

Jones can't outrun doping suspicions

Special to Sentinel-Voice

From the days when she was a little girl, pigtails flying, streaking past the older boys in her southern California neighborhood, Marion Jones has defined her life with speed. Outrunning the doping suspicions was her toughest race of all.

Now, perhaps, the game is over.

After years of denial, the five-time Olympic medalist has tested positive for a banned drug. The "A" sample from the 30-year-old sprinter, taken after she won the 100-meter title at the U.S. track and field championships in June, showed the presence of the performance enhancer EPO, a person familiar with the results told The Associated Press.

If a second "B" test is positive, Jones could face a minimum two-year ban.

Doping suspicions have dogged Jones for years, but she has always vehemently denied using any performance-enhancing substances.

One of her loudest accusers is Victor Conte, founder of BALCO, the Bay Area Laboratory Cooperative. In a 2004 TV interview, he said he designed a doping regimen, which included EPO, for Jones and watched her inject herself with steroids before the 2000 Sydney Games. She responded by filing a \$25 million defamation lawsuit that was settled out of court.

But Saturday Conte again sought the last word.

"I have always told the truth regarding my relationship with Marion Jones," he said in an email to The Associated Press.

Messages left for Jones' attorney Richard Nichols on Saturday were not returned.

"Marion Jones has always been clear, she has never taken performance-enhancing substances, not now, not ever," Nichols said in a statement Friday.

Now Jones, once the charming, dominating face of track and field around the world, must wait for the results of her backup sample to back up her words.

The positive test on the "A" sample was not for steroids, but for erythropoietin, also known as EPO, an endurance booster usually associated with distance runners.

Only recently have sprinters been subjected to periodic tests for the drug.

When former world 100-

and 200-meter champion Kelli White told the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency that EPO was among the banned substances she had used, testing was expanded to sprinters.

Charles Yesalis, a doping expert and recently retired Penn State professor, said sprinters use EPO to expand their endurance during training.

"If you train harder, during that 10-plus seconds you will perform better," he said, adding there is disagreement in the scientific community over whether EPO does sprinters any good.

But continued allegations of doping certainly threaten the sport.

"It's a pity what has happened with Marion," pole vault world-record holder Yelena Isinbayeva of Russia said Saturday at a meet in Birmingham, England. "Of course, it's a big blow to athletics. It adds a black point to the sport."

Jones' results were the latest in what has become a drug-soaked summer for star U.S. athletes. Cyclist Floyd Landis tested positive for elevated testosterone levels after a tough Alpine stage on July 20, when he made a remarkable comeback and went on to win the Tour de France. Two days after news

of Landis' positive test, 100-meter co-world record holder Justin Gatlin, who loudly had proclaimed himself the leader of a drug-free generation of track athletes, announced he had tested positive for testosterone or other steroids back in April.

Gatlin is trained by Trevor Graham, Jones' coach during the Sydney Games, who has been banned from U.S. Olympic Committee training sites. Several other athletes

coached by Graham, who first alerted USADA to the designer steroid THG, have been suspended for doping.

For a time, it appeared track might pull away from its drug-tainted image.

So much had been invested in the squeaky-clean image of the young competitors and Gatlin's positive test came as a shock.

USA Track and Field chief Craig Masback called it "a grave situation."

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REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF SOUTHERN NEVADA

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) NO. CPPP-07 40 FOOT LOW FLOOR NATURAL GAS TRANSIT BUSES

The Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC) in partnership with the following agencies: City of Phoenix, AZ; and the Orange County Transportation Authority, collectively "RTC and Partners" is seeking proposals from qualified firms for the purchase and delivery of up to 275 each 40' low floor compressed natural gas (CNG) buses and 231 each 40' low floor liquefied natural gas buses (LNG), if all options are exercised. This procurement is part of the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Cooperative Procurement Pilot Program (CPPP) encouraging a consortium approach to joint vehicle procurement and maximizing the use of internet based software technology to develop specifications and procurement documents.

Request for Proposals (RFP) No. CPPP-07 will be available on or about August 23, 2006 for download via the web portal www.transitpool.com and 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. For more information contact Lydia Bilynsky, RTC Purchasing Administrator via e mail at lbilynsky@rtcsonv.com or phone (702) 676-1528.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held at 10:00 a.m., PDT, Tuesday, September 26, 2006, room 296, at the RTC, 600 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89106. Proposals must be received on or before October 31, 2006. Offerors are encouraged to submit proposals in their entirety on line through an upload via the web portal www.transitpool.com. Proposals submitted in hard copy must be time stamped no later than 3:00 p.m., PDT, on the due date. Proposals time stamped at 3:01 p.m. or after on the due date will be returned unopened. Proposals must be sent to:
 Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada
 Attention: Lydia Bilynsky, Purchasing Administrator
 600 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89106

The successful respondent shall cooperate with the RTC & Partners in meeting its 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.
 Published: Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice — August 24, 2006



INVITATION FOR BID BID NO. 07-1757

PURCHASE OF SPEAKERS
 Documents pertinent to this advertisement may be examined and obtained between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. To request a copy of bid documents call (702) 892-2950, or visit our website purchasing.lvcva.com

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority
 Materials Management Office
 Room A205
 3150 Paradise Road
 Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

Bid Opening: AUGUST 31, 2006 at 2:00 P.M.
Location: SAME AS ABOVE

Sealed written bids must be received by the Materials Management Office, at the Las Vegas Convention Second Floor, Room 205A, on or until 2:00 P.M., PST, August 31, 2006. Bids will be accepted if date/time stamped 2:00 P.M., PST, August 31, 2006. Date/time stamps of 2:01PM PST or later on August 31, 2006, will be rejected. Proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud, immediately after the established closing time and date. Submittal by fax is not acceptable.

Note: This Invitation does not constitute an order for the goods or services specified. No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of ninety (90) days after the actual date of the bid opening.
 Published: Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice 08/24/06

But those who run the sport in the United States would not be sorry to see Jones go. Privately, they would like to see her and her baggage of suspicion disappear so the attention could move to as yet untainted young performers such as

Olympic medalists Jeremy Wariner and Allyson Felix.

Jones' positive test came during what had been a triumphant return to the spotlight — a one-sided victory in the 100 meters at the U.S. championships in Indianapolis, Ind.

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The City of North Las Vegas, the second fastest growing city in the nation, will be accepting applications to fill current Geographic Information Systems Analyst positions within the City.

Requirements include: Bachelor's degree in Planning, Geography, MIS or related field; two years of experience in working with an automated geographic information system. Must possess a valid state driver's license and maintain satisfactory motor vehicle record and ability to obtain appropriate Nevada state driver's license within required time frame.

Filing opens 8am, Monday 8/21/06. Applications accepted until 5PM, Thursday, September 7, 2006. Applicants are required to submit all necessary information to qualify for the position.

For detailed information regarding this position and to apply online, visit our website at www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com or to apply in person or via mail:



CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS
 Human Resources Dept.
www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com
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The City of North Las Vegas, the second fastest growing city in the nation, will be accepting applications for the position of Fire Investigator.

Minimum qualifications include:
 Five or more years of experience as a full-time Fire Fighter at the NFPA FF Level II and a valid Nevada POST certification (Category I) or equivalent state certification with ability to obtain Nevada POST Category I Basic In-Lieu Certification Reciprocity within 6 months of appointment. Current certification by the International Association of Arson Investigators as a Certified Fire Investigator is highly desirable.

OR
 Five or more years of experience as a full-time government law enforcement officer with a Nevada POST certification (Category I) or equivalent state certification with ability to obtain Nevada POST Category I Basic In-Lieu Certification Reciprocity within 6 months of appointment. Current certification by the International Association of Arson Investigators as a Certified Fire Investigator is highly desirable.

OR
 Five or more years of experience as a North Las Vegas Fire Department employee with NFPA FF Level II certification or certification by the International Association of Arson Investigators as a Certified Fire Investigator or certification by the National Association of Fire Investigators as a Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator; and successful completion of a Nevada POST certification (Category I) Academy within 12 months of appointment.

Bachelors degree from a regionally accredited college, university or technical school, with major course work in fire science, fire administration, fire or arson investigation, criminal justice, chemistry, engineering, physical science or a related field preferred. Successful completion of the U.S. Fire Administration National Fire Academy Arson Curriculum (R-203, R-205, R-207 and/or R-208) preferred. Successfully pass a physical fitness examination which meets or exceeds requirements for Nevada Peace Officer status as determined by the Nevada Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and training (NAC 289). Maintain currency at the Nevada POST Category I level as outlined and maintained by the Nevada Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training (NAC 289) and any applicable Nevada Revised Statutes effecting status as a Nevada Police Officer. Maintain eligibility as determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) to retrieve information from and input information into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Nevada Criminal Justice Information Systems (NCJIS). If not currently certified at time of appointment, must obtain and maintain certification by the International Association of Arson Investigators as a Certified Fire Investigator or certification by the National Association of Fire Investigators as a Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator within one year of hire/reclassification. Must possess a valid state driver's license within the required time frame.

Filing opens 8am, Monday 8/21/06. Completed applications accepted until 5PM, Thursday, September 21, 2006. Applicants are required to submit all necessary information to qualify for the position. City of North Las Vegas Human Resources Department must receive:

- Completed Application
- Detailed Resume
- Completed Supplemental Application Questionnaire
- Required Licenses and Certificates
- Other information as required in Minimum Requirements section

For detailed information regarding this position and to apply online, visit our website at www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com or to apply in person or via mail:



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