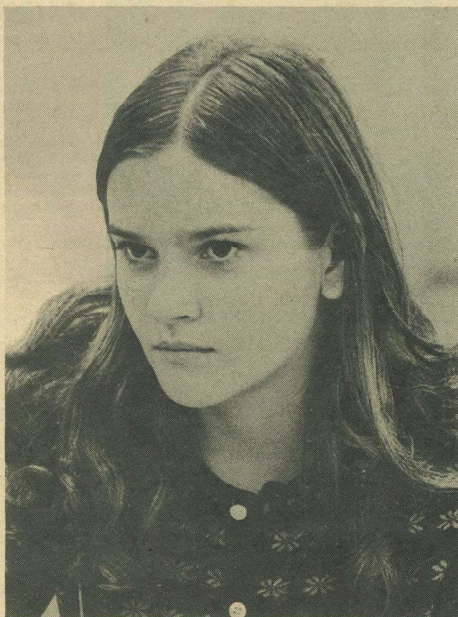








Carlos Robles and Beatriz Careaga have swapped lives with two BUSD students hoping to improve their English through the experience.



Two for two

## Los Mochis makes fair exchange

by Bonita Kato

Mingled within a mass of people passing through the 200 wing, Carlos Robles and Beatriz Careaga appear to be just two more faces in the crowd.

However, they are unique in that they're exchange students from Bellflower's Sister City, Los Mochis, Mexico.

Previously, Beatriz del Carmen Careaga Hays had been attending a private co-educational school, while Carlos Guillermo Robles Ussher, was enrolled in a private all-boys' school.

Although Carlos coyly admitted that it was nice having girls around at school, it wasn't the reason that he came. Both Beatriz and he agreed that the real motivation behind their decision to become exchange students was a desire to improve their English.

"It's so important to know English. Especially for jobs, because it's used a lot in dealing with the public," explained Beatriz.

"That's why we went to the Rotary Club in Los Mochis and said that we were interested in the exchange program. It was through them that we got our

sponsors. Beatriz is staying with the Nelson family, and I'm staying with the Walkers."

These families have succeeded in making Carlos and Beatriz feel welcome and comfortable here. But they both conceded that they felt tinges of homesickness, and in both cases there's a lot of family to miss. Easy-going Carlos is seventh in a family of eight, and petite Beatriz is number three in a family of seven.

"Back in Los Mochis, we went to school from 8am until noon, and after lunch we returned at 3pm and aren't home until 5pm," exclaimed Carlos, contrasting it with his present schedule.

Those hours were spent in classes like chemistry, physics, history, mathematics, Spanish and English. Although they have both completed the secondary level of school in Mexico, 15-year-old Carlos and 16-year-old Beatriz are enrolled as part of Bellflower's Freshman and Sophomore class.

Even though Carlos and Beatriz have had three years of English, Junior Alicia Cardenas, originally from Tiguana, helps them bridge the communication gulf.

## T.G.I.F. (even on the 13th)

by Lee Ann Park

Today's Friday the 13th.

So what? You're not superstitious?

Even in today's scientific world the most enlightened are tempted to admit that there just might be something to all those beliefs, omens, and habits that have been passed down throughout centuries.

After all, superstitions had to originate somewhere, and for good reasons (well for some reason anyway, good or not) because everybody knows you can't go around making up just any old good luck charm.

For example, take the rabbit's foot. A traditional good luck charm, which originated thousands of years ago when man believed that each tribe had descended from its own special animal ancestor. (Aha! Overtones of Darwin. Has he been monkeying around with somebody else's idea?)

Well, it seems that the rabbit is a long-forgotten ancestor, believed to be the guardian spirit of its descendants. (Watch out for those who claim to be guarded over by a fairy godmother. That fairy may be an ancestor.)

Spirits (no relation this time) also enter into the old belief that it is unlucky to walk under a ladder.

In his book "How Did it Begin," Ray Brash explained an old taboo still observed by some primitive tribes.

This had to do with man's head which was considered not as the seat of his wisdom but of his guardian spirit. When anyone walks under a ladder, he offends his guardian, who then becomes ineffective.

Of course, those who don't care to think of some imp sitting up top rationalize away the superstition.

Quite logically, they explain, anyone walking under a ladder is apt to be splashed with paint or brained with a falling tool. (Of course, has the rational thinker ever stopped to consider that it may be the alienated spirit who dribbles the paint or drops the tool?)

And getting back to Friday the 13th, 13 is undoubtedly the unluckiest number known.

Why even insurance companies have conducted statistical surveys showing that in a group of 13, one person would die within less than 12 months.

And as far as the 13th on a Friday . . . well, any day that falls on a Friday can't be all bad.

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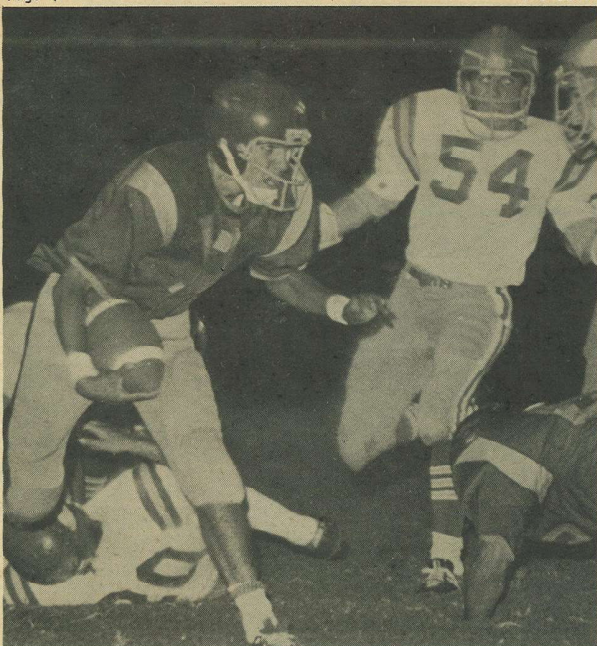
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Quarterback Dan Castillo encounters pair of unfriendly Downey defenders in recent victory over Vikings. Castillo will have to keep situations like these to a minimum if Bucs hope to defeat Excelsior tonight.

Dave Wielenga

## 'Lower' teams get first losses

While all four Buc football teams opened their season with victories, only the varsity and JV's remain unbeaten.

After receiving its first win by forfeit, the JV's registered an 18-0 defeat of Mayfair and opened league play with a 14-7 conquest of Downey.

The sophs were not so fortunate as they were nipped by Mayfair 22-21 and last week fell to the Vikings 32-6. Mayfair made it three over the Bucs with a 37-0 shellacking of the Trosh who recovered fast enough to take a 14-0 decision from Paramount.

After all the errors committed by the Dodger infield this year, an additional blunder was contributed by the front office last week when it rehired Walter Alston as manager.



Senior Ken Nelsen (center) speeds around corner in last week's meet with Downey. Giving chase is sophomore Steve Moran and several Viking striders. Downey won, 26-28.

Sorry Alston - fans. Walt's had the material for the past three years but still hasn't brought a pennant to Los Angeles.

Quite a few people are favorably impressed by the football team fielded by Bellflower this year. The players openly predict victory before every game, the fans are enthused and at this writing Southland sports writers consider the Bucs to be the third best team in 3-A.

However, coach Clay Odell has a contrasting opinion. In response to his squad's lethargic 14-6 win over Downey, Odell indicated a loss is in store for Bellflower tonight and estimated that a ranking of 25th would be more appropriate for the team. I'm with you, Coach.

## Pilots favored over Striders

With an 0-1 league record after last week's narrow 26-29 loss to Downey, Bellflower's varsity cross-country team faces the strong Excelsior Pilots today at La Mirada Park.

Excelsior, with five of their seven varsity runners returning from last year's third place CIF finisher, is again the powerhouse of the league as evidenced by their 15-50 drubbing of La Mirada in their first meet. The Pilots are a strong favorite to repeat as SGLV titlists.

"They've got a fantastic team," believes Buccaneer coach Roy Swett. "The only way we have an outside shot at them is if all our guys run up to their potential."

The first year coach was disappointed by last week's performances, but felt the cross-country squad may have been affected by the amount of competition. The team ran at Dominguez on Tuesday, and then had back-to-back meets on Thursday and Friday.

However, the amount of races didn't seem to bother distance star Bob O'Brien, who was individually victorious in every one.

# I expect a defeat--Odell

by Fred Budig

Although his team is undefeated and ranked third in CIF, Bellflower's varsity football coach Clay Odell seems certain of a defeat tonight at the hands of arch-rival Excelsior.

"The team hasn't been playing well," asserts Odell. "I think we're going to get beat by three touchdowns."

Odell expressed his displeasure following last week's 14-6 victory over Downey in the Buccaneer's opening league game, a contest Bellflower was figured to win by a much healthier margin.

"Against Downey, the team quit when they were pressed," maintains Odell. "They weren't ready to play and they looked bad."

In the game Bellflower assumed an early lead, taking the opening kickoff 56 yards in nine plays. Senior Dan Castillo capped the drive with a 14 yard touchdown pass to flanker Mark Hardwick on fourth down.

In the second quarter, Hardwick, who finished with four catches for 65 yards, grabbed another scoring toss, this one traveling 28 yards on an option

pass from tailback Don Kerr.

The Buccaneer defense surrendered its first touchdown of the season when Viking halfback Phil Serna scored on a 14 yard run with 9:40 left in the third period.

Even though Bellflower out-gained Downey in overall yardage 367 to 228, Odell believes the statistics failed to tell the true story.

"We didn't deserve to win," he stated "They were a much better football team."

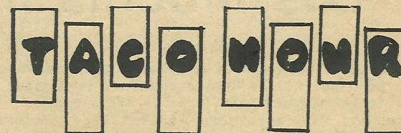
As in its two previous games, Bellflower was led by Castillo who finished with 220 yards, 142 on the ground and 78 through the air.

"Without Danny Castillo, we'd be in bad shape," says Odell, acknowledging the value of his 5'7", 140 lb. quarterback. "Even with him, we're not playing up to our ranking."

Despite his anger over his team's play, Odell doesn't anticipate any changes in the starting lineup for tonight.

"I thought we had our best players out there already," he said. "It's just that they weren't ready to play... maybe they've been reading the papers too much."

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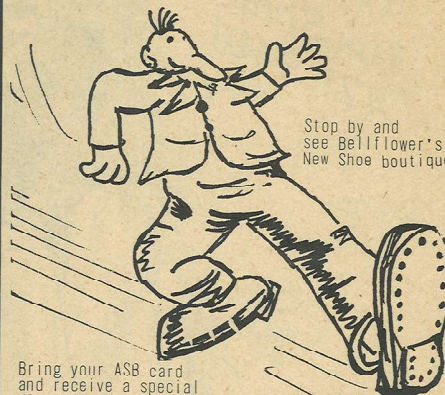
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