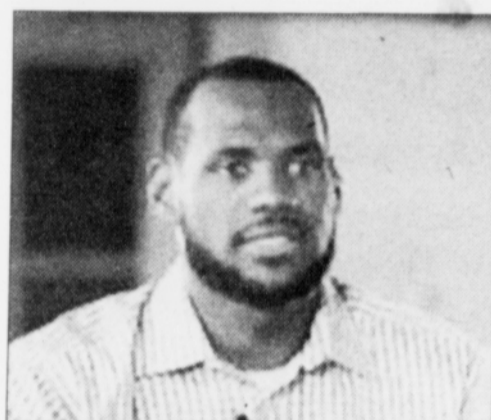


# SPORTS

## James Picks South Beach



NBA MVP LeBron James announces his decision to join the Miami Heat during an exclusive ESPN telecast Thursday in Greenwich, Conn.

## Joins Miami, disappointing Cleveland

(AP) -- When the months of suspense peaked, LeBron James delivered a few words that rocked the NBA and changed two cities and franchises.

At 9:27 p.m., James, looking nervous and somewhat unsure, finally announced his plans from a small stage in Greenwich, Conn.

"This fall, and it's very tough," James said to a national TV audience. "I'm going to take my talents to South Beach and join the Miami Heat."

In Florida, there was rejoicing.

In Ohio, only heartbreak and tears — then anger.

The most wanted man in league history decided Thursday night that it was time to leave the comforts of

home to chase a championship.

The two-time MVP, a player with supreme skills but without a title, decided to join forces with fellow superstars, good friends and U.S. Olympic teammates Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh — a dominant threesome that could rule the league for years to come.

"I can't say it was always in my plans, because I never thought it was possible," James said of this union with the two perennial All-Stars, players he has known for years. "I've looked forward to it. Those are two great players, two of the greatest players that we have in this game today. You add me, and we have a really good team."

Landing James was a huge victory for the team president Pat Riley, who was able to corral the top three stars in an unprecedented free-agent class and now must resist the temptation to leave the front office to coach them.

James' announcement ended weeks of speculation and capped a multi-ringed media circus in this age of social networking that spun out of control. It also concluded a somewhat embarrassing courtship of a player by cities, celebrities and franchises who fawned over the 25-year-old who doesn't have a finals win on his resume.

New York, Chicago, New Jersey, Los Angeles and every other NBA spot came up short, finishing out of the money.

So did Cleveland. As it always does.



## Softball Champions go to State

Peninsula-Lakeside's All-star Junior Little League Softball team poses for a team photo after capturing the District One championship for 13-14 year-old girls. The team advances to the state championships with play beginning Friday in Milton-Freewater.



PHOTO BY KEN RUMBAUGH

## Congratulations Peninsula!

Peninsula Little League Softball all-star girls, ages 9-11, finished a great season where they made it to district's championship game before falling short in a 12-6 contest to the Hollywood/Lakeside/Rose City all-stars on July 7 in Scappoose.



TRIOMET

**Project Name:** Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project East Segment RFP No. RH 110162JB

Willamette Community Connectors is a joint venture (Granite-Hamilton-RailWorks). We are an equal opportunity employer and request qualifications from all interested firms, including DMWESBs. We are seeking qualified DBE's interested in this project upon award. This is not a hard bid proposal. We are seeking firms who would be interested in working with us upon award. Please attend one of our upcoming events to learn more regarding scopes and have an opportunity to meet with our team.

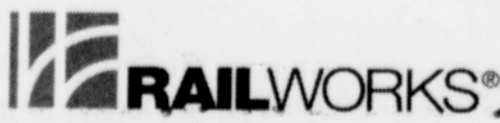
Please join us at one of our "Meet the Project Team" Events

Friday, July 9<sup>th</sup>  
OAME - Amelia Conference Room  
4134 N. Vancouver Ave.  
Portland, OR 97217  
9:30 to 11:30 am

Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup>  
WCC Office  
4105 SE International Way, Ste 503  
Milwaukie, OR 97222  
3:00 to 5:30 pm

Suzanne Donaldson, DBE Consultant  
360-280-2321  
suzanne@donaldson-enterprises.com

Willamette Community Connectors Team



## Women's Hoops Tourney

The Human Rights Campaign's second annual women's 3x3 basketball tournament takes place Saturday, July 24 at Irving Park. Nike is the presenting sponsor along with many other local businesses.

The tournament is open to all women, from league champions, gym rat, college hoopster, short, tall, young, old - even if you haven't played in years. You're invited to dust off those sneakers and come support the HRC and women in basketball.

There will be brackets for the true competitors as well as one for those who are looking for a day of fun. Team spots are limited.

The Human Rights Campaign's objective for this event is to raise community awareness, understanding and visibility about the need for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender basic rights and equality and support women in sports!

To register for the tournament, visit [hrc.org/pdxbasketball](http://hrc.org/pdxbasketball).

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