

Pick the biggest local sports story from the first half of 2008

Make your selection at projosports.com



RED SOX EDGE THE ORIOLES: View the gallery at projosports.com/redsox

Baseball Today

Art Martone takes you for a tour around the big leagues, every morning at 9 o'clock at projosports.com/soxblog

The price of success?

According to the Associated Press, the Boston Red Sox entered the 2008 season with the fourth highest payroll in Major League Baseball:

RANK	TEAM	PAYROLL
1	Yankees	\$209,081,579
2	Tigers	\$138,685,197
3	Mets	\$138,293,378
4	Red Sox	\$133,440,037

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



SECTION B
MONDAY, JULY 14, 2008

projo SPORTS

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

Hien wants to win one for his dad

Charlie Hien had said he was finished coaching after his father, Randy, was killed in 2006, but he's back with the Lincoln Little League team now after taking a year off.

BY ROBERT LEE
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

LINCOLN — For many years, Randy Hien was synonymous with the success of the Lincoln Little League team, which made trips to Williamsport, Pa., for the Little League World Series in 2001 and 2004.

After the coach of 28 years was killed when struck by a car in 2006, four weeks to the day after the Little League World Series, his son Charlie, an assistant on the Lincoln coaching

staff, said he wouldn't coach again. But now Charlie Hien is back, coaching the Lincoln Little Leaguers as they make their way through the state tournament.

He's back to carry on the legacy of his dad for at least one more season. He couldn't stay away.

He considers the Lincoln Little Leaguers his second family.

"They are my favorite baseball team," Hien said. "The Red Sox are number two."

After coaching the Lincoln Little

Leaguers for 13 years with his dad, who built the program into a state powerhouse, for the first time last summer, Hien got to spend a lot of time with his wife, Stacy, and his 10-year-old daughter, Haley.

But he missed coaching. "My wife gave me the blessing, so I came back," Hien said. "I didn't realize how much I was going to miss it, but I needed last year off. My dad had passed away. I had already said that I was going to take it off. I had considered coming back last year, on and off, but instead I decided to spend last summer with my family. It rejuvenated me."

District IV, which consists of 10 teams from the Blackstone Valley, re-

named the district trophy the Randy Hien Trophy in honor of Hien, who won six state titles with Lincoln.

Charlie Hien's goal is to win the Randy Hien trophy in honor of his dad.

"The reason why I coach is because he gave me the passion to be a coach," Hien said. "He was just so inspirational to everybody. I just want to dedicate this whole tournament to him and the team has dedicated the tournament to him. They are really playing hard for him."

"I've been a part of nine district championships here and I want number 10. I want the trophy that



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / GLENN OSMUNDSON

The late Randy Hien, right, is pictured in 2005 with his son, Charlie Hien, who now manages The Living Room, in Providence.

SEE H1EN, B3



AP / CHARLES REX ARBOGAST

Brad Adamonis seeks a ruling on where to make his drop in yesterday's playoff.

Adamonis ties for 2nd in playoff

The Cumberland High grad takes a giant step toward keeping his Tour card for next year, picking up \$369,600.

BY PAUL KENYON
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

Brad Adamonis had a career-changing day yesterday, even with a disappointing finish.

The Cumberland High grad, who learned to play golf at Kirkbrae and Pawtucket country clubs, lost a three-way playoff for the championship of the PGA Tour's John Deere Classic in Silvis, Ill. Adamonis drove into the trees on the first playoff hole and, with an all-but-impossible angle, went for the green on the 476-yard, par-4. His ball landed safely but then bounced into water that guards the entire left side.

Kenny Perry, the hottest player on tour, made a routine par to win the \$738,000 first-place check. Adamonis and Jay Williamson, who also hit his approach on the playoff hole into the water, settled for the second-place tie and checks of \$369,600 each.

The money is more than Adamonis, 35, had made all season in this, his rookie year on tour. In fact, it is more than he had made in any single season in his 12 years as a pro. Added to the \$351,436 he had earned in his first 17 starts, it vaulted Adamonis from 135th place to 88th on the earnings list, directly behind fellow Rhode Islander Brett Quigley, who is 87th.

It is a giant step toward maintaining his card for next year. The top 125 each year maintain full playing privileges.

As it is, Adamonis has not been able to play in all events. He earned a tour

SEE ADAMONIS, B4

BACK ON TOP

Red Sox reclaim A.L. East with win over Orioles



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / GRETCHEN ERTL

Red Sox closer Jonathan Papelbon reacts to getting the final out — and the victory — in yesterday's game.

BY JOE McDONALD
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

BOSTON — In order for the Red Sox to be successful in the second half of the season — and into the postseason — the bullpen will have to be consistent.

Of course that's stating the obvious, but the fact remains that Boston's bullpen needs to be more effective in the next 2½ months in order for the club to once again achieve

October glory.

The way the bullpen worked yesterday in the Sox' 2-1 victory over the Baltimore Orioles in the first-half finale at Fenway Park could be a good starting point.

After Red Sox starter Daisuke Matsuzaka improved to 10-1 this season, working six scoreless innings in which he allowed only four hits in helping the Sox regain the top spot in the A.L. East, Boston's bullpen was key.

Relievers Hideki Okajima and Manny Delcarmen, along with closer Jonathan Papelbon, finished off the Orioles. Sure, the next 65 games won't always

SEE RED SOX, B7

Dice-K needs to economize

BOSTON — Random observations and opinions as we head into the All-Star break:

■ Daisuke Matsuzaka finished the first half with a 10-1 record and an ERA of 2.65. Terrific.

SEAN MCADAM

Over his last four starts of the first half, he gave up exactly one run. Splendid.

But here's where the Red Sox should be concerned: in three of those last four starts, including yesterday, he failed to pitch past the sixth inning. Twice, in fact, he didn't pitch past the fifth.

Shutout innings are nice, but only if you can pitch a lot of them, and Matsuzaka's infuriatingly high pitch counts

SEE MCADAM, B7