

Pacific NW

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our new regional edition,
featuring more news and
local information.

INSIDE
Special Edition



School Website ‘Hack’

‘Home of the KKK,’
‘No Blacks Allowed’
go viral on Twitter

By **Donovan M. Smith**
Of *The Skanner News*

A picture of what initially appeared to be Tualatin High School’s website hacked and filled with racist rhetoric is being denounced by school officials as a mockup—nonetheless once it found its way to social media the image went viral amongst the student body.

Now administrators are investigating the picture’s origins and just how to address the attack that left the ‘Home of the Timberwolves’ looking like the “Home of the KKK” for a few days.

Words like “Niggers,” “Stanky Jews,” “Slave Auction,” “Lynching Highlights,” “White Power,” and “No Blacks Allowed,” were just some of the charged language found in the image of what appeared to be the Tualatin High website on Feb. 11.

School officials say that picture was shared online by a student and quickly went viral with the image being re-tweeted more than 100 times and favorited more than 80 in less than 24 hours.

Following an investigation, sparked in part by *The Skanner News’* inquiries, Tigard-Tualatin School District spokesperson Susan Stark Haydon said the school’s site had no evidence of being hacked or edited.

Though school officials have not wrapped their investigation, they tell *The Skanner News* they believe two Tualatin High students are to blame for the picture’s origins and subsequent unveiling on social media.

“Truly everybody who’s seen it is angry about it and upset about it,” Haydon said. “We feel terrible that [the people] did it, and we’re not taking it lightly.”

Assistant Principal Gregor Dinse says the school doesn’t accept racism in any form, but until they find out exactly who created the image and their intent, he cannot say how severe the punishment would be.

Nonetheless, Dinse says this instance highlights the need for the equity work that

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RUGBY

PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

The Seattle Saracens Women's rugby team, in blue striped jerseys, started their spring season on an unseasonably warm Feb. 21 at Magnuson Park with two games against Velox Rugby Club from Victoria BC. They split the games with the Seattle 10s, winning 31 – 17 while Velox took the 15s, winning the match 36 – 5.

Helping Veterans Behind Bars

King County examines report on serving incarcerated ex-soldiers

Last year, the Metropolitan King County Council asked for the County Executive to review the options the County had available to assist men and women who had served in the armed forces and wound up in County detention facilities. At the Council’s Feb. 23 meeting, the Council unanimously adopted a motion accepting the completed report.

“We can’t just walk away from the men and woman who put their lives on the line to defend our nation” said Councilmember Reagan Dunn, lead sponsor of the original motion. “My hope is that these efforts not only reduce recidivism but also help to address the specific needs many of our veterans have developed stemming from their time in places like Iraq or Afghanistan.”

“Research has shown that our returning veterans have some specific needs that we need to serve,” said Councilmember Kathy Lambert, chair of the Council’s Law, Justice, Health and Human Services Committee. “One way we have done

this is by establishing specialized veteran courts to continue to meet their needs.”

King County is home to more than one hundred twenty-seven thousand current or former members of the United States military, reserves, and National Guard who have served active duty and Veterans represents almost seven percent of the total county population.

Many veterans suffer from an array of mental wounds such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). PTSD affects all aspects of life and is a serious

issue that affects veterans. While these men and women are incarcerated the County is in a unique position to be able to offer programs that can begin to address their needs and help to stop the cycle of incarceration.

Prior to the work on this motion, the department did not have a formally established program serving incarcerated veterans and this report found ways to better identify veterans in detention and serve their needs. As a result of the work on the

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Terrorism Task Force: Council Says ‘Yes’

Mayor Charlie Hales calls split City Council vote a ‘choice of evils’

By **Donovan M. Smith**
Of *The Skanner News*

Portland joins the ranks of every other major city in the United States as full time members of the Joint Terrorism Task Force, despite a bitter outcry from Civil Rights organizations and a large cross-section of Portland’s Muslim community.

Now, after the City Council’s divided 3-2

vote to join, two Portland Police officers will be working full-time as part of the JTTF. The task force partners local law enforcement with the FBI to combat international and domestic terrorism – but critics argue the JTTF unfairly targets innocent people and that even top city leaders will have no ability to know or track, let alone control, what Portland police officers might do as part of the “team.”

“We find it hard to believe that after written and verbal testimony from the ACLU, the Japanese American Citizens League, Jewish Voice for Peace, eleven prominent Portland-area Muslim organizations, former State Senator Avel Gordly, and dozens more people against re-joining the JTTF, with the only organization in favor being the Citi-

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