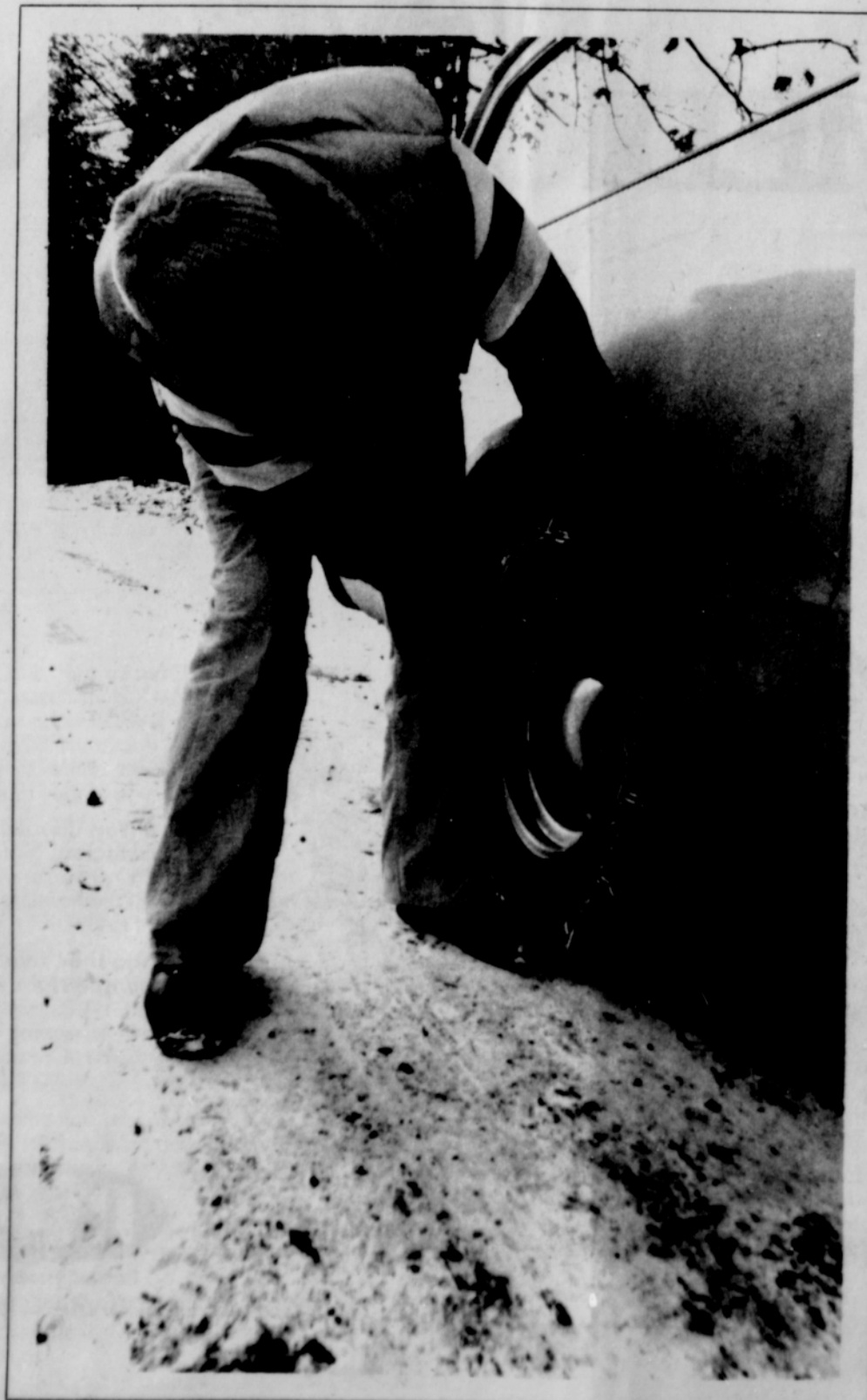




White Christmas storm hits Sandy a month early

Sunday afternoon's snow flurry caught everyone off guard, and it lingered long enough to leave more than a powdered-sugar dusting of snow on the roads.

To area residents, it was good news and bad news. Cautious motorists cursed the change in the weather, but Mt. Hood looked spectacular in its new winter garb, and the sledding was fine.



DAVE GIBSON and Loren Bateman (top) took advantage of the snow by gliding down this hill on the backroads of Sandy. Sledding turned out to be the best way to travel on the roads as the ice and snow caused some motorists to get out their chains (left) and others to abandon their cars (above). Meanwhile some of the area's four-legged residents were trying to figure out a way they could get out of the snow.

photos by
Mark Floyd
and
Kaye Barton