



Photos by Mark Floyd

## Unbeaten Blues win tournament, eye state playoffs

The Sandy Blues kept their unbeaten record intact this weekend, sweeping to first place in the Tri-County girls softball league district tournament.

The Blues won three straight games and qualified as the district's top representative at state. Sandy, 16-0, will travel to Yoncalla Aug. 1-2 for the state tournament.

The Blues opened with a 9-4 win over the Sandy Whites. They broke open a close game in the fifth with a six-run burst. Stephanie Lofgren and Debbie Evans led the Blues' hitting attack with three hits apiece and Candi Rudisill stretched a triple into a home run with some good baserunning. She also got the win on the mound, whiffing five.

The win put the Blues up against a tough Corbett team in the semifinals. The game was scoreless through three innings, then Corbett picked up four runs in the bottom of the fourth and threatened to make the game a runaway. But the Blues fought back in the fifth with six big runs and picked up a pair of insurance runs in the sixth. Rudisill poked a three-run homer and Laura Williamson had a clutch single in the rally.

The Blues needed just one more win in the finals to take first and the foe was once again Corbett. A Corbett win would have forced an extra game, since both teams would have had one loss, but the Blues came through with a 6-5 win to clinch the tourney.

Jackie Kunkel started the Blues off with a triple and she scored on Rudisill's single. Corbett picked up two runs in the second and three in

the third to go up 5-1, but the Blues came back in their half of the third when Kunkel and Rudisill singled, then scored on Williamson's double.

Rudisill singled again in the fifth and Williamson drove her home once more. The Sandy defense, meanwhile, kept Corbett in check during the last three innings with errorless ball.

Sandy tied the score when Tami Tinjum slammed a sixth inning triple and scored on Lofgren's single. That knotted it at 5-5 and sent the game into extra innings.

Melissa O'Malley then knocked home the winning run in the seventh inning with a double over the second baseman's head.



Candi Rudisill scores a big sixth inning run for Sandy against Corbett, sending her teammates into celebration (top). The Blues' tough defense turned over a pair of double plays, including this tagout by catcher Tami Tinjum (above). The Blues, coached by Marie Rudisill, (left) will play at state next week.

## Five Sandy teams in Tri-County tourneys

The regular season came to an end last week for Tri-County baseball and five Sandy teams have qualified for the district playoffs.

Sandy Coast to Coast will play Saturday at 11:30 a.m. at Wilkes School in a Midget Federal League game.

In Midget American play, Sandy and Orient were scheduled to meet Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at Wilkes. In Midget National action, Sandy and Lynch were to meet Tuesday night. Results of neither game were available at press time.

Sandy has two teams in the Junior District tournament, scheduled for Orient School. The Sandy Junior National team will go up against Sandy Palisades at 6:30 p.m. Thursday. In the Federal League, Sandy Bruce Cook Ins. will take on Lynch this Saturday at 9 a.m.

The Federal teams need just two wins to automatically advance to state. Meanwhile, the National and American teams must do battle with each other for the right to play the second Federal team for the remaining state playoff spot.

In games last week, the Sandy Truck Liners warmed up for district by stopping Welches 7-2 in Midget American ball on Tony Stadsted's no-hitter. Stadsted faced just 20 batters and whiffed 11. Welches got its two runs on errors. Stadsted helped his own cause by going two-for-three, including a double. Toby Jewell also had a double for the Liners.

Mt. Hood Dairy Queen, 4-9, ended its

season on a winning note, dumping Orient 27-11 Thursday. Dale Boyd got the win on the mound for Sandy, with some good relief help from Randy Lamm and James Hopkins.

Boyd had a big triple in the second, then stole home, but the big blow came in the fourth when Mike Sullivan walloped a three-run homer. Everyone on Dairy Queen scored at least once in the slugfest.

In Junior Federal play, Sandy Bruce Cook Ins. placed sixth in the 12-team Aloha Tournament over the weekend.

Sandy opened the tourney by dropping an 11-7 game to Cedar Hills. Sandy pitchers walked 10 batters in the third inning, allowing Cedar Hill to come up with eight big runs and that turned out to be the game.

Sandy came back against Rockwood, though, blanking the Tri-County team 7-0 on Darren Pullen's two-hitter. He went the distance and struck out 10. Matt Novotny went three-for-three in the game and he and Tony Hale blasted home runs.

Bruce Cook Ins. then nipped Canby 12-9, keeping Sandy alive in the tournament. Novotny cleared the bases with a double and Morgan Emrich and Hale had two hits apiece. Randy Wheeler got the win for Sandy.

In the battle for fourth place, though, Sandy ran into a tough Sunset Valley team and dropped a 13-1 decision. It was the second straight game on the hot Sunday for Sandy, which ran out of steam. Gerald Hale had two hits in a losing effort for Sandy.

## Paola's drops twinbill

Sandy Paola's American Legion baseball team closed out its season Sunday dropping a doubleheader to a tough Benson team from Portland.

Benson took the opener 6-4, then won the second game 13-5.

Sandy trailed 6-1 going into the bottom of the seventh inning in the first game, but started a rally. Melvin Gedde reached base on an error and Mike Lund slapped a double. Dan Paola singled Gedde home and Troy Wolf sacrificed the runners. After Mo Contreras drew a base on balls, John Martin singled home Lund and Paola, but the rally ended there.

Paola's got his run in the fifth when Keith Powell hit a shot that the Benson second baseman misplayed and Lund scored on the error. Lund had reached base on a walk.

Lund and Martin led Paola's with two hits apiece.

Sandy had kept Benson in check on one run for five innings, but the visitors came up with four in the sixth. Kraig Gifford pitched for Sandy and did quite well, according to pitching coach John Rohr.

"Kraig turned in a real strong five innings," Rohr said. "It was probably his best outing of the summer. He baffled them with his off-speed pitches, but he just got a little tired out there."

In the second game, Benson rolled to a 10-0 lead before Paola's could get on the board. Sandy came up with three in the fifth on four walks and Gordon Brinser's two-run single.

Paola's got two more in the sixth when Gedde reached on an error, Wolf singled, Powell hit an RBI single, John Martin walked and Randy Martin singled home Wolf.

But Benson scored three more in the sixth and won it 13-5.

## City playoffs underway

The second annual Sandy Recreation Department's slow-pitch softball tournament began Monday night and will run through this weekend.

Ron's No Place dumped Circle D 11-3 in the opener and Hoodview Royals knocked off Reliable Realty 4-2.

Other games were scheduled for mid-week, but results were not available by press time. Friday's action calls for Hoodview to take on the winner of the Eastside Wallboard-Zigzag Store contest at 6 p.m. at Cedar Ridge.

Dodson's Store will tangle with the winner of the game between Buckboard Pizza and Brian's Sporting Goods this Saturday at 9 a.m. at Sandy High School.

The semifinals are slated for 10:30 a.m. Sunday at SUHS and the finals will be at 1:30 p.m. that afternoon.

Dodson's, 8-2, ended the regular season with the Men's Division championship. Ron's No Place, Reliable

Realty and Eastside tied for second at 7-3, forcing a three-way playoff for the second berth in the regional tournament.

Ron's drew a bye in the first game and Reliable nipped Eastside 13-10. In the deciding game, Ron's then squeaked by Reliable 13-12.

Dodson's went on to the regional tournament and lost to Milwaukie 13-3. Second place Ron's went to Molalla for the "B" tournament and lost 10-0 in the opener, but came back to win two more games. Ron's then suffered a 5-4 setback and settled for fifth in the tournament. Dub Hayes was named Most Valuable Player for Ron's.

G.T.E. won the Women's Division of the Recreation League, but lost its first two games and was eliminated from the regional tournament. Tualatin Hills won 15-5 over G.T.E. and Cascade scored an 11-8 win.

## stuff shots

# Baseball players taking leisurely part-time jobs for granted

by MARK FLOYD  
Sports Editor

It's hard to concentrate on anything for a great length of time in the summer, especially when it concerns work.

But sitting back in a lounge chair, and perhaps sipping a gimlet or two, one can't help but reflect on what a strange summer this has been without professional baseball.

It seems that the fans have survived and gotten to the point where they don't care one way or the other whether the season resumes. Meanwhile, a majority of the ballplayers are working at various menial tasks, to ease the boredom and make a little beer money. Most of them seem to enjoy the labor, but they have a few hundred thou to fall back on. What would they think about hard labor if their family survival depended on it, year in and year out?

Taking up the void, particularly on cable television, has been minor league baseball. A

lot of people have found that Class AAA ball is even more entertaining, since you never know what to expect. The play is good, but some classical faux pas can usually be viewed in the field or on the basepaths and some of the entertainment supplied by the fans and management can't be found on the major league level.

Tennis continues to boom in the United States, and most of Portland's Davis Cup tickets have already been sold. Of the 12,000 or so Memorial Coliseum season tickets, more than two-thirds have been gobbled up. That's rather interesting, considering that the Portland Timbers soccer team has had a horrid time drawing fans this summer and the Beaver baseball team has had an up-and-down attendance season.

This promises to be one of the more interesting basketball seasons locally in recent years. Several players are trying to make the grade in the NBA, such as Oregon State's Steve Johnson, Ray Blume and Mark Rad-

ford, while others, including former University of Portland star Darwin Cook, are shooting for a starting spot. This will also be an exceptional year in the Pac-10 conference with one of the best races in a long time on tap. Benson's A.C. Green should keep local writers busy as he'll blend in with another Oregon prep great, Charlie Sitton, at OSU.

Football practice is just around the corner and Oregon's Rich Brooks feels his team will be a contender. As usual, the California schools will be loaded and Washington will strong. The Ducks have a favorable schedule, however, and could conceivably sneak away with a Rose Bowl bid. They're going to need some help down the road from other Pac-10 teams, though.

Football has already started in Canada and games can be seen on the ESPN network on cable. Canadian football is a little different and a lack of name familiarity prevents it from becoming much of a hit on TV. There are a few name players, though, such as

former Ram Vince Ferragamo, who looked absolutely horrid in his CFL debut on TV last week. Ferragamo didn't get much help, though, and a quarterback can't block for himself. He may still come around.

Perhaps it is because of the baseball strike, but golf is even getting more interesting these days. The major tournaments have always been intriguing, but a number of human interest stories have put the hobby-sport back on the front pages. There was Nicklaus' 83 at the British Open, the resurgence of 51-year-old Arnold Palmer and, of course, the Jan Stephenson controversy. The best golf story of the year, however, was Jerry Pate diving into the pond after winning his first tournament in years. The pictures in the papers the next day didn't do the startling event credit; those who viewed his swan dive live got quite a treat.

There are a lot of other things going on, but it's simply too hot to think. Perhaps another gimlet...