

Sport Talk

by Ron Sykes
Sports Editor



You just may need an Apple II computer to tell you who's coaching where in the NBA. In this ever-changing world of coaches, only one job remains constant, and that is Bernie Bickerstaff of the Washington Bullets.

Bernie holds the all-time record for longevity among assistant coaches.

Bill Fitch left Boston and headed south to Houston, where he will face the enormous task of coaching Ralph Sampson.

Chuck Daley, former Cleveland Cavalier head coach and 76er assistant is now top man in Detroit and has taken on former U of O head man Dick Harter as his assistant. It will be interesting to see how Harter's coaching style will adapt to the pros. You know Harter earned the reputation of "drill sergeant" while coaching in Eugene. And one has to wonder how far that will go with such stars as Kelly Tripucka and Isaiah Thomas?

While all these changes are going on, one has to wonder about the future of Bickerstaff. Everyone around the NBA is aware of Bernie's coaching ability. Why then is he not considered for a head coaching job? Atlanta hired Mike Fratello. While Fratello does have experience — he served as an aide to Hubie Brown at Atlanta and worked as an assistant to Keven Loughery for three years — Bickerstaff has logged nearly ten years, all as an assistant in Washington.

Bernie is energetic, enthusiastic and gets along well with the players. What is the problem? Those are all the qualities the Atlanta Hawks were looking for when they signed Fratello.

San Antonio hired Morris McHone after he served four years as an NBA assistant. McHone spent one year with Albeck at Cleveland and the past three with him at San Antonio before being elevated to the head job. Bickerstaff applied for the

San Antonio job, but despite his impeccable background never got an interview.

It's easy to understand how owners would take a big name coach, but a Morris McHone is hardly a household name. And it's also easy to understand if an owner would prefer to take someone who's familiar with the players and the team philosophy. And that being the case, why then has Bickerstaff been bypassed so many times in Washington?

It's no secret that Dick Motta, former Bullet coach, and now head man at Chicago, strongly recommended Bernie as his successor. But to no avail... management chose to go with Bernie only as an assistant. Why?

Some will tell you that assistant coaches are more apt to receive head coaching jobs if they come from good programs.

Portland's Jim Lynman is reported to have been chosen at San Diego

mainly because of his association with Dr. Jack Ramsay. Ramsay, long recognized as an astute teacher of the game, is also becoming known for his inability to keep assistants. This, however, is no knock of Jack's abilities, rather a feather in his hat.

Jack McKinney, after serving his apprenticeship under Ramsay, is now one of the more sought after coaches in the league.

Lynam, while not admitting to be a clone of Dr. Jack, does venture to say that, "I will copy a lot from Jack."

Again, one has to wonder about the strange case of Bernie Bickerstaff.

Dick Motta has long been respected as an NBA coach. Motta thinks enough of Bickerstaff to recommend him highly. Bickerstaff's own coaching philosophy mirrors that of Motta.

Dick Motta is employed as head coach in Detroit, while Bickerstaff

begins his second decade as an aide in Washington. You tell me why.

Seattle Super Sonics coach Lenny Wilkins' ability as a coach will certainly be tested this year.

Seattle, needing help at guard, drafted Jon Sunvold as their first round selection and the 16th overall pick. Sunvold is 6-1, very slow, and has lead feet. But he can shoot the eyes out of a basket. Whereas he'll never be able to push the ball upcourt, but once he arrives there he can keep the defense honest with his outside shooting.

Sundvold was considered by many as the worst first round selection in this year's draft.

Jack Ramsay's coaching abilities will be severely tested as he takes on

a few projects of his own. Ramsay is still attempting to find a spot for third year man Jeff Lamp. If he succeeds, then kudos to Jack. He will have earned his money.

And kudos are in order for Dick Harter, who still believes that ex U of O great Ronnie Lee can still play. And jeers for whomever advised Marquette's Doc Rivers to go hard-ship. Rivers, 6-4, was the only hard-ship player to go on the second round. Another year in school certainly would have improved his position.

And if Philly's Bobby Jones is the best sixth man in the game, an award he won a month ago, why, then, is Boston's Kevin McHale being paid 1.4 million a year.



OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES
by Kathryn Hall Bogle

Joyce Braden Harris announces a forthcoming concert by Wanda Thompson, popular vocalist in the Portland area. Wanda Thompson will sing a program made up of hits of legendary black women singers. Janice Scroggins will be accompanist for Thompson. Other musicians are scheduled to join the two starring women that evening, including Dennis Springer, saxophonist formerly with "Pleasure."

Harris warns that this concert is to be a farewell appearance by Thompson before the singer moves on to San Francisco. Harris also promises that the concert will be a roof-raiser — make that a roof-fund-raiser, for the benefit of the Black Educational Center.

Beginning now, the BEC is accepting enrollment applications for five-year-olds to enter BEC classwork in the fall. The school offers instruction for children kindergarten age through fourth grade.

Among the first Pacific Northwest artists to be featured at the very new King's Hill Gallery is Al Goldsby, well-known metal sculptor. Rick Turner, director of King's Hill, has mounted the show, which has its opening reception on Thursday, August 11, from 6 to 8 p.m., on the fifth floor and in the entry of the very new and very elegant condominium high-rise apartment complex of 2245 Park Place. That's at the corner of Vista Avenue.

Goldsby's new work to be viewed at King's Hill is a gleaming bronze wall piece depicting a section of the Columbia River Gorge. Lights and shadows of the room setting give the style of this work an ever-changing impression of the vista it portrays. Fittingly, Goldsby has named this bronze, "Gorge East."

Other artists featured at the King's Hill Gallery opening will be Julie Bernard with her paintings and drawings, and Stu Levy, who will show a part of his collection of black and white photographs.



Metal sculpturist Al Goldsby looks on as Rick Turner, director of King's Hill Gallery, admires his work. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Senior citizens from Philadelphia, "The City of Brotherly Love" will join the "City of Roses" seniors in a good will exchange Friday and Saturday, August 12th and 13th.

"We're just a group of 46 persons, mostly seniors, representing many diverse backgrounds who have been travelling together throughout the United States since 1960 to enjoy new sights and make new friends," said Mrs. Helen Justice, an artist, and Coordinator of the tour group. "This is our first trip to the Northwest and we are excited about it," she stated. She contacted Rev. John Jackson, Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, the Oregon Association of Colored Women's Clubs, the Near N.E. Senior Adult Service Center and the Jack Wasson's, niece and nephew of a group member. The contacts resulted in a coordinated effort of planned activities to be hosted by the above groups plus Corporate Board Near Northeast Senior Adult Service Center, SASC District Advisory Committee and Urban League Senior Adult Center Services.

City Commissioner Charles Jordan and County Commissioner Gladys McCoy will welcome the group on their arrival Friday, which will be followed by a reception, program, tour and socializing at the Near Northeast Senior Adult Service Center, 4128 N.E. Union at 5:00 p.m. Mrs. Dora Lee Williams is Reception Chairman. Seniors and the community are invited to attend the reception. Seniors needing transportation should contact Mrs. Barbara Bivens-Blincoe, Center Director, who with Co-Chairman V.L. Bush and Jack Wasson are coordinating transportation. Saturday's activities include a sightseeing tour of the International Rose Test Gardens, OMSI, Japanese Gardens and a visit to Lloyd Center. The activities will conclude with an "Old Fashioned Picnic Dinner" at Laurelhurst Park, Mrs. Carrie Holliday, Dinner Chairman.

The group will depart Sunday for Seattle, where they will be hosted by the Central Area Senior Center. Visits to Vancouver, B.C., Victoria, Minneapolis and Yellowstone National Park will conclude the tour.



Touring with her friends, Helen Justice (center), from Philadelphia, PA, will coordinate the seniors tour this weekend.

Street Beat

by Lanita Duke and Richard Brown

Crime was on the minds of the Street Beat team as they asked, "How effective has the crime prevention program in your neighborhood been?"

Freddy Justice
Upholsterer

"We do not have the block meetings like other neighborhoods, but we always look out for each other."

Carolyn Johnson
Registered Nurse

"We just instituted a block watch in our neighborhood and as far as I know there has been no crime on the streets. Prior to that we had six burglaries in two months. It has been very effective."

Horace Rinks
Shipping

"Not too good. When you need the police for something they aren't there. Any other time they are out running around."

Sandra Malone
Housewife

"It has been pretty good. I live in a small neighborhood and we have always watched out for one another."

Blue Benton
Mechanic

"I don't know what to say to that. We live in a field at Portland Meadows and I would know it if someone was out there."

Jim Seals
Salesman

"I live over in Vancouver and we had never had a problem too much with crime. Everyone tries to watch out for their neighbor. So, it has been very effective."

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Pluto, the furthest planet from the sun, takes 248.8 Earth years to make an orbit around the sun.

The word *panic* is derived from the name of a Greek god. Pan, it is said, could inspire overwhelming and sudden fear by his strange appearance.

Northwestern University conferred an honorary degree on ventriloquist Edgar Bergen's dummy, Charlie McCarthy.

The word "boycott" is from the name of an Irish land agent who was the first known boycott victim.

We do not do business with South Africa.

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