

CLASSIFIEDS • CARTOONS • ALOHA BRIEFS & MORE

Leone High School Green Club joined the American Samoa Handball Team to help build their Handball court at the Maliu Mai Beach Resort last Saturday December 9th, 2017. It was hard work but the students were happy and had fun while helping club members and students who are members of the handball team.

The club was divided into groups, a group for sifting the sand, another for bagging and transporting to land, another to transport to the court area and laying and spreading to cover the court area. Leone High School wishes the handball team, their coaches and all of its players and supporters the best in their endeavors and especially their prepara-

tions for the upcoming Youth Olympics Games in Argentina next year.

[Photo: Courtesy]

Titans' Mariota looks to bounce back from rough Sunday

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — Tennessee Titans quarterback Marcus Mariota apologized on Wednesday for his choice of words during his postgame news conference after Sunday's loss to Arizona.

Mariota, speaking to reporters for the first time since Sunday, said he acted "rude and inappropriate" after an ineffective performance in the Titans' 12-7 loss to the Cardinals, in reference to how he played.

The often low-key Mariota was asked if he was showing his competitive side.

"Yeah. It was funny because I got an earful of it from my mom," Mariota said. "That's how I was raised, and I appreciate you guys understanding."

Mariota hopes to make up for that game on Sunday when the postseason-contending Titans face the San Francisco 49ers (3-10).

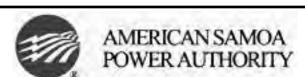
The Titans, at 8-5, remain in position for the playoffs but are one game behind Jacksonville for the AFC South lead.

"When you go through a tough game, it's nice to get back on the field and go out there and play," Mariota said. "It's probably not a good thing to bottle (frustration) up all the time, but at the same time I was pretty upset with the way that I performed and I think it just carried over." Mariota's play against Arizona led to speculation and questions about his health and whether he is bothered by any injuries.





Arizona Cardinals running back Kerwynn Williams (33) gets upended by Tennessee Titans cornerback Adoree' Jackson (25) during the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Dec.10, 2017, in Glendale, Ariz. (AP Photo/Rick Scuteri)



Human Resource Department, Tafuna PO Box PPB, Pago Pago American Samoa 96799 Phone No: (684) 248-1234 Option #5

PUBLIC JOB POSTING

Position Title	Chief Engineer	Posting Date	December 4, 2017
Department	Wastewater/Water	Deadline	December 15, 2017 - 4:00pm
Division	Environmental Services Division	Starting Rate	TBD
Position Type	2 year contract		
Reports To	Division Manager	Job Grade/Status	TBD ~ Exempt

Major Duties & Responsibilities

The Chief Engineer is responsible for managing the Operations sub-divisions and subordinate engineering staff of the American Samoa Power Authorities Water and Wastewater Division. This position requires advanced professional engineering, project management and functional operations knowledge with respect to civil works, waterworks and wastewater works. The Chief Engineer will coordinate and oversee the performance of complex engineering tasks by subordinate Engineering staff and the performance of the operational systems and staff. The Chief Engineer will ensure quality and timely completion of both federally-funded and in-house operations projects The Chief Engineer is also responsible for the budgeting of monies for each operations division, this includes local and grant funding sources. The Chief Engineer is responsible for maintaining federally sourced grants and meeting the standards of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

- The Chief Engineer directs and coordinates the planning, design, and management of municipal construction projects, maintenance plans and system operations.
- The Chief Engineer has direct oversight of the Water and Wastewater Operations Divisions and is responsible for their day-to-day functionality.
- The Chief Engineer manages subordinate engineering staff through coordination with the Senior Engineer

The Chief Engineer reports directly to the Division Manager.								
	Minimum Requirements							
Education	Bachelors of Science Degree in Environmental or Civil Engineering, AND Current registration as a Professional Engineer (P.E.) in a U.S. state.							
Experience	 Ten (10) years of related experience in environmental engineering work including project management (planning, design and administration) OR Eight (8) years of related work experience in Civil or Environmental engineering work including project management (planning, design and administration) and a Master of Science Degree in Civil or Environmental Engineering AND 							

Engineering Chief Engineer duties and responsibilities require the incumbent to have the knowledge, skills and abilities in the areas of finance, compliance, personnel and project management as well as

Four (4) years' experience working in a managerial/supervisory role in Civil or Environmental

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities

- · Knowledgeable about how to coordinate and enforce project compliance to all ASPA, ASG and Federal standards, regulations and policies.
- Knowledgeable about how to Monitors capital improvement and operational budgets.
- Knowledgeable about how to Conducts engineering research to remain current with technological developments in the operation, maintenance and management of wastewater
- Ability to provide advanced technical engineering expertise and project management skills in the planning, design, administration and construction of projects.
- Ability to maintain liaison with managers & representatives of other divisions;
- Ability to Collects and analyses performance data and reports regularly and investigates
- abnormalities. Ability to Monitors key operations parameters while striving to improve in quality and
- efficiency. Skills to Coordinates the integration of assigned projects and activities with other departments,
- government agencies, federal agencies and regional institutions. Skills to maintain a high level of morale and instil a positive team attitude to promote a work
- ethic based on quality of service amongst all team members.
- All other duties assigned by Division Manager

Qualified applicants: Please submit a completed ASPA Employment Application with a copy of your resume to ASPA (address listed above) by the deadline listed above. Please attach copies of credentials and transcripts. Candidates selected for hire must pass examinations (when applicable), pre-employment clearances & test negative on employment drug test. ASPA reserves the right to waive education and experience requirements as necessary. No phone inquiries accepted.

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Diminutive Williams defies odds as NFL running back

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — Kerwynn Williams has defied the the only thing you can control," odds, over and over.

and to the active roster.

I've relied on my whole life," Williams said after the Arizona Cardinals practiced Wednesday. "I feel like everybody's seen the at me seeing I'm not tall. I'm not the biggest guy out there so me through.'

toughness.

The last two games, he played despite having cracked ribs. Against the Los Angeles Rams, he gained 97 yards in 16 carries. In last week's win over Tennessee, Williams rushed for 73 yards in 20 attempts.

How many ribs are cracked? "Enough," he said.

After coaching Williams Arians said he is not surprised.

"This is what we expected," Arians said. "That's why he's here. He couldn't catch punts two years ago to save his life, ting in the linebacking corps, but he catches them really good now. That's just Kerwynn. into the secondary and really Whatever it takes for him to just keeping our offense ahead make the team, he's going to of the chains." do it, but then when he makes you're getting his best."

Williams is listed as 5-foot-8 and 195 pounds. That lack of size was undoubtedly a reason he wasn't drafted until the seventh round by Indianapolis out it made. of Utah State in 2013.

season on the San Diego pracroster moves in a span of 21 have." days with the Cardinals.

effort.

"Your work ethic is really Williams said. "You can't con-Consistently told he was too trol the decisions other people small, Williams kept working, make. I just believed the only from practice squad, to being thing I was focusing on is released, to practice squad again outworking everybody, outworking the doubt really, out-"That's pretty much what working everybody's doubt in

> Arians attributes Williams' perseverance to "his grit."

"He got cut a number of same thing. Everybody's looked times," Arians said. "He kept getting a little bit bigger, a little bit stronger, really worked on I relied on my work ethic to get his hands. That was a problem early on in his career. Really Nobody is doubting his worked on his hands, found his niche in kick returns. 'The more you can do.' He bought in to 'the more you can do.'

Quarterback Blaine Gabbert said Williams has become a complete back.

"We all know he can run the football, but seeing blitzes, picking up protections, catching the ball out of the backfield, just being kind of that total runfor four seasons, coach Bruce ning back that you want to see," Gabbert said. "But, just the way he has been running the football lately, getting through that initial line of defenders, getmaking some moves, getting

There is no sign that Adrian it and you put him out there, Peterson's return from a neck injury is imminent. Expect Williams to be the featured back again when the Cardinals play at Washington on Sunday.

He by no means feels he has

"I feel like when you get to He played in one game for the point where you've done the Colts and spent most of the all you could do, that you've proven everything, that's when tice squad. In his first 21 months I feel like you rest and you start in the NFL, Williams was sub- to relax," Williams said. "I ject to 15 roster moves. He was never feel that way. I never feel signed, released and promoted like I'm safe. I always feel like I from the practice squad seven need to keep working and that's times in 2014, including four the mindset I'm always going to

There is, though, a sense of He never wavered in his satisfaction of making it in this rough game the hard way.

Smith, Williams power Duquesne past winless MVSU, 73-49

five assists as Duquesne won its cooled considerably, 73-49 on Wednesday night.

Duquesne forced the Delta (29 of 67). Devils into 16 turnovers and Verhoeven rejecting five.

50 percent from behind the with 11 points.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — 3-point arc (43 of 87) over their Tarin Smith came off the bench last three games and knocked to score 16 points and Eric down a school record 18 in a Williams Jr. added 10 points, 97-48 win over Delaware State grabbed 13 rebounds and dished on Saturday. The hot streak fourth straight game, beating Duquesne hitting 25.9 percent winless Mississippi Valley State from deep (7 of 27) and 43.3 percent overall from the field

MVSU (0-9) went scoreless blocked 10 shots, with Tydus for more than eight minutes in the first half, watching a 10-7 The Dukes (6-3) came into lead turn into a 17-10 deficit. the contest shooting a tick under Dante Scott led the Delta Devils



Boxer Jeff Horn wears a pair of boxing gloves on top of earmuffs Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017, after his a weigh-in for his next fight in Brisbane, Australia. Horn will defend his WBO welterweight world title against Britain's Gary Corcoran on Wednesday. (AP Photo/John Pye)

Horn wins WBO welterweight title defense against Corcoran

first world title and a successful defense on home soil, Jeff Horn is ready to take his WBO welterweight belt to Las Vegas.

The former school teacher from Australia won by knockout in the 11th round Wednesday when Gary Corcoran's corner threw in the towel with the England-based boxer bleeding from a deep cut above his left eye.

It was Horn's first fight since his unanimous decision upset over eight-division champion Pacquiao in front of more than 51,000 fans in an outdoor afternoon fight at nearby Suncorp Stadium in July in the "Battle of Brisbane" — a victory that some critics dismissed as a hometown

Horn, now unbeaten in 19 bouts, is hoping the win Wednesday at the smaller Brisbane Convention Centre sets him up for a fight against Terence Crawford next year.

Americans," Horn said, reflecting on the criticism following his win over Pacquiao. "There's keep winning, that's the key — hopefully I can start changing people's minds one by one."

Top Rank promoter Bob Arum said he expected to soon confirm a Crawford-Horn fight in Las Vegas in April.

"We move on now. Terence Crawford is the mandatory contender," Arum said. "Terence Crawford is one of the best fighters around. He was a lightweight champion — that's 135 pounds — then he became a junior welterweight (140 pounds), and wiped out that division."

Arum said the step up to the 147-pound division would be another challenge for the unbeaten

"Anybody that says that because of Terence's skillset that Jeff doesn't have a chance is crazy, Arum said. "This is going to be a very competi-

The early rounds Wednesday were close with Corcoran continually walking forward and the pair clinching in close, but Horn landed enough

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — After a conpunches to have a lead before he started to find tentious upset over Manny Pacquiao to win his his range in the seventh and dominated the next three rounds.

> "It was a bit different this time, I wasn't the underdog for a change. I was coming in (as) the champion," Horn said. "He definitely pushed me. I felt my timing was a bit off, but I got him in the

> "As soon as I started working off that jab and going first, I managed to break him down quite easily after that."

Two judges had awarded all but one round to Horn before the fight was stopped, and the other had given all 10 rounds to Horn.

Corcoran (17-2) needed six stitches to the cut above his left eye and another four stitches to a cut on the right.

He said he wasted energy in the early rounds and it cost him in the end.

"I just didn't let my shots go, was getting very tense," he said. "You're fighting for a world title. "Yeah, there is a lot to prove to a lot of the Better man won on the night, that's it. I fought a good fighter. I'll be back.

Horn had plenty of support in Brisbane, where always going to be the doubters. All I can do is he's related to the Lord Mayor and was part of a public campaign to back the state premier in a recent election.

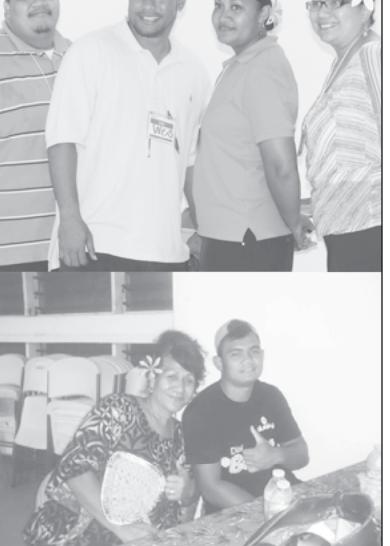
> Crawford, who watched the fight on ESPN, predicts Horn will get more than he's expecting in America.

> "Jeff Horn did what he had to do to get the job done tonight but ... I have more power and more speed than Corcoran," Crawford said. "When he steps in to the ring with me, it's going to be a very different story." Crawford, who moved to No. 1 spot on the pound-for-pound list in 2017, said he'd be bigger and stronger when he moves up to welterweight and he plans to again "clean out the division."For his part, Horn is ready to fulfill a long-time plan to fight in the United States.

> "From the start, it's where I pictured myself fighting for a world title," he said, adding the he was confident against Crawford. "He's someone definitely I can beat in the boxing world. I'm sure of that. I'm very confident, and that's the first step in this game.'









ICC: no evidence of corruption ahead of 3rd Ashes test

Council says there is no evi- been in contact with the alleged dence the third Ashes test has fixers. been "corrupted" after claims emerged in a British newspaper ranging and relate to various that bookmakers had offered to forms cricket in several counfix parts of the match.

bookmakers offering to sell investigation." details of rigged periods of play for betting purposes, or the England and Wales Cricket so-called spot fixing, in the test Board offered to cooperate with match between Australia and the ICC's investigation. England starting Thursday in Perth.

received all materials relating to involved in illegal gambling. The Sun investigation.

of the material, there is no evi- have to put all the bets on that dence, either from The Sun or over," a man says in the Sun's via our own intelligence, to sug- undercover video footage. gest the current test match has been corrupted," Marshall said. tion on fixes is estimated to be "At this stage of the investiga- worth around \$150,000.

PERTH, Australia (AP) tion, there is no indication that The International Cricket any players in this test have

"The allegations are widetries, including T20 tourna-The Sun newspaper pub- ments. We will look closely at lished purported evidence of all the information as part of our

Both Cricket Australia and

The Sun said it conducted a four-month investigation, ICC anti-corruption unit with interviews conducted at general manager Alex Marshall hotels in New Delhi and Dubai issued a statement saying he had with two men claiming to be

"Before match, I will tell you "From my initial assessment this over, this runs and then you

During the video, informa-



Britain's Chris Froome arrives back at his hotel after training in Palma de Mallorca, Spain, Wednesday Dec. 13, 2017. Froome failed a doping test during the Spanish Vuelta in September and is facing a suspension from cycling ahead of his attempt to win a record-equaling fifth Tour de France title next year.

Issues in UCI investigation into Froome's use of asthma drug

expanding lung capacity.

"I know what those rules are,

got a very clear routine when I

times. I have given all that

information to the UCI to help

Anti-doping rules governing

get to the bottom of it."

governing body was clear: Chris nanograms per milliliter. Froome returned an "adverse" The five-time Tour de France salbutamol helps to relieve dence to explain why." champion insists it "was not a the symptoms of asthma by positive test."

But the UCI wants to know September showed a concentration of the asthma drug, salbutamol, that was twice the level use my inhaler and how many permitted by the World Anti-Doping Agency.

Given cycling's long struggle to eradicate doping, Froome realizes the challenge the use of salbutamol have been thing,' because the next day my he has clearing his name.

"Obviously the sport is coming from a place with a to use it. Now, they do not. It is broadcasters on Wednesday. and blood transfusions.

certainly don't feel there was any wrongdoing."

Froome's use of asthma medication is no secret, and he has also been granted therapeutic use exemptions to treat chest infections that aggravated his condition.

A look at the issues around Froome's use of salbutamol:

RESULTS? According to Faiss, intense

effort, fatigue and dehydration can affect urine concentrations of salbutamol in doping tests. Everyone excretes and metabolizes salbutamol in different ways.

intravenously or in tablet form

WHAT CAN AFFECT TEST

which is banned by WADA.

"Some individuals may micrograms every 24 hours but have a greater metabolism and cannot exceed 800 micrograms excretion rate that may cause within 12 hours. The permitted the salbutamol concentration concentration of salbutamol to be increased," said Dr John He said he took Ventolin at the allowed in a urine sample Dickinson, an expert in respiper milliliter. The sample given based in Britain's University of

LONDON (AP) — Cycling's by Froome contained 2,000 Kent. "The World Anti-Doping Agency are aware of this and Classified as a beta-2 ago- they will ask any athlete with finding - failing a drugs test. nist and often sold as Ventolin, adverse levels to provide evi-

WHAT IS NEXT?

Froome has not been suswhy a urine sample provided by I know what those limits are and pended, but now he has to Froome at the Spanish Vuelta in I have never been over those explain why his sample conlimits," Froome said. "I have tained excessive amounts of salbutamol when the other 20 samples he provided at the Spanish Vuelta did not.

> "I am not going to admit through a Grand Tour that, 'Yes. I am suffering with somegradually relaxed. Until 2010, rivals will come out absolutely athletes needed a doctor's note swinging," Froome said.

Froome's backup very dark background," the not classed in the same category sample has confirmed the results Team Sky front-man said in as hard-core doping drugs and of the initial test, according to an interview aired by British methods like blood-boosters the UCI, cycling's governing

"There are complex medical lent of 800 micrograms would excretion of salbutamol," said by around two percent. It can at Sky. "We're committed to be used in a performance- establishing the facts and underenhancing capacity to increase standing exactly what happened endurance, especially if taken on this occasion.

> "I have the utmost confidence that Chris followed the medical guidance in managing his asthma symptoms, staying within the permissible dose for salbutamol. Of course, we will do whatever we can to help address these questions."

PREVIOUS CASES

Italian cyclist Diego Ulissi was banned for nine months in 2015 after a urine sample showed 1900 nanograms per milliliter of salbutamol, almost double the permitted amount. 2014 Giro d'Italia because he

Coach Lou Holtz sues The **Daily Beast over RNC article**

him to lose paid speaking Immigrant-Bashing.

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) - opportunities and suffer per-Hall of Fame college football sonal humiliation. He's seeking coach Lou Holtz is suing The damages of more than \$75,000. Daily Beast over an article The article originally carried that claimed he called immi- the headline "Lou Holtz at RNC grants "deadbeats" at last year's Said Immigrants are Deadbeats Republican National Conven- Invading the US." The suit tion in Cleveland. The federal claims The Daily Beast took lawsuit filed Wednesday in Holtz's comments out of con-Orlando, where Holtz lives, text and that he never used the claims an article published by term "deadbeats." After comthe news website on July 19, plaints, the website updated 2016, defamed Holtz, causing its headline to "Holtz Goes on



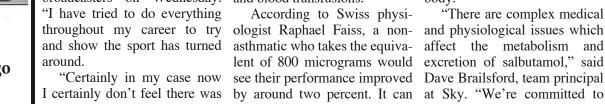
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WHAT IS ALLOWED?

WADA permits salbutamol to be taken through inhalation only, in limited amounts. Through an inhaler, athletes with asthma can take up to 1,600 cannot exceed 1,000 nanograms ratory problems in athletes, had bronchospasms.



FILE - In this Dec. 10, 2017, file photo, San Francisco 49ers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo (10) smiles after a play during the second half of an NFL football game against the Houston Texans, in Houston. After two straight wins on the road, Garoppolo gets ready for his first home start with the (AP Photo/David J. Phillip, File)

Jimmy Garoppolo gears up for first home start with 49ers

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — The San Francisco 49ers circled up in their locker room it comes to how the Niners fans identify themlast Sunday moments before taking the field at selves. Garoppolo got that tip via group text from Houston and Jimmy Garoppolo spoke up to chal- a few friends the other day reminding him he'd lenge his teammates.

"Play relentless! Be violent!" he demanded.

Eli Harold heard the words and they fueled him. Only later did it dawn on the linebacker I found out, got some heat for that, for saying it had been his starting quarterback speaking, someone accustomed to taking those punishing "violent" — hits.

"We just need the energy to be up and keep getting the pregame speeches from Jimmy, because they seem to work," Harold said.

"This is the quarterback saying these things, the guy who can be a subject to getting a lot of hits in the game. I was so hyped. He gave me that edge that I needed to go out there and play."

San Francisco went out and beat the Texans touchdown, while Harold had two tackles and a

He will make his first home start Sunday at Levi's Stadium against the Titans having already earned the respect of the roster for his natural leadership tendencies, a pedigree groomed during his time as Tom Brady's understudy in New England.

"I think any time you get an opportunity to hang around someone and just watch their process and how they go about their job, especially someone like Tom, where you have the guy who's arguably the best of all time and has had an unbelievable career, I think it's been great for Jimmy to watch how he carries himself and how basically when you're a quarterback you're almost CEO of the company to a certain degree," coach Kyle Shanahan said.

"I think people look at Tom that way. There's just this certain way to act and handle things and I'm sure it helped getting to watch someone us win." who's probably the best at it."

He does now have one thing straight when better get the nickname right. People take that stuff seriously.

"It'll be fun. Our home fans, 'The Faithful,' '49ers Nation," said Garoppolo, acquired from the Patriots at the trade deadline in October. "But 'The Faithful,' they're an awesome fan base. It'll be fun to get in front of them this Sunday."

Oh, the little things he is still learning since taking over as 49ers quarterback two weeks ago.

"Any time you have that fan base in Houston, we're at an away game, and you hear the Niners chant, it's exciting," center Daniel Kilgore said. "It makes your job well worth it when you're playing away and you get that welcome. It's 26-16. Garoppolo threw for 334 yards and a pretty awesome. It's going to be fun to watch him. It's going to be different because he's not in a hostile environment. What makes it happen for Now, the Niners need more from Garoppolo him is the other 10 guys around him. We've got to both keep his team going in a lost season to to block for him, the receivers have got to catch build toward 2018 and energize a frustrated fan for him, the backs got to block. It's not just the Jimmy show."

> San Francisco (3-10) sure could use some momentum on its home field, too, following consecutive road wins and only one victory at Levi's Stadium so far — against the Giants on Nov. 12.

> Garoppolo only provided a small glimpse to the home fans in a Nov. 26 loss to the Seahawks, entering with 1:07 to play in place of the injured C.J. Beathard and throwing a 10-yard touchdown pass to Louis Murphy as time expired.

> "Against Seattle I had a couple plays," Garoppolo said. "Hopefully the crowd comes out and they're loud helping our defense out and everything and we'll make some plays for them. It'll be a fun environment."

> And the 49ers will be looking to Garoppolo again for some powerful words to pump them up ahead of kickoff.

"His energy is infectious," Harold said. "I talk to people. Jimmy is very good at that stuff. really respect the guy, and he's doing a lot to help













Los Angeles Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers throws a pass during the first half of an NFL football game against the Washington Redskins, Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017, in Carson, Calif.

Murder trial in case of slain Tennessee teen reaches jury

and was posthumously hailed as Lonsdale section of Knoxville. a hero by then-President Barack Obama.

three face first-degree murder argument. charges in connection with the erations Thursday morning.

ball player from Knoxville, was at the 2016 ESPYs. on a back porch with friends while shielding two girls, who the prosecution of it. ended up unhurt.

wound killed Dobson, prosecu- full of them." tors said all three defendants are

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) criminally responsible because the setup of the crime scene — Jurors are set to begin they aided in the commission of and also said Knoxville police deliberations in a murder trial the offense. Prosecutors noted investigator A.J. Loeffler "lied" involving the 2015 death of that at least 34 shots were fired and "cajoled' his client during a Tennessee teenager who from at least four different guns an interview the night of the shielded friends from gunfire in the attack that occurred at the incident.

those bullets fired out there in pany his cousin Brandon Perry Prosecutors and defense Lonsdale by this group effort, to Lonsdale that night, Bassett lawyers gave their closing argu- it's as if each and every one later acknowledged being there. ments Wednesday afternoon in of these defendants fired each Bassett added that he fired about the trial of Christopher Drone and every one of those bullets, five shots straight into the air Bassett, 22; Kipling Deshawn under this law," Knox County without aiming at anyone. Colbert, 22; and Richard Assistant District Attorney Gregory Williams III, 23. All Phil Morton said in his closing closing argument, Knox County

death of 15-year-old Zaevion his two friends was later praised courtroom and then reminded Dobson. Jurors will begin delib- by Obama as an act of bravery. the lawyer to focus on the facts Dobson posthumously received of this case rather than "per-Dobson, a high school foot- the Arthur Ashe Courage Award sonal attacks on the integrity of

T. Scott Jones, the lawyer on Dec. 17, 2015, when shots representing Bassett, said the Perry was angry that his mother were fired. Police said Dobson pressure that accompanies a had gotten shot earlier in the suffered a fatal gunshot wound high-profile case led to errors in day and was accompanied by

Although a single gunshot takes," Jones said. "This case is anger. Perry was killed in a sep-

Jones cited issues involving

After initially saying in the "What it means is that all interview that he didn't accom-

At one point during Jones' Criminal Court Judge Steven Dobson's decision to protect Sword had the jury leave the these prosecutors."

According to the state's case, a group of people as he headed "Desperation breeds mis- to Lonsdale to fire shots out of arate shooting later that night.

Improved offense has helped turn around Chargers season

for the Chargers, not after they 3.9 yards since. started their first season back in Los Angeles at 0-4.

Yet here they are, on an a sluggish start. unexpected roll, winners of lead on the line.

"These are the games you chance to stay alive in the off.' postseason," Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers said. "This on the offensive side can be doesn't win the division, but it traced to a few particular areas. certainly helps."

arrived there from very different points. While the Charseason, the Chiefs opened 5-0.

That hardly foretold a December matchup with a possible division title on the line, particularly with a Chargers Angeles.

Chargers since that winless start, which included a 24-10 loss to the Chiefs at home.

"We've changed in a lot of highest in the NFL. ways," Chargers coach Anthony Lynn said. "We've taken the ball away more, we're taking care of the football better, and our coverage teams have gotten better against these dangerous returners we're going to see in background, is now forcing the Kansas City. We're just a better area to take notice. football team now.'

Their defense has played allowed the second-fewest points in the league (225).

"We have a very confident defense at this point," cornerback Desmond King. "We started off pretty good, but started, like this is a kick-in for the rest of the season. We want to keep that momentum going."

off to a somewhat rocky start.

downs and three interceptions we've been in along." in the past nine games.

Running back Melvin

COSTA MESA, Calif. (AP) Gordon averaged 3.1 yards per This was hardly forecast carry in the first four games and

Lynn said he can't pinpoint why the offense got off to such

"I wish I knew, we would seven of their past nine and have started a whole lot sooner," heading into a Saturday night he said. "We're just executing showdown with the Kansas better, we're extending plays, City Chiefs with the AFC West we're playing better on third

"We just stayed focused and dream about playing, to have stayed the course, and it's paid

Rivers said the improvement

"We're better on first and Both teams are 7-6, but have second down, and then the domino effect to that is we've been way better on third down," gers were struggling to start the Rivers said. "So then that domino effect is, you get more first downs and you just have more opportunities. And then we haven't turned it over.

"You're better on first down, team that appeared headed for you're better on third down and such a dismal season in Los you're not turning the ball over - if you're doing those three Plenty has changed for the things good, you're scoring points.

> The Chargers are averaging 372.7 yards per game, fifth

> With the defense staying solid and the offense on a roll, the Chargers have turned their season around. A team that started 0-4 and threatened to fade into the Los Angeles sports

The Chargers have had to play almost every week since consistently well throughout that 0-4 start as if their season most of the season. It has was on the line, so they are nothing if not well prepared for a big game.

"Any time you go through adversity like we went through, it can definitely galvanize a unit and make them closer," now it's like we're just getting Lynn said. "And I've seen that happen.

"Every week is like a championship to us. We have to win The offense, however, got out. Even if we're fortunate enough to win this game on Rivers threw six touchdowns Saturday, we still need to keep and four interceptions in the 0-4 winning just to keep our spot. start. He's thrown 17 touch- It's a similar situation for us that

Northern Arizona hires Washington State's Marlow as AD

 Northern Arizona has hired director at UTSA. State deputy director of athletics Mike seven years directing Wash-Marlow as its next athletic ington State's athletic fund,

Wednesday, must be approved by the Arizona Board years as senior athletic director of Regents. He expected to at Oregon.Marlow previously begin working at NAU in worked at Idaho and Montana

He replaces Lisa Campos, ington State.

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) who left to become the athletic

Marlow has spent the past marketing, ticketing opera-Marlow's hiring, announced tions and communications. He previously spent more than 12 after graduating from Wash-



Steelers offense at full strength _ finally _ vs. Pats

Le'Veon Bell knew he was done, that the groin ville that no longer looks as surprising as it did injury that the Pittsburgh Steelers running back at the time became the first player in NFL history tried to ignore during his team's run to the AFC championship game last January could be ignored no longer.

Bell tried to grind it out.

Emphasis on tried.

By the middle of the second quarter he was on the sideline for good, a chilly bystander as the New England Patriots ran away with a 36-17 victory on their way to yet another Super Bowl title.

"It sucked for me," Bell said.

The rest of the short-handed Steelers too.

Field when the Patriots (10-3) visit the AFC North champions on Sunday, a showdown that will find Pittsburgh's "Killer B's" on the field together against New England for the first time.

Martavis Bryant missed both games last season while serving a yearlong suspension. Ben Roethlisberger sat out a 27-16 regular-season home loss to the Patriots last fall while recovering from a knee injury.

Neither Bell nor Bryant played in the 2015 season opener in New England after running afoul of league policy.

This time around Pittsburgh has no health issues, no discipline issues and no excuses. The unit that spent a large portion of September and October searching for a rhythm has found it over the past month. The Steelers are averaging 33.25 points over their past four games, including 39 last Sunday night against Baltimore that clinched Pittsburgh's third division title in four years and seemed to answer any lingering questions about Roethlisberger's commitment level.

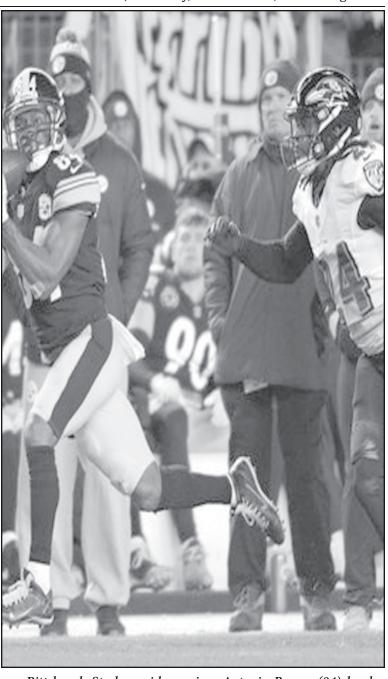
PITTSBURGH (AP) — Two snaps in, while throwing five picks in a loss to Jacksonto throw for 500 yards three times when he lit up the NFL's third-ranked pass defense for 506 and two touchdowns.

> Roethlisberger just laughed Wednesday when asked if he needed to ice his right arm after throwing a franchise-record 66 times against the Ravens and downplayed the idea he had a point to prove after getting off to a slow start. His production relies heavily on the moving parts around him. And he knows it.

"I'm only going to be as good as the line is Eleven months later a rematch looms at Heinz playing and receivers are catching," Roethlisberger said. "When we're all clicking, things are going for everybody."

> Of course, it helps when Roethlisberger has everybody at his disposal. That wasn't the case in Foxborough in January when Roethlisberger found himself throwing to Cobi Hamilton and Sammie Coates, both of whom are no longer around. It wasn't even the case against the Ravens. Wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster watched at home wearing a helmet while serving a one-game suspension for an illegal blindside hit against Cincinnati's Vontaze Burfict. It was a learning experience for Smith-Schuster in more ways than one. While Smith-Schuster pledged to be more mindful going forward and stressed the taunting penalty he drew for standing over Burfict is not who he is, he also became acutely aware of how effective the Steelers can be without him.

Roethlisberger connected with seven players during Pittsburgh's eighth straight victory. And while Antonio Brown put up his weekly eye-popping numbers (11 receptions for 213 yards), tight The 35-year-old who looked every bit his age end Jesse James caught a career-high 10 passes.



Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Antonio Brown (84) hauls in a pass from quarterback Ben Roethlisberger with Baltimore Ravens cornerback Brandon Carr (24) defending during the second half of an NFL football game in Pittsburgh, Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017. The play set up the game-winning field goal. The Steelers (AP Photo/Don Wright)







Leone High School Green Club joined the American Samoa Handball Team to help build their Handball court at the Maliu Mai Beach Resort last Saturday December 9th, 2017. It was hard work but the students were happy and had fun while helping club members and students who are members of the handball team. The club was divided into groups, a group for sifting the sand, another for bagging and transporting to land, another to transport to the court area and laying and spreading to cover the court area. Leone High School wishes the handball team, their coaches and all of its players and supporters the best in their endeavors and especially their preparations for the upcoming Youth Olympics Games in Argentina next year. [Photo: Courtesy]



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Argentina's Independiente wins Copa **Sudamericana** in Rio

SAO PAULO (AP) -Argentina's Independiente is the champion of Copa Sudamericana, the second most prestigious tournament in South America. A 1-1 draw with Brazil's Flamengo on Wednesday night in Rio de Janeiro gave the Argentinians a 3-2 victory in the aggregate result and their second title in the competition.

The winners of Copa Sudamericana secure a spot in the next edition of Copa Libertadores, the region's most prestigious competition.

The final was surrounded by trouble, with hundreds of Flamengo fans breaking into the Maracana and attacking Independiente supporters on nearby streets. Police used stun grenades to calm the situation. Since Tuesday night more than 50 Flamengo fans were detained in incidents with Independiente followers.

Independiente fans were filmed making racist gestures to locals. With the support of more than 54,000 fans in an overpacked Maracana, Flamengo striker Lucas Paqueta opened the scoring meters away from the line in the 29th minute after a low cross from defender Rever.The Brazilians did not celebrate long. A controversial penalty allowed 18-year-old midfielder Ezequiel Barco to tie the match in the 36th. The second half gave the Brazilians two clear chances to score, but Independiente held on to win its first continental title since it was relegated in 2013 from Argentina's top-flight division.





Costas wins Hall's Frick Award for baseball broadcasting

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP) — As a boy, Bob Costas Costas has presented an incredtook a cross-country drive with ibly thoughtful and informed his dad, delighting in spinning the radio dial and listening "through the crackle and static" to broadcasts from far-flung President Jeff Idelson said. ballparks.

Pittsburgh, WBAL in Baltimore the first day he entered our and beyond — mesmerized by living rooms, Bob became the games.

And the great voices that greatest friends," he said. called them.

joined their rarefied air. Familiar broadcast." to fans for four decades, he excellence.

"Even if you're coming off Harry Caray and Mel Allen," announcers.

the winter meetings. A 28-time Mantle's funeral. Costas later Emmy Award winner who's called the Olympics and several other sports, the 65-year-old Costas said he was humbled by home, dating to his days at the award.

baseball and because of the Spirits of St. Louis in the Amerother names that (won the Frick Award), this is at the top of the KMOX-AM. list," he said on a conference call. "No disrespect of all the other awards, because they all Jack Buck at the microphone mean a lot to me, but this means and Costas said he soaked up

"For almost 40 years, Bob voice on every game he calls for NBC, The Baseball Network and MLB Network," Hall

"But it's Bob's pure affec-He pulled in the big stations tion for baseball that has made WJR in Detroit, KDKA in him a national treasure. From one of the national pastime's

Said Costas: "It's always Wednesday, Costas been my favorite sport to

In fact, his passion is so won the Ford C. Frick Award strong that many years ago, his presented by the baseball Hall name was floated as a possible of Fame for broadcasting candidate to become the baseball commissioner.

Costas has long carried a the bench, you're on the same 1958 Mickey Mantle card in team as Jack Buck, Vin Scully, his wallet, a nod to his boyhood Ernie Harwell, Red Barber, hero, the star whose games he listened to on his transistor radio he said, naming a few famed growing up in New York. They eventually became friends, and The honor was announced at Costas delivered the eulogy at did the eulogy for Cardinals great Stan Musial.

Costas also calls St. Louis KMOX radio and his time "Because of my love of doing play-by-play for the ican Basketball Association on

> He didn't do baseball then — the Cardinals had the revered

Cubs finalize 2-year deals with Morrow (\$21M), Smyly (\$10M)

Fla. (AP) — The Chicago struck out seven while pitching Cubs finalized a \$21 million, 4 2/3 innings of one-hit ball in two-year contract with right- the NLCS, helping Los Angeles hander Brandon Morrow after advance in five games. the reliever played a key role He gets salaries of \$9 milin their loss to the Los Angeles lion in each of the next two sea-Dodgers in the NL Champion- sons under the deal announced ship Series and also completed Tuesday, and the Cubs have a \$10 million two-year deal a \$12 million option for 2020 with injured left-hander Drew with a \$3 million buyout. The

innings.

Morrow could step into the closer job for Chicago. Wade recovering from Tommy John Davis had a career-high 32 saves for the Cubs and made the be able to return next season. He NL All-Star team this year, then is 31-27 with a 3.74 ERA in 156 became a free agent.

LAKE BUENA VISTA, good against the Cubs. He

option would become guaran-The 33-year-old Morrow teed if he has 50 or more games went 6-0 with a 2.06 ERA and pitched in 2019 or 100 or more two saves in 45 appearances for in 2018-19 combined, plus he Los Angeles last season. The must not finish the 2019 season hard-throwing right-hander did with an injury that would impact not allow a home run in 43 2/3 him from pitching at the start of the 2020 season.

The 28-year-old Smyly is surgery in June and might not major league games, including Morrow pitched in 14 85 starts. He was selected by playoff games in the Dodgers' Detroit in the second round run to the World Series this of the 2010 amateur draft and year, but he was particularly debuted with the Tigers in 2012.



FILE - In this Nov. 10, 2016, file photo, sportscaster Bob Costas sits on a stage before an NFL football game between the Baltimore Ravens and the Cleveland Browns, in Baltimore. Costas has won the Ford C. Frick Award presented by the baseball Hall of Fame for broadcasting excellence. The honor was announced Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017, at the winter meetings.

(AP Photo/Gail Burton, File)



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LEGAL COUNSEL

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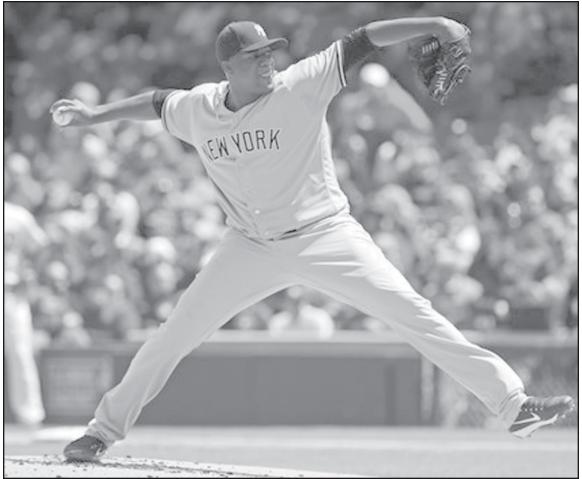
- Manage contracts and provide corporate legal services
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- · Support and advise the company on matters relating to debt recovery litigation
- Work closely with the Am. Samoa Government's Attorney General's office for applicable corporate and other legal matters and the Governor's office for telecommunications regulatory matters.
- Member of management team contributing to the overall management of business operation

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS REQUIRE

- Bachelors Degree and Juris Doctorate
- · Minimum of 2 years experience and proven experience as legal counsel, preferably in a corporate environment
- Licensed to practice law in American Samoa
- · Excellent working knowledge of Am. Samoa legal system and corporate law and procedures
- Adequate knowledge of US Federal laws and regulations; knowledge of FCC regulations is an added advantage
- · Good understanding of Am. Samoan land ownership system Excellent analytical, written and oral communication skills
- Fluent in the English language (essential) and the Samoan language (desirable)
- General knowledge of relevant telecommunications products and services
- High degree of professional ethics and integrity
- · Sound judgment and ability to analyze situations and information
- · Strong leadership and organizational skills
- · Strong interpersonal and communication skills to motivate and work closely with a diverse, cross-functional team of internal professionals and external partners/customers
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FILE - In this May 5, 2017, file photo, New York Yankees starting pitcher Michael Pineda throws against the Chicago Cubs during the first inning of an interleague baseball game, in Chicago. The Minnesota Twins have signed former New York Yankees starting pitcher Michael Pineda, Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017, giving a two-year, \$10 million contract to the right-hander recovering from Tommy John elbow ligament replacement surgery. (AP Photo/Nam Y. Huh, File)

Recovering Pineda, Twins agree to \$10M, 2-year deal

taken another step toward deep- and be ready for '19." ening their starting pitching.

for a while.

Minnesota John surgery on July 18, putting him on track to return to a being sidelined. major league mound possibly all know, when he's healthy, what he can do," manager Paul Molitor said during baseball's winter meetings in Lake Buena Vista, Florida.For now, rehabilitation from elbow ligament replacement."Obviously, it's going to run up near the end of the year," Molitor said. "At the very worst, we're hoping he goes into the next offseason

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — being able to do his regular work The Minnesota Twins have and not worry about rehabbing

Pineda will make \$2 million This boost won't take effect in 2018 and \$8 million in 2019. Pineda can earn an additional agreed \$3 million in performance Wednesday to a \$10 million, bonuses, realistically only in two-year contract with former 2019: \$500,000 each for 150 New York Yankees right- innings and each additional 10 hander Michael Pineda, a move through 200. He went 8-4 with a made with 2019 in mind. Pineda 4.39 ERA in 17 starts with 92 is recovering from Tommy strikeouts in 96 1/3 innings for the Yankees last season before

"Never having spoken to late in the 2018 season."We him until recently, just encouraged by his energy and desire to, when he gets healthy, come back and help a team," Molitor said. "Thankfully, he chose us."

The 6-foot-7, 260-pound the focus will be on Pineda's Pineda began his career with the Seattle Mariners, making the American League All-Star team as a rookie in 2011. He was acquired by the Yankees the following winter in a fourplayer trade for catcher Jesus Montero, before a torn labrum in his throwing shoulder kept him out of action for two full seasons. Upon his return to the Yankees rotation in 2014, Pineda was ejected from a late-April start and eventually suspended for 10 games by MLB for using pine tar on the mound to grip the ball. He went to the disabled list with a muscle injury around his shoulder and didn't return until mid-August.

The 28-year-old posted a cumulative 4.56 ERA in 76 starts over his final three seasons with the Yankees, with 455 strikeouts in 432 2/3 innings. In his second start of 2017, Pineda took a perfect game through 20 outs against the Tampa Bay Rays and compiled 11 strikeouts in 7 2/3 innings. He first complained of elbow trouble following a June 30 appearance and pitched only once more before the surgery.

The Twins ranked 19th out of 30 teams last year with an ERA of 4.73 by their starters. They were last in the major leagues in 2016. Returning for the 2018 rotation will be a solid trio of Ervin Santana, Jose Berrios and Kyle Gibson, with significant questions beyond them.

Sixteen different pitchers took turns at least once in 2017, including rookie Adalberto Mejia's 21 starts. Trevor May is one candidate, another Tommy John patient who missed the entire 2017 season. Another option is Phil Hughes, who's under contract for \$26.4 million over two more years. He has made only 20 starts with a 5.91 ERA in the last two seasons, each cut short by thoracic outlet syndrome that required rib surgery to alleviate shoulder trouble. So chief baseball officer Derek Falvey and general manager Thad Levine have expressed an eagerness to aggressively pursue upgrades, unrelated to Pineda. Yu Darvish is the most prominent free agent frequently mentioned as possible acquisition for the Twins.



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Department of EDUCATION



Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Nick Foles speaks with members of the media during a news conference at the team's NFL football training facility in Philadelphia, Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017.

Nick Foles ready for challenge of replacing Carson Wentz

enormous expectations in a city desperate for its start. first Super Bowl title.

He's no ordinary backup quarterback.

Foles had tremendous success as a starter for the Philadelphia Eagles in 2013 and he experienced failure as the No. 1 quarterback for the St. Louis Rams in 2015. He's won an offensive MVP award at a Pro Bowl, been traded, released and contemplated retirement.

Now, he's the man leading the NFC East

Foles is no Carson Wentz, who was having an MVP-caliber season before he tore his left ACL. But, he's a capable quarterback who won't be overwhelmed by the spotlight.

ship ability, his understanding of our offense, of defenses," Eagles coach Doug Pederson said Wednesday. "We always knew he was a smart intellectual quarterback."

Pederson was here was an assistant when former coach Andy Reid selected Foles in the win. They'll lock up the NFC's No. 1 seed with third round of the 2012 draft. Foles started six games that season for a 4-12 team.

He began 2013 as the backup to Michael Vick in Chip Kelly's first season in Philly. Foles teams that I have been on that have been really replaced Vick after he was injured in October, had a sensational season and led the Eagles to loss to New Orleans.

Foles threw 27 TDs and only two picks in 10 starts and posted a passer rating of 119.2, thirdhighest in league history. He tied an NFL record with seven TD passes in a game at Oakland in November 2013.

Foles wasn't quite as spectacular in 2014, but the Eagles were 6-2 in his eight starts. He tossed 13 TDs, 10 interceptions and missed the final eight games after breaking his collarbone.

Kelly traded him to St. Louis for Sam Bradford in March 2015 and Foles went 4-7 on a 7-9 team. He was released by the Rams and reunited with Reid in Kansas City as Alex Smith's backup.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Nick Foles is step- Foles filled in nicely when Smith was injured last ping into a pressure situation with a team that has season and led the Chiefs to a victory in his only

> He returned to Philadelphia to back up Wentz on an \$11 million, two-year contract.

"I think with experience and age, you gain knowledge and wisdom," Foles said.

"Obviously life changes and you just sort of see the game a little more clearly. Even stepping into the game like the other night, you're in the fourth quarter, you're on the road, it's a big game.

"And you really just go back to your training, you go back to your experiences in life. You know how to sort of live in that moment to execute the plays to help your team win."

Foles rallied the Eagles to a 43-35 win against the Los Angeles Rams by guiding the offense "He's matured as a quarterback, his leader- to field goals on consecutive drives after Wentz

> He'll get his first start at the New York Giants (2-11) on Sunday against an aggressive defense led by interim coach Steve Spagnuolo.

> The Eagles can secure a first-round bye with a two wins in their final three games or one win and one loss by the Vikings (10-3).

> "It starts with that chemistry," Foles said. "The good have had that, and this is one of them."

While Foles doesn't possess Wentz's scramtheir most recent playoff appearance — a home bling ability and elusiveness, the Eagles don't plan to change their offense. But coaches wouldn't say otherwise. It would make sense to rely more on a strong running game led by Jay Ajayi, LeGarrette Blount and Corey Clement.

'Certainly it starts at quarterback, but it's really built around all the talent that we have on offense," offensive coordinator Frank Reich said.

"And good for us that all our quarterbacks are talented. Now Carson has some unique, physical traits that he does exceptionally well, but it's nothing that Nick can't handle. So we're full-steam ahead."Wentz had surgery to repair his ACL on Wednesday. Players typically need between nine and 12 months to return to the field.









NLF Commissioner Roger Goodell listens to a question during a news conference after the NFL owners winter meeting in Irving, Texas, Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017.

Goodell, Jerry Jones moving on with new contract in place

IRVING, Texas (AP) — NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell twice turned to Jerry Jones when percent of Goodell's contract will be incentive asked about his relationship with the powerful Dallas Cowboys owner who tried to scuttle his contract extension.

"Jerry, do I look like I take it personally?" Goodell asked after the second question as Jones, the recent Hall of Fame inductee, winked at him. "'No' is the answer to that question."

signed for a week when owners gathered for meetings at a luxury Dallas-area hotel Wednesday. And while Jones was conciliatory, even hugging Goodell when replacing him on the podium, the outspoken billionaire wasn't conceding anything.

Goodell was a bit defiant himself on another topic, contradicting his own lead spokesman who had said earlier in the day that Goodell considered the contract that now runs into 2024 to be his last.

"I haven't made any determinations," Goodell said. "This is something that I'm looking forward to the challenges. I think our league is in a great position. But we obviously have challenges, just like any other industry."

Goodell overcame the challenge from Jones, who threatened to sue over the extension in a disrole in an increase in the part of Goodell's conpute that arose after Goodell's decision to sus- tract that isn't guaranteed, but that Jones did have pend star Dallas running back Ezekiel Elliott for input on possible changes to how the committee six games over domestic violence allegations in a is put together. case prosecutors didn't pursue.

played a role in his objections over the power the commissioner wields or his concerns about the way the NFL was handling protests involving the "I spoke to him ... on the phone about a week national anthem.

The 75-year-old Jones also was at odds with Atlanta owner Arthur Blank, chairman of the sixperson compensation committee that had been unanimously approved in May to complete a deal with Goodell. Jones wanted all the owners to approve the deal.

For Jones, the victory came in owners agreeing to consider changes to the power of the commissioner's role through the league's constitution.

"I'm very rewarded that this exercise of extending Roger has brought that about," Jones ward," Blank said. "I think that Jerry, he loves said. "I didn't do it. It took the will of 32 owners to get that done. It's an antiquated constitution, an antiquated situation as to the power of the commissioner. This will address that."

League spokesman Joe Lockhart said 90 based, which he said was an increase in nonguaranteed income over previous deals.

The incentives in part are tied to TV ratings and new broadcast deals, along with negotiating the next labor deal with the current collective bargaining agreement expiring in 2021.

A person with knowledge of the agreement A new five-year deal for Goodell had been has told The Associated Press the five-year extension is worth almost \$200 million with a base salary of \$40 million. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the figures are not made public.

> Goodell made nearly \$32 million in 2015, the last year public records of the NFL are available. League revenues have more than doubled to \$14 billion since Goodell replaced Paul Tagliabue in

> Jones took aim at Blank's compensation committee because he didn't think enough information about the negotiations was being shared with other owners. Blank removed Jones as an ad-hoc member of the committee after the threat of a

The Atlanta owner said Jones didn't have a

When the Cowboys and Falcons played last Jones has denied that Elliott's suspension month in Atlanta, the respective owners skipped their customary pre-game talk on the field.

"I've got a great respect for Jerry," Blank said. and a half ago. It was a very good conversation. I thanked him, which I didn't get a chance to do, or chose not to do really, the time we played because I didn't think it was the right setting."

Blank said the committee's handling of Goodell's extension was the most transparent he has seen in 35 years, going back to the tenures of Tagliabue and Pete Rozelle. Blank said owners were updated in general meetings and with multiple phone calls.

"I don't know that there's a rift going forthe league, he loves the Cowboys, he's very passionate about issues that he cares deeply about, which is great. I think it's important to have difference voices in the room."

Seahawks fortunate they're not missing more from defense

RENTON, Wash. (AP) -Seahawks is that no one on their defensive linemen Michael

They still could be signifithe regular season to date.

down as many as five starters on defense from the start of the season going into Sunday's NFC West showdown with the first-place Los Angeles Rams. Seattle has learned how to play without defensive end Cliff Avril, cornerback Richard Sherman and safety Kam Chanfor more than a month.

Jacksonville cost the Seahawks two of the more important remaining pieces. Linebackers my kids have seen it, my wife Bobby Wagner (hamstring) and K.J. Wright (concussion) are both in question for the matchup with the Rams.

Seattle coach Pete Carwhile Wagner wants to play but incident. won't test the injury until later in the week.

for Seattle to be facing going against the No. 2 scoring offense in the NFL.

Carroll said Wednesday. "The rounding Wagner is significant.

Seattle escaped potential The good news for the Seattle major punishment against defense was suspended for the Bennett, Sheldon Richardson chaos that ensued at the conclu- and Quinton Jefferson for their sion of their trip to Jacksonville. actions at the conclusion of last Sunday's loss to the Jagcantly undermanned heading uars. Richardson and Jefferson into the most important game of were ejected, while Bennett's personal foul instigated the The Seahawks might be mayhem. The trio will likely be receiving large fines from the league but avoiding suspensions was a major boost for the Seahawks.Jefferson's actions drew the most attention because of his brief attempt to climb a wall to go after fans who had thrown bottles at him as he was leaving the field following cellor as all three have been out his ejection. Jefferson said Wednesday that the bottles plus But last Sunday's loss at a specific comment he heard about his mother set him off.

> "It was even worse because has seen it," Jefferson said. "She was upset about it and I felt even more upset for them because they had to watch that."

Jefferson met with Carroll roll said Wright is still going on Monday and said it was difthrough concussion protocol, ficult to watch the video of the

"We talked some about it," Jefferson said. "It's just one of It's a challenging scenario them things. It's unfortunate. You know you wish it didn't get that far, wish it didn't happen. But it's one of those things "We've been under it before that happened. We've got to many times. This doesn't seem learn from it and we've got to that much different. We're not move on from it, getting ready taking it any different. Our for LA."While the Seahawks approach isn't any different. will have three key defensive Next guy up and away we go," linemen, the uncertainty sur-

Some Yanks wanted Gleyber Torres in big leagues last season

roster.

Baseball Classic and did not play his first game of the season for the Yankees until April 28. At the time, Torres had not played above Class A, and Cashman was concerned he had never played in cold weather.

"Our major league staff wanted him 'now.' They wanted him to break camp and then play him at shortstop," Cashman said Wednesday at the winter meetings. "We just felt it was important for him to crawl before you walk, and walk before you run, out of a fire hose in April. So I took my time, and I think it was the right move for him and for us."

Voted top player on the point," Cashman said.

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. Arizona Fall League last year, (AP) — On the day top Yankees Torres hit .273 with five homers prospect Gleyber Torres turned and 18 RBIs in 32 games at 21, New York general manager Double-A Trenton this season. Brian Cashman revealed the He debuted at Triple-A on May team's big league staff wanted 23 and hit .309 with two homers him on last year's opening-day and 16 RBIs Scranton/Wilkes-Barre on before tearing his left Shortstop Didi Gregorius (non-throwing) ulnar collateral injured a shoulder while with ligament during a head-first the Netherlands for the World slide into home plate at Buffalo on June 17. Torres needed season-ending surgery.

"The way his trajectory was going, I think you would have seen him in the big leagues last year at some point in the end," Cashman said. "You may very well have seen him as the DH or third baseman. It may have prevented us from trading for Todd Frazier."

While a shortstop for most of his career, Torres could fill openings at second or third base following the departures and I didn't want him drinking of Chase Headley and Starlin

> "He's certainly a candidate amongst all, but we're not anointing anybody at this



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KANANA FOU HIGH SCHOOL PTA...TODAY! Thursday, Dec 14th AT 4:30PM. All parents are strongly urged to attend. [12/14] PTA AOGA MAUALUGA A KANANA FOU, Aso Tofi, Tesema 14 i le 4:30 i le afiafi. Faamolemole matua e faatauaina lou auai atu. [12/14/ REPUBLICAN PARTY OF AMERICAN SAMOA GENERAL MEETING on Monday, December 18th at 5:30pm at the KS Mart Conference Room. Pls contact John Raynar at 258-0693 or Sailitafa Samoa 252-8129. [12/18] FONOTAGA A LE PATI RIPAPILIKANA A AMERIKA SAMOA i le Aso Gafua, Tesema 18 i le 5:30 i le afiafi o le potu fono a le KS Mart i Iliili. Faamolemole faafeso'ota'i Sailitafa Samoa 258-8129 po o John Raynar 258-0693. [12/18]

ARE YOU UNDER 18 AND NEED A PLACE TO STAY? Do you feel unsafe at home? Call 699-4357 (HELP) or message us on Facebook @PasefikaYouthProject. All contacts and information are strictly CONFIDENTIAL. Remember to call 911 if you have an emergency. American Samoa Runaway & Homeless Youth Shelter.

MANA COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICE is now holding support groups for people who suffer from mental illness or any form of disability. Join me every Friday @ 12Noon @ the Alliance office in Nu'uuli. For more info call Liz Mailo @ 272-3257 or 699-0272.

FEELING ALONE? Come to SURVIVORS TAKING ACTION THROUGH SHARING, a support group for victims of violence (physical or sexual). Join me every Thursday at 12:00 noon @ the Alliance office in Nu'uuli. You don't have to do it alone. For more info, call Liz Mailo @ 272-3257 or 699-0272.

PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS NETWORK. A parent to parent support group for families with children with disabilities. Contat Sandy 731-3959 (English). Ivorie 770-6678 (Samoan).

SAMOAN SAINTS ORGANIZATION Roadside Clean Up on the 21st and 29th of this month until the end of the year. All are welcomed. Meet in front of Lupelele Elementary School, 5:30pm, rain or shine. Do it for our beautiful island. Contact Jay @ 254-0651 for

URGENT HOMES NEEDED FOR ADULT DOGS being trapped at Lyons Park!! Majority of adult dogs trapped are healthy &very friendly but will be humanly euthanized if no one claims them after 48 hours of being held. PLEASE HELP! Call Mona at 258-4116 or 699-

ASOA General Meetings. Will be held each month on the 3rd Friday at 10am at ASOA Center in Tafuna on Tasi St. All seniors welcome. Questions, call 699-1131

WHEELCHAIRS Old, Battered or Banged up. Pls donate, in any condition to ASOA so we may be able to help someone in need. Call Marysita 770-1838 or 699-1131

SCUBA FISHING BAN It is unlawful to possess any spear while using SCUBA. Marine & Wildlife Resources. 633-4458 / 252-0445.

OMENS HOSPITAL AUXILIARY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS of all ages to help in the Fale. Support your hospital, donate your free time by calling 633-1222 Ext. 199. All proceeds from Fale sales donated to purchase equipment for LBJ.[till]



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STAR WARS: LAST JEDI [CC,DV] (PG-13)

Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy Parker December 14, 2017

13 Farewell to

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16 Mortar trough 17 Declaration of Independence ringer, 7/8/1776

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29 Emulate a cobbler 30 Vietnamese city

31 Some clubs Type of

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37 Silent performer 38 Four Seasons

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Heaven" 43 South Korean capital 45 Intimidates

12/14

46 With competence 48 Rare event

in Hades? 49 Reproductive organ

50 Of the finest quality _ chi

52 Second Continental Congress president, 7/2/1776

59 Can material Join forces Nevada

border lake 62 Bar offering 63 Enter, as a vehicle

64 Cheap cigar **DOWN** 1 90-degree shape

2 Miss Piggy's auestion 3 Onesie

protector 4 Before, once

5 Some horse races

6 Pharaoh's place 7 Hard bird parts 8 Compass

heading 9 "Cool" amount 10 Kennel

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12 Snake with a hood

41 Drinking mug with

a face 42 Showcases on TV shows?

44 Anvil location 45 Spanish-

24 Elevated speaking lady 25 "Common 46 Word after "terra" To no 47 publisher,

(useless) 1/10/1776 26 Actress 48 Skater Russo Sasha 50 Prefix with _ how

you do it!" "septic" 28 Become 53 Initial less intense number? 32 Truculent 54 Success for 33 Matched? a batter

55 Milk lapper 35 Artery from 56 "I see what's going on!"
57 Gear tooth **38** The Motown

58 Code-

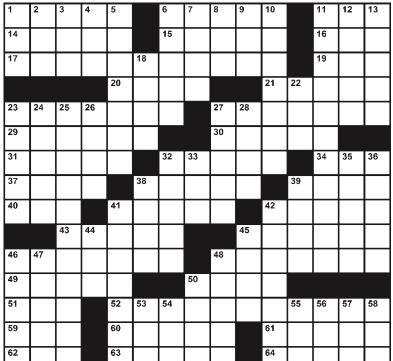
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dispute discovery PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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1776 By Timothy E. Parker



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"I've been as good as I CAN be. I have three brothers, you know."

EUGENIA *

Thursday, December 14, 2017 THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



Happy Birthday: You'll have to be creative if you want to outsmart someone who can influence the way you advance personally or professionally. It's important to take charge of your life and refuse to let others interfere in your moving in the direction you want to pursue. Don't walk away from conflict when you could fight instead for the right to make your own choice. Your numbers are 1, 9, 16, 22,

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Use your imagination, but don't be fooled into thinking that things will just fall into place. If you want something, it's up to you to make it happen. Expressing your desires will help you drum up help and support. Romance is encouraged. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Partnerships should be considered. Look at what others have to offer and make choices based on the most beneficial relationships possible. Don't believe everything you are told. Instead, gather proof. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Use your business skills, know-how and experience to outmaneuver someone who is trying to get you to carry the majority of the responsibilities. Offer a fair alternative that will not compromise your position or your future dealings. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Stay focused on what you want to accomplish, but also pay tribute to those who have helped you along the way. Recognition and acting in good faith will be admirable and also serve to prop up your reputation and popularity. ★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Home improvements that are specific and kept under budget will help reduce your overhead and motivate you to better handle your financial affairs. Be precise and detailed when discussing your plans to avoid a costly error.★*

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Short trips, partnerships and taking care of business should be your priority. A function that allows you to present what you have to offer will pay off. Disregard anyone who is attempting to outshine you. Trust in your skills and experience. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Joint financial ventures should be looked over carefully. You may want to make an adjustment, but gather all the facts and make sure it won't jeopardize your cash flow. Ask questions and take care of your affairs personally. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Share your emotions with someone you care about. Planning something that will improve the way you live can give you incentive to come up with and stick to a budget. Travel and new experiences are encouraged.★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Call in favors and do what you have to do to get ahead. Working diligently and secretively to achieve something that can help you move forward will pay off. An innovative idea will outmatch any competition you face.★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Show how passionate you are about what you do, and you will impress the powers that be. Your attention to detail and your power of persuasion will put you in an ideal position to get what you want. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Overreacting and emotional outbursts will lead to a feud you'll wish you never started. Back away from discord and apply your time and energy toward doing something that benefits yourself and others. Choose love over anger.★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Make a donation that will give you the tax write-off you need as well as help out a charitable organization. You can cut your costs if you are strict about the way you spend your money. ****



CHRISTMAS BABIES FIND PLENTY TO CELEBRATE AT THE HOLIDAYS

DEAR ABBY: This letter is in response to "Blessed in New York" (Aug. 4), the mom who gave birth to her precious daughter on Christmas Day and wondered if maybe she should have timed her pregnancy better. Our daughter was born on Dec. 20. When she was only a few years old, we purchased a 2-foot-tall artificial tree and named it the "birthday tree." She could decorate it every year however she liked. Any birthday presents went under that tree. That made her day special. When she got married and moved out, her birthday tree went with her. -- BLESSED, TOO, IN INDIANA

DEAR BLESSED, TOO: I enjoyed reading the letters from you and other readers who are Christmas babies or have a family member who is one. Their upbeat, positive experiences made me smile. Read

DEAR ABBY: My daughter was born on Christmas Eve. From the time she was 5 and able to recognize that her birthday cards were getting scrambled in with the other holiday cards, we started celebrating on June 24 -- her half-birthday. She gets excited every year as it nears. She'll be 32. Celebrating her half-birthday was the best thing we could have decided to do, and I have no regrets. -- MOM OF A CHRISTMAS BABY

DEAR ABBY: I was born in December and I LOVE my birthday! My mother, grandmother, sisterin-law and niece were also born in December. It's a great time to have a birthday. Everything is decorated for the holidays, and most people are in a good mood. My family never blended the occasions, so that helped. As to people's comments, my reply is: "Everyone has a birthday. Mine just happens to be at Christmastime, so please acknowledge that." The only thing I do wish is, if I receive a birthday gift, I hope it's wrapped in birthday paper and not Christmas wrap. -- HOLLY IN ARKANSAS

DEAR ABBY: I do not recommend celebrating the kid's half-birthday in June. In June, people are away at camp or on vacation, and there's no one to invite to the party.

Early December is a perfect time for a birthday party. Sports are over and the holiday parties haven't started, school is still in session so everyone is still around. Another good time is early January, right after school starts again but the other activities haven't yet geared up. -- BUSY DECEMBER MOM

DEAR ABBY: Fifty-five years ago my husband and I weren't thinking ahead either. Our son was born on Christmas Day. He still thinks that's great.

Christmas always lasted until after the presents were opened and the kitchen was cleaned following lunch. Then it was birthday time! It was special because his long-distance grandparents were always there.

When he became old enough for birthday parties, he could choose to have it on any day while school was out for the holiday break -- either before or after Christmas. It worked well for our family and it might for others, too. -- CAROLYN IN TEXAS

DEAR ABBY: Tell that new mom to cheer up. My mother was born on Christmas Day and she loved it. She said the reason was no one ever forgot it, and everyone got the day off! -- SARA IN



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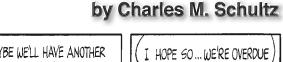


HE KNOWS IF YOU'VE BEEN BAD OR GOOD, SO BE GOOD FOR GOODNESS SAKE!

by Bill Watterson



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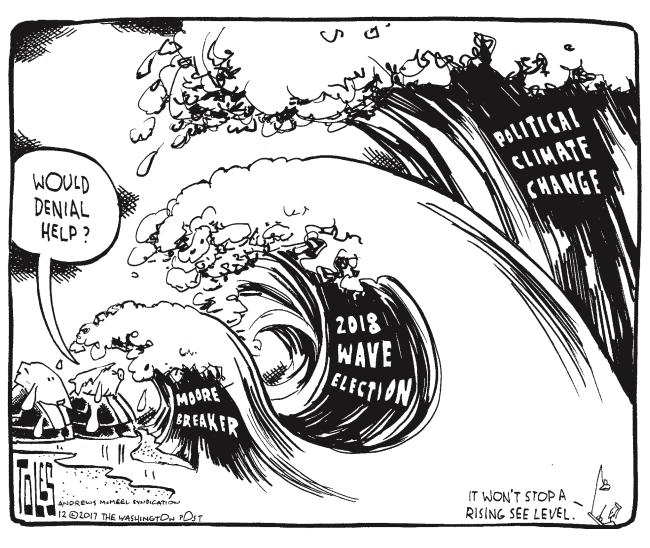




* CLICK *



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ZIGGY



Hagar the Horrible ^o

by Chris Brown

by Jim Davis



BUT EVERYONE IN THE CASTLE WAS ASLEEP! WHY WOULD THE KING EVEN SUSPECT ME?



Sudoku Pacific

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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Wednesday's Puzzle Answer

Wednesday's Puzzle Allswei										
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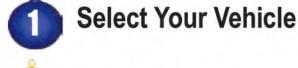
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