



Workmen at Sandy High School re-install the school's marquee after Tuesday afternoon after it was removed for some touch-up repairs.

Book review:

Life, crimes of de Rais explored

by BARBARA WATERHOUSE
For The Post

In "Bluebeard," the life and crimes of Gilles de Rais, Leonard Wolf has delved deeply into the mystery of human violence and perverse behavior.

This Bluebeard took pleasure in committing unspeakable acts of violence against young children, particularly young boys. Estimates as to the number

of murders range from 141 to 800.

Gilles de Rais was born in 1404, and he died on the gallows at the age of 36. He was one of the wealthiest, most cultivated men of his time — marshal of France, lieutenant general of Brittany and companion-in-arms to Joan of Arc in the struggle to unite France under Charles VII.

He was known for the intensity of his religious feelings at the same time that he

was indulging in a bestiality unmatched in history.

Gilles loved Jeanne d'Arc. When she was killed, he lost the single thread that attached him to humanity. Like any human monster, he evolved slowly out of the flesh he inherited, the experiences that molded him and the will he exercised.

He blamed many things for his crimes. Gluttony and Hypocrites, a hot wine, enjoyed a literary reputation in medieval romances. It was not the wine that turned him into a fiend, but with the wine he moved rapidly through his own maze to the Minotaur at its center.

He said that he was born under a malevolent star — Scorpio. And with some justification he blamed his grandfather for leaving him unsupervised, with the

freedom to "do as he pleased, and take pleasure in all illicit acts."

Some blamed literature. Gilles inherited a priceless number of books, and one was a copy of Suetonius' "Lives of the Caesars."

The Caesars took special delight in the massacre of children. Gilles didn't need a model, because perversion and bloodlust have the stamp of the personal fantasies that generate them.

His career was brought to an end by a ridiculous move on a priest. With armed men he hauled the priest off in chains to the dungeons. In an age of violence, this was not too serious, but he had offended three powers at the time: Charles VII, Duke Jean V and the church.

The question of the tortured children of the poor

peasants was not of any interest to the three offended powers.

Gilles had 16 accomplices! The accomplices apparently obeyed an instinct for collusion. The only difference between Gilles and the accomplices is that he went at the torture-murder of children for his pleasure, while the motivation for the behavior of the accomplices varied from individual to individual.

Leonard Wolf has handled this dreadful subject with taste, and details of the tortures are kept at a minimum. He is a professor of English at San Francisco State University, a prize-winning fiction writer, poet and translator.

This is just one of the many new books now available at Sandy Public Library.

Traffic fatalities up for February, year

Forty-six people died in Oregon traffic accidents last month, a 28 percent jump over February last year when 36 people lost their lives, according to the Motor Vehicles Division.

The February toll brought the 1981 count to 88, 17 percent higher than the 75 fatalities recorded through February a year ago.

Fourteen February victims died when vehicles ran off the road and struck

power poles or trees. Two victims were killed when the car in which they were riding collided with a train.

Three pedestrians also were killed in February. One pedestrian was fatally struck when he stepped in front of an oncoming car while hitchhiking.

Three motorcyclists, two of whom were known to be wearing helmets, also were among the February traffic victims.

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SANDY GRESHAM
Diet Center is featured in Reader's Digest
March, 1981 Edition
Beginning on page 39

Read All About Diet Center's Natural Weight Loss Program

International dessert slated Friday evening

Have you ever thought of hiking or skiing in the Swiss Alps? Have you ever wanted to investigate the mysteries of the Scandinavian Midnight Sun? An opportunity exists this week to do just that.

Sandy's International Night and Dessert will be held tomorrow evening, March 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Sandy High School commons.

The event, sponsored by the AFS Foreign Language Club, will feature slides of Switzerland and other countries represented by AFS students who have spent the year in the United States. American Field students from East Portland and area high schools are visiting classes at Sandy High School

today and tomorrow, and will be featured at the dessert tomorrow evening.

Andre Klein, a Sandy High AFS student, will narrate a slide show of his country, Switzerland, and Mari Lamminen will present slides of Finland.

Other students participating come from Chile, Ghana, Greece, Italy and Ecuador.

Sandy students are baking homemade desserts for Friday's event and the community is welcome.

Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance at the high school. Prices are: adults, \$2.50; students, \$2; senior citizens and kids under 12, \$1.50, and family passes, \$5.

Sandy man arrested following hit and run

A Sandy man was arrested early last Wednesday morning after he was reportedly involved in a hit and run accident.

According to police reports, a vehicle driven by Bruce Jerald Moore, 31, struck another vehicle near Jim's Big Apple on Proctor Boulevard. A bystander witnessed the accident and followed the vehicle until police made the arrest near Beers Avenue and Proctor Boulevard. Moore was charged with driving while under the influence of intoxicants and hit and run.

Saturday, personnel at Williams Thriftway reported the shoplifting of a top loin steak, valued at \$3.95. Michael Grant Henss, 26, of Eagle Creek was cited for theft in connection with the incident.

Sandy Community Action Center personnel reported that someone entered the building by kicking in the lower door on the east side of the building. It is unknown if anything was taken. The incident occurred sometime between Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

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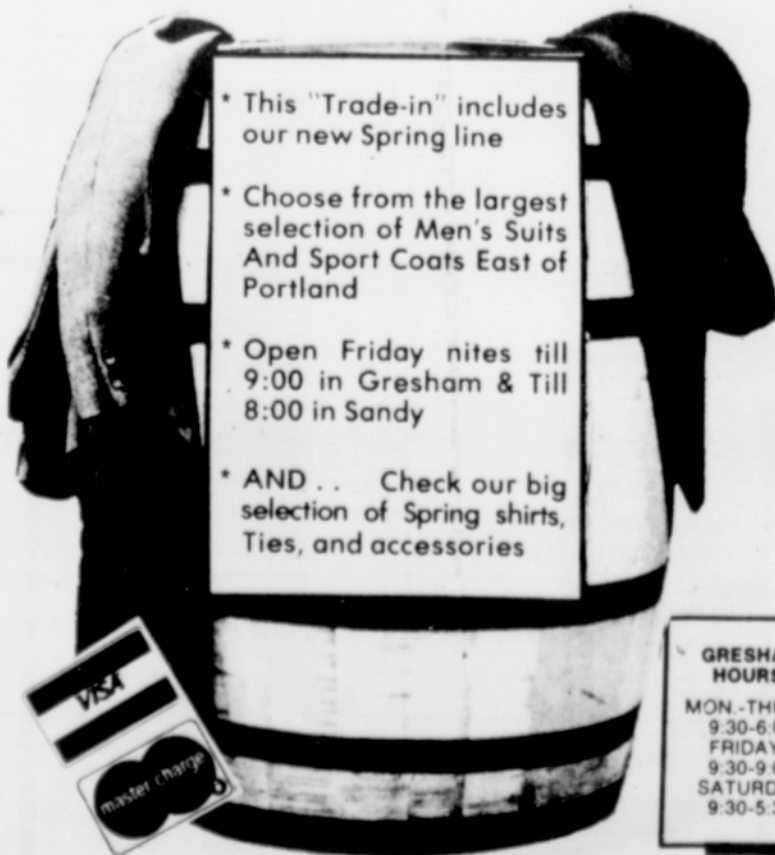
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