

## Deadline needed for weedy lots

Sandy City Council is getting tough with homeowners who keep unsightly yards by considering a get-tough deadline for compliance with the city's present weed abatement ordinance.

The measure is needed, because not all residents asked by the city to clean their yards comply readily. In fact, owners of 86 city lots are not in compliance or moving toward compliance this summer.

It's especially shocking that many of these weedy lots are located in new subdivisions. Lots declared a public nuisance include areas of Knollwood Estates, Tickle Creek Estates, Stewart's Subdivision, Longville Estates, Grass Meadow, Sagewood, Park Crest, Aldergate II and Highview III.

The city will proceed to clean up these lots for their owners and then bill them for the work, placing a legal lien against the value

of the property to collect if necessary.

Many of these lots were turned in by neighbors. The city notified all offenders by mail and even gave them a second chance to respond in compliance with the city clean-up code.

Some offenders who acknowledged by their second notice have been granted an extension period to clean up their weed-covered lots, with the city looking over their shoulders to finish the job if necessary.

Next year a deadline for weed abatement on messy city lots seems wise. Some people just don't seem to get motivated to clean up our neighborhood any other way.

And, after all, a city has a right to try to look its best for the morale of those who do give a darn and want Sandy to reflect a good impression. (V.B.)

## Community hospital needs our aid

Gresham Community Hospital—that crowded former nursing home that serves the area from 122nd to Madras and The Dallas—lies limp at a crossroads, awaiting either death or new life.

The crossroads is its limited three-acre Gresham site, where the former Wildwood Nursing Home bursts at the seams on the brink of growing substandard by state health requirements.

New life is offered in a 22-acre replacement facility site near Mt. Hood Community College on Stark Street in Gresham, where the non-profit hospital hopes to break ground December.

What's needed now is up-front pledge money from local donors as seed money to secure tax-exempt revenue bonds that would pay the other 90 percent of the \$13.1 million new facility.

Hospital fund-raisers are encouraged to see most of the \$350,000 raised thus far against an \$800,000 local goal donated by hospital staff and the hospital auxiliary.

Local pledges are key to demonstrating local committ-

ment to the bond market.

The need is great. A crowded emergency room treats some 70 patients a day. Surgical hours at the hospital have tripled in 10 years. Most rooms hold four patients, and crowding further hampers administration and admissions. One nursing station serves 40 beds, while state guidelines suggest 17 as a safe limit. Congestion is so bad, in fact, that some operations are not attempted at the local community hospital.

The new facility would provide room eventually for 300 beds, an expanded and modernized emergency department, an intensive care and coronary unit, centralized laboratory and surgical departments and a free-standing alcohol treatment center.

The community hospital, owned by non-profit Metropolitan Hospitals, operates without tax assistance. Without some show of support now from the community it serves, the hospital lies on the brink of a health care crisis through closure by foreseen future difficulty in meeting state health standards. (V.B.)

## Oops! Correction needed on count

Oops! In this space recently we incorrectly listed new Post classifieds circulation at 14,500 area homes. Actually, Post want-ads now are delivered weekly to some 26,500 homes, including new

Gresham area coverage. Our new classifieds magazine, as lift-out section from this newspaper, also is carried by the Wednesday Gresham Outlook and Today Magazine for the same price.

## Ask the superintendent:

### Few school meetings secret

DR. JOHN PETERS  
Sandy High superintendent

QUESTION: Why do school boards hold secret meetings?

ANSWER: By law, with the exception of executive sessions, all meetings of school boards must be held in public. Only those issues protected by confidentiality laws, such as evaluations of specific students and staff members, may be dealt with in executive sessions. Though the results of labor negotiations must be announced in public session, as do the results of evaluations, school boards do not have to disclose their private discussions of those matters. When given the freedom to review personnel and negotiation matters in closed settings, board members are better able to make fair and independent judgments, which is what the voters expect. Sandy High School holds about seven or eight sessions a year. All final decisions are made in open, public meetings.

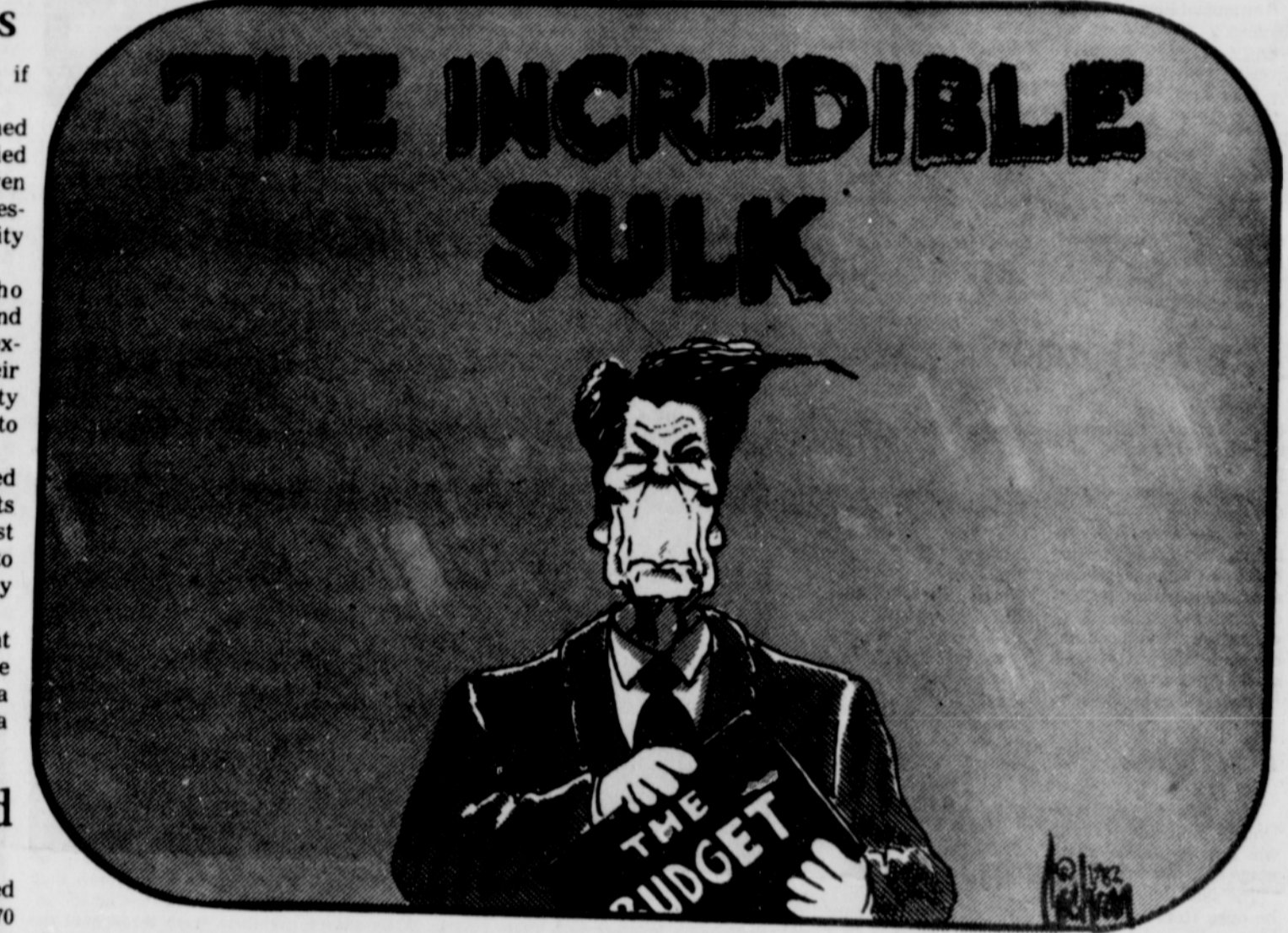
QUESTION: Why does Sandy High School suspend students? Isn't suspension nothing more than a three-day vacation?

ANSWER: You have a point. Frequently, students who are denied the right to attend high school for a short period of time as a disciplinary action enjoy the time off. On the other hand, many of our excellent parents make sure that "the time off" is not spent comfortably. In truth, we are gradually moving away from suspension. This year we introduced a new program called "Assertive Discipline." It spells out



specific consequences for specific acts and gives the teacher more flexibility in working with students. Built into the system is a series of rewards to reinforce good conduct. Under this new approach suspension becomes a tool to induce students to reflect on their negative actions. Rather than being removed from school, students are sent to areas where they have no distractions. These areas are empty rooms to which students are assigned for varying lengths of time. While there, they must sit quietly, remain alert, and do nothing. After an hour or so they are usually eager to return to the classroom and conform to the teacher's rules.

(NOTE: Dr. Peters will answer questions addressed to him in care of The Post at P.O. Box 88, Sandy, OR 97055.)



## Letters to the editor:

### Post ERA stand, gas story lambasted

#### ERA simplistic

Your editorial on Sen. Bob Packwood's stand on the Equal Rights Amendment was repugnant to me.

I am a woman, not a "witchhunter." I love my femininity and the respect and privileges it gives me. I also am very much for equal rights. The ERA, however, is much too simple to cover the complex differences between men and women.

As to Senator Packwood's "brave" stand, what's so brave when you're a senator from a state that ratified the ERA?

Jeri Richardson  
Sandy

#### Brand omitted

Corrections on your tear gas story:

When I first was contacted by Gwen Bogh and we met for an appointment May 1, I made it clear that if the report she was about to do on tear gas couldn't be accurate, then not to waste her time or mine.

Since there was some misinformation, I feel this letter is necessary to clear up the article.

Paragraph 4 states there were approximately

650,000 "reported" rapes in the U.S. last year. Since I got these figures from the state police, that figure was an approximate number. (A certain percentage don't report.)

Paragraph 19 states I said "Tear gas feels like a toothache multiplied 100,000 times." This is a quote by Warren Pingrey, not myself. Warren operates the Care Free Center under the name of WDR Int. in Clackamas where the first interview was held.

Paragraph 21 states "Nerve endings are dissolved by tear gas." C.S. type dissolves fatty deposits that cover nerve endings. A signal then is sent to the brain indicating an illusion of pain. The body rebuilds fatty deposits to cover bar nerve endings approximately 20 minutes later.

Paragraph 26 states the office is in Estacada. Since Gwen met at our only office in Clackamas at the Colonial Business Center on Highway 224 just west of the Fred Meyer warehouse, I don't know how that information got mixed up.

Paragraph 36 is a doosie. It set me up for a lawsuit. ("Since I never use a par-

ticular brand (by name) to explain that some C.N. could cause permanent damage if not washed off properly.") That quote didn't belong to me.

Since there are many brands that use the C.N. as their choice and most people refer to all tear gas (C.N. and C.S.) as mace did not belong in the same paragraph.

Paragraph 47 states Sandy Police Chief Fred said "When it is used on someone, it just makes him madder." It didn't say which type he was referring to, but this statement has been made over and over by policemen who have used a C.N. type of tear gas.

Los Angeles Police Department, second largest in the U.S., field-tested tear gas for several weeks and chose Chemshield (a C.S. type). They turned around a purchased 3,000 units for all their officers.

In Paragraph 50, Roland Cartisser didn't say how a person is supposed to protect herself, but didn't recommend tear gas (even though it could stop an assailant, and C.S. does wear off). Maybe we all should start packing a pistol?

(Paragraph 61). If testing your tear gas, don't use a cotton swab, as it would absorb any mineral oil present and give an inaccurate time test. Spray it in a cup. Take your index finger and dot some on your face on your cheek bone.

The way Paragraph 62 reads easily could be misinterpreted. Many of the carrying cases of different brands are set up the same. Where you have a case with a strap that snaps to the side, you don't need to unstrap to get to, or turn on, to use. Just reach in, take the safety off and then push down on the top with your thumb.

(Paragraph 58). I have proof that Chemshield could "knock a person to his knees and make another instantly go limp." This letter was written by a policeman who had to use his Chemshield in an act of duty.

Because C.S. causes eye-watering, skin-burning and a feeling of shortness of breath (to put it mildly), it could knock a person down temporarily.

Paragraph 63 should have stated that most tear gas should be replaced after a year, because it often loses potency.

Paragraph 71 discusses approved sprays in California, then proceeds to give a list of manufacturers or distributors by name. Chemshield is approved, but is not on the list.

I'm sure Gwen Bogh tried to get the story accurately. Camille Schwab Boring

#### Locals triumph

The Sandy Red Hots softball team has completed this year's season by winning second place in a Tri-County tournament and placing third in a state championship tournament. The girls on this team should be commended for their efforts. Each girl contributed to the success of the team. They all can be proud of their accomplishments.

We want to publicly thank the parents of these girls for giving their support and encouragement to the team and coaches. The enthusiastic participation by the families and friends of the Red Hots has made coaching this team a pleasurable and rewarding experience.

Cheryl and Lyle Schwartz, coaches  
Sandy Red Hots

## Personally speaking:

### Future world might be easy for some

Future world might shock many, but I think it'll be a breeze. I say that with absolute faith in humanity's ambition to make things as easy as possible, so we can take life easy in the future.

Technology works in our favor toward such ambitious ends. Already technology works for us day and night, so we can work shorter days and enjoy longer nights. The chores of maintaining a home have been reduced from the grind of a scrub maid, kitchen staff and laundress to instant microwave dinners and 30-minute wash cycles in machines so independently faithful their repairmen are advertised as lonely.

Work at the office is easier with new technology, too. Word processing machines used to print this Sandy Post article make work a breeze—as do other computers, calculators, conference telephones, bookkeeping machines, dictaphones and record-a-call devices.

Unfortunately, a person still has to serve time at the job—whether it's at the plant, office or home. And that's where future technology comes into play to take the boredom out of



by VON BRASCHLER

monotonous day-to-day simple chores.

Soon clones may do this dirty work for us, as laboratory duplicates created to substitute for their look-alike originals. According to some accounts like David Rovick's "In His Image," scientists already know how to duplicate life from a single human cell with all genetic coding required to create identical new life. Most surprisingly,

according to futurists, this new life could mirror the original man or woman from whom the single cell is taken for this spark of life.

So I daydream about a clone who looks like me, talks like me, thinks like me and even goes to work like me. That part about going to work would be the best part, I predict. I look forward to sending a double to take my place when the steelhead are running in the Sandy River or whenever there's a big special edition I need to help assemble. "I" will not shirk my responsibilities, of course. Instead, I'll send Me-2 or Me-3 to gain some experience doing "our" job. Just how many of us there will be to share the workload would depend on how many clones I could afford.

I calculate that clones could be costly to possess, and I'm not thinking just of laboratory "start-up" costs. Soon after clones get over their new thrill of being alive and just like real people, they'll discover they are real people with second-class treatment. Soor: they'll want equal pay for equal work, social respect as individuals and even free clinic for psychiatric check-ups for their identity crises. They might even

form unions for clones and picket their sweat-shop conditions with signs that say something like "Clone power!"

Well, more power to the people—even if they are a bunch of clones.

Imagine, too, the socio-economic implications of gathering enough clones for an army. How would you treat this army? Would they fight for those of us who are original copies? Most importantly, how could we achieve a safe world balance of power, when every nation gains technology to clone legions of fresh conscripts?

Should that nightmare come, it could be worse than the civil war where brother fought brother or the world wars where cousins faced cousins. We could face ourselves in mortal combat with unlimited numbers of General Grants or General Lees on both sides of the firing line.

At that time, it might be wise to recall that our destruction wasn't brought about by a bunch of clones that answer to the same name. Blame it on a bunch of lazy individuals who sought throughout time for a servant class to do its dirty work.