



First Down

By Jon Fogg

IN ZORN'S DEFENSE

Fire Jim Zorn.
Get rid of the bum. After all, the Redskins were a lock for the playoffs in October (when most teams are) but are now in a 1-5 death spiral. Zorn should take the fall.
An examination of the facts suggests otherwise.
For starters, his team has as many wins as losses. If the Redskins lose their last two games, Zorn will have something in common with Joe Gibbs, Chuck Noll and Tom Landry: a losing record in his first season.
The Redskins stormed out to a 6-2

record, riling up fans and inspiring Super Bowl delusions. But the early success was a byproduct of factors out of Zorn's hands. Look at the squads Washington defeated for those six wins — the only likely play-off teams are Arizona (5-0 against a terrible division) and Dallas (which was entering a nose dive).
Put that stretch in context and the Redskins are right where they should be: 7-7. Doesn't sound like a fireable offense. If the Redskins are serious about building a successful franchise, they won't be so eager to ditch Zorn at the first crisis.



GETTY IMAGES

SATURDAY'S BEST BET ON TELEVISION

The EagleBank Bowl, pitting Navy and Wake Forest, kicks off the first of a record 34 bowl games in 20 days (an average of 1.7 bowls a day). **11 a.m., ESPN**

TWT FIVE » THROWBACK MEN

The passing of Sammy Baugh is a reminder that the NFL was once a game where most players had to have skills on both sides of the ball. Here's a look at two-way players from the past 20 years:
«1. Deion Sanders: In five seasons with the Falcons, "Prime Time" returned three interceptions for a touchdown and caught two TD passes.
2. Mike Vrabel: Patriots linebacker/goal-line receiver has 11 interceptions and 11 touchdowns in his career, including scores in Super Bowls XXXVIII and XXXIX.
3. Troy Brown: Patriots wideout also played nickel corner in 2004, adding three interceptions to his 17 catches.
4. Champ Bailey: With the Redskins in 2000, he started at a game at defensive back and receiver. That season, he picked off five passes, ran for a touchdown and had three catches for 78 yards.
5. Spencer Larsen: Broncos rookie started at fullback and middle linebacker vs. the Falcons last month, making seven tackles.

BRIEFS

Spiders top Grizzlies to capture FCS title

Mike London gave Richmond the perfect ending to his first season in charge at his alma mater.
Eric Ward caught a touchdown and threw for another, and the Spiders dominated Montana 24-7 on Friday in Chattanooga, Tenn., for the school's first Football Championship Subdivision national title.
After starting the season 4-3, the Spiders were perhaps the only ones who thought they had a chance to win the championship. The team held a players-only meeting Oct. 12 after a loss to James Madison and pledged not to give up on making a playoff run.
Richmond (13-3) won its next eight games behind the calm coaching of London, who replaced **Dave Clawson** after two seasons as defensive coordinator at Virginia. The Spiders upset defending national champion Appalachian State in the quarterfinals and hang on to beat Northern Iowa in the semifinals before toppling two-time national champion Montana.
■ **BASEBALL:** Atlanta Braves president **John Schuerholz** has vowed to never again do business with **Rafael Furcal's** agents, whom Schuerholz accused in a newspaper interview of conducting "despicable" dealings with the team. Schuerholz and Braves general manager **Frank Wren** were quoted as saying the Wasserman Media Group negotiated dishonestly by taking the team's signed terms of agreement sheet for Furcal to the Los Angeles Dodgers, who then reached a preliminary agreement to re-sign the shortstop. . . .
Outfielder **Jody Gerut** agreed with the San Diego Padres on a one-year contract worth just under \$1.8 million. The 31-year-old hit .296 with 14 homers and 43 RBI in 100 games for the Padres last season. . . .
The Los Angeles Angels and free-agent outfielder **Juan Rivera** have agreed to a three-year contract.
■ **FOOTBALL:** Running back **Brandon Jacobs** practiced for the third straight day and was listed as questionable for the New York Giants' NFC showdown with Carolina. . . .
Vince Young is suing former major league infielder **Enos Cabell** and two other men for applying for a trademark to use his initials and the "Invinible" nickname to sell products without his permission.
■ **GOLF:** Jim Furyk shot a 1-under 71 to maintain the lead the second round of the Chevron World Challenge in Thousand Oaks, Calif. The first-round leader, Furyk is at 5-under 139, while **K.J. Choi**, **Anthony Kim** and **Camilo Villegas** are two shots back. . . .
■ **HOCKEY:** The Minnesota Wild placed right wing **Owen Nolan** on injured reserve with a leg injury and called up **Krys Kolanos** from their American Hockey League affiliate. . . .
Vancouver Canucks defenseman **Sami Salo** will be out four weeks with a broken rib. The blue-liner was injured when he was driven into the boards by Edmonton's **Ethan Moreau** on Wednesday night.
■ **WINTER SPORTS:** **Anja Paerson** of Sweden won a World Cup super-combi event in St. Moritz, Switzerland, and American **Lindsey Vonn** maintained her overall lead despite skiing off-course in the slalom. . . .
Werner Heel of Italy won the World Cup super-G in Val Gardena, Italy, in the first of four World Cup races in the Italian Dolomites.

PRO CALENDAR

	Today	Sun./21	Mon./22	Tue./23	Wed./24
	No game scheduled	Philadelphia 4:15 p.m. Chs. 5, 45 ESPN 980*	No game scheduled	No game scheduled	No game scheduled
	at Philadelphia 1 p.m. CSN AM-1500	No game scheduled	No game scheduled	at N.Y. Rangers 7 p.m. CSN AM-1500	No game scheduled
	No game scheduled	Dallas 6 p.m. CSN AM-570	No game scheduled	at Charlotte 7 p.m. CSN+ ESPN 980*	No game scheduled

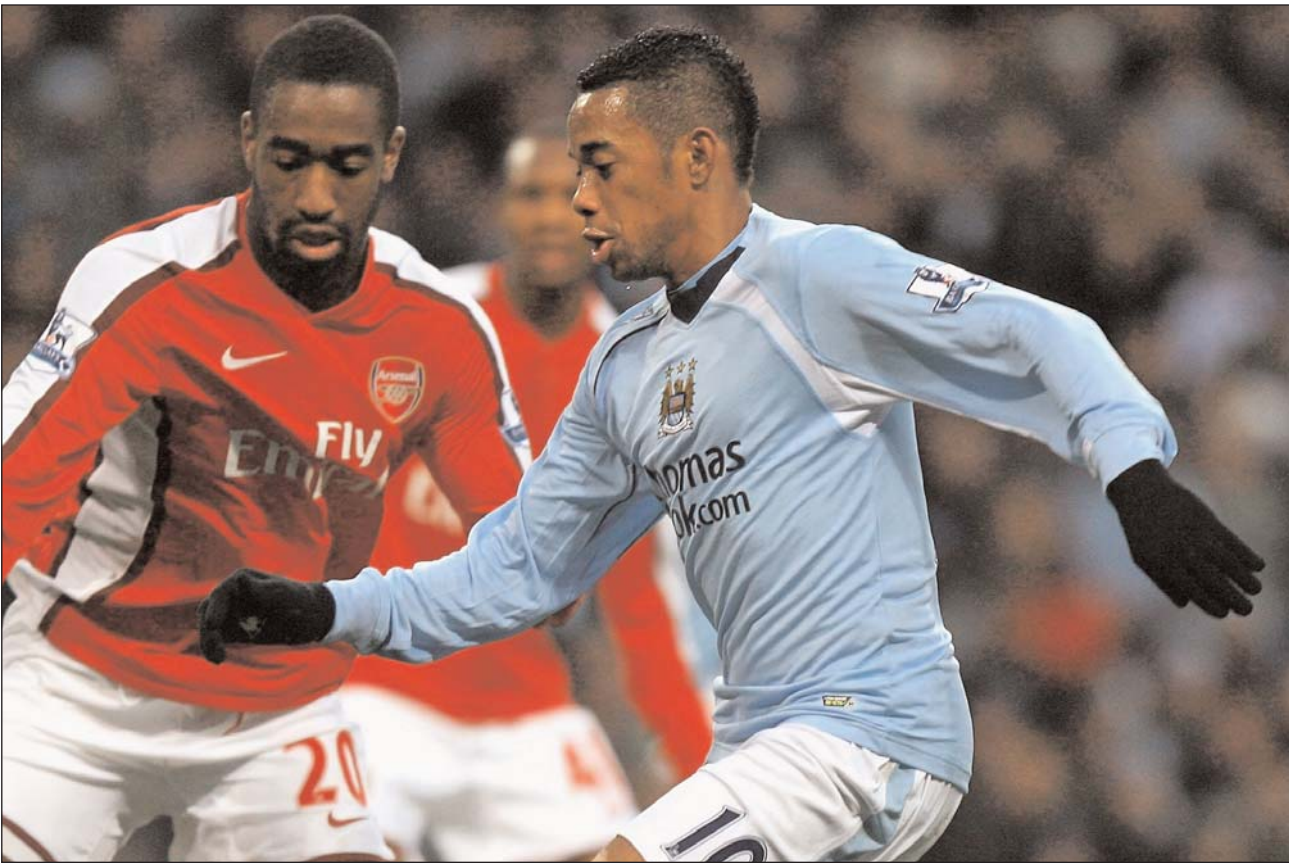
Home games shaded; *AM-980, FM-92.7, FM-94.3

TODAY'S TV/RADIO

	Time	TV	Radio
NBA Utah at Chicago	8:30	NBA TV	
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Miami (Ohio) at West Virginia Mount St. Mary's at Georgetown Duke vs. Xavier N. Carolina vs. Valparaiso Va. Tech vs. Columbia Navy at Canisius Temple at Kansas Arizona at UNLV UConn vs. Gonzaga Auburn at Virginia Iowa at Drake Syracuse at Memphis American at UMBC Rhode Island vs. Oklahoma St. Louisville vs. Minnesota VCU vs. Oklahoma Arizona State vs. BYU	Noon 1 2 2 2 2 2:30 3 4 4 4 6 7 7:30 8* 10 11*	ESPN MASN Chs. 9, 13 ESPN AM-570 AM-1430 ESPN2 Versus Chs. 9, 13 CSN FM-106.7 ESPN ESPN MASN ESPN Classic CSN ESPN2 CSN	ESPN 980#
EXTREME SPORTS Winter Dew Tour	1:30	Chs. 4, 11	
NFL Baltimore at Dallas	8:15	NFL Ch. 11	ESPN 980# FM-97.7
COLLEGE FOOTBALL EagleBank: Navy vs. Wake	11 a.m.	ESPN	FM-103.5 AM-1090 AM-1430
DIII: Mt. Union vs. Wis.-White. NAIA: Sioux Falls vs. Carroll (Mont.) New Mexico: Colo. St. vs. Fres. St. St. Petersburg: Memphis vs. S. Fla. Las Vegas: Arizona vs. BYU	11 a.m. Noon 2:30 4:30 8	ESPN2 CBSCS ESPN2 ESPN	
GOLF South African Airways Open Chevron World Challenge	9:30 a.m.* 3	Golf Chs. 4, 11	
NHL Washington at Philadelphia	1	CSN	AM-1500
WOMEN'S NCAA VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT Division I final	8	ESPN2	

All times p.m. unless otherwise noted; # AM-980, FM-92.7, FM-94.3; * same-day tape

spotlight » Soccer



GETTY IMAGES

Star forward Robinho (right) signed a record \$60 million contract with Manchester City in September.

Brazil's best bailing out

Europe's lucrative salaries lure country's elite players



On Soccer
John Haydon

Brazil's elite soccer players continue to flock to Europe, where the world's biggest clubs pay the biggest salaries.
FIFA president Sepp Blatter and UEFA president Michel Platini have urged clubs to field more domestic players, but a new survey on the soccer labor market in Europe reveals the tide of foreign talent still is rolling onto those shores — and Brazilians lead the way.
The study, conducted by the Professional Football Players Observatory and titled "Demographic Study of Footballers in Europe 2008," encompassed 11,015 players on 456 clubs in the top divisions of 30 European leagues. On average, clubs in Europe employ 8.6 expatriates, an increase of 30 percent since 2003.
According to the report, 551 Brazilians played this year in Europe — a 72 percent increase since 2003. The most notable Brazilians, stars such as Ronaldinho, Kaka, Lucio, Adriano and Marcelo play in Italy, Spain or Germany.
Weather and language have influenced where Brazilians play — 137 Brazilians compete in Portugal — but now it seems many are lured to the colder climes of Eastern Europe

and the English Premier League. Bulgaria is home to 24 Brazilians, with the leagues in Ukraine, Romania and Russia also big attractions for the Latin maestros.
For a long time, Brazilians shied away from playing in the EPL, where the game is fast, physical and played throughout the cold winter months.
That has changed: Brazil has the second-largest foreign contingent of players in the EPL, behind France (44).
Robinho's recent move from Real Madrid to Manchester City for a record \$60 million caught many by surprise, but it was more evidence that players will go anywhere if the price is right. Robinho joined 19 of his countrymen in the EPL, including Elano and Jo at Manchester City, where playing on a cold and rainy night in late December is a far cry from life in Rio de Janeiro.
According to the study, 38 Americans played in the top divisions in 12 different European countries. The biggest importer of U.S. talent is Norway, followed by the EPL Denmark and the Germany's Bundesliga. Six Americans competed in Norway's top division this season, including former D.C. United goalie Troy Perkins.
After Brazil, the biggest contingents of expatriates playing in Europe came from France (233) and Argentina (222).

Nigeria (94) sent the most players to Europe from Africa, followed by Cameroon (87) and Cote d'Ivoire (59).
Rankings roundup — The U.S. men's team ended the year at No. 22 in the FIFA rankings. Spain tops the list, followed by Germany, Netherlands, Italy, Brazil, Argentina, Croatia, England, Russia and Turkey. The U.S. beat out Germany for the top spot in the women's rankings.
U.S. Soccer, meanwhile, named U.S. men's national team goalie Tim Howard its male athlete of the year and U.S. women's national team midfielder Carli Lloyd the female athlete of the year.
Club Cup — European champion Manchester United plays South American champion LDU Quito of Ecuador in the FIFA World Club Cup final Sunday in Yokohama, Japan, for the \$5 million prize.
Champions League — Defending champion Manchester United will face Jose Mourinho's Inter Milan in the last 16 of the Champions League. Mourinho is the former coach of London club Chelsea. His old club was drawn to play Italian giants Juventus, while Liverpool has a tough task against Real Madrid. Arsenal will play Roma. In other games, Barcelona takes on Lyon, Atletico Madrid plays FC Porto, Sporting Lisbon faces Bayern Munich and Villarreal meets Panathinaikos.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

ROUNDUP

Wake shakes the cobwebs, tops Richmond

From combined dispatches

AP TOP 25 MEN

NO. 10 WAKE FOREST 86, RICHMOND 79: Chas McFarland had 20 points and 14 rebounds Friday night, and the Demon Deacons (10-0) overcame a lackluster performance in a road victory over the Spiders (5-5).
At least half the announced crowd of 6,635 at Robins Center was already pro-Wake Forest as Demon Deacons fans, on their way to see the football team play Navy in Saturday's EagleBank Bowl at RFK Stadium, made a stopover to see the basketball team.
NO. 24 MARQUETTE 94, W. CAROLINA 77: Lazar Hayward scored a career-high 27 points as the Golden Eagles (9-2) ran away to a victory over the Catamounts (5-4).
Jerel McNeal scored 19 and Wesley Matthews added 18 for

Marquette, which made a strong recovery from its loss at Tennessee on Tuesday night.
AP TOP 25 WOMEN
NO. 1 UCONN 84, N. COLORADO 40: Sophomore forward Maya Moore scored 19 points to lead the Huskies (9-0) to a victory over the Bears (4-6) in the Caribbean Classic in Cancun, Mexico.
NO. 3 STANFORD 78, S. CAROLINA 47: Kayla Pedersen and Jayne Appel each had double-doubles to lead the Cardinal (8-2) past the Gamecocks (5-4) in Columbia, S.C.
NO. 14 RUTGERS 61, LAFAYETTE 29: Epiphanny Prince scored 23 points and Kia Vaughn added a season-high 13 to help the Scarlet Knights (7-2) win their fifth straight game, beating the Leopards (4-7) in Piscataway, N.J.
Rutgers, which has won 19

straight home games, last held an opponent under 30 in November 2000, against Vermont.
NO. 16 PITTSBURGH 89, FLORIDA A&M 59: Xenia Stewart scored 27 points to lead the Panthers (9-1) over the Rattlers (4-5) in Tallahassee, Fla.
Pittsburgh won its ninth straight, holding Florida A&M to one basket from the floor for the game's first 7:58.
NO. 19 VANDERBILT 98, TENNESSEE ST. 82: Hannah Tuomi scored a career-high 23 points and led four Vanderbilt players in double figures as the Commodores (9-2) beat the Tigers (4-8) in Nashville, Tenn.
Tuomi, a junior, also had a game-high 10 rebounds for Vanderbilt. Christina Wirth added 22 points, Jessica Mooney had 15 and Merideth Marsh 10.
NO. 22 OKLAHOMA ST. 75, S. MISSISSIPPI 72: Andrea Riley scored 35 points, and the Cowgirls (6-2)

held off the Golden Eagles (5-6) in the Desert Draw in Las Vegas.
AREA WOMEN
NO. 10 AUBURN 65, GW 51: DeWanna Bonner had season highs of 30 points and 16 rebounds to lead the Tigers (11-0) to a win over the Colonials (5-4) at Smith Center.
It was Bonner's third double-double of the season for Auburn, which played its first game in 12 days. Whitney Boddie added 14 points for the Tigers.
Antelia Parrish finished with 13 points to lead George Washington. Jessica Adair had 11 points and eight rebounds, and Jazmine Adair added 10 points.
AMERICAN 59, PRINCETON 44: Liz Leer scored 17 points and the Eagles (7-3) stayed undefeated at Bender Arena with a win over the Tigers (4-6).