



Photos by Mark Floyd

Ron's No Place sweeps Dodson's for city crown

Ron's No Place swept through the Sandy Slow Pitch Softball Tournament and claimed the city title.

Ron's won in grand style. After finishing in second place during the regular season, Ron's came back to dump league winner Dodson's 17-3. The win put Ron's into the finals and its opponent turned out to be old rival Dodson's.

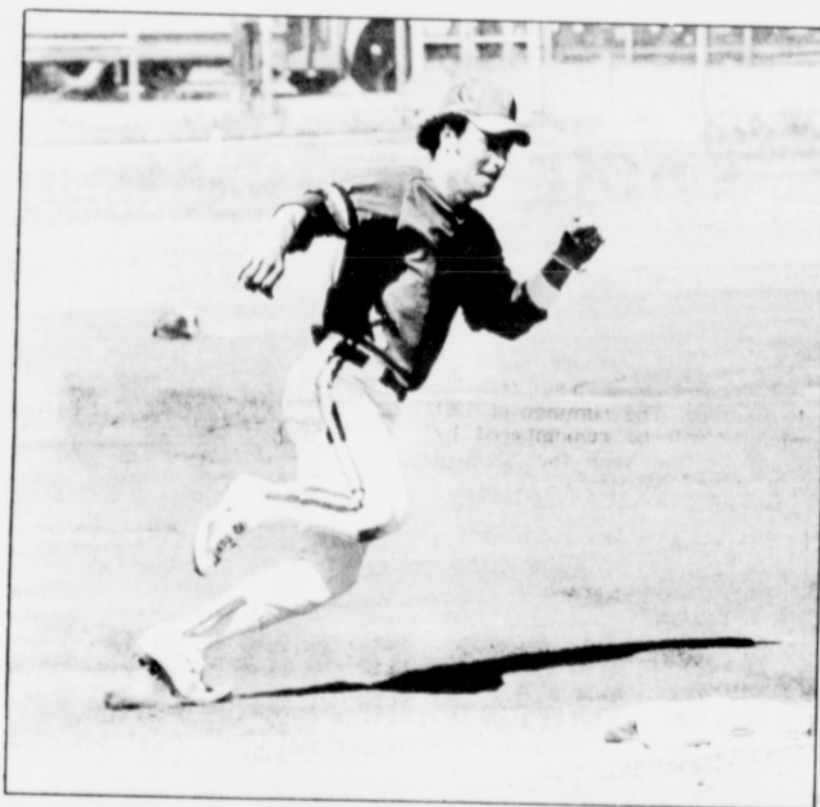
Dodson's fought back with a 14-12 win over Circle D in the double elimination tournament to earn another shot at Ron's in the finals.

With one loss already, it would have taken Dodson's a two-game sweep to win the title. A second game wasn't necessary. Undefeated Ron's exploded for nine runs in the first inning and went on to defeated Dodson's again, this time by a 12-5 score.

Now it's the women's turn. The first Sandy Women's Softball Tournament will be played Aug. 8-9 at Sandy High School. The opening game will at 9 a.m. First round opponents will be Carlson Chevrolet against Tri-County Electric and The Store against Wholesale Auto. At 10:30 a.m., Tollgate will tangle with Brightwood. Regular season champ G.T.E. will get a bye.

The finals are slated for Sunday at 1:30 p.m. G.T.E. placed third recently in the Dea's Invitational held at Sam Barlow High School. Carlson Chevrolet won the sportsmanship trophy, the same title it took at last week's Estacada Timber Festival.

Ron's No Place used its tight defense to dump Dodson's in the finals of the Sandy Softball Tournament. Ron's third baseman slaps the tag on a Dodson's runner (top) as Ron's pitcher Wayne Stone shows off his form (left). Dub Hayes was a catalyst for Ron's in the outfield and on the basepaths (middle). Sandy City Council president Deane Wesselink presented trophies after the tournament.



Fish and Wildlife Department stocking lakes by helicopter

Some places it is said to rain cats and dogs. But last month, from the skies over nearly 450 lakes along the Oregon Cascades, it literally rained fish.

Shortly after the July 4th weekend, the Department of Fish and Wildlife's annual high lakes stocking program began. In the past, nearly all this work had been done from fixed-wing aircraft, the fingerling trout dropped from several hundred feet into the alpine lakes. That works well in the larger lakes. The fall of the tiny fish is slowed by air resistance and they settle lightly to the water, little the worse for wear from their experience.

With smaller lakes and those tucked in the bottom of a hole, however, the job is less than foolproof. The problem is hitting the lake. The fixed-wing craft drops its load from an elevation of 100 to 200 feet at speeds of around 80 miles per hour. When the pilot is trying to maneuver amongst the peaks and fight conflicting air currents, it can be a tough proposition to hit a lake only a few acres in size.

Last year the helicopter entered the

scene on an experimental basis and was used to stock some of the smaller or more difficult lakes. The small scale operation proved such a success that the program was expanded this year.



by Ken Durbin

Stocking was divided this season between helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft. Of 445 lakes scheduled for stocking, 140 were done by helicopter and 305 with fixed-wing. Some 455,000 fingerling trout were stocked in all; 106,000 rainbow trout, 314,000 brook trout, and 35,000 cutthroat.

The large helicopter is under contract to Region VI of the U.S. Forest Service

for fire control. During times between fires it is on standby. And during this period it was available for stocking fish with the understanding that in the event of fire it would be pulled off stocking and returned to its primary use.

Stocking had to be delayed for a few days, in fact, because the helicopter was called to a fire in northern California.

Fish and water are carried in plastic buckets with air-tight lids which have been fitted with ordinary tire valves so they can be pressurized with oxygen. In addition, ice is sometimes added which reduces the metabolism of the fish and also increases the amount of oxygen the water can hold. Each bucket is numbered, and a master plan aboard the helicopter indicates which buckets go in each lake.

In practice, the helicopter proves an ideal tool for stocking the hard-to-reach lakes. It can hover as low as 20 feet off the water while a crew member simply dumps the appropriate buckets of water and fish from an open door. Hitting the lake is assured, and in some of

the lake basins where there are many lakes close together, it is possible to stock them more quickly by helicopter than with fixed-wing.

The cost of stocking with helicopter is only slightly higher than with fixed-wing and the assurance of success on the smaller lakes makes the slight additional cost worthwhile.

Fishing in the high lakes is pretty much a man-made recreation as most of them were historically barren of fish. Many of them also lack conditions needed by fish to spawn and must be stocked regularly. Through the years the stocking program has adapted to technology. During the early days the fish were carried in milk cans by mule train and stocking took all summer. Then came the airplane and now the helicopter, and the job takes only a few days in July.

The silver gray squirrel is the focus of a research study which began this spring and will continue the next three or four years. Susan Foster, doctoral can-

didate in the Environmental Sciences Program at Portland State University, is asking the cooperation of Oregon squirrel hunters.

Cooperating hunters will be asked to provide certain nonedible parts of the squirrels they shoot as well as brief information on each kill. Foster hopes to learn more about silver gray squirrel population size, age structure, habitat requirements, size of home range, migration habits and other factors.

Relatively little is known about this unique animal which is found only in the Pacific Northwest. Its range extends from San Luis Obispo, Calif., on the south, Foster said, to mid-Washington on the north. The species, *Sciurus griseus*, is found in a much more restricted range than its eastern cousins, the eastern gray squirrel and the fox squirrel.

In Oregon it is most abundant in the pine-oak habitat of Hood River and Wasco counties, and in the southeastern corner of the state. Some are found throughout the Willamette Valley.

Foster's study will center primarily

on the White River Wildlife Area bordering the east edge of the Mt. Hood National Forest. She said seven drop boxes will be set up in the study area. The drop stations will have plastic bags for parts collections, and tags for recording information about each squirrel. Also at each station will be information on the study and instructions to hunters about the specific data and parts needed.

The drop stations will be located at Rock Creek Reservoir, Pine Hollow and Jordan Creek campgrounds, Bonney Crossing, Little Badger campground, Barlow Ranger District office in Dufur and at the ODFW district office in The Dalles.

Hunters interested in cooperating in the study can learn more by writing: Susan Foster, Box 335, Gresham, OR 97030, or by contacting the department's district office in The Dalles, telephone: 296-4628.

The study is part of Foster's doctoral work, but information from it will be available to the Department's management program.