

Referees' job no lot for timid

"Officiating is a helluva challenge. You're not going to get rich and you're going to take a lot of crap, but you'll have a lot of fun."

— Jerry Streeter

"You know when you walk into a gym, half of the people won't like whatever you call. You can't go into officiating if you have any feelings of insecurity."

— Cheryl Heffner

By LINDA CEARLEY
Bee Staff Writer

They love sports. Many have been players and coaches. Some still are. They're also the object of scorn, cat-calls and — sometimes — flying objects. They're the 120 officials who keep prep basketball games under control in the Stanislaus district.

Although some of the more emotional fans would find it hard to believe, officials are pretty typical men and women who hold down jobs, have families and contribute a lot of their time to youth sports.

Oh sure, they get paid for their work — the magnificent sum of \$30.25 for working two games a night, plus 15 cents a mile.

Hardly enough to take early retirement. Maybe enough to lure some potential officials into the program, but not enough to keep them if they're in it for the money alone.

For instance, veteran Modesto referee Chuck Hughes, teacher and football coach at Downey, was working a game years ago at the Modesto Junior College tournament. In the closing seconds of a lopsided contest, a player from the losing side went to the free throw line.

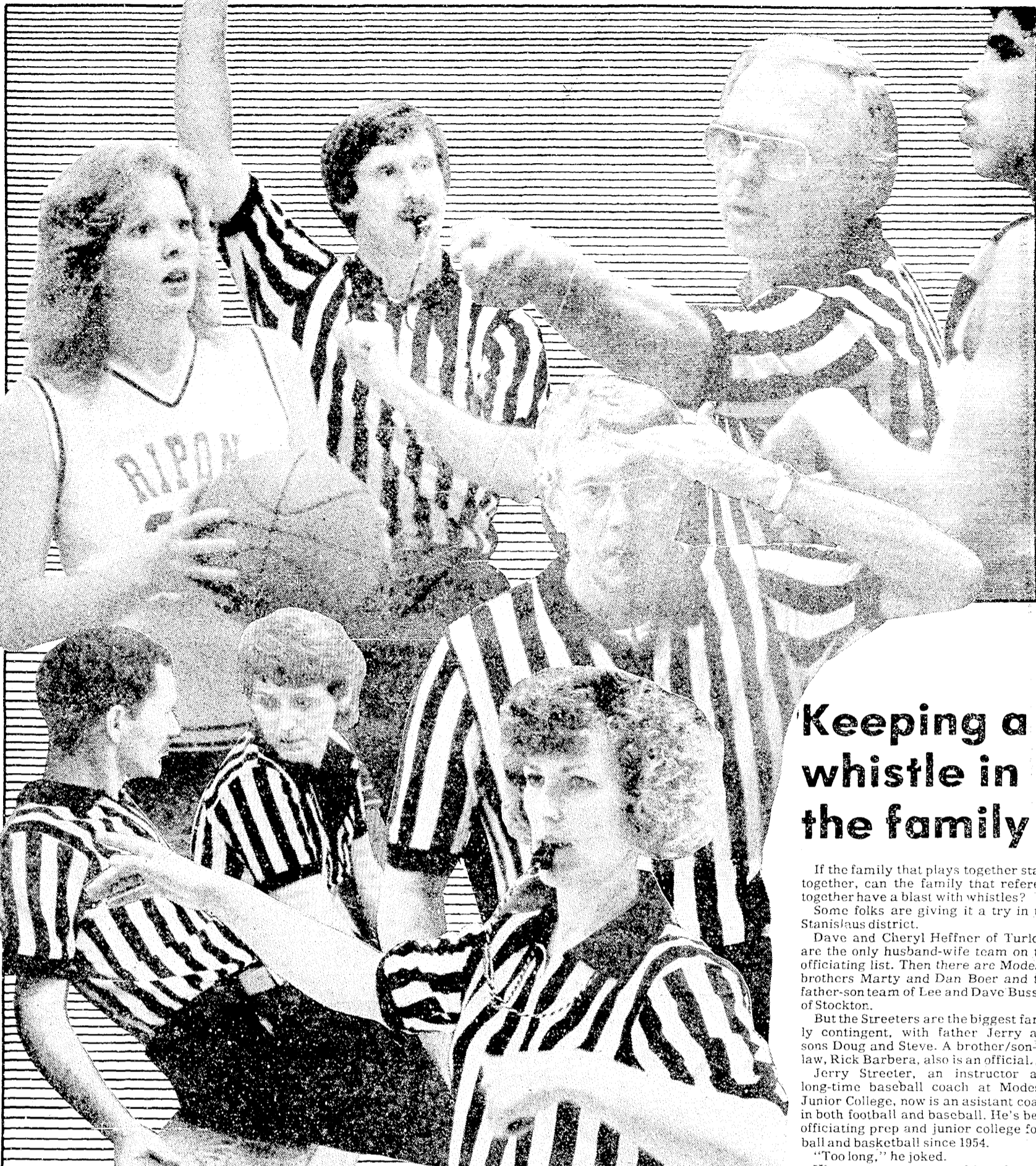
"And then he spit on a guy from the other team," Hughes said. "A brawl broke out — a real donnybrook. We (the officials) were lucky to get out alive."

Dick Windemuth knows. He coached baseball at Modesto and Davis high schools for 31 years and was a basketball, baseball and football official for 45 years, before hanging up his whistle in 1975.

Now Windemuth is sort of a referees' coach. He is the officials' supervisor for boys' basketball and all girls' sports from Lodi to Mariposa. Stan Pavko, another longtime Modesto coach and official, handles the other boys' sports.

It's Windemuth's job not only to assign the officials for each game, but also to supervise the training and performance of his crew.

That's not always easy. Every year there will be candidates who wash out, some because they applied with the idea of making big bucks, but the majority because, according to



By Ted Benson, Forrest G. Jackson Jr., Debbie Noda, Bee staff photographers

Officials, from left, Dave and Cheryl Heffner, Paul Cornwell, Faye Murdock, Chuck Hughes, Jerry Streeter

Keeping a whistle in the family

If the family that plays together stays together, can the family that referees together have a blast with whistles?

Some folks are giving it a try in the Stanislaus district.

Dave and Cheryl Heffner of Turlock are the only husband-wife team on the officiating list. Then there are Modesto brothers Marty and Dan Boer and the father-son team of Lee and Dave Bussey of Stockton.

But the Streeters are the biggest family contingent, with father Jerry and sons Doug and Steve. A brother/son-in-law, Rick Barbera, also is an official.

Jerry Streeter, an instructor and long-time baseball coach at Modesto Junior College, now is an assistant coach in both football and baseball. He's been officiating prep and junior college football and basketball since 1954.

"Too long," he joked. His sons grew up watching their fa-

See Page E-6, FAMILIES

inside

BEYER HIGH'S J.J. Gonsalves wrestles his way to a Section title. **Page E-5**

CRAIG MORTON wants to quarterback the Denver Broncos next season. **Page E-3**

CRAIG STADLER leads in fight against Blue Monster course at Doral golf tournament. **Page E-4**

OREGON STATE joins select company by winning third straight Pac-10 basketball title. **Page E-5**

BILLY OLSON breaks his own world indoor pole vault record — again. **Page E-6**



Sequoias mauls MJC in season finale

McClatchy Newspapers Service

VISALIA — A four-point deficit suddenly became a 21-point chasm in the second half, and the Modesto Junior College Pirates ended the basketball season with a disappointing 77-50 loss to College of the Sequoias.

The Giants, who defeated Modesto for the first time in two years, broke a close game wide open to annex their first Central Valley Conference championship since 1973.

For the Pirates, their sixth straight loss ended any hope of creating a four-team playoff for the CVC's runner-up spot in the state tournament.

Merced and COS share the league crown with identical 12-2 marks and will meet Tuesday night at 7 o'clock at Fresno City

to determine the seeding for state competition.

MJC, 5-9 in the CVC and 13-18 for the season, was led by Myron Cockrell and Wade Harris with 21 points apiece.

The Modesto twosome and the Sequoias' Roland Brooks and Cleve Lewis provided most of the offensive fireworks in the first half as COS opened a 30-24 halftime advantage.

Lewis finished with 16 points for COS. Brooks had 12 and John Harris 13. Cockrell's 21 points elevated his all-time MJC career scoring record to 1,171 points.

Fresno rally edges Columbia

McClatchy Newspapers Service

SONORA — The Columbia College Claim Jumpers watched a four-point lead slip away in the final 1:17 Saturday night, and their season came to an end at the expense of the Fresno City College Rams, 73-72.

Jeff Stallings' basket put the Fresnoans in front 73-72 with 18 seconds to play, and Steve Smith's jumper was off-target in the final seconds.

The disappointing loss tarnished a sparkling performance by Columbia guard John Edmerson,

who finished his career as a Claim Jumper with 31 points.

Columbia, which still entertained shallow playoff hopes going into the contest, closes its Central Valley Conference campaign with a record of 5-9, 10-18 overall. Fresno placed third at 10-4.

A vocal crowd at the Sonora High gym watched Fresno come from behind on a technical free throw by Stallings and two baskets by Brian Seten-

See Page E-2, COLUMBIA

Smith signs with Giants; will fight for first base job

From Bee news services

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Reggie Smith signed as a free agent with the San Francisco Giants Saturday and will come to spring training camp as a candidate for the starting first base job.

"I've made no promises to Reggie," Giants Manager Frank Robinson said at a news conference announcing the signing of Smith, who has hit 296 home runs in a 16-year major league baseball career, playing mostly in the outfield.

"He'll have to beat the other guys out and show me to my satisfaction that he can play first base. He has not been a first baseman," Robinson added.

"I want to go there and help the Giants win," Smith said

from his home in Los Angeles. Smith and Giants owner Bob Lurie agreed on a one-year contract, and General Manager Tom Haller said it was in the \$300,000 range.

Smith, a switch-hitter with a .287 lifetime batting average, is scheduled to join the Giants on Tuesday. His competition at first base will be Enos Cabell and Dave Bergman.

"If Reggie gets in the lineup, there's no question we'll be stronger offensively," said Robinson. "If he's not at first base, he would be a spot player and pinch hitter. He would give us pop off the bench which we haven't had."

Smith, 36, suffered a serious shoulder injury in the 1980 season and played in only 41 games last year, hitting .200 for the Los

Angeles Dodgers. He became a free agent when the season ended.

A'S — Cliff Johnson and Jim Spencer reported to the Oakland training camp, leaving outfielder Tony Armas as the only missing player from the 40-man roster.

Armas, home in Venezuela because of a sister's wedding this weekend, is expected to arrive in camp Tuesday.

Manager Billy Martin announced that he has invited 80-year-old Bernie De Viveiros, who lives in the Oakland area, to teach sliding techniques to the A's for one week in mid-March.

"He's probably the best teacher of sliding in the history of baseball. He taught me when I

played for the Tigers," said Martin.

PIRATES — Where Dave Parker will play this season is anyone's guess. Both the New York Mets and the Texas Rangers deny they're interested in him, while the Montreal Expos are balking at his heavy price.

"If Mr. Parker were a pitcher, I would be very interested in him," said Mets general manager Frank Cashen Saturday about the Pittsburgh Pirates' outfielder. The Pirates announced last week that they would accelerate their efforts to trade the slug-ging Parker, who hit .258 in 1981 with nine home runs and 48 runs batted in.

Chiles said a trade sending outfielders Al Oliver and John

Grubb and pitcher Danny Darwin to the Pirates for Parker and first baseman Jason Thompson no longer is being considered.

TIGERS — The voice was muffled by a bad cough and 1,500 miles of telephone line but there was no mistaking the tone of Sparky Anderson. The Detroit manager plainly doesn't feel the Tigers' No. 4 pitcher is on his roster at this time.

"We'll be open all spring for a deal," Anderson said after watching his pitchers and catchers work out for a week under a hot Florida sun at the Tigers training camp in Lakeland. "We're not talking with any

See Page E-3, BASEBALL



Reggie Smith



Stanislaus shortstop avoids Mark Vandenhoeval to make throw as Greg Ollar watches

By Al Golub, Bee staff photographer

Olson tops his mark in pole vault

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Billy Olson, on his third try, cleared an indoor world record of 18 feet, 10 inches in the pole vault Saturday night at the NAIA Indoor Track and Field Championships.

Olson shattered his own world mark of 18-9½ he set Feb. 19. The Abilene Christian athlete then got set to try 19 feet.

Cathy Schmidt of Saginaw Valley, Mich., clocked a 2:39.83 in the women's 1,000-yard run for her second first-place finish in the championships.

Schmidt, who won the 880-yard dash in 2:18.95 earlier Saturday, set the NAIA record in the 1,000-yard run during Friday night's semifinals at 2:39.38. In the 880, she finished ahead of three Texas Southern runners — Cheritta Jackson, Tawonna Thompson and Sandra Scott.

Florence Piskusch of the School of the Ozarks set a meet record with a 10:40.47 in the 2-mile run, beating the 10:47.16 run by Wendy Burman of Wisconsin-Parkside in 1981.

Wisconsin-Parkside runners finished 1-2-3 in the men's 2-mile walk, with Tom Edwards winning in a time of 13:32.71. Joel Ngetich of Wayland Baptist, Texas, won the men's 880-yard run in a time of 1:52.03. Pat Porter of Adams State, Colo., turned in a winning time of 8:51.13 in the men's 2-mile run and Kevin Jones of Northwood Institute, Mich., won the men's 440-yard dash with a 48.27.

Warrior trackmen top Gators in FWC opener

McClatchy Newspapers Service

SAN FRANCISCO — Hammer thrower Ed Williams and the 400-meter relay team qualified for the nationals as the Stanislaus State track team clipped San Francisco State 82-78 in the Western Conference opener for both.

Williams, who hurled the hammer 161 feet, also won the shot put and the discus with throws of 43-7 and 139-10, respectively.

The relay team of Phil Connors, Dale Dilworth, Tom Byas and Ricardo Simpson hit the tape at 42 seconds, an outstanding time for their first race.

MJC tennis teams win

McClatchy Newspapers Service

PORTERVILLE — The Modesto Junior College men's and women's tennis teams upped their Central Valley Conference records to 2-0 Saturday with big wins over Porterville.

The men won 7-2 while the women posted a 9-0 victory.

Dave Plaster, the No. 3 singles player, was the Pirates' strongest player winning both as his

single match, 6-1, 6-0, and doubles match with Wally Bone, 6-0, 6-0.

Mike Rangel, who sped through his match 6-0, 6-0, remains undefeated for the season as the No. 5 singles player.

The Pirates are 4-1 overall. For the MJC women, Sharon McDonald and Jennifer Barry, slipped past Kelly Staley and Melanie Brown 7-5, 7-5.

Warriors grab FWC victories

McClatchy Newspapers Service

TURLOCK — The Stanislaus State College Warriors came alive Saturday, parlaying good pitching and hitting into an 11-1, 9-1 sweep of their Far Western Conference doubleheader over Chico State.

The Warriors earned their first and second FWC wins of the season, improving their record to 2-3-1 in the FWC and 9-3-1 overall.

Stanislaus travels to the University of the Pacific for a non-league game Tuesday at 3 p.m.

Mitch Munthe's two-run homer highlighted a four-run fifth inning in the first game. Munthe drove in four runs to pace the Warriors' seven-hit attack, and Ed McCann chased home two runs

with his pair of hits. Stanislaus also benefited from 10 walks issued by Chico pitchers. Winning pitcher Jeff Blobaum limited Chico to a single run and six hits, striking out four.

In the nightcap, the Warriors removed all doubt by turning a 3-0 lead into a 9-0 lead in the fourth. Alfonso Ruiz delivered a two-run double, the big blow during the five-hit, three-walk explosion.

Greg Ollar, who stroked three of the Warriors' 12 hits, drove in two with a single in the second that gave Stanislaus early control.

Jack Mayer had a no-hitter through the first five innings before he yielded five hits. Like Blobaum, he went the distance, striking out four and walking four.

Pirates sweep double header at Sierra

McClatchy Newspapers Service

ROCKLIN — The Modesto Junior College Pirates, getting strong pitching efforts from freshman Dale Holman and sophomore Lee Sandoval, swept a doubleheader 3-0 and 4-1 over Sierra Saturday.

MJC, 6-3, will carry a four-game winning streak into its Central Valley Conference open-

er Tuesday at Kings River.

The Pirates will make the trip with plenty of momentum. Besides the strong pitching Saturday, they committed only one error and yielded just one run, which came in the final inning of the nightcap.

Holman, a lefthander from Reno, allowed more than one baserunner in only one inning

and struck out five in the first game. His offensive support came from run-scoring hits by Scott Morris and Kyle Nower. Mickey Speck scored two of the three MJC runs, and Nower had two of the team's seven hits.

Like Holman, Sandoval also allowed Sierra two baserunners in only one inning. The sophomore righthander struck out

four and gave up only four hits.

The Pirates opened the scoring in the fourth when Rick Dodge singled and Rob Collins drove him in with a hit-and-run double. MJC's two-run fifth single RBI singles by Robby Steves and Rick Dodge, while Howard Elwess tripled and Steve Jenkins singled for a run in the sixth.

Families

CONTINUED from E-1

ther referee games — and sometimes taking flack from their friends who disagreed with his calls. But it also was a valuable learning experience for the young Streeters.

"If I ever had a question," Steve said, "I could discuss it with him. I learned a lot about basketball from him; a lot more than a lot of guys. People just assume players know all the rules, but they don't."

Like their father, Doug and Steve began their officiating careers in city recreation leagues, earning money for college.

Jerry has worked with both of his sons and the brothers have called games together.

Steve said, "It's an experience to work with my dad. He's in complete control of the game and that makes it easier for me."

And he added, "Doug's come a long way this year. But I'm still telling him things — it's about time I got to do that."

He added, "There's still things Doug and I don't know, but we can still go to the main source — Dad."

Jerry admits "it's kind of a thrill" to work with his sons, knowing his example has been a part of their decision to become officials.

"They know me so I don't intimidate them," he said. "But they know they have to carry their own share of the load."

A drawback for the younger Streeters is that many of the area coaches have watched them grow up on the basketball court.

"Some coaches try to get away with things because I'm young," Steve said, "but I think some of it's because they know my dad too."

Jerry also takes pride in working with each year's crop of new officials.

"I enjoy that immensely," he said. "As much as any part of the game. We have to get some youth in there."

While many basketball fans recognize the any combination of the Streeters as family when they work a game, such is not always the case with the Heffners.

Cheryl said, "One time a coach who knew me asked me where the other guy was from? He was kind of surprised when he found out Dave was my husband."

Cheryl and Dave both teach in Patterson, she at the high school where she doubles as volleyball coach and he at the junior high.

Cheryl gave up coaching basketball a couple of years ago when she returned to

college for her administrative credential. When that work was completed last year, she suggested they both try officiating.

She admits she's still partial to coaching, but said officiating "gives us something to do together because we have different interests too."

They usually are assigned to work together because it makes the travel and baby-sitting arrangements for their two sons easier.

Dave, who also is training to run his first marathon, said they don't find it difficult to work together. "The other weekend we wallpapered two rooms together and we're still married," he said with a laugh.

"Once," he added, "she called a play one way and I called it the other. We were concerned about the interpretation so we called another official and worked it out."

They also have devised a series of hand signals for communication during a game.

The Heffners generally work girls' games and find they have no problems being accepted as a team.

"Women coaches generally are glad to see a woman calling a girls' game," Cheryl said. "But one time we did work a boys' game. It was one where there were three games and three officials to split the assignment."

"After the freshman game we were deciding among ourselves who would take the other games, when the varsity coach came over and said, 'I couldn't yell at you.'"

"I told him a lot of people did, but he said, 'I just couldn't yell at a woman.'"

TURLOCK ACUPUNCTURE Treatment Center

NONSURGICAL FACILITY - THE SECRET IS ACUPUNCTURE
Anxiety, insomnia, headaches, limp, pain, shoulder & neck pain, neuralgia, sciatica, sinusitis, vertigo, vision, strabismus, stroke, hemiplegia, poly, lumbago, asthma, osteoarthritis, menopause, impotence, hypertension & respiratory, sports & automotive injuries, smoking, alcoholism, weight loss, poor circulation and sexual problems.

Free Consultation
Phillip H. C. Chung
1560 Geer Rd. TURLOCK 632-1162

THE SPORT STOP

And WESTERN BASS Presents...

Fishing Demonstrations and Techniques by the BASS PRO TEAM

Greg Hines • Rich Tauber • Gary Klein • Don Payne • Dave Noller
TUES. MAR. 2nd 5-9 pm

Representing Shimano, Berkley Trilene & Lowrance

SHIMANO Trilene XL LOWRANCE

SHIMANO RODS & REELS TRILENE FISHING LINE 10% over cost

PEPSI-COLA FREE PEPSI & COFFEE
THE SPORT STOP
12070 Yosemite Blvd., Waterford, Calif.
For More Info Call 874-1484

WINTER SPECIAL!

"To Give You The Best For Less"

TRANSMISSION TUNE-UP \$21.95 PLUS FILTER
NEW GASKET, NEW FLUID, BAND & LINKAGE ADJUSTMENT. (AS NEEDED) W/O COUPON \$36
Torque Converter Drain extra ONE DAY SERVICE
DOMESTIC, FOREIGN, R.V.'s, 4x4's

REBUILT AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION \$379.50 PLUS TAX
Includes Rebuilt Torque Converter, Fluid, Labor
One Year or 12,000 Mile Warranty
MOST DOMESTIC CASES
ONE DAY SERVICE

FREE TOWING • FREE ROAD TEST • FREE ESTIMATES

OPEN SAT WESTERN TRANSMISSION CALL FOR APPT.

609 7th Street • Modesto • 523-6399

ARGONAUT Gun Shop
GUNS SPOKEN HERE
"The Complete Gun Store"
WE TRADE GUNS
Pistols - Rifles - Shotguns
New and Used
Black Powder Supplies
Complete Gunsmithing
607 McHenry Modesto

SAM GETS MAD

"I believe that to succeed in the tire business, having a quality product is not enough. The secret is to treat our Customers right. Here at Winston, we have one of the highest percentages of repeat Customers in the tire business. Why? It's because we insist that all our people be as good as the products and services we offer. OUR STORE PERSONNEL WILL TREAT YOU NICE.
I get mad if you go away unhappy!"
SAM WINSTON
President, Winston Tires

SALE

WINSTON GAS-STRETCHERS

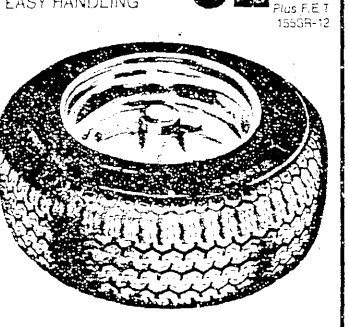
STEEL BELTED RADIALS INCREASE GAS MILEAGE
ALL WHITEWALLS
\$48.88 Plus F.E.T. P185/80R-13



P-METRIC SIZE (REPLACES)	SALE PRICE	F.E.T.
P185/80R-13 (AR78-13)	\$48.88	\$1.69
P185/75R-14 (DR78-14)	\$44.96	2.04
P195/75R-14 (ER78-14)	\$74.84	2.18
P205/75R-14 (FR78-14)	\$89.92	2.34
P205/75R-15 (FR78-15)	\$80.76	2.47
P215/75R-15 (GR78-15)	\$82.95	2.59
P225/75R-15 (HR78-15)	\$86.87	2.78
P235/75R-15 (LR78-15)	\$88.84	3.01

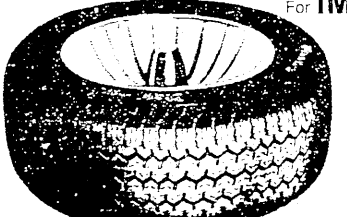
WINSTON STEEL RADIALS

FOR ALL IMPORTS AND COMPACTS INCREASED GAS SAVINGS
EASY HANDLING
\$32.88 Plus F.E.T. 155SR-12



BLACKWALLS	SALE PRICE	F.E.T.
155 SR-12	\$32.88	\$1.39
145 SR-13	\$31.07	1.31
155 SR-13	\$37.87	1.54
165 SR-13	\$38.99	1.65
165 SR-14	\$43.81	1.87
175 SR-14	\$48.75	1.96
185 SR-15	\$48.75	1.84
*185 SR-15	\$44.80	2.31

WIDE STEEL RADIALS FOR IMPORTS & COMPACTS



A-1 HANDLING & TRACTION
SMART CONTINENTAL STYLING

BLACKWALLS (REPLACES)	SALE PRICE	F.E.T.
175/70 SR-13 (155-13)	\$44.96	\$1.73
185/70 SR-13 (165-13)	\$49.88	1.79
185/70 SR-14 (165-14)	\$44.96	1.67
*195/70 HR-14 (175-14)	\$66.66	2.22
185/70 SR-15 (165-15)	\$58.80	2.17

WINSTON BONDED WARRANTY AVAILABLE WITH THESE "Sams"

BATTERIES	SHOCKS	WHEELS
WINSTON 60 OUR BEST FOR EXTRA POWER SALE 40.95 WITH EXCH. 43.95 WITH EXCH. GROUPS EXCH. 24.54-42.55	WINSTON RADIAL 80 \$16.95 EACH INSTALLATION EXTRA RADIAL TUNED FOR A SAFE SMOOTH RIDE	SALE 13x5 1/2 (6507) 46.95 EACH 14x6 (6312-2317) 48.95 EACH 15x7 (3863) 51.95 EACH

405 McHENRY AVE. 524-4445 MODESTO
Winston
TIRES, BATTERIES, SERVICE AND SAM

The buck stops here

I enjoyed Bob Slocum's column entitled "Big Bucks and Sports." I grew up in Cleveland cheering for such virtual "unknowns" like Bob Feller, Early Wynn, Mike Garcia, Bob Lemon and the rest of, compared to today's sports dollar winners, mere players. I can't remember how many times Larry Doby crashed into the fences making catches that Dave Winfield couldn't describe. At least when Luke Easter struck out he did it with class. Once in a while we even had the opportunity to see Billy (Funch 'em Out) Martin and the old Yankees.

Maybe because I was a kid enjoying my favorite pastime, these guys seemed great — notice I said maybe. Those guys were ballplayers, not financial seekers, not hold-out artists — or is it hold-up artists?

I certainly don't begrudge them their ability to play or their desire for a decent living, but it has reached a ridiculous point today. When my sales fall off they fire me. It seems a \$1 million dollar player should hit a home run two out of three trips to the plate. Of course the owners are foolish enough to put up with this robbery. Maybe a contract should read — if you hit over .400 you get \$900,000, for .350 to .400 \$700,000, .300 to .350 \$500,000, .250 to .300 \$300,000 and under .250 \$150,000. I have a feeling there would only be a handful making \$300,000 and 95 percent making \$150,000 or less.

I, for one, will never watch or go to a baseball game again.
Modesto **MARTY BRATTOLI**

(Editor — Your pay scale is roughly the same idea National Football League players — not owners, but players — are proposing. The NFL Players Association has suggested a range of salaries for each position along with incentives. Of course, they also want 55 percent of the total payoff, too.)

Early deadlines

I am looking through the Bee sports pages trying to find out a little about the Pac-10 game between Oregon State and Washington. I hate to see The Bee fall into the east coast mentality of not reporting West Coast scores. I can't believe the lack of attention you've given to Pac-10 basketball.
Sonora **DAN BUTLER**

(Sonora readers receive the early edition of The Bee. Occasionally, West Coast — and local — scores are not reported in time to be printed in that edition.)

Soccer kudos

On behalf of the players and coaches of the Central California Soccer League, I would like to formally express our appreciation for The Bee's excellent support and coverage of boys and girls soccer this year.

I assure you without your support and coverage, as with any sport, it would be impossible to generate interest and continued growth in the soccer program. Our sincere thanks.
Modesto **JIM OSBORNE**

Oidies but goodies

Don't ever think the Turlock Senior Citizens are ready for the rocking chairs. We bowl every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Bowling is something that you love to compete at. Come and watch us kids having the most fun we ever had.
Turlock **OLLIE SEGARS**

Riverbank retort

I am cheerleader and senior at Riverbank High School. Since the 1979-80 school year, when Central Catholic High School re-entered the Trans Valley League, it has thoroughly dominated the sports coverage in the Modesto Bee. I can understand this at the times when Central is the strongest team in the league. My concern is that Central Catholic receives the most coverage and the big headlines even when another TVL team deserves recognition.

I feel that the Modesto Bee has displayed a very strong prejudice for Central Catholic and against other TVL teams. I also realize that Central is the only TVL school located in Modesto, but the extensive coverage it receives is ridiculous. I would like to note that I am expressing displeasure toward the coverage received by Central Catholic High School and not with the school itself.
Riverbank **CHERYL SOUTHERN**

Wymore ... why more?

After reading a short history on Channel 13 sportscaster Fred Wymore in The Bee, I can't help wondering if calling rookie pitcher Fernando Valenzuela at the close of the season a punk on the air was one of Mr. Wymore's educated opinions.
Ceres **EDDIE APODACA**

Address correspondence to Larry Minner, Sports Editor, The Modesto Bee, P.O. Box 3928, Modesto, Ca., 95352. Anonymous letters will not be published. We reserve the right to edit letters for purposes of clarity.

Bob & Lorrie's BAY AREA BUS TRIPS
6th Season
APRIL 24-NITE GAME
APRIL 25-DAY GAME
LOS ANGELES DODGERS VS
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS
MAY 15 & 16-DAY GAMES
NEW YORK YANKEES VS. OAKLAND A'S
\$22 per person per game
For Reservations call Lorrie Bode
(916) 635-0511
or send check or money order to:
Lorrie Bode
18849 Fraser River Court
Rancho Cordova, CA 95678
Payment for these games due on or prior to March 1.

Referees

CONTINUED from E-1

Windemuth, "they take the game too lightly."

The training course includes classroom sessions on rules and game situations, complete with tests, and gym work for the mechanics.

From the clinics, the novice referees move on to work freshman games with experienced partners, while other observers are in the stands. Each of the old hands fills out job critiques to help the newcomer.

First-year officials are on probationary status. They continue to work with veterans and get help. As they become more proficient, they graduate to more difficult assignments.

Several times each season, Windemuth's rating committee evaluates all officials. They are classified as probationary, qualified B, qualified A and certified.

"Certified officials," Windemuth said, "are the ones we can send any place to do any job. The A's usually work in some tough jobs, like some big-school pressure situations, and the B's can handle most high school games."

Most of the new whistle-blowers move up by the end of their first year.

Of the current crew, 36 — including all four women — are coaches and 25 officiate for three sports during the school year.

Many of the officials work both boys' and girls' contests, but some stick to one gender or the other. In most cases, their own.

Tom Sayad is a 24-year-old in his fifth year of officiating. The former Hughson High athlete, who now works on the family almond ranch and umpires professional baseball, said, "It

doesn't bother me to work girls' games, but I don't enjoy it. I feel like I'm taking the school's money."

On the other hand, Davis High English teacher Bob Benjamin, a 23-year official, works only girls' games.

"I gave up boys' basketball three years ago because I felt they had gotten too serious with a win-at-all-costs attitude," he said. "The women are competitive, but at the point where they still have fun."

Fay Murdock, a junior high physical education teacher from Stockton, is one of the women who works boys' games — about a half-dozen during the past two seasons, including a varsity game at Ione.

Soft-spoken and polite, she noted, "There are definitely comments when the boys first see me, but I just do the best job I can. Coaches have tried to intimidate me with remarks, but I just talk to them or give them a T (technical foul) if I have to."

She added, "After some games, I've had people come and say what a professional job I did. That's very rewarding."

A lot of the officials' feedback — both positive and negative — comes from within.

"We know better than anyone else when we've missed a call," said Benjamin. "I tell myself, 'You've blown that. It's gone. Don't blow another one.'"

"If you feel you've done a good job, it's a real high," said Marty Boer, Modesto High baseball coach and official for seven years. "If you've done a bad job, you hope you didn't hurt either team."

Talking with The Bee, a number of Stanislaus officials were in near agreement on several aspects of their jobs.

For instance, most say the toughest kind of game to work is a lopsided contest between two rather unskilled teams, probably at the frosh-soph level.

"It's hard to keep your concentration," said Beyer High baseball coach Paul Cornwell, a whistle-blower for eight seasons. "You have to work harder and make sure they're not getting too physical because that's where trouble starts."

And Dave Heffner, a Patterson junior high teacher, added, "They get upset because they don't understand why they're doing wrong."

Almost unanimously proclaimed as the hardest call to make is the player-control foul.

Cheryl Heffner, Patterson High teacher and volleyball coach, said, "Whether it's blocking or charging all boils down to the players' position and from where you see it. That's why it's so important to be in good position yourself."

Derogatory remarks aren't the major problem one might suspect. And not just because of the threat of technical fouls.

"After you ref for a while, you develop a reputation," said Streeter, an assistant football and baseball coach at Modesto Junior College. "The coaches know how far they can go with you. They have to adjust to you and the kind of game you call."

Several officials suggested giving the coaches a look from the other end



By Ted Benson, Bee staff photographer
Veteran officials Chuck Hughes, Jerry Streeter talk during break

of the whistle would put an end to a lot of those remarks from the bench.

Harold Canter, longtime coach and teacher at Orestimba High in Newman, got into officiating several years ago. As a coach, he had a reputation for letting the officials know exactly how he felt. Often.

Now he's been on the receiving end of coaches' advice. "I think every official should've coached and every coach should've refereed so they can see both sides," Canter said.

"As an official, I can see the coach's point of view and I'm more tolerant of their hollering because a ref can see them all," he added. "As an official, you're looking at the whole game, offense and defense. When you're a coach, you're watching your team and following the ball."

Steve Streeter, at 22, the youngest of the district's officials, takes that suggestion a step further.

"I think players should take a class in the rules of the game," he said. "When I started officiating, I was surprised at how much I didn't know."

Between officiating, working — and sometimes coaching — life is hectic for most referees. More than one said a tolerant family is a necessity.

Larry Johnson, a Davis High teacher and sophomore football and baseball coach, said, "My wife's very understanding. It's kind of tough during the school year, but she knows it's what I like to do."

"My weekends are free so that's when we do something special with our two children."

Dave and Cheryl Heffner occasionally take their two young sons to games they are working. But one night at a girls' game, a group of rowdy boys made the referees the object of their very vocal opinions."

"During a timeout, our son came over to us visibly upset," Cheryl said. "He wanted us to throw the boys out of the gym because he didn't like what they were saying about his parents."

Of course, officiating has its lighter moments too. For instance:

— Benjamin — "One night at Hillmar, I was all set to start a game — had the teams lined up for the jump ball, checked with the scorekeeper and coaches. I got ready to throw up the ball and discovered I'd left my whistle in the dressing room. I had to stop everything while I went to get it."

— Johnson — "Not too long ago at Merced, Downey was leading late in the game when a Merced kid got the ball on a breakaway. All of a sudden a kid jumps off the Downey bench and grabbed the ball. It was funny, but at the same time sad because it eventually led to Downey's losing the ballgame."

— Murdock — "One night I was under the basket when a girl had a breakaway. She ran into me and knocked me 10 feet."

— Johnson, again — "One night I got ready to start a game. I blew my whistle and the whole side of it exploded. That's why they make us carry two."

— And then there's the common dread of officials — forgetting their shoes. That happened to Jerry Streeter not too long ago at a game in Stockton. After searching the gym, another pair of shoes was found — white with red stripes. Very noticeable with basic black and white.

But for the most part, officiating is a no-win situation. It may be the very epitome of the saying, "It's a dirty job, but somebody's got to do it."

As Cornwell so aptly put it, "We wouldn't be in it if we weren't awfully honest and awfully hard workers."



By Debbie Noda, Bee staff photographer
Paul Cornwell puts ball in play



Cheryl and Dave Heffner double-check ruling with scorer

FOR 5 HOURS
\$65.00 ACME
REDUCED TO:
\$39
SUN. ONLY
FOR 5 HOURS
ASHEIR BROS.
3117 McHENRY — NEXT TO MAXWELL'S

RAYCO Sale Specials

DRILL PRESS Bench model 1/2 H.P. motor 1/2" Chuck round crank operated tilting swivel table 139.00 REG. 215.00	1 H.P. AIR COMPRESSOR TWIN PISTON 12 GAL. TANK 110 VOLT MOTOR REG. 477.00 NOW 269.95 ONE YEAR WARRANTY	3/4" 21 PC. SOCKET SET 139.00	SPRAY PAINT GUN REG. 39.95 NOW 18.95
H.D. SWIVELBASE BENCH VISES 3 1/2" 18.95 4" 23.95 5" 33.95 6" 43.95	BATTERY CHARGER Model 6/12 Volts, 300 Amp Boost 100/80 Amp Output Regular \$239.95 NOW 169.95	BOSCH 9" ANGLE HEAD GRINDER REG. 179.00 NOW 119.95	1/2" IMPACT WRENCH NOW 39.95
1 TON CHAIN HOIST REG. 124.00 NOW 79.95	1 TON CABLE COMALONG REG. 35.95 NOW 19.95	1/2 H.P. BENCH GRINDER NOW 39.95	3/4 H.P. 79.95

512 RIVER RD. RAYCO 712 LANDER
MODESTO INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY TURLOCK
529-8986 **BANKAMERICA** Just Say "Charge It" 634-0959
OPEN 8-5 MON.-FRI. SAT. 8-NOON OPEN 8-5 MON.-FRI. SAT. 8-NOON