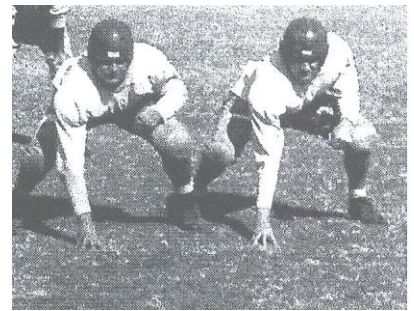




HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA
INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION
SOUTHERN SECTION
CIF-SS



53RD historical “tidbit.”
Dr. John S. Dahlem

WORLD WAR II
“THE UNOFFICIAL FOOTBALL CHAMPION”
1943

REDONDO UNION HIGH SCHOOL SEAHAWKS

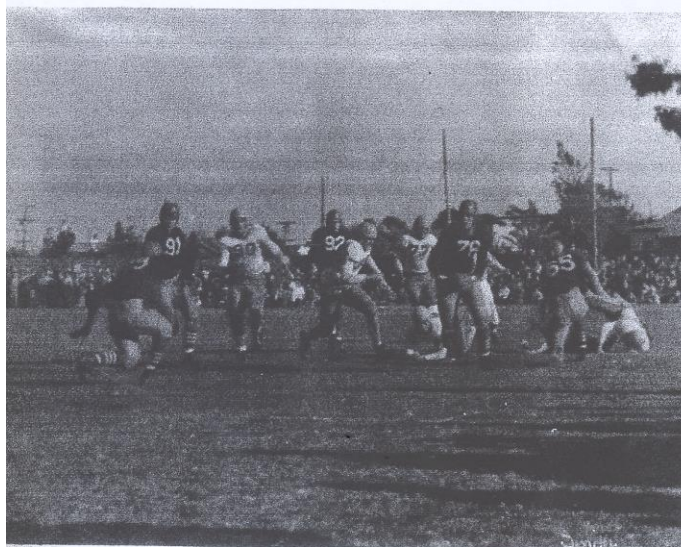
The World War II years proved to be a very difficult time for the CIFSS. Travel of teams was restricted due to gas rationing. Rubber was difficult to find for balls, money was scarce and teams could not play at night due to blackout restrictions. Many of the schools in the CIFSS went to an intra-mural type sports program and leagues were bunched together to deal with transportation restrictions (streamlined into 14 geographical compact groups). Coaches were difficult to find as most of the young men were off fighting in the war. The CIFSS even restricted the printing of the “CIFSS Monthly Bulletin” to save money. The 1943 football season was limited to 6 games and no playoffs. Numerous teams lost valuable letterman that would have returned as seniors, but were instead drafted into the service.

Redondo High School won the CIFSS Football Championship in 1942 under coach Russell Striff over Alhambra High School by a score of 21 – 14. Because of the fact that Redondo was the returning Champion and represented a very competitive Bay League it was decided that the winner of the Redondo “Seahawks” and Santa Monica “Vikings” game would be crowned the “unofficial” CIFSS Football Champion. Santa Monica High School won the title in 1941. If you look in the CIFSS Record Book under ALL TIME FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS you will see listed 1943 with the “@” sign next to Redondo. The “@” sign is defined at the bottom of the page and states, “No official playoffs - undefeated Redondo claimed the title.”

Redondo had an excellent football team that would go undefeated for four years and no one would play them in a playoff game in 1945 because they were so good. 4,500 fans showed up at Santa Monica Municipal Stadium on a Wednesday afternoon, November 24, 1943, to see the Seahawks, under Coach Harold Grant, defeat the Vikings by a score of 27 – 13. It was a Thanksgiving clash and after the game Coaches Grant and Hobart C. Uhls, “were paraded around, only to end up under the showers, clothes and all...” The powerful Red and White Seahawks were led by their All-CIF first team selection halfback Ronnie Dean, a senior 6’ 148 pounder. It was the 16th straight win for Redondo. It is interesting to note that Redondo’s “B” team also defeated Santa Monica for the mythical lightweight championship. The varsity team at their banquet, in a show of class, awarded a sweater to the janitor of the boys’ gym and a gold football charm to the elected football sweetheart of 1943.



Redondo vs. Santa Monica Nov. 24, 1943



Harold Hatfield (76) carries with blocking help from Noel Smith (79), Bill Sauer (91), Paul Roitch (92) and George Kessler (65).

FOOTBALL

Redondo vs. Leuzinger

FRIDAY OCTOBER 29, 1943

STARTING LINE-UP

Redondo

Leuzinger

65	KESSLER	LE	FREEBURG	97
76	HATFIELD	LT	GLUEKART	76
94	BRIGHAM	LG	LEEFORT	66
91	SAUER	C	TAYLOR	75
95	INGERSOLL	RG	KOELLER	65
79	SMITH	RT	ROWBERRY	69
61	CRAIG	RE	WARD	87
63	McKIE	O	FRYE	77
71	TOTTEN	LH	HAYES	96
74	DEAN	RH	BURLEW	98
81	WRIGHT	F	NELSON	85

Redondo Roster

54—Stewart, Cliff
55—Chalides, Eddie
57—Oliver, Bob
58—Armento, Richard
58—Coury, Allen
60—Styles, Winston
61—Craig, Rod
62—Angel, Dale
63—McKie
64—Witt, Jerry
65—Kessler, George
66—Acosta, Marry
67—Witt, Ken
68—Shaw, Richard
69—McGregor, George
70—Axtel, Dean
71—Totten, Jerry
72—Mieklejohn, Bill
73—Groves, Lee
74—Dean, Ronnie
75—Hatfield, Harold
78—Davis, Earl
79—Smith, Noel
80—Torres, Emierto
81—Wright, Harold
83—Hixon, Jimmie
84—Brooks, Carl
85—Salter, Bob
86—Ridgley, Jim
87—Blyleven, Neal
88—Hall, Lloyd
89—Cappelino, Jim
90—Stewart, Chuck
91—Sauer, Bill
92—Roitsch, Paul
93—Herman, Don
94—Brigham, Bob
95—Ingersoll, Seward

Leuzinger Roster

58—Brokow, Johnny
59—Clark, Bob
60—Williams, Bob
61—Gordon, Robert
62—Brandes, Elmer
63—Bausman, Donald
64—Trotter, Jim
65—Koeller, Ray
66—LeFort, Bob
67—Walters, Carl
68—Thomas, Denny
69—Rowberry, George
70—Anihes, George
71—Simonovich, Matt
72—Stuller, Jim
73—Rogers, Bob
74—Taylor, George
75—Taylor, Bill
76—Gluekert, Ed
77—Frye, LeRoy
78—Reagan, George
79—Ganahl, Richard
80—Kent, Harvey
81—Sharples, Luke
83—Wadman, Bill
84—Wright, Leon
85—Nelson, Lloyd
86—Wilson, Tom
87—Ward, Earle
88—Gaston, Earle
89—Queen, Jack
90—Cooper, Bud
91—McAndrews, George
92—Bowers, Albert
93—Owens, Jack
94—Gonzales, Roger
95—Nunnick, Greg
96—Hayes, Bob
97—Freeburg, Dale
98—Burlew, Jack
99—Miller, Leonard



Redondo vs. Santa Monica



Ronnie Dean carries for the Sea Hawks. Blocking are (from left), Bob Brigham, Harold Hatfield (76), Bill Sauer (91), Jim Cappelino (89) and Mark McKie (63).