



# Metro/Sports

## Thomas undergoes six-hour spinal surgery

Associated Press

Derrick Thomas underwent six hours of surgery to rebuild part of his spine, and his surgeon said it appears the NFL star will be paralyzed from the chest down.

"It's a very serious injury, a bad one," neurosurgeon Barth Green said Tuesday from Jackson Memorial Medical Center. "He may have some feeling in his feet, and he has some weakness in his hands."

The Kansas City Chiefs linebacker was in serious condition after the operation that ended early Tuesday, hospital spokeswoman Regina Ponder said.

Thomas was thrown from his car Sunday after losing control on an icy highway near Kansas City, Mo. A passenger was killed in the accident. Thomas broke his spine and neck and wound up semiconscious with no feeling in his legs.

The 33-year-old player, one of the most popular athletes in Kansas City, was flown from Liberty (Mo.) Memorial Hospital to Miami, his hometown and his mother's home.

The surgical plan was to decompress the spinal cord, stabilize the spinal column with screws, rods and hooks and implant bone grafts from Thomas' hip.

The hospital is the home of the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis, the world's largest spinal cord injury research center, and its surgeons have operated on race car driver Emerson Fittipaldi and other athletes.

"These type of injuries have a mind of their own and a treatment pattern of their own," Dr. Jon Browne, the Chiefs' physician, said before the operation. "They're all uniquely and individually different."

Mike Tellis, one of Thomas' two passengers in the car, was killed and 10 other people lost their lives in the

treacherous snowstorm that iced Missouri roads Sunday.

Thomas was driving with two friends to Kansas City International Airport for a trip to the NFC championship game in St. Louis when his car flipped several times.

Thomas and Tellis, 49, of Kansas City, Kan., were not wearing seat belts and were thrown from the car, police said. Tellis was killed instantly. A third man in the car who was wearing his seat belt was treated and released. Teammates and friends gathered Monday at the Missouri hospital to visit Thomas, a nine-time Pro Bowl player and one of the game's most feared pass rushers.

Thomas holds the one-game record of seven sacks and ranks ninth on the career list. His seven sacks against Seattle in 1990 came near Veterans Day. He dedicated his effort to his father, an Air Force pilot killed in Vietnam in Operation Linebacker II.

## Brooks from page 1

Brooks says he is considering UNLV, Oklahoma, UCLA and Georgia. He says he has put the mistakes behind him.

"A lot of people mistake the way I play as attitude, but it's just the way I am," he says. "I play with a lot of tenacity."

Brooks has always been driven. He played against older guys in Northeast Portland at the Salvation Army gym or Irving Park. His talent has always drawn attention, like when he dunked for the first time at an eighth-grade tournament in Beaverton.

This season, he shares the spotlight. Jefferson, which plays as if it is the Democrats against the world, has six college prospects. Brooks still talks about Miles' spectacular tip-dunk during an early win over Seattle's Rainier Beach High School.

"Everybody on our team could start for any other team in the league," he says.

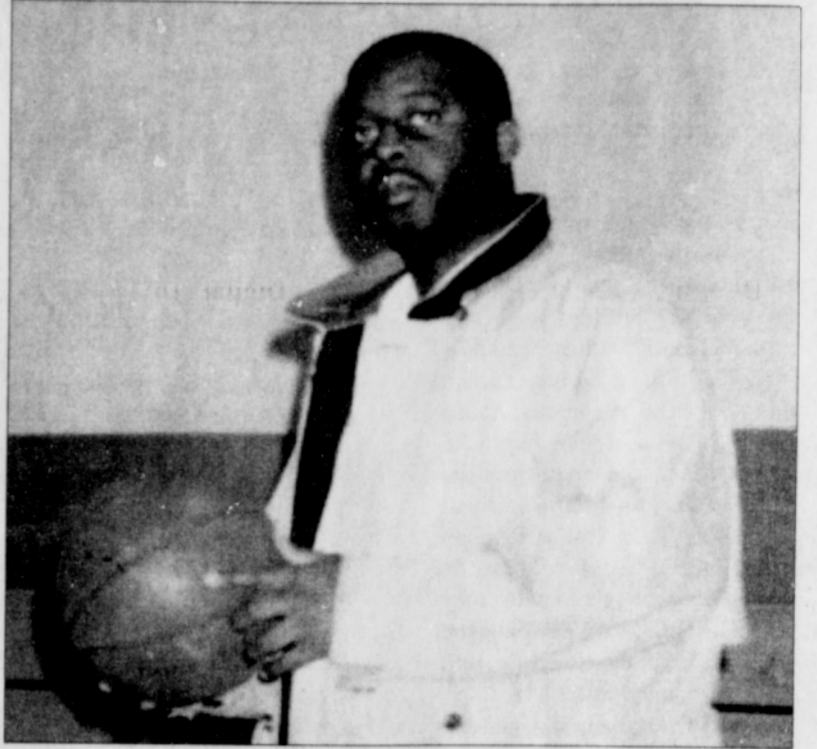
Brooks says he will select a college after the season. Right now, he's focused on a state championship and living up to the confidence placed in him by those close to him.

"I am just trying to please the coaches and the people around me who have supported me."

And so he listens to the Bay Area rapper E40 before games and takes his fire to the floor. He can't imagine doing anything else.

"That's what I do. I am basketball player," he says.

And Brandon Brooks is in control of his life as a basketball player who can fill any arena.



Marshall Haskins is Brooks coach at Jefferson High School

## Jordan trash talks his way through practice

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michael Jordan put on a No. 23 Washington Wizards jersey and gave his new team a lesson in intensity.

Practicing with the Wizards for the first time, Jordan dribbled, dunked, scrimmaged and coached during Monday's two-hour workout. Most of all, he motivated - trash-talking a punchless team that's been going nowhere all season. "I told them they shouldn't have to wait for me to come out to show the energy that they had today," Jordan said. "I just tried to keep them focused, challenge them, say whatever I have to say. If they can play hard

against me, they can play hard against anybody."

Jordan, who last week became a Wizards part-owner and president of basketball operations, was the first to arrive. He ragged on Rod Strickland for being less than punctual and let everyone know he was in charge, even ordering the media to leave when they entered the gym.

"He's a competitive guy," forward Juwan Howard said.

"Of course, we all know he's one of the biggest trash talkers, so that makes it more intense. I enjoy that the most. I feed off that type of energy, when you're talking trash. He's going to push you. When you're 13-29, that's what this team needs."

## Trail Blazers stomp on the Nets 101, 87

Associated Press

The Portland Trail Blazers were struggling with the New Jersey Nets, one of the NBA's worst road teams, until they got some inspiration.

The Blazers appeared to gain some energy after the public address announcement that the Utah Jazz had beaten the Los Angeles Lakers in double overtime.

"We saw that Utah beat LA, and we had a little momentum that let us push

it down their throat and run them out of the gym," Portland's Bonzi Wells said after the Blazers' 101-87 victory Monday night. Since falling to Houston and Dallas during its recent five-game road trip, the Blazers are on a roll. They finished the trip by winning in San Antonio and against the Lakers, and are just 1 1/2 games behind Los Angeles in the Pacific Division.

"I think what we're doing is progressing," said Greg Anthony, who hit three 3-pointers during a 17-

2 run that decided the game. "We're not playing as well as we're capable of - nowhere near it - but we're starting to play, headed in the right direction." The Blazers are 2-1 this season against the Lakers, who might be the only team that can keep Portland from the NBA Finals. The rivalry has become

so intense, the Blazers get fired up even when the teams are

hundreds of miles away. The Lakers-Jazz score was announced shortly before New Jersey took its last lead, at 74-73, on consecutive 3-pointers by Lucious Harris. But then Scottie Pippen gave the Blazers the lead for good with a 19-foot jumper with 10:19 to play.

Eastern Conference				Western Conference			
Team	W	L	Pct	Team	W	L	Pct
ATLANTIC				MIDWEST			
Miami	25	14	.641	Utah	27	12	.692
New York	25	15	.625	San Antonio	26	15	.634
Philadelphia	24	17	.585	Minnesota	22	16	.579
Boston	19	21	.475	Denver	18	21	.462
Orlando	18	24	.429	Houston	16	24	.400
New Jersey	17	24	.415	Dallas	14	26	.350
Washington	13	29	.310	Vancouver	10	30	.250
CENTRAL				PACIFIC			
Indiana	26	15	.634	LA Lakers	33	9	.786
Charlotte	22	17	.564	Portland	31	10	.756
Milwaukee	22	19	.537	Sacramento	25	13	.658
Detroit	21	19	.525	Seattle	27	16	.628
Toronto	21	19	.525	Phoenix	23	15	.605
Cleveland	16	25	.390	LA Clippers	10	30	.250
Atlanta	14	25	.359	Golden State	8	31	.205
Chicago	8	30	.211				



### Missing

Trevell Overton  
Last Seen on 01/14/2000  
Trevell is 5 Feet Tall and Weights 95 lbs. With Black Hair and Brown Eyes  
When he left home he was wearing Green Jogging Pants, Black Starter Jacket and Red and Black Tennis Shoes.  
Up Date:  
Someone seen Trevell by Jefferson High School on 01/21/2000 and said he was wearing a Black Hat, Black Pants and the same Red and Black Tennis Shoes.  
If you have seen Trevell or have any information please call 527-8868 or 281-5627.  
His Family Thanks You

### SPORTS STANDINGS WINTER 1999-2000

BOYS BASKETBALL	W	L	TO
Benson	7	0	
Jefferson	7	0	
Cleveland	6	1	B
Grant	4	3	B, L, J
Lincoln	3	4	M, J, C, B
Madison	3	4	J, G, W, C
Roosevelt	2	5	C, M, B, J, G
Wilson	2	5	C, B, F, L, J
Franklin	1	6	
Marshall	0	7	

GIRLS BASKETBALL	W	L
Wilson	8	0
Grant	7	1
Lincoln	6	2
Benson	5	3
Jefferson	5	3
Franklin	3	5
Marshall	2	5
Madison	2	6
Roosevelt	1	7
Cleveland	0	8

BOYS SWIMMING	W	L	TO
Lincoln	5	0	
Grant	4	0	
Wilson	5	1	
Cleveland	2	2	W, L
Benson	1	2	L, W
Franklin	2	3	L, B, G
Jefferson	1	3	W, L, F
Madison	1	3	G, W, C
Roosevelt	0	7	

GIRLS SWIMMING	W	L
Lincoln	5	0
Grant	4	0
Wilson	5	1
Franklin	3	2
Cleveland	2	2
Jefferson	1	3
Benson	0	3
Madison	0	4
Roosevelt	1	6

WRESTLING	W	L	TO
Madison	3	0	
Cleveland	3	1	M
Grant	2	1	M
Benson	3	2	C, G
Roosevelt	3	2	C, B
Jefferson	2	2	B, W
Wilson	2	2	M, L
Lincoln	1	2	R, B
Franklin	1	4	G, J, R, W
Marshall	0	4	J, R, F, C



## Peninsula Little League 2000

(Serving the Youth of Inner North and Northeast Portland)

Boys & Girls - 5 to 18 years of age

### REGISTRATION

#### SIGN-UPS

Peninsula Park Community Center — (700 N Portland Blvd.)

Saturday - February 5, 2000 10 am - 2 pm

Saturday - February 12, 2000 10 am - 2 pm

(Late sign-ups)

Saturday - March 4, 2000 10 am - 2 pm

Self Enhancement Incorporated (SEI) —

(3920 N Kerby St.)

Saturday - February 5, 2000 10 am - 2 pm

Saturday - February 12, 2000 10 am - 2 pm

(Late sign-ups)

Saturday - March 4, 2000 10 am - 2 pm

#### Things to bring when you sign-up

- ✓ Birth certificate
- ✓ Proof of address  
ie. Oregon Driver Licenses  
Utility Bill
- ✓ Name & Number of Doctor
- ✓ Name & Number of Insurance carrier

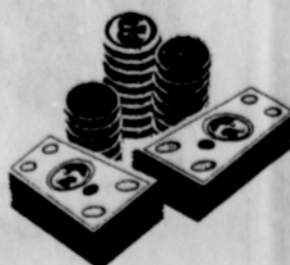
#### Family Rates

\$30 for 1 player \$40 for 1 player  
\$50 for 2 players \$70 for 2 players  
\$70 for 3 players \$90 for 3 players

Minor/Major Players — \$30 + \$35  
Minor/Minor/Major Players — \$50 + \$35  
Minor/Major/Major Players — \$25 + \$70

\$25 for every player after 3 players

\$10 late fee for sign-ups after February 9<sup>th</sup>



For questions please call (503)599-9929

### Programs

Tee-Ball (\$30)  
5 & 6 years old

Challenger Program (\$30)  
(All ages with special needs)

#### Softball Programs

Minor - ages 7 - 9 years old (\$30)  
Major - ages 10 - 12 years old (\$40)  
Senior - ages 13 - 18 years old (\$40)

#### Baseball Program

Farm - ages 7 & 8 years old (\$30)  
Minor - ages 7 - 9 years old (\$30)  
Major - ages 10 - 12 years old (\$40)  
Jr / Sr / Big - ages 13 - 18 years old (\$40)

