

Roth third in 50

Sandy girls 16th at state swim meet

Led by junior Gayle Roth's third place finish in the 50-yard freestyle, the Sandy High girls swimming team placed 16th in the state Class AAA meet at Mt. Hood Community College last weekend.

The Sandy boys finished in a tie for 41st with one point.

It was one of the fastest state meets in history. Four state records were broken in the girls meet; two more in the boys competition.

Some of the races were so fast, in fact, that Lake Oswego's Sue Habernigg was flirting with American records.

Roth did her part for Sandy, swimming to her highest finish ever. This is her third state meet. The SUHS junior finished third in the 50 with a time of 25.13, just behind Karen Orth of North Eugene, who was second at 25.10. Habernigg won in a blazing 23.15.

Roth also placed sixth in the 100-yard freestyle after going into the meet ranked just 13th. She swam a 56.0 in the finals, one of her best times, but quite a bit off Habernigg's winning 50.13.

The Pioneers also placed 10th in the girls 400-freestyle relay as Roth, Bonita Connelly, Teresa Lamer and Jean Crane swam to a school record time of 3:56.0.

Connelly placed 15th in the 100 and 200-freestyles. She had the misfortune of being one of the first swimmers in the blocks and "may have tightened up a bit," according to coach Mark Smith. She was timed in 2:09.6 in the 200 and 58.3 in the 100. Connelly is the new school record holder in the longer

distance after a 2:07.55 at district, breaking the four-year-old record of Leann Madison.

Lamer placed 17th in the 500-freestyle, swimming a 5:52.1 which is a personal best.

"All of the swims were good," Smith said. "It was a very fast meet this year—hundreds of seconds made a difference. It was one of the fastest state meets I've seen in a long time."

The Sandy boys also turned in some good swims, but were left behind by some of the state's speed demons.

Glenn Izer was 18th in the 100-freestyle, a race which took a time near 50.4 just to make the consolation finals. Izer's best is 50.7.

Sandy's 200-medley relay team of Izer, Matt Falgout, Rick Topliff and Bret Crane placed 13th in 1:47.0, just missing the school record of 1:46.6 on the books since 1977.

Falgout garnered Sandy's only point, placing 12th in the 100-butterfly in 57.0. He swam a speedy 56.91 in the prelims and "did a good job to get into the consolation finals," Smith said.

The boys meet was won handily by Cottage Grove with 150 points. South Salem was second with 99 and Lake Oswego third with 85.

David Douglas won the girls meet with its depth and 146 points. Habernigg and Lake Oswego were second with 106. Sandy finished 16th with its 25 points and was the highest placing team from the Wilco League. Gresham, which was first in the district meet, was far back in 28th place with 10 points.

Plans underway for 2nd annual alumni tourney

Plans are underway for the second annual Sandy High School Invitational alumni basketball tournament, scheduled for the second week in April.

Last year's initial outing was very successful, according to publicity director Len Eaton. It was so successful, in fact, that the tournament is being expanded to 12 teams this year and will include a number of special activities.

Portland Association officials will be used this year instead of high school teachers and local volunteers. There will be an exhibition dunking contest at

halftime of some of the games, team shirts for all participants and the organization of past groups, such as pep squads, rally squads and bands.

Attempts are also being made at getting a team of old-timers together for special recognition.

Persons wishing to participate or seeking more information should contact Eaton at Sandy High. There will be a limited number of players on each team.

For more information, call 668-8011.

Skiers finish strong, qualify for state meet

Both the boys and girls ski teams of Sandy High School have qualified for the state meet.

The Pioneer girls finished second in last weekend's final regular season meet and clinched the Valley League championship for the first time. The Sandy boys won their first meet of the year and claimed second place in the league behind Lakeridge.

The meet was the final tuneup before this weekend's Mt. Hood Championships, which is the final tuneup before state. It was held on the tough Tillikum run at Mt. Hood Meadows and "people were falling all over the place," according to Sandy coach Bob Karsten. "There were a lot of crashes."

Sandy won the boys competition with a total time of 1:20.9. Lakeridge was second, 1:35.1, and Lincoln was third, 1:49.3.

Senior Scott Graham of Sandy skied to a first place finish, his third win in four outings. He won by a large margin, 1.6 seconds, and established himself as a threat at the state meet.

Graham was timed in 35.9 on the tricky slalom course. Teammate Darren Schouten was third in 38.6. Other Sandy placers were Chris Welch, seventh; Mike Wall, 12th; Robert

Spradling, 17th; and Kip O'Connor, 20th.

"Graham has done a really good job for us," Karsten said. "He's been skiing against PNSA (Pacific Northwest Ski Association) skiers, some tremendous competition, and he's been beating them."

The Sandy girls, who were without the league's top skier in Anne Sarich, placed second behind Lake Oswego. The Lakers had a 134.7 time while Sandy was far behind in 178.0, a tribute to the number of falls the course produced.

In her sister's absence, Sue Sarich led the Pioneers with a second place finish and a time of 41.9. Ulla Pearson was ninth in 50.0, despite falling once on the course. Kris Van Steenis also fell, but placed 17th for the Pioneers.

The Sandy JV team placed third with a 155.4 time. Tyson Cummins was fourth in 45.8, Peter Kallen was sixth in 48.0, Don Bennett was 12th, Robbie Swan 14th and Jerry Heacock 15th.

The Mt. Hood Championships will be held this Saturday, Feb. 28, at Timberline Lodge. The first racers are scheduled to go down the hill at approximately 10 a.m.

Pioneer freeze slows Canby, but Cougs prevail

by MARK FLOYD

The Sandy Pioneers, mired in the cellar of the Timber Valley League, took league leader Canby down to the wire Tuesday before losing 50-40 in the final game of the regular season.

The Cougars had humiliated Sandy 90-45 in the first half and Pioneer coach Dennis Warren wasn't about to let that happen again. So Sandy froze the ball.

For a while, a little better than a half, the strategy worked. The Pioneers went into the intermission down by just four points, 14-10, in the low-scoring game. And if the first quarter seemed slow, the second period progressed at a snail's pace.

The game time moved quickly, but the Pioneers were content to pass the ball, and pass the ball and pass the ball. Sandy scored twice on short range

jumpers; Canby scored twice on offensive rebounds.

"We were outmanned at just about every position," Warren said. "The kids did just about as well as they could have under those circumstances."

Warren wasn't exaggerating. The Cougars started a front line that measured 6-7, 6-7 and 6-5. The Pioneers were three to five inches shorter at every position.

But for a half, they held their own. Jeff Yoder was the only Sandy player to score more than two points in the half, he had four, but when you're in a 14-10 ball game, point totals aren't going to be very high.

The control game got away from the Pioneers a little bit in the third quarter. The Cougars' slippery 6-5 forward Carey Martenson broke loose for 10 points in the quarter, all on inside

moves. Bob Nippert kept the Pioneers in the game with six points of his own, but the Cougars worked their inside game to perfection and outscored Sandy 17-10 in the quarter.

Canby got the ball after the Pioneers missed the front end of several one-and-ones. It was ironic, because overall, Sandy had one of its better free throw shooting games of the season. The Pioneers sank 16 of 25 from the line and made 12 of 16 in the fourth quarter. But they had a few crucial misses in the third period that allowed Canby to edge away.

Once Canby built up a 10-point lead, the Pioneers were forced to play straight up. Oh, they didn't exactly rush their shots, but no longer could the Pioneers afford to pass the ball for two or three minutes.

Sandy gamely hung in there, but

fatigue played a factor in the fourth quarter. The Cougars alternated their skyscrapers and the 6-4 Nippert was left to battle pretty much on his own, especially after teammate David Paugh got into foul trouble.

"I thought that Nippert did a pretty fair job of taking the ball to the big kids," Warren said. "He handled himself pretty well out there."

Nippert also played well defensively as did forward Steve Brader. They limited the 6-7 Dan Domey to just five points in the game and Domey is one of the league's leading scorers. The two other 6-7 Cougars combined for just eight points, so the Pioneers shut the taller Canby team down fairly well. In fact, Sandy owned a 26-25 rebounding edge, although the Cougars had a large edge on offensive boards.

"We played just about as well as we could," Warren said. "I was proud of the way the kids scrapped against some pretty heavy odds. We did everything we had to to stay in a game like that. The only thing we needed to do was hit a little better from the free throw line. We missed the front end of about five one-and-ones."

The Pioneers sank 12 of 40 shots from the floor, a 30 percent mark. Canby was 24 of 47, just over .500.

Jeff Yoder, who showed some good intensity on both ends of the court, led the Pioneers with 14 points. Nippert added 11.

The Pioneers also suffered a loss to West Linn Friday night, also on the Sandy court. The Lions took a 58-45 win.

"We just managed to dig ourselves into a giant hole against West Linn,"

Warren said. "We came back and played three good quarters of basketball and got it down to eight points, but that's as far as it would go."

A giant hole may have been an understatement. West Linn catapulted itself to a 23-2 lead after one quarter and you can't get much more lopsided than that. To the Pioneers' credit, they refused to give up and actually crept back into the game.

Steve Brader played one of his best games and led Sandy with 14 points, while Nippert, Yoder and Paugh all contributed with six or seven. But the Pioneers couldn't stop Bob Glanville, who had a game-high 20 points for the defending TVL champions.

The Pioneers finished the season with a 4-18 record, 2-12 in league play.



Photos by Mark Floyd

Junior Tim Sytsma battles to a tough 4-3 win over Oregon City's Mike Damm in the semifinals of the district 191-pound division. Sytsma's win assured him of a

birth in the state tournament. He ended up second in the meet to Silverton's Rick Strawn.

Matmen march on to state

by MARK FLOYD

The Sandy High wrestling team, ranked fourth in the state, crowned four individual champions and placed third in the Timber Valley League district meet.

Host Oregon City grabbed an early lead and held on to win with 245 points. Fast-finishing Sweet Home had 244 and Sandy 237.

Oregon City won when heavyweight Denny Smith claimed a 5-4 win over Molalla's Kevin Paquette in the final match of the tournament. Had Paquette won, Sweet Home would have taken the league crown.

Seven Pioneers qualified for the state meet, set this weekend at David Douglas (see page 3).

Oregon City and Sweet Home edged Sandy because of numbers—they simply had more wrestlers and picked up valuable points in the consolation brackets. Sandy coach Ron Calhoun elected to keep all of his freshmen out of district so they would gain a "winning attitude." Sandy, incidentally, unofficially won the district freshmen meet last week.

"We had more champions than any other team and we had more kids in the finals than any other team," Calhoun said. "But we didn't have enough people going through consoling to win it. I had hoped that we'd do a little better; looking back you can see two or three places where we could have scored more." But, Calhoun added, the Pioneers were hurt by the fact that senior Scott Quick, seeded fourth, was wrestling on a bum ankle and lost his first two matches.

Nevertheless, it was an impressive Sandy effort and the Pioneers should outscore the rest of the TVL at the state meet, due to their strong individuals.

Larry Topliff, 98; Mike Russell, 141; Chris Jones, 148; and Dan Martin, 157, all won individual titles for Sandy.



Sandy's Mike Russell wins at 141 pounds, the only Pioneer senior to qualify for the state tournament.

Tim Sytsma, 191, was second, as was Dean Fischer at 141; Mike Rohweder, 106, was third; Scott Skipper, 178, and Randy Carmony, 191, were fourth; and Randy Swanson, 98, Bill Mathews, 106, and Robert Paul, 123, were fifth.

Topliff was never seriously challenged. He pinned Robert Swartout of Molalla, then decisioned Troy Santana of Sweet Home 18-10 to gain the finals. There he faced Oregon City's Louis Worthington 12-4 for the title. Topliff is a sophomore.

Russell wasn't really challenged either. The Pioneer senior pinned Silverton's Jay Caldwell, then decisioned Doug Kivett of Canby 25-4. In the semifinals, Russell suffered a sprained ankle, but held on to beat Steve Connelly of Oregon City rather handily, 18-0. Russell then beat teammate Fischer with a pin in the finals.

Fischer was the big surprise for Sandy, after wrestling much of the

season on junior varsity. He came on strong at the end of the season and qualified for state with his second place finish. Fischer beat three opponents, including an 8-6 decision over Oregon City's Frank McElroy to make the finals.

Jones cruised right along until the finals. The junior pinned Robert Hitchcock of Silverton, Richard Hein of Canby and Marc Hallquist of West Linn to gain the finals. There he faced defending state champion Kris Pihl, a wrestler he had just edged earlier in the season. Again it was close.

The two tied 4-4 at the end of regulation and 1-1 at the end of the overtime period. Jones was finally awarded the victory on criteria, which included the least number of warnings from the official. But it took the referees several minutes and three different decisions before giving Jones the title.

Dan Martin had some equally rough sledding to win at 157. The Sandy junior cruised by Molalla's Kevin Edmisten 16-1 in the opener, but ran into Oregon City's tough Mike McCarty in the semis. Martin beat McCarty 2-1 in overtime, but the match took a lot out of him. The plucky Pioneer had to struggle in the finals, but survived and beat Molalla's Sean Kelly 2-1 for the 157 crown.

Swanson lost his opener at 98 to Worthington by just an 8-5 score, then came back through consoling to take fifth.

Mathews, 106, also lost his opener 12-4 to Canby's Lawrence Owen, but posted a 2-1 record in the consolation bracket to take fifth.

Rohweder, 106, ran into state champ Uriel Santana early, but came back in the consolation bracket to take third.

Robert Paul, 123, suffered an 11-2 opening loss to Oregon City's Troy Weller, then came back to win three and take fifth.

Skipper, 178, came one match, even one point, from qualifying for state. He won a pair of matches then came up against Bill Ensley of Sweet Home in the semis. Skipper had Ensley, the number one seed, on his back but couldn't get a pin call from the official. Ensley came back and beat the tired Sandy wrestler 8-7. Skipper then lost the battle for third place and the final state berth.

Carmony also gained the finals but lost to a tough Rick Strawn of Silverton by a fall. Carmony then lost in consolation in a battle for third place. The top three wrestlers qualify for state.

Sytsma pinned Jim Nichol of Sweet Home and Serge Brown of Estacada, then nipped Oregon City's Mike Damm 4-3 to gain the finals at 191, the same weight as Carmony. But Sytsma also ran into Strawn, who scored a 13-0 win over the Sandy wrestler for the crown.