blvd. we were on, there were no Mastercharge restaurants

Finally, after the tenth or eleventh place, we found Love's and they took Mastercharge. Now Jack is mowing his dad's lawn free of charge for the next year to pay off the bill and we've all decided to stick with Journalism, at least you know where the next meal is coming from.



Hollywood Blvd. is the sight for many stars and many spectators who just want to kick back and live vicariously on the sidewalks of the stars.

Taft scorches ECR for clean sweep



The Agony of it All: With one mile to go in last week's varsity cross country meet at Pierce, Kurt Swanson (right), plagued with a nagging flu all week is forced to drop out, while Roger Watkin (middle) and Andy York (left) try to pick up the pace for Taft. Photo by Hertz

By Jack Kerrigan
Tribune Sports Writer

In the scorching 95-degree heat at Pierce College, 35 Taft runners battled the hot, dry Santa Ana winds as well as three El Camino cross country teams, on a suffocating cross country course of thick, choking dust.

The heat took its toll as five Taft runners made it to the finish line, but the Toreadors still managed to crush the Conquistadores in all three divisions.

Watkin, Swanson III

Even though Taft's top two Varsity runners, Roger Watkin and Kurt Swanson weren't feeling 100 percent, the Toreadors still trounced ECR, 22-34.

The trio of Swanson, Watkin and Simenz led the way throughout the first excruciating mile going up "Hernia Hill." Watkin began to drop back as John Simenz and an El Camino runner passed him by.

Kurt Swanson was still leading at the mile mark when he got sick and had to pull out of the race. However, John Simenz took over and led the team to victory with a first place time of 10:51. Kurt

Swanson made one last effort to finish the race but was forced to drop out again on the switch-back. Roger Watkin came back to finish a strong second at 10:57.

Heat Takes Toll

The weather took its greatest toll on the JV Team as four runners were forced out because of the heat. Todd Farris and Craig Youngblood led the 21-47 route of ECR, placing one-two with times of 11:41 and 11:44, respectively. El Camino was only able to place two runners in the top ten.

Clean Sweep

Taft entered only twelve runners in the tenth grade race, however, six of them were able to cross the line before the first ECR runner came staggering through the chute. The 10th graders are letting it be known early that the one point loss they suffered early in the year was just a fluke.

Richard Morris, Bob Carlot, and Tom Linton had virtually no competition from the outset as they all breezed to the wire in under twelve minutes. Morris crossed the line in first place all by himself with an 11:38.

Sports

The Taft Tribune



Hot Won: John Simenz, junior, grabs first varsity victory last week in a scorcher against ECR. Simenz' time was 10:51.

Photo by Hertz

Conquistadors clubbed 15-14 Toreadors grab WVL opener

By Dan Turner
Tribune Editor-in-Chief

The banner in the Taft locker room prior to the game read "There is nothing more satisfying than a win over El Camino." I guess it is safe to assume that the Toreadors were satisfied last Friday night.

The win was the biggest yet in the eyes of the now 5-0 Taft football squad, for their 15-14 squeaker over ECR not only allowed their record to remain unblemished, it also threw Taft to the top of the West Valley League standings after just one week of play.

El Camino proved the most worthy opponent that the Toreadors have faced to date. In fact, at halftime the cross-town rival Conquistadors held a commanding 14-0 lead after what Coach Ray O'Conner labeled "the worst half of Taft football he has ever witnessed!" But the lead was short-lived for the second half belonged to Taft as did the games outcome.

On a day when the Toreador offense could best be described as sporadic, the defense could be called stifling. It was led by the linebacking corps of Steve Lane in the middle and Mort Kishimoto and Brad Dexter on the flanks. The three stopped the run when they

had to and shut off the short pass when that became necessary. The real story was tackle Tom Simpson who while at the same time was suffering from a case of pneumonia, played a tremendous game. On a whole, the defensive line, which prior to the game had been likened to a bunch of tackling dummies by ECR back Rusty Cook, played like a bunch of half-starved animals.

ECR's only scores followed Taft miscues. Their first touchdown came when they capitalized on a Toreador fumble while the other was a result of a blocked punt in the endzone.

The Taft offense was a bit less than artistic but it put the necessary points on the board. The Toreadors, trailing 14-0, came out throwing to open the second half. Quarterback Charlie Young, who was 7 for 20 on the evening for 122 yards, first hit Jeff Fisher for seven, then Bill Spooner for 16 and then threw the homerun to Gary Kishimoto to encompass 43 yards and a touchdown.

In the last quarter, Taft put on an effective but not quite picture book drive. They marched 87 yards in 15 plays with Dexter going over from the one to score. This left Taft one point short at 13-14. They set up to kick the conversion but the fake was on. Bill Spooner, the holder, straightened up and threw to Fisher in the endzone for two points and a most satisfying win for Taft.

Stanfield of El Camino took a handoff on a draw play and ran it in for the TD. The conversion was good and El Camino led going in to the fourth quarter, 7-6.

Late in the final period, Taft was still behind and needed a break badly. That break came only minutes remaining to be played, when ECR fumbled deep in their own territory, and with only twenty-two seconds left, Drew Fitzgerald boomed a 25 yard field goal that split the uprights, and Taft won 9-7.

Last second field goal gives Bees 9-7 win

By Craig Mackles
Tribune Sports Writer

Coming off a big 20-0 romp over the Birmingham Braves, the Toreadors opened up West Valley League action with a bigger win over El Camino Real, 9-7, last Friday night at Goetten Field on a Drew Fitzgerald field goal with 22 seconds to play.

ECR won the coin toss and elected to receive the opening kickoff. But the man on the receiving end of the kick fumbled, and Taft gobbled up the pigskin. It looked as if the Toreadors were off to the races when quarterback Scott Milne pitched the ball to halfback David Bieber, who threw downfield to Mike Catania for a 32-yard reception. But the drive sputtered, and on fourth and twenty-two, Milne rolled out as if to pass, and fumbled the ball to ECR.

Things looked bleak for the Toreadors, as the Conquistadores were steadily driving downfield after the fumble. ECR was in good field position at the Taft 20-yard line, and QB Tim Sherrell was fading back to pass. Steve McCalla of Taft stepped in front of the intended receiver, intercepted the ball, and rambled 80 yards down the sidelines for a touchdown. Taft went into the locker room at halftime with a 6-0 lead.

ECR came out fighting in the third quarter, and blocked a Taft punt deep in Toreador country. From the Taft 29-yard line, Barney

Without the aid of three of their top players, the Taft Girl's Tennis team opened league play on a winning note last Tuesday by destroying Canoga Park, 7-0. Paige Throckmorth led the route for the Toreadors, who oppose El Camino this Tuesday at Taft.

The Girl's Basketball Team had their troubles last week, losing in their first league game to Canoga Park, 42-46, and falling to Venice in a practice game last Thursday at Taft, 53-26. Liz Anderson was the high scorer for Taft in both games, hitting nine against Canoga and 10 against the Gondoliers. Their next game is this Tuesday afternoon in the Girl's gym.

The Taft Varsity Soccer team successfully opened the 1974 campaign last Tuesday with a convincing 2-0 triumph over Hollywood High School. The Toreador tallies were scored by John Yaldazian and Guillermo Sosa, a foreign exchange student from Ecuador.

Opening up their league season last week at Birmingham, the Girl's Swim team tell to an excellent Brave squad, 96-124. Nancy Smith performed well for Taft, winning the breaststroke and the 200-yard freestyle.

The swim team challenges Chatsworth this Thursday at Meadow Oaks School in Calabasas.



Taft's Brad Dexter, number 33, goes over the middle for a gain during the action between the Toreadors and the Conquistadors last Friday. Taft won a squeaker, 15-14. Photo by Kaniger

Powerhouse Cleveland tonight

So, you think El Camino was tough! Tonight the still undefeated Taft Toreadors take on the once beaten Cleveland Cavaliers. Cleveland has won four straight, and their last win was a 21-8 romp over powerhouse Chatsworth.

Ricky Maddox, the junior flash, dipped and dived his way for 96 yards, in only 12 carries. Cleveland is a very strong running team, however, Taft is number one in the Valley at defending the run. So, come out to Cleveland tonight for the big game.

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