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Blazer Investigated for Animal Abuse

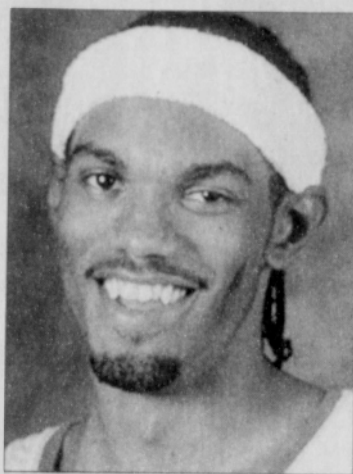
Injured dog abandoned in northeast alley

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The Portland Trail Blazers suspended forward Qyntel Woods without pay Tuesday pending allocations of dog abandonment and dog fighting.

"We have said from the beginning that we are taking this situation very seriously. This organization will not accept this type of behavior if these allegations prove to be true," said Trail Blazers President Steve Patterson.

Woods is under investigation



Qyntel Woods

for public allegations that he dumped "Hollywood," a female pit bull in northeast Portland two weekends ago, with injuries obtained from dog fighting.

The dog had no microchip or collar identifying Woods as the owner, but an anonymous witness told a local television station that he witnessed Woods dropping off the pit bull in an alley on Northeast Martin Luther King Boulevard and Killingsworth Street.

"The dog was obviously abandoned by somebody in an alley, just as hundreds of dogs are every year in Multnomah County," said John Rowton, manager of the County Animal Services Shelter.

Clackamas County Sheriffs searched Woods' home Monday, looking for evidence to support the dog fighting allegations, a felony under Oregon law. The Oregon Humane Society observed the search warrant. The

sheriff's department declined to comment on findings so far.

Woods was instructed by his agent not to respond to the allegations.

Dog fighting is punishable by up to \$100,000 in fines and up to five years in jail.

This isn't the first incident where animal services knocked on Woods' door.

Clackamas County Dog Control has complaints on file that Woods left his dogs outside for days without food, water and shelter during the ice storm of last January.

Rowton confirmed that Hollywood's injuries were consistent with that of dog bites. A veterinarian is treating those injuries.

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Astros Advance to Championship Series

The Houston Astros celebrate after defeating the Atlanta Braves to win the National League Division Series in Atlanta Monday. The Astros defeated the Braves 12-3 and captured their first postseason win in 43 years. Next up is St. Louis Wednesday in a series to decide the National League Championship. (AP photo)

Tiger Woods Ties the Knot



Tiger Woods with Elin Nordegren.

(AP) — Tiger Woods finally confirmed Friday what everybody's known for the last three days: He married Swedish nanny Elin Nordegren in Barbados.

"There certainly has been a lot of speculation about my personal life, which is why Elin and I wanted to confirm that we got married on Tuesday," Woods said on his Web site. "Elin and I celebrated this wonderful occasion with our close friends and family, and we look forward to starting our new life together."

Woods canceled an appearance Sunday in Orlando, Fla., where he was to meet with winners of the Buick Scramble, the world's largest amateur event. Woods has an endorsement deal with Buick.

He is expected to return to the PGA.

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Vikings Shut-out Sacramento State

Portland State's defense never rested. Needing a Big Sky Conference win in a big way, the Viking football team - led by its defense - left little doubt as to the better team. PSU defeated Sacramento State on the road, 31-0.

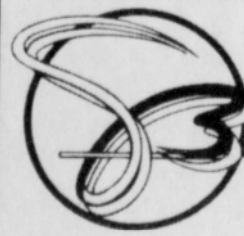
The Viking defense held the Hornets to just 53 yards of offense

in the first half, and maintained that intensity in the second half. The shutout was PSU's second in five games. It marked the first time since 1992 that the Vikings have had two shutouts in one year.

It was a special night for Head Coach Tim Walsh as he captured the 100th win of his collegiate

coaching career - 73 of which have come at Portland State. Walsh, a native Californian, earned the win in front of several hundred family and friends in Sacramento. It was the seventh shutout in his 12 seasons at PSU.

Portland State improved to 3-2 on the season, 1-1 in the Big Sky.



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Trail Blazers Hire Darnell Valentine

The Portland Trail Blazers have selected former Blazer player Darnell Valentine as the franchise's new Director of Player Programs.

Valentine replaces Jerome Kersey who took a coaching job

with the Milwaukee Bucks. He will help implement the franchise's goal of overall player development by providing support on and off the court for every member of the team.

The position remains part of the

organizations' 25-point pledge to reconnect to the community.

"This is an exciting time for the franchise and I am thrilled to be returning to the Trail Blazers," said Valentine.

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