

Today's LINEUP

TV PICK

RED SOX: One more interleague series. Boston visits Houston in the opener of a three-game against the Astros. NESN has the telecast at 8 p.m.

• For a full schedule of TV and radio listings, see Scoreboard, page D4.

WIMBLEDON



SHARAPOVA KVI TOVA

Sharapova vs. Kvitova

Maria Sharapova overcame some jitters on Thursday to set up a Wimbledon final against Petra Kvitova. The 24-year-old Russian served 13 double faults on her way to a 6-4 6-3 defeat of Germany's Sabine Lisicki to reach the final for the first time since she burst into the spotlight by winning the 2004 title as a 17-year-old.

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MAJOR LEAGUES

CC wins again

CC Sabathia became the majors' first 11-game winner and the host Yankees blanked the Milwaukee Brewers 5-0 Thursday afternoon for their fifth straight win. Sabathia (11-4) won his fourth straight outing in overpowering fashion, fanning 13, walking two and scattering six singles over 7 2/3 innings.

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FISHER CATS

NH falls at Portland

The New Hampshire Fisher Cats dropped their fourth straight game Thursday, at Portland's Hadlock Field, and now they're sharing first place in the Eastern Division with Trenton.

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LEGION BASEBALL

Londonderry, Jutras roll

Jake Cassidy paced a 16-hit attack with three, two of them triples and finished with three RBIs as Londonderry pounded Lebanon 14-8 in a District B American Legion baseball encounter at Londonderry High Thursday.

Dan Kinnon, Joel Rodriguez, D.J. Reed and C.J. Flanders each drove in two runs as Londonderry improved to 3-0 in district play. Winning pitcher Justin Renik lasted 5-1/3 innings, allowing three runs and three hits with six strikeouts.

Jutras Post 5, Milford 3: Winning pitcher Clay Welch threw a complete game seven-hitter with eight strikeouts, including three in the ninth inning. He walked five and allowed three earned runs. Jutras snapped a 3-3 tie in the seventh inning as Don Bourassa's grounder allowed Josh Laferriere to score from third base. In the eighth inning, Kris Tonas tripled and scored on a passed ball. Tonas had three hits and Terrell Boudreau reached base four times. Bourassa had two hits and two RBIs.

NECBL

Swamp Bats go silent

Starting pitcher Jared Wilson just didn't have his good stuff in Mystic, Conn. Thursday night. Wilson allowed five hits and five runs in four innings as the Keene Swamp Bats fell, 6-2, to the Schooners in a New England Collegiate Baseball League contest. Keene (8-5) has now lost two straight.

For Keene, Alex Chittenden collected two hits and had an RBI while teammate Kevin Brown hit a solo homer.

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NH's 11-year-old champ

Lauren Thibodeau cards a 77 to earn state girls' junior crown

By **CRAIG N. LIADIS**
New Hampshire Union Leader

Hampstead's Lauren Thibodeau walked to the first tee box at Intervale Country Club in Manchester and took out her yardage notebook. "It was 130 yards and it called for a hybrid," Thibodeau said. "I thought, 'Sounds about right.'"

Sounds like a veteran PGA golfer, but Thibodeau is not. She's 11.

Thibodeau hit her first shot at the New Hampshire Women's

Golf Association Junior Championship to within 12 feet of the cup and buried the putt for a birdie. "I hit it on a line and it rolled in," Thibodeau said.

She rolled from there, shooting a 4-over par 77 to become the youngest junior champion, beating girls as old as 17, including two-time defending champion Faith Jenkins, who was runner-up with a 79.

"I knew I had a good chance at winning or at least stay in contention," Thibodeau said. "It wasn't a big chance because

I was going against 17-year-old girls."

Thibodeau, playing in her third Junior Championship, but first in the 18-hole junior division, shot plus-1 through the front nine and birdied the 14th hole, but no one knew just how well she was doing. "We didn't really want to know," said her mother, Kristen. "We were trying to focus on the moment."

A photographer informed

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Eleven-year-old Lauren Thibodeau, of Hampstead, tees off on the 14th hole. Thibodeau shot a 77 and edged two-time defending champion Faith Jenkins by two strokes to win the NHWGA Junior Championship Thursday at Intervale Country Club in Manchester. **JOSH GIBNEY/UNION LEADER**

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL



Red Sox catcher Jason Varitek hits his second homer of the day, in the eighth inning, against the Philadelphia Phillies at Citizens Bank Park on Thursday. The Red Sox defeated the Phillies, 5-2.

US PRESSWIRE

Flawed and dealing with it

◆ **Making do:** Boston's lineup did enough to get the win on Thursday, but Theo will likely be a busy man before trading deadline.

Sox Beat

Dave D'Onofrio

A DAY after **Theo Epstein** used a meeting with reporters to acknowledge that his Red Sox are "certainly not a perfect club," **Terry Francona** expressed the same sentiments by way of the lineup card he presented for Thursday's series finale in Philadelphia.

The manager had **Darnell McDonald**, a .122 hitter, batting second. He had **Dustin Pedroia**, whose slugging percentage was below the league average this season, as his clean-up hitter. Next followed **Jason Varitek**, who hadn't been slotted as high as fifth since 2007. Then came a couple of guys — **Josh Reddick** and **Drew Sutton**

— who've spent most of this season in the minors.

Of course, Francona's options were limited by the continued absence of **Carl Crawford**, the newly sore ankle of **Kevin Youkilis** and the disallowance of the designated hitter in a National League park. But even in light of those legitimate excuses, Thursday's lineup effectively exposed the club's most glaring imperfection — a lack of depth

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Carpenter looking (Cy) Young again

◆ **Complete game:** Granite Stater Chris Carpenter went the distance Wednesday in shutting down O's.

By **JOE STRAUSS**
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

BALTIMORE — In a span of three starts he has gone from enigma to competitive to, dare it be said, dominant. New Hampshire's Chris Carpenter returned to Camden

► See **Carpenter**, Page D2



Cardinals pitcher Chris Carpenter, right, is congratulated by catcher Yadier Molina after his complete game against the Baltimore Orioles on Wednesday. The Cardinals defeated the Orioles, 5-1.

US PRESSWIRE

Everybody in the swimming pool

◆ **Summer season begins:** Manchester Swim Team hosts big meet this weekend.

Staff Report

It's going to be a busy summer at the Raco Theodore Swimming Pool in Manchester.

"The major news this summer is the Manchester Swim Team is hosting three meets at Raco for the very first time," said Peg Donovan, public relations director of MST.

Manchester LCM Summer Invitational

Where: Raco Theodore Pool, Head Street, Manchester.

When: Today, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Who: Over 260 swimmers from 13 teams.

Admission: free.

The first meet begins today when the Manchester Swim Team opens its summer swimming season with the fourth annual two-day Manchester LCM Summer Invitational at Raco on Head Street in Man-

chester.

Featuring some of the fastest swimmers in southern New Hampshire, today's meet will run from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and

► See **Swimming**, Page D2



Emily Matsco, near, competes in last year's Manchester LCM Invitational Swim Meet at Raco Theodore Pool in Manchester. This year's meet begins today.

UNION LEADER FILE

Bonner: Prolonged lockout could be trouble

Staff Report

Every year around this time, New Hampshire's Matt Bonner is busy running his basketball camp at the Ruddledt Middle School in Concord.

On Thursday, he had a very good reason not to be there.

He had to be in New York to be part of a negotiating session as a member of the players' union. By mid-afternoon Thurs-



BONNER

day, the National Basketball Association announced it was locking out its players beginning midnight on Friday.

"We were hoping to avoid the lockout, but there was just too much distance, too big of a gap between the owners and the players," said Concord's Bonner, who serves as vice president of the National Basketball Players Association executive committee.

Bonner, a forward with the San Antonio Spurs, said the players' union agreed to drop its percentage of basketball-related income from 57 percent to 54.3 percent, but the owners rejected it.

Bonner disputed a claim in a story reported by Reuters, that the owners proposed a 50-50 split.

"I don't know that to be accurate," said Bonner, who acknowledged that 22 of the league's 30 teams are losing money.

"That's why we want to work with them, to solve that problem," said Bonner. "But they want to go beyond that point, taking an extreme position and we felt that wasn't fair. So we'll continue to meet until we get this resolved totally. I'm not sure what the deadline is to solve this matter."

With the National Football League having locked

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