

Sandy glovemen nip Silverton 6-5 in finale

by MARK FLOYD

Although a late-season bid for a playoff berth fell agonizingly short, the Sandy High baseball team finished the season on a high note, dumping Silverton 6-5 in extra innings.

The Pioneers went into the last two weeks of the season needing a minor miracle to get into the playoffs. They won three of their last four to finish at 6-8 in Timber Valley League play, but got no help from other teams and finished in fifth place, one spot out of the league playoffs.

"We had two games earlier this year that we should have won," Sandy coach Curtis Heath said. "We lost games to Canby and Estacada that we should have had. We could have been 8-6 and in the playoffs."

Nevertheless, Heath was more than just a little pleased with the effort of the Pioneers this season. And no game showed the team's new-found character better than the season finale Friday.

Trailing 1-0 in the fourth, Sandy jumped all over Silverton for four runs. Keith Powell and Randy Martin singled to start it off and Matt Falgout reached on an error. Mike Lund knocked one to third to score one run, then Mike Contreras reached on an error to score another. After a Mitch Paola walk, Mo Contreras slapped a two-run single.

Kraig Gifford pitched well for four innings, but tired in the fifth and Silverton came up with four runs of its own to take a one-run lead. John Martin came on in relief and shut the Foxes down the rest of the way. He went to the mound with two on and one out and got out of the inning without further damage.

The Pioneers got a run in the fifth when Dave Kirkland doubled in Troy Bangs and the game was targeted for extra innings.

Martin held Silverton at bay in the sixth, seventh and eighth innings. "John did a good job out there," Heath said. "He didn't strike out anyone, but he got them to hit the ball on the ground and our defense stiffened up."

Martin then took matters into his own hands in the eighth and won the game for Sandy. He hit a two-out single and moved to second when Powell reached by error. Bangs walked to load the bases and moments later, Martin



Photo by Mark Floyd

Sandy High shortstop Keith Powell scrambles for the ball as a Silverton runner steals second base. The runner was safe, but the Pioneers came back in extra innings to defeat Silverton 6-5.

scampered home with the winning run on a wild pitch.

"Of all the people I'd like to see score the winning run in extra innings in the last game of the year it was John," Heath beamed. "He was really happy about it and it was a good way to end his senior year."

Sandy lost a chance for a .500 league record when Oregon City claimed a 6-1 win over the Pioneers Wednesday. Freshmen Trevor Wilson held Sandy in check on two hits and the hosts used a four-run fourth inning to take the win.

Oregon City scored their runs on an error, three walks and a hit in the inning.

Sandy got its lone run in the seventh when Mike Contreras singled, moved to third after two base on balls and scored when John Martin walked.

Randy Martin pitched well for Sandy, giving up just seven hits, but took the loss.

John Martin and Mitch Paola were named to the Timber Valley League All-Star team. Mo Contreras made second team.

Martin batted .310 for the season, with 16 stolen bases, 14 RBIs and 12 runs scored. He had a perfect fielding percentage in league play and had 20 putouts in center field and five assists.

Paola got his honors at second base, compiling a .980 fielding average in league. He batted .391 in the TVL and on the year had 15 stolen bases, 14 RBIs and scored 18 runs.

Contreras, the sophomore catcher, batted .412 on the season, scored 16 runs, had 19 stolen bases and 15 RBIs. His league fielding percentage was

1.000, rare for a catcher, and he didn't strike out once the whole season.

"It was quite an honor for a sophomore," Heath said. "They only chose two catchers and there were some good ones in our league. Mo will have something to look forward to next year, going for first team."

Sandy's season may have ended, but Legion ball is just around the corner. Sandy's season begins June 3 and Heath will again be at the helm.

"We were getting more confidence toward the end of the season and I hope

it carries over to Legion," he said. "We may bring up two or three freshmen for the year."

West Linn finished atop the TVL with a 13-1 record. Oregon City was second, 12-2; then Sweet Home, 9-5; Silverton, 8-6; Sandy, 6-8; Canby, 5-9; Molalla, 2-12; and Estacada, 1-13.

The Pioneers will return a number of players next year, including all-leaguers Contreras and Paola. The SUHS freshmen team had an excellent season and Heath is confident that the program is on its way.

Marlins open summer season

The Blue Marlin Aquatic Club opened its summer season with a 12th place finish at the Eastmont Sextathlon.

The host Aquanauts won the meet with 177 points; Tualatin Hills was second, 139; and the Multnomah Athletic Club was third, 125. The Marlins finished the swimming meet with 54 points.

Competitors swam six events at the meet and vied for best overall places.

Michelle Crane took second for Sandy in the girls' eight-and-under category. She surpassed or approached her personal bests in every swim. The young Marlin swimmer knocked four seconds off her best time in the 100-yard individual medley with a 1:33.74 time and set a personal best of 17.2 in the 25-yard freestyle.

Damon Hodge also placed second in the eight-and-under category. He clipped six seconds off his best in the 100-freestyle with a 1:21.0 and dropped a full second in the 25-free with a 15.8 time.

Travis Hilstad was fifth in the same age group. His best swim was in the 100-individual medley with a 1:33.8.

In the girls' 10-and-under division, Stephanie Colby had an impressive outing for the Marlins, setting personal bests in every event. Her best showing was a 1:43.1 in the 100-individual medley, according to coach Carl Neuenfeldt.

Dean Haines also set PRs in the meet, competing in the 11-12 boys category. He clipped four seconds off his time in the 200-individual medley, 2:48.25, and set a personal best in the 100-butterfly, 1:14.6.

In the same division, Mark Rolph knocked four seconds off his best time in the 200-individual medley with a 2:50.73.

Doug Crane placed eighth for the Marlins in the boys' 13-14 competition. He knocked an incredible 48 seconds off his best time in the 500-freestyle with a 5:32.7 time. He also set a PR by four seconds in the 100-breaststroke, 1:13.65.

Richard Rolph had personal bests in that division as well, with a 1:18.9 in the 100-breaststroke, and a 1:07.42 in the 100-butterfly.

In the 13-14 girls competition, Terry Hansen had her best swim in the 100-butterfly, breaking her best time by two seconds, 1:13.11.

Rick Topliff swam in the senior boys competition and looked good, according to Neuenfeldt, although he didn't break any best times. It was his first outing of the season, however.

The Marlins also had a Parents' Relay team in the meet which finished second. Dick and Peggy Hodge, Sue Hansen and Robert Topliff each swam a 25-yard leg in the relay.

The BMAC named its April swimmers of the month. They were Dean Haines and Stephanie Colby.

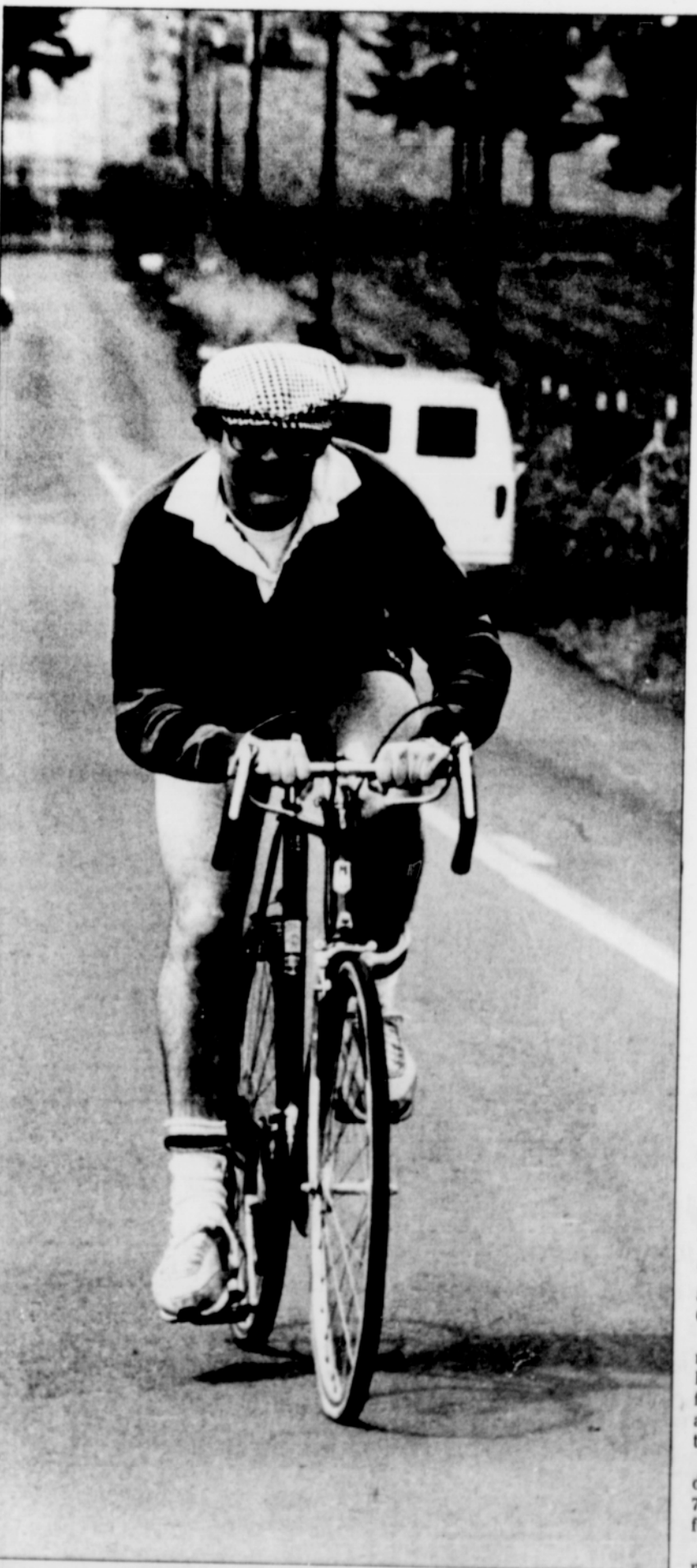


Photo by Mark Floyd

John Smith laboriously pedals up a hill in the first Sandy High bicycle race. Smith, a teacher at SUHS, placed fifth in the event, won by sophomore Mike Sheppard. Sheppard toured the 10-mile course in 25 minutes.

Brisbin new SUHS hoop coach

Dan Brisbin was named Monday to coach the Sandy High boys varsity basketball team.

He will replace Dennis Warren who resigned at the end of the 1981 season.

Brisbin has coached the SUHS freshmen teams for the past three years, compiling records of 15-2, 10-7 and 18-3. He has also taught and coached at David Douglas, St. Helens and Centennial.

Brisbin is a graduate of Lewis and Clark College and Reedport High School.

The new Sandy coach will get his baptism next month in a summer basketball league. SUHS has a 10-game schedule and Brisbin will use the off-season games to ease into the new coaching position.

"It will give the kids a chance to get used to the coaching change and style of ball," Brisbin said. "We're going to run a little more; play a more open type of game. It will be similar to the style we had with the younger (freshmen) kids."

"I'm looking forward to it," he added. "I believe in the kids or I wouldn't

TVL girls tennis

Pioneers fourth in district

Senior Sandy Yantes paced the Sandy High girls tennis team to a fourth place finish in the Timber Valley League District meet last week.

Yantes placed fourth in the singles competition, narrowly missing a berth in the state tournament. The top three at district qualify for state.

West Linn won district with 14 points. Sweet Home was second, 12; Estacada third, 10; Sandy fourth, 8; Canby fifth, 6; Oregon City sixth, 4; and Molalla and Silverton tied for seventh, 1.

Yantes cruised through her first two rounds, beating Molalla's Emily Friedrich 6-2, 6-3 and Sweet Home's Debbie Hand, 8-4. Second round matches were played in pro sets (first to win eight games wins the match) because of weather conditions.

She met her first stiff test in the quarterfinals. Paired against Estacada's Kathy Wilson, Yantes lost the first set, then clawed back to win it 2-6, 6-1, 7-6. The final set was won in a tiebreaker, 8-6.

West Linn's Jane Paulsen stopped Yantes in the semis with a 6-2, 6-3 win. The Lion sophomore went on to win the district title for the second straight year.

Yantes then locked up in a dual with West Linn's Desi Holt for third place and a state berth. Holt claimed a 6-4, 6-7, 6-4 win.

Tami Shafer survived the first two rounds for Sandy, but ran into Donita Kraxberger of Canby in the quarterfinals. Kraxberger scored a 7-6, 6-2 win and went on to place second in the tourney.

Shafer won her first two matches, defeating Estacada's Becky Henry 6-2, 7-5 and topping Molalla's Jackie Stafford in a pro set, 8-2.

Sandy's Sue Hartke lost a first round match to Canby's Kristin Woolhiser, 6-0, 6-3. Jody Robbins lost her first round match to Lynn Lausch of Oregon City, 6-0, 6-3.

"Both Tami and Sandy played well in

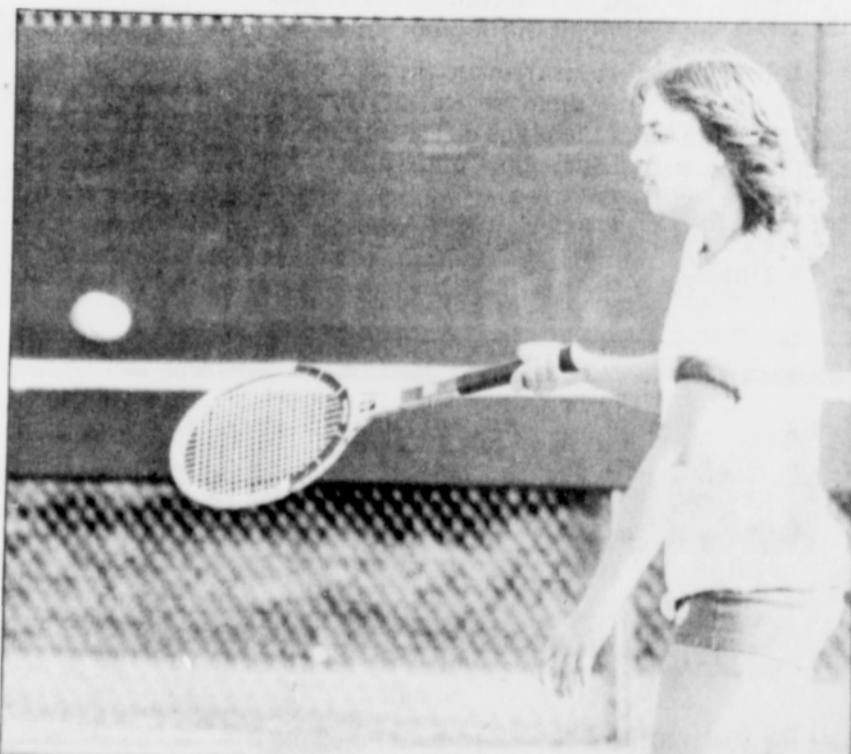


Photo by Mark Floyd

Tami Shafer made it to the quarterfinals of the Timber Valley League district meet before losing.

the quarterfinals and all through the tournament," Sandy coach Debbie Hunter said. "Sandy's match with Kathy Wilson was very exciting, with long rallies and excellent tennis. They both played just super."

In the first round of doubles action, Sandy had two teams come out on top. Julie Coleman and Sandy Shreeve scored a 6-2, 6-2 win over Silverton's No. 4 team and Becky Rodrigues and Pat Wesselink defeated Estacada's No. 4 team 6-2, 6-3.

Denise Shokey and Alice Schoppert lost to Canby's No. 2 team 1-6, 6-2, 6-4 and Tracy Tool and Zina Seal suffered a 6-2, 6-2 loss to West Linn's No. 2 team in

the other first round matches.

Molalla's No. 1 team of Sharon Bergstrom and Janet Schafer beat Wesselink and Rodrigues 8-6 in the second round, but Coleman and Shreeve stayed alive by ripping the No. 4 West Linn team 8-1.

However, they lost in the quarterfinals to the surprising duo of Julie Hotchkiss and Barb Howard. The Sweet Home pair was seeded eighth going into the meet (Coleman and Shreeve were second), but they topped the Pioneer pair 6-3, 6-1 and went on to place second in the tourney. First place went to their Sweet Home teammates Patty Basham and Marcy Vavrosky.