

# SPORTS

## Abdul-Jabbar to Engage Youth

(AP) — The NBA's all-time scoring leader is now a global cultural ambassador.

The State Department announced last week that Kareem Abdul-Jabbar will travel the world to engage a generation of young people to help promote diplomacy.

Stock says the appointment is part of Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton's vision of "Smart

Power" that combines diplomacy, defense and development to "bridge the gap in a tense world through young people."

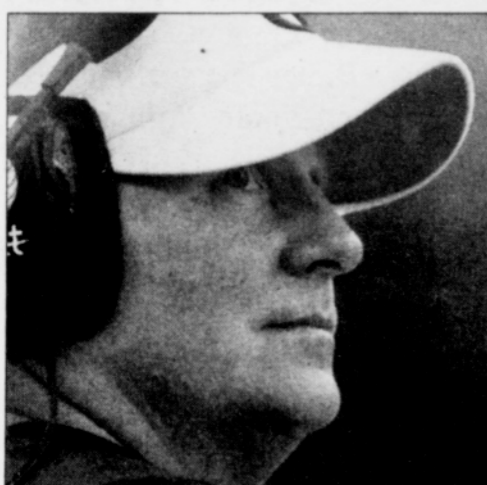
Abdul-Jabbar will travel to Brazil this week for a number of events centering on education, using his own experiences to help connect with young people.

The legendary center scored 38,387 points during his 20-year NBA career.



Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton laughs after receiving a Los Angeles Lakers basketball jersey last week as a gift from former NBA basketball star Kareem Abdul-Jabbar at the State Department in Washington, D.C. Abdul-Jabbar will travel the world to engage a generation of young people to help promote diplomacy. (AP photo)

## Ducks Coach Rejects NFL Job



Chip Kelly

(AP)—Oregon head coach Chip Kelly is remaining with the Ducks, though he says he was flattered by the interest shown in him by the NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

"I concluded that I have some unfinished business to complete at the University of Oregon," Kelly said Monday.

Oregon athletic director Rob Mullens said Oregon granted Tampa Bay permission to talk to Kelly.

"We are pleased with Coach Kelly's decision to remain as our

head coach," Mullens said. "Coach Kelly has provided great leadership and remains committed to building on our position among the elite college football programs in the country."

Kelly is 34-6 at Oregon and has won three conference titles in just three seasons. He led the Ducks to a 45-38 victory over Wisconsin in this year's Rose Bowl, their first Rose Bowl win in 95-years, and also guided Oregon to a berth in the 2011 BCS championship game, where the Ducks lost to Auburn.

But Oregon also remains a program under investigation by the NCAA over a \$25,000 payment made in 2010 to Texas-based Willie Lyles for a recruiting package he provided to the school.

Architect of a high-powered spread offense that highlights speed over power, Kelly has employed a unique no-huddle model to take the Ducks to three consecutive BCS bowl games.

## Aldridge Finalist for Olympic Team

USA Basketball has named Portland Trail Blazers forward/center LaMarcus Aldridge as a finalist for the U.S. Olympic Men's Basketball Team at the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

"LaMarcus has been a guy that USA Basketball has been interested in for a number of years," said Trail Blazers Head Coach and USA Basketball assistant coach Nate McMillan. "He's a guy that fits into the style of play that Coach Krzyzewski is looking for, an athletic big man that can run, play defense, shoot the ball, and is versatile enough to play several different



LaMarcus Aldridge

positions. I think he would be a great addition to that team."

Aldridge, 26, is averaging a career-best 22.8 points to go with 7.8 rebounds and 2.4 assists through 12 games this season.

An All-NBA Third Team selection in 2010-11, he has career averages of 17.4 points, 7.5 rebounds, 1.7 assists and 1.01 blocked shots in six NBA seasons with the Trail Blazers.

The official 12-man U.S. Olympic team roster will be announced later this year. The 2012 Summer Olympics will be held July 27-Aug. 12 in London, England.

## Peninsula Little League 2012

(Serving the Youth of Inner North & Northeast Portland ages 5-14)

email us at: PeninsulaLL@yahoo.com.



### Softball Program

Level	Ages
Minor	8 - 10
Major	10 - 12
Junior	13 - 14

Questions contact:

Mark Washington ~  
503-288-0033  
markw@portlandobserver.com

### Items to bring to sign-ups:

Proof of Address  
Player Fee

Regular Sign-ups  
\$50/T-Ball, \$75 All other levels  
\$150/Family(3 or more)

### THURSDAYS at Boys and Girls Club Community Center

5250 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
January 26th and February 2nd  
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

### SATURDAYS at Boys and Girls Club

700 N Rosa Parks Way  
February 4th and February 11th  
10:00 am to 1:00 pm

### TUESDAY at Applebee's

1439 NE Halsey  
February 21  
5-8pm

Registration and Fundraiser  
10% of proceeds benefit League

### Baseball Program

Level	Ages
T-Ball	5 - 6
Farm	7 - 8
Minor	8 - 10
Major	10 - 12
Junior	13 - 14

Questions contact:

Anthony Jordan ~  
ajordan@integra.com



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