

Beware of Visitors

By Kenny Hertz
Tribune Staff Writer

Persons posing as custodians, electrical maintenance, and survey personnel, have been coming on campuses throughout the district lately creating large security problems for school officials.

Richard W. Green, chief security agent for the L.A. City Schools, said in a report to area superintendents, that an increase in thefts of personal property of school employees is due to an apparent failure of administrators, teachers and support personnel to challenge unknowns entering the campus.

"We had two men who claimed they were making an electrical outlet survey," said Green. "They moved about freely, looking under desks, etc., and as a result of their presence, we had five thefts reported."

Green says that the incidents are no longer isolated. "It has become a pattern... four sets of suspects in various parts of the school district."

"No one pays any attention to them," Green continued. "We can't even find witnesses who actually see something being taken."

Some Solutions

The security chief stresses several solutions, but most important, he said, students themselves must be contacted.

Green says, "I don't think these

kids realize just how much these foreigners affect the learning environment."

He added that \$3,000,000 in losses due to thefts were absorbed by the district last year.

One of Green's proposals calls for the maintenance and custodian crews to wear I.D. badges. "That way," he said, "we will know they are one of us."

Green sent the bulletins to the area superintendents and hopes that they will make the students aware the problem exists. "No matter how much tightening up we do, we will still have to let the student know there is a problem."

Dr. Anthony Rivas, Area L Superintendent, was very responsive to the proposals.

"We are trying to get all our maintenance personnel to wear badges and I have instructed the principals in my area to get the word out at their schools," he said.

Mr. Paul Swanson, Taft Assistant principal, said the letter was copied and sent to all the teachers with the idea that they will pass the information on to the students.

Says security agent Green: "All I can do is try to create an awareness among the administration and hope it trickles down through channels. The big element out there which has at yet not been contacted is the student body itself."

taft

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Board member Miller seeks increase in voluntary busing

By Bob Mertens
Tribune Staff Writer

"We are building a bridge that is going to collapse on people," said Michael Jackson, Taft English teacher, on the subject of a busing program that would bring together inner-city minorities and suburban whites. "It is being built very poorly and very hastily," he added.

Jackson's remarks came at a discussion on racial integration with a group of students, community leaders, teachers, parents, and Howard Miller, member of the L.A. Board of Education.

Jackson's words of warning seemed to summarize the feelings of an 8-member panel that discussed the various problems derived from busing—voluntary or mandatory.

Besides Jackson and Miller, the

panel members included: Dr. June Jones, community member; Todd Farris and Michele Lipow, students; Fred Frazer, Taft principal; Sally Quast, science teacher; and James Whitehead, Taft head counselor.

Miller began the discussion by congratulating Taft students for setting up a discussion on what is considered the most controversial subject in the L.A. City schools.

The Board member, who in early March co-authored a resolution committing the Board to a position against forced busing (which was later repealed), said he believes that integration can "have positive effects if done properly."

"It will take careful planning," he said, "and we must get people to work together."

Miller, who is serving his first year on the Board of Education,

said he is in favor of a more comprehensive voluntary busing program, as opposed to forced busing.

"I believe the voluntary busing program has been a success up to this point," he said.

Mr. Frazer and other panel members seemed to agree that integration is a good thing but that forced busing is not the way to do it.

No one, however, from either the panel or the audience, could say how to achieve effective racial balance in the schools without forced busing. It is this question that must be answered if the school district can avoid mandatory busing of students.

One interesting side note to the discussion: There were no black students present and no more than two observable minorities.

One wonders if an important view of the integration question was missing.

The Los Angeles Board of Education announced Monday their program for teacher integration. Approximately 100 teachers will be relocated to create a 15%-45% minority faculty ratio—required by the Office of Civil Rights, in each school.

According to Dr. Robert Doctor, the majority of the 1000 teachers will come from new hires, long term substitutes and those returning from leaves.

The rest of the teachers, somewhere between 200 and 400, according to Doctor, would come from a city-wide lottery based upon the teachers' date of birth.

The Board of Education hopes to hold the lottery before the end of the current school year so that the plan can be smoothly implemented in September.

Political Roundup

The following is a roundup of local political happenings that concern high school students.

Judy Solkovits, wife of history teacher Dave Solkovits, was first in the district caucus for Jackson delegates to the Democratic convention. If Jackson gets at least 15 per cent of the vote in this Congressional district, Mrs. Solkovits will be a delegate in New York this July. Mr. Solkovits ran second in the same caucus.

Legislation which specifically guarantees the right to free expression in high school publications has been introduced by State Senator Alan Robbins (D—No. Hollywood). The Robbins Bill applies to both on and off-campus publications.

Governor Brown has proposed "a voluntary service corps" to help obtain jobs for young people. This proposal has not been turned into actual legislation as yet.

The City Council has endorsed an Assembly bill that would make 16- and 17-year-olds treated as adults in certain criminal cases. The bill, AB 2131, calls for prosecution as adults when the crime is murder, rape, and several others.



MAKING A POINT: Norma Derr, president of Taft's Faculty Committee, speaks on integration at a panel discussion held at Taft last week. Next to her, from left to right, are: Howard Miller, Board member; Dr. June Jones, member of the school advisory council; Todd Farris,

student; Fred Frazer, principal; Sally Quast, teacher; and Michele Lipow, student. Mr. Miller urged an increase in the voluntary busing program.

Photo By Germain

Schools to stage Bicentennial Pageant

A capacity crowd is expected at the Los Angeles Coliseum on May 29 to witness a bicentennial pageant, produced by the Los Angeles City Schools at the cost of \$500,000. The pageant will directly involve over 8,000 students and include fireworks, music and celebration—all staged by Walt Disney Productions.

About 1400 school buses provided by the district will transport 80,000 students, teachers and administrators to the pageant. Entertainment will be

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provided by over 3500 choir students, the 240-piece all-city marching band, and a host of

celebrities that has not yet been disclosed.

Supt. of Schools William Johnston calls the pageant "magnificent, unusual, spectacular." He said the school district plans to subsidize half of the \$500,000 cost through a 10-cent increase in the school property tax. In addition, money will be drawn from the district's recreational fund, rather than its instructional fund.

Asked at a recent student press conference if the cost of the pageant would take away from any other youth service recreational programs in the district, Johnston said, "We might not have as many trips to the snow or beach."

The district hopes to raise the remaining \$250,000 from the county, the city, private corporations, and donations.

Jonston said the event is the only show done almost entirely by students in the nation. The pageant will be taped by NBC-TV for rebroadcast during the evening of July 4, 1976.

Johnston added he hopes the whole program will become a catalyst to the district and that it will provide "a new understanding of the importance of the Bicentennial."

Old movie buffs should reserve May 14, 15, and 16 for "Movie/Expo '76", the National Film Buff's exposition, to take place at the Sheraton-Universal Hotel in Universal City.

Visitors will have the opportunity to see more than 20 film classics, including such greats as "Wings," the first Academy-Award winning film, "Phantom of the Opera," "The Three Musketeers" and "The Greatest

Show on Earth."

In addition, there will be seminars, celebrity panels, and a dealers' area where movie memorabilia will be on display and for sale. The exposition will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on each of the three days. Admission is \$3.50.

The following colleges will be holding Open House programs this month:

UC Berkeley, College of Engineering: Friday, May 7, 9:30 a.m.

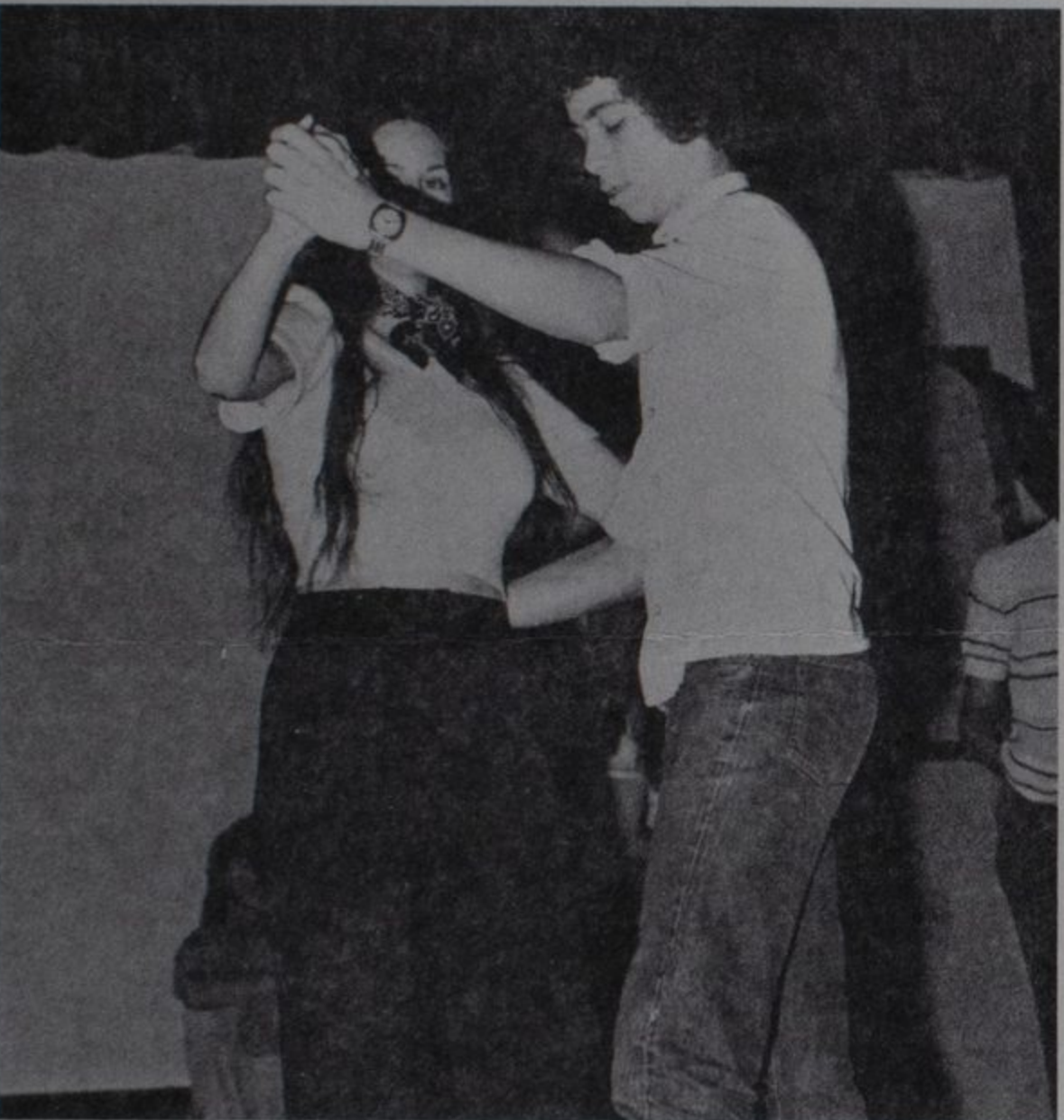
Cal Poly, Pomona: Wednesday May 12, 8:00 a.m.

Both schools would appreciate your signing up with Mrs. Sloan in the counseling office as soon as possible. Students going to Cal Poly will be able to sit in on some of the classes if they sign up ahead of time.

'Kiss Me Kate' mixes creative talents



GANGSTERS: Kenny Rhodes (right) and Bob Kent (middle), who both play gunmen in "Kiss Me Kate," ask Jeff James (left), who plays the famous Frederick Graham, about an IOU that they think Graham signed.



WITH THE MUSIC: "Kiss Me Kate" choreographer Polly O' Malley gives Russ Greene a little dance instruction during the rehearsal last week. Greene, who plays an attendant to Frederick Graham, dances during the number "It's Too Darn Hot." Dancers are used throughout the musical-comedy.

By Glenn Wallach
Tribune Staff Writer

"Everything's pulling together now that we're down to the wire," says a cast member of Taft's spring production, **Kiss Me Kate**.

The show, which opens May 12, has had to iron out some early problems with cast and orchestra. There were some complaints that members of the choir were receiving the leads because of their singing ability. **Kiss Me Kate** is the first attempt in Taft's history of a play combining the talents of all the creative departments.

The complaints had some substance, in that three of the leads, Joe Candeias, Jeff James, and Dana Greene, are all in choir. The other main lead, Polly O'Malley, was originally a member of play production, but she, too, is a member of choir.

It may be true that the leads are from choir, but these performers can certainly act. I attended a rehearsal two weeks before opening. Dana Greene's singing was superior. Her acting showed a quick sense of comedic timing. Joe Candeias was amazing, even more so, because he had only learned that he would be sharing the lead the day before.

Candeias, Greene, and O'Malley all proved their talent in last

year's production of **Finian's Rainbow**. Any friction that may have existed between the various departments has disappeared.

Double Casting

The male and female leads are double casted. This means that two actors will alternate performing in the play.

This is done to alleviate the exhaustion of preforming night after night.

The story of **Kiss Me Kate** centers around a production of Shakespeare's **The Taming of the Shrew**. In this sense "Kate" could be called a play within a play.

The story begins with aging actor Fredrick Graham (Joe Candeias and Jeff James) scraping up enough money to put on a revival of **The Taming of the Shrew**, with Graham as producer, director, and star, playing the most famous male chauvinist of all time, Petruchio.

Playing the quick-tempered Katherine is Graham's ex-wife, Lilli (Polly O'Malley and Dana Greene).

In **The Taming of the Shrew**, a rich merchant of Padua is trying to marry off his two daughters. The youngest, Bianca, is pursued by many suitors. But she may not marry until her older sister Katherine finds a husband. But Kate has no interest whatsoever in finding a husband.

The problem is solved when a soldier of fortune, Petruchio, decides to marry Kate. He eventually "tames" the "shrewish" Katherine, and the two live happily ever after.

Kiss Me Kate is also involved with love and wooing. While Graham and Lilli are alternately fighting and falling into each others arms, two other characters, Bill Calhoun (Larry Webber), and Lois Lane (Kathy Harlan and Lauren Knipping) are playing similar love games as Bianca and Lucentio play in **The Taming of the Shrew**.

This situation is complicated when we discover that Bill has lost \$10,000 in a poker game and signed Fredrick Graham's name to

the IOU. Graham is menaced by two unlikely gangsters (Kenny Rhodes and Bob Kent) who demand the money. This situation is intermingled with a good dose of Shakespeare.

Kenny Rhodes and Bob Kent make a great team as gangsters strangely resembling Laurel and Hardy. They will provide the best comedy of the show. The rest of the cast and chorus provide good support to the production. The chorus is a welcome surprise, and the singing is much stronger than the past productions because of the addition of choir members.

The main problem with **Kiss Me Kate** has nothing to do with the actors, but rather is in the all-important pit orchestra. Musicians have not been showing up for the rehearsals. One member said, "There is a general apathy among orchestra members." He went on to say that he thought many of the better musicians are not in the pit orchestra because they think they are too good to be involved in the production.

At present, the pit orchestra often drowns out the singers on stage. This can be alleviated in two ways. First, a good sound system for the actual performances will do it and secondly, some of the better known musicians are being pressured into playing in the pit orchestra.

Also directing is Mr. Kursinski, for chorus and choral numbers. Kursinski conducts the pit orchestra. Students involved in directing are Sharon Baumgarten and Mark Roberg, and choreographer Polley O'Malley.

The dance sequences are performed by members of dance production and will add a more interesting dimension to the show.

The play itself holds up pretty well, despite some outdated lyrics.

Kiss Me Kate will open Wednesday May 12 and runs until May 22 playing Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

The Drama (upper left)

The Dancing (left)

The Music (lower)

"Kiss Me Kate":
Opens Wed., May 12
PHOTOGRAPHS BY GERMAIN



SKILLED VIOLINISTS: Allison Spencer and Danny Lebovicks concentrate intensely on their music. The two are part of the full orchestra that will provide

accompaniment for the singers, dancers, and actors throughout "Kiss Me Kate," opening next week in Taft Hall.



A Chorus Line?
Members of "Kiss Me Kate" take standing break in rehearsal

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Hohmann wins two as track goes to league finals today

By Marion Weeks
Tribune Staff Writer

Last Friday, the Taft boy's track team took on the other West Valley League teams in the Toreador oval to compete in the first round of the city track championships, the league prelims.

Determination was as strong as the weather was hot for Taft. The Toreadors sought to prove to its challengers that they deserved to be league champions. They completed their task by capturing more qualifying spots than any other school in this week's league finals.

Before clocking 22.5 in the 220, Dave Hohmann cruised to the first of two wins by successfully holding off a fast approaching Reseda runner in the 440-yard dash.

Turing in his usual good performance, Scott Stevenson earned

his chance to fight his way to city in the 100 and the 220. His time in the 100-yard dash was 10.2.

John Simenz, who, despite constant leg injuries, has remained one of the city's best long distance runners, easily won his heat of the mile by pulling away from the pack in the last lap to finish in 4:39.4.

Spicing up the Taft Varsity's impressive showing was Rich Hohmann, who shattered the West Valley League record in the 330-yard low hurdles with the time of 39.3.

The Taft Bees, blessed with Varsity sprinter Tony Ervin, looked the strongest of the Toreador teams.

Ervin and Vince Simmons, who has looked unbeatable all season, led the way as both landed three firsts, two of these in their res-

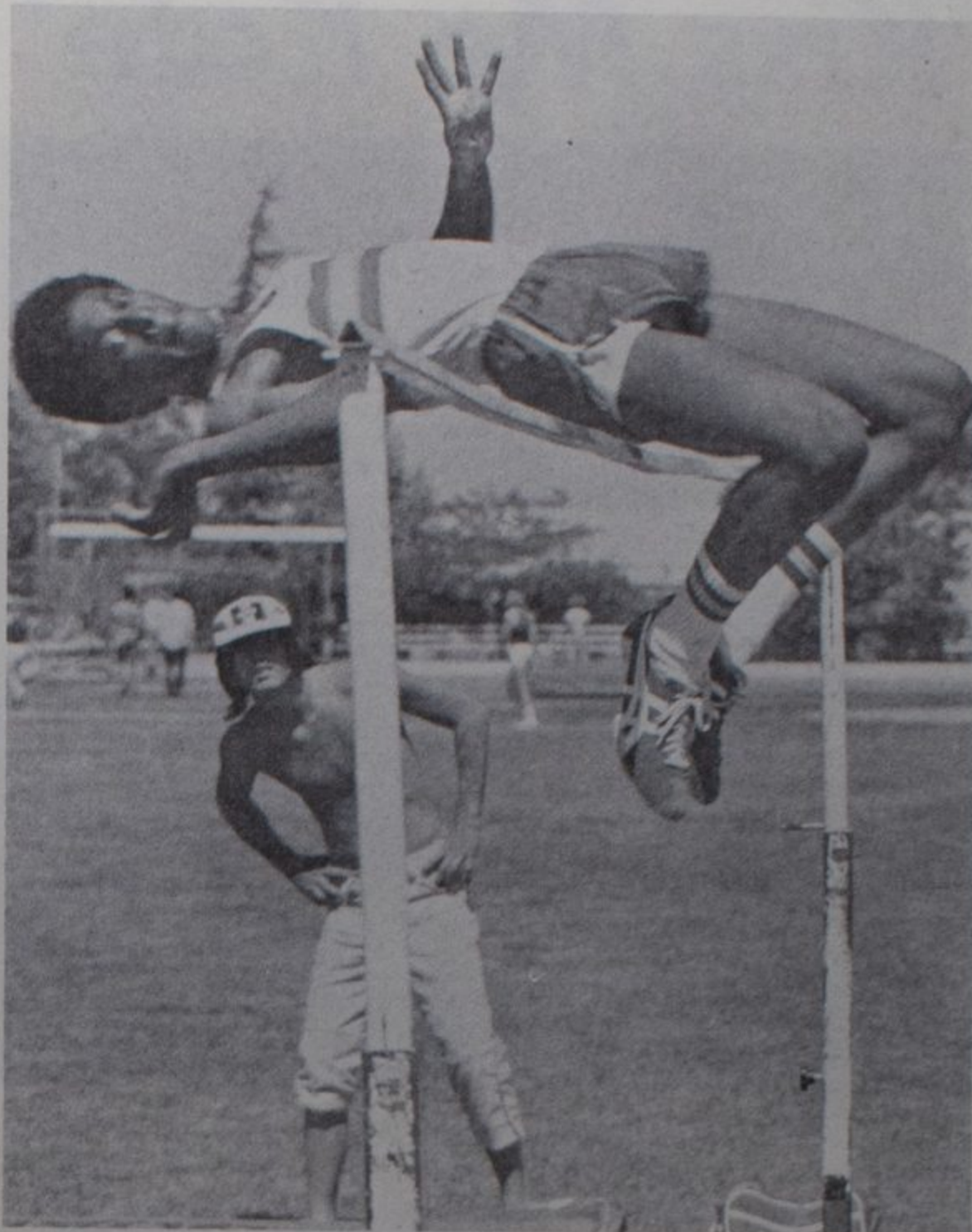
pective heats in the 100 and 120-yard low hurdles.

Richard Morris, Andy Smith, and Ken Hillblom strengthened the Bees' reputation by snatching three of the available six qualifying spots in the mile.

Many competitors were left in the dust as Lloyd Rucker and Roger Rea took the two top spots in their races with Rea establishing a league record of 2:06.3.

The field events were the strongest aspects of the Cees as Taft swept the long jump with a one-two-three finishing. John Tonai sparked the Cee events by placing in the long jump, high jump and the 120 lows.

Scott Mulvaney, after having to settle for a controversial second place in the 100, scored his first and only win in the 120-yard low hurdles.



LEAPING TO THE FINALS: As a curious spectator watches, Taft high jumper Lance Jackson leaps his way to a first place finish in the Bee high jump and a spot in the West Valley League finals today at 2:30 p.m.

Photo By Rosenberg

B, C swimmers show promise

By Brett Thompson
Tribune Staff Writer

Taft's Varsity swim team didn't exactly blow anybody out of the water in the West Valley League finals last Friday evening at Beverly Hills High, but the Bees' and Cees' impressive performances showed promise for future seasons.

Defending city champion Chatsworth dominated the Varsity competition with Taft and other schools several notches behind. The Chancellors won eight out of ten events, including two meet records along with five second places.

The Toreadors should qualify for city prelims in five or six weeks. To qualify, a participant must finish either first or second in his event or have one of the ten next best times in the city.

Taft's strongest performers were, as usual, Jack Saich and Pat Herrera. Saich picked up a second place in the 200-yard Freestyle and a third in the 500-yard Freestyle. Herrera placed second in the 100-yard Backstroke and third in the 200-yard Individual Medley. The Toreadors also picked up a third place in the 200-yard Medley Relay.

For Taft's Bees it was a tremendous evening. They piled up five first places and seven second places. The Bees should qualify for city in at least 13 events.

The highlight of the evening for the Bees was breaking the meet record in the 400-yard Freestyle Relay with a time of 3:34.3. Another big event was the 200-yard Individual Medley in which Taft swept the first four places, with

Alex Stewart winning the event.

Also winning events for Taft were Richard Louks in the 100-yard Butterfly and Andy Carreon in the 100-yard Backstroke.

The defending city champion Cees also had an excellent meet, winning five events and qualifying for city in about ten events. Darrell Gardner led the way by winning both the 100- and 200-yard Freestyles. Matt Epstein of Taft won the 50-yard Freestyle in a photo finish. Strong performances were also turned in by Bruce Edelson and Brad Einhorn.

Afterwards, coach Norm Lerman said that the meet, "came out as we thought it would." Assistant coach Jared Book stated that the team had "high hopes" and would be in strong contention for city titles in both Bees and Cees.



NOW THAT IS CONCENTRATION! Taft long jumper Tony Ervin jumps 20' 10 1/4" last week in the long jump competition of the West Valley League track prelims. Ervin qualified for the WVL finals today at Taft.

Photo By Rosenberg

Baseball Splits for a Change

Canoga wins on error, 5-4

Bitter words continued to fly from Taft players and coach as the Varsity baseball team split its two games last week, virtually eliminating themselves from any possible playoff birth.

The Canoga Park Hunters capitalized on a Taft error in the final innings, and defeated the Toreadors, 5-4.

Sparkling in defeat for Taft was 2nd baseman Pat McGovern, who rapped three hits, including a triple and a double, and scored three runs, including the game-tying run in the top of the 7th.

He was singled in by Jeff Fisher, Taft's leading hitter.

Two days earlier, Taft was impressive in handing Cleveland a 3-2 loss, behind the excellent pitching of Scott Hergott. Vince Pone and Fisher each collected two hits in leading the Toreadors to only

their 4th victory in 12 games.

Taft's JV team, trying to keep in the thick of things for the West Valley League title, ambushed Canoga Park, 7-3, last Thursday here at Taft.

Down 2-0, Taft evened the score in the bottom of the second inning as Mike Bromberg blasted a two-run homerun over the right field fence.

The Toreadors then erupted for five runs in the next two innings to boost their record to 10-1-1.

Earlier in the week, the JVs defeated Cleveland, 9-5.

Coming off a 3-0 win over Granada Hills, Taft High's Varsity volleyball team beat Canoga Park's Hunters, three games to one.

Eric Mason, Lloyd Talbert, and David Keitel led the attack as Taft

went on to win its third straight league game.

The JV team, also coming off a win against Granada (two games to none), whipped Canoga, 2-0, extending its undefeated league record to 3-0.

Dave McMahon led the JV attack as the Toreador team effort was exceptional. Coach Hubbard said, "All players were outstanding."

The Highlanders come to Taft this Wednesday, May 10, to challenge Taft. Game begins at 3:00.

Gymnastic team scores big win in playoff round

By Mike Hedwig

Taft High's gymnastic team scored a triumph in the first round of the playoffs for the city championship by defeating the Washington Generals, 116-102.

The meet was held last Tuesday at Washington High School before a tense crowd.

The Generals took an early lead in the first two events with Spivey as their best all-around gymnast at the meet. He took a first in every event.

An inspired Toreador team followed closely behind as Mark Segal took third in vaulting and Doug Galloway scored second in the mats. In the side horse event, the Toreador team took the lead permanently as the side horse squad outscored its opponents, 16-8. Russ Glatt and John Coven led

the squad in these events by scoring second and third.

Steve Chase, Taft's all-around gymnast in this meet, took third and Marc Segal won second place in the high bar event and increased the Toreador lead to 75-66.

In the parallel bar events, Marc Segal and Mike Smith won second and third places. The ring events were highlighted by Roger Duke winning a second place and Marc Segal coming in third.

Other top performances were by Steve Chase, Tim Faley and Mark Steres on the mats.

After the meet, Coach Ed Gunney stated that the top performances were turned in by Russ Glatt and John Coven. He also noted that Roger Duke has improved consistently in every competition this season.



WE LOST, BUDDY: Two Cleveland runners look enviously at a Taft runner (not shown) who won a running event at last week's track meet.

Photo By Rosenberg

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