

Are the Pats trying to send the league a message by running up scores?

Send your answer to projsports.com/patriots



PROUT TOPS MOUNT ST. CHARLES IN GIRLS SOCCER: View the gallery at HSGameTime.com/rhodeisland

On the PatsBlog

All the latest news as New England gets set for the showdown in Indianapolis, at projsports.com/patsblog

On a streak

The Patriots lead the series with the Colts (both Baltimore and Indy) by 43-27. Nineteen of the wins came on three streaks:

Wins	Dates
6 in row	Nov. 1984 – Nov. 1986
7 in row	Nov. 1996 – Sept. 1999
6 in row	Sept. 2001 – Jan. 2005

For up-to-the-second stats and scores: projsports.com/redsox

SECTION D



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2007

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IN THE NEWS

■ DENVER HONORS ROCKIES' SEASON

Even after being swept out of the World Series, it was a happy Halloween for the Colorado Rockies. A crowd estimated by police at about 5,000 braved chilly temperatures and gray skies yesterday to thank the Rockies for a nearly magical season, even though it ended abruptly with a four-game sweep at the hands of the Boston Red Sox. Left-fielder **Matt Holliday**, a potential MVP, had trouble making himself heard over the screaming chants of "MVP! MVP!"

■ GAGNE FILES FOR FREE AGENCY

Eric Gagne's short stay with the Boston Red Sox appears to be over after the 2003 N.L. Cy Young Award winner filed for free agency yesterday. In 20 regular-season appearances with the Red Sox, Gagne was 2-2 with a 6.75 ERA and went 0-for-3 in save opportunities. In five postseason outings, he allowed three earned runs in 4 2/3 innings.

■ ORTIZ RANKS RIGHT UP THERE

Big Papi got a big score in baseball's annual player rankings. Boston designated hitter **David Ortiz** became the seventh player to earn a perfect 100 in the annual statistical compilation issued yesterday by the Elias Sports Bureau, which uses a formula players and owners negotiated in 1981. Ortiz ranked first among American League DHs in plate appearances, batting average, on-base percentage, home runs and RBI in 2006 and 2007 combined. Last year, **Travis Hafner** topped the A.L. DH rankings. Boston's **Mike Lowell** (84.857) took over from the Yankees' **Alex Rodriguez** at third. A-Rod, who had led at shortstop or third for eight consecutive years, dropped because he was 21st in fielding.

■ DODGERS, TORRE STILL TALKING

General manager **Ned Colletti** acknowledged yesterday that he has spoken with **Joe Torre** about managing the Los Angeles Dodgers. While Colletti insisted they had not agreed on a contract, he indicated the former New York Yankees manager was the leading candidate to replace **Grady Little**, who resigned on Tuesday. "We've had some conversations with him very recently," Colletti said.

■ AQUATIC HALL TO INDUCT 5

The Rhode Island Aquatic Hall of Fame's 26th induction banquet is scheduled for tomorrow night at Quidnessett Country Club, North Kingstown, starting at 5:30. This year's inductees are **Beth Iacobucci Brown**, **Susan Pergola Clark**, **Paul J. Long**, **Colleen McGarry O'Neil** and **Daniel A. Spaight Jr.** For ticket information, contact **Matt Gilson** at (401) 270-2247 or mgilson@getmetagent.com.

■ NHL

New Jerse 6, Tampa Bay 1 Florida 4, Carolina 2 Chicago 5, Dallas 4 Columbus at Los Angeles

■ NBA

Orlando 102, Milwaukee 83 Indiana 119, Washington 110 Toronto 106, Philadelphia 97 New Jersey 112, Chicago 103 San Antonio 104, Memphis 101 Dallas 92, Cleveland 74 New Orleans 104, Sacramento 90 Seattle at Denver

GOOD MOVES



2 teams share a strategy

BY ROBERT LEE
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

FOXBORO — Do you know the main reason the Indianapolis Colts have not had a losing season in more than 10 years and are beginning their third straight season with a 7-0 record?

Or why the New England Patriots have not had a losing season in seven years?

If you said coaching, you're close.

Indianapolis coach Tony Dungy has an NFL-best record (121-62) among active coaches and New England coach Bill Belichick has the sixth-best winning percentage (119-81, .595).

The main reason they have been so successful is because of the excellent personnel moves that both teams have made over the years. A winning franchise makes the right choices when it comes to scouting, drafting, signing free agents and re-signing key players. The Patriots and Colts have done that and it has turned into success on the football field.

"Oh, that's important. There's no doubt about it, absolutely. That's important," Belichick said when asked how important the draft was in building a football team. "But however you build your team, whatever those decisions are, however you decide to build it, those are all important decisions,

SEE ALIKE, D5

Wide receiver Randy Moss, scoring a touchdown against San Diego in the home opener, has shown to be a key free-agent signing for the Patriots.

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB BREIDENBACH

Pats' foes should stop whining, start tackling

Enough, already, with people running their mouths about how the Patriots have been running up the score against over-matched and overwhelmed opponents.

JIM DONALDSON | This is the National Football League we're talking about, not the Rhode Island Interscholastic League.

The Patriots versus the Redskins isn't exactly Bishop Hendricken against North

Smithfield. The Pats playing the Dolphins isn't like St. Raphael taking on Hope.

Well, maybe Pats-Dolphins is, actually, like St. Raphael taking on Hope, but that's not the point.

The point is that an awful lot of people — way too many people — are upset about the number of points the Patriots have been piling up.

The prolific Pats haven't scored less than 34 points in any of their eight games

— all wins, not surprisingly — so far in this oh-so-spectacular season.

Their smallest margin of victory has been 17 points. Here are the Patriots, half-way through the season, and there isn't a team in the league that has been able to come within even two touchdowns of them.

A week after drubbing the winless

SEE DONALDSON, D5

PATRIOTS VS. COLTS

Time: Sunday, 4:15 p.m.

Site: RCA Dome, Indianapolis.

TV: CBS (Over-the-air Channel 12, Cox Channel 12).

Announcers: Jim Nantz and Phil Simms.

Team records: New England 8-0, Indianapolis 7-0.

The line: New England by 5.

PILGRIM SOCCER TEAM DEDICATES SEASON TO ONE OF ITS 'FAMILY'

The players wear JJ on their uniform sleeves to honor Jason Januskiewicz, the 1999 Pilgrim captain, who can move only his right arm because of a car accident.

BY PAUL KENYON
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

WARWICK — The boys soccer team at Pilgrim is not like most high school teams. It does not have to wait another couple of weeks to find out if it will win a title this year.

The Patriots already have proven they are championship material, and it has nothing to do with the fact that they are 14-2-2 and runaway leaders in Division II-West. What they have done to help a former Pilgrim soccer captain who is now paralyzed because of an auto accident is greater than anything they will accomplish on the pitch.

Led by their coaches, Bill Carroll and Angelo Corsi, the Patriots have dedicated their season to Jason Januskiewicz, the 1999 Pilgrim captain who now lies in a hospital bed with two broken vertebrae, able to

move only his right arm.

Teams at all levels like to talk about how they work to become a family, how they want to help each other on and off the field. The Pilgrim soccer team has done more than talk about it. It has put the motto into action.

It has raised money, along with Rep. James Langevin, to purchase a voice activated computer for Januskiewicz. It is one he uses daily, one that keeps him in touch with the outside world. Through its booster club, the team also has purchased a flat screen TV that Januskiewicz has in his hospital room at Zambarano Hospital in Burrillville, a room decorated with all kinds of sports memorabilia, including soccer jerseys.

The players have the initials "JJ" on the left sleeve of their white and black uniforms to remind themselves, and let everyone know, about their stricken teammate.

At the suggestion of Carroll, their head coach, the players passed up an offer from their booster club to

SEE PILGRIM, D6



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / MARY MURPHY

"If I had worn a seat belt ...I would have walked away," says Jason Januskiewicz a patient at Zambarano Hospital. He has a positive attitude, and the Pilgrim team is rooting for him.