

# Editorial & Opinion

SANDY, OREGON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1982

## Chlorine-high water may hurt

Did that last fish you caught in Roslyn Lake smell chemically-treated like the swimming pool?

A Welches member of Audubon Society believes upon test results he gave state and local agencies that something may be fishy, indeed, about chlorine level in local waters.

His "kit" tests suggest alarmingly high concentrations of chlorine above the new Hoodland water treatment plant on Sandy River and downstream as far as Roslyn Lake. Now the trick is getting the Department of Environment Quality and Oregon Fish and Wildlife concerned about danger to migratory game fish and their insect feed enough to conduct their own thorough site investigation.

The chlorine level in the lake appears twice that of federal Environmental Protection Agency safe guidelines. That may explain why mostly only "suckers" and other garbage vacuum fish show up on fishing banks lately.

No direct danger to people from heavily chlorinated water has been cited yet, however.

The state DEQ found high chlorine level on the opposite bank from the private tests, but

has stalled any stream survey for weeks. The reason, they say, is reduced manpower after three years of state cutbacks.

It's a mystery how so much chlorine found its way into the water. Possibilities include Zigzag Village authorized sewage dumping during high water months, seepage from the Village's sewage "lagoon" and a preponderance of mountain sewage seepage into the river from a number of sources.

The last possibility suggests the mountain corridor has reached growth saturation with its present sewage handling as a whole, and could stagnate further building.

Obviously, what's needed is an immediate stream survey by DEQ and site investigation by state fisheries experts before things get out of hand. If livability and economic survival aren't serious considerations, perhaps the future survival of Oregon's upstream fish population should be.

Area residents who feel strongly about getting answers to this problem should call DEQ at 229-5696 or state Fish and Wildlife at 229-5551. (VB)

## Tuesday's school levies crucial

Vote on schools Tuesday. It's a shame to continue voting down Welches and Sandy High operating levies, simply because not enough voters make it to the polls.

If either school district strikes out this third time at bat, students and staff will return to school September without local money needed to operate. Sandy High reportedly can't operate past October without local funding and plans with levy failure Tuesday to cut 13 of its brightest young teachers. Welches School has threatened similar cuts in staff and activities.

Sandy High seeks to levy \$2.7 million in local taxes for 57 percent of their total operating funds. Some 55 percent of the school's budget goes toward salaries. The requested levy means \$5.14 per \$1,000 in assessed home value from taxpayers.

Smaller Welches School, meanwhile, requests 57 cents per \$1,000 evaluation in a combined A-B levy that amounts to \$106,782 locally.

As with Sandy High's combined A-B levy, a large chunk of that

levy amount would qualify for state property tax relief. Both schools, however, suggested they might separate this A levy portion from the B levy portion, should voters force another test at polls Sept. 21.

Welches anticipates its local tax rate for next year will be approximately 30 cents less than the current year. Sandy High, meanwhile, has reduced funds for programs and services including teachers, materials, supplies and maintenance, with no new programs or services.

The public push for quality education has turned to "shove," and the ones least able to land on their feet in the tussle are young students whose birthright for a free public education is threatened.

For their sake, we urge all district voters next Tuesday to visit their assigned polling place at either Boring Grade School, Bull Run School, Cottrell School, Firwood School, Kelso School, Sandy Elementary School, Sandy City Hall or Wemme Lions Club. (VB)

## Ask the superintendent:

### Lunch program defended

by DR. JOHN PETERS  
 Superintendent, Sandy High

QUESTION: Why doesn't Sandy High School have a hot lunch program?

ANSWER: Sandy High School does have a hot lunch program. The only difference between a hot plate lunch and the Sandy High School method is in the manner of serving. Our food is vended, and as a result we have cut down on most of our waste. Students have a wide variety of foods from which to choose and are guaranteed selections that are tasty and nutritious. We are able to keep food costs down and thus can return the savings to students in the form of lower prices. Our top price for any item is 70 cents. Most of the food is freshly prepared in our own kitchen and is weighed and packaged according to the highest standards. We have added a salad bar, which is among the most popular features of our lunch menu.

QUESTION: How did the recent evaluation of Sandy High School turn out?

ANSWER: You must mean the "standards review" that was conducted on our campus March 23-25. We received a "standard" rating, which means that Sandy High School met State of Oregon requirements in all areas. Fulfilling the law is what standards teams assess. Each Oregon school is evaluated every five years by criteria set up by the Minimum Standards for Oregon Schools. Dozens of specialists look into every corner of the school and verify whether the school meets the intent of the law. In our case we had 23 reviewers, each of whom filed a two- or three-page report that states their findings. Fortunately, we have no gaps. The complete report, we received June 16, will be examined carefully by our board of

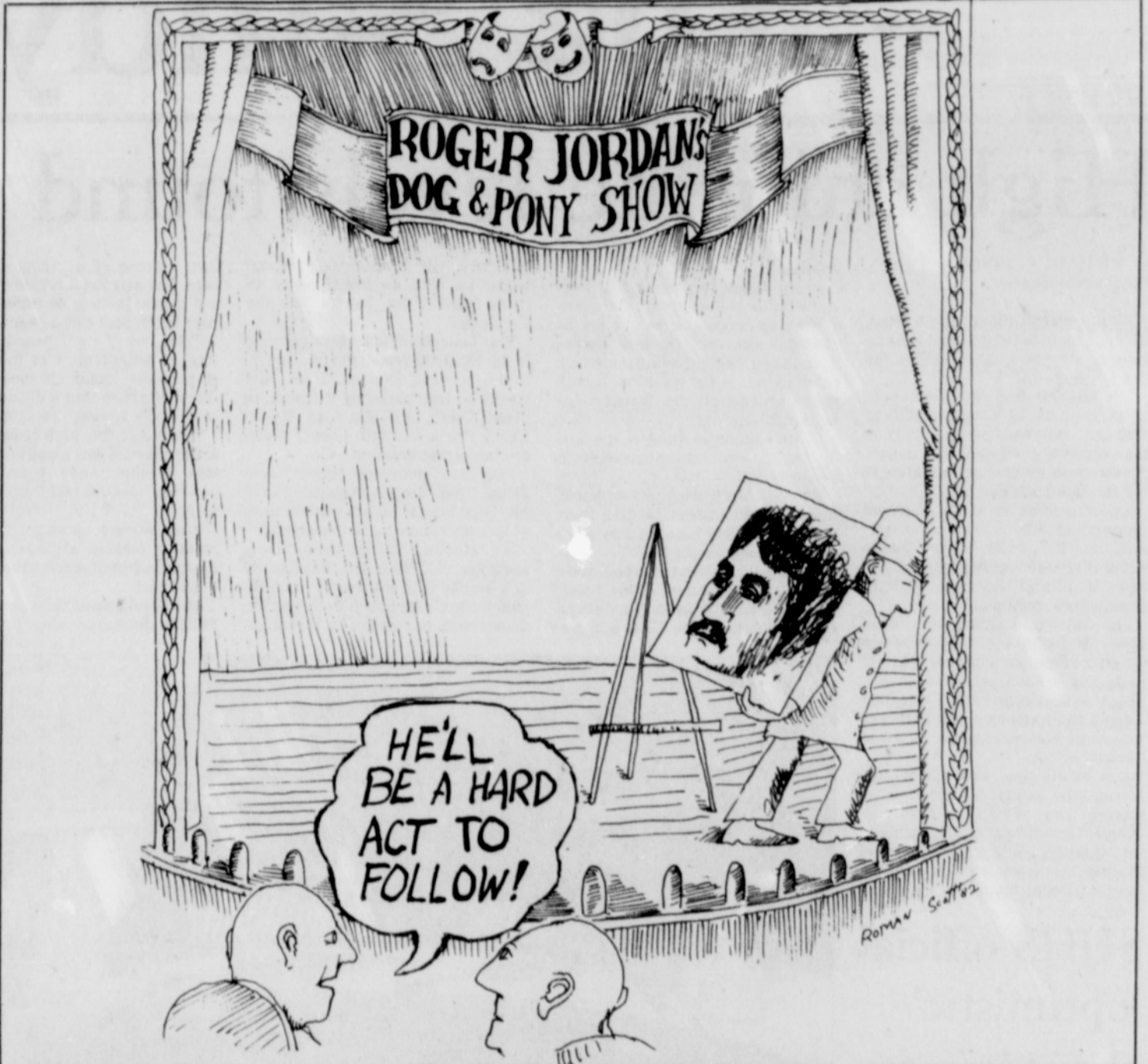


directors. It not only lists summaries of the findings and commendations, but makes some constructive recommendations for future practice. We'll be taking all of those suggestions seriously.

QUESTION: Why does the photograph that accompanies Dr. Jack Peters' column show him smiling, when the budget has been voted down twice? Signed, "Just Wandering."

ANSWER: Although I was disappointed by our June 29 defeat, my smile comes naturally, when I consider Sandy High's great staff and excellent instructional program. It is easy for me to be optimistic and positive about the future, because I have enormous faith in our community's citizens and their willingness to invest support in our school. The cooperation we receive both from our employees and patrons we serve is enough for me to wear a happy face. I sincerely hope it becomes contagious.

(NOTE: Dr. Peters will answer questions addressed in care of The Post, P.O. Box 66, Sandy 97055.)



## Letter to the editor:

### Readers blast, defend school budgets

#### School needs cuts

Once again we, the property taxpayers, are asked to shell out to Sandy Union High School hard-earned dollars—money that most of us can ill afford in these hard-pressed times.

The people are being asked to take wage cuts. We are being laid off or living in fear of layoff.

If your home is assessed at \$52,000, you will be billed an extra \$267.28 on your property per year or \$22.26 per month.

In these hard times (for most of us) it takes a lot of guts for anyone to ask the property taxpayers for any more money.

Why don't we hear from Sandy High about economy—cutting back on the frills?

If our children were being properly educated, maybe it would be different. However, the quality of our teachers and administrators is pathetic at best.

Let's get back to the basics and forget those programs that are next to meaningless. Let's economize.

William H. Tuttle  
 Sandy

#### Levy explained

On June 29 a Welches School A-B ballot was defeated by seven votes, 210 to 216. Some 426 patrons remembered to vote.

Tuesday, Aug. 10, the district again will offer a \$106,782 A-B ballot that is needed to continue existing programs.

Should the ballot again fail, the following staff and activities tentatively have been identified for elimination from the 1982-1983 curriculum:

1. Staff—kindergarten teacher, music teacher and physical education teacher;
2. Activities—co-curricular art, drama and sports.

On Aug. 10 you will be offered a levy that will cost about 57 cents per \$1,000 before tax relief. Are the school's programs worth an additional 57 cents?

At least exercise your right to vote.

K. C. Blackburn  
 Welches superintendent

#### Support school

Again Sandy Union High School District must come to voters for approval of an operating levy for the coming year, a levy that will

sustain educational quality in our community.

Working in the financial industry makes me acutely aware of how devastating recessionary pressures can be to business and households alike. One must realize, however, these pressures are equally devastating to our public school system. They, too, must pay seemingly ever-higher prices for goods and services.

Our schools are tools the city may use to attract business, jobs and people to Sandy—whereby it may grow and flourish. These tools give our own young people knowledge and ability to make social and economic contributions to the community.

As with any machine or tool, the schools must be maintained at peak operating efficiency in order to accomplish this task when required.

I urge everyone to support their own future. Support the Sandy Union High School levy.

Kent Hall  
 Sandy

#### Tourney success

Thanks to all those who participated in and helped with our

tournament last weekend, the second annual Sandy Women's Softball Tournament was a great success.

Special thanks to Jerry Swails for preparing the fields and Will Abshire for liming.

Also thanks to Dennis and Janice Traxler and Carol Hilstad for scorekeeping, our ASA umpires and all those who helped in the concession stand.

Our appreciation to Sandy Little League and Mac McCall for use of their concession and all Sandy merchants who donated special prizes.

It takes community effort to make local programs succeed, and the SASA is finding this support and cooperation in the Sandy area.

Barb Johnson  
 Drenda Leathers  
 Mary Tholen

#### 'Thank you'

Barlow Trail Long Rifles wish to extend their gratitude to those local businesses whose support through donations assisted in making our fifth annual black powder shoot a success.

Wynn G. Thies  
 Vice-president

## Personally speaking

### Hood Classic benefit showed class

I stopped by the Celebrity Classic at Rippling River the weekend before last, and I must admit I was a little intimidated.

The whole thing, I thought, was a little highbrow for my tastes. Also, as I watched the tennis tournament, I didn't see anyone famous, and others around me were going, "Who are those guys?"

I had just watched Mark Hamby's spirited Hoodland Huskies win a baseball game. So I thought, why run a picture of a bit actor playing tennis when I've got all these pictures of local kids.

Before I left the Rippling River Resort I saw the tournament director, Ann Donaca, though I didn't know it at the time.

Donaca is 36, going on 25. I talked to some Sandy people who attended, and they told me my impression of the event as a highbrow affair was off target.

So I called the tournament director to find out what the Celebrity Golf-Tennis Classic was all about.

Two and a half years ago Donaca's brother went blind. It was just before he was to receive his degree as an architect. Donaca appealed to the Oregon State Blind Commission for help,



by SCOTT NEWTON

and got it (through an operation her brother now has the use of one eye). In return, she did public service announcements and put together a slide presentation for the OSBC that was shown to members of the Oregon Legislature.

Still, she wanted to do something to "raise a lot of money." The Classic did just that. Although final tabulations weren't

in at press time, Donaca figures they raised between \$15,000 to \$20,000 for the benefit of the Deaf-Blind People of Oregon Inc. and the Kiwanis Camp for Handicapped Children.

The Portland Beavers, KGW-TV, Maletis/Columbia Distributing (liquor distributors), Classic Chauffeurs, Stark Street Pizza and Alaska Airlines donated thousands of dollars to make it all possible.

On top of that Donaca spent nearly 1500 hours of her own time, working with 50 committees.

"I had the best committee people anybody could ever ask for," Donaca said in explaining the "success" of the event.

Rippling River is taking over the Celebrity Classic project, and Donaca expects it to be a continued success. Reportedly, a full-time director will be hired. Given Oregon's attributes, she said it could be "the biggest celebrity event in the U.S. in 10 years."

Donaca, who has done television commercials and car shows (the family pet, "Lady," a 70-pound cougar who was recently featured on Focus and Ploce, is the daughter of the star of the Lincoln-Mercury commercials)

currently works for World Pacific Pictures in Portland. Her work on the Celebrity Classic was interrupted for 10 days while they filmed, on location, "Cycling through China." The date of the showing has yet to be announced. Donaca will also be on Entertainment Tonight in the near future, interviewing the likes of Ben Vereen, Kate Jackson and Lorne Greene.

Celebrities in attendance at the Classic included Raina English of Lawrence Welk, Olympic pole vaulter Bob Seagren, Heisman trophy winner and Hill Street Blues star Ed Mariner, Connie Stevens, Miles McNamara (Johnny) of General Hospital, Tom Hallick of The Young and the Restless, Lou Grant's Robert Walden (Joe Rossi) and White House photographer David Kennedy.

Many of the stars had such a good time they promised to bring their friends next time, Donaca said.

The most satisfying part for Donaca, however, was when a crippled girl held her tight and told her how happy she was that they are getting the roof fixed (at the Kiwanis Camp). In the end, that's what it was all about.