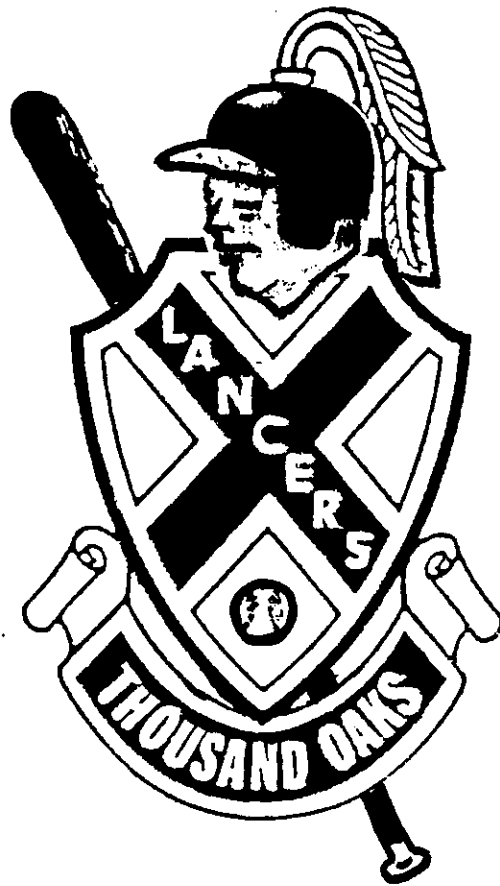


**25 YEARS OF LANCER BASEBALL
1963-1987**



BY HILBUR SKEELS

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF LANCER BASEBALL
The Story of Thousand Oaks High School Varsity Baseball
1963-1987

By Wilbur Skeels

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WARM-UP (PREFACE)

Traditions have their positive uses, and high-school athletes can benefit from knowing that they follow in the honored tradition of the generations who preceded them. Also, old friends should not be forgotten. These are perhaps sufficient reasons to justify this small attempt to recover a piece of history - the first 25 years of varsity baseball at Thousand Oaks High School. Besides, there are some fascinating facts and wonderful memories to be gleaned and enjoyed.

Retrieving history is not an easy task. Trustworthy records are not easy to come by. We have consulted all the school year books, but found them to contain numerous errors. Some score books remain, but not all, and even those which do are not always easy to interpret. It is a real shame that the school's athletic department does not systematically file away scorebooks, newspaper clippings, statistical sheets, and rosters in properly protected archives. We have tried to reconstruct the data wherever possible but there are large gaps. A main source of information has been newspaper records, especially the News Chronicle and its predecessors. But the quality and scope of reporting has varied greatly from period to period. In some years many games went unreported. We have had to supplement by research in libraries at Camarillo, Oxnard, Ventura, Ojai, and Simi Valley, and in some cases, by letters to schools to ask them for details.

Our thanks to the coaches for their help and for allowing us to draw on their recollections. Any errors, however, should not be blamed on them! Corrections will be gratefully noted for future editions. We hope you enjoy the following pages. If you know someone who played varsity baseball at TOHS, please let him know about this modest history.

Thousand Oaks High School opened in the fall of 1962, so the story of Lancer baseball begins with the 1963 season. Twenty-five seasons are summarized in the following pages, finishing with the spring of 1987.

1963

Thousand Oaks High School opened its varsity baseball history on Friday, March 1st, 1963 with the team traveling to Camarillo High. Coach Jay Merrill, formerly on the Scorpion faculty, was welcomed back on campus with a 14-4 loss. Mathematics teacher John Davis was the assistant coach. (Ron Barney coached the JV's and Ron Loewe was the frosh leader). With only freshmen, sophomores and juniors enrolled in this first year of the school, it was difficult to field all three teams.

Team members included George Sipla, Bob Blais, Mike Dolan, Dan Nottingham, Roger Meade, Sterling Meade, Bill Fisher, Bob Hendricks, Dave Festerling, Bob Sage, Tom Giallonardo, Steve Hart, Joel Moody, Woody Mason, Steve Walker, Dave Sweet, Steve Neuenschwander, Richard Lopez, David Gates, Bob Greene, Ron Schmidt, Phil Riordan, Doug Quick, Bruce Wolfe, and Kirk Rense.

The varsity schedule for 1963 included Frontier League opponents (shown in capital letters) as well as a number of other schools. Dates are actual play dates as reported in the press, and may differ from schedules printed in the year book.

Mar 1	v. Camarillo	L	4-14
Mar 6	v. Crespi	L	3-9
Mar 8	v. Santa Clara	L	0-4
Mar 9	v. Harvard	W	3-2
Mar 15	v. Camarillo	L	1-15
Mar 19	v. Santa Clara	L	0-23
Mar 21	v. SIMI	L	5-6
Mar 22	v. Bishop Diego	L	1-4
Mar 26	v. NORDHOFF	T	10-10
Mar 29	v. HART	L	5-6
Apr 2	v. FILLMORE	L	5-13
Apr 4	v. BUENA	L	0-14
Apr 12	v. Chaminade	W	9-3
Apr 14	v. SANTA PAULA	L	1-11
Apr 23	v. SIMI	W	9-4
Apr 25	v. NORDHOFF	W	7-4
Apr 30	v. HART	L	4-10
May 2	v. FILLMORE	L	1-3
May 7	v. BUENA	L	0-16
May 10	v. SANTA PAULA	L	3-6

League record	W	2	L	9	T	1
Overall record	W	4	L	15	T	1

Highlights

The Lancer's first win was against Harvard High (Sherman Oaks), in which Steve Walker was the winning pitcher. The Lancer's first league win was against Simi in which game Nottingham struck out 6, allowed 4 hits and no walks, and Giallonardo hit a 2-run homer. Roger Meade had an inside-the-park homer against Santa Clara. The tie with Nordhoff was in a game called because of darkness. Buena won the Frontier League championship in 1963 only to be eliminated in the first round of

the CIF playoffs. Nobody from the Lancers was named to All-League. Lefty outfielder Roger Meade was named Lancer MVP for the season.

Peter Toll, in an editorial in the CONEJO NEWS when the Lancers were 1 and 6, commented that they were having a predictably tough opening season for a new school, and added: "Baseball in high school is really a step-child. For the Little League and Big League there is much enthusiasm and good crowds. High school baseballers feel they have had a good day when as many as 30 people are sitting in the stands." It hasn't changed much in 25 years!

But baseball at all levels has its less glorious moments. In losing 16-0 to Buena, and assuring Buena of the championship, the Lancers committed a season-high 11 errors, prompting Cuzzin Conejo to ask, "Who do you think you are, the L.A. Dodgers?" The '63 Dodgers had a slow start too!

THE PIONEER - JAY MERRILL

Jay Merrill was the varsity baseball coach at Camarillo High School before coming to Thousand Oaks High in 1963 to start the baseball program. He graduated from North Phoenix High School where he played football and ran track, then attended Phoenix College for two years. He completed his BA at Northern Arizona University, where he was named all-conference halfback, also participating in the baseball program. Upon graduation he spent two years in the Navy, then returned to NAU for his MA in Education.

In the fall of 1967, Merrill was transferred to the new Newbury Park High School to coordinate athletic activities and become their new baseball coach. He left a fine record with Lancer baseball, including championships in both the Frontier and Channel leagues, advancing as far as the CIF semifinals in AAA play. Considering the difficulties of starting a new program, his record of 56-54-1 (.505 winning percentage) with the Lancers is remarkable.

Merrill retired from coaching in May, 1979, with a career record of 270 wins and 219 losses, and six league championships.

1964

Ten lettermen returned to spearhead Coach Merrill's squad of 24 players in 1964. Veterans Dan Nottingham, Tom Giallonardo, Joel Moody, Bob Blais, Mike Dolan, Steve Hart, Dave Festerling, Doug Quick, Phil Riordan and Bill Fisher were joined by 14 new players including Jim Russell, Bob Allen, Dan Foley, Ray Reubel, Charles (Bud) McConathy, and Steve Miller.

The Lancers had more of a power offense but came up short in the bullpen in 1964. They finished the season with a 5-16 overall record, with 2-8 in league, sharing the cellar with Simi. Buena won the league championship.

Mar 6	v. Moorpark	W	11-9	
Mar 7	v. Bishop Diego	L	1-2	
Mar 10	v. Oxnard	L	0-1	
Mar 13	v. Camarillo	L	0-1	
Mar 17	v. Santa Clara	L	9-12	
Mar 20	v. SANTA PAULA	W	4-2	
Mar 26	v. Torrance	L	3-6	Easter Tournament
Mar 27	v. Victor Valley	W	6-0	Easter Tournament
Mar 28	v. Santa Clara	L	1-11	Easter Tournament
Apr 3	v. SIMI	L	1-10	
Apr 7	v. Camarillo	L	3-6	
Apr 10	v. FILLMORE	L	1-7	
Apr 14	v. Santa Clara	L	0-2	
Apr 17	v. HART	L	1-6	
Apr 21	v. BUENA	L	6-12	
Apr 24	v. SANTA PAULA	L	5-8	
Apr 27	v. Bishop Diego	W	9-3	
Apr 28	v. SIMI	W	8-2	
May 1	v. FILLMORE	L	0-4	
May 5	v. HART	L	6-7	
May 8	v. BUENA	L	2-8	

League record	W	2	L	8
Overall record	W	5	L	16

Highlights

A special event was the first Easter tournament, co-sponsored by the Lions Club. But it almost drowned at birth, with four days of rain delay. The eight teams participating were Camarillo, Simi, Buena, Fillmore, Victor Valley, Torrance, Santa Clara, and Thousand Oaks. The Lancers lost in the consolation title match, for a 6th place finish. Second baseman Blais and outfielder Bill Fisher were nominated to the All-League team at the close of the season.

1965

The Varsity squad of 18 players was again coached by Jay Merrill with assistant John Davis and pitching coach Jim Hansen in his first year of teaching. Although the Lancers played just under .500 ball overall, they improved their Frontier league play considerably and finished tied for second with Buena, behind undefeated Hart. The team included Bob Blais, Bud McConathy, Carl Lane, Jack Jones, Tom Henley, Roger Meade, Mark Falkowski, Dave Festerling, Tom Giallonardo, Paul Scott, Dave Torgeson, Jon Ainsworth, Greg Smith, Robert Ayala, Mark Ballinger, Ray Reubel, Rodney Tochiyara, Nick Joseph, Wayne Stayer, Tom Powers and Frank Alderete.

Mar 3	v. Moorpark	W	7-3	
Mar 5	v. Camarillo	L	2-7	
Mar 9	v. Santa Clara	L	1-4	
Mar 12	v. Camarillo	L	2-3	
Mar 16	v. Oxnard	L	6-10	
Mar 19	v. BUENA	L	2-7	
Mar 23	v. Santa Clara	L	4-5	
Mar 26	v. SANTA PAULA	W	10-4	
Mar 27	v. Lasuen	W	9-8	
Mar 29	v. Hueneme	L	2-3	
Apr 12	v. St. Genevieve	W	5-1	Easter Tournament
Apr 14	v. Culver City	L	2-3	Easter Tournament
Apr 14	v. Santa Clara	W	10-4	Easter Tournament
Apr 20	v. HART	L	2-3	
Apr 23	v. BUENA	W	3-0	
Apr 27	v. SANTA PAULA	L	0-2	
Apr 30	v. SIMI	W	17-2	
May 4	v. FILLMORE	W	4-3	
May 7	v. HART	L	3-5	
May 11	v. SIMI	W	4-1	
May 14	v. FILLMORE	W	13-2	
	League record	W 6	L 4	
	Overall record	W 10	L 11	

Highlights

This was a season marred by the weather: heavy rains wiped out play for over two weeks just before Easter with more heavy rain after Easter. However, the 2nd Annual Easter Tournament was wedged in between showers, and the Lancers pulled out a third-place finish, beating Santa Clara for the first time ever in the process.

Lancer baseball as a whole was greatly improved in 1965 with the Jayvees under coach Ron Stillwell winning their league championship (8-2, 16-5 overall), the frosh team winding up in a tie for first place with Camarillo, and the Varsity nailing down a tie for second place. Three Lancers were voted to the All-Frontier League team: Bob Blais at second base, Bud McConathy at third base, and outfielder Carl Lane.

1966

A 26-player roster under coaches Merrill and Hansen included returning lettermen Smith, Ballinger, Scott, Torgerson, and Falkoski, along with Doug Tarvin, Art Diaz, Brad Beier, Les Shelledy, Jim Rogers, Wayne Stayer, Frank Alderete, Randy Foster, Steve Miller, Bobby Ayala, Lou Blais, Ray Lannen, Chuck Przybylski, David Isom, and Tom Powers.

Mar 4	v. Santa Clara	W	5-4	
Mar 8	v. Oxnard	W	4-2	
Mar 11	v. Camarillo	W	7-5	
Mar 15	v. Rio Mesa	W	2-1	
Mar 18	v. Moorpark	W	3-0	
Mar 22	v. Santa Clara	W	5-0	
Mar 25	v. HART	L	0-9	
Mar 26	v. Cabrillo	W	7-5	
Apr 1	v. BUENA	W	11-1	
Apr 4	v. Culver City	W	10-5	Easter Tournament
Apr 4	v. St. Genevieve	W	3-2	Easter Tournament
Apr 5	v. Oxnard	W	3-0	Easter Tournament
Apr 5	v. Santa Clara	L	2-4	Easter Tournament
Apr 15	v. SANTA PAULA	W	4-2	
Apr 16	v. Lasuen	W	17-10	
Apr 22	v. SIMI	W	10-0	
Apr 26	v. FILLMORE	W	4-3	
Apr 29	v. HART	W	1-0	
May 3	v. BUENA	W	9-0	
May 6	v. SANTA PAULA	W	15-4	
May 10	v. SIMI	L	1-7	
May 13	v. FILLMORE	W	5-2	
May 20	v. Antelope Valley	L	1-13	CIF Round 1
	League record	W 8	L 3	
	Overall record	W 19	L 4	

Highlights

The Lancers celebrated their last year in the Frontier League with their first championship. Undefeated going into their first league game, they lost to Hart on a forfeit when coach Merrill was ejected, but did not lose again in regular play until the last week of the season. In their first CIF playoff game, at Antelope Valley, the nervous Lancers were shelled for a 13-1 loss. During the year Ballinger and Smith set a new strike-out record of 15 in a game. Ballinger, Smith, Torgerson, and Shelledy were voted All-League with honorable mentions to Rogers, Diaz, Blais, and Tarvin. Ballinger was voted loop Player of the Year with 106 strikeouts and a 1.94 ERA. Shelledy was the league's top hitter with a .469 average. The Lancers reached the championship game of their Easter Tournament for the first time, but placed second to Santa Clara. In 1966 the Junior Varsity won their second consecutive league title under Coach Stillwell, with a loop record of 8-1-1.

1967

The Lancers entered their first Channel League season under coach Merrill with a 21-man roster. Players included Mark Ballinger, Greg Smith, Dean Yoshiwara, Les Shelledy, Art Diaz, Lou Blais, Terry Beall, Randy Foster, Chuck Sabalos, Phil Phillips, Brad Beier, Dave Falkoski, Ted Chamberlain, Andy Nelson, Rick Thornton, Bob Johnson, Keith Hughes, Bob Debski, Russ Cameron, Mike Finch, Scott Christian, Herb Havins, and Mike Galvin. Brought up at the end of the season from JV were Fred Hebert, Ron Weyand, and Gordon Hickle.

Mar 3	v. Rio Mesa	W	5-3	
Mar 7	v. Moorpark	W	10-0	
Mar 8	v. Burroughs	W	4-1	
Mar 17	v. CAMARILLO	W	13-4	
Mar 20	v. Santa Clara	L	4-6	Easter Tournament
Mar 20	v. Santa Monica	L	2-3	Easter Tournament
Mar 21	v. Buena	W	4-1	Easter Tournament
Mar 21	v. St. Genevieve	L	3-6	Easter Tournament
Mar 28	v. BUENA	W	3-0	
Apr 3	v. SANTA BARBARA	L	2-3	
Apr 6	v. HUENEME	W	5-3	
Apr 7	v. VENTURA	W	5-3	
Apr 13	v. SIMI	W	3-2	
Apr 14	v. OXNARD	L	1-5	
Apr 25	v. SANTA BARBARA	L	3-5	
Apr 26	v. BUENA	L	3-4	
May 2	v. VENTURA	W	2-1	
May 5	v. SIMI	W	3-1	
May 9	v. OXNARD	W	8-5	
May 11	v. HUENEME	W	4-2	
May 12	v. CAMARILLO	W	10-1	
May 18	v. Hart	W	5-1	
May 23	v. Burbank	W	6-5	CIF Round 1
May 26	v. Torrance	W	3-2	CIF Round 2
May 31	v. Ramona	W	4-2	CIF Round 3
Jun 2	v. Millikan	L	0-3	CIF Semi-final

League record	W	13	L	5
Overall record	W	18	L	8

Highlights

At least 11 games were rained out in this wet season, forcing cancellation of all pre-season scrimmages, and much re-scheduling. The Lancers finished 6th in the Easter Tournament.

The Lancers had a late-season rally to overtake Simi for the Channel League title. Because of rescheduled games at the end of the season, the Lancers finished their league schedule and had to wait for Simi to lose two out of three games to be assured of their victory. Simi's forfeit of a game for using an ineligible player earlier in the season turned out to be crucial for the standings. In a freak accident, Randy Foster broke his pitching arm from the stress of the pitching motion while throwing against

Camarillo on May 12th. He was out for the rest of the season.

The Lancers hosted a CIF game for the first time, beating Burbank, and two successive opponents, before falling in the semi-finals - their best effort ever. Fatigue finally overcame the pitching staff against Millikan hitting. Pitcher Greg Smith was voted Channel League Player-of-the-Year, and Dean Yoshiwara and Lou Blais were elected League first team. Mark Ballinger and Ted Chamberlain (top hitter in league with .441) made second team, with honorable mentions going to Phil Phillips and Les Shelledy.

In another first for the Lancers, three team members signed pro contracts after graduation. Mark Ballinger was signed by the Cleveland Indians; he was 8-4 in the season with a 2.20 ERA and 84 strikeouts in 63 innings. Greg Smith signed with the California Angels; he was 8-2 with a 1.41 ERA and 125 strikeouts over 79 innings. Outfielder Les Shelledy signed with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

In Jayvee action Coach Stillwell led his team to a third consecutive league championship, and their first in Channel League, with an 11-3 record.

1968

Ron Stillwell was appointed Head Coach for the Lancers, along with Assistant Coach Gene Lloyd and pitching coach Jim Hansen. Jay Merrill transferred to Newbury Park where he led the Panthers in their first year to a Tri-Valley League crown and then all the way to the CIF ("A") championship! After winning scrimmages against Crespi and Santa Clara, the Lancers entered their regular season with a team that included Doug Tarvin, Bob Bailey, Danny O'Malley, Freddie Hebert, Randy Eagle, Keith Hughes, Scott Christian, Phil Phillips, Dave Falkoski, Kurt Russell, Rod Eggleston, Larry Le Quire, Kelly Fadler, Dave Olson, Bobby Johnson, Mike Galvin, Mark Nelson, Dean Yoshiwara, Bob Debski, Mike Finch, Steve Rogers, Randy Tennyson and Mike Rippy.

(1968 continues on page 9)

Mar 3	v. Channel Islands	W	2-1	
Mar 5	v. Burroughs	W	2-1	
Mar 12	v. Rio Mesa	W	9-1	
Mar 15	v. St. Genevieve	W	3-2	(no-hitter)
Mar 19	v. OXNARD	W	4-3	
Mar 22	v. CAMARILLO	W	18-4	
Mar 26	v. BUENA	W	12-2	
Mar 29	v. SANTA BARBARA	L	9-10	
Apr 3	v. HUENEME	W	3-0	
Apr 5	v. VENTURA	W	3-0	
Apr 8	v. Culver City	W	5-4	Easter Tournament
Apr 8	v. Camarillo	W	8-1	Easter Tournament
Apr 9	v. Santa Monica	W	4-3	Easter Tournament
Apr 9	v. Oxnard	W	8-7	Easter Tournament
Apr 16	v. SIMI	L	0-1	
Apr 19	v. OXNARD	L	4-5	
Apr 23	v. CAMARILLO	W	5-2	
Apr 26	v. BUENA	W	1-0	(no-hitter)
Apr 30	v. SANTA BARBARA	W	7-6	
May 3	v. HUENEME	W	6-3	
May 7	v. VENTURA	W	7-1	
May 10	v. SIMI	W	6-0	
May 17	v. Muir	W	2-1	1st round CIF
May 21	v. Rolling Hills	L	4-5	2nd round CIF

League record W 12 L 4
Overall record W 20 L 4

Highlights

The Lancers finally won their own Easter Tournament! Overall the Lancers had another outstanding season that saw them capture another league title and a trip to CIF. Fourteen games were decided by one-run margins! A new mark was set with the first Lancer no-hitters. Phil Phillips and Dave Falkoski shared a no-hitter against St. Genevieve, while Phillips later pitched another complete no-hitter against Buena and was only 1 walk away from a perfect game, facing 22 batters. Another mark was set with a high of 17 hits in a game against Camarillo, called because of darkness on March 22nd.

Phil Phillips was named Player-of-the-Year in the Channel League, with a 6-2 record, and 1.25 league ERA, he also set a school record of 10-3 overall, and was named to the All-CIF second team. He was later signed by the Oakland Athletics. Also making all-league were Dean Yoshiwara and Doug Tarvin, Second-team nominees were Scott Christian and Dave Falkoski, while an honorable mention went to Kurt Russell.

Seeded #4 going into the CIF playoffs, the Lancers lost a second-round squeaker in extra innings to Rolling Hills.

The Jayvees under new coach Bob Raupp tied Simi Valley and then lost a playoff game 3-2 to take second place in their league contest, with a record of 9-5 in league and 11-7 overall.

THE TROJAN SHORTSTOP - RON STILLWELL

A member of the class of 1957 at Burroughs High (Burbank), Ron Stillwell had an all-league high school baseball career before enrolling at USC on academic scholarship. He played three years as a second-baseman and shortstop on coach Rod Dedeaux's nationally ranked Trojans, going to two NCAA championships and winning one in his senior year.

Stillwell was signed by the Washington Senators and started with the big league club, suiting up for the first time in Yankee Stadium, on the day Mickey Mantle hit his 500-foot-plus home run. He made his debut at shortstop against the Red Sox. After about a month he was sent to the Syracuse International League for seasoning, and was also loaned to the Yankee's Richmond Club. In 1963 he finished the season with York of the AA Eastern League, but was severely injured in an infield/outfield collision that almost cost him the sight of one eye. He recovered, however, and used part of the rehabilitation period to get his teaching credential in physical education. In 1965 he was contracted for Hawaii of the Pacific Coast League but decided to trade his playing spikes for coaching.

After five successful seasons as the Jayvee Head Coach, Stillwell led the Varsity from 1968 thru 1971, compiling a 50-43 record (.538 winning percentage), which included one Channel League title. He then became head baseball coach at California Lutheran College while remaining on the TOHS faculty. He is still teaching at TOHS and in 1985 became head baseball coach at Moorpark College. Three Stillwell sons have played for the Lancers: Scott (80), Kurt (83), and Rod (85).

	G	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	R	RBI	BB	SO	SB	BA	SA
1961 WAS	8	16	2	1	0	0	3	1	1	4	0	.125	.188
1962 WAS	6	22	6	0	0	0	5	2	2	2	0	.273	.273
(2 years)	14	38	8	1	0	0	8	3	3	6	0	.211	.237

1969

Coaches Stillwell, Lloyd and Hansen faced the 1969 season with a team that included Rod Eggleston, Kurt Russell, Fred Hebert, Kelly Fadler, Steve Reich, Larry Le Quire, Bob Bailey, Mike Rippy, Dan O'Malley, Pat Hobin, Dan Herman, Brad Butcher, Randy Eagle, Bob Minnella, Mike Smith, Jim Earl, Mike Parlier, Jim Willoughby, Mark Nelson, Bob Henschel, and, for the last two games, Rich Baierski, Steve Bringleston, Ken Corr, Mike Shima, Bob Minella, Joe Newton, Dallas Hickie, Greg Roznowski, Dan Herman and Rex Naumetz.

Mar 4	v. Rio Mesa	W	10-1	
Mar 8	v. Rolling Hills	W	3-1	
Mar 11	v. Grant	W	5-1	
Mar 15	v. Hawthorne	L	1-5	
Mar 18	v. SIMI	L	1-2	
Mar 25	v. CAMARILLO	L	0-5	
Mar 28	v. BUENA	W	10-3	
Mar 31	v. Santa Monica	W	10-3	Easter Tournament
Mar 31	v. St. Genevieve	W	7-4	Easter Tournament
Apr 1	v. Culver City	L	1-9	Easter Tournament
Apr 1	v. Channel Islands	L	0-8	Easter Tournament
Apr 8	v. SANTA BARBARA	L	3-5	
Apr 11	v. HUENEME	L	4-7	
Apr 15	v. VENTURA	W	2-1	
Apr 18	v. SIMI	W	7-6	
Apr 22	v. OXNARD	W	3-2	
Apr 25	v. CAMARILLO	L	4-11	
Apr 29	v. BUENA	L	1-6	
May 2	v. SANTA BARBARA	L	4-8	
May 6	v. HUENEME	L	0-1	
May 9	v. VENTURA	L	4-9	
May 13	v. OXNARD	W	13-9	
	League record	W 5	L 9	
	Overall record	W 10	L 12	

Highlights

The Lancers salvaged a second place in the Easter Tournament, but did not have a good year overall, losing five in a row down the stretch. Larry Le Quire (4-4, 1.98 ERA) was named to the second team All-League, the only Lancer nominated for post-season honors.

1970

A young Sparky Anderson took over the helm of the Cincinatti Reds, while coaches Stillwell and Lloyd took a young team into the 1970 season. The team included Bob Minella, Jim Willoughby, Mike Parlier, Larry Le Quire, Bill Lewon, Mike Smith, Pat Hobin, Gary Trumbauer, Jim Earl, Steve Bringleston, Mark Gearin, Steve Reich, Dan Herman, Rich Baierski, Bob Henschel, Rex Naumetz, Brad Butcher, Jeff Otto, Woody Claunch, Paul Santo, Jerry Kluck, Jon Yoshiwara, Bob Stebe, Steve Saylor, and Rick Donald.

Feb 23	v. Hawthorne	L	0-8	
Feb 25	v. Hawthorne	L	3-4	
Feb 27	v. Simi	W	1-0	
Mar 10	v. Burroughs	W	7-4	
Mar 14	v. Rolling Hills	L	0-5	
Mar 17	v. VENTURA	L	2-4	
Mar 20	v. SIMI	W	14-3	
Mar 23	v. St. Genevieve	W	10-3	Easter Tournament
Mar 23	v. Channel Islands	L	3-4	Easter Tournament
Mar 24	v. Culver City	L	3-12	Easter Tournament
Mar 24	v. Newbury Park	L	4-6	Easter Tournament
Mar 31	v. OXNARD	L	0-12	
Apr 3	v. CAMARILLO	W	4-3	
Apr 7	v. BUENA	W	2-1	
Apr 10	v. SANTA BARBARA	L	3-7	
Apr 14	v. HUENEME	L	12-14	
Apr 17	v. VENTURA	L	2-4	
Apr 21	v. SIMI	W	8-7	
Apr 24	v. OXNARD	W	11-6	
Apr 28	v. CAMARILLO	W	3-2	
May 1	v. BUENA	W	15-2	
May 5	v. SANTA BARBARA	W	6-4	
May 8	v. HUENEME	L	5-6	

League record	W	8	L	6
Overall record	W	11	L	12

Highlights

The Lancers were in contention for a CIF berth until they were knocked out of second place in the last game of the season. They did not enter the first Newbury Park High School pre-season round robin, and came in 6th in the Easter tournament, meeting (and losing to) Newbury Park for the first time, the beginning of a long rivalry. All-League nominations went to catcher Jim Willoughby who hit .385 and drove in the winning run in 6 of the 8 Lancer league wins. Named to second team were Pat Hobin, and "Whitey" Henschel, while Steve Bringleston and Mike Smith received honorable mentions. Rich Baierski set a Lancer record of 18 stolen bases.

1971

Coaches Stillwell and Lloyd had high hopes for the 1971 season. The first alumni game was played on February 27, in which the "old men" won by a score of 8-3. Before regular season play began the Lancers lost some key players to injury, and their infield, in particular, never recovered from this setback. The roster included Pat Hobin, Frank Hobin, Gary Trumbauer, Dave Beerman, Jeff Otto, Steve Ginther, Jerry Kluck, Rich Baierski, Jon Yoshiwara, Garth Marcus, John Kent, Matt Hickie, Hank Curral, Tom Fiore, Mike Ahtye, Bob Stebe, Paul Santo, Art Green, Phil Dinnel, Tom Haeussler, and Tim Ahyte.

Mar 3	v. Newbury Park	L	0-1	
Mar 6	v. S. Torrance	W	2-1	
Mar 8	v. Camarillo	L	2-3	
Mar 9	v. Simi	L	3-4	
Mar 12	v. Burroughs	L	1-4	
Mar 16	v. HUENEME	L	0-9	
Mar 19	v. CAMARILLO	W	4-1	
Mar 23	v. VENTURA	L	5-8	
Mar 26	v. BUENA	L	0-8	
Mar 30	v. SANTA BARBARA	W	2-0	
Apr 2	v. HUENEME	L	1-3	
Apr 5	v. Simi	W	5-3	Easter Tournament
Apr 5	v. Santa Monica	W	13-12	Easter Tournament
Apr 6	v. Royal	W	1-0	Easter Tournament
Apr 6	v. Newbury Park	L	2-7	Easter Tournament
Apr 14	v. CAMARILLO	W	3-1	
Apr 16	v. VENTURA	L	3-5	
Apr 19	v. BUENA	W	2-1	
Apr 23	v. SANTA BARBARA	L	8-9	
Apr 26	v. HUENEME	L	7-8	
Apr 30	v. CAMARILLO	L	3-4	
May 4	v. VENTURA	L	3-5	
May 7	v. BUENA	L	0-1	
May 11	v. SANTA BARBARA	W	5-1	

League record	W	5	L	10
Overall record	W	9	L	15

Highlights

The Lancers reached the championship round of their Easter Tournament but lost to Newbury Park. They placed 4th in Channel League. The outstanding feature of their season was the pitching. Pat Hobin came within one pitch of a perfect game against Camarillo on March 19th, giving up a 2-out triple in the 7th inning. Gary Trumbauer had a remarkable season, 6-2 in League play with a 0.99 ERA, and one 2-week period in which he threw sucessively a 2-hitter, a 1-hitter, and a no-hitter (against Buena, April 19th). Trumbauer was voted All-League first team. He was signed by the St. Louis Cardinals upon graduation. All-league second team nominees were Rich Baierski and Matt Hickie, while Jon Yoshiwara got an honorable mention.

1972

Thousand Oaks moved into the (3A) Marmonte League in 1972, and coach Stillwell departed to captain the CLC (now CLU) baseball team. Coach Jim Hansen was promoted from JV to lead the Varsity team, which included Mike Ahtye, Tom Stroebe, Steve Ginther, Garth Marcus, Craig Clifford, Jon Yoshiwara, John Thorsen, Larry Van Horn, Don Wade, Bill Smith, Tim Ahyte, Barry Mullen, Mike Hubbard, Phil Dinnel, Dave Beerman, Tom Fiore, Matt Hickie, John Kent, Jeff Buhr, Clay Richardson, Steve Trumbauer, Rich Kluck, and Mark Steppard. George Peraza was the assistant coach.

Feb 24	v. Chaminade	W	18-2	
Feb 26	v. Hueneme	W	2-0	District Tournament
Feb 26	v. Oxnard	W	6-3	District Tournament
Feb 29	v. Channel Islands	L	2-5	District Tournament
Mar 1	v. Rio Mesa	L	5-6	District Tournament
Mar 2	v. Camarillo	W	4-0	District Tournament
Mar 3	v. Channel Islands	W	9-0	District Tournament
Mar 4	v. Newbury Park	W	3-0	District Tournament
Mar 9	v. Buena	L	1-2	
Mar 10	v. Santa Maria	L	2-8	
Mar 21	v. CANYON	W	1-0	
Mar 24	v. ROYAL	W	9-7	
Mar 27	v. Agoura	W	5-2	Easter Tournament
Mar 27	v. Culver City	W	7-5	Easter Tournament
Mar 28	v. Rio Mesa	W	5-0	Easter Tournament
Mar 28	v. Camarillo	W	9-8	Easter Tournament
Apr 4	v. HART	W	5-4	
Apr 7	v. OXNARD	L	9-8	
Apr 11	v. CAMARILLO	L	0-7	
Apr 14	v. SIMI	W	8-1	
Apr 18	v. NEWBURY PARK	W	5-4	
Apr 21	v. CANYON	W	11-5	
Apr 25	v. ROYAL	L	2-4	
Apr 28	v. HART	W	6-4	
May 2	v. OXNARD	L	4-5	
May 5	v. CAMARILLO	W	2-1	
May 9	v. SIMI	W	4-3	
May 12	v. NEWBURY PARK	W	5-2	
May 19	v. Lennox	L	3-4	1st Round CIF

League record W 10 L 5
 Overall record W 20 L 9

Highlights

The Lancers entered the Oxnard Union High School District Tournament for the first time, and emerged the winners with a 5-2 record. They also won their own Easter Tournament for the second time ever. They took second place in the Marmonte League, then lost their first CIF round in a close contest. A come-from-behind team all year, they won 6 out of 8 one-run decisions. They turned a rare 6-3-4-2 triple play against Simi on May 9th. Garth Marcus and Tom Fiore were voted All-Marmonte first team, with second