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Graphics teacher questions budget emphasis

by SCOTT NEWTON

A drafting and graphics instructor at Sandy Union High School questioned whether the correct emphasis is given to vocational education in the district at a school board meeting Monday night.

"What I'm going to do is going to be viewed by some, I know it is already viewed, as being sort of disloyal to the school and that sort of thing," Paul Montgomery told the board.

"I hope it's not that way. I'm trying to present it in a positive way."

Montgomery gave the five board members an eight-page chart comparing costs of co-curricular activities, vocational education, and other areas.

"I think the figures are very accurate," he said.

One set of figures reported that \$319.91 is spent per student in co-curricular activities, while \$183.18 is spent per student in vocational education.

MACHINERY SAID UNAVAILABLE

"When we're trying to get ready for a skills competition, or when we're trying to help students in the classroom with machinery, we can be told we can't get a piece of machinery fixed that's vital to someone learning how to be a machinist, or trying to learn how to be a machinist because the lathe is so off-center you can't even get a cut on it."

"We're told that money isn't available, and I understand the economic conditions, don't get me wrong on that."

"We're told that we can't have the money to do that but on the same day a wrestling team goes from here to North Bend for one day (a Friday), and Saturday also, costing two substitute teachers' salaries, plus transportation and the driver."

"I suspect that's over \$400 right there."

Montgomery said that that is just one example.

He said that while there is equip-

ment the vocational arts department needs, or needs repaired, "the girls basketball team goes down to the women's basketball tournament" in Portland.

Montgomery told the board, "Now, my point with that again, is, that's OK, if we have the money and that's what the board wants, and that's what the community wants. "But I just want to make the point that we need to think about this stuff some more and evaluate those sorts of things."

STATEMENTS TROUBLING

He said that what brought this up were statements by people who

"could have a very large impact on local schools."

Those statements include, "Vocational classes are more or less like a hobby," "Programs cost too much," and "There is no vested interest in vocational education, either for it or against it."

He said that he does not understand the implications behind the last statement.

Montgomery said that he wouldn't want to see activities cut back unless it was for some important reason.

"The future of this country rests with technically trained people, and I don't believe that that's an exaggeration," he said.

Lynn Sondenaa, metals instructor, reported to the board on the outcome of the SUHS skills contest. Fourteen contests were held with 125 vocational education students competing. Sandy won 17 awards.

He also cited other information in support of Montgomery.

"I'm upset to think that statements are made that vocational education is de-emphasized here," Superintendent Jack Peters said.

"That bothers me because I agree with you, Paul. Vocational education is an integral part of life. And I believe if you don't have a saleable skill, then you're in trouble."

He said that, not having one of

Montgomery's financial statements in front of him, he could not discuss the numbers on it, but pointed out that vocational education is the second-largest expenditure on the proposed 1982-83 budget, second only by a little more than \$9,000 to communications, an area where all students will take at least one class during high school.

BUDGET HEARINGS SET

In other business, and before Montgomery addressed the board, the 1982-83 budget was discussed.

Matthew Shields Jr. was elected chairman of the budget committee. Patty Klascius was elected

secretary. Terry Lenchitsky, Dan McDonald and Marvin Hansen are also on that committee, in addition to members of the board of education.

Budget committee meetings will be at SUHS in rooms 50-51. The first meeting will be tonight, Feb. 11, at 7:30 p.m. The second and third meetings, also set for 7:30, will be Feb. 16 and 18.

A budget of \$4,959,313 is proposed. That is a 7.2 percent increase over the \$4,625,322 budget for 1981-82.

An A ballot of \$2,382,946, with a mill levy of \$3.90 per \$1,000 valuation, is proposed. That leaves \$716,992 for the B ballot, with a valuation of \$1.36 per \$1,000.

"We're proposing to you that we do almost what we did last year," Peters said, adding that some programs have been reduced or cut.

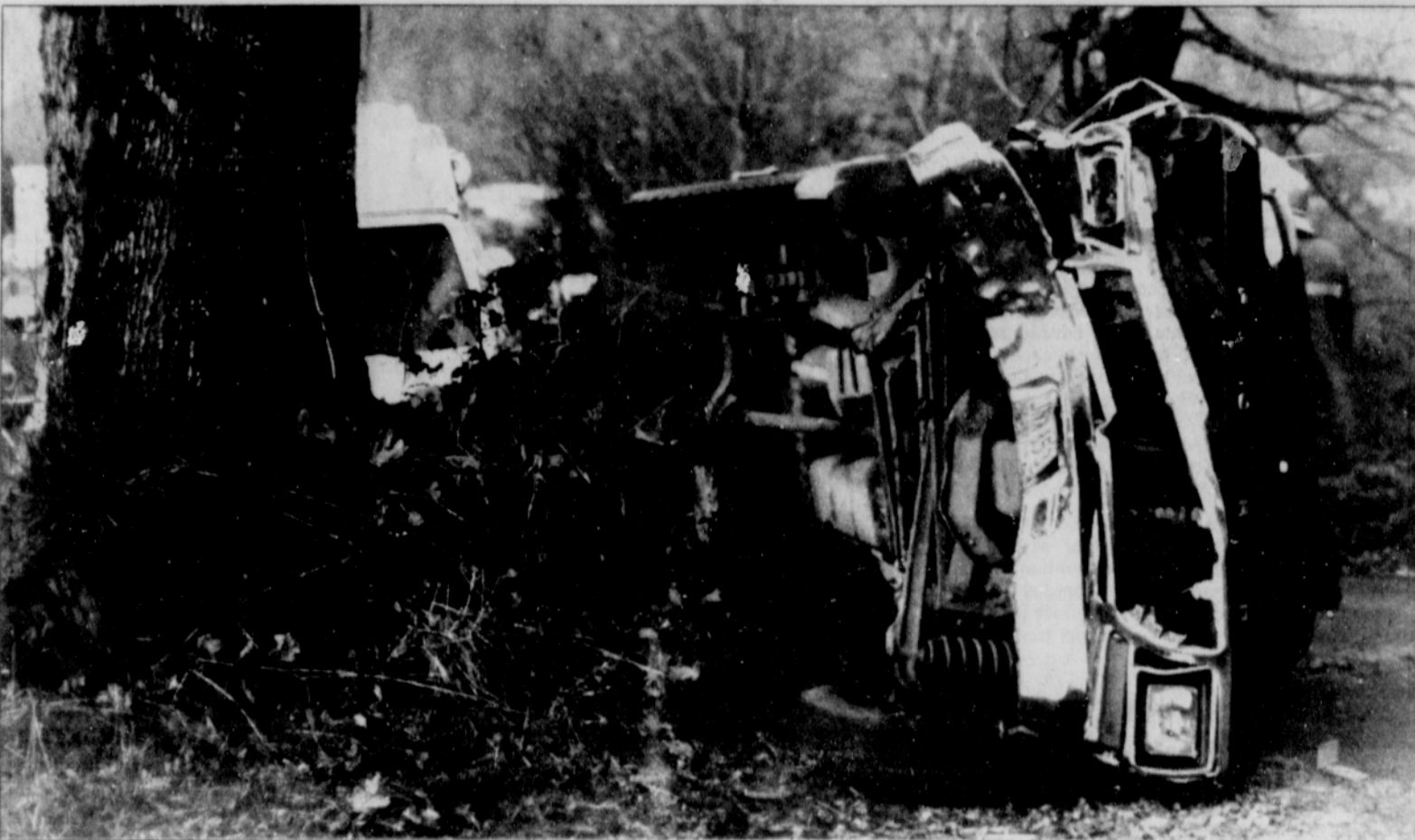


Photo by Dan Dillon

A Sandy man was injured Tuesday evening when the pickup truck he was driving slammed into a tree on Coalman Road. Eugene Halverson was taken

to Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center by Alpine Ambulance. He was treated for an injured shoulder and facial lacerations.

Gas leakage avoids water for time being

by MICHAEL P. JONES
Post Correspondent

The gasoline which spilled when a tanker overturned Jan. 15 on Highway 26 six miles east of Government Camp could eventually wind up in the head waters of the Salmon River, according to a Department of Environmental Quality spokesman.

Approximately 4,300 gallons of gasoline were spilled when a tanker trailer, being pulled by Kenneth Lee Dervy of St. Helens broke loose and began passing him.

Mark Fritzier, DEQ information officer, said that although the crew from Willamette Environmental Services, who responded to the scene for clean-up, could find no evidence of gasoline in the Salmon River drainage, the possibility still exists that some of it could get into the head waters.

Fritzier said that by the time WES crews arrived, there was little they could do because the gasoline had already leaked into the heavy pumice soil. The clean-up, he said, "was beyond any technology we have today. It was impossible to dig up half a mountain to find out where it went."

As temperatures warm, Fritzier expects most of the gasoline to evaporate although some could get into the water. If any does get into the water, according to Fritzier, the environmental impact is expected to be minimal because gasoline evaporates quickly.

"We don't have any plan or staff to monitor the situation," he said, "but we still have to rely upon the citizens to notify us if they see gasoline in the area."

Fritzier said that a likely place for the gas to appear would be in meadows where ground water from Mt. Hood's slopes appears to collect.

"If it turns up, and it may, it will be in the meadows and small streams nearby the spill site," he said.

DEQ officials know of no ground or surface water systems near the headwaters used for domestic purposes. Fritzier did indicate that there could be a number of "bootleg systems" where residences pump water directly from the river into homes.

"If people discover any gasoline, we'll respond immediately to clean it up, but we'll have to rely upon the recreationist and others in the outdoors to help us locate any sites," Fritzier said.

Test-core samples drilled by WES at the time of the accident showed that none of the spillage had then reached the river, according to Ed Minugh, who headed the WES operation.

To accommodate light industry

Commission recommends expanded sewer, water

Sandy should expand sewer and water capacity to accommodate more light industry and pursue a core area pedestrian shopping mall, a city Economic Development Commission has advised.

Recommendations and an economic appraisal of the city will be presented to the City Council 7:30 p.m. Feb. 16. Commission chairman George Morgan will present the group's findings after two years of study.

The Commission has recommended city government gear-up aggressively to handle additional commerce and market itself with brochures and personal contacts to businesses that might locate here.

The advisory panel noted in a report to Council that financing its marketing plans could prove difficult, but worthwhile to meet community economic development objectives.

Sparse industry and commercial development leave Sandy with problems, according to the Commission. These include slim local job opportunities and a small tax base, shouldered primarily by homeowners in the bedroom community.

The Commission report says ideal engineer for a new city industrial development plan would be a private investment group. Such a group, acting as a private land-holding corporation, developed the present Sandy Industrial Park.

Much of the city's designated industrial land today belongs to a few local landowners, who have voiced willingness to parcel off their property for sale or lease.

That includes large tracts of land in the hands of a few landowners west of S.E. 362nd Avenue. Duane Knapp and Ruben Hoffman of Sandy own approximately 75 acres of this undeveloped industrial land.

This land lies outside the city's present municipal boundaries. Sandy, however, has designated the land as industrial growth area in its Comprehensive Plan and figures little problem in annexing and servicing it with sewer and water, according to City Planner Don Wilson.

BONDS MAY BE NEEDED

The city, however, may require general obligation bonds or other city financing for extension of a major industrial sewer trunk line and a southwest water storage reservoir, according to the Commission report.

Best immediate potentials for industrial expansion within the city, according to the Commission's report, include the Mt. Hood Industrial Park being marketed privately at the west end of town.

Additional ready land within the city lies in the Sandy Truck Lines site and Sandy Industrial Park, which the

Commission claims is under-utilized with vacant or underdeveloped parcels.

The Commission also recommended the city strengthen Sandy's retail business sector by implementing a core area pedestrian mall, introduced in 1975 as the Sandy Downtown Plan.

MORE PARKING NEEDED

That plan called for covered walkways and offstreet parking.

The city has built one offstreet parking area at Heritage Square since introduction of that plan, but the Economic Development Commission feels parking is a lingering problem in Sandy.

Other hindrances to Sandy shopping, the Commission said, include lack of motels, a convention center and a shopping center that would attract shoppers to town.

The advisory group, however,

generally feels Sandy has a lot to offer toward economic growth. In its sales pitch for Sandy, the Commission report cites good industrial land opportunities, adequate commercial sites downtown, a labor pool for new employers and resources like plentiful water.

And while Sandy once feared sewer problems, a recent engineering report indicates the city could safely accommodate another 300 hookups without major expansion, City Manager Roger Jordan noted.

CITY'S LOCATION 'GOOD'

The Commission also figures the city claims a good strategic location for relocating businesses on a major highway near Portland, an international airport and recreational sites on Mount Hood.

Chairman George Morgan also represent's the Sandy Economic Development Commission in a three-city effort to attract more light industry to eastern Clackamas County.

The small industries attraction program of Sandy, Estacada and Molalla will provide each of the concerned small cities with a marketing package that city boosters will staff with sales points for their hometown.

Personal presentations by local boosters then will be made to firms likely to relocate.

Morgan said that Port of Portland technical advisors that are helping the small cities assure Sandy that its two-year planning and sales points put this city in an advantageous position, compared to Estacada and Molalla.

The uphill fight, according to Jordan, is to sell this end of the county as a proper site for industry, since county commissioners have deemed the Clackamas area as the county's industrial hub.

The next step in Sandy's marketing effort, then, will be preparation of a community profile for a sales packet to boost the locale for industrial and other commercial development.

Sandy's economic development commission has recommended in its report to City Council that the Commission be continued in present form or with volunteers to boost the area.

Stays within Ballot A guidelines

City budget proposal makes small jump

The city of Sandy will need slightly more than \$400,000 in taxes this year to balance the 1982-83 proposed budget.

According to the plan unveiled Monday night for Budget Committee and City Council members, the city's proposed 1982-83 budget is up only two-tenths of 1 percent over last year's appropriated budget. The General Fund is up slightly more than 6.7 percent over last year's budget.

As such, the city will be able to operate within the limitations of the state Ballot A formula based on inflation and growth.

If approved by voters on March 30, the budget would cost city taxpayers an estimated \$6.94 per \$1,000 assessed valuation for operation of the city and general obligation bonds already approved.

Last year, the tax rate was \$6.81 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

GENERAL FUND	
Police Department	\$302,713
Public Works	\$254,704
Library	\$85,744
City Manager's Office	\$74,418
Non-Departmental	\$54,920
Senior Citizens Program	\$54,432
Contingency Fund	\$46,075
Building Department	\$44,240
Planning Department	\$36,857
General Services	\$35,923
Recreation Department	\$31,858
Legal and Judicial	\$19,790
Parks-Parkways	\$5,800
Community Center	\$4,850
City Council	\$3,750
TOTAL	\$1,056,074

In his budget message, City Manager Roger Jordan noted that nearly all material and service appropriations are at the same level as

last year.

"Appropriations were increased only in cases where it has been proven that the existing appropriation

was not adequate, or where we simply have very little control over the increasing costs, such as the appropriation to pay utility service costs," Jordan said.

This year's budget projects a 5 percent cost-of-living increase for all city personnel, with a modified merit step for those employees who are not at the top of their salary range at this time.

The modified salary package enabled the city to prepare the budget within the Ballot A state formula.

Because the city will stay within the Ballot A limitation, the state will cooperate with the taxpayers.

As a result, 30 percent of the local property tax burden will be paid by the state under the program which has been in effect for the past three years.

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