

Officials Accused of Bias Officiating

by Jerry Garner

Referee Steve Scott and Jim Martin have been accused of bias officiating during a March 8, AAA men's basketball playoff game between Glencoe and Jefferson High School at Glencoe High School in Hillsboro, Oregon.

Officials from Jefferson have sent a letter to Howard Mayo, Commissioner, Portland Basketball Officials Association and Don R. Peterson, Executive Director, Oregon School Activities Association, alleging that the officiating by Scott and Martin was "blatantly unfair and lopsided."

School officials alleged that violations, such as traveling and hand checking wasn't enforced fairly. During the game, 20 fouls were called against Jefferson and 7 against Glencoe. Glencoe attempted 22 free throws to only 2 for Jefferson. Glencoe basketball team is all-White, Jefferson All-Black. Glencoe won the game 45 to 44.

The letter urged the two commissioners to do something to monitor, evaluate, and correct the unfair officiating. Jefferson basketball coach Bobby Harris, said there are no words that could describe the blatantly unfair officiating of Scott and Martin. Harris cited one incident when Scott was 35 to 50 feet from the basket and made a call against Jefferson, although Martin was directly under the basket and didn't make a call.

"I've promised my kids that I would do something about the Glencoe situation," said Harris. Harris said the commissioner needs to know more about the backgrounds of officials before assigning them to key games.

Harris, who has been basketball coach at Jefferson for ten years, said that often politics determine the outcome of a game. "Some officials who are assigned to tournament games work in basketball camps," said Harris.

Conference Focuses on Humor

"Taking Your Job Seriously and Yourself Lightly" will be the focus of a conference to be given in the Mt. Hood Community College Art Mall Theatre Friday, April 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The conference will feature as its main speaker Joel Goodman, director of the Humor Project in Saratoga, N.Y.

The conference, designed for educators, people working in the mental health field and other human service professionals, will offer participants a variety of activities to enhance their humor and creativity skills and improve problem-solving effectiveness.

Goodman is a popular speaker, workshop leader and consultant throughout the United States and abroad. He has worked with more than 50,000 people in exploring the nature and constructive applications of humor and creativity in everyday life and work.

Other speakers will include Cy Eberhart, a certified hospital chaplain and a Fellow in the College of Chaplains, who has been studying, teaching, writing and lecturing about humor for over 20 years. Carol Peterson, an educator at Clackamas Community College and Allen Schmeitzler, an educator and cartoonist also will take part in the presentation.

For more information contact the MHCC Center for Community and Economic Development at 667-7249 or Tom Breukman at 284-6270.

Exhibit to Feature Prison Art

An annual exhibit of artwork created by inmates at the Oregon State Penitentiary, sponsored by the East County Arts Alliance, will be on display in the College Center at Mt. Hood Community College beginning April 7.

The exhibit, which will continue through May 9, will highlight the work of two inmates, Richard Klenk and Richard Rolf. Klenk, who said that art is his way of giving back what life has given him, works in a variety of mediums including pencil, watercolor and woodcarving. His creations make socio-political statements about American society, according to penitentiary art instructor Gary Westford.

Rolf has been painting watercolors for two years, during which time his work has developed from complex still-life studies to portrayals of isolated groups of flowers on abstract backgrounds, said Westford.

The exhibit also will feature a six-by-eight foot painting of Santa Claus, the result of a group project in one of Westford's design classes. Each of 16 students painted a block of the painting, developing their sections independently. The inmates involved in the project have since voted to donate the painting to a children's hospital for the enjoyment of sick children, said Westford.

Hours for the exhibit will be from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information contact the College Center at 667-7260.

No Rate Increase Gas Customers

An increase in Northwest Natural Gas Co. (NNG) rates scheduled for April 1 will not be necessary due to falling wholesale gas prices, Public Utility Commissioner Gene Maudlin said today.

Maudlin said an interim rate increase of approximately \$10.9 million, approved in February to be effective April 1, will be more than offset by wholesale gas price reductions announced last week by the company's suppliers. Rates were scheduled to go up by 2.7 percent for residential customers and 2.4-2.6 percent for other customer classes.

NNG has been ordered to hold the revenue reduction from additional wholesale gas cost savings in a special account pending final outcome of a rate increase proposal submitted in January. At that time the company asked for a revenue increase of \$29.4 million.

Maudlin said meetings on the rate increase proposal are scheduled to begin this week, and a decision should be made by late spring or early summer. If additional rate reductions are justified in the final decision, they will be passed on to customers, Maudlin said.

NNG serves approximately 265,000 Oregon customers, mainly in the northwest section of the state.



Bobby Harris (Photo by Richard J. Brown)

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