

SPORTS



Jerry Rice shows off his new jersey last October after a trade to Seattle. Friday, the Seahawks released him, fueling speculation that the career of the greatest receiver in NFL history may be ending. (AP photo)

Seahawks Release Player Jerry Rice

(AP) - Jerry Rice was released by the Seattle Seahawks on Friday, perhaps signaling an end to the career of greatest receiver in NFL history.

The release was announced in a short statement from the team, which acquired the 42-year-old Rice from Oakland in a trade last season.

"We are grateful to Jerry and the role he was willing to fill for the Seahawks last year," coach Mike Holmgren said in the statement. "He is one of the greatest players in the history of our game and we wish him nothing but the best."

Rice is the career leader in receptions with 1,549; total yards with 22,895; and receiving touchdowns with 197, all far ahead of the closest pursuer. He also leads in total touchdowns with 207, 32 more

than Emmitt Smith, who announced his retirement earlier this month.

Rice indicated after the Seahawks were eliminated by St. Louis in the playoffs last month that he still was interested in playing.

"I still feel like I have football left in me, a lot of football in me," he said.

However, it remains to be seen whether there is a team who might be interested in signing a 42-year-old, who began his career with San Francisco in 1985 and was on three Super Bowl winners with the 49ers, winning the Super Bowl MVP in 1989.

Rice's possible return to San Francisco has been a hot topic in the Bay Area, but new 49ers coach Mike Nolan has mostly discouraged such speculation.

Trailblazers Honor African Americans

Three pioneers in the African American medical community were honored at a recent Trail Blazers Game by the team and the Portland Bridge Builders. Dr. Samuel J. Brown Jr., Dr. Walter C. Reynolds, and Dr. Booker T. Lewis, were among those honored last week.

Brown has worked with various dental health programs and has held memberships with the Oregon Society of Dentistry for Children, the Oregon Dental Association and Multnomah Dental Society. He practiced dentistry for 46 years before his retirement in 2001.

Reynolds was the first African American to graduate from the University of Oregon Medical School in 1949. He served for 20 years as a medical examiner and founded the Phil Reynolds Scholarship Fund and the Phil Reynolds Medical Clinic, a private clinic and pharmacy in the heart of Portland's African American community, in honor of his father.

Lewis is a former member of the Multnomah County Republican Cen-



PHOTO BY SAM FORENCICH/NBA PHOTOS

Three medical pioneers in the African-American community join members of the Portland Bridge Builders during Black History Month ceremonies by the Portland Trail Blazers.

tral Committee, the Welfare Advisory Board and has worked with civil rights organizations. He was also one of the founders of the American State Bank.

All three doctors chose the North Portland Nurse Practitioners Community Health Clinic as the recipient of their \$500 awards from the Blazer organization.



The Portland Trail Blazers and the Portland Bridge Builders continued their celebration of Black History Month by honoring Lieutenant Colonel Sandra D. Murray, the highest ranking American woman in the Oregon National Guard, at a recent Trail Blazer game.

Murray survived the 9/11 attack on the Pentagon, is a Gulf War Veteran, played professional basketball in Europe and was the first girl to play on a boys team at Alabama High School. Murray was presented with a \$500 award, which was donated to the Harriet Tubman School Choir, Women In Action, Jeffries Memorial Christian Church, Oregon Military Museum and the African American Youth Leadership Conference.

PHOTO BY SAM FORENCICH/NBA PHOTOS

Opening Doors to Opportunity

continued from Metro the pitfalls at home when she would say, "Oh, I'll do it later."

Bosovik is originally from Ukraine, and said being a minority only makes her work harder.

"I'm just trying to do the best I can," she said. "In Ukraine, it would be harder to get into college. We came here to have a better education and better ourselves."

Aisha Keita, another senior in the program, is originally from Mali, West Africa. Her family came to the United States four years ago.

"Getting good grades is not just something I have to do - I want to do it," Keita said. "I've very proud of myself because I try my hardest. We have chances here. We want to work as hard as we can to make our dreams come true. ASPIRE really helps."

Rather than focusing only on high-achieving or "at risk" students, ASPIRE is all-inclusive, for

everyone, even those who haven't thought about education beyond high school.

A recent study by the Bureau of the Census affirms that college graduates, over their lifetime earn 73 percent more than high school graduates. This figure has increased from approximately 47 percent in 1949.

Adults age 18 and over with a bachelor's degree earned an average of \$50,623 a year in 2001, while those with a high school diploma earned \$26,795 and those without a high school diploma averaged \$18,793. Advanced degree-holders made an average of \$72,869 in 2001.

Asians and Pacific Islanders had the highest proportion of college graduates (47 percent), followed by non-Hispanic whites (29 percent), African-Americans (17 percent) and Hispanics (11 percent).

Bethy Hewes, who runs the ASPIRE program at Marshall, said at first, many students at the school

were on middle ground and not planning on going to college.

The prospects have changed as her mentors reach every senior and junior with information.

Hewes sees education after high school as the fast track to gaining a direction in life.

"Even if they don't work in their field after college, there are so many things they'd be eligible for just because they have a degree," she said. "I want to give them the chance to have the quality of life they yearn for."

She finds the average family often doesn't know how accessible college can be.

"They just think, 'We don't have money, we can't do it,'" she said.

Hewes said there is a lot of financial aid to be had if only people looked for it.

ASPIRE sprouted from four pilot schools in 1998. An AmeriCorps grant was awarded to ASPIRE in 2001, and assistance from the Ford

Family Foundation and Oregon University Systems helped the program bloom like wildflowers. More than 50 schools around Oregon have implemented the ASPIRE program into their campuses.

In Portland, ASPIRE is at Cleveland, Franklin, Grant, Jefferson, Madison, Portland Night and Roosevelt Schools, along with Marshall.

Currently, there are 10 volunteers at Marshall Campus to help Hewes out. She said there is a need for more volunteers willing to give up a couple of hours a month to meet with students, talk about education possibilities, give them information, help with assignments and more. Training is provided. Ideally, she'd eventually like to see a total of 50 volunteers.

For more information on the program and college opportunities, visit www.aspireoregon.com or call Bethy Hewes at 503-916-5240, ext. 1229.

Landmark Investment

continued from Metro

cate of deposit will increase our capacity to make a visual and heart-felt difference in our Portland neighborhoods," said Greg Brown, Vice President and Commercial Loan Officer for Albina. "Well-known for its community efforts, Microsoft is a socially responsible investor, one that is willing to sacrifice some return on investment to support economic development in communities that serve as home to ethnic minorities."

Since 1995, Albina Community Bank has created new businesses, homes and jobs in Portland neighborhoods. The bank reports that in 2004 its employees volunteered nearly 4,000 community service hours and that 50 percent of its staff belonged to an ethnic minority.

Peninsula Little League 2005

(Serving the Youth of Inner North & Northeast Portland ages 5-15)
visit our website at: www.eteamz.active.com/peninsulalittleleague

<p>Softball Program</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Level</th> <th>Ages</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Minor</td> <td>7 - 9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Major</td> <td>10 - 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior</td> <td>13 - 15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Questions contact: Mark Washington ~ 503-901-1722</p>	Level	Ages	Minor	7 - 9	Major	10 - 12	Junior	13 - 15	<p>Baseball Program</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Level</th> <th>Ages</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>T-Ball</td> <td>5 - 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Farm</td> <td>7 - 8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Minor</td> <td>7 - 9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Major</td> <td>10 - 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior</td> <td>13 - 15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Questions contact: Michael Mangum ~ 503-957-6274</p>	Level	Ages	T-Ball	5 - 6	Farm	7 - 8	Minor	7 - 9	Major	10 - 12	Junior	13 - 15
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Saturday, March 5, 2005

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