

THE Sandy Post



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No. 10

Turkish Daughter, Special Member of Meier Family

"My dear Mother, would you please tell Hi to Aunt Trudy and her family. I miss them much too, and also would you please tell Hi to your sister Mary and to her daughters, and to everyone who knows me. With much love to my dearest Mother and Father. Love, Hilmiye" -- and so the letter ended.

This would seem to be a typical personal letter written from a daughter to her mother -- yet, the warmth in the written words spell out much more. These words were written by Hilmiye Metin, a resident of Bursa Turkey, to her American AFS parents, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Meiers, formerly of Boring, now living in Reedsport.

Foreign exchange students sponsored under the AFS Program enter the lives of a community for nearly a year's period, then they return to their



own countries to plan their future lives. Unanswered questions undoubtedly form in many minds: What feelings does the student retain for her American parents? What are her feelings of America? How has her life been affected by the year here? What are the feelings of the American parents following the student's return to her home?

Four years have passed since Hilmiye Metin was in America, but letters continue coming from Turkey addressed to the various members of the Meiers family. Hilmiye was 17 years old when she first arrived in America, and was Sandy High School's second exchange student. Her family in Turkey consisted of her father (a carpenter), her mother (who worked in a silk factory), a brother then 15, and a sister then 8. Previous to her year at Sandy High in 1960-61, Hilmiye attended Bursa Girls High School in her hometown. Excerpts from Hilmiye's letter, similar to the one above, leave no doubt as to her feelings for her American family.

Mrs. Meier expressed her feelings for Hilmiye: "I thought it best to show you some letters. You can truly feel the wonderful bond we have. This is something never forgotten. The thrill when she will open up her heart to her second Mother. This is the way we both feel, that we can tell each other anything in our hearts."

During the Fall of 1961, Hilmiye's letters were often on school: "I am having hard time in school this year because my subjects are pretty hard for me after American school. It takes long time to study them, so I don't have free time to do something else. Just in the weekends I have a very fun time. Don't forget me!"

Following completion of

school, Hilmiye went to work in a cocoon factory where she translates letters and writes replies. She described her work in a letter May 7, 1964: "This is a very busy time of our company. We import silkworks from Japan and we are trying to export our cocoons to Italy. Also we have three guests from Japan who are trying to establish the joint company in Turkey with us. They will stay in Bursa about 4 months and teach to our technicians the Japanese system. I have very hard times with them because I don't know many of the technical terms and also they don't know very well English. But anyways, we get along. Even I may learn Japanese language. Sometimes I guide some tourists who are coming to see Bursa. So if you come to Turkey, it won't be hard to show you the most interesting places in Bursa."

Her year in the U.S. has given Hilmiye views far broader than those held by girls her age in Turkey. She mentions that "My Turkish mother wants me to get married. She thinks I am getting older to marry. But I don't want to marry yet, and I think I am not that much old. I am just 20 years old. There are some boys want to marry with me and my mother says to choose one of them. Some times at home I prepare my trousseau." In Hilmiye's most recent letter, the same problem arises: "I go to work. I like it very much, but it isn't good for me to like because maybe I will have to leave it. I don't know what to do. My parents want me to get married. Usually in our country the girls get married at 18-20 years old, and my parents think that it is time for me to get married. There are some boys who want to marry me. They don't live in Bursa, they live in cities far from Bursa. If I marry one of them I will have to go there and leave my parents and my job, but I don't want to go far from my parents and don't want to leave my job. It is very nice and I get very good wage from it. In the same time, it will be very hard for me to be a housewife after this active life."

Hilmiye's letters express real concern for all members of

her American family from grandparents to nephews, questions of what will be planted in the garden; and she mentions too how very much she misses "the farm and the cow's milk." Any doubt anyone may have as to the bond formed in a year's time here is completely dispelled with Hilmiye's comment: "I never want to be forgotten by you, because the wonderful days that I spent with you were the happiest times that I had in my life up to this day. It is impossible to forget you and my happy times that I had with you. I miss you very very much, that I can never explain in the lines."

A postscript added to one letter written a little over a year ago reads: "A few days ago I received the box that you have sent the long letter signed at Sandy by many peoples. It was very nice to be remembered by them. I wish to write them if I could."

It takes an unselfish family to share their home and their lives with a stranger from another country, another way of life, another background -- yet, with this sharing is gained something far greater. Mrs. Meiers voiced their family opinion when she talked of "our Hilmiye" and said: "We would love to share our wonderful experience with others. Because we realize we would not have had this new daughter if it were not for Sandy's wonderful AFS Program, and the cooperation it takes from everyone."

Mounties Trounce Orient

Roger Williams came off the bench to pour in 7 points in the last 4 minutes to snuff out Orient's second half rally and enabled the Mountaineers to close out the season with a 46-37 victory Friday.

Orient jumped to 4-1 lead as Sandy missed its first five field goal attempts but Randy Huserik steadied the mountaineers and once in command they never looked back.

Huserik led all point getters with 13 all in the first half. Brent Peterson and Jim Martin had 9 apiece, Peterson also garnered twice as many rebounds. Orient got 13 points from Stu McGee.

The victory for Coach Stavros's Mountaineers brought their record to 10-2 and second place in the EMCL.

The summaries: SANDY 46 -- Peterson 9, Sliger 2, Huserik 13, Martin 9, Cansler 3, Earl, Hite 3, Bell, Thomas, Williams 7.

ORIENT 37 -- Detherage 6, Krieger 7, Guddat 4, Lofstedt 5, McGee 13, Kim, Toland 2, Gray.

Sandy.....10 5 13 18--46
Orient..... 6 3 12 16--37

Bowling

EARLY BIRDS

March 8 W L

Gene's Market 29 11

Al's Minit 22 18

Swall's 20 1/2 19 1/2

Jaycettes 20 20

Glos Ford 19 1/2 20 1/2

Shaw's Rich. 18 1/2 21 1/2

Lewis Hdw. 16 1/2 23 1/2

Zig Zag Inn 13 26

High individual game --

Peggy Copher, 172.

High individual series --

June Redfern, 438.

High team game -- Gene's

Market, 629.

High team series -- Jay-

cettes, 1742.

SANDY MIXED DOUBLES

March 7 W L

McKinnon 60 1/2 43 1/2

Enterprise's Egg 55 1/2 48 1/2

Ranch 54 1/2 49 1/2

Frederickson 54 50

Appliance 53 51

MT. Hood 48 56

Lanes 47 57

Meier's Dairy 43 1/2 60 1/2

Ing Women's high series and

game -- Betty Messier, 522,

and Trudy Meier, 188.

Men's high series and game

-- Elton Leavitt, 526 and Alex

Munro, 196.

Team high series and game

-- Frederickson Appliance

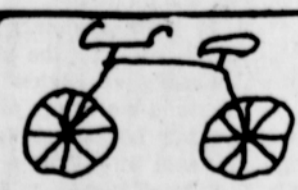
2271 and 791.

FANCHER'S

AUTO PARTS and

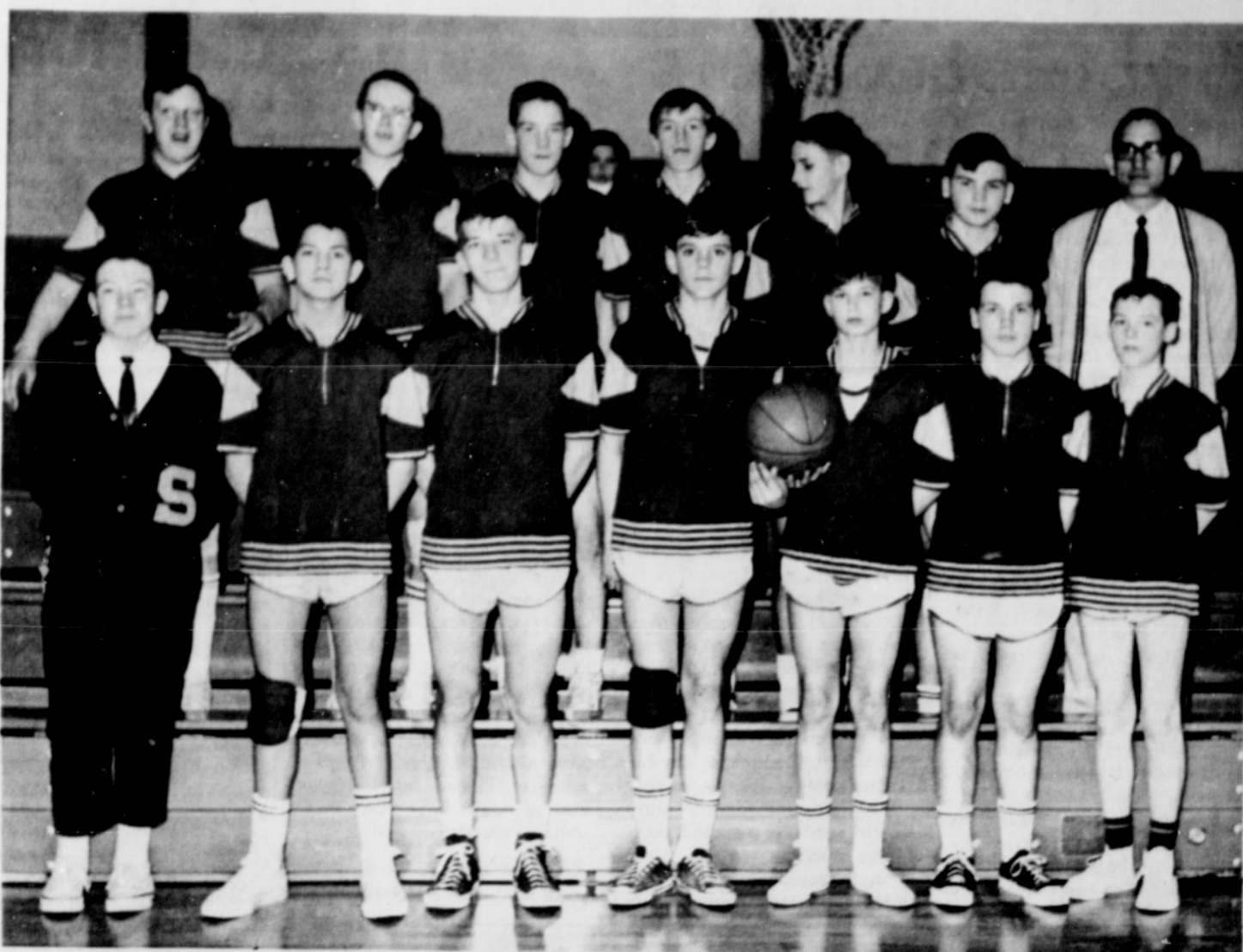
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This is a Bicycle Like a Wood Not Like Some One To Steal If I Had One Like The Boy Next Door Had But My Daddy Says If I Get One And It Is Stole I Will Get Another One As We Will Insure It At

MARIE SEEMATTER INSURANCE Sandy MU 7-3102



SANDY GRADE SCHOOL MOUNTAINEERS have just completed a very successful basketball season under their coach, George Stavros. Players included Ricky Bell, No. 12; Tom Ellis, 22; Terry Earl, 34; Kevin

O'Harrow, 10; Jim Martin, 44; Terry Cansler, 30; Dave Sliger, 40; Larry Thomas, 24; Roger Williams, 32; Mike Hite, 50; Brent Peterson, 52; Randy Huserik, 42. (Post Photo)



RALLY GIRLS led cheering for Sandy Mountaineers during very successful basketball season just completed. They are, from left: Arlene Andersen, Carolyn Olson,

Linnea Cansler, Carol Paluck, and Carol Holt, Mrs. Lawson, P. E. director and Mr. Lane worked with rally squads. (Sandy Post Photo)

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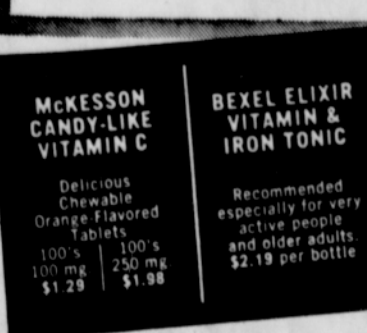


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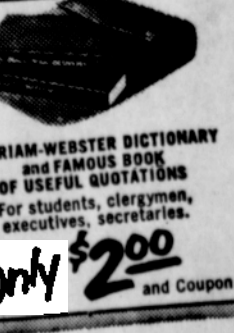
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