

Business owner and retired NBA star Terrell Brandon (right) celebrates 20 years in business with his dad, Charles Brandon and sister, Tracy Crittenden. Terrell's vision in starting a string of businesses in Portland involved a deep appreciation for his friends, family and neighbors. "I love people," he says.

PHOTOS BY MARK WASHINGTON/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Firmly Planted at Home

continued ▲ from front

A staple of the African-American community in Portland, Brandon recently celebrated 20 years of business on Alberta Street. He is also owner of Show Dogs Grooming Salon and Boutique on North Lombard Street.

Tee Bee Enterprises has brought some of the best concerts to Portland over the years, including The Isley Brothers, Gerald Levert, The Whispers, Angie Stone, The Time, Mint Condition, and Keith Sweat to name a few. He has sponsored several basketball camps for kids over years.

The Portland native and graduate of Grant High School was drafted into the NBA in 1991. He started playing for the Cleveland Cavaliers, but would return to Portland regularly, keeping the Rose City as his home. Brandon would go on to play for the Milwaukee Bucks and the Minnesota Timberwolves before finally retiring in 2003. But that was no means the end of business for Brandon, who loves to reinvent himself and pursues new ventures all the time.

Brandon describes himself as having a passion for the community and returning positive energy to the streets.

"The neighborhood was so drug-infested, gang-infested, when I built my barbershop here. I wanted to put something positive back into the community," he said.

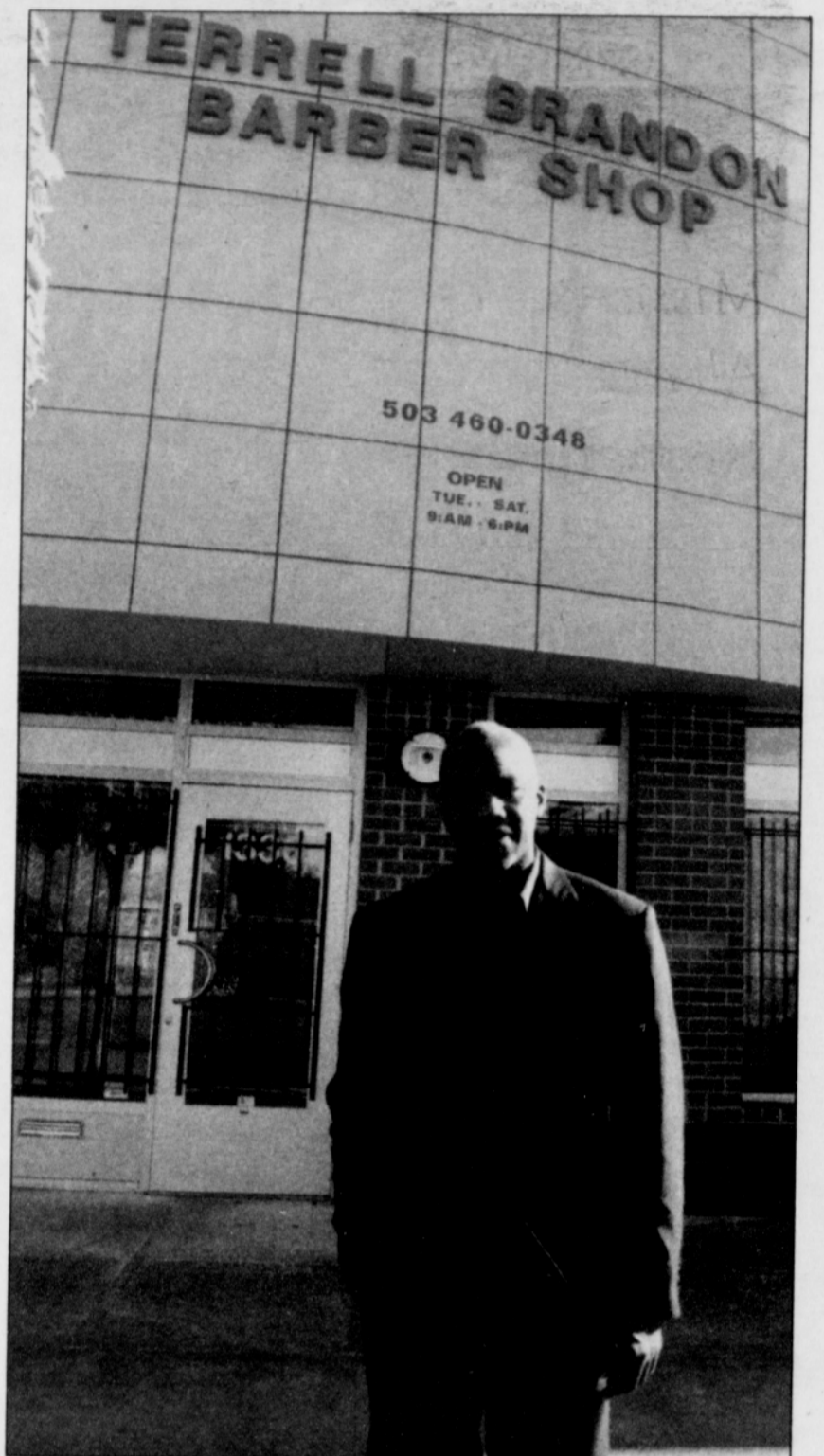
His vision in bringing such a variety of businesses back into the community involved a deep appreciation for his friends, family and neighbors. "I love people," he says.

When Brandon is not at one of his other businesses, he likes to hang out at the Cigar Bar, where he hosts private members and offers them a variety of cigars, movies, and drinks.

Brandon is always looking for a new idea and loves challenging himself. He follows his passions and his advice to young aspiring athletes and business owners alike is to "follow your passions. Whatever your passion is, go for it."

"My idea is that I have to generate more," he says. "I don't rest on the past. I don't have a jersey on underneath this suit."

As his businesses continue to reinvigorate the local community today, Brandon admits he has always has new ideas brewing, "I do have something I'm looking at," he says, "but I can't tell you yet."



Terrell Brandon's passion for owning a barbershop to give people in the community a place to hang out and share stories, led to the construction of a new business complex at Northeast 14th and Alberta, which recently celebrated 20 years of operation.



Mentor-Protégé Program participants: Vijay Deodhar, 3D InFusion; Alando Simpson, City of Roses Disposal and Recycling Inc.; Tayna Wylder, Star Construction Services, LLC.

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