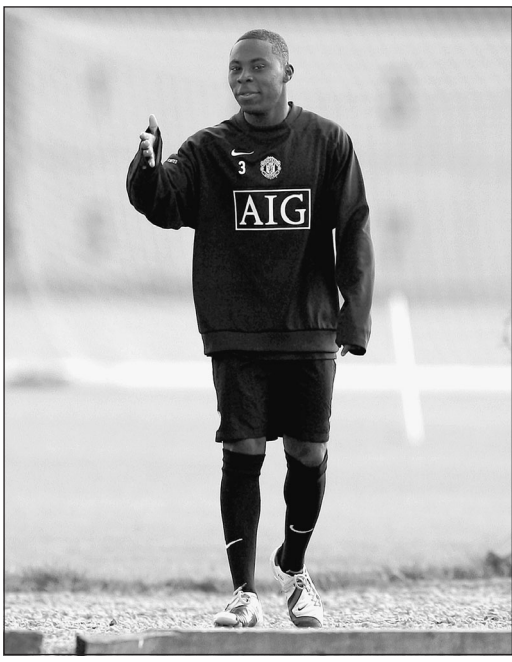


DIGEST

American Freddy Adu gestures during a Manchester United training session on Monday in Manchester, England. Adu, 17, is having a two-week trial with players from the club's youth academy.



John Super Associated Press

IN THE NEWS

Packers lose backup QB to Favre

The Green Bay Packers lost a quarterback for the season on Monday. It wasn't **Brett Favre**. **Aaron Rodgers** broke his left foot during Sunday's game against New England and is out for the rest of 2006, Packers coach **Mike McCarthy** said. Rodgers had replaced Favre, who hurt his elbow earlier in the game. Rodgers will need surgery. He broke his foot scrambling in the third quarter, but played the rest of the game, finishing 4-of-12 for 32 yards. "On a personal level, you feel terrible for him, because the first thing you think about is here's a guy who has been here since March 20, he's been here every day going through the quarterback school, getting ready to potentially be the starter for our football team," McCarthy said. "He finally gets the opportunity to play, and that happens to him." Favre, starting his 251st game including playoffs, injured a nerve in his elbow after getting sacked just before halftime in the Packers' 35-0 loss. He couldn't muster enough strength to adequately grip the football for the rest of the game. McCarthy said Monday that Favre has most of the strength back in his elbow, but he wasn't ready to say the three-time MVP would practice this week. He said the team's doctors were comfortable with Favre's ability to return for next Monday night's game against Seattle.

Williams' father testifies in lawsuit

The father of **Venus** and **Serena Williams** testified in West Palm Beach, Fla., that he never served as their manager and had no authority to commit the tennis stars to play in a 2001 "Battle of the Sexes" match. **Richard Williams** and his daughters are accused of reneging on a deal to play in the event, costing promoters millions of dollars and prompting a breach-of-contract lawsuit against the family. "I was never Venus and Serena's manager, never," Richard Williams said. Promoters **Carol Clarke** and **Keith Rhodes**, owners of a company called CCKR, allege that Richard Williams committed his daughters to play in the match, and they failed to live up to the agreement.

FOOTBALL

■ **Briefly:** Arizona Cardinals defensive end **Bertrand Berry** will miss the rest of the season after tearing triceps muscles in Sunday's victory over Detroit. ... The NFL moved the Dec. 3 game between the Seahawks and Broncos in Denver to Sunday night as part of its flexible scheduling for the last half of the season (7:15 CST, NBC). Also moved that day will be Dallas at the New York Giants and Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh; both games will now begin at 3:15 p.m. CST and be televised by Fox. ... **Andre Waters**, a defensive back who spent most of his 12 seasons in the NFL with the Philadelphia Eagles, was found dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound early Monday in Tampa, Fla. He was 44. ... **Charles Thompson**, the quarterback who led Oklahoma to an 11-1 season in 1987, was arrested following a disturbance in his hotel room in Oklahoma City. The 38-year-old Thompson was arrested Saturday morning at a Residence Inn after police received three complaints of loud noise. He was arrested on a complaint of public drunkenness and disturbing the peace. ... Titans tight end **Ben Troupe** will get a second opinion for his right ankle that he hurt on his 14-yard touchdown catch against Philadelphia. Troupe already has had X-rays, and coach **Jeff Fisher** said the ankle needs further studies. ... New Orleans Saints star rookie receiver **Marques Colston** was listed as day-to-day with a sprained left ankle suffered in a loss to the Cincinnati Bengals.

LOOSE TALK

San Diego Chargers running back LaDainian Tomlinson has scored an NFL-record 19 touchdowns in six games and has topped 1,000 yards rushing for the sixth straight season. He has the NFL and Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers, talking about him.

"He's as good as there is. Now, is he going to keep having four touchdowns every game and having 150 yards? Maybe. I mean, he might. ... Certainly, he's a force."

— From Our Press Services

ON THE AIR

5 MINUTES ON THE EDGE PODCAST

Today's guest: Jason Smith on the world of preps
To listen: Go to TheMemphisEdge.com, click on 5 Minutes on the Edge

TELEVISION

Basketball: NBA, Grizzlies at Cleveland, SPSO, 6 p.m.
Basketball: Maui Invitational, Memphis vs. Geo. Tech, ESPN, 6 p.m.
Basketball: Maui Invitational, teams TBA, ESPN, 8 p.m.
Basketball: CBE Classic, championship, teams TBA, ESPN2, 9 p.m.
Football: Bowling Green at Toledo, ESPN2, 6 p.m.
Golf: PGA of America, Grand Slam of Golf, TNT, 6 p.m.
Soccer: UEFA Champions, Celtic FC vs. Manchester United FC, ESPN2, 1:30 p.m.

RADIO

Basketball: NBA, Grizzlies at Cleveland, WRBO-FM (103.5), 5:30 p.m.
Basketball: Memphis vs. Georgia Tech, WREC-AM (600), 5:00 p.m.
Basketball: Vanderbilt at Wake Forest, KWAM-AM (990), 7:30 p.m.

CONTACT

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Maloney named 'Birds manager

Cardinals' Double-A leader works his way through baseball ranks

By **JIM MASILAK**
masilak@commercialappeal.com

When Chris Maloney left the Cardinals organization after 14 years in 2001, he flew to St. Louis to say goodbye. On his own dime. "That's kind of how I felt about the organization," Maloney said. "I'm a Cardinal through and through. It was tough to leave."

That's also why, even as he was taking over as manager of the Houston Astros' Triple-A affiliate in New Orleans, Maloney was imagining a return to the Cardinal fold.

In particular, he had his sights set on managing the Redbirds.

"I figured one day I would manage here," Maloney said. "I always had it in the back of my mind that I wanted to do that."

On Monday afternoon at AutoZone Park, Maloney's ambition was realized when he was introduced as the fourth manager in Redbirds history.

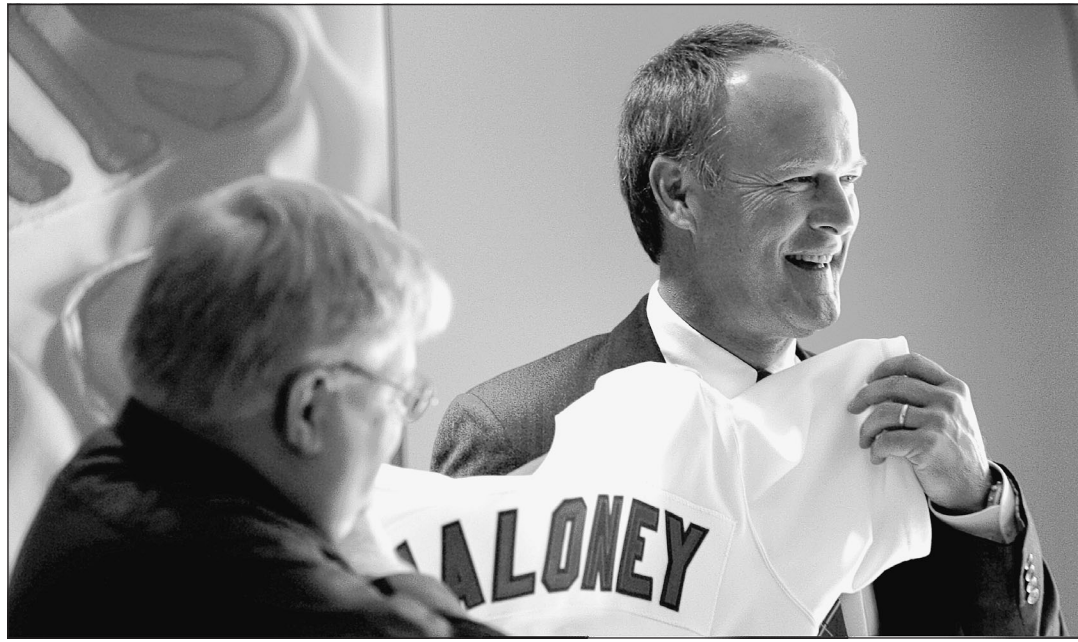
"I couldn't wait to get here. This has been the plum of the minor-league system ever since the new park was put in," Maloney said. "To get this job, it's really a dream job in the minor leagues with the Cardinals."

The 45-year-old Maloney, a native of Jackson, Miss., replaces **Danny Sheaffer**, who left the 'Birds by mutual consent following a tumultuous 58-86 campaign.

Maloney, who managed New Orleans from 2002-04 and is thus well acquainted with the Pacific Coast League, returned to the Cardinals' system in '05 and spent the past two seasons managing at Double-A Springfield.

His teams went a combined 136-142 in the Texas League.

Maloney's hiring was one half



Nikki Boertman/The Commercial Appeal

Chris Maloney was promoted within the Cardinals organization from the Double-A affiliate in Springfield. He formerly managed the Triple-A New Orleans Zephyrs of the Pacific Coast League.

MEET CHRIS MALONEY

Age: 45
Hometown: Jackson, Miss.
College: Mississippi State
Managerial record: 983-900 in 15 minor-league seasons

of a double managerial promotion by the Cardinals, who bumped Ron 'Pop' Warner up from High Class A Palm Beach to Springfield on Monday.

"It's always a pleasure to be able to promote internally, and in this case it was a pretty easy decision," said **Jeff Luhnow**, the Cardinals' vice president for amateur scouting and player development.

Luhnow, who recently assumed control over the Cardinals' minor league operations, said the Cardinals intend to stock Memphis with more young prospects and fewer six-year free agents, reversing a trend of recent seasons.

"In the next couple years,

we're gonna see more prospects coming through Memphis," Luhnow said. "Maybe some younger players than have been there in a while."

"We'll still have some veterans, though, and that means you need a manager capable of handling diverse personalities. Chris is the right type of guy for the job. He's been a manager at several different levels."

A first baseman and outfielder at Mississippi State, Maloney signed with the New York Mets as an undrafted free agent in 1983. He signed with the Cardinals in '86 and spent one season with their minor-league affiliate in Springfield, Ill., before moving into coaching. Maloney has compiled a 983-900 record in 15 years as a minor-league manager, working at every level from rookie ball to Triple-A along the way.

He won Manager of the Year honors in 1992 (New York-Penn League), '93 (South Atlantic League) and '98 (Texas League) but had less success in the PCL,

where he went 212-220 in three years with the Zephyrs.

In part because has worked closely with several of the Cardinals' top youngsters, including rising pitching prospects like **Blake Hawksworth** and former Houston High standout **Stuart Pomeranz**, Maloney emerged as a natural choice to succeed **Sheaffer**.

"Familiarity is always gonna be a good thing," Maloney said. "The more you know a guy, the better read you're gonna get on him. I'll know these guys better than anybody in baseball."

"I've always prided myself on getting the most out of my guys. I think I'm gonna do that here."

Maloney's first game in Memphis will be on March 30, when the World Series-champion St. Louis Cardinals play the Redbirds in an exhibition game at AutoZone Park.

The 'Birds open their 144-game PCL schedule at home on April 5 against Oklahoma.

— Jim Masilak
529-2311

Howard bests Pujols for N.L. MVP

No sophomore jinx for Phillies star following his rookie honor

By **RONALD BLUM**
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ryan Howard had a season that defied convention, one that made him only the second player voted Rookie of the Year and Most Valuable Player in consecutive years.

"I heard sophomore jinx this, sophomore jinx that," he said after beating out 2005 N.L. MVP Albert Pujols of St. Louis for the award Monday.

"I just prepared myself in spring training to go out and perform, stick with my game plan and have fun."

After leading the major leagues in home runs and RBI, Howard received 20 first-place votes and 12 seconds for 388 points in balloting by a panel of the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Pujols got 12 firsts, 19 seconds and one third for 347 points.

Cal Ripken Jr. (1982 and 1983) is the only

NATIONAL LEAGUE MVP

Voting for the 2006 National League Most Valuable Player Award, with first-, second- and third-place votes and total points based on a 14-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 basis:

Player	1st	2nd	3rd	Total
Howard, Phi	20	12	—	388
Pujols, STL	12	19	1	347
Berkman, Hou	—	—	21	230
Beltran, N.Y.	—	1	5	211
Cabrera, Fla	—	—	2	170

Also receiving votes: Soriano, Was (106 total points); Reyes, N.Y. (98); Utley, Phi (98); Wright, N.Y. (70); Hoffman, S.D. (46); Jones, Atl (29); Delgado, N.Y. (23); Garciaiparra, L.A. (18); Furcal, L.A. (11); Atkins, Col (10); Holliday, Col (10); Ramirez, Chi (5); Sanchez, Pit (5); Carpenter, STL (4); Jones, Atl (3); Cameron, S.D. (2); Rollins, Phi (2); Arroyo, Cin (1); Bay, Pit (1)

other player to follow a Rookie of the Year award with an MVP the following year. Two players won both in the same year: **Fred Lynn** (1975) and **Ichiro Suzuki** (2001).

"It's definitely a relief. It's a good birthday

present," said Howard, who turned 27 Sunday.

Howard had 58 homers — the most in the majors since **Barry Bonds** hit a record 73 in 2001 — and 149 RBI while batting .313. He set Phillies records for home runs and RBI, producing the highest totals in those categories in big league history for a second-year player. Twenty-three of Howard's homers put the Phillies ahead and five tied games. The Phillies went 32-18 when he homered.

Howard didn't make it to the major leagues for good until July 1, 2005, when **Jim Thome** went on the disabled list. He batted .288 for the Phillies in 2005 with 22 homers and 63 RBI in 321 at-bats.

Pujols, who hit .331 with 49 homers and 137 RBI, defeated Atlanta's **Andruw Jones** 378-351 in last year's voting after finishing second in 2002 and 2003.

Howard, who lives in Wildwood, Mo., works out at the same facility in the St. Louis area that Pujols uses during the off-season.

"Any questions that I've had, he'd answer for me or give me some advice here and there," Howard said of Pujols.

Lady Tigers fall to La.-Monroe's surge

Lack of composure leads to 27 turnovers

LA.-MONROE 69, MEMPHIS 50

By **COLIN DONOHUE**
Special to The Commercial Appeal

The Memphis Lady Tigers don't plead ignorance. They see what ails their team. They can identify the concrete and more intangible facets of their game that have yet to materialize.

It's the rebounding, the hustle, the defensive rotation, the turnovers, the poise.

Particularly the poise. The Lady Tigers again succumbed to an opposing team's scoring surge — this time a 30-11 run to open the second half

— in a 69-50 loss to the University of Louisiana-Monroe Monday night at Elma Roane Field House.

Memphis' inability to demonstrate two consistent halves in the season's early stages has led to an 0-5 stumble to start the season. Monday night's loss was especially discouraging because the Lady Tigers had demonstrated modest progress in their last two games.

But against Monroe (3-1) out of the Sun Belt Conference, Memphis was unable to correct the problems that have plagued this team since the season's first game. "I think maybe we lack focus,"

said junior forward **Aroha Jennings**, who scored eight points and grabbed five rebounds. "We need to come together as a team and stay focused."

The game started well for Memphis. The Lady Tigers jumped out to a 23-17 lead and went into halftime with a 23-21 edge. But Memphis came unhinged in the second half's initial 12 minutes.

Monroe's full-court press, which Memphis had so successfully negotiated in the first half, suddenly flustered the Lady Tigers. Their lack of composure led to 27 turnovers.

"We didn't start out in the second half like we needed to," said head coach **Blair Savage-Lansden**. "We stopped doing the lit-

tle things. It started getting really bad, and we never could step up and make a play for ourselves."

The Lady Tigers did receive inspired performances from some of their less experienced players, including **Jennings**, a transfer from Dodge City Community College in Kansas, and **Ashley Thornton**, a transfer sophomore, who recorded 12 points.

While **Savage-Lansden** appreciates the isolated efforts of a few, she's still waiting for her team to form a cohesive unit.

"I don't know if (the loss) is a step back for us," **Savage-Lansden** said. "It's a matter of us all being on the same page at the same time."

Jaguars put big pressure on Eli, shut down Giants

JAGUARS 26, GIANTS 10

From Our Press Services

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — The Jaguars wore all black, Jack Del Rio sported a blue tie, and Jacksonville's defense followed suit Monday night with a thorough bruising of the New York Giants.

The Jaguars forced three turnovers, pressured **Eli Manning** into several poor throws and held **Tiki Barber** to a season-low 27 yards rushing in a 26-10 victory over the injury-riddled

Giants. Jacksonville (6-4) rebounded from an embarrassing loss to Houston and spoiled former coach **Tom Coughlin's** homecoming.

David Garrard, who had four interceptions against the Texans, threw for 249 yards and ran for 31 more. **Josh Scobee** kicked four field goals. **Fred Taylor** and **Maurice Drew** combined for 124 yards rushing and two touchdowns.

As well as the Jaguars offense played, the defense was even better.

The Jaguars harassed **Manning** into numerous mistakes

and bottled up **Barber** like few teams have in recent years. **Barber's** 27 yards were his lowest since Nov. 30, 2003 against Buffalo, when he finished with 20 yards on 12 carries.

The Giants (6-4) dropped their second straight after a five-game winning streak.

Meanwhile, Jacksonville's injury-depleted defense suffered another setback when safety **Donovin Darius** injured his right ankle in the first quarter.

Darius fell to the ground and winced in pain during a 13-yard screen pass from **Manning** to **Barber**. **Darius** appeared to have his ankle rolled over on the

play. **Darius**, who missed most of last season with a torn ligament in his left knee, yelled toward the Giants offensive players as he was helped off the field. He was carted to the locker room for X-rays, and the team said he would not return.

The Jaguars already were playing without two defensive starters. Linebacker **Mike Peterson** and defensive end **Reggie Hayward** are two of eight defensive players on injured reserve.

Peterson, the team's top tackler the last three seasons, tore a pectoral muscle last month.