

Sports Pace

Columnist wants to know: Can I get a witness?

By Huel Washington
Special to Sentinel-Voice

As more and more minority athletes, male and female, get involved in sports, we are witnessing actions that are not following typical plot lines.

Let's get to the most important first. For the last eight months, tennis fans have been awaiting return of Serena Williams, once the No. 1-ranked player in the world. Williams, younger half of the sisters from Florida (via Compton, Calif.), had knee surgery and dropped off the circuit to rehabilitate her injured limb.

Earlier in the week, Serena reappeared in the Nasdaq-100 Open at Key Biscayne, Fla. winning her first matches. Adorned in white, reminiscent of old days when players only wore white, Serena was her usual dominating self, although the match lasted three sets.

She even wore a white headband that read, SERENA. Perhaps being on a movie set during her months away has taught her how to add to her image. She also has signed a \$60 million contract with Nike and may wear the swoosh on her clothes like Tiger Woods.

Nothing can be further from reality than announcement Barry Bonds is going to become fan friendly. This would be a complete turnaround for an athlete whose actions in the past have bordered on ridiculous.

Perhaps, when he was growing up in San Mateo, Calif., he was getting instructions on how to be an ingrate from his godfather, Willie Mays, who was one of sports' most aloof and fan unfriendly athletes.

Mays never signed autographs. Most of the time, he didn't speak to fans, although he was known to shoot pool at Roundtree's in the Fillmore District when the Giants moved to San Francisco from

New York. Bonds was seen at the Winky Wright-Sugar Shane Mosley fight sitting with James Caan, Sylvester Stallone and Magic Johnson. They all signed autographs, but not Bonds. He didn't even acknowledge greetings from fans.

Now, he's complaining that he doesn't get a fair shake from the media, even though he hasn't been giving the media a fair shake for years. In fact, he has been almost hostile when approached on the field or in the locker room. Now that his father, Bobby, succumbed to cancer last August, he is going to turn over a new leaf.

That'll be the day. He said recently that he is going to have his own Web site and converse with fans at least once a week. He will also offer pictures and other memorabilia of himself online. Is Uncle Willie close by?

While the Williams sisters, Chanda Rubin and Zina Garrison, Federation Team coach, are making a name for African-American women in tennis, Asians are doing the same on the Ladies Professional Golf Association tour.

When Gloria Park knocked in her birdie putt last weekend to win the Kraft Nabisco Championship at Rancho Mirage, Calif. with an 11-under-par 277, there were six other Asian women among the top-ten finishers.

Finishing second was Aree Song, 18-year-old twin sister of Naree, who was only one stroke behind. If she had won, Aree would have been the youngest player to win a major golf tournament, men or women. Nevertheless, her purse was \$146,826. Others in the top ten included Michelle Wie, an amateur from Hawaii, Mi-Hyun Kim, Lorina Ochoa, Candie Kung and Christina Kim.

Park, a South Korean, who now resides in Phoenix, took

home \$240,000, winning what used to be called the Dinah Shore Invitational. Karrie Webb, who won the tournament in 2000 and tied for second in 2001, was third with 279, earning \$106,512.

Rosie Jones, who has been on the tour 25 years, recently told the world she is a lesbian. Jones was 11th, shooting 284 on the 6,460-yard course. She took home \$36,737.

Basketball fans will be happy to learn out of thousands of men who played center in what is now the National Basketball Association, Wilt Chamberlain has been selected greatest center between 1946 and the present. Having seen Chamberlain

play his entire career as a collegian at Kansas, then with the Harlem Globetrotters, San Francisco Warriors, Philadelphia 76ers and Los Angeles Lakers, we agree with the assessment.

If the "Big Dipper" or "Wilt the Stilt," as he was called had had the supporting cast that surrounded Bill Russell, who played for the Boston Celtics, he would have won the NBA title every year. Chamberlain in 1962 averaged 50.4 points per game and scored 100 points in a game against the New York Knicks in Hershey, Penn.

In compiling the feats of 47 NBA centers who made 10,000 points or had 10,000

rebounds, Russell was only ranked seventh behind Moses Malone, Hakeem Olajuwon, George Mikan, Shaquille O'Neal and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

Chamberlain was an all-around athlete, who ran the 400-meters on his college track team and played volleyball in a pro league that he was its chief sponsor. He also

sponsored a track team that ran in principal meets around the world.

Students at Duke University and the University of Connecticut have to be the happiest this March with their men and women's basketball teams reaching the Final Four. That's quite an accomplishment in any year.

LEGAL NOTICES

BIDS WANTED FOR HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

CONTRACT NO. 3209

Sealed proposals will be received by the Director of the Nevada Department of Transportation at the District I Headquarters, 123 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101, until and opened at 2:30 p.m., local time, on April 22, 2004 for Contract No. 3209, Project No. EB-NH-095-2(044), construction of a portion of the Primary Highway System on US 95 from east of Valley View Boulevard to west of Jones Boulevard (Phase 4A), Clark County, a length of 2.83 kilometers (1.76 miles). D.B.E. information shall be submitted no later than the time of opening of proposals as specified above.

SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF WORK COVERED BY THIS CONTRACT CONSISTS OF: CONSTRUCTING STORM DRAINAGE AND SOUND WALLS.

Plans and specifications may be examined and purchased at the office of the undersigned. Non-bidding documents may also be examined or purchased at the Department of Transportation District Offices in Sparks and Las Vegas, Nevada. Plans, form of proposal, contract and specifications may be secured by prequalified bidders through the office of the undersigned. A fee of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) is required for the purchase of each copy of the plans with proposal form. Plans, proposal form and specifications obtained on this basis are non-returnable and no refund will be made. Contractors wishing to bid on NDOT projects as Prime prequalified contractor must purchase the bidding documents from the Administrative Services Office, 1263 South Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada 89712. Only these bidding documents will be accepted at the time of bid. Those receiving documents from other sources for bid submittal will not be accepted. Bids must be on the proposal form of the Department of Transportation and must be accompanied by a bid bond, a certified check, a cashier's check, or cash in the amount of five percent (5%) of bid.

Right is reserved to reject any or all bids, or to accept the bid deemed best for the interest of the State of Nevada.

Contractors desiring to bid on this work, if not already qualified under the State Law, shall file with the Department of Transportation at Carson City, Nevada, not later than five (5) days prior to the date for opening of bids, a complete application for qualification on form furnished by the Department.

The minimum wage to be paid on this contract shall be as determined by the Secretary of Labor or the State Labor Commissioner and are set forth in the contract documents.

The attention of bidders is directed to the State Contractor's License Law requirement (NRS 624 as amended to date), that a contractor hold a valid license of a class corresponding to the work to be done. Requests for license may be directed to the Secretary of the State Contractor's Board, 2310 Corporate Circle #200, Henderson, Nevada 89074.

On Federal-aid projects Contractors, prequalified by the Nevada Department of Transportation, and subcontractors are not required to be licensed in advance of submitting a bid or having such bid considered. Both Contractors and subcontractors shall obtain a valid contractor's license, in accordance with the provisions of NRS Chapter 624, within 20 days after the contract has been awarded. Execution of the contract by the Contractor shall be deemed a certification that the licensing requirements have been met. Contractors and subcontractors are encouraged to submit applications for licensure to the Nevada State Contractor's Board in advance of contract advertisement.

The State of Nevada Department of Transportation will on its own initiative, take affirmative action, including the imposition of contract sanctions and the initiation of appropriate legal proceedings under any applicable State or Federal law to achieve equal employment opportunity on Federal-aid Highway Projects and will actively cooperate with the Federal Highway Administration in all investigations and enforcement actions undertaken by the Federal Highway Administration. In conjunction with the above statement, the Department of Transportation will not issue plans to an irresponsible bidder. Subsection (B) of the section 112 of Title 23 United States Code has been amended by adding at the end thereof, the following: "Contracts for the construction of each project shall be awarded only on the basis of the lowest responsive bid submitted by a bidder meeting established criteria of responsibility".

JEFF FONTAINE, P.E., DIRECTOR
Department of Transportation
Carson City, Nevada 89712

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Miscellaneous

BABY BOOMERS RESIDENTIAL Care for the Elderly
702-645-6036 or 592-5942

LEGALS

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

INVITATION FOR BID NO. 014-04
ANNUAL REQUIREMENTS CONTRACT FOR RADIAL BUS TIRES

This formal Invitation to Bid is to receive bid proposals from qualified bidders for an annual radial bus tires contract requirement.

Invitation to Bid documents will be available on beginning April 6, 2004, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Regional Transportation Commission's Administrative Building, Second Floor Reception Desk, via facsimile, 702-676-1518, or via e-mail at rosede@rtcsonthernnevada.com. Invitation to Bid document requests should be directed to the attention of Debra Coleman, C.P.M., RTC Purchasing Analyst.

Bids will be received on, or before, May 13, 2004. Bids must be time stamped no later than 3:00 p.m., PST, on the due date. Bids time stamped at 3:01 p.m. or after on the due date will be returned unopened. Bids must be sent to: Regional Transportation Commission, Attention: Debra Coleman, C.P.M., Purchasing Analyst, 600 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89106.

The successful bidder shall cooperate with the RTC in meeting commitments and objectives with regard to ensuring non-discrimination in the award and administration of U.S. DOT assisted contracts and shall use its best efforts to ensure that barriers to participation of DBEs do not exist.
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EMPLOY

Associates of Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc. is expanding in your area. National company offering a service everyone needs. Competitive commissions with renewal income potential. Training provided. Call today! Rommie M. Postadan, Independent Associate, at 1-888-680-1569 for full details.

EMPLOY

AUDITIONS

702e.com seeks 2 African-American women and men for play in late May. Call 806-5565 for details

A non-profit Agency seeks candidate for

Site/Nutrition Supervisor
Must have a BA or equivalent. Registered Dietician with 2 years of administrative experience.

\$31,262.40-\$43,451.20
Annual D.O.Q.

Completed applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. April 12, 2004 at: EOB Community Action Partnership, 3680 N. Rancho Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89130.

An Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

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Television Cable Satellite Broadcast

FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING A QUALIFIED SELECTION POOL FOR THE CURRENT & FUTURE ANTICIPATION VACANCIES

TELEVISION ASSISTANT

(Starting Salary \$13.71-\$15.11/hr., plus benefits)

Qualifications: High school graduation or other equivalent (i.e., GED, college, technical, or trade school transcript, foreign equivalency, etc.) and one (1) year experience in television. Preferred qualifications: experience operating studio/field camera; audio mixing for broadcast and instructional programs; positioning/operating lighting equipment.

OFFICE SPECIALIST II

(Starting Salary \$11.84 hr., plus benefits)

Qualifications: High school graduation or other equivalent (i.e., GED, college, technical, or trade school transcript, foreign equivalency, etc.), two (2) years clerical experience and a verified keyboarding/typing score of 40 words per minute net or four (4) years clerical experience and a verified keyboarding/typing score. Note: Additional training requirements may be added as training is developed. Preferred qualification: receptionist, switchboard, and customer service experience.

RESUME CLOSING DATE:

APRIL 7, 2004

Submit detailed resumes for the above positions to:

Madelyn Barnum
4210 Channel 10 Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Or FAX to:

(702) 799-5586

Competitive Applicants will receive a screening packet.

Compete job descriptions available at: www.ccsd.net/jobs

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Attack

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the incidents in a message to the university community, student groups say they are concerned that not enough is being done. They sum up officials' response to what has happened as "not much more than lip service."

Columbia University Concerned Students of Color say that, while Columbia proclaims to be the most diverse Ivy League institution, it is the only Ivy League school without a multicultural affairs office, does not have a policy on handling bias-related incidents nor does it have a diversity council like its counterparts Dartmouth and Cornell. Students have decided to build a network of various institutions on different campuses in order to connect and have a greater presence in the community-at-large.

Jerry Muhammad writes for the Final Call.