

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Founded in 1873



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Water under the bridge



Compiled by Bob Duke

From the pages of Astoria's daily newspapers

10 years ago this week — 2006

Four titles in a row for the Astoria girls, and a return to the winner's circle for the Astoria boys marked two days of swimming in the District 1/3A championships Friday and Saturday at the Astoria Aquatics Center.

The Astoria girls ran away with their team title, scoring 289 points to the 201 for runner-up Tillamook.

On the boys' side, Astoria wrestled the title away from defending champion Seaside, outscoring the Gulls 273-248. It was the first time since 2004 that Astoria swept the team titles.



Daily Astorian file

This map of East Astoria waterfront from the East End boat basin to tongue Point shows the two areas, shaded, which are to be filled by the dredge McCurdy, now working in the channel for the U.S. Corps of Engineers. The eastern area, extending outward from the foot of 53rd to the railway like, will contain about 8 acres of new land. It is being pumped in first and job is about 80 percent complete. The dredge then will shift to west end of the lagoon and will fill it as far east as 42nd street if material in the channel holds out. This tract will be about 15 acres of new land.

With the flick of a lever, the engines within the dredge started to hum and cables cranked up the dredge ladder.

At the end of the ladder, the cutter head circled slowly. Its teeth, designed to loosen sediments at the bottom of the river, rotated in the air.

Deckhand Mike Pritchard oiled the wheels turning the cables as leverman and dredge captain Jim Larson removed a football-sized rock from the cutter head. Along with engineer Cary Coggins, they were readying the Port of Astoria's dredge Felkins to clear out the sediments that have settled off the end of Pier I.

"If we don't dredge every year, the cruise ships won't be able to tie up," Larson said.

A crowd of friends and family members gathered Monday to honor a fisherman they remembered for his rebellious spirit, his love for the ocean, his mischievous nature and his out-of-place boots.

Craig L. "Boots" Larsen, of Hammond, died last week when his boat, the Warrenton-based crabber Catherine M, sank near Tillamook. He was 32 years old.

Larsen was born into a fishing family, but when he decided to make it his career, he didn't have all the appropriate equipment, said Garibaldi Pastor Bill Creech, who spoke Monday.

"All he had that resembled fishing gear were some old dairy boots," Creech said. "Those old dairy boots just didn't look right, and the name stuck."

50 years ago — 1966

The city council reluctantly voted Monday night to buy a "breathalyzer," a machine to measure content of alcohol in a person's blood.

The thing costs \$737 and has been approved by the Oregon Board of Health for use by police under the implied consent law of the 1965 legislature, Police Chief Paul Bettiol told the council.

When a police officer arrests an individual for drunken driving, he may insist that the individual permit the alcoholic content of his blood be measured with the device. If he refuses, he can be deprived of his driver license for 90 days.

75 years ago — 1941

Lumbering and agricultural interests of Clatsop County are in disagreement over repeal of the state reforestation act but apparently are agreed that proper use of cut-over stump land now in public ownership requires that part of it be set aside for grazing and part for reforestation.

A bill has been introduced in the house of the legislature authorizing and empowering the state highway commission "to construct, reconstruct, purchase, rent, lease or otherwise acquire, improve and maintain a bridge or bridges over the Columbia River to Washington."

The bill is house bill No. 204. It authorizes the highway commission to enter into contracts or agreements with the United States or any of its agencies and Washington, where similar authority regarding the state director of highways rights is in effect.

The measure establishes authority for the state highway commission to act, although it is not specific in application to any area. There is no immediate known program for bridge construction over the Columbia. One reason for the measure's passage at this point relates to the possibility that a bridge might prove necessary in the immediate future in connection with national defense.

Responsible Northwest civil aeronautics authority officials recently disclosed to the Astoria Chamber of Commerce aviation committee a possibility the civilian pilot training course might be started at the Clatsop airport as early as March 1 instead of in late spring or early fall as was originally planned.

It's uncommon for a judge to lose his job

IT TAKES A LOT FOR A professional to lose his license to practice. In this county it happened some 25 years ago when the state Insurance Commissioner revoked Mike Maki's license. There was some disbelief and denial among the man's friends about his malfeasance as an insurance agent. But it also became clear that an agent had to work hard to lose his license, because it seldom happened.

Every month the Oregon Bar Association, the state Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing release lists of licensed professionals who are on probation or no longer licensed to practice.

It is extremely rare for a state judge to find his judgeship in jeopardy. That is happening to a Salem trial judge.

Judge Vance Day's case made a headline when it was noted that he would not marry same-sex couples. That was an eye-catching charge, but the judge's transgressions move well beyond that. The 48-page decision of the state Commission on Judicial Fitness and Disability is painful reading to someone who cares about the probity of our judiciary.

Concerning the gay marriage issue, the commission wrote: "The intended discrimination corrodes the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary."

One of the most damning sections is devoted to what was true or false in Judge Day's responses to the commission. In a nutshell, Judge Day had been caught in a number of lies.

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SOMETIMES STATING THE obvious is the most essential thing in public life. In its preamble to the Day decision, the Commission of Judicial Fitness writes that, "The

Supreme Court has admonished that the courts of Oregon belong to the people and in order to maintain the confidence of the people of Oregon in the courts of this state, it is essential that the judges of those courts be held to the highest standard of honesty and competence."

"The time has come," the Walrus said,
 "To talk of many things;
 Of shoes — and ships — and sealing wax —
 Of cabbages — and kings —"

Through the Looking-glass



of Cabbages and Kings



Statesman-Journal

Marion County Circuit Judge Vance Day presides over his courtroom in Salem in 2012. Day, a former chairman of the Oregon Republican Party, is facing an ethics investigation after asking his clerks to refer couples seeking same-sex marriages to other county judges due to his religious beliefs.

The Oregon Sheriffs Association drew a line on elected officials who support threats of violence

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IN A SIMILAR VEIN, THE Oregon State Sheriffs Association last Thursday issued a statement that seems prompted by Grant County Sheriff Glenn Palmer's conduct. Concerning the armed occupiers of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, the sheriffs said:

"These men and women are asking for change, and we support their right to challenge our government to make change. However, we do not agree with or support any citizen or elected official who would advocate for change in a manner that includes illegal action, threats of violence, or violence against any citizen of the United States."

— S.A.F.



Secretary Clinton has 'half a dream'

By CHARLES BLOW
 New York Times News Service

DURHAM, N.H. — One of the most striking statistics to come of the Iowa caucus entry polling was the enormous skew of young voters away from Hillary Clinton and to Bernie Sanders. Only 14 percent of caucusgoers 17 to 29 supported Clinton, while 84 percent supported Sanders.

On Thursday, I traveled to the University of New Hampshire, site of a debate between Clinton and Sanders that night. Before the debate, I mingled on campus with people rallying for both candidates, with the Sanders rally many times larger than the Clinton one. The energy for Sanders at the school was electric.

For the actual debate, I went to a debate-watching party for Clinton supporters at the Three Chimneys Inn, just off campus. There were more heads of white hair in that room than a jar of cotton balls.

The two scenes so close to each other drove home the point for me: Hillary Clinton has a threatening young voter problem.

Young folks are facing a warming planet, exploding student debt, stunted mobility, stagnant wages and the increasing corporatization of the country due in part to the increasing consolidation of wealth and the impact of that wealth on American institutions.

Young folks are staring down a barrel and they want to put a flower in it, or conversely, smash it to bits. And they're angry at those who came before them for doing too little, too late. They want a dramatic correction, and they want it now.

Sanders' rhetoric plays well to young folks' anxiety and offers a ray of hope. He wants to fix the system they see as broken, and he's not new to those positions. He has held many of the same positions most of his life, but they have never had as much resonance as they do now. Never mind that Sanders has been in Congress for decades and doesn't have the stronger record of accomplishments, as my colleague Nick Kristof put it last week.

Sanders is good at setting the goals, but not so good at getting there.

When people question Sanders on the feasibility of pushing his ambitious policies through an obstructionist, Republican-controlled Congress, he often responds with the broad and loose talk of a political revolution, like he put it in his closing remarks Thursday:

"I do believe we need a political revolution where millions of people stand up and say loudly and clearly that our government belongs to all of us and not just a handful of wealthy campaign contributors."

What he is saying is that a political revolution, meaning massive numbers of new voters and unprecedented voter turnout by people who support his policies, would result in flipping control of Congress and an easier path to his policies' passage and implementation.

But if Iowa is any measure, that revolution has yet to materialize, and indeed, may never.

Iowa did see a record number of caucusgoers ... for the Republican candidate. The number of Democratic caucusgoers fell significantly, and half of those went to Clinton.

As RealClearPolitics reported: "The trend line is positive for Republicans (turnout up 54 percent from 2012)



Charles Blow

and negative for Democrats (turnout was down 22 percent from 2008)."

This doesn't sound anything like the kind of numbers Sanders would need to push his agenda forward, and he knows that. If anything, it sounds like the budding of another Republican revolution. But these facts are ones that would never pass Sanders' lips. They would puncture the balloon and end his ascendance.

Clinton, on the other hand, represents much of what they distrust or even despise. There is an aura of ethical ambiguity — from the emails to the Wall Street paid speeches to the super PACs. (There is growing pressure for her to release the transcripts of those speeches and have the content of them compared to her public pronouncement.) There is the legacy of her military hawkishness, including her Iraq war vote. There is the articulation of her positions that are at odds with young folks' aspirations and sensibilities, like saying Thursday, "I don't believe in free college," and saying that she continues to support capital punishment.

But possibly the most damaging of Clinton's attributes is, ironically, her practicality. As one person commented to me on social media: Clinton is running an I-Have-Half-A-Dream campaign. That simply doesn't inspire young people brimming with the biggest of dreams. Clinton's message says: Aim lower, think smaller, move slower. It says, I have more modest ambitions, but they are more realistic.

As Clinton put it Thursday in a swipe at Sanders, "I'm not making promises that I cannot keep."

But the pragmatic progressive line is not going to help her chip away at Sanders' support among the young. That support is hardening into hipness. Supporting Sanders is quickly becoming the thing to do if you are young and want to appeal to those who are. Clinton's time to reverse that is quickly running out, and a strategy of simply holding out long enough so that the heavy black and brown support for her counters it may not be sufficient.

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