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DISASTER DAY--Civil Air Patrol members direct emergency vehicles to the disaster area at Irem Temple Country Club during the American Red Cross "Mock Disaster Day" last Sunday. More photos P. 21.

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Board apologizes to Brobst, unanimously backs his rehiring

Sports fans, parents, teachers, coaches and students were out in force at the Monday night meeting of the Dallas School Board to show their support for head basketball coach, Clint Brobst, who was asked to resign that position. Contrary to published reports in a Sunday newspaper Brobst was not threatened with being fired if he did not resign.

It was established early on in the lengthy proceedings that Dr. Richard Shipe, Athletic Director Jerry Stinson, Principal Edgar Hughes and Coach Brobst met Friday afternoon. Dr. Shipe, stating "I am putting it right on the table", gave this explanation of the meeting.

"President Dick Hislop came to me and asked me to meet with Brobst and Friday to ask Brobst if he was interested in resigning," Shipe continued that Hislop indicated he did not want to place Brobst in a position of losing face.

Shipe said that the reasoning behind the meeting was that since assistant coach Charles Preece had resigned, if Brobst was going to resign also, a "search" could begin sooner as not to jeopardize the basketball program held in summer.

However, it was pointed out that Athletic Director Jerry Stinson had received Brobst's letter of intent to coach again next year in advance of the Friday meeting.

Shipe encouraged Brobst to ask for a meeting before the entire school board to discuss issues and concerns and provide fair information. At Monday night's meeting, Shipe challenged "I ask you all now, wasn't I always in five years 'top of the table and honest.'" He then took a shot at newspapers saying this is typical of the other things that get into the paper before issues are clearcut.

A radio newsman, Joe Gries, asked Brobst what reasons were given and Brobst said Shipe gave no specific information as to why he

was asked to resign. The announcer said that 10 years ago when Brobst was fired as head basketball coach, there were twice as many people on hand begging for answers but were told it was "private business," with no particular reason given. Gries said news people knew three weeks ago "Clint would not be back."

Board President Hislop offered another explanation for the Brobst-Shipe discussion which he said was taken with a plurality of the board members approval. According to Hislop, when the coach was hired again two years ago, Brobst said he wanted two years to build up the team. Since the assistant coach had already resigned, there could be a "clean sweep of the coach and assistant coach."

Hislop noted there were "some charges" brought up against the coach on Friday, one of which was disclosed later on Monday. The "charge" was that Brobst's players do not practice man-to-man defense. Former Assistant Coach Charles Preece said that was an outright lie as they practiced it for hours.

Hislop's claim of a plurality of the board was disputed and it was learned directors Ernest Ashbridge, Basil Russin, Patricia Gregory and Dr. Mahmoud Fahmy, knew nothing about the Friday meeting until late Saturday. Hislop along with Gloria Brennan and Russ Havey were aware of the goings on. Brennan said "she was involved with Hislop to see if Brobst was going to resign." She continued, "the situation should not have gotten out of that (meeting) room."

The plurality question may never be resolved as two board members, Harry Lefko and Earl Fritzes, were not on hand to participate in the plurality polling of the board. Coincidentally, both Lefko and Fritzes are the only two remaining members of the board who were also on the old board which fired

Brobst 10 years ago. (Lefko is also the board member who proposed the rehiring of Brobst as basketball coach, according to board observers.) The four board members who did not know of Hislop's decision regarding Brobst got the message through the community after the fact.

Senior student Mike Getz, who circulated petitions to retain the coach told the board the situation is embarrassing to the entire school and Hislop owes Brobst an apology.

Hislop apologized stating the incident was unfortunate and Dr. Shipe was not responsible. Hislop added the problem is not entirely his fault, but he accepted the responsibility.

Coach Brobst, who stood throughout the lengthy and grueling session unruffled, accepted the apology thusly: "I accept your apology, you've already stated there was a breakdown in communications and it was an improper thing to do."

But prior to the apology, Brobst reflected on the night 10 years ago when he was fired as basketball coach. The coach said "still to this day, people say what did that man do to deserve it, was he immoral?"

When Brobst was asked by Shipe on Friday to resign the position, Brobst refused, stating Monday night "I would not feel like a man and would not be able to face the players as I felt my position was 100 percent correct. Brobst said he never expected such a thing to happen on Friday and it was very frightening to be asked to resign.

Brobst emphasized that everything he does is out in the open, admitted he heard rumors circulating in the community regarding the basketball programs, but he assumed they posed no major problem.

Walter Weir, father of an athlete, said the coach inspires character, pride, confidence, and above all, "Class". Weir said early on in the

proceedings "the real issue was whose boy is going to be a star on the team."

Low Isaacs of the Dallas faculty said the Brobst incident is only the tip of the iceberg as the problem is with the administration as they should have conducted the matter better. Isaacs said Brobst coached track successfully for many years but now it's about to collapse without him.

A member of the audience, Keith Yeisley, asked Hislop if some of the board was not aware of the plan, what authority did Hislop have to ask for such serious action without the plurality needed. Hislop's only

retort was "I knew Brobst wouldn't resign and I did have a plurality of the board." Yeisley continued that without the charges being enumerated, there is something wrong with the system.

Late in the proceedings, new implications were raised by former assistant, Charlie Preece, who said he was tired of "all that bull", as the incident was not the fault of the board.

Preece began by saying he is proud of what Brobst has done in the past two years and there have been outside pressures on the coach in the background. Preece said the people making these complaints to

the board are not man enough to come forward. When Brobst and Preece make coaching mistakes, it's in front of an audience and no one is perfect, noted Preece, who by this time was very annoyed.

Preece continued that people involved with out-of-school sports associations do a good job and he is not condemning them. But, Preece said he has seen when things are not going well during a game that certain persons laugh. Persons like that "you cannot call a man," he stated.

Preece said things are going on

(Continued on P. 12)

Everyone gets free recipe book at show

Merrick Hall, College Misericordia, will be the setting for the 1980 Dallas Post Homemakers School on May 1. Doors will open at 6:30 and the show will start at 7:30 p.m. There will be no admission charge.

Ms. Janet Whipple, Homemakers School home economist, will demonstrate a variety of tempting recipes ranging from appetizers, breads, main dishes, desserts through vegetable.

Appliances for use on stage will be provided by Katyl TV and Appliances and will include two stoves, microwave oven and refrigerator. Other area sponsors include Daring's Famous Country Market, Blue Ribbon Dog and Cat Coiffures, Overbrook Optical Company, Tom Ochman's Coins,

Raymond M. Conrad Electric Construction Company, The Boston Store, Floyd's Sewing and Vacuum Center, and Gifts 'N Things Outlet. Additional sponsors will be published in the next issue of the Post.

Each person attending will receive a gift bag including the 1980 Homemakers School cookbook. It provides a wide variety of recipes from Blue Bonnet, Fleischmann's Yeast, Fruit-Fresh, Hershey's, Nestea, Nabisco, Reese's, as well as egg, beef, pork and chicken recipes. Recipes to be demonstrated on stage are included in the recipe book so each person will be able to follow along during the demonstration.

Many prizes will be given away including gifts from local business

people plus items from Sunbeam and Corning. The foods prepared during the show also will be given away at the close of the program.

Ray Carlsen, publisher of The Dallas Post, will be master of ceremonies. He will be assisted in prize drawings by employees of the paper. Ms. Whipple will be assisted by local volunteers.

Dallas is one of the 300 towns or cities selected from the 50 states for a 1980 Homemakers School. The event plays to capacity crowds across the country and is the largest homemaker-oriented program in North America.

Circle the date now! May 1, 7:30 p.m., Merrick Hall, College Misericordia, Dallas. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free and seats are on a first come, first seated basis.