

Clippers Owner Banned for Life

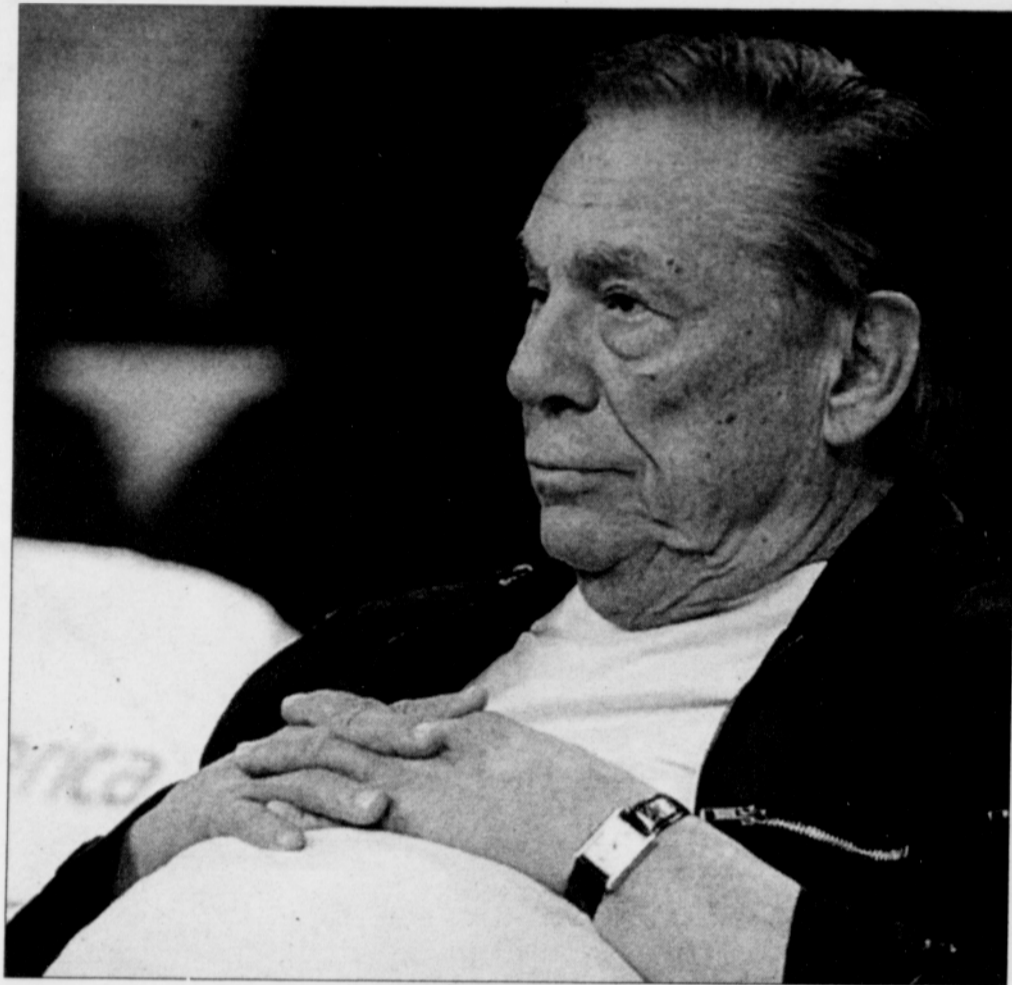
NBA sanction response to racist comments

(AP) — Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling has been banned for life and fined \$2.5 million by the NBA in response to racist comments the league says he made in a recorded conversation.

Commissioner Adam Silver said he will try to force the controversial owner to sell his franchise, making no effort to hide his outrage over the comments.

"I fully expect to get the support I need from the other NBA owners I need to remove him," Silver said.

The rebuke came three days after the scandal broke and is the harshest penalty ever issued by the league and one of the stiffest punishments ever given to an owner in professional sports. Silver said a league investigation found the NBA's long-



Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling watches his team play. (AP photo)

est-tenured owner was in fact the person on the audiotapes that were released over the weekend.

"We stand together in condemning Mr. Sterling's views," Silver said. "They simply have no place in the NBA."

Sterling is immediately barred from attending any NBA games or practices, be present at any Clippers office or facility, or participate in any business or player personnel decisions involving the team.

He also cannot participate in any league business going forward. It's unclear how he will respond, and a lawsuit certainly seems possible.

Sterling's comments were released over the weekend by TMZ and Deadspin, and numerous NBA owners and players have condemned them. Even President Barack Obama weighed in on the crisis.

"Commissioner Silver showed great leadership in banning LA Clippers owner Donald Sterling for life," Magic Johnson, who was referenced

on the taped conversation involving Sterling, tweeted shortly after the league's decision was announced.

Johnson's role on the tape stemmed from Sterling's female companion apparently posting a photo of her and the Hall of Fame player on her Instagram account. That photo has since been deleted, but raised Sterling's ire nonetheless.

"It bothers me a lot that you want to broadcast that you're associating with black people. Do you have to?" Sterling asks the woman on the tape.

The issues raised when the tapes were released represent just another chapter in Sterling's long history of being at the center of controversy.

In the past, he's faced extensive federal charges of civil rights violations and racial discrimination in his business dealings, and some of his race-related statements would be described as shocking.

The Week in Review

TriMet Shooter Drill

A TriMet-directed public safety training drill had passengers running from a gunman on a MAX train at the underground Washington Park station in the overnight hours of early Monday morning. The whole scenario was staged to include assistance from hundreds of police officers, firefighters, medics, and volunteers.

Mental Health Arrest

A man walked into a mental health clinic in Vancouver with a rifle on Monday. Police arrested the man an hour later.

Parking Officer Arrested

City parking code enforcement officer Barbara Lorraine Peterson was arrested last week, accused of tipping off an unauthorized tow driver to abandoned vehicles and getting kickbacks totaling thousands of dollars. Peterson, 53, has worked for the city for 23 years.



Social Security Boost Sought

U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley of Oregon met Thurs-

day with seniors at Hollywood Senior Center to announce that he'll introduce legislation to increase Social Security benefits for seniors by changing cost-of-living increases to adjust parallel with inflation.

Hit and Run Suspect

A 14-year-old hit Cleveland High School student was the victim of a non-life-threatening hit-and-run at Southeast 26th Avenue and Powell Boulevard on Monday. The suspect vehicle is described as a gold colored mid-size SUV, possibly a Lexus.

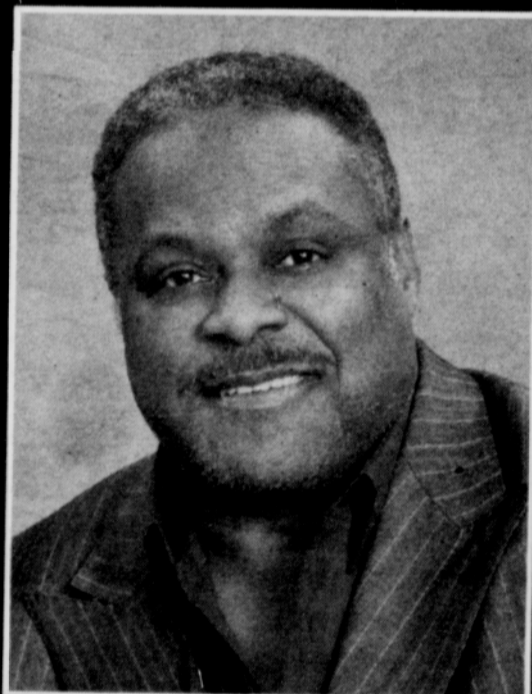
Overlook Shooting Arrest

Alejandro Ray Vance Jr., 23, was arrested after police responded to multiple reports of

gunshots in the area of North Killingsworth and Minnesota Avenue Monday evening. Two cars were hit with bullets, but no injuries were reported.

Late Late Host to Retire

CBS "Late Late Show" Host Craig Ferguson says he will retire from the television program in December. Monday's announcement comes just about a month after his network-mate and boss David Letterman announced his planned retirement for January.



Charles Washington

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