

stuff shots

'82 promising for SUHS

by MARK FLOYD
Sports Editor

In reviewing the 1980-81 sports year for Sandy High School, one thing stands out — promise for next season.

As usual, it was a mixed year at SUHS. There were good times and bad. But Sandy had what many call the best overall group of freshmen in the school's history.

Take the fall season. Ron Grantz's volleyball team has placed second and fourth in the state the past two years. The Pioneers lost a couple of key seniors to graduation, but return a half dozen solid players. Sandy will be in the thick of the Timber Valley League and state playoff pictures once more.

The Sandy girls cross country team placed sixth in the state last year and six of the top seven runners return. The Pioneers, barring injury, have a solid shot at first or second this time around. The boys team will have Sam Romey and Steve Metelak, who placed sixth and seventh in district and figure to do even better next year.

Football had a lean year, but Sandy will have one of the best lines in the league, an experienced quarterback and a little depth. If coach Greg O'Meara can find one speed-burner, the Pioneers will be a big threat in the TVL.

This year was the best in the school's history for gymnastics and everyone will be back next year. Sandy will have a new coach, good depth and two of the league's best in Kathie George and Jacqui Pullen.

Winter sports should also be much improved. New varsity coach Dan Brisbin will have several returners as well as two or three kids off this year's exceptional freshmen team. Sandy was only a couple of players shy of the TVL playoffs this season and should be in the thick of it next year.

The Sandy ski team has dominated in recent years, and the Pioneer girls will be

favorable to defend their state title since everyone is coming back. The boys will also be a contender.

Another potential power is the girls basketball team. Coach John Smith will have a solid nucleus returning, centered around 6-foot Dawn New, and the Pioneers had strong junior varsity and freshmen teams. Sandy was just a whisper out of the playoffs this season; with everyone back, the Pioneers are a good bet to be there next year.

The SUHS wrestling team was sixth in the state this year and most of those points are coming back. Insiders predict Sandy will be one of the two teams to beat for the state title next year. The list of returning wrestlers is awesome; Chris Jones and Dan Martin, already state champs, top the roster.

Swimming, as always, will be strong. Sandy will be favored to take the Wilco League girls title and the boys will be right up there as well. Gayle Roth leads the returners after placing in state the past two years.

Things are also promising in the spring. Sandy could win the TVL boys and girls district titles in track, returning about 90 percent of its young team from this year. Several Pioneers have the potential to place at state, as well.

Baseball continues to improve and Sandy's 6-8 record of this year will be better. The Pioneers have much of their team returning and should cruise into the playoffs for the first time in recent years.

And in softball, there should be a playoff berth for certain next year. Sandy had a junior-dominated team this season and a good jayvee squad. The program is solidifying after just two years of existence.

If that seems optimistic, so be it. Thanks to a few good veterans, and a number of talented underclassmen, Sandy teams could the playoffs in every sport in the fall and winter next year, as could many of the spring sports teams.

It will be hard to wait until next year.

Sandy Truck Line ups mark to 3-0

It was a good week for Sandy teams in the Youth Baseball League.

Sandy Truck Line upped its record to 3-0 in Midget American League play with a pair of wins in the second week of play. Alan Gedde, Lance Conger and Eric Gertzen combined to halt Orient II on just one hit, as the Truckliners rolled to a 21-3 win. Sandy pitchers picked up eight strikeouts in the game and Gedde got the win.

The Liners then topped Orient I 18-17 Friday to remain undefeated. Trailing by four runs, Sandy came back with a five-run surge in the fourth inning to put the game away.

Sandy II also won two games this week to move atop the Midget National League with a 3-0 record. Sandy dumped Reynolds East No. 4 by a 20-8 score last Tuesday as Ryan Jones came on to pitch three innings of relief to pick up the win. Jason Witteman slugged a double to lead the Sandy batting attack.

The following day, Sandy edged Rockwood II 18-13. Jason Roberts and Aaron Knotts had control problems, but combined for a no-hitter. Their 13 bases on balls accounted for the 13

Rockwood runs. Eric Abbott and Jacob Iverson hit doubles and the Sandy team used its speed on the basepaths to upend the visitors.

In Midget National League play, the Sandy Kent Cox and Associates team scored an 18-16 win over Lynch to raise its record to 2-1. Nick Kern picked up his second win in three appearances for Sandy. Leading the Kent Cox hitting attack were Brian Cox, three hits; Gaylord Miller, three hits including a homer; and Marty Sheppard and Brian Evans, two hits apiece.

Sandy Bruce Cook Insurance scored a 9-2 win over Rockwood Monday in Junior Federal play. Matt Novotny had a no-hitter going until the fifth, when the visitors came up with two runs. Novotny picked up the win, however, hurling a three-hitter. Sandy catcher Tony Hale keyed the defensive effort, throwing out four baserunners attempting to steal. Offensively, Randy Gifford scored three times, including a steal of home plate.

Sandy Dairy Queen opened its season with an 18-10 loss to Rockwood in Junior National action. Sandy came out a little rusty, yielding 10 runs in the first two innings to Rockwood, which had

already played three games. Dairy Queen evened its record Friday night with a 14-11 win over Welches. Jeff Lewis pitched three strong innings, picking up the win for Sandy. Dairy Queen's Roger Edwards slapped a game-winning double in the fifth inning, scoring two runners. He then scored himself on a passed ball.

In girls softball action, the Sandy Sluggers have charged

to the league lead in the Pigtail division, rolling up a 4-0 record. The Sluggers outlasted the Sandy Hustlers 23-12 last week as Tracey Brinsler knocked a home run. Missy Schwartz picked up the win for the Sluggers; Christina Ellis was tagged with the loss. The Sluggers also beat the Lynch Road Runners 15-14 Monday. Brinsler hit another homer for Sandy and Schwartz picked up the win.

Prep of the Week:



GAYLE ROTH

Sandy High junior Gayle Roth placed sixth at a recent state track meet (Class AAA schools) in 800 meters. Her time of 2:16.45 sets a new school record. She also runs cross-country and swims for the Pioneers. Congratulations, Gayle!



Sandy

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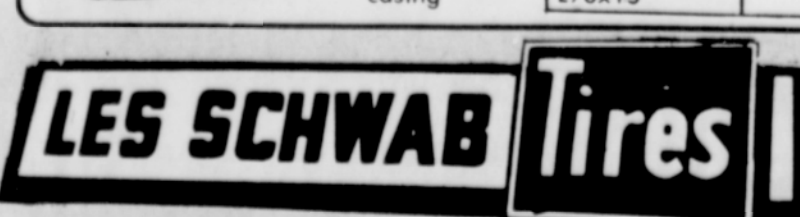
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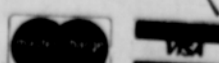
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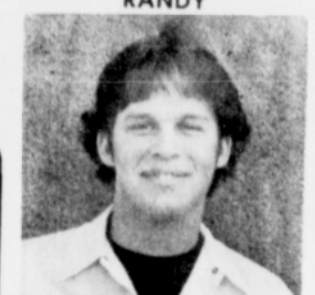


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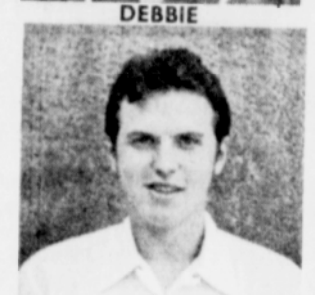
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Black powder shoot slated

A Black Powder Shoot will be held next Sunday, June 14, at a site on Veneer Road, just east of Sandy.

There will be muzzle-loader competition as well as contests with cannons, pistols, tomahawks and others.

The shoot is sponsored by the Barlow Trail Long Rifles.

The club holds monthly shoots; this will be the last one before the Sandy Mountain Festival competition in July.

The shoot will be one mile off U.S. Highway 26 on Veneer Road.

Hunter safety course on tap

A Hunter Safety course will be held in Sandy during the last week of June.

Exact dates will be set later.

For more information, inquire at the Sandy Police Department in City Hall.