



BOB ZAUGH visits federal Judge Harry Pregerson's grave site at Los Angeles National Cemetery each Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

COLUMN ONE

Bound by their honor in draft

The story of a young Vietnam War resister, an ex-Marine judge, and the case that changed their lives.

By Doug Smith

The aging draft resister came early to beat the Memorial Day observance at Los Angeles National Cemetery. He angled through rows of white headstones, treading on immaculately tended grass. He stopped at the grave of the judge who had sentenced him.

He had a message for U.S. District Judge Harry Pregerson that has been in his thoughts since that day in 1970.

As a 22-year-old in 1967, Bob Zaugh had found a purpose in his life more important than school, career or even freedom. It was a recognition of the commonality of all humans that meant he could not support the Vietnam War or the system that sent young men to fight in it.

So on Dec. 4, 1967, the second national draft card turn-in day, he joined other resisters at First Unitarian Church of Los Angeles on West 8th Street in symbolically dropping their cards in a goblet.

At the height of the nation's struggle of conscience over the Vietnam War, that decision had multiple possible consequences for a young man: ostracism by friends and family, loss of employment opportunities, and lifetime stigma as being unpatriotic or worse — a coward. Not to mention prison time.

When Case 5787, United States of America vs. Robert Paul Zaugh, went on trial on Tuesday, May 26, 1970, Zaugh came prepared to admit to the two charges [See Draft, A10]

Activists strive to follow California, protect abortion rights at the polls

Nevada organizers last month celebrated a flood of voter signatures in support of placing a measure ensuring abortion rights on the November ballot.

But their work isn't over — not even close.

Nevada is among about a dozen states where abortion rights activists are working to put the protection of reproductive freedoms into voters' hands, as California did two years ago. But unlike in liberal California, organizers in some of those states must navigate a patchwork of onerous bureaucratic hurdles and overcome hostile political opposition.

Ballot measures in neigh-

Initiative efforts are afoot in Nevada and other states. But legislative jockeying is making the process harder.

By Mackenzie Mays
Reporting from Las Vegas

boring Nevada seeking to amend the state constitution must be approved by voters in two consecutive general elections.

"We will have to go through the process all over again," Tova Yampolsky, the campaign manager for Nevadans for Reproductive Freedom, said in May from a coffee shop just minutes from the casinos along the Strip as signatures were being officially tallied by election officials across the state.

For organizers such as Yampolsky, that means at least two more years of uncertainty in an already uncertain political landscape after the U.S. [See Initiatives, A7]

WILLIE MAYS, 1931 - 2024

Known for 'The Catch,' and by many as best of the best

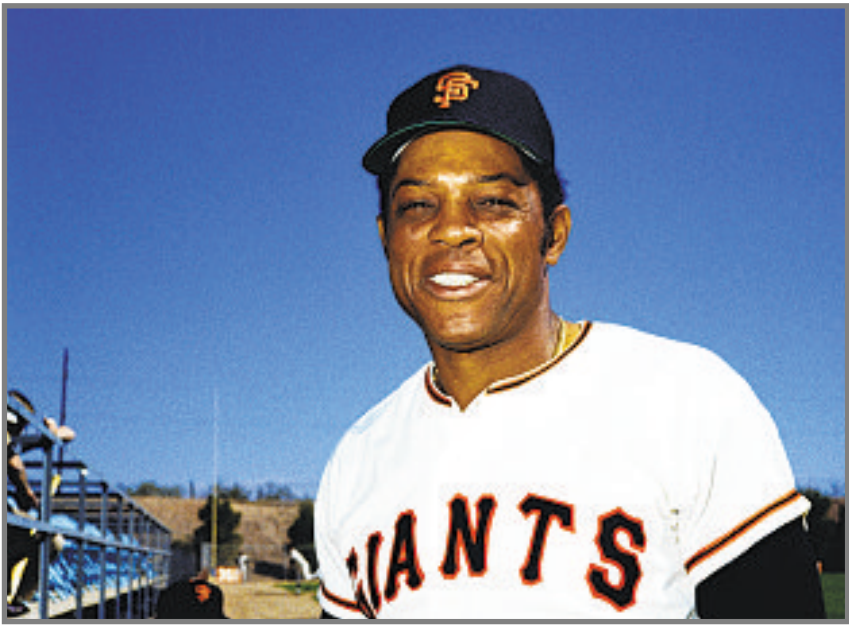
By Mike Kupper

It came to be known simply as "The Catch," and is, perhaps, the most recognized defensive play in baseball's long and storied history, the play that made rising star Willie Mays famous.

It was the first game of the 1954 World Series between the Cleveland Indians and New York Giants in New York's old Polo Grounds.

The Polo Grounds, the Giants' home field, was an old stadium reminiscent of a gigantic bathtub. The foul-line distances were short, 277 feet in left field, 258 in right, but the center-field fence, the far rim of the tub, was 455 feet from home plate.

Cleveland's Vic Wertz, a lefty, came to bat with runners on first and second in the eighth inning of a 2-2 tie, facing another lefty, Don Liddle, just in from the bullpen. Liddle, working a 2-



Associated Press

HE COULD 'DO IT ALL'
Willie Mays, who thrilled fans with his running basket catches, led the Giants to three National League pennants and a World Series victory.

and-1 count, threw a fourth-pitch fastball and Wertz tagged what would have been a three-run homer to center field anywhere else.

Not in the Polo Grounds.

Mays, playing a shallow center field, was off at the crack of the bat and, running hard with his back to the plate, caught up to the ball just steps from the wall, snagged it over his left shoulder, pivoted quickly and rifled the ball back into the infield to prevent the runner from scoring from second, losing his cap and his balance in the process. The Giants escaped the inning unscathed, then won the game in the 10th on pinch-hitter Dusty Rhodes' 270-foot pop-fly homer over the right-field fence on the way to a four-game sweep.

Mays, who the San Francisco Giants announced died Tuesday at age 93, went on to a Hall of Fame career as the flamboyant "Say Hey Kid" — many [See Mays, A5]

North Korea and Russia sign pact

Strategic agreement pledges mutual aid if either country faces "aggression." **WORLD, A3**

Seeking justice for land seizures

State legislation could help people of color finally get restitution. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

State scrambles to regulate AI

California legislators craft bills to prevent societal harm before it's too late. **BUSINESS, A6**

Weather

Some sun. L.A. Basin: 81/60. **B6**

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