

RENO HAPPENINGS

Seals To Retire After 11 Years at UNR

RENO, Nev. (UNR) — Dr. R. (Rupe) Grant Seals, a University of Nevada-Reno biochemistry professor and current assistant to the vice president of academic affairs, was honored for his 11 years of service to UNR at a retirement luncheon May 13 on campus.

Those on hand to honor Seals included acting Vice President of Academic Affairs Paul Page and Reno Mayor Pete Sferrazza. Sferrazza presented a resolution proclaiming May 13 "Rupert Grant Seals Day" in Reno. Another proclamation from Gov. Richard Bryan was read and presented to Seals. Jim Mikawa, chairman of the UNR Alliance of Racial Minorities, presented Seals with a plaque from that group and the UNR Faculty Senate's Minority Affairs Committee. Elijah Thorne, president of UNR's Black Student Organization (BSO), spoke about Seals, saying that "Dr. Seals has been an inspiration to BSO and a tremendous role model for all minority students."

More than 40 guests attended the luncheon, including Delia Martinez, director of the Nevada State Equal Rights Commission; Bill Moon, equal employment manager of the Bureau of Land Management; and Seals' wife Georgetta and son Regan.

Seals came to UNR's

College of Agriculture in 1976 as associate dean. From 1982 to 1986, Seals served as a professor of biochemistry, coordinating



Dr. R. Grant Seals

the work of graduate-level students on specific research projects. In 1986, Seals was appointed to his current position.

Seals earned his doctorate from Washington State University in 1959 and has held faculty positions at Florida A & M University, Tennessee State University and Iowa State University. He also served with the USDA in Washington, D.C.

The biochemistry professor has worked extensively with local community service groups. He is presently a member and past president of the Reno/Sparks National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), a member of the Gamma Sigma Delta, Alpha Zeta and Phi Kappa Phi honor

Ex-UNR guard disputes report from newspaper

By Steve Sneddon/Gazette-Journal

Former Phoenix Suns guard Johnny High, saying he can't stay silent any longer, said Tuesday he never used drugs with Boston Celtics guard Dennis Johnson or former Seattle SuperSonics guard Fred Brown.

The Mesa (Ariz.) Tribune reported in a copyrighted story Friday that High told the Maricopa County Grand Jury he had used cocaine with Johnson and Brown. The Tribune published parts of a grand jury report.

High, 30, who played two seasons for the University of Nevada-Reno from 1977 to 1979, acknowledged that he told the grand jury he had used drugs, but does not use drugs now. But High insists he didn't implicate Johnson or Brown.

"I didn't say those things to anybody," High said. "I'm meeting with the DA (county attorney's office) Friday. My name is being

societies, a member of the UNR Minority Affairs Committee and founder and member of the Minority/UNR Liaison Representatives. Seals received the Thornton Peace Prize during UNR's Honor's Convocation April 30.

He officially retires Sept. 1, 1987.

High denies involving players

Reprinted from Reno-Gazette Journal

thrown all over the world like I'm the worst guy in the world."

High played for the Suns four seasons, from 1979 to 1984. High and Johnson were teammates at Phoenix for two seasons.

The Mesa newspaper reported that High told the grand jury he used cocaine with Johnson on three occasions during the 1982-83 season.



ON GUARD: Johnny High, left, drives around Seattle's Fred Brown during a 1981 NBA game. An Arizona newspaper reported High told a grand jury he had used cocaine with Brown. An Associated Press File Photo

"It's not being fair to me," High said. "Why would I want to hurt Dennis' reputation? We're good friends. I thought we were, I called him a couple of times. He's a little ticked off. He's not returning my calls and I don't blame him."

The Mesa newspaper and the Phoenix newspapers, the Phoenix Gazette and Arizona Republic, have attempted to speak to High, but he has not granted them interviews.

"Why should I talk to

them?" High said. "They'd print it a different way. Why would they be fair to me now?"

High chose to tell his story to one television station, KP-NX, Channel 12 in Phoenix, and two newspapers, the Reno Gazette-Journal, and the Birmingham Post-Herald in his hometown in Alabama.

High said he requested Friday's meeting with Jim

Keppel, a deputy county attorney.

There's things in the paper that aren't true," High said. "I want to know what's going on. I'm mentioned more than anybody that is being indicted. I'm not charged with anything and my name is in the paper every day."

"Everybody said I was granted (immunity or) something. That's not true. I wasn't involved with anything."

High said the grand jury asked him about drugs and gambling.

"I told them, 'I don't do drugs,'" High said. "It's been around me. I was around guys who used it. I tried it."

High wouldn't specify the drugs he tried.

"It wasn't anything I couldn't handle. They could drug test me. I don't use drugs... it's not in my future, the present, either."

"The grand jury asked me mostly about the gambling. They asked me if I knew who was doing the gambling. I said I didn't."

High said the allegations

Hazel Bell Expires

Visitation was scheduled from 3 to 4 p.m. at the O'Brien-Rogers and Crosby Funeral Home for Hazel Bell, 40, who died Sunday at her residence.

A native of Lake Providence, La., she was born June 7, 1946, and had been a Reno resident for the past 17 years.

She was a beautician.

Surviving are her mother, Leola Bell of Epps, La.; sister, Ida Bell of Reno; brothers, Willie Lee and Percy Bell, and sisters, Mildred Williams and Mary Porter, all of Louisiana; brothers, Robert and Herman Bell, both of Michigan, and John Bell of Vallejo, Calif.; brother, Ellis T. Dixon, and a sister, Bobbie Dixon, both of Arkansas.

A funeral is scheduled for a later date in Lake Providence, with burial at the Rocky Mountain Zion Cemetery in Epps.

have done irreparable harm to his reputation and to his family.

High, a management trainee for J.C. Penney in Phoenix, said he had inquired about an assistant coaching job at UNR, but doesn't expect to get an opportunity to coach at UNR or anywhere else soon in the aftermath of the stories about the grand jury.

"Right now, I'm a marked person everywhere I go. People read things in the newspapers and they think they're always true. My parents are very upset. My grandmother is upset. All my brothers are."

High hasn't played in the NBA for three years, but did play 20 games for the Baltimore Lightning in the Continental Basketball Association this season.

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Police say woman shot in mouth

Van Williams, who surrendered to police early Sunday and admitted he had just killed his ex-wife in their northeast Reno home, is suspected of shooting her in the mouth, an investigator said Monday.

Lt. Nick Bloomster said Williams, 47, and victim Hazel Williams, 40, also known as Hazel Bell, were divorced.



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