

SPORTS

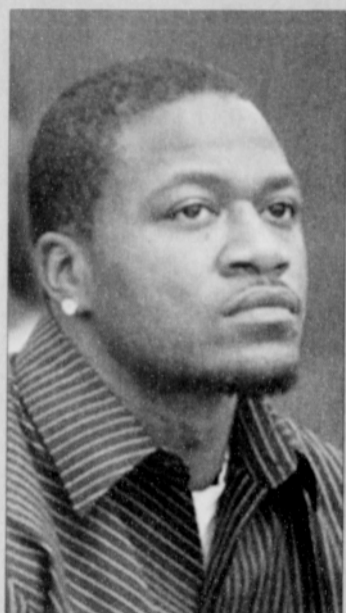
"Pacman" to Enter Ring

(AP) - Suspended Tennessee Titans cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones is stepping into the ring and giving pro wrestling a whirl.

"I am a big fan of wrestling, so I wanted to give it a try," Jones said Monday. "I respect wrestling and I'm not coming in like it's just a show. I want to prove that I am the greatest team-sport athlete."

NFL contracts prohibit non-football activities that could cause injury. Jones' agent, Michael Huyghue, said last week he had talked with the Titans about Jones' wrestling plans.

Jones was suspended in April for the 2007 season by



Adam "Pacman" Jones

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell for repeated conduct violations.

Barry Bonds One Homer Away

(AP) - With Barry Bonds needing just one home run to break Hank Aaron's mark of 755, the chase for the record has returned to San Francisco where the sold-out stadium was filled Monday and with the fans who love Bonds most.

After hitting the record-tying shot Saturday night in San Diego and taking off Sunday, Bonds headed home needing only one more big swing.

Bonds' godfather, Willie Mays, was in attendance and talked with Bonds in the clubhouse. The fans in the stands, McCovey Cove, nearby bars and throughout the city were excited.

Fans came prepared with gloves, nets and anything else that would



Barry Bonds has tied Hank Aaron's homerun record. (AP photo)

help them retrieve a ball that could be worth up about \$500,000, according to experts.

Bonds was greeted with a standing ovation when he took the field and a tribute to his 755th homer was played on the center-field scoreboard. It ended with a message from boxing legend Muhammad Ali and his son, Asaad.

"We want to congratulate you on hitting 755 home runs, it's been a great milestone," Asaad said in the video message, with his father sitting by his side. "We've both been great fans of yours throughout your career. We just want to wish you good luck on your road to history. Don't stop."

Local Umpire Heads to Cooperstown

Free trip will bring knowledge back

BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

William Gaddis, a longtime volunteer umpire for Little League games in Portland, is being rewarded with a free trip to Cooperstown, N.Y., where he will help officiate the Youth Baseball Hall of Fame.

A union carpenter by profession, Gaddis has made time to umpire dozens of local games each summer for 12 years, ever since his son looked like he might get into baseball.

But starting this week, Gaddis begins to call several games a day for the highest levels of Little League in the nation while Cooperstown Dream Park pays his room and board.

In addition to attending a professional umpire training camp, he is looking forward to seeing the Hall of Fame complete with Tony Gwynn, a San Diego Padre who was inducted last month.



William Gaddis

"I'm looking to share some of the East Coast and West Coast skills, but mostly I'm getting a chance to see so many people," he says. "The only thing I got to do is show up at the airport Thursday and get on the plane."

Gaddis thinks that he has had a positive influence on many players over the years.

"I'll be calling balls and strikes, and all the kids in the stands will be saying, 'Tight,' he says. "I love the enthusiasm that I can bring to the game."



Portland Little League umpire William Gaddis makes a call in 2003.

Boston Celtics Expect Glory Days Again

After major trade for Kevin Garnett

(AP)--The Boston Celtics moved last week to return the franchise to its glory years by acquiring 10-times All-Star Kevin Garnett from the Minnesota Timberwolves.

Garnett is an athletic power forward still searching for his first NBA title after spending his first 12 years in the league with the Timberwolves.

"This is probably my best opportunity of winning a (championship) ring," Garnett told reporters.

The Celtics will ship to the Timberwolves forwards Al

Jefferson, Ryan Gomes, Gerald Green, center Theo Ratliff, guard Sebastian Telfair and two first-round draft picks.

At 6-foot-11, 253 pounds, the 31-year-old Garnett is one of only five players in NBA history to amass at least 19,000 points, 10,000 rebounds and 4,000 assists.

Garnett, the 2004 league MVP, originally balked at getting traded to Boston, a youthful team that finished with the second-worst record in the NBA last season at 24-58.



Kevin Garnett smiles at a news conference in Boston. (AP photo)

But he said the Celtics' draft-day acquisition of 32-year-old seven-times All-Star guard Ray Allen helped change his mind.

Also on Boston's roster is 29-year-old forward Paul Pierce, a five-times All-Star.

While Boston shipped to Minnesota most of its youth, Garnett, Allen and Pierce wearing the same uniform is a dangerous combination.

The three athletes have a long history together -- and noted at a press conference that they met more than a decade ago, when they were all high school players.

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Obituary

In Loving Memory
Rebecca L. Minner

Funeral services will be held Friday, Aug. 10 at 11 a.m. at Allen Temple Church, 4236 N.E. Eighth Ave., for Rebecca L. Minner who died Aug. 2, 2007. Pastor LeRoy Haynes will be officiating.

She was born March 10, 1960 in Inglewood, Calif.

Survivors include her sons, Marco Smith and DiVante Jones; sisters Belinda Minner, Elizabeth Taylor and Anita Minner; Delbert Childs, Lee Roy Minner, Angie Minner, Patrick Minner, Ezekiel Minner and Cynthia Minner.

The tragic loss has emotionally devastated the family, which is trying to raise the money for her funeral expenses. Donations in her memory are welcome in care of Cox and Cox Funeral Home.