

Sandy team ends day-long journey

by PAT O'HALLORAN

A team of Sandy runners took a 170-mile adventure Saturday when they competed in the Hood to Coast Relay.

The 170-mile relay begins at Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood and ends at Pacific City on the Oregon Coast. Teams of up to 11 runners compete in various age and sex categories.

Matt Roth headed this year's team, which finished in under 19 hours, about what Roth was hoping for.

Each leg of the relay is five miles, with most runners hitting the road three times.

Perhaps the hardest leg was the shortest and last one, the leg run by Jeff Simons.

Although it was under three miles, Simons had to battle a traffic jam — one that consisted mainly of volunteers' vans — to make his way to the finish line. He weaved the last leg in 13 minutes even.

The fastest five-mile leg for the team was turned in by the oldest member of the team, 38-year-old Roger Ford, who hurtled down Highway 26 from 4.5 miles west of the South Timberline cutoff to just outside Rhododendron in 27 minutes, 13 seconds.

Dick and Peggie Hodge of Sandy competed for The Mamas and The Papas, a group of over-40 women and men runners, and helped them to a third-place finish in their category.

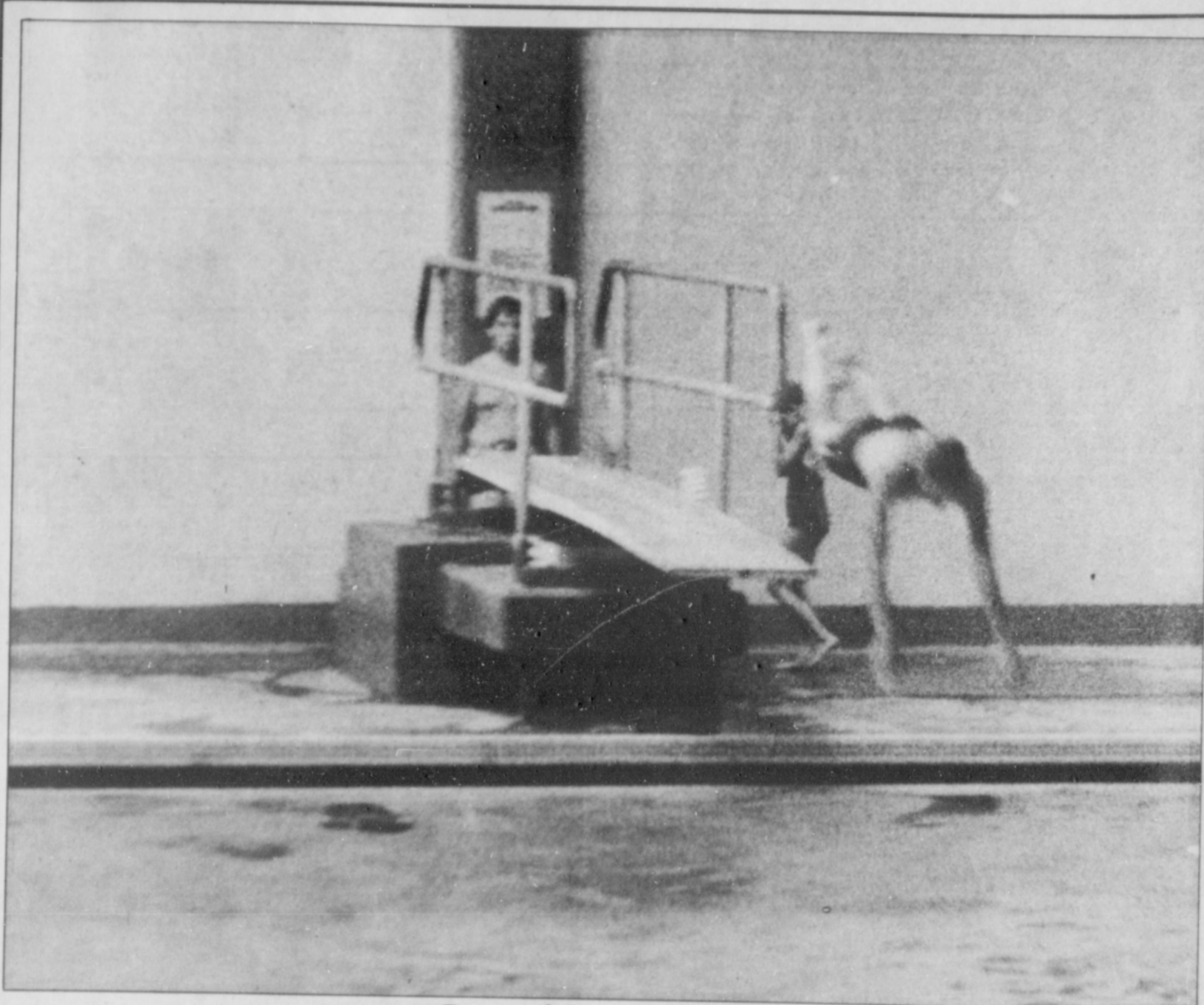
The team came in with a time of 21 hours, 21 minutes, finishing after 11 p.m. Saturday. They started the day at 2 a.m.

"We had a fantastic time," said Peggie, "made some wonderful new friends and just plain thoroughly enjoyed ourselves while getting hot, tired and sore-muscled."

Russ Denmark, a 53-year-old Sandy runner also competed.

HOOD TO COAST RELAY SANDY TEAM RESULTS

Leg, runner	5-mile time	18, Nicholson	29:32
1, Dave Burks	27 minutes, 33 seconds	19, Roth	33:14
2, Roger Ford	27:13	20, Simons	31:06
3, Phil Burks	27:49	21, D. Burks	33:45
4, Craig Watts	28:05	22, Ford	32:32
5, Clark Watts	28:54	23, P. Burks	46:53
6, John Rogers	33:37	24, Craig Watts	34:25
7, Brad Schmautz	29:32	25, Clark Watts	36:06
8, Mike Nicholson	33:57	26, Rogers	32:06
9, Matt Roth	32:05	27, Schmautz	29:35
10, Jeff Simons	31:31	28, Nicholson	34:26
11, D. Burks	32:17	29, Roth	31:57
12, Ford	30:47	30, Simons	32:09
13, P. Burks	39:27	31, D. Burks	34:10
14, Craig Watts	31:56	32, Craig Watts	32:07
15, Clark Watts	28:58	33, Clark Watts	28:30
16, Rogers	34:32	34, Nicholson	38:45
17, Schmautz	29:00	35 (2.5-mile leg), Simons	13:00



Cooling Off

Photo by Pat O'Halloran

One way to cool off during a warm summer day is to take a head-first plunge at the Sandy Elementary District Swimming Pool. A variety of activities are offered at the pool. For more information on the pool's programs, call 668-4400.



Photo by Pat O'Halloran

RELAY RUNNERS — Five of the 10 members of the Sandy team that ran in the Hood to Coast Relay are: (front row) Matt Roth and Dave Burks; (back row) Brad Schmautz, Mike Nicholson and Jeff Simons. Not pictured are Roger Ford, Phil Burks, Craig Watts, Clark Watts and John Rogers.

County fair beckons prep riders

Young cowboys and cowgirls from all over Oregon will usher in a new chapter in rodeo thrills and excitement at this year's Clackamas County Fair.

The future stars of the rodeo circuit will take over Aug. 13-14 for a first-ever summer performance featuring rough-riding contenders of the Oregon High School Rodeo Association. This will be a state-wide rodeo with more than 100 high school students participating. The meet is sanctioned by the state association.

The rodeo will continue Aug. 15-18 with performances by the Professional International Rodeo Association (formerly International Rodeo Association). Many nationally-acclaimed riders from all parts of the country will be taking part. All evening performances during weekdays (including the high school shows) will start at 7:30 p.m., with an afternoon matinee by PIRA riders Sunday, Aug. 18, at 2 p.m.

The mile-a-minute, rough-and-tumble action that has made the Clackamas County Fair Rodeo one of the Pacific Northwest's outstanding rodeos will be very much in evidence this year, both in the high school and the PIRA performances, said Ted Atkins, rodeo superintendent.

The OHSRA shows will be as tough and as crowd-pleasing as those that come later in the week, Atkins said. Boys will be participating in saddle-back and bare-back bronc riding, bull-dogging, bull riding, calf-roping and team roping. Girls' events include barrel racing, goat tying, break-away roping and team roping.

Members of the OHSRA include all young people who have graduated from the eighth-grade and are attending high school this year. This will be the first fall event staged by the association, previous rodeo meets having been held in the spring. OHSRA finals were held in Redmond in June and many of the top finalists will be riding in the Clackamas County Fair Rodeo.

The traditional rodeo is a prime attraction at the Clackamas County Fair and consistently draws large and enthusiastic audiences from all parts of the region. In the past few years, a standing-room-only situation has greeted most late-comers.

"Regular fans have learned to come early if they want a seat," Atkins said.

The rodeo is free with a general admission ticket for the fair.

Mt. Hood pool hosts junior meet

The Mt. Hood Community College Aquatic Center will mark a first Aug. 13-17 when it hosts the McDonald's/U.S. Swimming National Junior Olympics.

The annual event is split into western and eastern competitions, with the Alabama Aquatic Center in Tuscaloosa serving as the eastern host.

Hosting the western meet is a major accomplishment for MHCC and has been in the planning stages for more than a year, said co-director

Mike Popovich. Popovich is also coordinator of the MHCC Aquatic Center.

"We are expecting 1,000 to 1,200 competitors," said Popovich. "The economic impact on the east-county area should be between \$250,000 and \$275,000."

The meet's events will be held in MHCC's outdoor, Olympic-sized pool. The 12- to 20-year-old competitors, all members of U.S. Swimming teams, will swim in 34 events. The National

Junior Olympics is considered a training ground for future Olympic athletes.

Spectator tickets can be reserved by calling 668-6445. All tickets reserved after Aug. 6 will be held at the door. An all-session pass is \$10. Day passes are \$2.50 and daily session/finals passes are \$2. Tickets will be available at the door when the meet begins.

For more information call the MHCC Aquatic Center at 667-7246.

Contrasting reactions reveal some of strike's problems

by PAT O'HALLORAN

What a day Sunday was, huh? Tom Seaver wins his 300th game and sets New York Yankees Owner George Steinbrenner into a rage in the process. Steinbrenner saw a sold-out Yankee Stadium cheering the Chicago White Sox pitcher on to his milestone victory and, instead of realizing that the fans were cheering a Hall-of-Fame pitcher, figured they were turning on his team.

So he criticizes the play of his team. The man has no sense of baseball tradition. While nearly everyone one was cheering the long and fascinating career of the former New York Met, Steinbrenner is ridiculing his own team. Now here is a classy guy. With owners like him, concerned more for the welfare of their pocketbooks than the joy of a simple game at its heights, it is no wonder they are dragging baseball toward yet another strike, simply by refusing to acknowledge the game is simply that: a game.

□ □ □

Meanwhile, on the other coast — ours — Rod Carew was slapping his 3,000th hit in Anaheim, Calif. And another coincidence (the first being Seaver winning No. 300 in New York), Carew hit his against his old team, the Minnesota Twins.

Pat's Patter



Who was the first player to congratulate him? Minnesota first baseman Kent Hrbek, that's who. Hrbek told Carew not to try to go to second, just so Hrbek would be the first to shake his hand.

That's a little more gracious than Steinbrenner's outrage. Too bad the graciousness doesn't transfer over to the bargaining table as the strike enters its third day.

□ □ □

Both the players and the owners are to blame for this debacle. When both sides spend as little time at the bargaining table as these two have, it is no wonder they are still miles away from a solution, and the league commissioners and

Peter Ueberroth have talked loudly and carried toothpicks to avert the strike.

Ueberroth: "I cannot allow this to happen. We cannot allow the negotiations to fail." Loud talk and toothpicks.

Player Relations Committee President Lee MacPhail: "He's (Ueberroth) been doing everything he could to try to keep the parties at the bargaining table, to keep the rhetoric down. He's thrown out proposals that he hoped would get things moving a little bit. He's doing whatever he can." — which obviously isn't much.

Of course, one of the most important voices cannot be quoted: the fan. The suffering is not as much as most people think; we could survive. And it may take a little longer, but the game will survive, too. The fans, happy for the return of major league ball, will come back in time, in droves.

□ □ □

The golfing victory of amateur Scott Verplank in the Western Open at Oak Brook, Ill., Sunday, had to be heartening for duffers across the country.

Granted, he is a top-flight collegiate player, but thinking of a non-paid golfer winning a tour event gives me hope.

Myself, I'm a scratch golfer; when I'm done adding up my score, I usually scratch it out so nobody can read it.