



**CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION**  
**SOUTHERN SECTION (CIF-SS)**

#142 Historical Tidbit  
Dr. John Dahlem

**“POP” HYDE LONG BEACH POLY GREATEST FAN!**  
**Long Beach Poly CIF-SS Basketball Champions – 1956**  
**Coach Del Walker, CIF-SS Commissioner Ken Fagans and legendary**  
**#1 Long Beach Poly supporter “Pop John D. Hyde”**



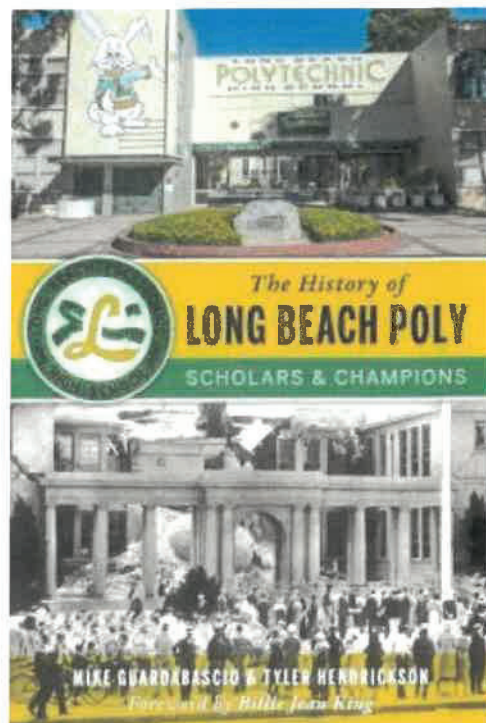
Coach Del Walker gives instructions to 1956 stars Jim Hense, Paul Hipp and Henry Wallace.

THE PLAYERS were tired, happy and dazed, but they did not forget. They refused to let the cameramen go ahead with the picture taking until Pop came down out of the stands, with a standing and thundering ovation ringing in his ears, to pose with them.

After all this team was only Poly's CIF champions. Pop Hyde was Poly's "All American."



- John D. Hyde (Pop) born in Ontario Canada 1859
  - Moved to United States - South Dakota area
    - Moved to Long Beach in 1919
- Both sons Earle and Kenneth played on the Poly Football Team in 1921
  - Attended every Poly game he could starting in 1921 until he passed in 1956 at the age of 97 years old
- 1948 was given a “Pop Hyde Day” when hurt in an auto mishap
  - Always sat on the team bench and kept score
- Honorary Membership in the Long Beach Sports Booster Club
  - “Pop Hyde B Basketball Tournament” named for him
- Students bought him a hearing aid when he had difficulty with his hearing
- Was presented with an All-American Long Beach Poly Letterman’s jacket by the student body
- A painting of “Pop Hyde” was mounted in the boys’ basketball gymnasium gifted by the Class of 1955
- A football award named for him “J.D. (Pop) Hyde Perpetual Trophy for the Most Inspirational B Football Player”
  - Rode the school bus to all the games he could attend
    - *“To Pop, each Poly player was a hero”*





**POP HYDE'S SONS – LONG BEACH POLY**

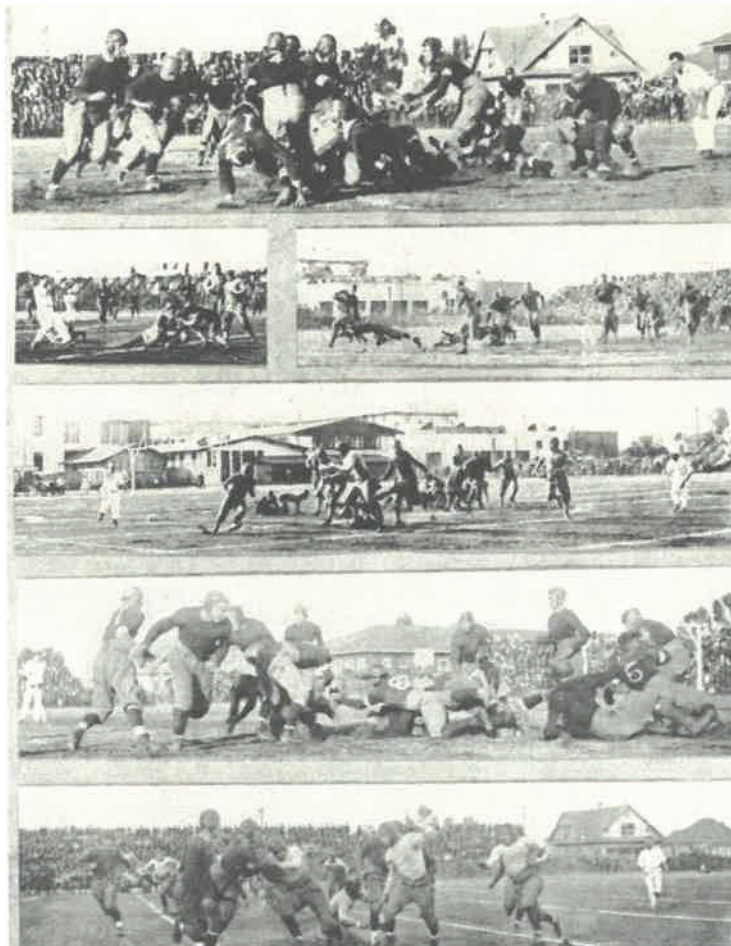
**1921**



**E. Hyde, Halfback**



**K. Hyde  
Halfback**



## Poly High Students Reward 27 Year Loyalty of 'Old Pop'

By DON SLOPER

Eighty-eight-year-old John D. Hyde, better known as "Pop" to the students of Poly high school, is going to find tomorrow that loyalty pays off.

You can't match Pop for loyalty, for there have been very few games, meets, or matches at Poly in the past 27 years that Pop has missed . . . until hit by a car a week ago.

It takes more than being hit by a car to keep Mr. Hyde down, however, his hearing is a different matter. Since the accident his ears haven't been as good as they might.

Over 3000 students and teachers hope that will be remedied tomorrow when Pop is given a hearing aid by the Student Body and Boys league at a special assembly in the school's auditorium.

To raise the money last Friday was declared Pop Hyde day, and tags sold for whatever the students wanted to give. A basketball game was held after school, open to anyone with a tag.

The day was an outstanding success, because everyone at Poly knew Pop's familiar figure and wanted to help.

It was in 1921 that Mr. Hyde began to get the habit of coming to all the Poly athletic events. That was when his two boys went there.

"I always encouraged my boys to go out for sports," he relates.

And they did go out. Both were star athletes at Poly, before they went on to more fame at Redlands and Colorado A&M.

Mr. Hyde has become what could best be called an honorary team member. He always sits on the Poly bench keeping track of the touchdowns, baskets, or runs, depending on the game. In his notebook he can show you the score of every football, basketball, track meet and baseball game this season.

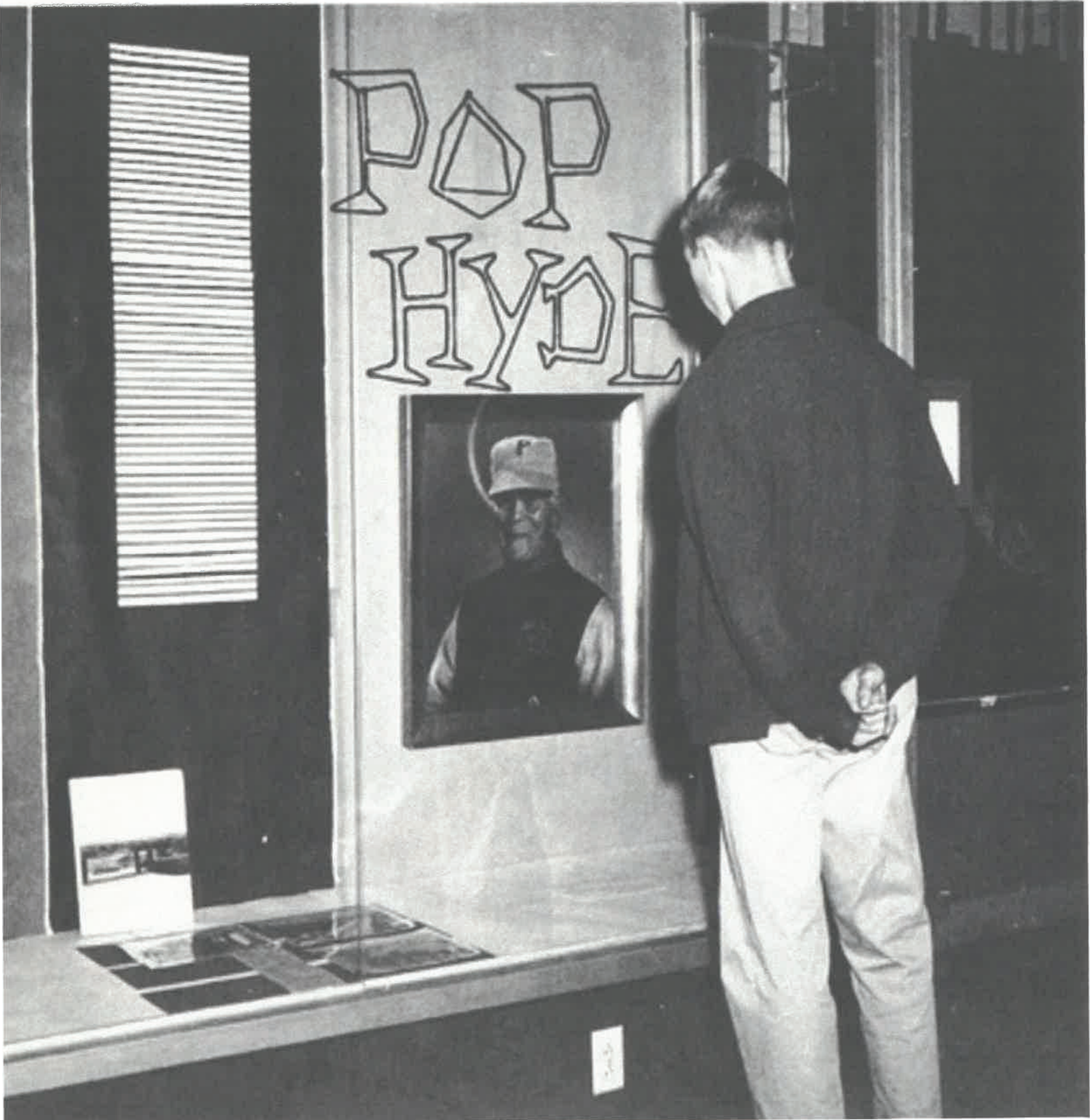
No pass or ticket is ever needed by Pop. All he has to do is come to the players' gate and walk to a sideline seat better than that of the highest paying customers. Somehow a game wouldn't seem the same to the Poly athletes without Pop sitting on the bench.

He enjoys shuffleboard and often walks downtown to play from his residence at 540 Rose avenue. He usually scorns the bus line and walks to Poly to see games.

Let the other preps stick to Lions or Tigers to represent school spirit. Poly has Pop.



Below is Poly's Pop Hyde, a well-known figure at all sports events until his death. His memory will continue to live at Poly.



# Paint Portrait of Pop 'Poly'

By PAT DAVIS

Poly's senior class of '55 presented a painted portrait of 96-year-old Pop Hyde to the school Wednesday at the pep assembly in preparation for the Poly-Wilson basketball game.

Nellie Eell, representing last year's senior class, presented the portrait in a moving ceremony at the beginning of the assembly. The portrait is the class gift and honors Pop Hyde for his outstanding support, win or lose, at the Poly games.

Pop, Poly's most loyal supporter, has attended almost every athletic event for over a decade. Last year, Lettermen's Council, representing the student body, presented Pop with a lettermen's jacket and a rooters cap.

When the class gift was announced last year, the portrait had not been painted. It was painted in full color during the summer. It is now on display in the foyer of the Boys' Gym in the trophy case.



CHECKING UP ON LOCAL WINS—John D. Pop Hyde, this city's No. 1 prep sports fan at the tender age of 89, checks the sports page of the Press-Telegram for results of local high school contests, with a jaundiced eye toward Poly High's record. Pop goes to all the near-by contests he can get to and on those he can't make he jots down the results in his handy notebook.—(Staff Photo by Chuck Taylor)

## Sports Boosters to Give 'Pop' Hyde Life Membership

By TOM BURDICK

J. D. (POP) HYDE has found the elixir of youth. At the ripe young age of 89, he has found the secret of how to keep from getting old with advancing years.

Pop's not in the least hesitant about explaining his secret, not that is, when you speak loud enough so that he can hear you. "Association with, and thinking about the young athletes of this city during their contests with the neighboring high schools has kept me young," Pop says.

With this philosophy and nine

years of active practice since his retirement from the grocery business, Hyde has become this city's number-one prep fan, taking in all the local and near-by games, time will permit.

Although he enjoys seeing all local athletic teams, Poly High is his favorite. His eye immediately lights up when the Hares come into the conversation.

This can, perhaps, be traced to his two sons, Eric and Kenneth, who participated in Poly's athletics back in 1900. Eric was the standout of the two, gaining top laurels in football as a halfback and in track as a pole-vaulter at Poly and later at Redlands and Colorado A. and M.

A second factor in his Poly preference lies in the treatment he has received from the faculty and students at the Atlantic Avenue school. Last year, when he was injured in an auto mishap, his hearing became so impaired that an aid became a necessity. Poly staged a "Pop Hyde Day" and bought him one.

Pop doesn't sit up in the stands with the ordinary fans, but has a spot reserved for him on the players' bench. When asked how much longer he can go on, Pop always says, "The boys out at Poly tell me I'll live to be 100."

There's another factor that may also enter into his fountain of youth. It's 49 years of highly successful wedlock.

The years have aided and abetted the love and affection his wife, Isabella, 88 and "Papa," as she calls him, have for each other.

Mrs. Ben Kydd, landlady of the flat the Hyde's reside in at 1632 E. Broadway, declares "I never saw such an affectionate couple." "He never fails to kiss her before he goes out."

"The murderous cold," Mrs. Kydd goes on to relate, "drove my husband home early the night of the National Band contest in November, but Pop, stuck to his post, Ocean and American, long after others more hardy had left. When he finally came home, his shivering report was, 'I had to stay until Poly's band came by.'"

As a result of a successful motion by Clarence Layden at a committee meeting of the Long Beach Sports Boosters Club recently, Pop will be presented an honorary life membership in the group. For the support rendered the local athletes, at the next dinner meeting.

## Vike Links Squad in Three Matches

Bert Smith's strong links squad of Long Beach City College draws top billing this week for its Norse spring sports calendar by playing three home matches within five days at Lakewood Country Club.

City College's baseball club lays two engagements away this week, traveling to East Los Angeles Wednesday and El Camino on Friday.

Tennis matches are slated with Santa Ana on Tuesday on the Vike home court while Eddie Wagner sends his team to Fullerton on Friday.

Coach Frank Szalay's track team will work this week in preparation for the Long Beach relay on Saturday. The Viking tentor plans to enter Bill Brufy, Dick Edgell and Harold Peterson in the weight events, Arney Dyer in the high jump, and four relay teams in the jay-se division. Distance ace Frank Johnson will compete in the 5000-meter run.

## Fullerton Maps Busy Program

FULLERTON, March 3 There's a busy week in store for athletes of Fullerton, both high school and college, with headline events centering in the opening Sunaeat league track and field dual meet against Orange here for the first time on Tuesday, and the first of the Orange Empire Conference J. C. trackfeats on Wednesday here against Chaffey. The schedule:

Track Orange at Fullerton, Tuesday, 3 p. m. Baseball Fullerton, Tuesday, 3 p. m. Chaffey Fullerton, Friday, 3 p. m. Basketball Fullerton at Fullerton, Tuesday, 8 p. m. Chaffey at Fullerton, Friday, 8 p. m. Swimming Fullerton at El Segundo, Monday, 2 p. m.

JUNIOR COLLEGE—Swimming, Poly



## 'Pop' Hyde Has 93rd Birthday

Although he became **93** years old Friday, John ("Pop") Hyde is still an enthusiastic follower of the sports world.

A Long Beach resident for some 50 years, "Pop" is making his home with his nephew and niece, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Finlayson, 1389 Junipero Ave.

His family worked their way West with other pioneers, homesteading in the Dakotas. "Pop" was born in Canada, but eventually landed in California. His two sons, Earl and Kenneth, make their home in Colorado.

Saturday noon Mrs. Finlayson invited friends for a surprise party in his home.

He is currently a fan of the night baseball games, but his main interest is football, and he has followed the Poly High team for many years. The team occasionally takes him along on their bus as a good luck token.



Southern Communities . . .

# SPORTS COMMENT

BY LEE BASTAJIAN

At 94, John D. (Pop) Hyde keeps young by following the fortunes of Long Beach Poly athletic teams. Whether the event is near or far, night or day, football, baseball, track or basketball, varsity or Bees, you can bet that Pop is among those present.

And sitting right on the bench, too.

Hailed as the school's No. 1 rooter, Pop has attended every Jackrabbit contest for the past 10 years and he watched many, many previous Poly athletic engagements dating back to 1919.

It was in that year that the Hyde family moved from South Dakota to Long Beach and Pop's sons, Kenny and Erle, enrolled at Poly as seniors. Each played one season of football and Kenny participated in track in his remaining semester of eligibility.

## PERPETUAL TROPHY NAMED FOR POP

And so, Pop's interest in Poly teams dates back 35 years. During the period he's seen more than 1000 contests and become acquainted with thousands of athletes.

In fact, he's held in such high esteem by former Poly athletes that a trophy has been named in his honor, the "J. D. (Pop) Hyde Perpetual Trophy," which will be awarded the Bee football player voted as the "most inspirational" by his teammates. Bee players of past years chipped in to purchase the trophy as an everlasting tribute to Pop and the wonderful spirit he represents.

His avid interest in Poly sports also was recognized by the Long Beach Sports Boosters Club, which gave Pop the only honorary lifetime membership it has issued.

## HE RIDES IN TEAM BUS —STAYS ENTIRE GAME

Pop rides to the games in the team bus and stays until the final gun, often spurning offers of a ride home before the end of the contest.

"Why, I even had a hard time dragging him away from the 16th game of the Jordan Basketball Tournament," exclaimed Jimmy Heartwell, Long Beach sports enthusiast and one of Pop's most solicitous admirers. "He watched eight games the first day and after Poly played in the seventh game on the sec-



**NUMBER ONE** — John D. (Pop) Hyde, 94, is No. 1 rooter for Long Beach Poly High School athletic teams.

Times photo

ond day I said, 'Let's go, Pop!' He put up quite a protest and left reluctantly."

At basketball games Pop keeps score and often has the official scorekeeper come to him to compare point totals.

"You see," smiles Pop, "he has to check with me to be sure that he has the score right."

## HIS ACTIVITY LIMITED AS SPORTS PARTICIPANT

In addition to attending all Poly contests, Pop also has been a bench spectator at Long Beach City College, Jordan, Wilson and St. Anthony's games. But Poly is his favorite.

As for his personal back-

ground, Pop was born in Huntington, Quebec, Can., attended school until 12 years of age and started working at 14. At 23 he moved to South Dakota with his family and thence to Long Beach. His athletic participation was limited to Sunday baseball, foot racing in the street and managing a diamond team in South Dakota. He resides with his nephew and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Finlayson, 1389 Junipero Ave.

## JOTTINGS FROM THE SCRATCHPAD

Deacon Dan Towler, Los Angeles Rams backfield star, will be the speaker at the Los Alamitos Community Congregational Church father-and-son banquet tomorrow at 8:30 p.m. Al White, Downey High School quarterback, was awarded the Junior Chamber of Commerce Player of the Year Trophy at the Viking letter awards banquet . . . Sherwood Bailey has succeeded Willard Weddell as commodore of the Long Beach Outboard Boating Club . . . Jack Moynihan, Santa Ana College football club cocaptain, enacted the role of Poet Robert Browning in a campus presentation of "The Barretts of Wimpole Street" . . . New officers of the Men's Club at Recreation Park, Long Beach, are Norm Savidge, president; Ross Eutterfield, vice-president; Mike Garver, secretary, and Norm Kettering, tournaments . . . Bob Raine, crack guard of the Banning High School basketball team, was named Marine League Player of the Week by the Helms Athletic Foundation selection board . . . Wes Saling will head the Lynwood Sports Boosters Club for 1954, with Archie Rambeau Sr. serving as vice-president, Pete Hulem as secretary and Allen Floyd as treasurer.

To Buy or Sell

### STAMPS & COINS

E. E. Morrison's  
STAMP & COIN SHOP  
U. S. and Foreign Stamps and Coins  
Albums and Supplies  
Large Stock—Low Prices  
1143 Pine Ave., Long Beach 73, Cal.

Dining + Dancing  
Entertainment

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Cheerful fireside dining. Superb drinks.  
Colorful atmosphere of old England.



## POLY'S ALL-AMERICAN

"Pop" Hyde, who for many years has been Poly High's most ardent and faithful fan and who is as much a part of the school as its Jackrabbit mascot or the colors green and gold, is presented with a letterman's jacket by Poly commissioner of athletics Bill DuBourdieu. The 96-year-old rooter received the jacket from the Poly High student body.— (Photo by Sol Laver)



## Services Wednesday

# Pop Hyde, Poly High's No. 1 Fan, Dies at 97

John D. (Pop) Hyde, Poly High's most ardent and beloved sports fan, died late Saturday night at Harbor General Hospital. He was 97.

Pop, as he was most commonly known, had been in the hospital for the past month following an illness of five years.

He was born in Huntington, Ont., Canada, and came to Long Beach 36 years ago. Since that time, he had been a rabid



**"Pop" Hyde** watches his favorite Jackrabbits

rooter for his favorite high school and was a life member of the Sports Booster Club of Poly.

Hyde is survived by sons Earle and Kenneth, a sister, Mrs. Lula Finlaysen, and a brother, James.

Funeral services will be held at the Calvary Presbyterian Church at 1 p. m. Wednesday with Dr. Joseph Bachman officiating. The B. W. Coon Funeral Home is directing.

BELOVED POLY ROOTER

**John (Pop) Hyde Dies at 97**  
**Following Lengthy Illness**

John D. (Pop) Hyde, beloved and long-time ardent Poly High rooter, died late Saturday night at Harbor General Hospital. He was 97.

Pop, as he was most commonly known, had been in the hospital for the past month following an illness of five years.

Hyde was born in Huntington, Ont., Canada and came to Long Beach 36 years ago. Since that time he had been a most rabid rooter for his favorite high school and was a life member of the Sports Booster Club of Poly.

He is survived by sons Earle and Kenneth, a sister, Mrs. Lula Finlaysen, and a brother, James.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday in the Calvary Presbyterian Church with Dr. Joseph B. Hanan officiating.





**REWARDED**—John D. (Pop) Hyde, 88, this morning received a hearing aid from Keith Son (right), president of the Boys' League, at a Poly High assembly as a tribute to his 27 years of loyalty to the Jackrabbit athletic cause. "Pop" received the hearing aid as a gift from the Poly student body, which conducted a tag day to raise funds for the aid.—(Staff Photo.)



# Pioneer of Old West

## MRS. ISABELL HYDE DIES

A chapter of the old west homesteading days ended Friday night when a Long Beach woman died at the age of 89.

She was Mrs. Isabell Hyde of 1032 E. Broadway, who lived in Long Beach for 31 years. She and her husband, John D. Hyde, who still survives, would have celebrated their 50th anniversary Mar. 1.

A native of Huntington, Quebec, Canada, Mrs. Estes established a homestead in the historic Estes Park area of Colorado in 1897. On a visit to her homeland she met Hyde, and they were married in

Loveland, Colo., Mar. 1, 1900.

The couple returned to the homestead that Mrs. Hyde had established and then moved to South Dakota, where two sons, Earl and Kenneth, were born.

The family later resumed residence at Estes Park on the original homestead and then, after many years, moved to Long Beach when they retired.

Kenneth now lives in Eaton Colo., and Erle in Ault, Colo. Both will be here for services at the B. W. Coon Funeral Home Monday at 1 p. m. Rev. Robert B Shattuck of the Calvary Presbyterian Church, of which Mrs. Hyde was a member, will officiate. Interment will be in Westminster Memorial Park.

## No Verdict Yet in 2nd



**Poly** High's all-American "**Pop**" **Hyde**, 96-years-old, told us the other day at the **Poly-Jordan** game, "There's just too much doin'. I'd like to see that swimming meet today and there's a baseball game at Recreation I wanted to see too. Sure wish they would schedule these things on different days."

And we wish there were more sports fans like **Pop** **Hyde**.

**SERLES**, WHO scored 10 touchdowns for Poly this year, was voted the Bunnies' most inspirational player at the conclusion of the season and was awarded the **Pop Hyde** trophy. Jim, one of the smallest players on the all-star squad at 5-5, had both power and speed to spare and was a topnotch defensive back.

# Poly Wins 6th CIF Cage Crown

(Continued from Page B-1)

tional scoring record this season, just couldn't crack the Rabbit defense. He had only seven points when the Hare first string left the game in the final period. He tallied mostly against the substitutes.

EVEN THOUGH Hanna had a tremendous night, Poly's heroes were many. Hustling Henry Wallace, the take-charge guard, picked off 11 rebounds, the same as Hanna, to greatly help the Poly cause.

Paul Hipp, dependable 6-5 forward, turned in one of his usual stellar performances as he tal-

lied 13 points, notched eight assists and blocked several Montebello shots.

Of course, the brilliant defensive play of Acosta and Johnson played a vital role in the victory. Each also came through with nine points.

As a team, Poly hit 26 of 67 field goal attempts for 39 per cent; Montebello had 41 per cent with 23 of 56. Hanna connected on 12 of 24 tries from the floor and on 10 of 13 free throw tosses.

POLY'S MARCH to the title was one of the most lopsided in CIF history. The 11-point margin over Montebello was the smallest the Hares had notched. They

had rolled to the finals with victories over San Diego Lincoln, 71-52; Keppel, 63-48, and Glendale Hoover, 70-51.

The Poly team was presented the championship trophy by Ken-ny Fagans, CIF commissioner. Pop Hyde, Poly's 96-year-old rooster, posed with the team.

It was a fitting win for Walker, the Jackrabbits' much-admired coach. This was his last season as coach. Next year he moves to vice-principal. He had taken Poly to the playoffs for six straight years.

San Diego Hoover held on in the final minutes to edge Glendale Hoover, 57-54, to take third place in the tourney.



# 'Pop' Hyde Ill; Will Be 97 Wednesday

John D. (Pop) Hyde, who has been confined to his home because of illness, will celebrate his 97th birthday Wednesday.

"Pop," who has become a legend at Poly High where his two sons graduated, has been a loyal Jackrabbit rooter for 40 years.

The class of '55 gave as its senior gift a portrait of Pop Hyde which hangs in the trophy room in the Poly gym. The same year, Hyde was presented with an "All-American" lettermen jacket by the student body.

Hyde is living with Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Finlayson at 1389 Junipero in Long Beach. Birthday greetings from his many friends would cheer him.



**Poly gratefully acknowledges the sporting spirit of Pop Hyde**

The student body of Poly High gratefully acknowledges the school spirit which 96 year-old Pop Hyde has shown in the past and present. Pop has never missed a football game this last season.



# Sports About Town

By JACK TEELE

**THE DEATH** of John D. (Pop) Hyde leaves a vacancy on the Long Beach sport scene which can never be filled.

The students of Poly High for some 36 years have loved Pop as



**HYDE**

much as he loved them and their athletic teams. He never missed a Poly athletic contest if it was within his power to make it.

"They ought to do something about these schedules," he complained to me last year, "A basketball game, a track meet and a baseball game all on the same afternoon . . . I just can't make 'em all!"

**WHEN WE READ** of his death Monday, many fond and wonderful memories flashed vividly before us. We relate a few of them in final tribute to a true gentleman of sport.

In the mid-1940's, we watched a Poly High Bee basketball team trounce the San Pedro High Bees in a season opener. The Poly coach cleared the bench in the final minute of the game and a third-stringer, a sophomore, dropped in a basket as the final gun sounded. Pop walked right past the high-scoring heroes and clapped the sophomore on the back. "Wonderful, laddie, wonderful," he exclaimed.

To Pop, each Poly player was a hero!

**IN 1948**, when his hearing was failing, Pop was presented a hearing aid by the Poly student body. Already 89 years old, Pop thanked the kids with a wonderful song and dance routine. "The kids," he used to say, "keep me young."

Last year, Pop traveled to most of the Poly basketball games with the mothers of one of the players and when the Rabbits entered the CIF playoffs, he made some pretty long trips.

As soon as the final gun sounded on Poly's championship win over Montebello, the team was lined up for photographers.

**THE PLAYERS** were tired, happy and dazed, but they did not forget. They refused to let the cameramen go ahead with the picture taking until Pop came down out of the stands, with a standing and thundering ovation ringing in his ears, to pose with them.

After all this team was only Poly's CIF champion! **Pop Hyde** was Poly's "All-American."

## Downey JV's Swamp Poly

By JOHN SEYMOUR

**Downey** High School opened Coast League **JV** competition in high style Monday, blasting visiting Poly High, 47-0.

<b>Downey</b>	14	7	7	19	47
<b>Poly</b>	0	0	0	0	0



# Howard Hicks Art Gallery 'Rah-Rah' Show On at Poly

By PAUL BRANTINGHAM

Long Beach Polytechnic High School's unique Howard Hicks art gallery's second annual "Rah! Rah! Show" will run through Oct. 16.

The show presents a picture of the scholastic, social and athletic facets of Poly High life. It is dedicated to the memory of Poly's most beloved fan, Pop Hyde.

Pop Hyde, who passed away in 1956, was the most loyal supporter any Poly team ever had. He attended all athletic competitions wearing his proudest possession, a Poly letterman's jacket. At the age of 96 years he was a spry and familiar personage on the Poly campus.

The show will feature a Pop Hyde display with his letterman's jacket, an oil painting of him which was given by

the class of 1956, his Poly cap and other mementos. Around this will be depicted the sports he loved.

The Gold "L" system of student encouragement is explained in pictures and words and the student body officers are shown. Campus and social clubs have posters on display. Enthusiasm is to be accentuated in a display built around the pepsters.

Old copies of the yearbook "Caerulea" and the school newspaper "High Life" are exhibited for comparison with the present editions.