



“Challenging People to Shape
a Better Future Now”

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The Skanner Newspaper, established
in October 1975, is a weekly publica-
tion, published each Wednesday by
IMM Publications Inc.,

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The Skanner is a member of the
National Newspaper Publishers Associ-
ation and West Coast Black Publishers
Association.

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Tweets

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understand.”

More messages were directed at the athletes and referred to them as “bush boogie,” “mon-key,” and “n-word in the bushes.”

Racism on Twitter is nothing new, from high school students to politicians (Minnesota House Republican Rep. Pat Garofalo apologized Tuesday for tweeting on Monday: “Let’s be honest, 70% of teams in NBA could fold tomorrow + nobody would notice a difference w/possible exception of increase in street-crime.”)

At the same time the racist tweets were flying in Washington State last week, a high school basketball semi-final game in New York erupted in a brawl after students at

calls for high schools to acknowledge the phenomenon and act to cut it off.

Such race-based cyberbullying has been associated with teen suicide, depression and poor academic achievement, according to University of Southern California Associate Professor Brendesha Tynes, PhD.

Tynes, armed with a \$1.5 million National Institutes of Health grant, is pioneering a new field of educational research on the topic at the USC Rossier School of Education. It is a subject she has studied since 2001.

“We know about cyberbullying in general, but we’ve just scratched the surface of understanding how different types of victimization, including race-related experiences, impact

‘We’ve just scratched the surface of understanding how different types of victimization, including race-related experiences, impact developing adolescents’

Mahopac High School – as well as adult fans of the team – reportedly sent racist tweets during the game slamming students at Mount Vernon. Mount Vernon won the match; the district superintendent there is calling for Mahopac to be banned from the sport for a year.

An interactive map of hate speech on Twitter, created by students at Humboldt State University in California, shows that under the category of tweets “negatively referring to N-word,” the Seattle area as well as Gray’s Harbor – along with Southern Idaho – appear to be the only red-coded “hotspots” in the Northwest. http://users.humboldt.edu/mstephens/hate/hate_map.html#

A rise in hate speech among teenagers after the election of President Barack Obama led to

developing adolescents,” she said in an interview on the Rossier webpage last year.

“I’m hoping that, because many Internet safety and antibullying programs don’t really address race, we can develop interventions to help youth protect themselves, and give them coping and antiracist strategies to use,” she said. “We need more programs to help youth counter the negative messages they’re getting about racial groups.”

Back in Seattle last Friday night, Garfield was not intimidated.

The Bulldogs were neck and neck against the Eagles in a scrappy match that wasn’t over until the final seconds of the game, when Issaquah missed its last shot.

The two schools’ sports rivalry – Garfield



Garfield coach Ed Haskins thanks fans for their support after his team defeated Richland 68-59 in the boys’ 4A state championship basketball game Saturday, March 8, in Tacoma, Wash.

was ranked number one in the league and Issaquah tenth – has slowly grown over the season, inspiring what some students called over-the-top aggressive verbal assaults unlike the usual competitive banter between rivals.

The principal of Issaquah High School told reporters last week that the students involved were disciplined, but the school is not identifying them.

As of this week Twitter had disabled the @issybros account, and a quick search for the word brought up a raft of counter insults against the racist students.

Meanwhile last week, @IssaquahRefs, posted a tweet distancing themselves from the racist students.

“Group of sophomores at our school, had nothing to do with us,” @IssaquahRefs tweeted before the big game on March 7.

The DICK’S Sporting Goods High School National Tournament, April 3-5 in New York City, will be televised on ESPN.

Lockout

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findings, which were first reported by The Oregonian. A National Labor Relations Board administrative law judge will hear the matter June 30 in Portland. For now, non-union workers continue to operate the export terminal, and the two sides continue to negotiate a new contract.

“These disputes can linger on for quite a while and often end up being settled when an agreement is reached by the bargaining parties, rather than the completion of a long and litigious process,” United Grain spokesman Pat McCormick said Friday.

Separately, Hooks said the longshoremen violated labor law by engaging in threats and violence in the early months of the lockout. For example, he said, picketers threw rocks at a security officer and threatened to rape a manager’s daughter. An administration law judge will hear that matter July 21.

The twin cases result from allegations of unfair labor practices swapped by the sides last

year.

The conflict started after the last labor contract expired Sept. 30, 2012. It began to boil three months later, when United Grain and two other Pacific Northwest grain terminals

‘These disputes can linger on for quite a while and often end up being settled when an agreement is reached by the bargaining parties, rather than the completion of a long and litigious process’

declared an impasse and enforced a contract that included new, management-friendly workplace rules.

United Grain imposed the lockout after determining a worker shoved a metal pipe into a conveyor and poured sand into a gear box. Longshoremen said the response was extreme

and illegal, and they established a picket line at the Port of Vancouver.

Union spokeswoman Jennifer Sargent declined to comment on those allegations, preferring to focus on the lockout itself.

“Once the lockout is found to be illegal, ILWU workers will resume their jobs in the grain terminal and be awarded back pay,” she said. “We’re obviously looking forward to that outcome.”

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Health

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“Customers may enroll by 11:59 p.m. on March 23 for coverage effective April 1, 2014 or by 11:59 p.m. on March 31 for coverage effective May 1, 2014,” the agency said in a statement Tuesday.

A federal government report issued this week – with outdated information only covering signups as of Dec. 31, 2013 – found Oregon is tied for last nationally in terms of young peoples’ enrollment at 18 percent, a key indicator of whether the new health system will work.

Washington has done better, the report shows, with 23 percent of overall signups com-

The federal government is investigating Cover Oregon’s spending

ing from the 18 to 34 age bracket.

The national average is 25 percent of enrollees in the youthful age bracket.

In a related story, Republicans in Congress have successfully pushed the General Accounting Office to investigate how Oregon spent \$304 million in federal grant money to develop its failed online enrollment system; an

unknown number of other states might be included in the scrutiny as well.

For more information go to www.wahealthplanfinder.org, www.coveroregon.com, or www.healthcare.gov. In Washington State, you can also call the Customer Support Center at 1-855-923-4633.