

## KRIKORIAN: LBSU is seeing double

By Doug Krikorian, Sports Columnist  
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Long Beach State athletic director Vic Cegles certainly wasn't kidding when he said things would be done differently under his watch.

In what is believed to be a first in the long and glorious history of college athletic fund-raising, Long Beach State will be staging simultaneously two such events Saturday night with both even having the same 5:30 starting time.

At the Walter Pyramid, that 15th annual eating, drinking, dancing, gossiping, auctioning bacchanal known as the Jewels of the Night will be unfolding with the school's popular, retired athletic department secretary Pat West being honored.

And, right across Bellflower Boulevard, at the Park Estates mansion of Bill and Marcia Scharfen at 450 La Perla Ave., there will be a Dirtbags function also going on with all proceeds going to Mike Weathers' baseball program.

Wow!

This will give Long Beach State athletic boosters a rare opportunity to double their pleasure on the same night, as well as double their investment into the health and welfare of 49ers athletics.

Those at the Jewels of the Night who have finished with their activities - e.g., purchased a six-day trip to Australia and New Zealand, or purchased a Michael Godard painting - can scurry across the street to the Scharfens' abode and sample the Perrier Jouet champagne that will be flowing or even have a picture taken with Bill Scharfen, if not Mike Weathers, both of which would fetch quite a sum on eBay. And those at the Scharfens who have finished with their activities - e.g., purchased a bottle of Petron Platinum or autographed baseballs from Evan Longoria, Troy Tulowitzki and Jered Weaver - can skip over to the Pyramid and dance to the strains of Hard Rain, as well as listen to the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce bigwig, Randy (Flash) Gordon, display his legendary auctioneering artistry.

So, how did this fund-raising overlap transpire?

Apparently, the Scharfens' affair originally was scheduled for May 2, which just happened to be the same day as the Kentucky Derby, which just happened to mean the driving force behind the Scharfens' affair, Southern Wine and Spirits honcho Bernie (The Prince of Tabs) Selmanson, wouldn't be able to attend because he and his wife Sherri would be sipping mint juleps at the old race track in Louisville that day.

Since Mr. Selmanson happens to raise more money for the Dirtbags than any person gracing the planet, Vic Cegles expediently gave the green light to moving the Scharfens' event back a couple of weeks so Selmanson could be present, thereby in the process perhaps earning a place for his school in the Guinness Book of World Records.

I mean, name me another one that ever has held two such prestigious athletic fund-raisers the same evening at the same time.

"It's just an unfortunate scheduling conflict that couldn't be helped," says Senior Associate Athletic Director Dave Benedict, in charge of raising revenue, spirits and newspaper awareness. "In a perfect world we never would have doubled up like this, but it just couldn't be helped."

I think it's terrific.

Actually, I think it would be a swell idea if Vic Cegles sets up a shuttle bus system between the venues, giving 49er boosters an opportunity to visit two parties having the same admirable goals - raising money in support of the student-athletes at Long Beach State...

Admission for Jewels of the Night is \$100 and reservations can be made at 562-985-4662. While there is no admission fee for the Scharfens' gig, it certainly will be socially acceptable to tender a donation. Information can be obtained at 562-537-8335.

If nothing else, David Gonzalez of DG Boxing shows the same stout resilience as a businessman as he did in his younger days as a successful amateur fighter.

You might recall last Sept. 21 he staged a 47-card amateur boxing show at the Pyramid in which he invested \$50,000 - and blew \$20,000.

Now most entrepreneurs in these financially ominous times would steer clear of putting on another such show, but not Mr. Gonzalez, who has still another DG Boxing Night planned Saturday evening at the Hall of Champions Gym at Long Beach City College.

But this time Mr. Gonzalez has a more modest budget - he's invested \$7,500 - as well as a smaller card with 12 scheduled fights.

"And half of any profits will go to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society," he says.

There figures to be some terrific action with the Golden Gloves champion Dorian Anthony making an appearance, as well as knockout specialist Eric Mendez out of Manny Nava's fertile Hawaiian Gardens stable.

The proceedings are set to start at 7 p.m., and admission is \$10...

The one-time Long Beach State star and current Lakers shooting coach Craig Hodges stages clinics twice a week - Wednesday 6-8 p.m. and Saturday 2-4 p.m. - at the Petrolane Boys & Girls Club at Martin Luther King Park.

A Long Beach resident, Hodges, who played on two Chicago Bulls world championship teams and won three straight 3-point NBA All-Star competitions in the early 1990s, revealed that his son, the former Long Beach State guard Jibril Hodges, just concluded playing professional basketball in Germany where he was the third leading scorer in the league for his Heidelberg team...

The Houston Rockets coach Rick Adelman, who graduated from Pius X High School and grew up near Hollydale in Downey, recently told me his family always subscribed to the Press-Telegram.

But what he didn't tell me is that he was a Press-Telegram paper boy, according to his younger brother Frank Adelman, who now resides in Redding. "I also delivered the paper as did our oldest brother Clete," he said in an E-mail...

Correction: Misspelled the name of one of Rick Adelman's teammates at Pius X, Dick Zembal, whose surname came out Zimble in Tuesday's article on Adelman. I have a legitimate excuse. Got the spelling from Rick Adelman...

The fabled Downey Flash, Johnny Ortiz, boxing guru, tavern owner and Friend of the Famous, recently finished his 400-page, 28-chapter memoirs entitled, "Life Among The Icons," and it is being published by PublishAmerica out of Frederick, Maryland...

[doug.krikorian@presstelegram.com](mailto:doug.krikorian@presstelegram.com)