


SECTION B



samoa news

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2017

SPORTS

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O le 'au a tama o le taulaga mai Pago Pago le Laumuatasi ua malo i a latou ta'alogā faitaulia i le afiafi ananafi i le faleta'alo i Malaeloa. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

Ina ua malo le au Volleyball malosī mai Lona i le la'ua ta'alogā finau ma le Annex 2 sa matua lagona lo latou fia pu'e ata mo se sao i Samoa. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

4 Aso o le Ta'amilosaga Volleyball Fa'avaomalo o le Moso'oi 2017

tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

Ua amatalia le ta'amilosaga Volley Ball a le Asosi Volipolo a le ASVBF o le Moso'oi 2017, ma na amatalia mai le aso To'ona'i ua te'a i le Faleta'alo o le Kolisi Tu'ufa'atasi, peita'i e fa'ato'a mae'a lelei ona ta'alogā faitaulia i le afiafi a nanei i le Faleta'alo o Tafuna High School.

"O lenei tausaga e lua Kalapu Volipolo ua fa'atasi mai le Malo Tuto'atasi o Samoa, lea ua milo nei i totonu o le tatou ta'amilosaga o le Moso'oi 2017. O 'au nei e na'o Lona mai Fagaloa e i ai 'au a tama'ita'i ma Ali'i, ae o Satupa'itea ua na'o le 'au a Ali'i e tauva ai," o se tala lea a le ASVBF.

O le aso muamua o ta'alogā

volipolo mo le Moso'oi na amata mai le Faleta'alo o le Kolisi, ona fa'aauau lea i le faleta'alo o le Malisi i Malaeloa mo le afiafi o le aso Gafua ma le aso Lua, ae si'itia mai e fa'amae'a lelei i le afiafi o le aso Lulu i le faleta'alo o Tafuna High School.

Pe afai e mae'a lea ta'amilosaga mo le Moso'oi ona toe fo'i lea o ta'alogā masani a le ASVBF lea e fa'atautaia e fa'amae'a lelei ai lana Liki o lo'o fa'agasolo e saili ai 'au e umia talita o Siamupini i vaega a Tama'ita'i, Au Volipolo a Ali'i B ma le Ali'i A.

O ta'alogā na fa'atautaia mai le aso To'ona'i na aofia ai ta'alogā nei a tama'ita'i, i 'au e lima ua mae'a lesitalaina.

Crew Cuts na fetauī ma

Mizuno malo a'ia'i ai Mizuno. BTI na fetauī ma le 'au masi'i mai Lona Fagaloa i Samoa, na malo ai le BTI. Fetauī lea o Lona ma le 'ai a le Palauso mai Nuuli malo le Palauso. Ae o le ta'alogā i le va o CrewCuts ma le BTI na malo ai BTI.

Crew Cuts fetauī ma Palauso, malo fo'i Palauso mai Nuuli. Soso'o lea ma le fetauiga a le BTI ma Mizuno malo ai BTI, a'o le Mizuno na ta'a'alo ma Palauso malo ai Mizuno. Crew Cuts na ta'a'alo ma Lona mai Samoa malo ai lea o Lona, ae o le ta'alogā faitaulia a Lona ma Mizuno na malo ai fo'i Lona mai Samoa. BTI lona toe ta'aalo ma Pala Uso malo ai BTI.

Tula'i mai i ta'alogā uma a le

(Faaauau itulau 4)



Ta'alogā i le va o Annex 2 ma le au malosī mai Lona i Samoa lea ua va'aia ai nei le ali'i o le Annex i le pasiga lelei o le polo.

[ata: Leua Aiono Frost]



O le va'aiga i 'au nei e lua sa mata'ina le la'ua fetauiga fita i le po anapo ma ua i'u ina sei e tama mai Vaitogi le malo, Satupa'itea ua malolo ae malo le CT Boys a tama Satupaitea tuai. [ata: Leua Aiono Frost]

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of American Samoa
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COURT DIVISIONS**
FDA/JR 37-17-16
**IN RE: A CHILD.
NOTICE/FA'AALIGA**

TO: Mr. Tavita Manu
Leone Village
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the above-named
respondent that a petition has been filed before
the High Court of American Samoa to terminate
your parental rights in a male child born on Sep-
tember 15, 2017, at LBJ Tropical Medical Center,
Fagaalu, American Samoa. A hearing will be held
after two months and ten days from the date of the
first publication of this notice, in which the Court
may enter an order that you have not acquired
any parental rights to the minor child and place
the child for adoption. If you have any objection,
or wish to claim or assert your parental rights, you
must appear within two months and ten days from
the date of first publication of this notice and file an
objection or a claim with the Court.

O LE FA'AALIGA E TUUINA ATU ia te oe, le ua
ta'ua i luga, ua iai se talosaga ua failaina i le
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ai ou aia fa'a-matua i se tamaititi sa fanau o ia ile
aso 15 o Setema, 2017, i le Falemai i Fagaalu,
Amerika Samoa. O lenei iloilogaga e faia pe a tua-
na'i le lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le aso o
lenei faaaliga, ma e ono tuuina atu ai se poloa'iga
a le Fa'amasinoga e faailoa ai ua leai ni ou aia
fa'a-matua i lenei tamaititi. Afai ete tete'e, pe e te
fingalo e faamaonia ou aia faa-matua, ia e failaina
se talosaga tete'e i le Fa'amasinoga i totonu o le
lua masina ma aso e sefulu mai le ulua'i faasala-
lauga o lenei fa'aaliga.

DATE/ASO: September 25, 2017

CLERK OF COURTS

Published: 10/2, 10/18, 11/2/17

Hopkins brings new defense, culture to Washington

SEATTLE (AP) — First-year Washington men's basket-
ball coach Mike Hopkins hopes
to install more than the trade-
mark zone defense he learned
during his long tenure as an
assistant at Syracuse.

Hopkins, who worked at
Syracuse for 22 years under Jim
Boeheim, succeeds Lorenzo
Romar, who was fired after
15 seasons. Despite having
Markelle Fultz, the one-and-
done guard who became the
No. 1-overall pick in the NBA
draft, the Huskies finished 9-22
and closed with a school-record
13 consecutive losses en route
to an 11th-place finish in the
Pac-12 last year.

"Whatever happened last
year, is last year," Hopkins said
Tuesday at the team's media
day. "We're looking forward.
We're always moving forward.

One of our things, and I keep
going back to our culture, but
it doesn't matter, get better. It
doesn't matter, get better. I stay
away from the past. I focus on
the future."

Adapting to the 2-3 zone
defense has been a challenge,
especially for returning players,
Hopkins said.

"Everybody here is learning
a new system," Hopkins said.
"A lot of the players, they end up
being freshmen again because
they're learning from our zone
to our press to how we're going
to play offensively, defensively.
I think they've made the transi-
tion pretty smooth."

The Huskies return three
starters, junior point guard
David Crisp (13.8 points per
game), junior forward Noah
Dickerson (12.5 points and a
team-high 8.2 rebounds), and
junior guard Matisse Thybulle
(10.5 points).

Convincing returning
players to stay, as well as
retaining commitments from
recruits, including top local high
school guards Jaylen Nowell
and Michael Carter, were a top
priority for Hopkins.

"We were able to retain the
team and then when Jaylen
decided to renew his commit-
ment, I just think it was one of
those moments where a local
kid, great player, wants his
family to see him play, and then
he believes in the new staff, just
kind of sent a message," Hop-
kins said. Another local recruit,
6-10 forward Michael Porter
Jr., considered by some to be
the nation's top high school
prospect, and whose father was
a first-year assistant on Romar's
staff, reconsidered and com-
mitted to Missouri.

"First off, when coach Hop
came and visited my school
at Garfield, he really sold me
on what he was bringing, as a
school, as a team," said Nowell.
"When he was talking about
that, I really felt intrigued and I
just felt like this was really the
right place for me."

Crisp, who led the Huskies
last season with 77 3-pointers,
relishes the challenge of
learning the nuances of the
zone defense. "Anything that's
going to help us win," Crisp
said. "He's coming in with his
approach and his culture and
I'm fully bought in. He's been
on winning programs, so he
knows what it takes, he knows
what it looks like. I'm just fol-
lowing the lead." The Huskies,
who were picked to finish 10th
in the Pac-12 in the preseason
media poll, open the season
at home against Belmont on
Nov. 10. "The kids, from day
I got in, have worked really
hard," Hopkins said. "They've
really bought into the culture
of family, unselfish action,
playing together — those types
of things.



DEVELOPMENT BANK OF AMERICAN SAMOA
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Website: www.dbas.as

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

RFP: Financial and Single Audit Services for 2017-2019
Approved to issuance by: Ruth Matagi-Fa'atili; DBAS President
Date of issuance: August 16, 2017
Date & Time Due: October 30, 2017
No later than 2:00 pm local time

DBAS requests proposals for financial audits and the related single audits for a period of three years, beginning with the audit of fiscal year 2017 through fiscal year 2019. Fiscal and calendar years are coincident at DBAS.

DOCUMENT

Requests for proposal packet outlining requirements will be available for pick up at DBAS on Friday August 18, 2017 or emailing charmaine@dbas.as for information regarding the RFP. It can also be accessed through the DBAS website: www.dbas.as (click public notice)

The Request for Proposals (RFP) describes the specifications for the services to be provided in sufficient details to permit competition and allow the interested party to properly respond to the RFP.

This RFP is issued under Title 28, Chapter 1, of the American Samoa Code Annotated.

DBAS invites the submission of proposals to include pricing and other details as indicated in the specifications. Attachments will be provided as an aid in presenting a comprehensive proposal consistent with the requirements of DBAS.

DBAS will select a contractor who best meets the needs of DBAS. The factors for selection will include, but not be limited to the following: understanding of the requirements of the financial and single auditors; verifiable ability to perform well; good reputation; flexibility, including ability to respond quickly to needs of a small client in a remote location and throughout the year; and reasonability of costs.

The proposals will be reviewed by a committee consisting of representatives from DBAS management and board. The committee may request interviews with potential contractors after reviewing the proposals before the final selection is made.

Submission: Proposals must be received by DBAS no later than 2:00pm local time on October 30, 2017. They may be mailed or hand delivered in a sealed envelope to:

Development Bank of American Samoa
PO BOX 9
Attention: Charmaine Faleaana
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

They may also be emailed to charmaine@dbas.as, as an attachment in Word Format with a confirming email required to confirm receipt; or faxed to DBAS at (684) 633-1163 with a confirming fax to confirm receipt. The original is to follow by airmail first class.

Glowinski, Pocic get chance to replace injured Joeckel

RENTON, Wash. (AP) — Seahawks guard Luke Joeckel is expected to miss at least four to five weeks after having surgery on his knee.

Joeckel started the first five games of the season for Seattle while working back from a torn ACL sustained last season with the Jacksonville Jaguars. Joeckel signed a one-year deal with the Seahawks in March and was eased back into a full workload during the offseason.

“We’re going to be optimistic that he can make it back in four-five weeks. We’ll see what happens. Maybe that’s possible, maybe it isn’t. We’ve got to see how he heals and how he comes back around,” head coach Pete Carroll said. “He definitely needed to get some things cleaned up and that was taken care of and everything went beautifully. He’s very optimistic as well so we need to see what happens here.”

Carroll said Joeckel wasn't limited in what he could do directionally during games but that it would just take him several days to recover after each game played.

"It just got to the point where it wasn't getting any better and we needed to do something for the long haul," Carroll said.

Joeckel is expected to be back to full strength when he returns from the surgery. The team won't know exactly what his timeframe will be for three weeks or so.

Meanwhile, Mark Glowinski and second-round pick Ethan Pocic will get the opportunity to take over for Joeckel in the interim. "It's a great opportunity. I'm looking forward to it, looking forward to the challenge and just going to have

some fun,” Pocic said.

Glowinski started all 16 games at left guard for Seattle last season before being shifted to the right side this offseason. He started the first two games of the year at right guard before being replaced by Oday Aboushi.

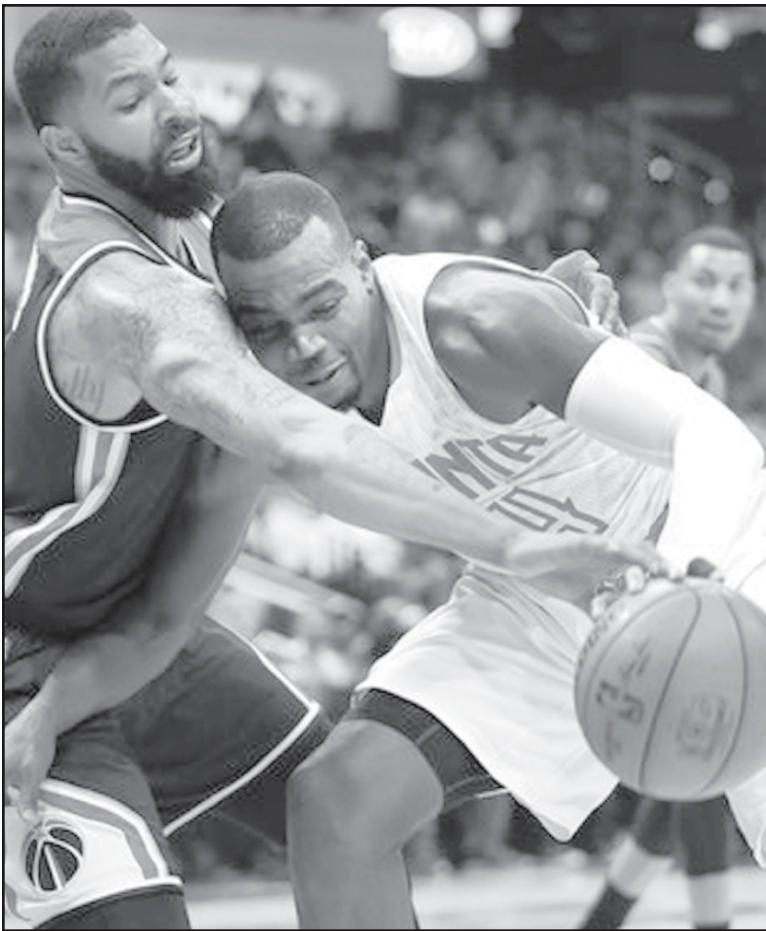
Pocic has been active for all five games as a reserve but hasn't played on the offensive line.

“Neither one of them have played enough reps here lately so conditioning would be an issue,” offensive line coach Tom Cable said. “A little bit different styles of play which together, I think, would be really good. Let’s tag-team it and as we go through this off time with Luke we’ll figure out what’s best.”

Cable said the hope is that they would ultimately settle on one option in the coming weeks after giving Glowinski and Poci a trial run this weekend.

The Seahawks brought in free agent tackle Brandon Albert for a workout last week and he remained in contact with the team through the weekend. However, they have not reached any agreement. According to NFLPA records, Seattle has just under \$1.9 million in salary cap space so they are hamstrung in the level of contract they can offer Albert, who has been unemployed since he was released by Jacksonville in August.

Albert is primarily a left tackle. However, he would give Seattle a veteran option at left tackle if the team wanted to make a change from Rees Odhiambo, who has started all five games this season at the position.



File-This April 24, 2017, file photo shows Atlanta Hawks forward Paul Millsap (4) working against Washington Wizards forward Markieff Morris (5) in the first half in Game 4 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series in Atlanta. Washington Wizards coach Scott Brooks figures he has several options for replacing Morris while the starting power forward misses the beginning of the NBA season after having surgery for a sports hernia.

(AP Photo/John Bazemore, File)

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APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

The American Samoa Power Authority announces an excellent opportunity for young technically minded individuals who want a challenging, profitable career in American Samoa.

ASPA is looking for its next generation of technicians and engineers. Over the next few years, ASPA will be developing young technicians and engineers for key positions within the organization. It needs skilled specialists in a number of fields.

ASPA will provide employment and professional training for successful applicants. Apprentices will receive training both on the job and in formal apprenticeship classes. Qualified apprentices will receive an all-expense paid education at a technical school or university in Fiji or equivalent. Applicants must be willing to commit to spending 2 – 3 years off-island in pursuit of a diploma or degree. The focus for this apprentice program will be on mechanical and electrical trades or a related field.

Selected apprentices will be employed by ASPA in preparation for the academic session starting in February 2018.

Applicants must have the following qualifications:

Educational Requirements: High School graduate (minimum); Associate degree or better preferred. Must have a cumulative GPA between 3.0-3.5 or maintained at least a B or better grade average in the following courses:

- (1) Physics, Chemistry, General Science
- (2) Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus
- (3) English (TOEFL score of 500 or better)

Skills and Aptitudes:

Intermediate level computer skills. Ability to work independently, disciplined, self-starter, technically minded (confirmed by required references). Other desirable skills include hand-eye coordination, motor skills, attention to detail, and work well in a team environment.

Citizenship:

US National or Citizen.

Testing:

All applicants will be required to complete ASPA's internal testing for science and math ability.

Salary will be based on the technical area and job duties assigned.

Applicants must complete an ASPA Employment Application Form and provide two written references. The form is available at ASPA Human Resource Office in Tafuna or via ASPA's website at www.aspower.com

All application information, including school records and references, will be subject to verification as part of the screening process.

Deadline for submitting applications is 4pm on Friday, October 20th, 2017.

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American Samoa Government OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) RFQ-003-2018

Issuance Date: October 16, 2017

Date & Time Due: November 2, 2017

No later than 2:00p.m (local time)

The American Samoa Government (ASG) issues a Request For Qualification (RFQ) from qualified firms to provide:

“Pago Pago International Airport Apron Rehabilitation - Construction Management Services”

Submission

Original and five copies of the Qualifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: “RFQ: Pago Pago International Airport Runway 5-23 Rehabilitation - Design Services.” Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), November 2, 2017:

**Office of Procurement
American Samoa Government
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
Attn: Dr. Oreta Mapu Crichton, CPO**

Any qualifications received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances. Late submissions will not be opened or considered and will be determined as being non-responsive.

Document

The RFQ Scope of Work outlining the qualification requirements is available at the Office of Procurement, Tafuna, American Samoa, during normal working hours.

Review

Request for Qualification data will be thoroughly reviewed by an appointed Source Evaluation Board under the auspices of the Chief Procurement, Office of Procurement, ASG.

Right of Rejection

The American Samoa Government reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals and to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the submitted proposals that are not in the best interests of the American Samoa Government or the public as may be in the best interest of the American Samoa Government.

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON
Chief Procurement Officer

Equal Opportunity Employer / Affirmative Action

4 Aso o le...

Mai itulau 1

BTI e le o i ai se latou faia’ina.

I ta’aloga a Ali’i na muamua tatala malae ai le ‘au a Satupaitea mai Samoa ma le ‘au a le Pioneers malo ai lea o Satupa’itea. O Lona na fetai ma Pala Boys malo lea o Lona mai Samoa. Annex #1 na fetai ma le Original Team, malo lelei lava le Annex One. Annex #2 na fetai ma One Team, malo ai lea o le One Team i le latou ta’aloga lea.

Alataua na fetai ma TSM malo le TSM. Laumuatasi na fetai ma le Sinapi ua manumalo ai le Laumuatasi mai Pago Pago i lea ta’aloga finau tele.

Alataua na fetai ma le CT Boys mai Vaitogi na malo ai lea o le au malosi a le CT Boys. Laumuatasi na fetai ma Fealofani ma sa malo ai le ‘au a le tama o le taulaga Laumuatasi. O le ta’aloga faitaulia i le va o Satupa’itea ma Original na manumalo ai le Original Team. Peita’i o le ta’aloga a Lona ma le One Team lea na malo ai Lona mai Samoa.

Annex Ona sa fetai ma le Tama Samoa Moni ma sa malo ai le Tama Samoa Moni mai Pavaiai. Ao le ta’aloga i le va o Pioneer ma le CT Boys na malo ai le CT Boys. O le Pala Boys mai Nuuli na fetai ma Fealofani mai Fagasa ma sa ave e tama mai Nuuli Palauso le malo. O le fetauiga mata a le Satupaitea Boys ma le TSM na malo ai le TSM i le la’ua fetauig. O le ta’aloga i le va o Lona mai Samoa ma le Sinapi, e ui ina finau ae sa manumalo ai le Sinapi mai Failolo.

O le Annex One sa fetai ma Alataua ma sa malo ai le Anex

One, a eo l fetauiga na soso’o ai a le Original ma le Pioneer na malo ai le Original Team. O le Annex 2 sa fetai ma Laumuatasi ma malo ai le Laumuatasi.

Satupaitea na fetai ma Alataua masii ai e Satupaitea le malo ae o le One Team sa ta’a’alo ma Palauso na malo lea One Team. Lona mai Fagaloa na fetai ma Laumuatasi, motu Lona ma le malo.

Annex 1 ta’a’alo ma le CT Boys malo ai le CT Boys. TSM na ta’a’alo ma le Pioneer ma sa malo ai le TSM. Sinapi na toe ta’a’alo ma Pala Boys, malo le Sinapi. Annex 2 na fetai ma Fealofani sa soloia lena ta’aloga, ae o le ta’aloga i le va o Satupa’itea ma Annex 1 na sola ai Annex 1 ma le malo i lea ta’aloga finau tele.

Original sa fetai ma le CT Boys mai Vaitogi na malo lelei ai le tama o le pisisami CT Boys i lea ta’aloga mata’ina fo’i. Lona na fetai ma Annex 2 malo ai Lona i lea ta’aloga finau. Soso’o lea o le taaloga i le va o One Team ma Fealofani mai Fagasa, na fa’aemo ai fo’i saili fa’aילו o le Malo o le Fealofani.

Laumuatasi na fetai ma Pala Boys ua malo ai le Laumuatasi ae o Satupa’itea sa fetai ma le ‘au a le CT Boys ma malo ai le CT Boys mai Vaitogi. O le a soso’o atu tatou tala o ‘au manumalo se’ia o’o lava i le ta’amilosaga lea e fetai ai le to’avalu maualuluga pa’u ma nofo ma i’u ai i ta’aloga o le siamupini i le afiafi o le Aso Lulu lea e faia ai ta’aloga na i le faleta’alo o Tafuna High School.

Sharapova loses to Rybarkova at Kremlin Cup

MOSCOW (AP) — Maria Sharapova was beaten by Magdalena Rybarkova 7-6 (3), 6-4 in the first round of the Kremlin Cup on Tuesday, ending her bid for a second title in two weeks.

Sharapova, who won the Tianjin Open two days ago, brought her usual power but lacked accuracy with some wild swings on key points.

“I felt fine physically, to be honest, especially after having played five matches in five days (in Tianjin).

That was a big surprise,” Sharapova said. “Maybe I wasn’t as prepared as I should have been. ...

Maybe if this tournament hadn’t been in Moscow, I wouldn’t have played it.”

Sharapova was under pressure on serve from the start and saved six break points before finally being broken for 6-5. She responded by breaking Rybarkova, but Sharapova’s double fault at 4-3 in the tie-breaker handed the Slovakian the momentum to close out the set.

Rybarkova, seeded eighth, sealed the match after saving two break points to lead 5-4, then breaking Sharapova in the next game.

Rybarkova will play Alize Cornet in the second round.

Six months after she returned from a 15-month doping ban, Sharapova is still trying to move back up the rankings from her current position of 57th.

Her first tour appearance in Moscow in a decade drew a large and enthusiastic crowd despite taking place in the afternoon.

Also, another Russian title hopeful fell in the first round as fifth-seeded Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova lost to unseeded compatriot Daria Kasatkina 7-6 (2), 6-1.

Last year’s finalist, Daria Gavrilova of Australia, reached the second round, beating Kristyna Pliskova 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-1.

Seventh-seeded Julia Goerges beat Russian qualifier Polina Monova 6-0, 6-3.

In the men’s Kremlin Cup, sixth-seeded Damir Dzumhur defeated

Thomas Fabbiano 6-3, 0-6, 6-2. Andrey Rublev, seeded fifth, was a first-round loser to qualifier Filip Krajcinovic 7-5, 7-6 (6).



FILE - In this Oct. 9, 2017, file photo, Portland Trail Blazers guard CJ McCollum, right, is fouled by Sacramento Kings defender Matt Jones during the first half of an NBA preseason basketball game in Sacramento, Calif. The season opener for the Trail Blazers has come with an unexpected twist--The absence of starter McCollum, who is suspended for their season opener at Phoenix on Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2017. (AP Photo/Steve Yeater, File)

Blazers opening season without CJ McCollum

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — The season opener for the Portland Trail Blazers has come with an unexpected twist: The absence of starter CJ McCollum, who is suspended for Wednesday’s game at Phoenix.

The suspension was handed down Saturday. McCollum was disciplined for leaving the bench when Portland’s Caleb Swanigan and the Suns’ Alex Len tussled in the fourth quarter of a preseason game last Wednesday night — coincidentally in Phoenix.

McCollum didn’t engage anyone after taking a few steps onto the floor, but leaving the bench area merited the penalty under NBA rules. So he will be a spectator when the Blazers open the season against the Suns. He’ll also lose some \$164,000 in salary.

Some — including McCollum — questioned the suspension, given that he isn’t a brawler at all, it was a preseason game, and the action wasn’t menacing.

Nonetheless, he took full responsibility for his actions.

“You never want to miss games, especially like that to start the season. You work so hard to prepare for the season, you go through a lot of pre-season games that don’t mean anything and then you miss a regular-season game because of an incident that you weren’t even involved in,” he told reporters following practice Monday. “There’s nothing I can do about it now but more forward and learn from it.”

McCollum averaged a career-best 23 points per game on 48 percent shooting last season as half of a formidable backcourt duo with Damian Lillard, who had a career-best average of 27 points per game, along with 4.8 rebounds and 5.9

assists

The Blazers beat the Suns 113-104 in last Wednesday’s game, finishing the preseason 5-1. Phoenix is in rebuilding mode, with coach Earl Watson guiding the development of 20-year-old burgeoning star Devin Booker and promising rookie Josh Jackson, alongside steady point guard Eric Bledsoe. The Suns went 24-58 last season, second-worst in the league. Celebrating the franchise’s 50th season this year, the Suns haven’t made the playoffs in six years, the longest drought in franchise history.

The Blazers went 41-41 last season and made the playoffs, where they had the unfortunate luck of facing the eventual champion Golden State Warriors in the first round.

Portland got off to a poor start last season but saw improvement with the arrival of center Jusuf Nurkic, who was able to quickly develop chemistry with the rest of the team. He averaged 15.2 points, 10.4 rebounds and 1.9 blocks in 20 games with the Blazers, who were 14-5 with him in the starting lineup.

Nurkic was injured at the end of last season, and appeared in just one of the playoff games against the Warriors.

The 7-footer, known as the Bosnian Beast, shed about 35 pounds in the off-season to become more agile. He suggested that in the talented Western Conference, the Blazers could become the NBA’s Bad Boys, drawing inspiration from the Detroit Pistons of years past.

McCollum said it will be tough for the Blazers in a loaded Western Conference topped by the Warriors. But Portland could draw inspiration from two seasons ago, when the young squad of underdogs surprised

the league after the departure of four starters.

“We need to be competitive, we need to have a chip on our shoulder, we need to be accountable for our actions, our words and our preparation each day,” he said.

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American Samoa Government OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) RFQ-002-2018

Issuance Date: October 16, 2017

Date & Time Due: November 2, 2017
No later than 2:00p.m (local time)

The American Samoa Government (ASG) issues a Request For Qualification (RFQ) from qualified firms to provide:

“Pago Pago International Airport Runway 5-23 Rehabilitation - Design Services”

Submission

Original and five copies of the Qualifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: “RFQ: Pago Pago International Airport Runway 5-23 Rehabilitation - Design Services.” Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), November 2, 2017:

Office of Procurement

American Samoa Government

Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Attn: Dr. Oreta Mapu Crichton, CPO

Any qualifications received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances. Late submissions will not be opened or considered and will be determined as being non-responsive.

Document

The RFQ Scope of Work outlining the qualification requirements is available at the Office of Procurement, Tafuna, American Samoa, during normal working hours.

Review

Request for Qualification data will be thoroughly reviewed by an appointed Source Evaluation Board under the auspices of the Chief Procurement, Office of Procurement, ASG.

Right of Rejection

The American Samoa Government reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals and to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the submitted proposals that are not in the best interests of the American Samoa Government or the public, as may be in the best interest of the American Samoa Government.

DR. ORETA MAPU CRICHTON
Chief Procurement Officer

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⊗ Pulenu'u Fono of Tafuna trying to regain balance after breaking a tackle at midfield during their varsity match up against the Vikings last Saturday afternoon. Fono helped the Warriors to a 30-22 victory against Faga'itua. [photo: TG]

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Slumping Cubs alter lineup for NLCS Game 3

CHICAGO (AP) — The Cubs altered their lineup for Game 3 of the NL Championship Series on Tuesday night, putting Kyle Schwarber in the No. 2 spot and benching struggling second baseman Javier Baez. Schwarber got the start in left field against Los Angeles Dodgers right-hander Yu Darvish. With Schwarber batting second behind Ben Zobrist, NL MVP Kris Bryant, first baseman Anthony Rizzo and catcher Willson Contreras each moved down a spot in the order.

“We’ve done this before. We’ve done it with K.B. 3, and Rizzo 4,” Chicago manager Joe Maddon said. “So the guys have seen this method. Again, it was more to put Zo and Schwarbs in an advantageous position as much as anything else.”

Dodgers manager Dave Roberts also made some changes to his lineup. Joc Pederson got the start in center field, Chase Utley replaced Logan Forsythe at second base and Andre Ethier was in left. Chris Taylor moved from center to shortstop.

Chicago lost the first two

games in Los Angeles. The Cubs altered their lineup for Game 3 of the NL Championship Series on Tuesday night, putting Kyle Schwarber in the No. 2 spot and benching struggling second baseman Javier Baez. Schwarber got the start in left field against Los Angeles Dodgers right-hander Yu Darvish. With Schwarber batting second behind Ben Zobrist, NL MVP Kris Bryant, first baseman Anthony Rizzo and catcher Willson Contreras each moved down a spot in the order.

Zobrist replaced Baez at second base, but the slick-fielding Baez likely will come in if the Cubs have a lead late in the game. Baez is 0 for 19 with eight strikeouts for the playoffs.

“I hate playing any game of baseball without Javy on the field because he’s such a dynamic defender, and he’s been a big part of our defense, and hopefully we will get him in the game later,” Maddon said.

Roberts also stayed with Austin Barnes behind the plate, but indicated Yasmani Grandal could start Wednesday with Jake Arrieta on the mound for the Cubs.

Roberts said he liked the matchup for Utley against Cubs right-hander Kyle Hendricks and putting Ethier in the lineup also gives him the option of using Curtis Granderson in a pinch-hitting situation against one of the Cubs’ right-handed relievers.

LeBron on: Cavs star playing in opener vs. Irving, Celtics

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron James made it back for the season opener. No surprise. Limited for nearly three weeks by a sprained left ankle that sidelined him in practice and the preseason, James is playing in Cleveland’s opener Tuesday night against former sidekick Kyrie Irving and the Boston Celtics.

James, who hurt his ankle on Sept. 27 and played in just one exhibition, arrived at Quicken Loans Arena almost four hours before the opening tip to test his ankle and get treatment. After his workout, Cavs coach Tyronn Lue said the 32-year-old told him he would give it a go.

“He feels pretty good, so he’s going to play,” Lue said.

The 32-year-old has never missed an NBA opener — or any first game — in his career and he wasn’t going to miss this one with Irving back in town for his Boston debut following this summer’s blockbuster trade between the top teams in the Eastern Conference.

Lue said James will not have his minutes restricted.

“He’s going to be tired anyway,” Lue joked. “He’s going to take himself out.”

James rolled his ankle during practice last month when he stepped on rookie Cedi Osman’s foot. He sat out Cleveland’s first three exhibitions before playing last week and scoring 17 points with eight turnovers in a loss to Chicago. James aggravated his ankle while making a spin move in

that game, which put his status for the opener in question.

However, with a chance to face Irving, who has made some veiled comments about his relationship with James, the three-time champion will be on the floor.

James’ injury has prevented him from building much on-court chemistry with some of his new teammates. Dwayne Wade, who has been reunited with his close friend in Cleveland, said it may take some time for the Cavs to start clicking.

“Obviously LeBron is still making his way, feeling himself out, trying to make sure he’s healthy enough,” Wade said. “So we haven’t had a lot of time together with that unit but it’s not an excuse. We got to be ready to play. Everybody is excited about opening night around the world. We just got to be ready to play. If we make mistakes, we’ll figure it out. But we’re all excited. We’re excited to see him back on the court.”



Panama Filoiali’i (#1) of Tafuna staring down Majesty Hunkin (#4) of the Vikings before colliding in the second quarter of their varsity match up last Saturday afternoon. Filoiali’i and the Warriors won 30-22.

[photo: TG]

Former Louisville basketball coach Rick Pitino sues Adidas

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Former Louisville coach Rick Pitino is suing Adidas and says the sportswear maker “outrageously conspired” to funnel money to the family of a Cardinal recruit without his knowledge.

Pitino’s lawsuit filed Tuesday comes a day after Louisville’s Athletic Association fired him for cause after acknowledging the program’s involvement in a national federal bribery investigation of college basketball. Ten people, including an Adidas executive, were arrested in the probe but Pitino is not named in the federal complaint. Hours after his firing Monday, Adidas terminated its personal services agreement with Pitino. The coach’s lawsuit states that Adidas’ activities made it appear he was aware of the practices and notes, “That could not be further from the truth.” Pitino’s suit seeks a jury trial along with compensatory and punitive damages.

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HEALTH SURVEY 2017

The Department of Human and Social Services and the Department of Health are working together to conduct a very important survey in the community.

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Representatives in blue will be out to identify electric meters, collect vitals signs and other information that relate to general and mental health.

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If you are selected to participate, please help us to address the health needs of American Samoa by consenting to take part in the survey. For more information contact DHSS at 633-1157 or DOH at 633-1602.

Villages to be surveyed: Fagatogo, Utulei, Gataivai, Fagaalu, Malaeimi, Mapusaga, Mesepa.



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Michigan State run defense rejoins nation's elite

EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) — When the Michigan State coaching staff dissected last year's unexpected collapse, they knew that one of the main culprits was an uncharacteristically porous run defense.

So far this season, it's proven to be a one-year anomaly. The 18th-ranked Spartans have returned to their old, hard-nosed, run-stuffing ways, paring more than 65 yards per game off their average.

"We go back to that 'Spartan Dawg' thing I talked about all offseason: That's something that's a part of it. We're not allowing teams to run on us. We're priding ourselves on that, and that's our No. 1 goal, every week," middle linebacker Joe Bachie said. "Just playing with confidence. Last year, it maybe got away from us a little bit. But I don't really like to talk about that much. This year, we're flying around, having fun, and the confidence is growing."

Heading into Saturday's game against Indiana (3-3, 0-3 Big Ten), the Spartans (5-1, 3-0) are ranked third in the conference against the run (93.3 yards per game) and eighth in the FBS. They had finished in the top 25 in the nation in stopping the run in six of the previous seven seasons — including five straight in the top 11 — before dropping to 51st a year ago, ninth in the Big Ten (158.7 yards per game).

"Well, we've improved greatly. ... We're halfway through the season, so it'll be interesting to see how it shakes out at the end of the season — do we continue to do what we've done? At this point, we have stopped the run," Spartans

coach Mark Dantonio said. "A lot of different reasons for this, but I think we've gone back and reaffirmed who we are a little bit, looked at what we've done, done some things differently."

Last year's dip could be attributed in part to graduation and injuries, which forced the Spartans to pair a couple of graduate transfers with a wholly inexperienced crew on the line. Things only got worse when, at one point, they lost all three starting linebackers to injury.

"So it was a situation where we were down a little bit," said Dantonio, who shuffled his defensive staff during the offseason. "They're bigger, stronger, faster. It's tough when you play as a true freshman — it's just hard — as we had a lot of very young players. I think they're growing up."

With the glaring exception of Notre Dame's 182 yards at 4.6 yards per carry, Michigan State has been stingy, holding four of its other five opponents to less than 3 yards per carry and three times holding an opposing offense under 75 yards.

The standard the Spartans aim for is 3.3 yards per carry, or 100 yards total, said Bachie, who leads the team in tackles and earned Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week honors after the win against Michigan on Oct. 7.

"We try to keep teams underneath that, and if we do, we've been successful," the sophomore said. "Our D-line's playing great right now. We're filling gaps hard, because they're allowing us to. ... If we keep playing fast on defense, I don't know that it's going to be a big deal for us (who we face)."



FILE - In this Oct. 29, 2016, file photo, Michigan head coach Jim Harbaugh, left, greets Michigan State head coach Mark Dantonio after the Wolverines won 32-23 in an NCAA college football game in East Lansing, Mich. It's the biggest week of the year for Michigan State and Michigan. This year, the game comes early in the conference season, and it'll be under the lights in Ann Arbor.

(AP Photo/Carlos Osorio, File)

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AMERICAN SAMOA VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION will hold a meeting for the Moso'oi Tournament 2017 on Friday, Oct 20, 2017 @ 4:30pm at Valasi Gaisoa's house in Nu'uuli. For more info, pls contact Josie @ 733-9167/Josh @ 258-2016 or Valasi @ 731-2988. [10/20]

SAMOANA HIGH SCHOOL PTA MEETING Oct. 19, 2017 @ 4:30 p.m. held in school cafeteria. [10/19]

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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.

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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 more info.

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Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy Parker October 18, 2017

ACROSS

- 1 Certain home in a nursery rhyme
5 Vends
10 Big brass instrument
14 Carry
15 Digital correspondence
16 Like a noted office
17 Approximately
18 Terra-
19 Creative person's inspiration
20 Flip the closed sign
23 DNA carriers
24 Certain bank transactions
25 Within reach
28 Weak and small
30 Plant part
31 Greek Z
33 Hotel amenity
36 Emerge from a hiding place
40 It's always overhead
41 Bridle straps
42 Frontier outpost
43 Pulls
44 Not a right-hander
46 Low-ranking British peer
49 Word with "fuel" or "tire"
- 51 Hits a lead-off home run, e.g.
57 Qom's country
58 Seafood delicacy
59 Tribal fetish
60 "Your Majesty"
61 Valuable possession
62 Actress Campbell
63 Common trees
64 Major French river
65 FBI guy

DOWN

- 1 "Scram!"
2 Huge stringed instrument
3 River that joins the Trent
4 Stretch out
5 Brief time unit
6 Show feeling
7 Wood strips
8 Word of some diet food brands
9 Strike
10 Rowdy girl
11 Soft palate attachment
12 Drainage area
13 "Smart," sarcastic guys?
21 Bowling pin number
22 Forelimb bones
25 Circle portions

- 26 Didn't give
27 Familiar and cozy (var.)
28 Cats and dogs, often
29 Sound of distaste
31 Soul great Redding
32 Dude in Jamaica
33 Common dog name
34 Prefix with "scope"
35 Initial poker stake
37 Presses pleats
38 Just off the conveyor belt
39 Important part of a church service
43 British weights
44 Plexiglas kin
- 45 Cause of vanity
46 Idaho's capital
47 Aries month
48 Prepare for another battle
49 Artist's surface
50 Quite pale
52 Former Russian ruler
53 Type of puppy?
54 The same, to Nero
55 Spectacular space heater?
56 Forest clearing

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll face problems with a relative, neighbor or mentor. Listen to the information offered, but don't feel the need to voice your own opinion. Keeping the peace will give you more time to work on what's really important to you.***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can improve your relationships by addressing the issues that concern you. Knowing where you stand and what those you deal with daily are thinking or trying to achieve will help you figure out what you can contribute.*****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Handle touchy situations carefully. Be secretive about what you are doing if it will help you avoid conflict or interference. Once you are fully prepared to discuss your options, it will be easier to persuade those influenced by your decisions.**

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Use your Leo charm. If you want something, offer incentives and show others you care. You can offer suggestions that are impossible to turn down, but first make sure you can live up to your promises.***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You don't have to spend money to make an impression. In fact, handling money cautiously will make you look good. Anyone trying to persuade you to spend more is not someone looking out for your best interests.***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Mull over all your options. Change is encouraged, but only if it will be conducive to getting the end results you are looking for. Use your insight to find your footing in a time when uncertainty prevails.***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Walk away from demanding people. Do your homework and you'll discover how much validity there is behind a proposal you are offered. Change can be good, but only if it is within reason and affordable. Trust your instincts.***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Get along with your peers if you want to get ahead. Showing that you can be a team player will help you gain respect. An opportunity will crop up if you get together with someone from your past. Embrace change.*****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Poor choices regarding love, physical and emotional alterations will develop if you aren't discreet or you allow others to interfere in your life and your plans. Avoid impulsive people, decisions or moves.**

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Positive change is heading your way. Don't sabotage your chance to get ahead by taking on too much or overreacting because you think you deserve more. Less talk and more action will help you get to where you want to go.*****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't lose control of pending financial, medical or legal matters. Regroup and look for a way to avoid loss. Cut corners and use your intelligence and intuition to help you make wise choices. Negotiate on your own behalf.***



PLANS TO ATTEND BACHELOR PARTY CAUSE MAN'S GIRLFRIEND

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend of two years will be attending a bachelor party in Las Vegas. We've never had any issues of infidelity, yet I can't help but feel anxious about his upcoming trip. I know the scene that exists in Vegas -- I'm in my mid-20s and I enjoyed my trips there when I was younger and single. I'm worried about him and his friends going to strip clubs, topless pool parties, etc. I don't mind him enjoying a trip and going out with the boys, but I think attending an event with nudity is disrespectful to the other person when you're in a long-term, serious relationship. I don't want him to feel he has to tell his friends he can't go to those things. What are your thoughts on this? -- WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS ...

DEAR WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS: You and your boyfriend are both adults. Viewing topless entertainment or attending a topless pool party is not infidelity. If he hasn't given you any reason to worry so far, give him the benefit of the doubt. P.S. By the way, I have heard that some bachelorette parties can be equally wild. Do you plan to swear off them yourself?

DEAR ABBY: My wife hates Facebook. She has always hated it and never signed up. I have had an account since the site began and maintain many connections with friends, family members who live far away, old teachers -- even my in-laws. I don't discuss it with my wife much because it makes her angry. I'm not constantly on it, and it's not like I'm doing anything bad. But if she hears from a friend about a funny or insightful comment I made on Facebook, we end up getting into a huge argument because she insists I have to delete my account. The argument always ends with her saying, "You will delete it because I hate it!" I don't want to delete my Facebook page, and I hate arguing with my wife. What should I do? -- "LIKES" FACEBOOK IN RALEIGH, N.C.

DEAR "LIKES" FACEBOOK: Try to get to the bottom of why she finds your staying in touch with these people threatening, because it appears you married someone who is very controlling. She is your spouse, not your jailer. If you want to participate in social media, continue to do so.

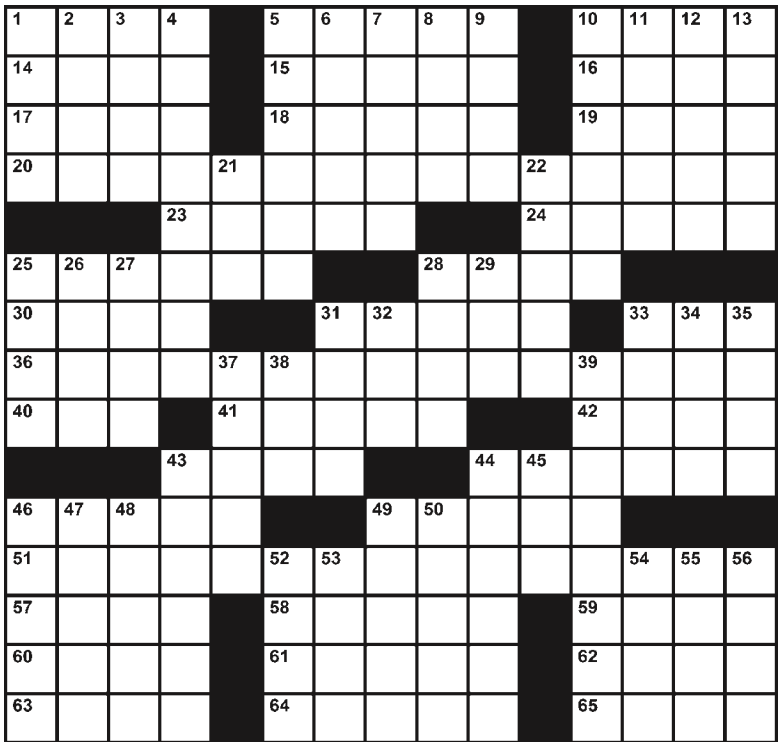
Although you didn't mention it, I can't help but wonder if her jealousy and possessiveness have affected other areas of your life. If that's the case, talk about it with a licensed marriage and family therapist before it drives the two of you apart. If she won't go with you, go alone.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a doctor. I give free medical advice to my cousin and her mother several times a month, and have for quite some time now. I do it free of charge because we are family and there's a close bond between us. My cousin works in marketing, so I asked her if she could help me design my presentation card. She replied that she would give me three designs to choose from, and it would cost roughly \$100. I feel it's wrong for her to charge me for her service since I've never charged her. -- FREE OF CHARGE IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR FREE OF CHARGE: It's possible your cousin was asking to be reimbursed for the cost of the MATERIALS involved in creating the cards for you. Before you allow yourself to get into a snit, perhaps you should clarify exactly what you would be paying for.

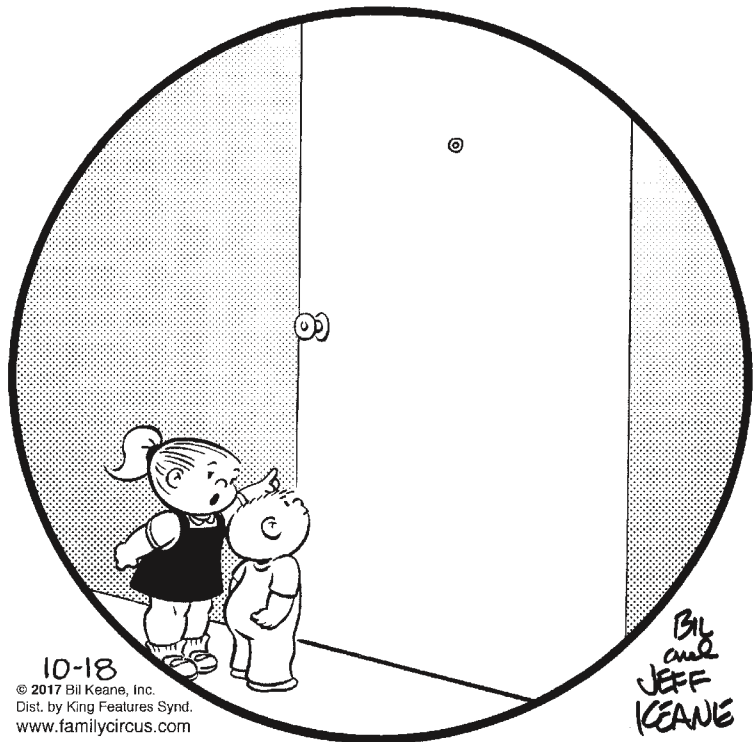
10/18

HI, I'M FRANK By Timothy E. Parker



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



10-18
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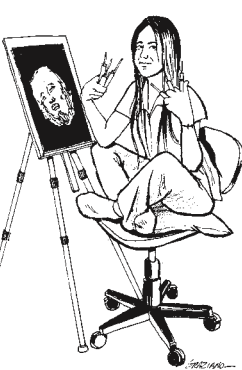
"Be sure to look at the peekhole
before you open the door."



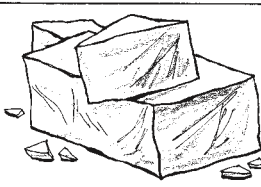
Ripley's Believe It or Not!



KING WILLEM-ALEXANDER
OF THE NETHERLANDS
SECRETLY WORKED PART-TIME
AS A CO-PILOT
FOR KLM ROYAL DUTCH AIRLINES.
Submitted By Dan Paulin, W. Lafayette, OH.



NURSE KIMBERLY MAGBANUA
CREATES PAINTINGS
USING
SYRINGES!



IN 2017, SCIENTISTS CREATED
THE **RUBY CHOCOLATE**,
WHICH IS NATURALLY PINK
AND THE FIRST NEW TYPE
OF CHOCOLATE INVENTED
IN 80 YEARS.

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Calvin & Hobbes®

by Bill Watterson



LOOK, HOBBS, I NEED YOU TO COME TO SCHOOL WITH ME AND SHOW MOE A LITTLE FANG, OK?

YOU DON'T NEED TO KILL HIM OR ANYTHING. JUST GIVE 'IM SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT ON THE WAY TO SURGERY.

HE USUALLY COMES AFTER ME AT RECESS, SO WE'LL GET HIM THEN. HEY, YOU DON'T HAVE RABIES, DO YOU?

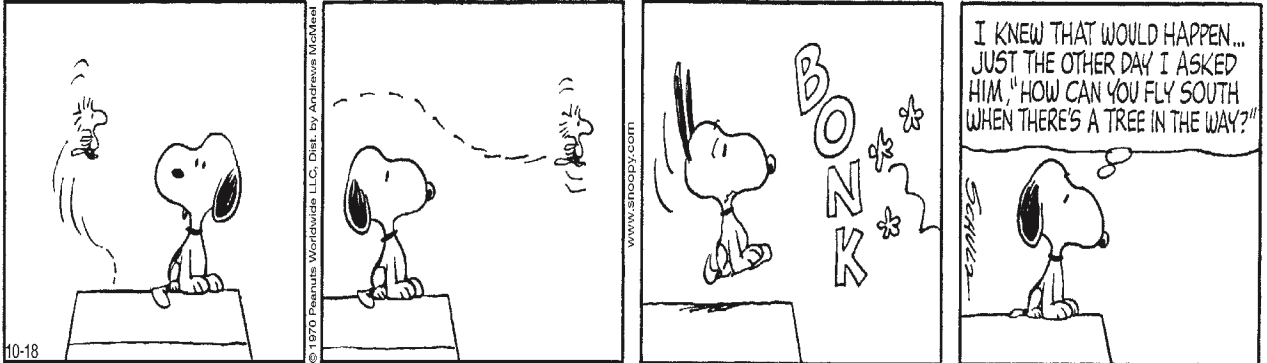
CERTAINLY NOT.

RATS. WELL, I SUPPOSE HE'D AT LEAST HAVE TO GET A TETANUS SHOT.

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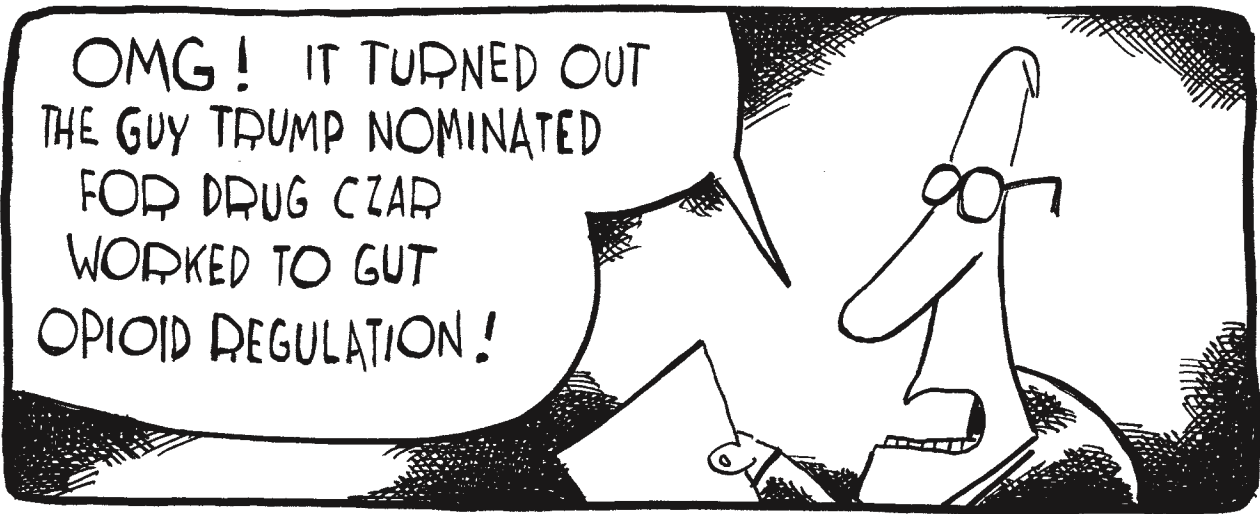
PEANUTS®

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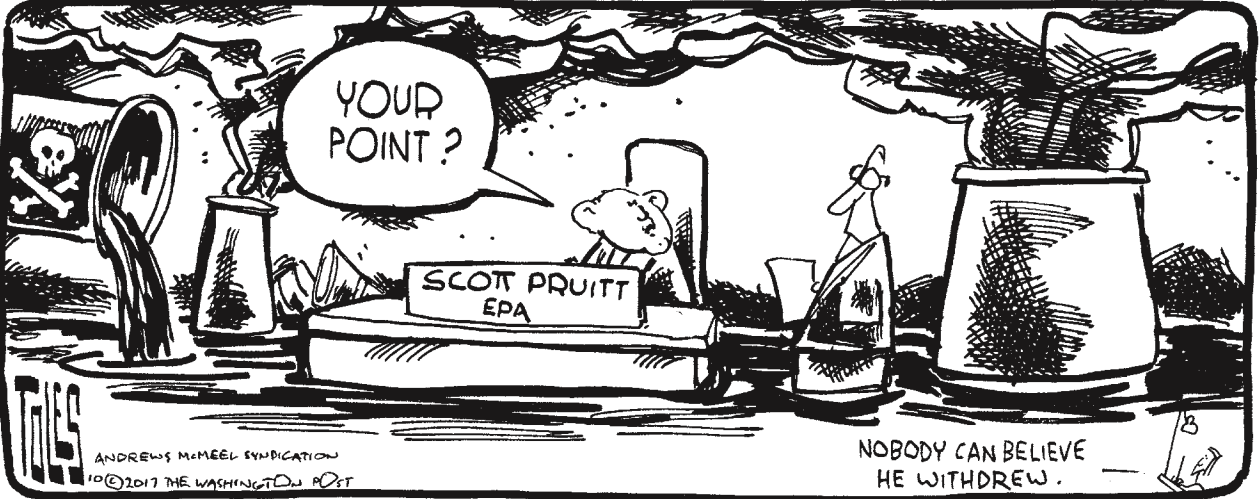


I KNEW THAT WOULD HAPPEN... JUST THE OTHER DAY I ASKED HIM, "HOW CAN YOU FLY SOUTH WHEN THERE'S A TREE IN THE WAY?"

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OMG! IT TURNED OUT THE GUY TRUMP NOMINATED FOR DRUG CZAR WORKED TO GUT OPIOID REGULATION!



YOUR POINT?

SCOTT PRUITT
EPA

NOBODY CAN BELIEVE HE WITHDREW.

ANDREWS McMEEL SYNDICATION
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ZIGGY®



YOUR SPARKLING WATER, SIR!

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Hagar the Horrible®

by Chris Brown



I'M PROUD TO SAY I HAVE NEVER KISSED ANY KING'S RING!

I HAVE




EVERY NIGHT I KISS MY STASH OF STOLEN ROYAL RINGS!

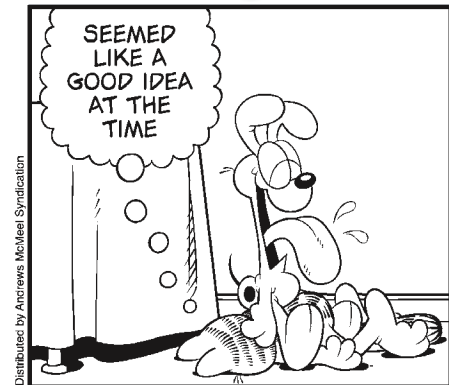
BROWNE

GARFIELD®

by Jim Davis



HERE ODIE!



SEEMED LIKE A GOOD IDEA AT THE TIME

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Sudoku Pacific

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

3			4	6	1			
		5		9		6		
	6			2	5		3	9
			6	3			5	
	1	6		7		4	8	
	3			8	4			
6	9		2	4			7	
		7		1		8		
			7	5	6			1

10/18 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Tuesday's Puzzle Answer 10/17

9	8	3	5	7	2	4	6	1
1	5	6	3	4	9	2	7	8
7	2	4	8	1	6	9	3	5
8	3	7	4	6	5	1	2	9
6	9	5	1	2	3	7	8	4
2	4	1	9	8	7	3	5	6
5	7	2	6	9	1	8	4	3
4	6	9	2	3	8	5	1	7
3	1	8	7	5	4	6	9	2

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Audit: Utah needs \$39M to improve venues for new Olympic bid

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A foundation that runs venues from the 2002 Winter Olympics in the Salt Lake City area needs \$39 million over the next decade for infrastructure improvements that would put the city in position to make a bid for a future Olympics in 2026 or 2030, according to a new state audit made public Tuesday.

The Utah Legislature’s auditor recommended that state lawmakers consider taxpayer funded options because the Utah Olympic Legacy Foundation loses about \$4 million yearly operating facilities that include a speed skating oval, ski jump and bobsled tracks. Those losses are currently covered by interest that comes from a \$76 million fund created after the games.

The audit was released a day after state officials announced the formation of an exploratory committee to prepare for a possible new Olympic bid.

The cost estimate of the repairs is not an estimate of

what it would cost to host another Olympics.

The city had previously estimated it could put on a Winter Olympics for about \$2 billion, but the exploratory committee will come up with a new cost estimate before it completes its report by February of next year.

The U.S. Olympic Committee board said last week it’s interested in trying to bring the Winter Olympics to the U.S. in 2026 or 2030. The committee has until next March to pick a city. U.S. cities that have expressed interest so far also include Denver and Reno, Nevada.

Utah legislative leaders requested the audit to gauge the state of Utah’s Olympic venues in the Salt Lake City area and in and around the ski town of Park City.

The report found that roads and equipment at the sites need major repairs because the 2002 Games were held 15 years ago. The sports facilities also need improvements to make them up to date.

The repairs include \$5 million for retaining walls at the bobsled track, \$2.3 million for asphalt and guardrails at the Utah Olympic Park in Park City, and a \$1.75 million roof replacement at the speed skating oval in the Salt Lake City of Kearns.

The audit lays out several options for how the state could fund the improvements, and noted that the state funded an initial \$59 million for the construction of venues in the lead up to the bid for the 2002 Games. It was paid back by the Salt Lake Organizing Committee after the Olympics ended.

The \$39.3 million would work out to roughly \$4 million a year over a decade.

Utah’s state budget was \$16.2 billion this year, but finding money for the project without cutting elsewhere could make it tricky to fund the improvements. The Olympics improvements would have to compete with numerous projects and needs, including public school buildings. Two of the highest-ranking state legislators — House Speaker Greg Hughes and Senate President Wayne Niederhauser — backed the idea of finding a way to help with the funds during a hearing about the audit.

Niederhauser, who is one of three co-chairs of the new Olympic exploratory committee, said the improvements would help augment Utah’s reputation of being a top winter sports city in the U.S.

“As everybody knows, there’s a possibility of attracting the Olympics again. But even if not, this is Utah’s brand,” said Niederhauser, a Republican. “We need to make sure these facilities are up to date and maintained well.”

Rep. Brian King, a Democrat, said his gut tells him the money would be a sound investment.

FILE - This Feb. 8, 2002, file photo shows U.S. champion Michelle Kwan practicing for the women's short program for the Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City at the Salt Lake Ice Center. Salt Lake City is forming an exploratory committee to decide if the city will bid to host another Winter Olympics in either 2026 or 2030.

(AP Photo/Doug Mills, File)

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