HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (CIF-SS)

28th historical “tidbit.”

JAPANESE AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES DURING WORLD WAR II AND FOLLOWING THE WAR

Football at Camp Manzanar….1943
Photo by Ansel Adams
The start of World War II caused the relocation of Japanese American families to the ten different relocation camps around the nation. Many Japanese Americans had settled in Southern California and were successful and contributing members of their communities. Japanese American high school students were active on their local high school campuses and participated in numerous sports. Those students and families lost their homes and were forced to leave their schools in the middle of their studies and sports. Many never received their high school diplomas and missed out on numerous extra curricular activities. Camps, like Manzanar, attempted to create a high school atmosphere including academic classes, high school sports, yearbooks other activities. But, those students were never allowed to leave their camps and sports were of an intra-mural nature. When World War II ended the families moved back to their home towns and began their lives over again even though many had lost all of their possessions. Burbank High School became a relocation high school while families established new homes. It is interesting to see how the CIFSS handled this situation in a very enlightened way. The CIFSS had amended many of their resident and transfer rules to deal with the war years and returning veterans.
JAPANESE BOYS CREATE PROBLEM

November 16, 1945

"Mr. Seth Van Patten
C.I.F. Commissioner
1955 Fremont
So. Pasadena, California

Dear Van:

With the return of a considerable number of Japanese boys to Southern California, it will be necessary for the C.I.F. to come to some decision regarding the eligibility of these boys for next semester.

In checking with these boys, I find that the federal government closed down the government schools attended by Japanese in June of last year. The schools were not re-opened this fall and the Japanese children have missed one-half of the first semester's work. Burbank Senior High School has established a policy of not allowing these pupils to take any academic subjects because it would be impossible for them to make up the nine weeks' work that they have missed. To make it possible for these students to make some credit this semester, they are being placed in two hours of non-academic subjects; i.e., a boy will be placed in two hours of Machine shop for the remainder of this semester. Providing he does satisfactory work, he will receive one-half unit of credit at the end of the semester.

Since Burbank Senior High School has six periods a day, the maximum amount of credit that a student could earn would be 1 1/8 credits although he would be in full attendance for ten weeks, six hours a day. According to the C.I.F. ruling, a boy to be eligible must have passed in three subjects and gym. These students will have met the residence requirements but will have passed in only two subjects and gym.

A number of Japanese boys have asked whether they would be eligible for athletics next semester. I have told them that under the present ruling they will not be eligible. This problem should be of interest to a number of high schools in Southern California. Since the majority of the students who are in Burbank probably will be transferred to other high schools in the next few months, Burbank is a re-location center and the parents of these students will stay here only until they can find a permanent location.

Yours very truly,

(Signed)
Theo. Kopp
Registrar and Asst. Principal
Burbank Senior High School"

This problem will be referred to the Council at its meeting on February 2.
Al Maloney believes Japanese athletes have future as football players

BY BRAVEN DYER

Al Maloney, the little fire-ball who scored about in the Trojan backfield several years ago, returns from the Orient, full of praise for Japanese sports fans. It was Al who managed the troop of American football players who gave Japan its first real encounter with American football. Maloney's squad traveled 13,000 miles, quite the longest football trip in history. Al says the enthusiasm of the Japanese fans was amazing considering that half the games were played in driving rain. The squad was housed and dined so steadily that only one practice session was held during the invasion. At one game in Tokyo eleven members of the royal family sat through a drizzling rain until the battle ended. The schedule included ten football games, two Rugger contests and four short gridiron exhibitions. Three football clashes with Meiji University resulted in scores of 72 to 6, 73 to 7 and 47 to 6. The Japanese were very light, averaging only 130 pounds per man, but excelled at forward and lateral passing. On running plays they had little chance against such bully boys as Bob Elsberry, Cal Glenn, Chuck Mucha, Chang Artman and Al Maloney assures that their proficiency use of 11 men would enable them to score on most any team they would meet. The Japanese are great fighters, quick thinkers and combine speed with a natural ability for athletic competition. They have been playing the game for only nine months and Maloney thinks that within five years they'll be able to compete on an even terms with invading teams because of their skill at the wide-open type of attack.

The trip was not a financial success, but sponsors in Japan were well satisfied, estimating that 190,000 people saw the games, 2,000,000 read about them and more than 10,000,000 heard them over the air. The American Ambassador was loud in his praise of the trip as a means of promoting good will between the two countries. Maloney says American athletes thoroughly enjoyed their experience and that the trip soon forgot the splendid treatment accorded them by Japanese fans and officials.

Few Japanese ready to return as Ban Goes Off

Only three Japanese, two of them schoolgirls, yesterday elected, on the first day such preference was permissible, to return to Southern California from War Relocation Authority centers to which they were removed shortly after the outbreak of war, it was announced yesterday.

An additional nine received permission to make brief business visits here, following which they will settle permanently at Welby, Cola, W.R.A. officials said.

Minds Not Made Up

Paul D. Robertson, W.R.A. area supervisor for Southern California, said the reason so few Japanese were found desirous of coming here was that they have not yet made up their own minds following the Army's surprise lifting of its "out-of-bounds-to-Japanese" order affecting the Pacific Coast combat zone.

From San Diego to the Oceans Valley, Ruby Mitsaka Hori, 19, graduate of Roosevelt High School, will come to live with friends while attending the Los Angeles campus of the Univer-

C.I.F. Play-off Final Set for Coliseum or Rose Bowl

BY CARL BLUME

Los Angeles Times (1886-Current File): Dec 6, 1935

C.I.F. Play-off Final Set for Coliseum or Rose Bowl

BY CARL BLUME

Coach Art Ateneo's much-improved Inglewood High School baseballers—as witness their surprise 7-0 victory over a highly favored San Diego High eleven last Saturday—are gunning to make it two upsets in a row by bowling over Coach Clarence Schutte's powerful Santa Barbara Dons in the C.I.F. play-off semifinal game at Ingletwood's Sentinel Field Friday night.

The game will start at 7:30 o'clock, and the victor wins the right to tangle with the mighty Moors of Alhambra High for the Bracket A C.I.F. crown.

ONE OR OTHER

Seth Van Patten, head of the Southern Section C.I.F. announced yesterday that the finals will be held either at the Coliseum or at the Rose Bowl a week from Saturday. If Santa Barbara beats Inglewood, which it is expected to do, then the game will most likely be staged in the Pasadena oval. But if the Sentinels win, then there is a strong possibility that it will be held in the Coliseum.

Friday night's game will feature the Dons' great all-Southern California halfback, Clarence Sylvester. This southpaw ace is a real honest-to-gosh triple-threater. His kicking is terrific, his passing dangerous and he is a clever, hard runner. He started the season rather slowly because of injuries, but is going great guns now according to reports. The Dons also boast a terrific end in Willie Peters, big colored lineman. He, too, is being boosted for an all-Southern California post this year.

MAY BE TOUGH

The Sentinels, who earlier in the season were swallowed by San Marinos, are favored to turn the trick and win the game.

Educators Act On Japs Return

Sacramento, Jan. 4. (AP)—Dr. Walter F. Dexter, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, today said he is "unalterably opposed" to the re-establishment of Japanese-language schools in California.

At a meeting of county school superintendents called to discuss the return of Japanese students to classrooms, he said the State school system should be able to assimilate them.

Divergent Views

Divergent views on the return of the Japanese were expressed by the superintendents, but Dexter said after an hour and a half's discussion:

"You get in the sense of this meeting that you want me to tell you, Warren that the State's school superintendents and teachers will co-operate fully with the Army in recognizing the rights of the returning Japa-

The policy of the State Department of Education is against segregation," Dexter replied.
More Japs Leave Arcadia
Transfer of 500 to Arkansas Cuts Camp Population Under 8000

Moving with smooth efficiency attained through months of handling the Japanese problem in Southern California, Federal authorities have segregated and started another 500 inmates of the Santa Anita Assembly Center by train to Rowher, Ark., where they will remain for the duration of the war.

The latest of three-weekly deportations reduced the center’s population to less than 3000—somewhat below 50 per cent of its maximum four months ago.

NO JAPANESE SPOKEN

Except for the slanted eyes and flat noses of nearly all the evacuees, the departure could easily have been that of an equal number of Americans of Caucasian blood.

No word of Japanese was heard, except among the small proportion of Issei, or first-generation Japanese, all the wisecracks in the good-natured crowd were in the American idiom.

The Japanese youths were the noncitizen part of the American high school and college student; the girls were shock and sweat.

In almost every instance the names called banteringly back and forth as the passengers boarded a special train on the race track platform were “Joe,” “Pat,” “Betty,” “Roy” and the like.

SHE'S AMERICAN

As pretty Margaret Kobayashi, 17, of Whittier, expressed it, “I’ve never seen so many Japanese in my life as I have since I’ve been here. Myself, I’m an American.”

On the other side of the picture was venerable S. Tsuchida, a 71-year-old nurseryman who, before shaking hands and who, since Pearl Harbor, has let his beard grow its own way as a sort of protest for the actions of his countrymen in the homeland.

“I am not afraid,” he confided, “until war ever.” Tsuchida confined his epistles about who will win the conflict to:

“Gods win war everybody...”
JAPANESE JET—Ralph Kubota, Compton High's amazing back who's rambled for 1007 yards on the ground this season, will lead Torbabe offense against Fullerton in CIF prep championship game today in Coliseum. Kubota is bullet-like starter.

DYNAMITE
IN A SMALL PACKAGE....

COMPTON'S
RALPH KUBOTA
STANDS 5'4" AND WEIGHS
BUT 137 LBS., YET THIS
NIMBLE NIPPONESSE HAS
ROLLED 1007 YDS. ON
THE GROUND THIS SEASON!

During the season, two girls' leagues were formed in addition to six boys' leagues with the games being played on clay and dirt courts. In action are two top-notch teams, the Unicy Chicks and Just A-More.