

SPORTS

Owens Gets Trade Wish

San Francisco 49ers' Terrell Owens is brought down by Arizona Cardinals' Renaldo Hill during this Oct. 26 photo. Owens will get his wish to play for the Philadelphia Eagles, following a settlement reached Tuesday before an arbitrator could rule on the star receiver's case to become a free agent. (AP photo)

Terrell Brandon Comes Home to Retire

Announcement made at his Alberta Street store

(AP)—Former NBA All-Star Terrell Brandon was surrounded by his family and friends at his retail store on Alberta Street in northeast Portland when he formally, and tearfully, announced his retirement.

"I'm not perfect, but I always tried to handle myself like a man and not embarrass myself," Brandon said.

He called it quits last week, after having missed most of the past three seasons with knee injuries. He had already discussed his retirement after a trade last summer sent him from the Minnesota Timberwolves to the Atlanta Hawks.

Brandon, a 5-foot-11 point guard who grew up in Portland and played his college ball at the University of Oregon.

Brandon, flanked by his parents and his agent, Bill Duffy, appeared at his commercial complex, known as The Brandon Building, which houses his offices, a barbershop and a retail clothing store.

He burst into tears several times as he thanked those responsible for his career, including his pastor and his high school

coach at Grant High School, which Brandon led to a state title his senior year.

At Oregon, Brandon was named the Pacific-10 Conference player of the year in 1991 after averaging a school-record 26.6 points per game. He was the 11th overall pick in the NBA by Cleveland that year.

Over his course of his career, Brandon

averaged 13.8 points and 6.1 assists per game with Cleveland, Milwaukee and Minnesota.

Brandon said he plans to spend the next part of his life developing further businesses in Portland. He's working on a combination retail and apartment complex, which he hopes to open in the next year.

Brandon, 33,

wore a lime green suit as he stood in his shop, underneath a framed Sports Illustrated Cover proclaiming him "The Best Point Guard in the NBA." A large framed photo of him going head-to-head with Michael Jordan hangs nearby.

"I know he's just getting started," Duffy said. "Keep an eye on him. He's going to be a beacon in this community."



Terrell Brandon wipes a tear from his eye during an emotional news conference where he announced his retirement from the NBA. (AP Photo)

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Girl's AAU Team Tryouts

The West Coast Saints Girls Basketball Team will be hosting tryouts at the Moore Street Salvation Army, 5325 N. Williams, on Saturday, March 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for all eligible high school player born on Jan. 1, 1987 or after.

Each player is encouraged to bring their own basketball. All experienced players who are interested in playing AAU basketball in the spring and summer should attend.

For more information, call Denise Jordan at 503-283-9400 or Jenean Dunn at 503-284-7901 or email Westcoastsaints@msn.com.

Stanford's Joe Kirchofe, blocks a layup by Ian Crosswhite during the Oregon Ducks PAC 10 tournament semifinal loss Friday in Los Angeles. (AP photo)



Oregon Ducks Invited to NIT's Dance

(AP)—The Oregon Ducks had their season extended for the third straight year, accepting a bid to play in the National Invitation Tournament.

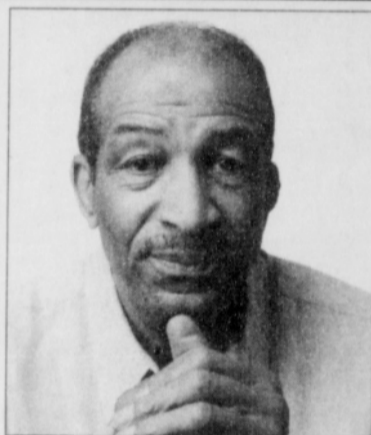
Oregon (15-12) will host Colorado (18-10) at McArthur Court on Wednesday at 9 p.m. in a game that will be televised on ESPN2.

The Ducks, who made it to the Elite Eight

in the NCAA Tournament in 2002, and lost in the first round last season, are in the 40-team NIT field for the ninth time in school history. They advanced to the NIT's Final Four in 1999 before losing to California.

"We have a really good opportunity here to keep on playing," senior forward Luke Jackson said Sunday. "I'm excited about the NIT and we're in it to win it."

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Alberta Trees Ensured

continued from Metro

planting trees years ago, because of budgetary cutbacks.

"Friends of Trees was born out of that problem and opportunity in the late 80s," she said, referring to the agency organizing neighborhoods to plant and care for trees at often-donated and reduced prices for trees and supplies.

Foreman cites the city as very

supportive of Friends of Trees, both financially and by issuing permits for every tree planted most week-ends during the peak planting season, between April and November.

Another concerned Alberta business owner, Brian Borrello, owner of Neon Jones Sculpture and Design, says other neighborhoods should beware of city promises.

"The Portland Department of Transportation and the city are

doing similar streetscapes with similar promises of beautiful trees," he said, referring to revitalization projects on Lombard, Killingsworth and Russell streets. "The improvements are good for TriMet and good for traffic, but all this concrete is not really beautiful."

"The city went on to make more promises to other neighborhoods. Now neighbors have to ask how they will get the city to commit to what they say they'll do," she said. "I don't know how. That's why we're doing it ourselves."

Heamish says her planting crusade for Alberta Street beautification will continue.

She plans to rally other local business owners and encourage them to follow her lead.

For more information about Friends of Trees, visit www.friendsoftrees.org or call 503-284-TREE.



Michael E. Harper, Sr.
Agent

9045 SW Barbur, Suite 109
Portland, OR 97219
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