

The Sandy Post

Sports and Recreation

Oregon City squeaks past Sandy boys

by DAVE MAGNUSON
Staff writer

The Sandy Pioneers boys basketball team played a close game Friday, but in the end it lost to the No. 9-ranked Oregon City Pioneers in a non-league contest in Sandy.

The battle between the two Pioneer squads ended with Oregon City on top 61-55.

The game started out tough, with the teams exchanging leads three times in the first quarter.

Sandy's biggest lead of the quarter was 12-8 with 2:28 to go, just after center Tony Hale buried a 16-foot baseline jumper.

But after Oregon City's Gary Gettel hit a 3-pointer and teammate guard Brian Juanta drove baseline, Oregon City led 13-12.

Each team then scored 4 points and the first period ended with Oregon City leading 17-16.

Sandy then trailed 20-16 after Gettel hit another 3-pointer. But Sandy forward Randy Wheeler tipped in a rebound and backup center Jesse Schiel rolled to the basket and the game was tied 20-20.

With 2:36 to go in the half, Sandy took a 28-23 lead, its biggest of the game, on a breakaway lay-up by forward Randy Lamm. Oregon City then cut it back to 1 before Schiel and Brad Pankalla each scored two points and Sandy led 32-27 with 52 seconds to go in the half.

Sandy then led by 5 points four additional times in the third quarter, its last 5-point margin coming with 2:12 to go. Wheeler collected an offensive rebound and shot the ball, which rolled around the hoop and through, giving Sandy a 44-39 advantage.

But Oregon City played tough and outscored Sandy 7-1 in the third period's final 1:48, as it regained the lead, 46-45.

In the fourth, the teams tied at 46, 48 and 50 points, before Hale sank the second of two free throws and Sandy regained its lead, 51-50 with 4:33 to go.

Oregon City's Juanta hit two free throws and Sandy's Wheeler scored

an easy two points on a length-of-the-court inbounds pass from Hale, and Sandy led again 53-52.

Sandy then committed its fifth foul of the half, allowing Oregon City 1-and-1 free-throw opportunities. After Oregon City's Ian Shields hit two free throws, Oregon City led 56-53.

Oregon City sustained its lead and eventually won, 61-55.

Oregon City had been over the foul limit late in the third period, but in that time, Sandy converted just five of 12 free-throw attempts. For the game, Sandy shot seven of 20 from the free-throw line (35 percent), missing three front ends of 1-and-1 situations.

Sandy's poor shooting from the stripe proved to be its downfall, said Dan Brisbin, Sandy coach.

"I think we outplayed them in every aspect of the game, except we lost it at the free-throw line," Brisbin said. "We played well, we just couldn't buy a free throw."

Wheeler and Hale combined for 37 points, with Lamm and Schiel adding 8 apiece.

None of the Sandy players who made a trip to the line made more free throws than he missed.

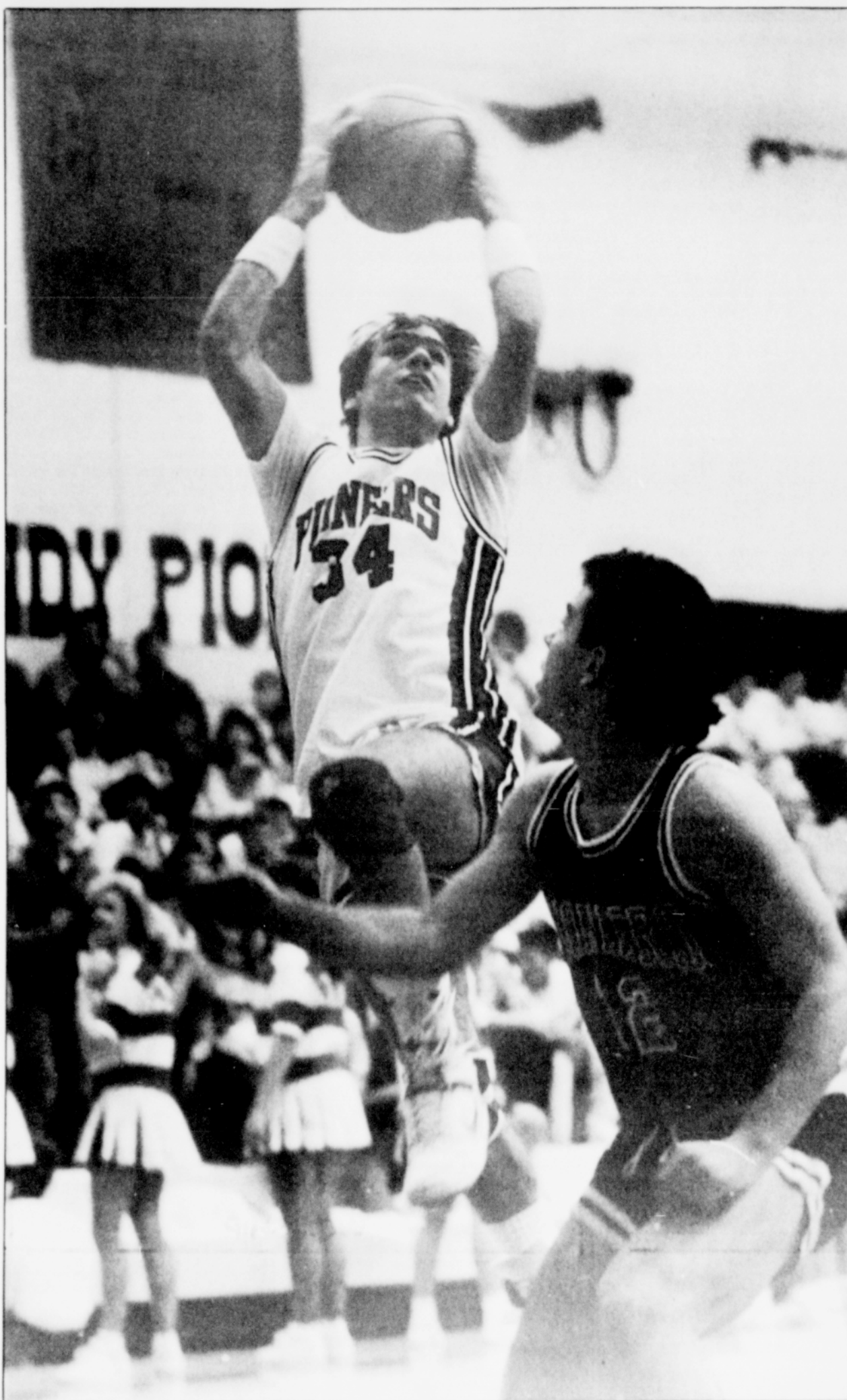
"If we'd have shot 70 percent — which is what we should be shooting, at least — we could've dictated what happened that last part of the game, with about 5 minutes to go," Brisbin said.

Brisbin believes Oregon City deserves its No. 9 ranking.

"Our defense was pretty good against a team that's been scoring 70, 80 points a game," Brisbin said. "That was a quality ballclub we played tonight and as I told the kids after the game, they are fortunate to be leaving with a win."

With the loss, Sandy dropped to 4-2 overall and is 1-0 in MHC play. After a non-league home game against Molalla Dec. 29, MHC games resume in full swing.

On Jan. 5, the Pioneers will host the Gresham Gophers. Gresham is an unstable ballclub that is hot one night, cold the next. The Gophers are 3-3 overall and 1-1 in the MHC.



Forward Randy Lamm goes past Oregon City's Ian Shields for two during Sandy's 61-55 loss Friday night.

Both swim teams win at Parkrose

A nice Christmas present came eight days early for the Sandy Pioneers swimming team, as both the boys and girls teams defeated the hosting Parkrose Broncos Thursday in the final Mount Hood Conference dual meet of 1987.

The boys defeated the Broncos 107-59 and the girls also won, 93-68.

Senior Troy Hilstad claimed first place in two events, the only Sandy boy to do so. Hilstad won the 200-yard individual medley (2 minutes, 14.6 seconds) and the 100 butterfly (58.7 seconds).

Sandy swept the 100 butterfly, as the Broncos were unable to enter competitors in that event.

Other first-place winners for the Pioneers were Mike Malchow in the 200 freestyle, Pat Crappa in the 100 freestyle, Richard Montgomery in the 500 freestyle and Bob Richards in the 100 breaststroke.

Additionally, the team won both relay events, the 200 medley relay and the 400 freestyle relay.

Five members of the boys team earned personal bests as well. Malchow, Montgomery, David Izer, Joe Cejka and Travis Hilstad each bettered previous times and scores in their individual events.

The girls, meanwhile, also won both relay events and had eight first-place finishes.

Three Pioneers won two events each: Robyn Hayball in the 100 and 200 freestyle; Michelle Crane in the 200 individual medley and 100 butterfly; and Janine Williamson in the 50 and 500 freestyle.

Robyn Jones won the diving event and Carrie Mills conquered the 100 backstroke.

Six personal best times were set by the Sandy girls, two each from Shelley Campbell and Traci Byrd, with Jones and Michelle Barber setting a best time in one event apiece.

"There were many good swims by both the boys and the girls team," Sandy coach Mark Smith said. "It was a good meet going into the Christmas break, leading up to the David Douglas confrontation."

All eyes at Sandy are looking forward to Thursday, Jan. 7, when the David Douglas Scots travel to the Sandy Aquatic Center. The Sandy and David Douglas boys teams are the only remaining undefeated MHC squads and the meet will decide the league leader at this point of the season.

Both the Pioneers and Scots girls teams are 1-1 in MHC meets, which should also give some indication of how the season will progress.

Sunset deals defeat to girls
Pioneers lose by 31 points in non-conference contestby DAVE MAGNUSON
Staff writer

BEAVERTON — It's been said that it is better to give than to receive.

The Sandy Pioneers girls basketball team probably agrees following its 72-41 non-league loss at the hands of the highly rated Apollos of Sunset High School.

'We didn't get beat because of a lack of effort or our kids' lack of trying. They were a good team.'

**— Molly Knudsen,
Sandy coach**

In their six wins, the Pioneers have defeated their opponents by an average of 19½ points per win. But the tables were turned on the Pioneers in their 31-point loss to Sunset.

It was a loss that was, although not much wanted, accepted with dignity by Sandy coach Molly Knudsen.

"We knew that if we didn't get back on the transition, that's going to kill us," she said.

"If we could have done that, I think it would've been a different ballgame. If we could've made them set up in a half-court game, we could've matched up with them pretty well."

"But we just couldn't stay with them, as far as running."

The Pioneers played a good first quarter, alternating between 2-point deficits and ties throughout the game's first 6:45 minutes.

Then, with 8 seconds to go in the first quarter, Sunset forward Hilary Brown laid up a shot, giving the Apollos a 14-10 lead and breaking them loose from the Pioneers.



Sandy guard Suzee Adkins makes a cross-court pass to a teammate, despite the defense of Sunset's Sherry Larson in the Apollos' rout Saturday.

Sunset then took an 18-10 lead, and pushed it to 24-12 with 3:30 to go in the half.

The Apollos were taking advantage of Sandy turnovers and missed shots,

converting several times on fast breaks.

By the end of the first half, Sunset had had a 34-17 lead, and the Pioneers had a new experience — be-

ing down 17 points at the break.

After Pioneer forward Renae Aschoff hit a forced jumper just 11 seconds into the third period, Sunset forward Shannon O'Callaghan scored back-to-back lay-ups and the Apollos again doubled Sandy's score, 38-19.

At the end of the third period, Sunset had a 49-24 lead on the frustrated Pioneers.

Sunset's biggest lead came with 2:04 to go in the game, when Apollo center Vicky Dennis collected an offensive rebound and laid the ball back up for a 68-34 lead on the Pioneers.

A bright spot for Sandy came when Pioneer guard Ali Lake connected on a three-point shot with 3 seconds to go. But Sunset already had wrapped the game.

Aschoff led the Pioneers — and all scorers — with 15 points. Center Julie Crampton added 8 and Lake scored 7.

Despite the loss, Knudsen saw a few positive points from her team.

"I was real impressed with our kids," Knudsen said. "They ran our press offense well. I thought they handled the pressure a lot better than they have in the past."

"We didn't get beat because of a lack of effort or our kids' lack of trying. They were a good team."

After the game, the Pioneers started 10-day break from any games.

Their next contest is Tuesday, Dec. 29 at Molalla.

Sandy is 6-2 in overall play and 3-1 in Mount Hood Conference action.

MHC games resume in full swing Jan. 5, when Sandy travels to face the Gresham Gophers, undefeated this season through six games.

Last year, Sandy split its two MHC games with the Gophers, both teams winning their respective contests on the opponent's home floor.

Sandy team wrestles with busy schedule

It was a long, painstaking weekend for the Sandy Pioneers wrestling team and Coach Chuck Kearney.

The Pioneers' schedule had them competing in a tournament at Tacoma, Wash., Saturday. After their arrival home Sunday afternoon, the Pioneers were involved in a wrestling clinic at Gresham High School Monday.

On Tuesday, the team hosted the Kailua, Hawaii, High School wrestling team. Results of the Hawaiian dual meet were not available at press time.

The Pioneers Varsity One team took sixth place at the Franklin Pierce Invitational Tournament Saturday, while the Varsity Two team finished second.

Three Varsity One wrestlers made it to the finals of their respective weight classes. But all of the Sandy finalists lost in the championship match.

At 101 pounds, sophomore Tony Blanco defeated a Washington state tournament opponent, who pinned Blanco.

Freshman Casey Ingalls lost a close match, 3-2, despite arguments from Kearney that Ingalls had earned 2 additional points in the championship match. But nothing was changed in the situation and Ingalls lost his 122-pound match.

Rob Ingalls, a senior, took second in the 135-pound class, being defeated 11-2.

Two Pioneers earned third-place finishes, which means they had to go through the loser's bracket, thus making them wrestle more matches than first- or second-place finishers.

John Skinner took third, as did Clayton Hull, whose performances delighted Kearney.

"(Skinner and Hull) had the guts to come back and take third," Kearney said. "That takes guts because they got knocked out of the winning side and you've got a long trail to fight your way back through."

On the second varsity, six Pioneers claimed championships in their weight classes. They were: Brian McMahan, 97 pounds; David Roberts, 106; Bob Dimmick, 124; Doug Cassidy, 143; Barry Fretz, 171; and Jason Bergeron, 191.

On the bad side, Sandy lost wrestling newcomer Pat Modjeski to a leg injury Thursday, two days before the Pierce Tournament. It appears the injury could sideline Modjeski for a while.

"Pat's been a real addition to our program just because he's one of those kind of wrestlers that goes out and the crowd goes right with him," Kearney said. "He throws himself wholeheartedly into the matches. You can't ask for more from an athlete than that."

The Varsity One team was unable to field anyone above the 157-pound class, which gave Sandy a lack of points.

Overall, however, Kearney was pleased to be a part of the Pierce Tournament because of its classy, well-organized atmosphere.

"It was exceptionally run. It is one of the best run tournaments I've ever seen — it always has been," Kearney said. "The people up there just flat know how to put it together."

Next on the Pioneers' agenda is the Rex Putnam Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 9. Then Sandy will travel to David Douglas to take on the always-tough Scots on Thursday, Jan. 14.