

Is it a good idea for MLB to roll out instant replay midseason?

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To sweep, perchance...

The Yankees sweep of the Orioles last weekend was their ninth series sweep of 2008, matching their total for all of 2007. Only two A.L. teams have more this season:

TEAMS	SWEEPS
Boston Red Sox	10
Chicago White Sox	10
New York Yankees	9

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SECTION C



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2008

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Patriots' roster cuts never easy for Belichick

Three players, including running back Kyle Eckel, are released as the team gets down to the required limit of 75. By Saturday, the roster must be cut to 53.

BY SHALISE MANZA YOUNG
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

FOXBORO — When he was a first-year, low-level assistant with the Baltimore Colts in 1975, Bill Belichick was Billy Bad News.

AKA the Turk, the most feared man in professional football.

The Turk is the man who delivers the news that a player needs to get his playbook and head to the coach's office; he's been released.

For obvious reasons, he is not a beloved man. "I wasn't really the one telling them [they were cut] but when they saw me, it was bad news. They knew that," Belichick said yesterday. "They knew if I was in the area that didn't bode well for them. If I wasn't in the area, then the coast was clear."

Though Belichick isn't the Turk for the Patriots, three New England players were released yesterday as part of the team's moves to get down to the NFL-mandated limit of 75.

Cornerback Jason Webster, fullback Kyle Eckel and offensive lineman Ryan Wendell were cut; in addition, guard Stephen Neal was moved from the active/physically unable to perform list to reserve/PUP and tackle Ryan O'Callaghan was placed on season-ending injured reserve with a shoulder injury.

SEE PATRIOTS, C3



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / GLENN OSMUNDSON

Running back Kyle Eckel, carrying the ball against Cleveland last year, lost out in the numbers game yesterday.

URI's hoopsters will be in fast lane on road

The Rams will play in perhaps the No. 1 campus arena, Duke's Cameron Indoor, and also will take part in the All-College Classic in Oklahoma City.

BY PAUL KENYON
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

SOUTH KINGSTOWN — When a college basketball team announces its schedule for a new season, the focus usually is on the home games. Yesterday was an exception at the University of Rhode Island.

The Rams released their men's hoop slate for this winter, and the buzz clearly is about the places the team will visit.

URI will play in perhaps the No. 1 campus arena in the country, Duke's Cameron Indoor. It will compete in the most hallowed arena in the East, The Palestra in Philadelphia. And it will take part in the oldest college in-season tournament in the nation, as well, the All-College Classic in Oklahoma City.

Coach Jim Baron reacted the way Rhode fans are likely to. He spoke about the challenge his team will face on the road, especially going to Duke.

"It's a great place," Baron said. "It's going to be a great opportunity for our team to play there."

URI will visit Cameron Indoor on Nov. 16. The game will be televised on one of the ESPN family of channels. It will be the second regular-season game. URI opens on Nov. 14 against Brown. The

SEE URI, C6

RED SOX 7, YANKEES 3

N.Y. KEPT AT BAY



AP / FRANK FRANKLIN II

Red Sox outfielder Jason Bay connects for a single in the fifth inning last night against New York at Yankee Stadium.

Masterson pitches in to stymie Yanks' comeback

BY JOE McDONALD
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

NEW YORK — Justin Masterson experienced the biggest moment of his young major-league career last night in Boston's 7-3 victory.

The Red Sox' rookie right-handed reliever entered the game with a four-run lead and one out in the bottom of the seventh inning. Might not seem like much, but here's the kicker. The bases were loaded — thanks to fellow reliever Manny Delcarmen — when Masterson was brought in to face the Yankees' Alex Rodriguez. Masterson, only 23 years old,

needed just two pitches to do exactly what he was brought in to do. His first offering was a 91-mph sinker for a called strike. His second pitch — another sinker — was down enough in the zone to get Rodriguez to ground into a double play.

The threat was over. "That's obviously the biggest pitch of the game," said Red Sox manager Terry Francona. "We got ourselves into a position where one pitch could turn the game around, and he makes the one pitch to get us out of it."

Some might think that a bases-loaded situation would be too much of a pressure-packed situation for a rookie pitcher in the atmosphere that is Yankee Stadium. Not for Masterson.

"I love that stuff," he said. "That's why you play this game. I was just happy to help us get a win."

Masterson made a lifetime memory. Rodriguez made 55,058 fans boo him.

"I was just doing my job," added Masterson. "He's a good right-handed hitter and when I'm called upon

I'm supposed to get the job done. I won that time and I'm excited to keep going."

It wasn't the first time Masterson had toed the rubber here. He made a start at Yankee Stadium on July 5, and even though he suffered a 2-1 loss, he was solid during his six-inning outing, in which he allowed the two runs on six hits.

That day Masterson faced Rodriguez three times. The Yankee third baseman grounded out, was hit by a pitch and had a single in the three at-

SEE RED SOX, C5

NEXT GAME

Tonight at New York 7:05

A PESKY PROBLEM SOLVED?



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / GLENN OSMUNDSON

The right-field foul pole at Fenway Park, known as the Pesky Pole, has seen many controversies over the years as umpires struggled to determine whether balls in that area were fair or foul. Now, Major League Baseball will have the use of instant replays to help. Story, Page C5.

In final years, Sox rewrote history in Yankee Stadium

NEW YORK — Tomorrow afternoon, the Red Sox will play their final regular-season game at Yankee Stadium, though it's doubtful that Sox players will find much significance in the occasion.

For one thing, player movement being what it is, most players don't stay in one place long enough to develop an attachment or appreciation for any one ballpark. For another, modern-day players are a decidedly unsentimental lot.

But quite apart from the ballpark's long and glorious history, Yankee Stadium should be remembered fondly by Red Sox players and fans alike. It is, after all, where the fortunes of the franchise changed for

the better.

For decades, of course, Yankee Stadium was the Red Sox' personal House of Horrors. Where the Red Sox were concerned, whatever could go wrong, invariably did.

The 1949 pennant slipped out of their hands here. Bill Lee's career was effectively ended here in 1976, his left shoulder shredded in a pig pile of players. And, of course, there was Game Seven of the 2003 American League Championship Series, perhaps the cruelest loss of all.

But a mere 369 days later, the Red Sox turned the next year's ALCS on its head, and with it, the course of team history. When they capped the greatest comeback in baseball histo-

SEE MCADAM, C5