

School tax base and candidates prompt mail

Defeat tax base

Sandy High School tax base proposal should be voted down May 18. The Dairy Queen economics of Superintendent Peters claims the increase will only cost you a hamburger a week. This also translates into two month's electric bill, one studded tire, or 85 baby-feedings per year. And remember, you high school tax already is a yearly cost of 300 gallons of furnace oil or two root canals, 6,000 miles of gas for your car or a year's supply of insulin.

This year's high school budget calls for a levy of \$3,019,327, an increase of 43 percent over the current levy. The proposed tax base, if approved, would allow the district to levy \$3,567,000 which could allow the levy to rise 70 percent in only two years.

The high school administration says it will tie its increases to the consumer price index, resulting in an annual levy of \$3,567,000 by 1985-86. Don't ever believe it. If the

funds are available, they will be used. By adopting this tax base, the levy can legally balloon to more than \$4 million by 1985-86 without ever again having to get voters' approval.

Let's kill this tax base May 18. Then, when the budget election comes up in June, let's take a keen look at that. It is generous enough to employ all 19 teachers they threatened to discharge, and to accommodate a better than 8 percent raise for the teachers.

Disregard the administration's irresponsible wailing about closing the school. Let the administration propose budgets and bases that reflect consideration for the troubled taxpayers, and let's live within the 6 percent limitation. Meanwhile, elections are cheap, compared to the taxes we'll save.

Milton M. Fox
Brightwood

Pass tax base

There is a crossroads

time in every life—a time when each person stands at the brink of falling into a life that is drifting, unproductive and menial. The other path has direction and conscience and goals.

Schools, whatever their shortcomings, can and are providing the tools and the direction for most young people. Even those students who criticize their school do so because teachers helped them develop critical thinking ability and a sense of civil justice.

Sandy High has a surprisingly large number of outstanding teachers. Count among them Richard Kennedy who coaxes adult thinking from adolescent minds in American literature. Alan L'Hommedieu nudges productivity and responsibility from forestry students. Barbara Beehler exacts standards of professionalism from secretarial students. Gary Adams' social studies students accept social responsibility.

These teachers are among the vast majority

who not only provide rich educational background, but are good role models, as well, by their life styles and their commitment to young people

Principal John McMahan's credo for Sandy High School is 'A Commitment to Excellence.' These are not empty words. A commitment is there, and the result is productive, active young citizens who are able to choose an important course through life.

That some fail is not so much an indictment of the school as a reflection of society. Values are changing at a frightening rate. Trends in child-rearing, mass communication, computer technology and the drug culture are stretching the resources and the adaptability of parents, students, teachers and all citizens to the limit.

This of all times is not the time to be backing away. These changes are the challenge we must meet head-on.

If you believe that schools can be no better than the community and that a community can be no better than its schools, then join with me in supporting the tax base on May 18.

Nancy Haskell
SUHS instructor

goose that lays the golden egg. The Sandy Mountain Festival Committee is very much in favor of merchants having sidewalk sales or other sale promotions of their own business. What we hate to see is the influx of carpet-baggers and junk peddlers that do not contribute to the success of the festival. Nor do they contribute to the community. Ask any local organization that has a food booth in the festival what it would mean to them financially, if they did not have the festival as a source of income.

I also would like to point out that the success of The

generating power. He "rode shotgun" for a developer who wanted to incorporate Welches into a city. But after the majority of the citizens openly opposed such a senseless idea, Thompson claimed he was not for incorporation.

If this is true, then why did Thompson chair both city of Welches meetings, and why was the crowd in attendance informed of his future political ambitions?

Thompson's supporters are developers and those who would profit by the overdevelopment of our mountain.

The handwriting obviously is on the wall. If this is

Week, May 4th) offering support to my opponent in this newly created district's race?

Regardless of the outcome May 18, my constituents deserve answers to these issues.

Carolyn Smith
candidate, District 23

Aid Antelope

I watched Town Hall on Channel 2 May 2. I feel it is time for Oregonians to come to the defense of citizens of Antelope, those who were there before July, 1981. The people of that small town have been invaded by a group of people

tiveness in helping promote the will of the people was his organization of the campaign to secure voter approval of Oregon Ballot Measure 9 in 1978. This measure, prohibiting charging utility ratepayers for construction work in progress on nuclear plants, was approved by a 69 percent vote.

I agree with his stands against nuclear war and against sales taxes and for family farms, clean air and pure water. Mostly I support him for his energetic determined independence.

Joseph L. Miller Jr.
Sandy

For McTeague

Democratic candidate David McTeague has a record that holds promise. He is running for the new Fifth Congressional District.

In 1978 McTeague and Bob Vian sponsored what became Ballot Measure 9. They got out the petitions, secured the signatures and put Measure 9 on the ballot. Despite a budget of \$2600 against several millions put into the opposition by PGE and PP&L, the measure became law. It simply states that ratepayers don't have to pay for a power plant until it produces power. This has saved the public the millions poured in the Pebble Springs nuclear project.

McTeague scores the Reagan administration for turning the clock backwards on civil rights, protection of our environment, education and human welfare. He sees Reagan's huge military budgets as bankrupting the nation.

I recently asked McTeague who his first, second and third choices were among Oregon heroes. His answer was "Wayne Morse, Wayne Morse, and Wayne Morse."

W. Pete Sulzbach
Sandy

Editorial opinion:

Roads need cent more tax

Increased taxes—even a penny—sound plenty unpopular this election. One small request for a penny increase in gas tax, however, warrants support May 18.

Drivers who dodge the potholes and curse the chuckholes in Clackamas County know what we mean.

Oregonians have beaten their public roads to death, while enjoying one of the lowest gas tax rates in the nation. As a result, nearly 20,000 miles of Oregon's roads are substandard by national standards.

Lack of road maintenance takes its toll on everyone. Bad roads also pound the family car into early and costly repairs. Not surprisingly, too, accidents are linked to these bad roads on which 56 percent of all driving occurs.

Approximately 8,000 miles of Oregon roads suffer pavement that's cracked or broken. Some 17,000 miles of county and city

roads need work.

Each winter that repairs are postponed, roads deteriorate more and cost of repair grows more staggering.

Ballot Measure 4 asks only a penny more tax per gallon in step increments during the next three years—from 8 cents to 11 cents by 1984. A penny more per gallon would cost you only \$6.67 a year, if you average 18 miles per gallon for 12,000 miles.

You'd get a lot for your money, too. That small increase statewide would raise \$21 million more each year for road repairs, maintenance and construction. Nearly one-third of that money would go to cities and counties for local road projects.

Measure 4 is a one-cent tax increase that makes sense for anyone who drives Oregon's deteriorating roads and wants to see them patched at the lowest possible price—today's price.

Support festival

After reading the May 6 editorial in the Sandy Post, it becomes apparent that there is a lack of public relations on the part of The Sandy Mountain Festival Committee. Not only is there a lack of understanding of the purpose, goals and accomplishments of the Sandy Mountain Festival by the public and some merchants, but also there clearly is a lack of understanding by the editorial staff of the Sandy Post.

The editorial made inference that the city of Sandy has not cooperated with the festival committee. This is totally untrue. The city council and the city staff always have cooperated with and supported the Sandy Mountain Festival and been instrumental in its success.

My wife and I have been involved in the festival since its inception in 1973 by the Chamber of Commerce as a festival to promote Sandy as a nice place to live and also to bring people to town. Though the estimates of festival visitors vary from 30,000 to 60,000, there is no dispute that the festival has been successful in bringing people to town.

We hope that local merchants would take advantage of this opportunity to promote their business in ways that will not kill the

Watch Thompson

I would like to offer support and thanks for your editorial April 22 regarding John Thompson's political tactics in his campaign for State Senate District 14.

Evidently these tactics are being noticed by other newspapers in the district.

On April 14 an article appeared in the Clackamas County News in which "A Canby man confessed that a letter bearing his signature appearing in several Clackamas County newspapers was not written by himself but was written by State Senate Candidate John Thompson."

"Asked about the ethics of candidates ghost writing letters to the editor, Thompson said he thinks such things 'are done all the time.'"

Marilyn Leslie
ZigZag

Nix Thompson

Election day is just around the corner, and John Thompson's record needs some "airing" to prevent the misinformed from making a grave political error by voting for him.

He has supported the damming of our mountain streams, which would sacrifice our fisheries so a few could make money by

the kind of person you want in office, then vote for him. If you care about the future of Mt. Hood and the state of Oregon, then cast your vote for one of his opponents. Integrity is always better than voting for someone, just because he may be your neighbor.

Gordon Cabral
Brightwood

Candidate speaks

Unfortunately I was left out of the Voter's Pamphlet, but I want to reassure the voters that I am still a Democratic candidate for State Representative, District 23.

One of the major concerns of my campaign has been that people of the district deserve to have an active and honest representative. I was quite honored this week to receive the endorsements of both the Oregon Women's Political Caucus and Willamette Week.

My belief in fair and honest representations necessitates that I raise three issues of concern about my opponent.

1. I would advise that he read the Hatch Act before he uses "(name), Forest Service" in his printed campaign literature;

2. Why have so many special interest groups not based in our district invested so much money in his campaign? And who are these special interest groups? Bi-partisan Committee is made up of PGE employees, and Citizens Contribution Committee is comprised of PP&L employees with residences from Washington to California.

3. Why is Dick Groener—a State Legislator who was cited and fined by the State Ethics Commission—"Clackamas County political apparatus" (Willamette

engaging in harassment, intimidation and force to obtain control in that small town. It could happen in your town. The best way to stop an invasion is for all the people of Oregon to join together and fight to save Antelope. This can be done by calling U.S. Immigration and Naturalization, 221-2271, or writing them at 511 N.W. Broadway, Portland. Ask them to deny a visa to their leader. This should force this group to leave Oregon and hopefully the U.S.

I plan also to get in touch with the governor and ask him to deny them a permit to hold their festival in July. In the early days of our nation, the pioneers learned to stop a prairie fire. They fought fire with fire, using a "backfire." Maybe it is time for a "backfire."

I plan to send postcards to Billie Belamy and others in the Legislature, asking them to help rid Oregon of this threat to our way of life.

How about it, fellow Oregonians? Shall we fight this invasion or just let ourselves be taken over?

Ann Lucas
Estacada

Elect McTeague

Although at heart much more of an Independent than a Democrat or Republican, I wholeheartedly support Dave McTeague, Democratic candidate for the new Fifth Congressional District.

I have carefully read quite a few news clipping about him; have read the statement about him in the Voters' Pamphlet, and have talked with him at a recent luncheon meeting.

While he is only 29, he has been politically active at least since 1972, when he was first elected Democratic National Delegate. One example of his effective

Elect Newman

As former chief judge of the Oregon County of Appeals, I am most reluctant to endorse candidates for that court, but in one case feel justified in doing so.

If the Court of Appeals is to handle effectively its growing case load on a variety of problems, it needs a judge with broad experience in complex fields of law and a track record as a producer.

In the contest for position 5, there is a substantial difference in the experience and background of the candidates. It is important that the voters select Jonathan Newman.

Herbert M. Schwab
Salem

Ask the superintendent:

"Shelter" reroutes misfits

by DR. JOHN PETERS
Sandy High School superintendent



QUESTION: What is the purpose of the Sandy High School Booster Club?
ANSWER: The Sandy High School Booster Club was formed in October, 1960, to provide support for our school activities, whether they are academic, extra-curricular or athletic. Boosters chaperone events, form rooting sections at home sporting events and publicize worthy achievements of students. Their major project is sponsorship of semi-annual banquets that honor students nominated for athlete or scholar of the month. The spring banquet will be held Sept. 17, and the public is invited. The booster club meets the third Monday each month in Room 55 of the high school. Information about joining or reservations for the banquet may be obtained by calling 668-8011, Ext. 228.

QUESTION: What are we going to do with those students who don't fit into the regular educational system at Sandy High School in order to make them worthwhile citizens?

ANSWER: Sandy High School offers a program called "Shelter" for students who find it difficult to learn within the traditional classroom. These students receive one-on-one instruction in all areas of our curriculum and learn the work habits, behavior and attitudes necessary for success in the regular program. Students receive credit for participation in "Shelter" when they complete their individual learning assignments. This program is held during regular school hours. Students assigned to the program spend four hours learning basic skills with one teacher. Special activities, such as outdoor hiking and camping, assist the student in acquiring survival skills and in learning to get along with others.

QUESTION: Who benefits from a tax base?

ANSWER: We all do—our students,

patrons, taxpayers and district. A tax base sets a spending limitation for the school district. The board and budget committee will continue to examine very closely all budget requests before approving them. A tax base will allow the district to provide minimal basic programs, as well as vocational electives. It also serves to protect the public's investment in buildings and services. A concern of all should be whether or not their school is able to keep functioning. A tax base establishes the security of basic funding and provides our community with stability. A tax base also provides us, as homeowners and taxpayers, eligibility for up to 30 percent state reimbursement for school taxes in the form of property tax relief. A tax base is the best way to protect our excellent balance of programs offered to students at Sandy Union High School.

(EDIT NOTE: Questions to Dr. Peters may be addressed to him in care of The Post, P.O. Box 68, Sandy, OR 97055. He will answer all questions addressed to him in this column. Opinions expressed in this column do not necessarily reflect those of The Post.)

