

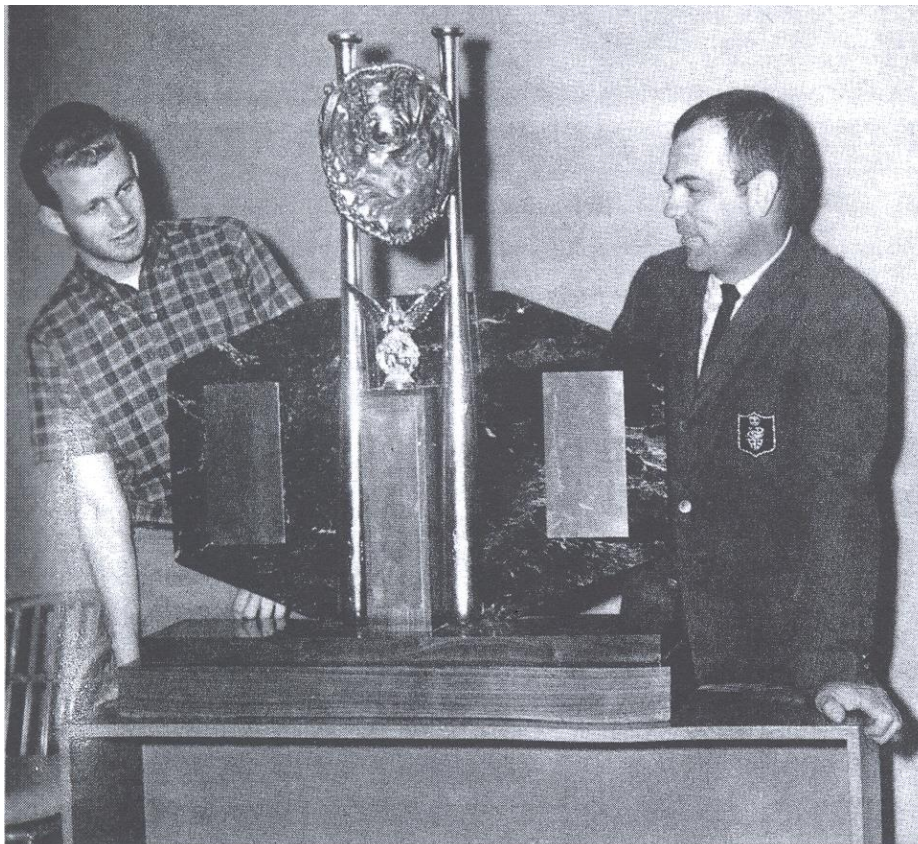


**HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA**  
**INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION**  
**SOUTHERN SECTION**  
**(CIFSS)**



90<sup>th</sup> historical "tidbit."  
Dr. John S. Dahlem

**B.L. (Bernhardt Louis) BERGSTROM**  
**"Bergie"**



BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY—Long Beach Poly baseball Coach John Herbold (right) and Poly Student Body President John Ingram admire the new B. L. Bergstrom Perpetual Baseball Trophy, which will be awarded the winner of the CIF, SS, "AAA" baseball playoffs. The trophy is being donated by the students at Poly in honor of B. L. Bergstrom, who spent 37 years as an educator prior to his retirement in 1960. He was Chairman of the CIF, SS, Executive Committee from 1950 to 1960.



Who was this "Bergie" and why did they name a CIF-SS trophy and a stadium in El Monte after him?

**EL MONTE GETS "TIMES" FINALS: Junior P**  
*Los Angeles Times (1923-Current File); Apr 24, 1932;  
 ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Los Angeles Times (1881-19  
 pp. F6*

**EL MONTE GETS  
 "TIMES" FINALS**

*Junior Pentathlon Wind-up  
 at Valley Town*

*Success of Last Year's Meet  
 Causes Return*

*Plans Being Made for Even  
 Better Program*

For the second successive season  
 The Times finals of the Pan-Pa-  
 cific Junior Pentathlon will be held  
 at El Monte.

Staged with  
 such success  
 last year, the  
 meet was again  
 awarded the  
 valley town yes-  
 terday by the  
 executive com-  
 mittee of the  
 Junior Pentath-  
 lon. The date  
 of the grand  
 wind-up of this  
 competition for  
 thousands of  
 Southern  
 youngsters is  
 June 4.



B. L. BERGSTROM

Coach B. L. Bergstrom of El  
 Monte Union High School had di-  
 rect charge of last year's meet,  
 which was probably the most suc-  
 cessful ever staged in Southern Cal-  
 ifornia. At a meeting last week, El  
 Monte officials again selected Coach  
 Bergstrom to head their commit-  
 tee.

Working with Bergstrom, as they  
 did last year, will be Boyd Com-  
 stock, director of the pentathlon  
 for this locality, and D. W. Lott, su-  
 pervisor of Municipal sports for Los  
 Angeles city playgrounds.

Boys from seven counties, Los  
 Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara,  
 San Luis Obispo, Orange, Riverside  
 and San Bernardino, will take part  
 in the meet.

The first two youngsters in the  
 junior and senior divisions will qual-  
 ify for the Pan-Pacific finals which  
 are to be held in Los Angeles dur-  
 ing the latter part of July.



**B. L. BERGSTROM ANNOUNCES HIS  
 RETIREMENT**

After 39 years of dedicated service to the  
 El Monte School District, Superintendent B. L.  
 Bergstrom has announced his retirement from  
 school work effective July, 1960. This will make  
 it necessary for "Bergie", as he is affectionately  
 known to his multitude of friends, to also sever  
 his connections with the CIF, SS, where he is  
 the senior member of the Executive Committee.  
 He has served as its President during the past  
 ten years.

Bernhardt Bergstrom is a native son, having  
 been born some few years ago in San Pedro.  
 When his parents moved to El Monte, "Bergie"  
 enrolled in the local high school where he par-  
 ticipated in football, track and baseball for four  
 years while accumulating credits to graduate  
 with honors in 1913. In search of higher edu-  
 cation, young Bergstrom matriculated at Pomona  
 College where he proceeded to show exceptional  
 brilliance on the gridiron, diamonds and cinder  
 track. Upon graduating, he found the United  
 States entering the first World War and with-  
 out hesitation he enrolled and served with dis-  
 tinction as a Second Lieutenant in the 12th  
 U. S. Infantry, 8th Division.

In 1921, his many friends arranged for "Ber-  
 gie" to return to his old high school as a teach-

er and coach of all varsity teams. Under his  
 capable guidance, El Monte HS established an  
 outstanding record in interscholastic athletics,  
 particularly in football where Coach Bergstrom's  
 teams captured 10 league titles and finished sec-  
 ond twice in a span of 12 years.

His inspirational leadership in the coaching  
 field won for him an assignment as Vice Princi-  
 pal of El Monte High School in the fall of  
 1929. In 1937 he was appointed Principal of  
 El Monte High School, in which capacity he  
 remained until his election as District Superin-  
 tendent in 1952.

Throughout his career he has always been  
 interested in youth and particularly in connec-  
 tion with their participation in interscholastic ath-  
 letics. This led him to volunteer his services  
 to the CIF, SS where he has been extremely  
 active during the past three decades. He has  
 been the representative from his league on the  
 SS Council, a member and president of the Execu-  
 tive Committee, and has worked hard over the  
 years on numerous committees. During recent  
 years he has shouldered the responsibility of  
 heading the very important relegating commit-  
 tee and under his capable leadership many ser-  
 ious problems have been resolved due mainly  
 to his conciliatory ability.

In 1956 Mr. Bergstrom was honored by the  
 National Federation of State High School Ath-  
 letic Associations with the following citation:

"B. L. Bergstrom, Chairman of the CIF, SS  
 Executive Committee and veteran leader in the  
 development of the California Interscholastic  
 Federation has unselfishly served the high schools  
 of California for so many years that his in-  
 fluence is built into the whole school structure  
 of the state and especially of the SS where the  
 school population has grown so rapidly that  
 problems solved today become multiplied prob-  
 lems tomorrow. Mr. Bergstrom has been for-  
 tunate in having had background experience as  
 coach, athletic director, principal and superin-  
 tendent. This has made him a key figure in  
 the solving of problems which arise in the  
 complicated athletic program of the CIF, SS.  
 His wise counsel has been an important factor  
 in keeping the Section program progressive and  
 effective."



Mr. B. L. Bergstrom  
 District Superintendent



PRESENTATION OF SPECIAL PLaque BY MR. B. L. BERGSTROM,  
 PRESIDENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CIF, SOUTHERN  
 SECTION, TO MR. BILL SCHROEDER, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE  
 NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATIONS