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What's on your list today?®



Members of the Parkrose girls basketball team faced racist taunts during a recent game at St. Helens. (KPTV photo)

Team Faced Racist Taunts

Apology not enough for Parkrose girls

An apology wasn't enough for members of the Parkrose High School girls basketball team which faced racist taunts during a game at St. Helens High School.

The Parkrose girls and coach spoke out last week after a letter was sent out to parents by the Parkrose superintendent, saying that an "unfortunate incident"

happened to the girls during a Jan. 15 game in St. Helens.

The Parkrose coaches and players say while the team was playing, the St. Helens fans were making monkey noises and calling them the n-word.

The fans started yelling slurs during the junior varsity games and then it trickled into the varsity game, Parkrose Coach Krystal Fortham told KPTV. The students said it wasn't the first time it's happened.

A statement issued by the St. Helens superintendent apologized

for the incident and said the school district would take "appropriate action." The Oregon Schools Activities Association released a statement saying, "This type of behavior is unacceptable at high school events."

The Parkrose girls, however, feel too little is being done and want St. Helens High School sports to face disciplinary action. The Parkrose superintendent says he's also asked the St. Helens School District to provide more security, including school resource officers at games.

Homelessness and Mental Health

Housing rights champions to lead panel discussion

Ibrahim Mubarak, a renowned activist and leader from Portland's African American community and a champion of housing rights for more than 25 years, will lead a panel discussion on the link between homelessness and mental health struggles.

The community is invited to hear and join the discussion which will offer concrete, innovative and proven solutions to this human rights crisis. The event will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. at the Montavilla United Methodist Church, 232 S.E. 80th Ave., sponsored by the group Rethinking Psychiatry.

Mubarak helped create short term and long term strategies for helping the homeless as co-founder of three sites for overnight camping on vacant parcels of land, Dignity Village, Right 2 Survive and Right 2 Dream 2. He will be joined on the panel by Right 2 Survive co-founders Lisa Fay and board member Sarah Louise Allen.

There is no cost to attend the discussion with donations welcome. Refreshments will be provided.



Ibrahim Mubarak