

Eight swimmers qualify for state meet

Mark Smith, SUHS swim coach, told the members of the 200 medley relay team Friday night that if they believed in themselves, they could beat the Reynolds team in the district finals the next day and qualify for the state meet.

The relay team, comprised of Matt Roth, Jamie Tuttle, Richard Rolph

and Rick Topliff, had finished 18-hundredths of a second behind Reynolds in the preliminary round.

It was a different story in the finals, however, as the Sandy boys won by 59-hundredths of a second, taking first and earning a trip to the state meet at Mt. Hood Community College this weekend.

Smith said it was ultimate thrill of the season.

"We were very pleased," he said.

There is one other thing that could happen that would top the season off just right.

That would be a gold medal for Gayle Roth in the 50 free.

"Gayle and I have been working

toward that for four years," Smith said.

"I've been telling her all season long this is her year to place first in the 50 free," Smith said. "And, she believes she can do it."

He said that she has been working hard all season, and has put in more yardage than ever before.

The qualifying time for all-American status by the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches of America is 24.7, and that's Roth's goal.

Roth turned in a 25.57 Saturday. She still holds the district record from last year.

Roth did not taper her workouts down for the district meet, so her times are expected to drop at the state meet.

The Sandy senior also qualified for state in the 100 free, setting a district record with her time of 56.17. She broke the record she set last year, 56.34.

"She's been in the finals (at state) before," Smith said. "I think this is her year. She should finish in the top three in the 100 free."

Smith also believes the boys 200 medley relay team, and the girls 400 free relay team, can place at state.

One reason Smith is so exhilarated by the 200 medley relay team is that three of the four swimmers are freshmen.

Rick Topliff is a senior.

Topliff broke a school record Saturday with a 22.96 finish in the 50 free. He broke Mark Mayfield's 1980 record of 23.16.

"Rick had a very good day," Smith said. To qualify for the state meet, one had to either win an event or meet the state qualifying time.

Topliff finished fourth in the 50 free, but met the qualifying time.

A goal for the 200 medley relay team, by the way, is to break a 1977 school record of 1:46.3 (they went 1:46.96 Saturday).

The 400 free relay team, comprised of Bonita Connelly, Teresa Lamer, Heidi Lamer and Gayle Roth, are aiming for a 3:57 or better at state, according to Smith.

They will taper for state this week. They finished first Saturday with a 4:02.5.

Smith said that he's worked with

Roth, Connelly, Lamer and Nici DuBois since they were 10 years old.

"I will truly miss them," Smith said.

There were some disappointments. Matt Roth, who reportedly was coming down with a cold, missed the qualifying time in the 100 back by 11-hundredths, and was beat by seven-hundredths of a second in the 100 fly.

"He's a freshman and will be coming back," Smith said.

Also, the girls wanted badly to defeat Gresham, having finished second to them for the third consecutive year.

But Smith said that he and Carl Neuenfeldt, assistant coach, were pleased with the team. Smith said that they had the quality swimmers, but not the depth, to win the district title.

Out of 37 individual swims Friday, Smith said they set 21 lifetime best records and six season bests.

He said that Brian Stamm did an excellent job last weekend, and improved a lot during the season.

"He'll be an excellent addition to our team in the future," Smith said.

Junior Lisa Izer was credited with improving greatly in the butterfly.

Junior Kurt Herzog was dubbed "The Iron Man" for turning in good back-to-back performances in the 100 fly and 100 free.

"It takes a lot of strength to handle those sprints back-to-back," he said.

Junior Donna Nelson was credited with having a good season. "She gained a lot of confidence in this meet," Smith said.

Sophomore Dawn Miller turned in a lifetime best in the 100 free. "She did an excellent job," Smith said. "She's a hard worker."

The preliminaries at MHCC Friday will be from 1:30 to 4 p.m. for the boys, and from 6 to 8:30 p.m. for the girls.

The finals for the boys will be Saturday from 2 to 4:30 p.m., and for the girls, from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Individual girls

200 Medley Relay: Nici DuBois, Julie Dasher, Donna Nelson and Dawn Miller, 6th, 2:14.2.

200 Free: Bonita Connelly, 2nd, 2:10.48; Teresa Lamer, 6th, 2:15.49; Shauny Thoreson, 11th, 2:24.03.

200 IM: Heidi Lamer, 6th, 2:38.76; Nici DuBois, 12th, 2:53.93.

50 Free: Gayle Roth, 1st, 25.57.

100 Fly: Lisa Izer, 8th, 1:21.21.

100 Free: Gayle Roth, 1st, 56.17; Bonita Connelly, 2nd, 58.59; Dawn Miller, 7th, 1:06.51; Donna Nelson, 8th, 1:07.0.

500 Free: Teresa Lamer, 2nd, 5:58.13; Lisa Izer, 10th, 6:45.27.

100 Back: Nici DuBois, 9th, 1:17.19; Donna Nelson, 10th, 1:17.22.

100 Breast: Heidi Lamer, 8th, 1:20.36; Julie Dasher, 11th, 1:24.58.

400 Free Relay: Bonita Connelly, Teresa Lamer, Heidi Lamer and Gayle Roth, 1st, 4:02.5.

Individual boys

200 Medley Relay: Matt Roth, Jamie Tuttle, Richard Rolph and Rick Topliff, 1st, 1:46.3.

200 Free: Shawn Burns, 5th, 1:57.88; Mark Gunderson, 11th, 2:03.32.

200 IM: Richard Rolph, 4th, 2:16.09; Jamie Tuttle, 5th, 2:17.40.

50 Free: Rick Topliff, 4th, 22.96.

100 Fly: Matt Roth, 2nd, 56.75; Kurt Herzog, 9th, 1:03.23.

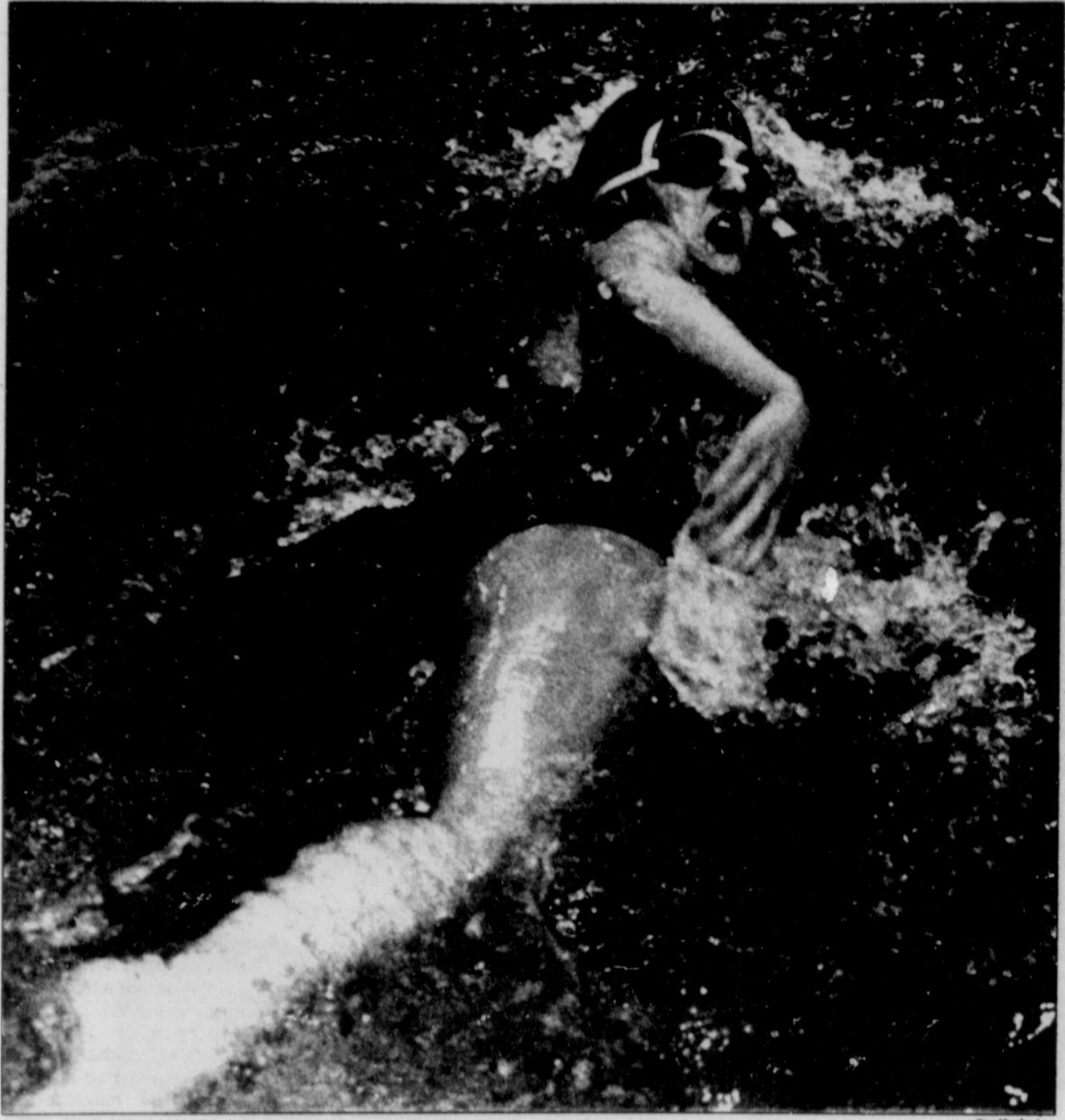
100 Free: Rick Topliff, 3rd, 51.15; Kurt Herzog, 9th, 54.48.

500 Free: Shawn Burns, 4th, 5:11.19; Mark Gunderson, 9th, 5:38.23.

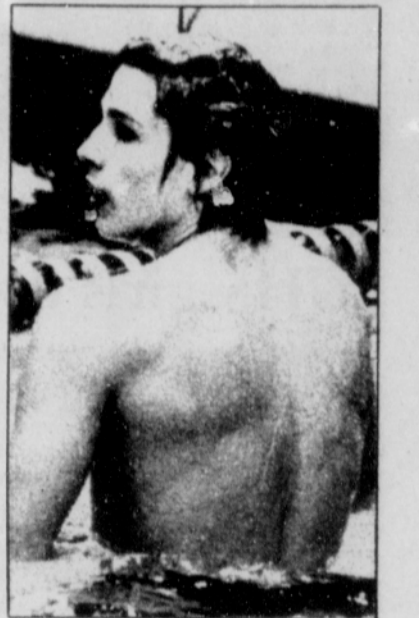
100 Back: Matt Roth, 3rd, 59.73; Richard Rolph, 5th, 1:04.26.

100 Breast: Jamie Tuttle, 4th, 1:07.24.

400 Free Relay: Shawn Burns, Mark Gunderson, Brian Stamm and Kurt Herzog, 3rd, 3:42.12.



Shauny Thoreson competes for the Pioneers at the district meet. Staff photo



Rick Topliff

Wrestlers down Silverton, 44-15; prepare for district meet

Wrestlers in the lower weights came through for the Pioneers Thursday night at Silverton, with Sandy winning 44-15.

Coach Ron Calhoun said that three outstanding efforts were turned in.

"Mo Contreras wrestled a pretty good kid and just darn near beat him," Calhoun said. Sandy's 141 pounder lost 6-4.

"And then, John Cox kind of came out of his shell and wrestled a real good match. He looked really, really good."

Cox, a 98 pounder, won 5-0.

Randy Swanson, a 115 pounder, won 5-1, and was credited with doing an "outstanding job."

"His opponent has been doing well in league," Calhoun said. "Randy got kind of fired up and just wrestled quite tough."

As usual, Sandy dominated the upper weights, with Dan Martin, Chuck Kearney, Cal McKinnis and Tim Sytsma winning by falls, and Randy Carmony, a 191 pounder, winning 13-1.

Larry Topliff, a 106 pounder, won by fall, and Robert Paul, a 130 pounder, won 9-1.

The Pioneers ended up fourth in the Timber Valley League, with Canby, Oregon City and Sweet Home tying for first.

All four teams are among the top 10 in The Oregonian's coaches poll. Canby (The Cougars downed Oregon City by a point last week) is ranked second. Oregon City is third, Sandy seventh and Sweet Home eighth.

Junior 168 pounder Chuck Kearney takes a 23-0 record into the district meet this weekend, and senior heavyweight Tim Sytsma is 22-0-1.

McKinnis is 21-2, Martin is 22-1 and Carmony is 17-3.

Calhoun hopes to get Topliff (It could take some arguing, as the junior 106 pounder missed two matches), Martin, Kearney and Carmony seeded first. Sytsma and Oregon City's heavyweight tied in a match earlier this season, but beat their other league opponents, so will in all probability be seeded number one and two.

Cal McKinnis could probably get the top seed at 178, but he'll be wrestling in the 168-pound weight division, where Calhoun would like to see him and Kearney wrestle in the finals.

Two wrestlers from each weight class may enter the district tournament. This is different than it is in some states, and Calhoun said that he thinks it's a good system as it encourages second varsity wrestlers to stick with the program.

It could work out especially well

for Sandy. Calhoun said that he sees no reason why Carmony and Scott Skipper couldn't meet in the finals of the district meet, and then possibly meet again in the finals at state.

Skipper, a junior 191 pounder, has just recently come off a knee injury, and has been wrestling second varsity, when wrestling, most of the season.

Calhoun said that they have a number of varsity wrestlers, besides Topliff and those in the upper weights, who could do well in district competition if they wrestle well.

Mike Rohweder has an opportunity to do well. He's got all the tools, Calhoun said. He just needs to quit working "106-pound moves on 130-pound guys."

Rohweder was a 106 pounder last year.

Other second varsity wrestlers that could do well include sophomores Loren Bateman and Frank McKinnis.

McKinnis is 23-0.

"I don't think he thinks he can be beaten," Calhoun said about McKinnis.

"He's not even serious. He's just having fun. But, he's also quite powerful, and he has this uncanny sense of positioning. He's pinned

almost everyone.

"Like I say, the most interesting thing is that he's just having a whole lot of fun."

The district meet will be at Canby High School from noon until 9 p.m. on Friday. On Saturday, the sessions will run from noon till 5 p.m., with the finals starting at 7.

Sandy 44, Silverton 15

98: John Cox won 5-0 over Roth; 106: Larry Topliff pinned Cronin, 3rd, 4:49; 115: Randy Swanson won 5-1 over Dunagan; 123: Bill Mathews fell 5-2 to Palmquist; 130: Robert Paul won 9-1 over Dennis; 136: Mike Rohweder fell 9-7 to Mack; 141: Mo Contreras fell 6-4 to Caldwell; 148: Dan King was pinned by Moll, 1st, 1:05; 157: Dan Martin pinned Harris, 3rd, 4:39; 168: Cal McKinnis pinned Patten, 3rd, 5:33; 178: Chuck Kearney pinned Jones, 1st, 1:24; 191: Randy Carmony won 13-1 over Teeny; HWT: Tim Sytsma pinned Bielenberg, 1st, :56.

2nd Varsity 52, Silverton 8

98: Brad Emerson pinned Andrews, 2nd, 3:03; 106: Mel Gedde won 5-1 over Martin; 115: Jeff Smith pinned Duff, 1st, :43; 123: Hui Choi pinned McCoy, 3rd, 5:21; 130: Destry Fry fell 7-2 to Dunagan; 136: Bret Kearney won 4-3 over Christensen; 141: Paul Gagner won 3-1 over Kuenzi; 148: Bill Bowman fell 4-2 to Ormond; 157: Bob Weyer pinned Allen, 2nd, 3:23; 168: Loren Bateman pinned Brockamp, 2nd, 3:09; 178: Frank McKinnis pinned Deckelman, 2nd, 2:30; 191: Scott Skipper pinned Haum, 1st, 1:29; HWT: Roland Aumuelier won by forfeit.

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Overtime games norm for boys

The Sandy boys played a little extra basketball this week.

Eighteen minutes extra, to be exact. They downed Sweet Home 56-55 in two overtimes Friday night, and then fell to Oregon City in another away game in four overtimes.

The Pioneers led the entire regulation game Tuesday night at Oregon City, with OCHS's Scott Fish tossing in a 20 footer to tie it up at the buzzer.

"For the first 31 minutes and 30 seconds we did all we needed to win," Coach Dan Brisbin said.

In that last half minute Sandy turned the ball over twice, and Oregon City took the momentum into the overtime periods.

Brisbin felt they played well defensively, but was disappointed that they didn't put more pressure on Oregon City offensively.

Give Oregon City credit, he said. An experienced team, "they've been through all that before, and it paid off for them."

The overtimes didn't go Sandy's way, with the visiting Pioneers spending most of the time playing catch-up.

Bob Nippert grabbed a rebound and put up the tying shot at the close of the second overtime.

In the fourth overtime Oregon City dominated, and converted on their free throws, for the 53-47 win.

Troy Wolf tied the game up at Sweet Home at the end of regulation play Friday night with a shot in the lane.

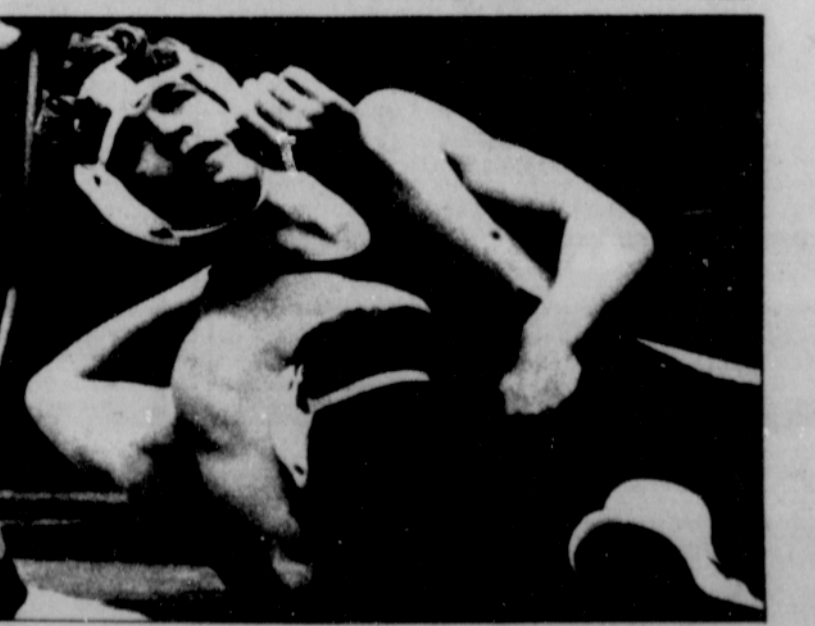
In the second overtime Palmer connected on a 15 footer to give Sandy the lead. The Huskies' Alan Vasey scored on an inside shot, and then was fouled.

He made one of two, which give Sweet Home a 55-54 lead.

The Pioneers took the ball down with 35 to 40 seconds left to play, and Mitch Paola took the winning shot from six feet out with 10 seconds left.



Above, Robert Paul works for a fall. Below, Loren Bateman does the same.



Girls ski team waxes opponents

Nobody even had a chance against the Sandy girls last week at Mt. Hood Meadows.

The six skiers on the girls team all finished in the top 11, winning the Valley League meet by a whopping 25 seconds.

In five years of high school coaching, Robert Karsten said he's never heard of a margin of victory that great.

Ulla Pearson won her third race. Sue Sarich was third, Charr Bridge was fourth, Ingrid Peterson seventh, Kristen Van Steenis 10th and Nicole Schouten 11th.

"That's all six, boom, boom, boom. That's really nice," Karsten said.

"I giggled. I love it."

And, all that was without standout Anne Sarich.

"You can see that we have a little depth to the team," Karsten said.

He said that the snow was hard, but not so hard that the edges of the skis would slide.

About Pearson, he said, "She's skiing really well. I've been impressed with her the last few weeks."

"The winning has helped her mentally."

He said that she's been going into the gates straighter, thus getting better runs.

Bridge has also been skiing well, Karsten said. "She's right in there. It's really nice seeing the improvement she's making."

For the boys, Steve Sarich finished second and Chris Welch fourth.

"They both did very well, skied extremely smoothly."

Senior Robert Spradling, who was described last week as very dependable, fell last Wednesday.

"He pushed himself just a step over the limit, which happens quite often," Karsten said.

He's put a lot of pressure on himself to do well, Karsten said.

Mike Wall also fell.

"Mike had an extremely good run going," Karsten said. He fell four gates from the bottom. Wall was 17th, Spradling 28th.

Karsten has discussed Sarich's abilities before. He is a freshman with good technique.

Karsten said that Welch has made rapid progress. "I think he's going to be real good," Karsten said about the junior.

He was also pleased with Jeff Day, who finished 13th, and Peter Valian, 15th.

Those two freshmen trade off with Erik Marter and Brian Silvey, two more freshmen with a lot of potential.

The boys finished third overall. Karsten said that they still have a shot at the state meet, but it's a long shot.

But, he said, they've been training hard, and could still put it all together.

The girls are still in second place in the Valley League behind Lakeridge. The girls didn't finish in a meet at Ski Bowl recently, which hurt them in the standings.

Karsten said that they compete against some of the top teams in the state, meaning Lakeridge and Lake Oswego.

Also, Wilson has a "hot skier," Paul Stember, who keeps edging out Sarich.

There's no doubt in Karsten's mind that the quality of high school skiing is going up.

"Some of the teams I've been able to take to state before wouldn't have a chance (now)."

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