

Gymnasts affected by club concept

by SCOTT NEWTON

The Sandy gymnastics team is 0-6, having lost to state-ranked Parkrose 136.7-109.65 last week.

It's too bad more people didn't see the meet. One has to see a team like Parkrose to appreciate the sport.

Coach Molly Knudsen figures Parkrose to be one of the top three teams in Oregon.

Other Mt. Hood Conference teams also are expected to figure into the final standings at the state meet.

The prospects of competing in a tough, new conference could be exciting. Instead, the topic of Sandy gymnastics could be null and void.

In Oregon, gymnastics is not faring well. It will not be an Oregon School Athletic Association-sponsored event next year as fewer than 25 percent of the schools in the state participate.

The OSAA has been asked to consider its percentile rule. If 75 percent of the schools in the state participate in a sport, there are three championships offered (AAA, AA and A). If 50 percent of all Oregon schools participate there are two championships (AAA and A-AA), and if 25 percent participate there is one state championship offered (AAA).

For the third year in a row fewer than 25 percent of the schools in Oregon have participated in gymnastics. Some consider the percentile rule invalid, as schools with only a dozen or so students couldn't possibly offer certain sports.

Be that as it may, gymnastics could join skiing as the only sports at Sandy not run by the OSAA.

The ski team has enjoyed one luxury. It has been successful.

If Ballot Measure 3 passes it may be difficult for money to be found to run the gymnastics program.

Even if it doesn't pass, the program could face hard times. Boys are currently offered football, cross country and soccer in the fall. Girls are offered volleyball, cross country, soccer and gymnastics.

With a tight budget, will the school again offer girls four alternatives in the fall?

And if gymnastics is again offered, can the Pioneers be competitive?

Knudsen has a young team. If those currently involved participated year-round, Sandy "could be strong in two or three years," Knudsen said.

And Knudsen, despite the record this year, is capable of guiding a successful program. Under Knudsen's tutelage, Janice Hawkins placed fifth in the state meet in the balance beam last year.

The concept of club sports, or specializing, has been a boon and a bust to sports, depending upon how one views it.

"These kinds of clubs have left fewer schools to compete, because they just can't compete," said Mike Kostuba, athletic director.

The OSAA, in the '83-84 school year, will offer single, instead of double, championships in swimming, golf and tennis.

The Blue Marlin Aquatic Club has made Sandy a power in swimming, while country clubs have made other

schools powers in tennis and golf.

The schools that can't compete often drop the sport.

Perhaps gymnastics is not popular because it's not accessible. A youngster aspiring to play basketball needs only to have a hoop set up in the driveway.

To be a year-round gymnast would be nearly impossible without belonging to a club, which would provide bars, mats and someone to spot athletes working new moves. All the MHC teams, according to Knudsen, are situated so that belonging to a club would be no problem. All the

MHC teams except Sandy, that is.

As for the present, Knudsen was pleased with the effort against Parkrose. "I was really pleased with all the performances," she said.

Having nearly everyone improve their routines and therefore their scores was "really nice."

They achieved a team goal, scoring over 105 points.

But Parkrose took first through fifth in every event (There are four: balance beam, floor exercise, uneven parallel bars and the vault) except the beam, in which freshman Jodie Dahlagher took fifth.

Others on the varsity include JoEllyn Murillo, Carrie Jenkins, Kim and Cindy Parmenter, Cheri Schuler, Becky Farrand, Sandy Sexton, Shelly Schlaht and Kelli Kai.

A low turnout at the start of the school year prompted some to say elimination of the water polo program was justified. Another argument goes something like this: It was a program for kids, and anytime you cut a program you hurt kids.



Denise Proctor passes the ball during the Pioneers' 15-10, 15-9 over Reynolds. Sandy fell 12-15, 15-7 and 12-15 to Gresham Tuesday.

Photo by Scott Newton

Steelheads win again; playoffs start Sunday

The Oregon City Steelheads are 11-0 following a 34-6 win over the King County Vikings Saturday.

The Steelheads, who have outscored their opponents 318-48, play a Northwest Football Alliance semifinal playoff game Sunday at Civic Stadium at 2 p.m.

Allen Fry, one of three Sandy Union High School graduates on the team, has been doing "excellent," according to Coach Joe Johns.

"All our guys do excellent," Johns said. "We have a bunch of great guys."

Fry has been starting as a guard on offense.

Cal McKinnis Jr. has been averaging about six yards a carry as a fullback, according to Johns. He ran the ball about seven times against the Vikings.

It's as a blocker that he is best utilized, though. "He hits 'em low, by the kneecaps, and they never get up," Johns said.

Cal McKinnis Sr. is starting at noseguard, and he's "as rugged as ever."

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keep the ski team an affordable part of the athletic budget.

Students and people in the community with equipment to sell should take it to the gym between 3 and 7 p.m. on Friday.

Also offered will be last year's ski equipment, which is being sold by ski shops "at really low prices," Karsten said some of the buys are "incredible."

He said he never knows what the ski shops will bring. But he said last year, for example, \$100 to \$125 parkas sold for \$20 to \$25.

Buys called 'incredible' at SUHS ski swap fund raiser

The Sandy Union High School ski team is holding its third annual ski swap on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 30 and 31.

The ski swap will be held in the main gymnasium between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Ski equipment, clothing, cross country equipment and other miscellaneous items will be in stock. The proceeds go toward supporting the ski team.

Robert Karsten, coach of last season's state champion girls ski team, said the money raised helps

Woman coach says football at Welches is 'human'

by MICHAEL P. JONES
Post Correspondent

The selection of a woman as an assistant coach on the Welches football team this season presented a unique opportunity for Rosemary Silva to assess the differences in attitudes and behavior between male and female athletes.

In addition, she had a front row seat in a game where contact is essential to success. She found there is violence even at the grade school level.

Silva, a seventh- and eighth-grade science teacher, has completed the season as assistant coach for the Welches Wildcats. Originally the position had been filled by Mark Hamby, but he took over as head coach after the previous coach resigned for personal reasons.

Silva has coached girls basketball and track at Welches for two years.

In both high school and college she played touch football, having been a linebacker. After college she was a player-coach in a recreation league.

The patience she needed for the job, she said, was acquired during the past three summers while working at the Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp in a special camping program. For four weeks she took groups of physically, mentally and emotionally handicapped students to Trillium Lake, where they camped, hiked, fished and canoed.

Last week Silva looked back on her season of coaching and offered some observations on the game of football, as well as sports played by different genders of student-athletes.

She admitted she was a little apprehensive when she took the job, this being largely due to the violent nature of the game, which conflicts with her own personal beliefs. But she said she accepted the job and worked toward establishing a good role model for the students to follow.

As coach Silva said she emphasized skills over violent behavior to the 21 players.

She said players, often with the encouragement of coaches, will overreact and use illegal and violent methods to win.

"My motto with the students is play hard but play fair," said Silva. "That's what most athletics say, but that's not what a lot of people feel is practical to win."

Silva said what she would teach at practice would sometimes get confused when the students went home and watched football on television. There, on the screen, she said, would be the same violent behavior that she was stressing they should not rely on. But what was worse, she said, was that this "improper behavior" was being conducted by the athletes they look up to.

"Participating in football should be a positive experience instead of preparation for jungle warfare," said Silva.

"Sometimes I'm in conflict with myself for enjoying the sport, but not liking the violence," said Silva.

Silva said she especially enjoyed the planning of plays and the strategies of the game, rather than all the "typical aggressive behavior" that often goes along with it.

She said coaches teach kids to be tough, but that this shouldn't mean they're to go out and injure opposing players.

"Each year the kids keep getting bigger and bigger," said Silva. "The small kids keep getting mashed and mashed."

Silva said she believes a game like football brings out the values that a person has grown up with. This, sometimes, is reflected in the violence that occurs in a game. Unlike baseball or basketball, in football one has more opportunity to do things "that the referee cannot see," Silva said.

"Welches, compared to the other teams, is probably the least violent group in the league," said Silva. "This is probably because the win-at-all-costs form of coaching is not going on up here at Welches."

Winning was secondary, said Silva. Rather, how the game was played was the priority.

"There was a human side to what was happening here," said Silva. "It wasn't just a game."

The Wildcats haven't won a football game in three seasons.

Parents

About 25 spectators regularly attended the Wildcats' home games. About half were parents, which ad-

ded another perspective to Silva's football coaching experience.

Silva said most of the parents were supportive toward her as a coach. Though there were a few "armchair quarterbacks" who felt they could do the job better, most seemed to appreciate her efforts.

Silva said almost immediately she noticed a difference in attitudes between the parents of the boys as compared to the parents of girls she's coached.

In girls sports the parents didn't put as much pressure on their youngsters to play. With the boys it was different. Some of them were playing football just because their fathers wanted them to.

Also, Silva said there was an obvious difference between the expectations fathers had for their sons, as compared to the expectations of the mothers.

The fathers, said Silva, seemed to push their sons into the game, hoping they would be successful or better than they actually were. Winning was important.

"The mothers, however, tended to be more supportive and concerned about their sons well-being," said Silva. "Winning wasn't everything."

Another difference was the level of dedication. Silva said the boys seemed to be more concerned about improving and winning, and treated the game seriously.

One reason for that may be that athletics for girls is still relatively new. As it becomes more estab-

lished and accepted, this will be changing, she feels.

Already, Silva said, the girls she has observed participating in athletics this year, "are very intense and becoming more serious about athletics."

One of the surprising things Silva

said she learned is how boys react to injuries. She said at first she believed they would try to hide their injuries more than girls. Instead, she found they would leave the field with tears in their eyes, and she'd patch them up and send them back out.

Pioneers falter in home chess opener

About 25 participated in the third annual Pioneer Chess Tournament at SUHS this weekend.

Pete Watkins tied for fourth. He won three and a half games out of five. Roman Scott and Tim Zimmerman finished near the top of the pack with three wins each.

Out of the four complete teams, Sandy was fourth. Milwaukie had 11, Rex Putnam 10 and one-half, Estacada 10 and Sandy nine and one-half.

The outcome wasn't decided until the final round.

Gary Page, Kevin Moody and Eric Craig each had two wins, and Scott Vanderpool won one game.

Moody pulled a major upset, "a real shocker," when he defeated Milwaukie's top player, Steve Kilgore, in the second round.

Nelson sets course record

SUHS senior Donna Nelson's season continues to be a success as she set the course record at David Douglas last week.

She finished first in the dual with a 10:53 on the 3000-meter course. The girls lost the dual 25-30. The boys fell 26-30.

Sam Romey paced the boys, finishing first on the 5000-meter course with a time of 16:19.

Eagles drop SUHS girls

The Sandy girls soccer team fell 6-0 to state-ranked Centennial Tuesday.

Margaret Blackburn, who has missed all of the regular season because of an injury, was "awesome," Coach Robert Karsten said.

Blackburn, a goalie, stopped 40 shots.

Milwaukie was sixth in the state last year.

About Sandy's fourth-place finish Coach Roger Ford said, "I think we have more potential than that this year. We have a lot of depth."

Zimmerman, Sandy's top board last year, lost "probably one of the finest games of the tournament," Ford said. He fell to Kevin Strobel of Putnam, who ended the day with a perfect 5-0 record.

Zimmerman used a "Polish opening," which is usually a surprise start, but it turned out that that's also one of Strobel's favorite openings.

Ford said that Watkins plays a "superb" middle game. "With a little more work on his opening defense he could be one of the best high school players in the East County area," Ford said.

Scott, like Zimmerman and Watkins, is credited with playing a good middle game.

Scott is "imaginative," Ford said, being able to come up with original moves. He said Zimmerman, Watkins and Scott are intelligent players who, given time, can "see moves others can't see."

Saturday each player had 30 minutes to make moves. A player can take as long as he likes on each move, but there is a limit of 30 minutes per game. A player forfeits if he uses up his time allocation.

For Sandy's top three players, that's "speed chess," Ford said.

Ford, a math and computer science teacher, said he believes the popularity of chess has picked up at SUHS. Boards and timers are set up in the math area, and Ford said students can be seen playing chess during lunch, or before or after school, on most days.

He's hoping to have about 20 on the team when the season begins Nov. 15. Playing in the Mt. Hood Conference League will be Sandy, Estacada, Centennial, Barlow and David Douglas.

The Pioneers will also take on Clackamas, Oregon City, Putnam and Milwaukie.



Sandy Sexton

Soccer team downs Scots

The Pioneer boys soccer team tied with David Douglas for the bottom spot in the Mt. Hood Conference with a 3-2 win Tuesday.

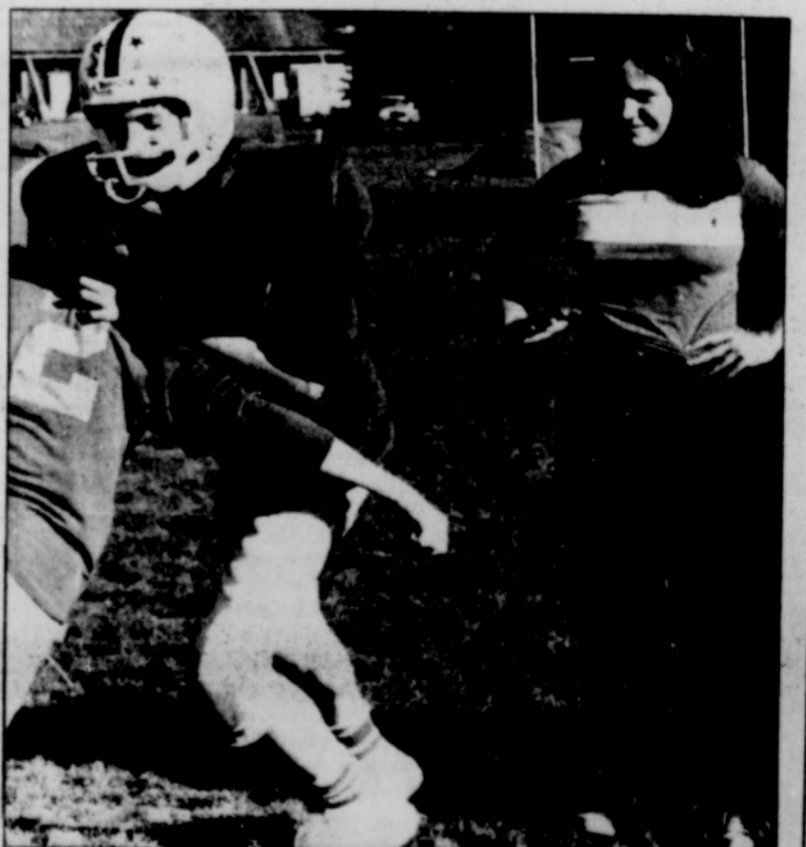
Victor Martinez and Javier Herrero scored Sandy's first two goals. The Scots tied it up by halftime.

Senior Kevin Fabryski scored the winning goal with about 25 minutes left in the second half on a penalty kick.

Four players, two from each team (Hui Choi and Martinez for Sandy), were red carded, or ejected from the game. "It was pretty much a zoo after that," Coach Lon Welsh said.

"It didn't start out wild. The ref overreacted," he said.

The Pioneers finished the season with a 1-8-1 record.



Rosemary Silva at Welches football practice.

Photo by Michael P. Jones