Page B6



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We are an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourage bids from minority, women and emerging small business subcontractors

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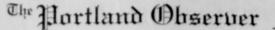
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To access the complete job announcement and required



September 8, 2004

**S**PORTS

#### Any citizen who is 18 years old **oting is Your Right** on Election Day is eligible to vote. Even convicted felons can vote if not currently in custody of the Oregon Dept. of Corrections. If you are in any other part of the criminal justice system, such as a county jail, you have not lost your voting privilege.

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5 p.m.

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Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning Commercial & Residential Services NEW PRICES EFFECTIVE JAMUARY 2004



NBA star and Portland native Terrell Brandon is surrounded by kids from his basketball clinic at the Matt Dishman Community Center in northeast Portland. Brandon generously handed out free clothes, shoes and school supplies on Saturday to the participants of the twoday program.

PHOTOS BY MARK WASHINGTON/ THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Coaches Earl Cheney (left), Terrell Brandon and Jeffrey Washington pause during Brandon's weekend basketball clinic.

## **Kobe Bryant Charge Dropped**

(AP) — The sexual assault derailed the criminal trial before it been dropped, but his accuser - ting the NBA star off the hook whose reluctance to participate just yet.

**BIG CITY** 

With jury selection under way, charge against Kobe Bryant has ever really got started - isn't let- the criminal case was dropped late last Wednesday by prosecutors who said the 20-year-old woman accusing Bryant of rape had decided not to participate. Her exit followed gaffes that led to the public disclosure of her name and other personal details, and prosecutors said they would

application materials, visit our website at www.metro-region.org/ jobs, or pick up a complete packet at Metro Human Resources, 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland. Resumes are not accepted.

AA/EEO Employer

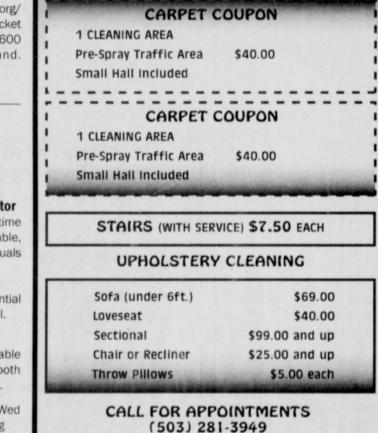


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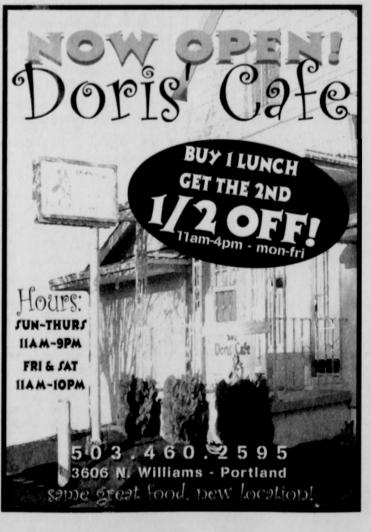


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NBA star Kobe Bryant and his attorney Pamela Mackey leave the Justice Center in Eagle, Colo. (AP photo)

not carry on without her testimony.

But the Los Angeles Lakers star still faces her federal civil lawsuit seeking unspecified damages. That case is still on, said L. Lin Wood, the woman's attorney.

There has been no settlement of the civil lawsuit, and there have been no discussions concerning a settlement," he said.

The 26-year-old Los Angeles Lakers guard issued a written apology that stopped short of taking responsibility for his actions.

"Although I truly believe this encounter between us was consensual, I recognize now that she did not and dges not view this incident the same way I did," he said.

Bryant tearfully admitted more than a year ago he had consensual sex with the then-19-yearold employee of a Vail-area resort where he stayed last summer. If convicted, the married father of a little girl could have faced four years to life in prison, or 20 years to life on probation, and a fine up to \$750,000.

Instead, prosecutors dropped the case after spending at least \$200,000 preparing for trial. District Attorney Mark Hurlbert said he could have won the case, but he supported the woman's decision to withdraw, with a stipulation that charges will never be refiled.

"Today justice is sadly interrupted. The casualty in this interruption has been a brave young woman who was grievously hurt." Hurlbert said.