

# Editorial & Opinion

## Power rate issue requires attention

Major power consumers in the Pacific Northwest, uneasy with letting the Bonneville Power Administration decide their future, are requesting assistance from the public.

Provided reduced power rates through at least July 1, major power users, including Reynolds Metals at Troutdale, have engaged in an advertising campaign to provoke public sentiment for their plight. Some of the advertisements feature former Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus, who says that if power rates are increased, more than 30,000 jobs in the Northwest will be negatively impacted.

Andrus' request — and that of the major power consumers — is simple enough. And important enough, also.

He requests that members of the public testify at upcoming BPA hearings regarding rates charged major consumers such as aluminum plants. The hearings will be held in the next few months as the BPA sorts out the dilemma it and the aluminum plants face. And it, quite frankly, is a shared situation.

If more aluminum plants are closed or shut down — Reynolds at Troutdale is operating at 3/5 capacity — BPA will lose millions from reduced power sales. The alternative will be, in turn, to increase commercial and residential rates to make up the difference. Meanwhile, more metal workers will join the ranks of the unemployed.

BPA is not alone in wanting to solve the dilemma faced by Northwest aluminum plants whose production costs exceed foreign producers at a time when there is a worldwide production surplus. The federal agency has several options to consider, including maintaining reduced power rates and encouraging increased conservation through reduced rate incentives.

Such problems require the participation of many — the BPA, the aluminum producers and the public. We are unwilling to write the Northwest aluminum industry off just yet. You should be, too.

### Letter to the editor

## Support Sandy girls at state tournament

As an ex-basketball player for Sandy and a parent of an ex-basketball player, we know how much hard work is put into a team. At Sandy High School, the girls basketball team has devoted a lot of time and sweat into practice and now it is finally paying off.

We feel that the girls deserve to have a lot of support from the local people in Sandy at the state tournament. The girls made a great accomplishment by finishing first in the Mt. Hood Conference.

Every girl on the team has been pushed around but never let that get them down. I feel that every girl on the team has given up a lot of extra activities to make it to practice.

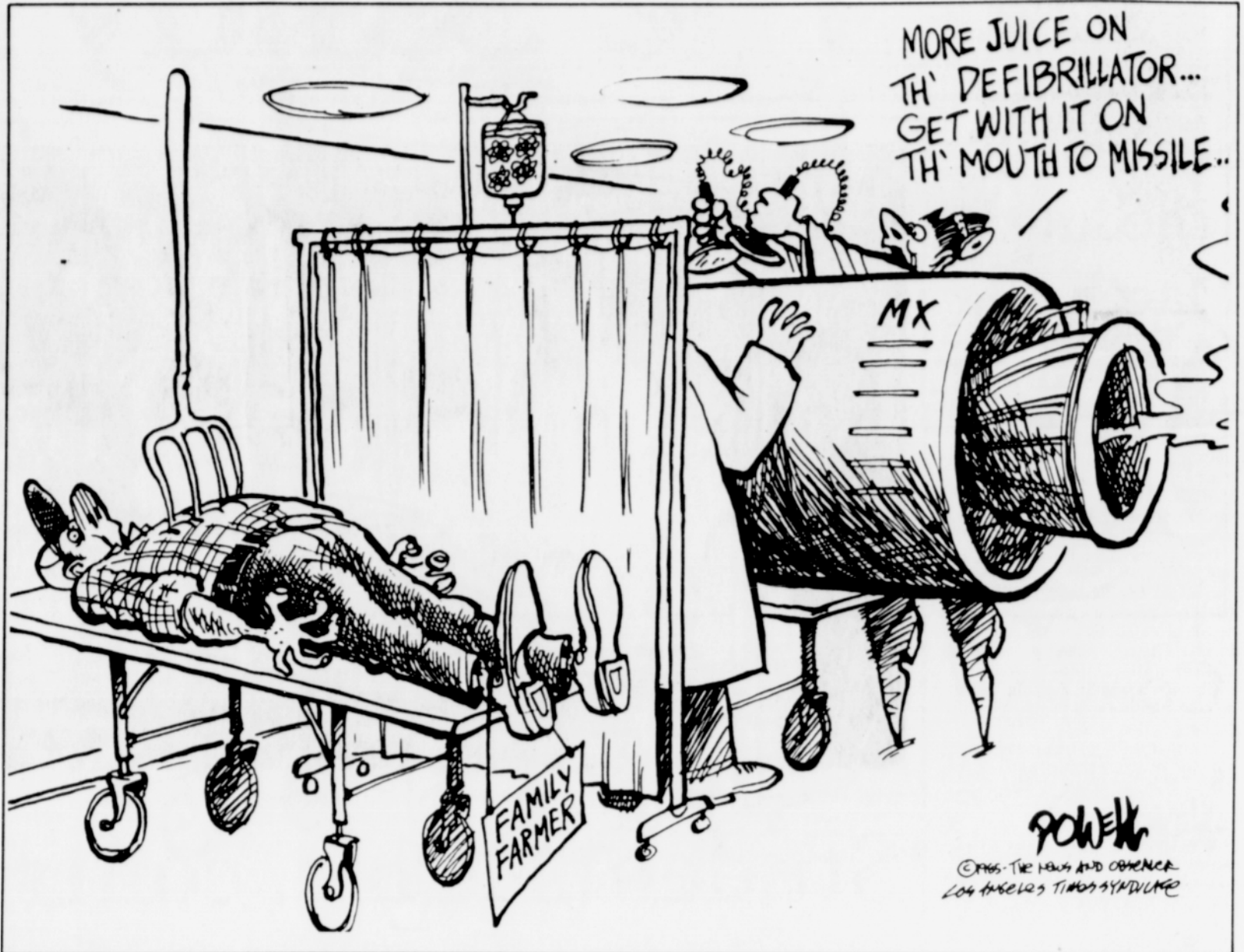
Some girls on the team, such as Wendy Heckard, will even play with

sprained ankles or a hyper-extended knee as in the game against Parkrose. Christa Searls will play with the flu if she feels she is needed to in order for the team to put out their best effort. Shanna Daniels with all of her bumps and bruises won't miss a game. It takes girls like these to make a dedicated team such as the Sandy girls basketball team.

My father and I compliment the girls and coaches John Smith and Molly Knudsen for the accomplishment that they have achieved.

We also wish you luck at state and we will be two people that will be there to cheer you on to victory! Way to go!

Debbie and Lou Langlois  
Boring



### Letters to the editor

## Candidate would represent the public

"FAIR TAX COMMITTEE" and "CITIZENS FOR QUALITY EDUCATION!" Who are they?

As a candidate for position number 1 on the Sandy Union High School board, I've asked myself that question. Both are expressing concerns for the children involved. Both have an attitude of discontent towards the other. Both groups are willing and ready to challenge the ideas or desires of the other.

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE? Each group is firm in its beliefs of truth! Each group is spending their hard-earned money in a cause they believe is right.

Never hesitating to sign their names to their advertisements and letters to the editor, they continually ask us, the public, to take some action: get involved.

These people are not sitting in the shadows throwing insults at each other. They're not out to vandalize our children's lives or our community.

They are educated people with years and years of business management and expertise. Regardless if they DID or HAVE or NEVER HAD children in school, they're willing to

take a stand; willing to face exposure: pro and con. These people are part of the community, willing to stand for what they believe.

SO WHAT'S WRONG? Why do we have these bona fide citizens of our community challenging each other with such drastically different point of view.

I believe that maybe this is the biggest problem the school district has:

A lack of clear cut communication. A lack of willingness by the board to give justification for every dollar spent without the slightest clouding of the issue.

I want to be on the school board to represent our community. Not the "CITIZENS FOR QUALITY EDUCATION," NOT the "FAIR TAX COMMITTEE," NOT even my own personal interests, BUT THE ENTIRE PUBLIC.

The school board must have an attitude "of solving our school's problems and needs with IDEA'S NOT ALWAYS MONEY."

They must be responsive to citizens concerns. We can't afford "Tunnel Vision" or "Opinionated View Points." I want to help run our high school more like a business...NOT A GOVERNMENT.

I'm simply interested in seeing the school district run in the best business manner possible.

My goal is to be able to provide a good basis of education for our young people; but at all times, still holding a tight and fair budget our community can live with.

I ask for your vote on March 26. Bryon Tolle  
Sandy

Bryon Tolle is the owner of Timberline Glass and Mirror Inc. He is one of three candidates for position number 1, Sandy Union High School board of directors.

## Merchants contribute

A special thank you to the Sandy merchants and individuals who donated gifts and merchandise for our recent anniversary party.

People who donated to our 10-year anniversary included Uncle Sam's Fireworks, Roy and Fran Taylor, Debi Little, Eastmont Lanes, Something Blue, Decker and Scales, Sandy Decor, McDonald's, The Flower Garden, Triple XXX, Calamity James, Sandy Sentry, Sandy Rex-all, Clackamas County Bank, Jim's Mobil, Joan Gunderson, Denny Brown, Red Stadky, Joe's Donuts, Sandy Country Florist, Gordon

Stone's, The Movie Place, Country Donut House Restaurant, Diet Center, Paola's Pizza, Janz Berryland, Prime Time Video, Vorrece Blair, Mt. Hood Dairy Queen, Betty Haiden, Ava's Hair Design, Denny Brown and the Tollgate Inn.

Our party was a big success because of your help.

Allan Gunderson  
VFW Commander  
Post 4273

Joan Gunderson  
Auxiliary President  
Post 4273

### Commentary

## Guidelines considered for lottery dollars

by STEVE STARKOVICH  
Senate Majority Leader

Oregon's lottery, as approved by the voters on Nov. 6, will provide about \$25 million to \$40 million annually for economic development. We are approaching the time when the Legislature must decide how to use these funds. I would enjoy any suggestions the residents of Senate District 14 might offer.

The Joint Legislative Committee on Trade and Economic Development has adopted several criteria that it recommends in allocating lottery proceeds. Ideally, any suggestions you might have should speak to at least one of the following concerns:

1. Improving the quality of jobs.
2. Assisting areas that have distressed economies due to local factors.
3. Assisting economic development in rural communities.
4. Improving Oregon's system of higher education.
5. Stimulating the growth of small businesses.

6. Helping Oregon to compete economically with other states.

7. Helping Oregon to compete in the international market.

I would also appreciate your thoughts on the method we should use to distribute these funds. Some suggest spending the money when received on programs or capital construction.

Others recommend placing all or some of the money in a long-term fund that might make loans to local areas, or serve as matching funds for projects throughout the state.

Most legislators agree that regardless of where the money goes it should not be used to fund permanent programs. The experience of other states shows us that lottery proceeds are not entirely predictable. I would hesitate to dedicate lottery funds to a long-term program, only to find out later that funds were insufficient and would have to be replaced by other tax dollars.

Please send your ideas to: Senator Steve Starkovich, Senate Majority Leader, S-223 State Capitol, Salem, Ore., 97310-1347.

### In a different sense

## Heredity, athletic ability unrelated

Ninety-four percent of the parents in America have barely enough coordination to lift a cup of coffee and turn the page of a newspaper at the same time. Ninety-nine percent of the parents in America believe their children to be blessed with outstanding athletic ability. So much for heredity.

Luckily for sporting goods stores, most parents are certain that the reason their child is the basketball team's valuable "19th man" lies with faulty equipment. Usually a shoe named after some nearly extinct animal is the quickest remedy. The only thing I don't understand is, if the name doesn't even help an animal to survive, how is it going to help a kid play better basketball?

It doesn't take much to get parents to spend a few dollars to further an athletic "career." It used to be that throwing a rock through a neighbor's window earned a few quick swats to the behind. That same rock will now earn a 6-year-old a brand new baseball, complete with \$90 glove, \$60 cleats, \$700 pitching machine and a trip to a summer baseball camp.

A friend's daughter had her hair cut in a style similar to that of Dorothy Hamill. Naturally, the friend bought his daughter a pair of



by HANK EMRICH

ice skates. His daughter had her hair done in a permanent a week later and he was stuck with a pair of \$200 meat cleavers.

Sometimes parents don't recognize what their children really want to do. Ore man spent eight years driving his son back and forth to practices. Summer baseball, soccer, basketball and a hundred clinics in between. He could tell his son was going to be a superstar just by his enthusiasm. The kid could not wait to get in the

car to head for practice. It was not until the boy graduated from high school and got a job as a chauffeur that the man realized what his son had really enjoyed for all those years was just riding in the car.

That man could have just driven his son around the block once a day and saved \$2,300 in uniform fees and another \$2,900 in team pictures.

Team pictures have never worked out too well for me. My son has only one picture where he is not sticking out his tongue, has his eyes closed or forgot to zip his zipper. That is the one where he accidentally stood with the wrong team. It is just as well, they had a better record anyway.

Little league baseball is still the king of all kids' sports. The reason it is so successful is because written into the bylaws is a rule that says there must be a complete klutz on every team. That way every parent can compare his child to somebody who is even slower. This is usually the kid who wears black socks with his uniform and sometimes forgets to bring his belt.

By the end of the season, the coach has given up on this kid getting a hit and has turned to hoping for at least a foul ball. But even this kid's parents recognize that he is an outstanding athlete. Either baseball is just not his sport or the coach is not doing an adequate job of teaching the fundamentals. And after the coach teaches him

how to keep from dropping a fly ball on the ground, he can teach him how to keep from dropping lasagna in his lap.

We expect too much from coaches. Sometimes it takes a long time for kids to get the basics. It took one basketball coach three weeks to convince his charges that a "pick and roll" has nothing to do with your nose.

Parents not only misjudge athletic ability, they also can be wrong concerning their child's intellectual capabilities. It does not make any difference if a child can talk in full sentences by the time he is 2 years old. It is all in what you teach them. You can't explain your way out of dirty pants. The intelligent child is one who not only knows where the toilet is, but can take care of an occasional "accident" by himself. That is where real athletic ability would show also. If Larry Bird could not change his own diapers at 2, nobody could.

In fact, that sort of thing could be organized into an athletic event in its own right. It would be an automatic success. If there is one thing people are more proud of than their kid playing little league, it is what they do as babies.

Some people might call it exploiting the little ones, but all we would be doing is dropping the age a couple years. How old is Mary Lou Retton, anyway?