

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# **NEWS RELEASE**

## Mike James headlines from the Euroleague to the Portland Pro Am

June 10, 2015 – Portland, OR – After a successful season in Spain with <u>Laboral Kutxa in the Liga Endesa (ACB)</u> and <u>Euroleague</u>, Mike James is returning to his home town with his own team in the Portland Pro Am this summer.

The Grant high school product and Lamar University graduate moved up quickly in Spain this fall averaging 12.9ppg as a starter for Laboral Kutxa going all the way to the quarter finals in the ACB, placing 5<sup>th</sup> in Group F of the Euroleague.

James is excited to return home and have his own team with former high school rivals in the new Portland Pro Am. "I'm just happy that someone from our city has started it and is doing it the right way." James said "Terrence is starting something that could go on for years to come and I want to be a part of it."

James' team joins Terrence Jones, Terrence Ross and the Vancouver Volcanoes from the IBL as four of the six teams that have been announced with two more expected to be revealed shortly.

"We are building a new kind of Pro Am and have been very collaborative involving the community, NBA and up and coming players to have a good mix of the right people leading each team. This will ensure strong competition, commitment and a shared vision for building our community through basketball," Commissioner Kone shared.

Open tryouts are Sunday, June 14, 2015 at Multnomah University 12pm-5pm where all teams, coaches and scouts will be choosing players to add to their rosters. Each player will go through a combine format including agility testing, skills and scrimmages. Those interested are encouraged to fill out the form with their profile and submit applicable fees to participate via PortlandProAm.com. Games for non-NBA Players start at the end of June, full schedule to be announced.

Mike James will sponsor several community initiatives that give resources to young athletes this summer starting with hosting a free camp for highschool students at his almamater, <u>Grant High School June 22-26</u>.

To learn how you can get involved as a team, play or to be a partner please visit <a href="www.PortlandProAm.com">www.PortlandProAm.com</a>. Be on the lookout for updates, special guests and events on the schedule for 2015 through our social media. The Portland Pro-Am presented by Terrence Jones, building the community through basketball.

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### Resources to Extend Your Knowledge and Understanding of this story visit:

www.PortlandProAm.com, www.IBL.com, www.mikejameshoops.com

### **About the Portland Pro Am**

Launching in the summer of 2015, the new Portland Pro-Am - featuring Terrence Jones - will provide an opportunity for the community, players and fans to enjoy Pro Basketball up close and personal. As a hybrid model mixing minor league basketball with an enhanced pro am model, the Portland Pro-Am is a part of the International Basketball Leagues (IBL). The IBL will continue to place players and officials overseas and in the NBA Development League. Competition will be in July and August at Multnomah University following NBA rules, fans will see NBA talent, overseas and college players who have completed their eligibility. Teams will be lead by experienced coaches and high level officials will manage the games. The Portland Pro-Am will feature competitive basketball games where fans can interact with players get autographs and photos. The league will also host special events in support of causes close to Mr. Jones in the greater North East Portland area.