

Which receiver will be Tom Brady's go-to target on Sunday?

Tell us what you think at projosports.com/patriots



NORTH PROVIDENCE SQUEAKS PAST SCITUATE: View the gallery at HSGameTime.com/rhodeisland

URI-Richmond preview

Paul Kenyon sizes up the Rams and the Spiders in a multimedia presentation posted this afternoon at projosports.com/uri

Rematch losers

Six teams have lost the Super Bowl against teams they defeated in the regular season:

| YEAR | S.B. LOSER | S.B. WINNER | PLAYED IN WK. |
|------|------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1980 | Eagles | Raiders | 12 |
| 1983 | Redskins | Raiders | 5 |
| 1990 | Bills | Giants | 14 |
| 1993 | Bills | Cowboys | 2 |
| 1999 | Titans | Rams | 7 |
| 2001 | Rams | Patriots | 10 |

SECTION C



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2008

projo SPORTS

Phone: 401-277-7340 Fax: 401-277-7444 E-mail: pjsports@projo.com

NO ORDINARY DAY



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB BREIDENBACH

Patriots quarterback Tom Brady turns the tables, or at least his camera, on the huge throng of media yesterday.



Patriots linebacker Tedy Bruschi certainly wasn't on the defensive yesterday, answering questions with his trademark smile and sense of humor.



Nine-year-old reporter Brock Domann of Scholastic News lays a few tough questions on Patriots punter Chris Hanson.



There was no shortage of outrageous characters attending Media Day, including this swami who offered his prediction on the outcome of Sunday's game.

Overwhelming but enjoyable experience for Moss

This week is the culmination of a dream come true for veteran wide receiver Randy Moss of the Patriots.

BY SHALISE MANZA YOUNG
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

PHOENIX — With his teammates in the New England Patriots' locker room, and in his infrequent-but-always-entertaining press conferences this season, Randy Moss has never

seemed to be at a loss for words.

But yesterday, when he took his place at his designated, elevated booth for Super Bowl XLII Media Day at University of Phoenix Stadium and saw more than 200 media members waiting for him — recorders, cameras and flashbulbs at the ready — the gregarious wideout with the West Virginia drawl was nearly speechless.

"They told me how hectic it's going to be as far as all the cameras and flashes," Moss said, referring to his

Media Day-experienced teammates. "I guess I was a little stunned coming out here and seeing everybody out here, especially waiting here at my booth."

As overwhelming as it may have been, Moss had waited his entire career to take part in the three-ring circus known as Media Day, having taken a big pay cut to play for the New England Patriots for just that chance.

And yesterday he embraced it. "It's an experience and I'm enjoy-

ing every second of it," he said.

This week, this season, have been a dream come true for Moss, who was traded from a bad situation in Oakland to football Eden in New England during NFL Draft weekend nine months ago.

From his first day with the team, he made clear his intentions to fall in line and do whatever was asked of him. He was just grateful for the chance to

SEE MOSS, C3

REAL DEAL



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB BREIDENBACH

Patriots practice-squad cornerback Tim Mixon is on the red carpet yesterday with East Providence native and former Miss USA-Rhode Island Claudia Jordan, of the *Entertainment Tonight* network. She pretended to be the players' escort while they were questioned by *ET*'s Kevin Frazier.

On Media Day, non-stars adorn the red carpet, too

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Claudia Jordan is looking pretty as a picture, in part because her dress absolutely, positively, had to be painted on.

The former Miss USA-Rhode Island and East Providence High track star is now a "Deal or No Deal" girl, and the "deal" on this wild and wacky Tuesday morning during Media Day at Super Bowl XLII is that Patriots players who are not stars get to walk the red carpet with Claudia.

If ever there was a day to be a backup player, this is it.

While the likes of Tom Brady, Randy Moss, Tedy Bruschi, Junior

JIM DONALDSON



Patriots practice-squad players like Jason Rader and Tim Mixon are getting star treatment, strolling and "vogue-ing" with the lovely Claudia for a segment of the television show *Entertainment Tonight*, scheduled to air last night.

Seau and Rodney Harrison are stuck on a podium, pinned behind microphones by engulfing hordes of inquisitive media, answering the same questions over and over again.

"Give me the 'GQ' look," Claudia coos to Mixon. "Look over your shoulder, back at the camera."

"Now for a couple of shots to create some rumors," she says, flashing a dazzling smile and throwing her arms around Mixon, while kicking a leg up behind her.

This prompts two other Pats practice-squad players to burst into song.

"If you are what you say you are — a superstar," croon C.J. Jones and "Bam" Childress, singing one of their favorites by Lupe Fiasco. Fiasco — that's one way to describe what's going on.

You've heard of Midnight Mad-

ness. This is Morning Madness — a zany bit of Cactus Craziest here in the desert.

Compared to this, walking down Bourbon Street in the midst of Mardi Gras is a quiet stroll.

It's an event that makes New Year's Eve in Times Square seem like a night at the library.

It's a media circus so big it wouldn't fit under the biggest of tops, and so had to be staged under an open roof at the University of Phoenix Stadium.

Hurry, hurry, hurry! See the would-be bride in the

SEE DONALDSON, C4

Red Sox shedding few tears as Santana heads to Mets

BY JOE McDONALD
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

Believe it or not, the Red Sox won the negotiations for pitcher Johan Santana — sort of.

Even though the two-time Cy Young Award winner is heading to the New York Mets in exchange for four prospects, Boston kept the highly talented left-hander out of the American League and away from that other New York team —

the Yankees.

In exchange for Santana, the Minnesota Twins are getting outfielder Carlos Gomez and pitchers Phil Humber, Deolis Guerra and Kevin Mulvey. The deal is still pending because the Mets must negotiate a new contract with Santana. They have between 48 and 72 hours to get the pact done and he also must pass a physical.

Sure, the Red Sox would love to have

added Santana to an already potent starting rotation along with Josh Beckett, Curt Schilling and Daisuke Matsuzaka because it would have been devastating for opponents. But Boston will be able to keep its core of young talent in place for the upcoming season and the future.

The names reportedly on the table as an asking price for Santana's services were Coco Crisp, Jon Lester, Jacoby Ellsbury, Jed Lowrie and Justin Masterson.

Phone calls made to Lester and Ellsbury were not returned, but Lowrie said he's quite happy he's staying in the Boston organization and that all the rumors have finally ended.

"I can't say I put serious thought into [the possibility of being traded]," said Lowrie. "But as soon as I heard my name being tossed around I thought about playing for the Twins. That's not a bad thing and I'm not saying I didn't want to

be with the Red Sox, I'm just saying that was a distinct possibility and it was something I had to keep in mind. I'm glad to be with the Sox and obviously it's a first-class organization."

Santana talks fueled the winter meetings in Nashville last month, but from the time Red Sox management returned to Boston without a deal until most recent-

SEE RED SOX, C6