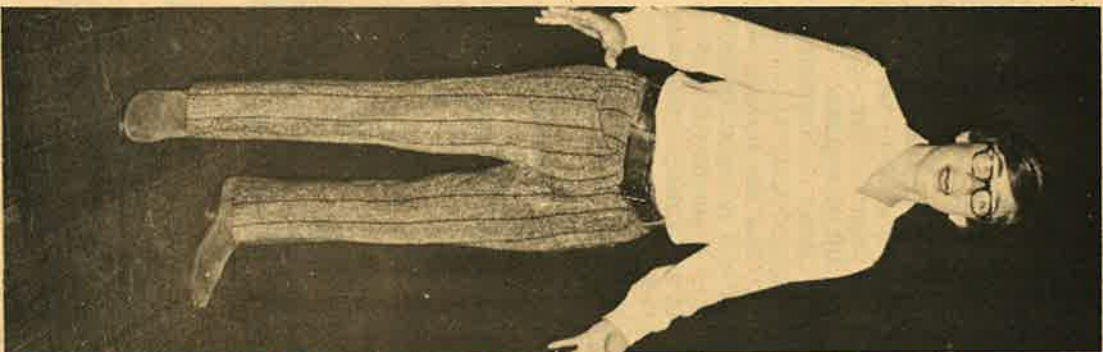


calvin davis



howard prouty

## 'Messengers' sing through semifinals

The Messengers, a quartet formed by Howard Prouty, Craig Shea, Jack Easum and Calvin Davis, got their 'message' across to a panel of judges at the Bellflower-Paramount Exchange Club recently and walked off with the first place Sweepstakes trophy.

"Our group got together when we sang as a quartet at the annual Christmas concert last year," states Calvin Davis. "The audience liked us so we've stuck together ever since."

After winning at the local exchange contest, the quartet then went on to the Southern California semi-finals at Garden Grove High School and again took first place honors.

Singing their winning numbers, "Golden Slippers" and "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," the quartet now qualifies for the state finals in Oakland. Appearing for the finals in June, they will go for three days and two nights, all expenses paid, and to win \$1,000 to boot.



craig shea

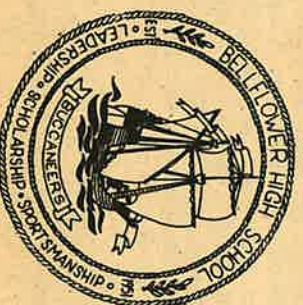


jack easum



Pictured above are the 1971-72 Cabinet hopefuls for the office of ASB President: Jack Easum and Bill Thompson. Featured at right are the candidates for Vice-President: Pat Coleman, Glen Caldwell and Mike Nadalsky.

(douglas stern photos)



## The Bellflower BLADE

Vol. XX, No. 13

20th year of publication

Thurs., May 20, 1971



## ASB elections

# Easum, Thompson vie for presidential office

Every year the campus is flooded with posters, signs and slogans, reminding students to vote for Jane Doe or Sam Smith for an ASB office. This year is no exception, and vying for the top office of ASB President are two very different personalities: Bill Thompson and Jack Easum.

Co-chairman of Campus Beautification, and Vice-President of Key Club, Bill Thompson has been active all around campus, organizing committees and projects. Bill, presently a member of Student Court (which handles class cutters, etc.), states, "I've found that in the case of most class cutters, it's not that they don't want to go to class, but that their classes are boring. As a result I have sent letters to specific teachers who have more cutters."

the students evaluate the good and bad techniques of each of their teachers.

Other projects Bill hopes to have the Cabinet achieve are: more curriculum committees, (Bill organized the Jr. English curriculum committee which resulted in the pilot Independent Study Class); better relations and communications with the Board of Education, and hopes to establish some priorities for ASB funds. Bill also stated, "Although most of the projects that I initiated have been done more or less on my own, I would rather have the Cabinet initiate more ideas and projects, instead of just giving them their stamp of approval."

Jack Easum, also competing for the office, is concerned about student involvement and privileges. He hopes, if elected, to try a temporary system of open campus by giving seniors off-

and the students can handle open campus, then they deserve it," he commented.

Having attended the Cerritos Leadership conference and a conference held at Monrovia High School, he has discussed with leaders from other schools the problems and solutions of student government and involvement.

At Monrovia, Jack learned of an association called "California Association of Student Councils," which provides information about activities, assemblies, projects and curriculum from other schools.

Using this information, Jack hopes to have better assemblies and activities than in the past. He also hopes to raise money from rock concerts which he hopes to have next year. Also among his goals for next year, Jack hopes to

Although Jack has not held an office in student government before, he states, "It's not what I've done, but what I'd like to do for this school."

Also in the running for an ASB office are Pat Coleman, Mike Nadalsky and Glen Caldwell who are competing for the office of Vice-President. For the office of Secretary of Publicity, Lois Holt and Gaye Kempema are running.

Secretary hopefuls are Sarah Carr, Kim Kekich and Cindy Narretta. The office of Secretary of Publicity is being vied for by Becky Alt and Ron Brown, while Barbara Alt and Kris Erickson compete for the office of Secretary of Elections.

Running unopposed are Ron Kooy for Sergeant at Arms and Gloria Jochims for



## ASB OFFICERS

**President**  
 Jack Easum - 3.46 - Chamber Singers, Ensemble, Choir  
 Bill Thompson - 4.00 - Key Club, Campus Beautification,  
 Junior Court Preceptor, CSF, Band, Jazz Ensemble, Pep  
 Band, Tennis, Junior English Curriculum Committee

**Vice President**  
 Glen Caldwell - 2.20 - House, Assemblies Committee, Varsity Football, Varsity Wrestling  
 Pat Coleman - 3.00 - Choir, Media Club, Inter-Club Council, Key Club

**Mike Nadalsky - 4.00 - CSF, Band, Jazz Ensemble, Pep Band, Thespians, Leo Club, Math Club, Physics Club, BAA**

**Secretary**  
 Sarah Carr - 2.80 - Band, Jazz Ensemble, Pep Band, BLADE  
 Kim Kekich - 2.85 - Junior Secretary, Pep Club, Biology, Spanish Honor Society, Wrestling Boosters  
 Cindy Narreta - 3.00 - House, Choir, Wrestling Boosters

**Secretary of Publicity**  
 Lois Holt - 2.00 - Banner Carrier, Girls League  
 Gaye Kempema - 3.20 - Pep Club, Drill Team, Wrestling Boosters

**Secretary of Activities**  
 Becky Alt - 3.40 - Junior Secretary of Activities, BLADE staff, Wrestling Boosters, Junior English Curriculum Committee

**Ron C. Brown - 3.25 - Campus Beautification, Media Club, Physics Club**

**Secretary of Elections**  
 Barbara Alt - 3.00 - Junior Class Treasurer, Wrestling Boosters

**Kris Erickson - 2.75 - Pep Squad, Pep Club**

**SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS**

**President**  
 Beverly Alt - 3.50 - Junior Class President, Wrestling Boosters

**Vice-President**  
 Charlie Colucci - 3.60 - Drama, Key Club, Golf

**Cindy Boxley - 3.33 -**  
 Randy Eggleston - 1.80 -  
 Sherry Fopma - 2.50 -  
 James Jepson - 3.00 - Varsity Tennis, Band  
 Debbie Whitworth - 3.25 - Banner Carrier

**Treasurer**  
 Marcela Gardea - 2.80 - Choir  
 Debbie Tweet - 2.80 - Wrestling Boosters, Pep Squad

**JUNIOR CLASS OFFICERS**

**President**  
 Dan Castillo - 2.60 - Football, BAA  
 Dean Walsh - 1.60 - Golf, BAA  
 Don Hahn - 3.40 - Band, Pep Band, CSF, Leo Club  
 Rod Stern - 4.00 - Leo Club, National Forensics League, BLADE, Campus Beautification, JV Tennis

**Vice-President**  
 Tom Creswell - 3.80 - Leo Club, Math Club, Choir, Chamber Singers, CSF

**Gary George - 3.00 -**  
 Steven Hulen - 2.75 - Leo Club, Wrestling, Track  
 Cheryl Sistrunk - 3.00 - Sophomore Treasurer

**Secretary**  
 Louanna Stevens - GAO, GAA  
 Debbie Wilson - 3.00 - GAA, Thespians, House

**Treasurer**  
 Rose Marie Elias - 3.40 -  
 Rick Stratton - 2.00 -

**Secretary of Activities**  
 Dinah Herron - 4.00 - Girls League, Chemistry Club, GAA  
 Andy McSorley - 2.80 -  
 Sherry Seyfried - 3.40 - Sophomore Secretary of Activities

**SOPHOMORE CLASS OFFICERS**

**President**  
 Jim Martinez - 2.20 -  
 Don McShane - 3.00 - Freshman President

**Vice-President**  
 Donna Bryan - 3.60 - CSF, Pep Club  
 Donna Gresham - 2.20 -  
 Janet Nadalsky - 4.00 - Pep Club, Wrestling Boosters, CSF, Girls League, House

**Treasurer**  
 Karen Ferre - 3.20 - Pep Club, GAA, Wrestling Boosters, House

**Paula La Rocco - 2.80 -**  
 Helen Van Harlem - 3.20 - Girls League, Pep Club  
 Patti Dokter - 4.00 - Girls League, CSF, Pep Club, Frosh Secretary of Activities

## Joe's Feliciana

SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1971  
 CERRITOS COLLEGE GYM, 8:00 P.M.  
 ALONDRA & STUDEBAKER, NORWALK  
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 FIRST SERVE

# Letter Prouty mirrors students

## Letter

### Conscientious voting urged

To the Editor,  
 With all of the crossfire between the newspaper and the student officers, probably the least affected are the two parties involved: The BLADE still thinks the Cabinet is a do nothing outfit and the Cabinet still thinks the BLADE stinks.

Now the elections are coming up, and thus it is the duty of every student voting to set qualifications for what he wants in the way of student officers next year. It has been the contention this year, as stated by Howard Prouty, that officers should be a mirror image of the students. Howard goes on to say that if the students are apathetic, the officers should be apathetic and do nothing.

This is not only a cop-out for active student government but an excuse for the year. Student officers should instigate and motivate other students to keep them from being apathetic.

You should vote on what the candidate has done in the past, as this is the only way you can project them into the future. It is a myth that as soon as you become an officer, God comes down

To the Editor:  
 A lot has been said about the ineffectiveness of student government this year. From talking to other presidents from other schools I have come to the conclusion that this is not unique to BHS. While I will not totally condemn this year's Cabinet (call it an "ego trip"), I will say that a lot of the potential of student government as provided by the constitution and administrators of BHS, has not been realized. The fault mainly lies in two places; the Cabinet and the students.

The Cabinet is obviously at fault, but one might ask, "How do the students cause bad student government?" And more importantly, "How can students stimulate student government and give it the 'shot in the arm' that it needs?" The answer to both questions is the student vote.

If the students would vote reasonably, they could alleviate the whole problem. The main question that students have to ask themselves is: "Is this the kind of person I want to represent me, the rest of the student body, the administration and the community?" When you vote in this election you are deciding exactly what kind of government you will have next year.

It is always easier to criticize than to get up off your bolognaus and do something. Make your own choice.

Howard Prouty  
 ASB President

and gives you powers you have never seen before, thereby making you super-active and giving you the drive to solve problems which administrators before were never able to solve. Question the candidates as to their proposals. Why haven't they already instigated these ideal plans this year or last? Why are they waiting to the last year to start or is the whole thing a phony campaign promise?

Don't vote on a candidate's promises, but on his activeness in the past. Know who you're voting for and their qualifications, don't vote for them simply because they are in the social clique at the school.

Under the leadership of Howard Prouty and many other concerned students, we have had one of the most active years at Bellflower. One that probably won't be matched for many years to come. Think what it could be at Bellflower High if we lived up to our potential. This potential will only be realized with a group of hard-working student leaders in office.

Rick Rahm

## Letter

# Election debates rapped

To the Editor,  
 On May 14, I attended a debate in room 307, expecting to see an organized program on the qualifications of the candidates for Sr. Class President. What I did see was an unorganized question and answer period on past accomplishments of the candidates in activities. The only thing I learned is that "leadership" conferences should be renamed "school activity conferences."

Although disheartened, I still believed that the current student government could do something right. So I went to the ASB Presidential debate and had the distinct impression of "Deja Vu" (I've been here before.) Instead of a debate I saw a popularity-personality contest between Bill Thompson and Jack Easum, complete with cheering sections.

Jack Easum responded with such tricks as rolling his eyes to heaven and such glib answers as "Yes" and "I will try." Jack was backed by over 25 hecklers who quickly and directly hounded Bill with questions, and then lacked the courtesy to listen while Bill defended himself. This situation might have caused the fact of the same question being brought up four and five times.

After seeing the debate, I am able to predict with complete certainty again, the voters (as in the past) will opt for personality, and the 1971-72 school year's ASB Cabinet will spend nine months trying to decide what color of crepe paper to use at the prom.

As for me, my vote goes to Rick Rahm.

Walter Jay Davis '72



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The BLADE is published bi-weekly with the exception of school holidays by the student newspaper staff of Bellflower High School, 15301 South Mc-



# Sam Okimoto: 'Most Honorable Whiz, Ah So'

by Rodney Stern

Sam Okimoto, oriental, 135 pounds, 5 feet, 6-1/2 inches tall, brown eyes, black hair, age 17. The facts seem to stare one in the face and yet a deep, dense mysterious cloud encircles the true Okimoto and few, maybe none, can break through to uncover the real personality of this package of oriental energy.

While on the surface, Ok, as his friends refer to him, flashes such honors as first place math chalk talker at the Cerritos Col-

lege Math Field Day, president of Interact and high honors in the National Forensics League, on the inside he is still entirely unknown.

As is human nature, many of Ok's friends and teachers have attempted a journey into the unknown and some have ventured as far as to take wild guesses as to what might actually be Sam's philosophy of life.

Ok's tennis coach, Joe Bott, took a wild stab at pinning down Sam's deep inner thoughts and

could only come up with "Destroy" while fellow tennis player Dave Rozelle summed it up as "Kill or get killed."

Sam himself put it only slightly different, "Shove it or love it."

Is the sadistic person described above really the holder of a 3.97 grade point average, a past Speaker of the House and the third best chalk talker at the Occidental Math Field Day? Can it really be true? Perhaps it's a split personality, Ok accounts for it with simply, "I'm just fun

loving."

Chemistry teacher Larry Boyle agrees that Sam is "fun loving," but he also paints a much more solemn picture of the vibrant Okimoto.

"Sam's a good thinker and a good leader. He's honest and dependable. He always gets the job done." Although Boyle did admit that "some of his methods need refinement."

Seeming to repeat Boyle's words almost exactly was math department head James Modlin.

"Sam's a good kid. When you ask him to do something he always gets it done. It's not always on the up and up, but he gets it done." Modlin later conceded, "I know that Same is weird and maybe somewhat of a radical, but..."

Another teacher, Richard Hester, describes Ok as "lively, smart, optimistic and a little on the dingy side, especially when he carries his toy machine gun."

All this certainly paints a serious picture of Okimoto but surely no more so than the savage beast described by Dave Rozelle. "He's a bloodthirsty, sadistic, dirty little Buddhist," Dave revealed. "I only say it because it's all true!"

If Sam is as sadistic as Dave believes that would explain why Ok enjoys hunting and fishing. Sam claims, "I'm a fairly good fisherman but a lousy hunter." Okimoto admits he enjoys everything he does, "especially when I win." But even though Sam enjoys winning it seems as though he can't quite pull it off sometimes.

During his sophomore year he captured third place junior varsity tennis singles in San Gabriel Valley League competition. Last

it too much thought. But the bright-eyed reporter is waiting, pencil poised over pad, for campaign plans to achieve open campus, a smoking lounge and toilet paper in the bathrooms.

Never one to jump to hasty conclusions, the candidate decides he had better consult his advisors. So, giving the reporter the old let-me-make-one-thing-perfectly-clear routine he makes his escape.

Gathering together his staff he makes the weighty decision to lay it on the line, no beating around the bush. So he informs them that informed sources have

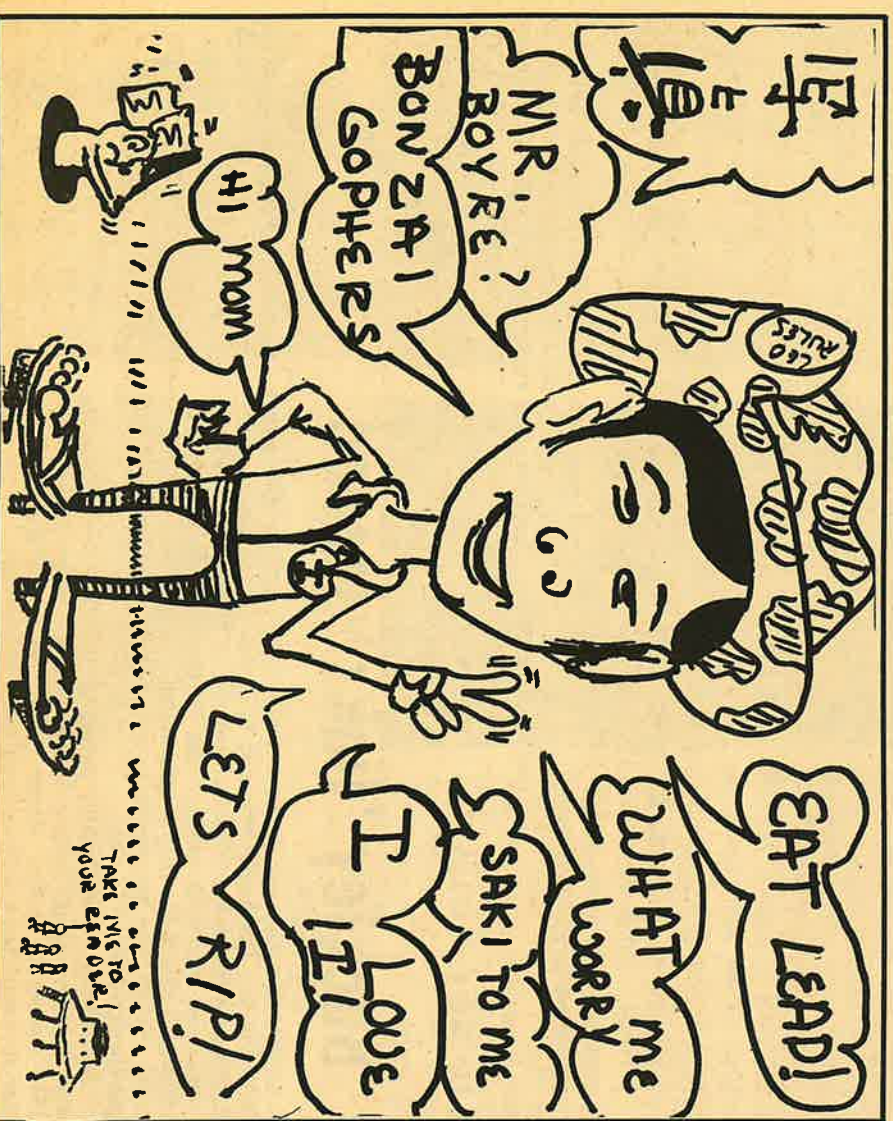
informed him as to the necessity of presenting to the voting public a comprehensive synopsis of planned services to the community during tenure of office.

In other words, a platform.

The advisors frown, wrinkle their foreheads, scratch their brows and say "hmmmm..."

One of the advisors ventures a suggestion: How about the war? Everyone is concerned with that. The suggestion is quickly vetoed as too controversial. There's time enough after being elected to be identified as a hawk or a dove.

The staff finally decides on a middle course. They will take no definite stand on anything, then they alienate no one and have nothing to lose. Except maybe a little self-respect. But that's the breaks. You can't win elections on the "Honest Abe" platform anymore.



## Where are Honest Abe candidates?

by Phyllis Hill

In every election, be it state or local, national or school, suspicious start lurking in long unused minds, and sooner or later, all candidates reach the same worrisome conclusion: They need a platform.

This disturbing discovery is usually made after several uncomfortable encounters with the eager-beaver school newspaper reporter who keeps asking embarrassing and inconsequential questions. Such as "What are your plans if you are elected?"

The candidate is momentarily floored. He really hadn't given

## Prom bids lowered; liars do their things

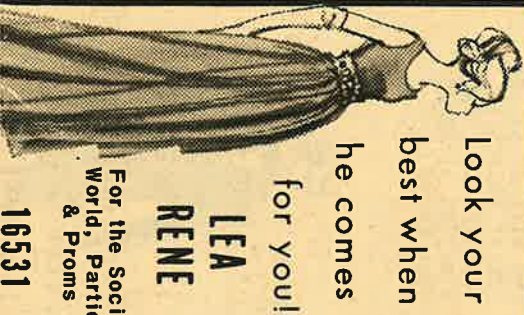
\$5 has been taken off the price of Jr.-Sr. Prom bids, lowering them to \$15, thanks to the numerous money-making activities undertaken by the junior class, President BEV ALT announced Monday.

BHS' biggest liar was finally identified last Thursday when freshman LUANN FURUSHO outpacked STEVE KEKICH by a single point to be awarded the "Biggest Liar on Campus" title. All students in MR. SKIP McDOWELL'S Communication Skills classes vied for the coveted award by stuffing their speeches with various mistruths.

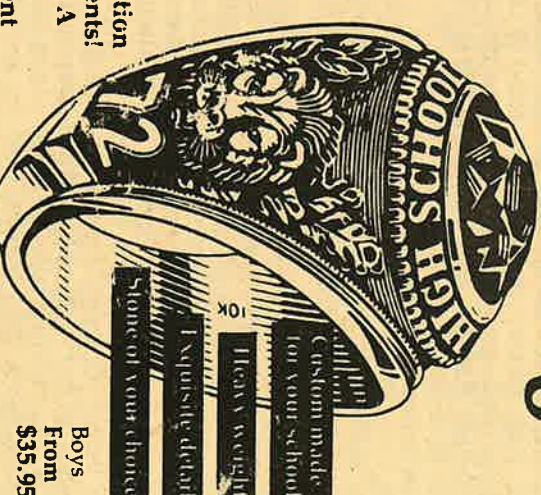
The soon-to-be alumni of BHS will have an opportunity to take a final jab at the unworthy underclassmen in the June 11 SENIOR WILLS edition of the BLADE. According to wills coordinator SCOTT LANSDOWN, the deadline for submitting wills is Wednesday. They can be taken to room 307.



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Phil Budig

# Combat training ahead for Bucs

Bellflower's gridiron squad began its annual Spring Football drills yesterday, preparing for a year that might resemble a war more than a football season.

With the teams Bellflower must face in the SGVL this season, the Bucs are probably contemplating taking combat training in preparation for what could amount to hand-to-hand combat on the gridiron.

Head Coach Clay O'Dell, who has the best winning percentage of any Buc football coach in history, doesn't think it will be quite that bad but he knows better than anyone that his squad will be involved in a tough and grueling season.

"Many people have said we are in the toughest league in the entire 3-A division of the CIF," he stated, "there are several good, physical teams in the SGVL."

Without a doubt. Besides last year's champ, Excelsior, the SGVL has several top teams, including Pioneer, Norwalk and Paramount.

"Pioneer is definitely the team to beat," remarked O'Dell. "They give a super effort and almost the entire team is back from last year, when they were one of the top 4-A teams."

"And Paramount is another rough team. They played the likes of Compton and Centennial every year, and those two are real brutal teams, but they usually beat at least one of them."

O'Dell also cited the fine offensive potential of Norwalk and Excelsior, stating both had key backfield personnel returning from last season.

But Bellflower, which should be another physical team ("we have a strong line, both offensively and defensively"), figures to be in the thick of it once again, although O'Dell concedes two weaknesses.

"Our secondary and wide receiving are our main problems at this time."

But O'Dell hopes to solve these problems by the time Spring Football practice ends on June 11 (on that day the varsity team will play in the Old Timers Game against ex-Buc football players).

If he succeeds — and he's done it before — Bellflower can win its second title in three years and go to the CIF playoffs once again.

\*\*\*\*\*

The CIF has abolished the exponent system in football, going instead to a grade level method to determine on which teams an athlete can play.

As a result of the ruling (which will be experimented for one year), Bee and Cee teams will be replaced with Freshman and Sophomore squads. The decision simply means players cannot play below their grade levels.

Coach O'Dell said it will be a couple of years before he can analyze the effect it will have on the Buc squads, although he indicated it would help smaller players, since they don't face competition from bigger upperclassmen.

On the other hand, there is some disagreement among other coaches on O'Dell's assessment. Many feel it will be harmful to the smaller athlete since he now faces more competition from larger players in his own class.

\*\*\*\*\*

The girl golfers outdid three other schools to win overall honors in Tuesday's competition at Arcadia.

Compiling 98 match points, the "other sex" swept past Arcadia, Rosemead and La Canada.

Individual honors went to Linda Potts, whose 66 was the lowest gross, and Holley Evans, who placed second in number of puts and first in getting the ball closest to the pin.

## Slam aids win, 11-4

by Dave Wielenga

Bellflower's premier pitcher Rick Bethke fired a five-hitter, striking out 13, while second baseman Dave Castillo delivered a grand slam and an RBI single to provide the Bucs with all the scoring they needed as the BHS baseball squad sidetracked El Modena 11-4 Tuesday in the opening round of CIF competition. Castillo unloaded his big blow in the fifth inning after Les Wiekamp and Dan Davidson shegled and Terry Silver reached first on an error. In the top half of the inning the Vanguarders had tightened the game, chopping three points off a 6-1 Bellflower advantage.

The Buccaneers, who rattled two El Modena pitchers for 13 hits, went to work early racking up four runs in the first three innings.

Bethke, however, was more stingy mowing down the first 10 men he faced striking out seven of them before issuing a one-out walk in the fourth inning. After retiring the next batter on a ground out, Vanguard center fielder Jeff Spagnola smacked an RBI single to ruin the shutout. In the next inning the El Modenans completed their scoring, collecting three runs on four hits including a two-run triple by second baseman Rick Barrack.

The "slam" by Castillo capped his three for four performance at the plate but there were other outstanding personal performances. Shortstop Dan Davidson also had three hits in four at-bats while stealing two bases. Third baseman Cliff Axe and right fielder Fred Perez collected two hits apiece. Also contributing to the Buc attack was the sloppy fielding of the Vanguarders who committed a whopping seven errors to one miscue by Bellflower.

The triumph sends the Buccaneers into the second round of CIF competition to face either Montgomery High School of the Camino

The Bellflower Blade



Brad Stone, who holds the Bellflower High School pole vault record of 14'3", practices for upcoming semi-final competition. Stone cleared 13'6" in the quarter finals as he and five other Bucs advanced to the next round.

(rod stern photo)

## Ziemer quits

## Buckley 'links' second

Despite the absence of Eric Ziemer, the number one-ranked SGVL golfer, Bellflower managed to snatch two of the three CIF positions at the league individual tournament held earlier this week.

Ziemer, who took number one in the tournament last year, elected to retain his hair length, which conflicts with the athletic code, rather than to attempt to capture his second straight league championship.

Nevertheless, Pat Buckley picked up the slack by clubbing his way to a first-round leading 75 and finishing with a second place 154, one stroke behind winner Chuck Gail of Cal High. Buckley therefore qualified for CIF as well as the all-league team.

Ed Walker also made the all-league team and qualified as a CIF alternate by capturing third place with over-all score of 160.

The league qualifiers will go on to the first round of CIF individual play scheduled for June 1 at the Lakewood Country Club. Overall for the season, the Buc varsity took second place in league with a 6-1-1 record, losing only in a league-deciding encounter last week against Cal High. The team averaged 8.2 strokes above par with a 32-stroke lead over their league opponents.

Thurs., May 20, 1971

## Six Spikers left in CIF

Led by Bob Stogsdlil's easy win in the varsity mile, six Buc spikers placed in the CIF Southern Section quarterfinals last Saturday, and therefore qualified for the semi-finals at Cerritos tomorrow night.

Stogsdlil ran a time of 4:23.3 in the quarterfinals, and thus qualified for the third lane which is also the place he'll need to make the finals to be held next week, again at Cerritos. Commenting on his chances, Bob stated, "My first goal is to qualify for the finals; my second is to run my best time."

By reaching 13'6" in the pole vault, Brad Stone was the only other Buc to qualify in varsity.

The only Bee to qualify for Bellflower, was Jim Evans. His 1:25.0 time in the 660, which was good enough for second place, missed the school record by only half a second.

Three Bucs placed in the Cee's led by Bob O'Brian's first place time of 3:14.4 in the 1320, a new school record for the Cee's.

The other Cee qualifier was Dan Castillo, who took second in the long jump with a leap of 20'5-3/8".

Jack Daley qualified with a second in the Cee 660, although his 1:26.6 time was equal to that of the first place finisher.



Eric Ziemer doesn't get haircut, doesn't play in CIF. (rod stern photo)

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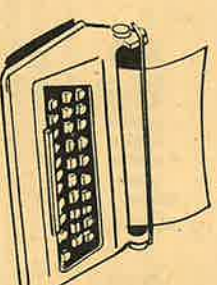
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