

Tampa Bay RB Martin expected to miss 3 weeks

THE SPORTS XCHANGE

Tampa Bay Buccaneers running back Doug Martin is expected to miss three weeks with a hamstring injury, according to reports.

NFL NOTEBOOK

Martin left Sunday's 40-7 loss against the Arizona Cardinals in the second quarter and did not return. He had seven carries for 23 yards.

The 27-year-old two-time Pro Bowler suffered the injury when he made a cut and planted his foot. He had an MRI on Tuesday.

Arrest warrant issued for Browns WR Gordon

An arrest warrant has been issued for suspended Cleveland Browns wide receiver Josh Gordon in a child paternity case.

The case stems from a complaint made in Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Juvenile Court from Christina Lockhart of Maple Heights, which is outside Cleveland. She claims Gordon is the father of her now 1-year-old daughter, according to Cleveland.com.

The complaint against Gordon was first filed in July

2015. The warrant was issued by a judge on Aug. 31 after Gordon did not respond to subpoenas sent to several different addresses in Los Angeles and Cleveland, demanding that he take a DNA test.

Lions RB Abdullah placed on IR

The Detroit Lions placed running back Ameer Abdullah on injured reserve after he injured his left foot in Sunday's 16-15 loss to the Tennessee Titans.

Abdullah, the Lions' leading rusher with 101 yards on 18 carries this season, hobbled off the field after a 24-

yard run late in the second quarter. He has caught five passes for 57 yards and a touchdown.

Initial X-rays on the foot showed no broken bones but Abdullah went to Charlotte, N.C., on Tuesday for a second opinion with specialist Dr. Robert Anderson, according to ESPN.

Jaguars RB Ivory returns to practice

Jacksonville Jaguars running back Chris Ivory, who missed the first two games after taking an emergency trip to the hospital before

the season opener, returned to practice as a limited participant.

Ivory hasn't practiced since Sept. 9 and missed the games against the Green Bay Packers and San Diego Chargers with what the team called a "medical issue."

Ivory was limited in practice leading into the season opener because of a calf problem. He was hospitalized just hours before the season opener against the Packers. He underwent tests and treatment and was released two days later.

Bears' sign RB Mostert, LB Powell to practice squad

The Chicago Bears signed running back Raheem Mostert to the active roster and linebacker Ronald Powell to the practice squad.

Mostert appeared in 11 games last season, combining to return 19 kickoffs for 530 yards while splitting time between the Cleveland Browns, Baltimore Ravens and Miami Dolphins. He was originally signed by the Philadelphia Eagles as an undrafted rookie out of Purdue last year.



BDN FILE

Former Orono High School multi-sport standout Suzanne Schmidt is shown grabbing a rebound during an Eastern Maine basketball tournament game in 1988. Schmidt is among five people who will be inducted into the Orono High School Athletic Hall of Fame next month.

Orono

Continued from Page B5

The UMaine graduate teaches social studies in Old Town and remains involved in running as the outdoor distance coach at Orono.

Alford was a 10-time letterwinner in soccer, basketball and outdoor track at Orono. On the soccer pitch, she helped the Red Riots make three straight playoff appearances from 2001-03 and scored 20 or more goals in her junior and senior seasons.

The two-time All-PVC and all-region first-teamer, who was selected to the all-state first team as a senior, departed as Orono's career scoring leader.

Alford, who was a defensive force and a two-year starter in basketball, excelled on the track. She won the 100, 200 and 400 meters in 2004 and still holds the 400 state record (58.74 seconds) to help Orono capture two state

runner-up plaques.

Alford ran at Brandeis University, where she earned her undergraduate degree, and gained a master's degree at the University of Michigan. She works in the Maine Department of Health and Human Services.

Schmidt earned varsity letters in soccer, cross-country, basketball and softball for the Red Riots. She was a two-year basketball captain who helped the team make two tourney appearances.

Schmidt was an All-PVC selection at guard for three-straight seasons and in 1988 earned Bangor Daily News All-Maine second-team recognition. She became Orono's first female career 1,000-point scorer and remains one of only three to achieve that feat.

Schmidt attended the University of Kansas, where she played basketball as a freshman. She graduated with a degree in civil engineering in 1993 and has worked in that field since 1998 in Colorado.



BDN FILE

Orono's Olivia Alford is pictured heading away the ball during a soccer game in 2002. The three-sport star is among five people who will be inducted into the Orono High School Athletic Hall of Fame next month.

Brissett

Continued from Page B5

Work made Brissett an instant leader at N.C. State, and it won him respect this summer in New England. The product of it all will be cast under harsh light Thursday night, on national television against J.J. Watt, Jadeveon Clowney and the Houston Texans.

"The spotlight is not going to be something that scares him, I'll tell you that," Doeren said. "I'm sure he'll have nerves. It's not going to be something that is going to hurt him. It's almost the opposite. The guy was the ultimate competitor. He loved the big stage. Some of his best games were our biggest games."

Nothing could fully prepare a third-round rookie to hold the reins of the NFL's most successful franchise with three days' notice. Brissett, though, has unique

experience that could help. He hasn't quite been here before, but he's been close.

As a freshman backup at William T. Dwyer High, Brissett replaced the injured starter in a playoff game against Booker T. Washington, the best team in the state and one of the best in the nation. Daniels expected little from Brissett, then a chunky, short 15-year-old. He completed all 12 passes he attempted and nearly led Dwyer to a comeback upset.

"It was like he had taken every rep that year and wasn't fazed at all," Daniels said. "We didn't know what to expect. We were just as shocked as anybody at how cool and calm he was as a freshman."

Brissett shot to 6-foot-4 by the end of high school and had his pick of scholarship offers. He chose Florida, where as a true freshman, another quarterback emergency struck, and he found himself starting at Louisiana State, inside the bourbon-reeking cauldron

called Death Valley. The Gators were crushed, but Brissett didn't crack.

"I've never seen the kid nervous," Daniels said.

A coaching change after his sophomore season convinced Brissett to switch schools, and he won over his new team at N.C. State immediately. In the year he sat out, coaches named Brissett the scout team player of the year. Once he took over as start, he baked cookies for teammates. Every Thursday night, he took his offensive linemen out for wings. The night before games, he wrote an individual note to each one of his offensive teammates, describing what he looked forward to watching them do.

"There's so many bad stories about people out there in sports that have done so many stupid things," Doeren said. "This kid is the opposite. It was a true pleasure to be around someone that took the game as serious as he did. He just doesn't want to be around things that don't lead to him being successful."

At Florida, Brissett struggled to accept a lost play and felt desperate to impress older teammates. During the year he sat out, he focused on how he could limit mistakes. In two seasons as N.C. State's starter, he threw 43 touchdowns and just 11 interceptions.

"Once he became the guy who figured out how to go from a bad play on to the next play, his whole game changed," Doeren said. "He just protects the football."

That was another Patriot-like thing that attracted the Patriots. Another connection: Brissett grew up near where former NFL coach Bill Parcells lived, and Parcells took Brissett on as something of a mentee.

"He's a Curtis Martin, Willie McGinest, Troy Brown type player," Parcells told the Boston Herald shortly after the draft. "That's the kind of guy he is. That's what New

England is getting. Those kinds, those Tedy Bruschi types, those players who've been successful — he's very similar in his personal life to those kinds of guys."

With New England, Brissett continued his quiet study. When Brissett entered Sunday in the second quarter, Daniels thought he saw him look nervous for the first time. He completed 6 of 9 passes for 92 yards, mostly screens and short passes as the Patriots sought to protect a big lead.

"He has a great demeanor about him," Brady said Monday evening on Westwood One radio. "I love working with him. He shows up to work every day working hard. He's very competitive, and I know our coaching staff will have him prepared and ready to go."

After the game, Daniels called him to chat. Brissett focused on mistakes he made, blemishes to correct this

week. "He's his harshest critic," Daniels.

Doeren sent Brissett a text, telling him to seize the moment. Brissett shot a quick message back. Doeren does not expect to speak with him again until after Thursday. Doeren said Brissett is a 23-year-old who does not spend much time on his phone, proving such a creature does exist.

With the Wolf Pack on its bye week, several support staff members and a former teammate plan on traveling to New England to watch him in person.

"We'd all go up there if we could," Doeren said. "He was a warrior for us, now. Everybody likes him. Everybody respects him. When you play as hard as he did, when you take life as serious as he did, there isn't a person at N.C. State who isn't pulling for him."

"It's his moment. I'm fired up for him that he gets it."

Peterson

Continued from Page B5

In addition, the Vikings added former Broncos running back Ronnie Hillman on Wednesday when left tackle Matt Kalil was placed on injured reserve.

"I have a lot of confidence in those two guys," coach Mike Zimmer said of McKin-

non and Asiata. "They're both different types of runners, but I think the combination of the two can help us."

Peterson, the 2015 NFL rushing leader, finished with 19 yards on 12 carries Sunday after a slow start in Week 1, when he managed 31 yards on 19 carries against the Tennessee Titans.

Peterson suffered a torn ACL and MCL in his right knee late in the 2011 season,

but returned the following year to rush for a career-high 2,097 yards.

McKinnon is expected to get the majority of the work for the Vikings, but that plan could change week to week.

"I've got all the confidence in the world in the guys we've got in the locker room right now," quarterback Sam Bradford said Wednesday.

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