

## Seven wrestlers advance to state meet

by SCOTT NEWTON

It was billed as the toughest district tournament in the state, and Sandy had two finals matches go into overtime.

Still, the general consensus seemed to be: "You ain't seen nothing yet."

The state tournament, at David Douglas High School, began today at 10 a.m. The first round for the lower weights will run until about 5 p.m., with the 6 o'clock session beginning with the 157 pounders.

The Pioneers finished third in the team standings at the district meet with 259 points. Oregon City took first, with 297.5, and Canby was second, with 270. Sweet Home was a distant fourth, with 181.

Junior Larry Topliff started the finals out right for Sandy. The 106 pounder downed Troy Santana of Sweet Home 10-5.

Topliff beat Santana 4-3 for third place in the state tournament last year in the 98-pound division.

Senior Dan Martin, returning state champion at 157, beat rival Mike McCarty of Oregon City in the finals.

Martin beat McCarty in overtime last year in the finals of the district tournament and won 3-2 in the Oregon City district.

Calhoun described McCarty as a "smart, powerful, (and) fast" wrestler, and said that Martin wrestled well against him.

Martin had a 3-1 lead for a good part of the match, and pleased the vocal Sandy crowd with a takedown in the final seconds to decisively take the district title.

Junior Chuck Kearney won the title in the 168-pound weight division, winning 13-1 over teammate Cal McKinnis, a senior, as the coaches sat by quietly.

Calhoun said that all he asks of his wrestlers in a situation like that is that they don't hurt one another. Calhoun added that McKinnis "wrestled very tough."

Kearney, a transfer student,

finished second at the AAA state tournament last year.

Senior Randy Carmony, a 191 pounder, beat David Priest of Oregon City, but it took an overtime to do it.

Calhoun said that an overtime is to Carmony's advantage because he's such a hard worker and is therefore in good shape.

Carmony also wrestled and won in overtime in the semifinals, this time to Priest's brother, Tom.

Sandy heavyweight Tim Systsma took a 22-0-1 record into the district meet, and Oregon City heavyweight Rob Burns had a 20-0-1 record. They tied in dual meet competition, but Burns got the best of Systsma in the district finals, finally winning in overtime.

Systsma exploded out of the bottom position in the closing seconds of regulation time to tie the match up, scoring a one-point escape. He fell 3-1 in the overtime.

Sophomore Loren Bateman surprised people with his performance.

He wrestled second varsity, at 168 pounds, all season. But last weekend, wrestling up a weight class, he won in the consolation finals over Joel Belgarde of Canby for third and a trip to the state meet (the top three place winners advance).

In his first match Bateman beat Tom Steinbacher of Sweet Home, the number three seed. Steinbacher, only a few weeks ago, beat Carmony 6-5 in a dual at Sweet Home.

Sandy junior Mike Rohweder finished fourth. About the 136 pounder, Calhoun said, "He tried to wrestle Greco-Roman and the game plan called for collegiate style."

Greco-Roman is a style that utilizes the upper body. Rohweder is a small 136 pounder, Calhoun pointed out.

Junior Scott Skipper, a 191 pounder, finished fourth. He downed Jeff LaRose of Molalla 15-10 se-

cond round, then lost in overtime to Tom Priest (who, remember, was in that overtime with Carmony).

Skipper then beat the number four seed, John Green of Canby, qualifying for the consolation finals, where he ran into LaRose again.

With one minute left in the match, and the score tied 3-3, Skipper let LaRose go. He was then down by a point, but was working for a two-point takedown.

One time he shot in, and with his head, broke the skin on LaRose's face.

Then, working a takedown set-up called a touch-and-go, Skipper "touched" LaRose a little too hard, and a one-point penalty was assessed against him.

Now it was 5-3, and Skipper had to have the takedown just to tie it up.

Skipper was sporting over a dozen stitches in his lip, from an in-

jury suffered in practice, and coupled with his aggressive style, he projected somewhat of a fierce aura.

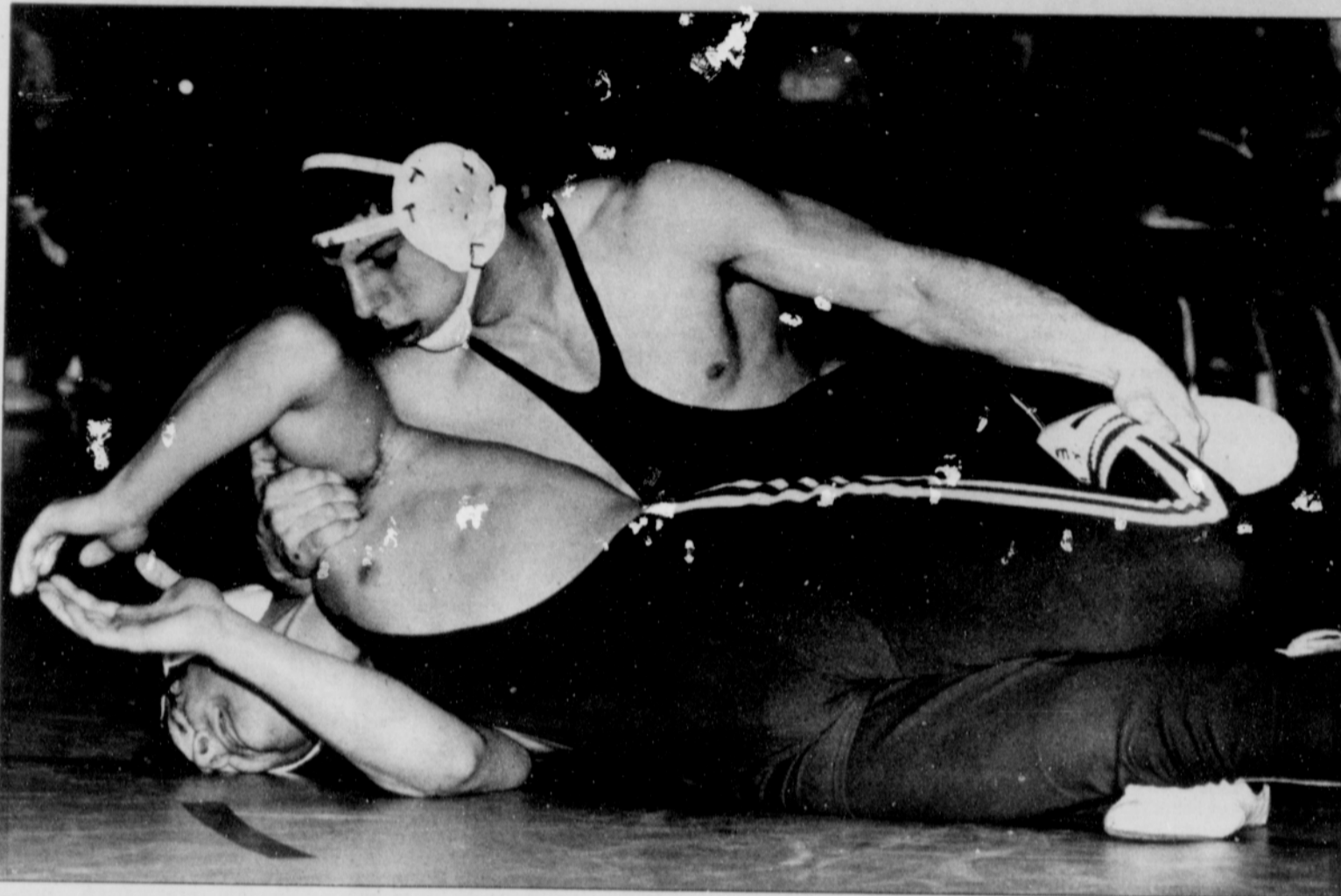
In the end it didn't do him much good though. LaRose got ahold of his leg, and held on. In desperation Skipper tried to kick free. The referee considered this flagrant, and awarded the match to LaRose.

Only a few seconds remained on the clock when the match was called.

Other wrestlers that placed include senior Bill Mathews, a 123 pounder, 5th; junior Robert Paul, a 130 pounder, 5th; junior Mo Contreras, a 141 pounder, 5th; junior Bob Weyer, a 157 pounder, 6th; and junior Randy Swanson, a 115 pounder, 6th.

Topliff, 20-1, Kearney, 26-0, and Martin, 25-1, received first-place seeds at state.

Topliff faces James Hawthorne of La Grande in a key first-round matchup.



Randy Carmony works for near-fall points in the district finals.

Photo by Scott Newton

## SUHS boys lose key game to Canby; girls fall in playoffs

Tuesday night was not a good night for Sandy basketball.

The boys lost a key TVL game to Canby, 64-56, and the Sandy girls lost a playoff game for a state berth, 56-38, to West Linn.

The girls ended up with an 11-11 record, while the boys were 8-6.

The boys ended up in a tie for fourth, with the top three teams in the league (Oregon City, West Linn and Canby) advancing to the state tournament.

The girls also ended up in fourth, but had beaten third-place finisher Silverton, West Linn and Oregon City advance to the state meet.

The boys went basket for basket with Canby in the first half, with both teams shooting well.

Sandy had a three-point lead towards the end of the third quarter, but had a bad two minutes, and lost the lead.

Brisbin said that the team had been improving all along, and that he'd

hoped to be able to coach them a little longer.

He said that they're a good group with a good attitude.

The Pioneers were 5-2 on the road, but just couldn't get the wins at home.

Bob Nippert scored 18 points and had nine rebounds Tuesday night. Mitch Paolo contributed 16 points and seven assists.

For the girls, who haven't been able to beat West Linn all season, it was the same old story.

Debbie Wolcott, the Lions' 6-2 center, scored a game-high 26 points.

"We just couldn't stop her," Smith said.

"She took charge in the third quarter (with 13 points) and there wasn't anything we could do to slow her up."

Sandy was down 28-24 at halftime. Smith said that they played extremely well in the first half.

In the second half, he said, "I can remember four or five close-in shots we couldn't get to go down."

Cindy McCoy contributed 12 points and 11 rebounds to the effort.

Smith said that they could have let up before the Canby game. They had achieved their season goals of a 500 season and a place among the top four.

Instead, he said, the girls played well against Canby, Silverton and West Linn.

"It's sad you have to end the season that way," Smith said. "That we made it this far is quite significant."



Photo by Scott Newton

Cindy McCoy puts up a shot for the girls during a win at Canby.

## Gayle Roth takes silver at state swim meet

by SCOTT NEWTON

Gayle Roth may have finished second in the 50 free at the state meet last weekend, but she can still claim the AAA championship.

Tanya Nofziger of Rainer, the winner of the event, is from an AA school.

Coach Mark Smith said he is "extremely pleased" with Roth's efforts.

Roth said that she was "happy" with the second-place finish, although she wanted the gold pretty badly.

"I'm glad it's all over and the pressure's off," she said Monday.

"Right now I'm thinking about track."

Roth came down with a cold the night before the meet, and said that it especially affected her breathing in the 100 free, in which she placed sixth with a time of 56.3.

She turned in a 56.17 to win the district title.

Smith pointed out that in the 50 free she did beat rival Julie Leep of Tigard, against whom she's been competing for four years.

Leep was third with a 25.33, and was ranked first going into the finals.

Roth had a 25.1 in the finals while Nofziger, a junior, had a 24.83.

Smith said that Roth had a good start and executed an excellent turn in the 50, and "was ahead by an arm stroke" in the final stretch.

"I thought for sure she'd won," said Smith, who explained, however, that he was at an angle.

"I believe she put everything into it humanly possible," he said.

One disappointment was the finish of the 400 free relay team.

They had set a goal going into the state meet of finishing in the top six. The team, comprised of Bonita Connelly, Teresa Lamer, Heidi Lamer and Roth, finished eighth with a time of 4:01.19.

Smith was hoping they'd go under four minutes, and possibly break the school record set two years ago of

3:56.0.

Heidi Lamer turned in good splits, both in the preliminaries and in the finals, and Roth pretty much held her own, but Connelly and Teresa Lamer didn't turn in the times expected.

All in all, however, it was a successful finish to another good year.

The girls finished 14th (out of 42 teams) with 32 points. It was the best finish for Smith since he came here in 1974.

The girls were 6-1 in dual-meet competition, which put Smith's overall record at 64-26-1.

The boys were 26th (out of 40 teams).

They were 5-2 in dual-meet competition, which puts Smith's overall record at 69-24-1, for a combined 133-50-1 record.

Smith had the youngest relay team, the 200 individual medley, at the state meet. The team, comprised of Richard Rolph, Jamie Tuttle and Matt Roth, all freshmen, and K.ek

Topliff, a senior, finished ninth with a time of 1:46.56.

They were 26-hundredths off the 1977 record, owned by Gary Roth, Chris Roth, Jon Swails and Jeff Youngbluth.

The relay team finished first in the district meet with a time of 1:46.98. Their time in the preliminaries wasn't that good, probably due in part to "freshman jitters."

Smith said they all turned in "outstanding swims" in the finals. He added, "We're looking forward to breaking that medley relay record next year."

Smith was also pleased with Topliff's performance in the 50 free. He finished 14th, and missed qualifying in the consolation finals by two-hundredths of a second.

"He had an excellent swim," Smith said.

Lincoln won the girls state title. David Douglas took it for the boys.

Smith was surprised that David

Douglas won, and said that there were a lot of disqualifications from false starts on relay exchanges.

"Our kids handled that well," he said.

Smith said that next year the girls team will need rebuilding, while he expects to have a strong boys team, especially if some Blue Marlin swimmers go out.

"We're looking forward, with excitement, to next year," Smith said.

Smith said that he'll miss Topliff and the senior girls.

"It's been a pleasure working with them," he said.

He said that they've set some high standards, in attitude and pride as well as times.

Gayle Roth ends her career at Sandy with four school records (in the 50 and 100 free, the 100 back and the 200 IM). She also holds the district records in the 50 and 100 free.

Topliff ends his career with the 50 free record, set with a time of 22.98.



Teresa Lamer, Heidi Lamer, Gayle Roth and Bonita Connelly.

Staff photo