



INSIDE:
See if Virginia Tech's Tyrod Taylor will be playing against Boston College this Thursday night
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Red Sox use Game 7 magic to win AL

Boston's Dustin Pedroia jumps into the arms of David Ortiz after Pedroia's two-run home run in the seventh inning Sunday.



AP photo

Boston will host World Series Game 1 on Wednesday

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Daisuke Matsuzaka, Dustin Pedroia and these Boston Red Sox are taking a sweet streak into the World Series, too.

Boston charged to its third straight win, completing yet another October comeback by overpowering the Cleveland Indians 11-2 Sunday night in Game 7 of the AL championship series behind a new pair of rookie Sox.

ALCS Red Sox 11 Indians 2

Matsuzaka pitched five solid innings, Pedroia drove in five runs and the Red Sox — helped by a key blunder by an Indians base coach — finished off their rally from a 3-1 deficit.

Having ended their 86-year title drought in 2004 after digging out

of a 3-0 hole against the Yankees in the ALCS, the Red Sox now have a date with Colorado in the World Series. The Rockies, who have won 10 in a row and 21 of 22, will come back from a record eight days off for Game 1 at Fenway Park on Wednesday night.

"We started to click at the right time. When your team's back is against the wall, it shows the type of ballclub we have. We're down 3-1 and we believed."



Top 5



1. Jimmie Johnson
2. Ryan Newman
3. Jeff Gordon
4. Kyle Busch
5. Matt Kenseth

For complete results of the Subway 500 in Martinsville, please see page D4



NASCAR photo

Mr. Martinsville

Johnson sweeps season's races, gains ground

The Associated Press

MARTINSVILLE — Jeff Gordon has passed the torch to Jimmie Johnson at Martinsville Speedway, the track where Gordon had more success than most anyone.

"He's Mr. Martinsville," Gordon said Sunday after his teammate won his third straight race on the 0.526-mile oval, the shortest and trickiest in Nextel Cup racing.

"That guy is unbelievable here."

Johnson, who has four victories at Martinsville to Gordon's seven, said he's not ready to accept the title.

"I saw something where Richard Petty won how many?" he said of NASCAR's career victories leader at the track with 15. "That's Mr. Martinsville. That's the king."

It certainly looks like Johnson is a candidate to be next best.

Johnson made the pass he didn't allow Gordon to in the spring, sneaking past him on the backstretch.

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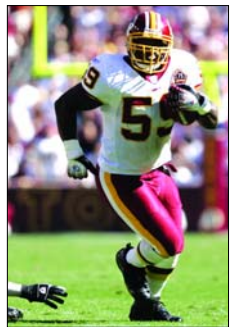


48 Jimmie Johnson has won all four Cup races in Virginia in 2007 (Martinsville, Richmond)



- | | |
|-----------------------|------|
| — 1. Jeff Gordon | 6050 |
| — 2. Jimmie Johnson | -48 |
| — 3. Clint Bowyer | -110 |
| — 4. Tony Stewart | -244 |
| — 5. Carl Edwards | -280 |
| — 6. Kyle Busch | -280 |
| +1 7. Kevin Harvick | -364 |
| +1 8. Denny Hamlin | -369 |
| +1 9. Jeff Burton | -404 |
| -3 10. Kurt Busch | -415 |
| -11. Martin Truex Jr. | -442 |
| -12. Matt Kenseth | -457 |

NFL



Redskins LB London Fletcher returns an interception for a TD.

Gap wide enough to escape

Redskins hang on to barely beat Arizona

By Les Carpenter
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — At precisely 4:04 p.m. Sunday, the kick that could break the Washington Redskins' season began its long flight off the foot of the Arizona Cardinals' Neil Rackers. And as it twirled through the late afternoon sunlight, something died for a moment inside Ladell Betts.

"I thought it was good," the Redskins running back later said.

So, it seemed, did most of the 85,640 at FedEx Field, many of which gave the same strange reaction when the ball made a last second turn, sailing harmlessly just left of the goal post, thus preserving the most precarious of Washington wins this year, 21-19. They neither screamed nor jumped nor danced happy jigs in the stands.

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Cardinals kicker Neil Rackers reacts after missing a game-winning field goal.

College Football

Simpson now making his name known

Cavaliers running back is giving Groh another option

By Andy Bitter
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Al Groh has been known to be secretive with the media, not divulging anything that could possibly put his Virginia team at a disadvantage come game time.

In the case of Mikkell Simpson, he wasn't withholding information. That the sophomore tailback produced 271 yards in the Cavaliers' 18-17 win over Maryland late Saturday night — one of the best and most unexpected individual performances in

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2007 ACC Operation Basketball, Greensboro, N.C.



AP photo

Wake Forest men's basketball coach Dino Gaudio takes over the Demon Deacons program after the death of Skip Prosser earlier in the year.

Carrying on the legacy

Gaudio leading Wake Forest after death of mentor

By Nathan Wartars
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GREENSBORO, N.C. — Dino Gaudio is a walking memorial to Skip Prosser. His voice sounds like his mentor's. He blurts out the same one-liners. He's even been known to summon a historical or literary reference every now and then.

Prosser died almost three months ago of a heart attack, but he lives on

through Gaudio, his protégé and friend. Wake Forest hired Gaudio as its men's basketball coach in August to replace Prosser, who died unexpectedly at the age of 56. A few minutes with Gaudio reveals how the school came to that decision.

Like Prosser, Gaudio is witty. He's tough. He wants to win basketball games, but he also wants to mold young men into adults.

Wake didn't hire Gaudio to help the

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Golf

Mike Weir wins his first golf tournament since 2004
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NFL



Jason Elam kicks a game-winning field goal to lift the Broncos over the Steelers
Roundup, Page D3

College Basketball

North Carolina's Tyler Hansbrough is picked as the ACC preseason Player of the Year
ACC Notebook, Page D5



Today's TOP TV games

NFL: Colts @ Jaguars
8:30 p.m., ESPN
Hockey: Bruins @ Canadiens
7 p.m., VS