

# SPORTS

## Showcase Features Top High School Talent

### In clash of the classes

By PATRICK GRUHLER

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The fifth annual Adidas Rose City Showcase will take place this weekend at Grant High School in northeast Portland, showcasing the top prep players in the nation.

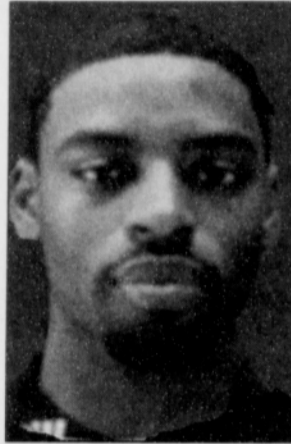
The event will tip off at 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 15, with the first ever "Clash of the Classes," pitting the next crop of college and NBA stars across the nation from the class of 2008 vs. the class of 2009.

The 2008 team will feature Jrue Holiday from California and B.J. Mullens from Ohio. The 2009 team

will feature Derrick Favors from Atlanta and Lance Stephenson out of Brooklyn.

The showcase has featured some of the best future college and NBA players over the last years. All-star center Dwight Howard of the Orlando Magic is one of the biggest names to have played in this Portland event. The Blazers' Martell Webster also played in the showcase.

Games on Saturday and Sunday will feature an eight-team tournament with teams from across the country, including Georgia, Ohio, California, Indiana, Seattle and



Tyreke Evans



Luke Babbitt



Jrue Holiday



Lance Stephenson



Derrick Favors

Portland's Team Jones.

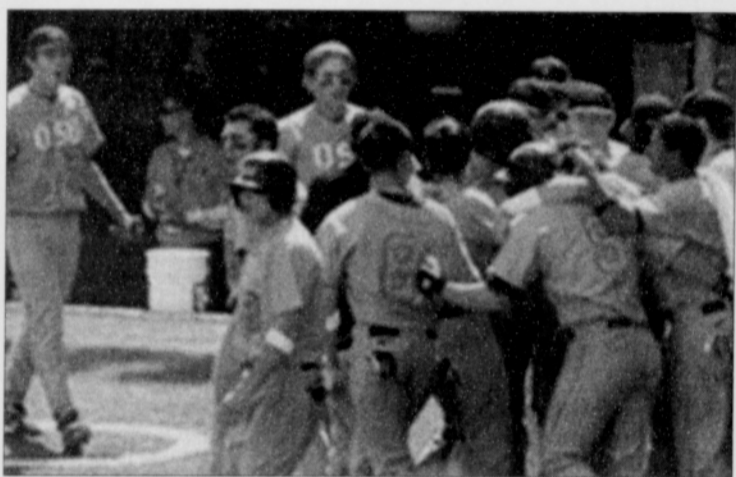
Team Jones is named after Blazer Freddie Jones who grew up in Port-

land and played high school ball for Barlow High School.

This year's tournament has been

expanded to showcase players from ages 11-16, with teams from Oregon and Washington. But the main

show will be the Clash of the Classes and the AAU teams made up of the older players.



Oregon State players mob Braden Wells (9) at home plate after Wells scored the only run of the game in the top of the ninth inning against Michigan Sunday. (AP Photo)

## World Series Bound

Oregon State is keeping its bid to win back-to-back national baseball championships alive. The Beavers advanced to the College World Series for the third straight time Monday after beating University of Michigan 8-2, to sweep their super-regional series with the Wolverines.

OSU won the first game 1-0 Sunday night in a pitchers battle, scoring their only run on their only hit of the game in the ninth inning.

Oregon State shortstop Darwin Barney, who went 3-for-5 with three RBIs for the Beavers, helped awaken the team from their offensive struggles in game 1.

The Beavers will face Cal State Fullerton in their opening game of the College World Series on Saturday.

The eight game double elimination tournament starts off Friday in Omaha, Neb. The other first round games include Rice vs. Louisville, North Carolina vs. Mississippi State and U.C. Irvine vs. Arizona State.

Last year the Beavers lost their opening game to University of Miami, 11-1. They then went on to win six straight elimination games, including a rematch against Miami and beating Rice twice and then UNC twice, to capture the college world series title.

### SPORTS COMMENTARY

## Grow Up, Athletes

By PATRICK GRUHLER

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Over the last few weeks I have watched a lot of TV. I have watched a case built against Michael Vick, quarterback of the Atlanta Falcons, for his role in a dog fighting ring. Apparently 66 dogs were found on Vick's property in Surry, Va.

I have watched the NFL suspend Adam "Pacman" Jones of the Tennessee Titans for an entire season for multiple offenses. In fact, Jones has been arrested five times since he was drafted in 2005 with five other encounters with the police ending with no charges.

There are ongoing investigations in Las Vegas involving a fight and shooting at a strip club during the NBA All-Star weekend that left one person paralyzed.

I have also watched NFL players Tank Johnson and Chris Henry receive eight game suspensions. I have watched Kobe Bryant act like one of the most immature and selfish people I have ever seen in his attempt to get what he wants.

Why do pro athletes want to act like this?

Even Tim Duncan, golden boy of the basketball world, has trouble acting like an adult. In almost any Spurs game, you would think that Duncan has never committed a foul in his life from his reaction as his eyes almost pop out of his head.

Professional athletes, if you want respect from the fans who buy the tickets, purchase jerseys, video games, shoes and support you, then you need to grow up. I understand it is fun to go out and drink and many people don't think weed is a big deal, but at least be smart about it.

Don't drive drunk. Don't carry guns around with you. Don't get into fights. Don't buy underage

girls alcohol. Don't walk through the airport with weed or guns in your bag.

And act mature. Don't run right to the media when you're unhappy, and don't react like a spoiled 16-year old who just got grounded every time a foul is called.

The second point of this is to the Blazers.

I am begging you, management, to continue what you have started. You have gotten rid of the majority of the rule breakers and the immaturity that dominated our locker room since the mid 90s. Let's finish the job. Draft Greg Oden, who is the ultimate good guy and team player. Trade Zack Randolph and cut Darius Miles loose. Don't let these guys infect our locker room.

Let the ultimate professional Brandon Roy take over the locker room. Let the guys who don't quit and don't whine play.

Let the fans of Portland be proud of our team, and keep them out of the news. That is, until we win the NBA championship!

## Little Leaguers Finish Big

### Win four of six games at Williamsburg Jamboree

By PATRICK GRUHLER

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Over Memorial Day weekend, the Enterprise baseball team from north and northeast Portland's Peninsula Little League competed in the Urban Initiative Jamboree in Williamsburg, Pa.

This year was the fourth annual urban initiative jamboree, which is sponsored by Little League Baseball, Major League Baseball and players and coaches such as Torii Hunter and Dusty Baker.

Peninsula Little League was chosen by David James, Director of the Urban Initiative, because the league is a member of the initiative. The league was able to choose between a major team (11-12 year olds), or a junior team (13 year olds).

"The decision was an easy one," said Mary Dunn, president of the local little league. "We only have one major team right now, so it was not hard for me to choose."

The jamboree featured 13 other teams from across the nation, including teams from Akron, Ohio,



The Enterprise baseball team from north and northeast Portland's Peninsula Little League pose for a team photo in Williamsburg, Pa., home of the Little League World Series.

Tampa Bay and Sacramento.

Enterprise played six games, winning four of them. They played games Friday, Saturday and Sunday, having a double header on both days.

"Both games we lost were very close," Dunn said. "We lost one game 9-7, and the other 3-2 in a very close, good game."

The Peninsula group was the only team from Oregon to compete in the jamboree.

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Hosted by Peninsula Lakeside

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