

Redskins Gameday

TIME
Today
4:30 p.m.

WHERE
Qwest Field
Seattle

TV
WRC-4
WBAL-11

REDSKINS ROSTER

No	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt
3	Sam Hollenbach	QB	6-4	215
4	Derrick Frost	P	6-2	201
6	Shaun Suisham	PK	6-0	197
8	Mark Brunell	QB	6-1	217
15	Todd Collins	QB	6-4	225
17	Jason Campbell	QB	6-5	233
19	Anthony Mix	WR	6-5	235
20	Pierson Prioleau	DB	5-11	188
23	Omar Stoutmire	DB	5-11	205
24	Shawn Springs	CB	6-0	204
26	Clinton Portis	RB	5-11	223
27	Fred Smoot	CB	5-11	190
29	Leigh Torrence	DB	5-11	179
30	LaRon Landry	SS	6-0	213
31	Rock Cartwright	RB	5-8	218
37	Reed Doughty	FS	6-1	209
38	David Macklin	DB	5-10	197
39	Vernon Fox	SS	5-10	203
41	Brian Kozlowski	TE	6-3	265
45	Mike Sellers	FB	6-3	284
46	Ladell Betts	RB	5-11	225
47	Chris Cooley	TE	6-3	249
50	Khary Campbell	LB	6-2	232
53	M. Washington	OLB	6-3	248
54	H.B. Blades	LB	5-10	250
57	Randall Godfrey	LB	6-2	245
58	Matt Sinclair	LB	6-1	244
59	London Fletcher	MLB	5-10	245
60	Chris Samuels	T	6-5	317
61	Casey Rabach	C	6-4	296
64	Kedric Golston	DT	6-4	320
66	Pete Kendall	G	6-5	292
67	Ethan Albright	LS	6-5	257
69	Jason Fabini	G	6-7	309
71	Todd Wade	T	6-8	314
73	Ryan Boschetti	DT	6-4	311
74	Stephon Heyer	OT	6-6	325
75	Rick DeMulling	T	6-4	304
78	Kevin Sampson	T	6-4	312
79	Lorenzo Alexander	DT	6-1	300
80	Keenan McCardell	WR	6-1	191
82	Antwaan Randle El	WR	5-10	190
83	James Thrash	WR	6-0	204
86	Reche Caldwell	WR	6-0	210
87	Todd Yoder	TE	6-4	253
89	Santana Moss	WR	5-10	200
92	Demetric Evans	DE	6-4	275
93	Phillip Daniels	DE	6-4	276
94	An. Montgomery	DT	6-6	315
95	Chris Wilson	DE	6-4	246
96	Cornelius Griffin	DT	6-3	311
99	Andre Carter	DE	6-4	252

FIRST DOWN

The Faster, the Better

The Redskins (9-7) won their final four games to clinch the NFC's last wild-card berth and the No. 6 seed. They are back in the playoffs for the first time since after the 2005 regular season and for only the third time in their last 15 seasons. Washington hopes to get off to a quick start in an attempt to reduce the home-field advantage the Seahawks (10-6) enjoy at raucous Qwest Field, where Seattle went 7-1 this season. Falling behind could be a big problem for the Redskins, who would prefer to dictate the pace of the game.



SECOND DOWN

Open It Up

Quarterback Todd Collins, who took over for injured Jason Campbell, was impressive throwing deep balls during the winning streak, and the Redskins are expected to continue taking shots downfield. With top wide receiver Santana Moss finally recovered from groin, heel and hamstring injuries, associate head coach-offense Al Saunders was more aggressive in his play-calling down the stretch. Tight end Chris Cooley also has been a productive big-play target for Collins, who before this season had not started a game since 1997.



THIRD DOWN

Plenty of Portis

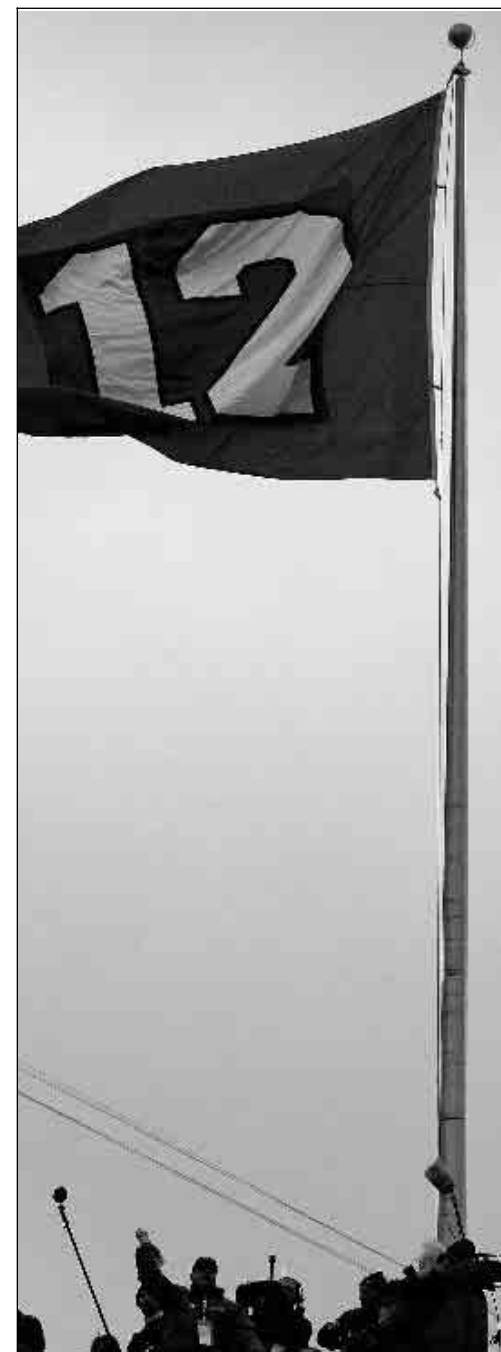
Running back Clinton Portis emerged as a dependable check-down option for Collins in the passing game, but he's still more important to the Redskins' rushing attack. Portis had two 100-yard performances in Washington's last three games and ran hard throughout the winning streak. The Redskins want to establish the running game from the outset to slow the Seahawks' effective pass rush led by DE Patrick Kerney and provide more time for Collins, one of the league's least mobile quarterbacks, in the pocket on passing plays.



FOURTH DOWN

Cut Off the Pass

The Seahawks lacked balance this season, relying heavily on QB Matt Hasselbeck while former Pro Bowl RB Shaun Alexander struggled because of injuries. He has not had 1,000 yards since the 2005 season, when he set a then-record for touchdowns. The Redskins' stout run defense was in top form the last two games against Minnesota and Dallas, and the secondary will be the focus against the pass-first Seahawks. Assistant head coach-defense Gregg Williams has been at his best devising game plans recently.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY OTTO GREULE JR. — GETTY IMAGES



The Seattle Seahawks' 12th man — all 68,000 or so — come to Qwest Field to be heard. "We know what to prepare for. We know what to expect," Redskins running back Clinton Portis said.

A Sound Opponent

Redskins May Find Seattle Crowd Just as Difficult to Handle as the Seahawks

By JASON REID
Washington Post Staff Writer

When the Redskins faced the Seahawks in the NFC semifinals two seasons ago, they weren't prepared for the loud crowd noise during a 20-10 loss at Qwest Field. The Seahawks fans provided a significant home-field advantage in the Redskins' last playoff appearance, and Washington hopes to handle the noise better today.

"We was complaining two years ago about not being able to hear there. Now, we got the opportunity to go back," running back Clinton Portis said. "We know what to prepare for. We know what to expect. Two years ago, we didn't know."

"We went into that blind, and that crowd got into the game, and it caused us a lot of problems. This year, we know the crowd is going to be there. We know . . . they fans going to be there. We got to go in and find a way to get in our play-calling and play football."

At 7-1, the Seahawks and Green Bay Packers had the best home-field

The Comforts of Home

The Seahawks will make their fifth consecutive playoff appearance today, boasting one of the toughest atmospheres for a visiting team. A look at how the Seahawks have fared in the last five seasons at Qwest Field:

Year	Overall	Home	Playoff games at Qwest Field
2003	10-6	8-0	Didn't play home playoff game
2004	9-7	5-3	Lost to Rams
2005	13-3	8-0	Defeated Redskins and Panthers
2006	9-7	5-3	Defeated Cowboys
2007	10-6	7-1	Play Redskins today

records in the NFC. Seattle's fans are among the most dedicated in the NFL, and the crowd noise they generated caused fits for opponents throughout the season.

"Our fans should take that as a compliment," Seattle quarterback Matt Hasselback said. "Our fans take a lot of pride in it. When I first got here in 2001, people talked

about the Kingdome and the 12th man. I had no idea what they were talking about because at the time we were playing at Husky Stadium.

"The day before the University of Washington would be playing there, and they would have a sellout — 75,000 people — and then the next day we would be playing the Dallas Cowboys, and there are 20,000 peo-

ple, 12,000 of them are rooting for the Cowboys. It was not how it was when I first got here, but we moved into Qwest Field. Eventually, we started turning things around here. We started winning games."

Because of the crowd noise the last time they played at Qwest Field, the Redskins struggled to communicate, disrupting the normal rhythm of play-calling and their timing offensively. They never got into sync.

"That stadium is loud," said defensive lineman Phillip Daniels, who was drafted by the Seahawks and played four seasons in Seattle. "It's one of the loudest stadiums we play in. The crowd is right on top of you."

When visiting teams are unable to hear a quarterback's calls at the line because of crowd noise, coaches often use a silent count. Players watch for the snap before moving, enabling offenses to function even as the crowd volume increases.

The Minnesota Metrodome "was pretty loud, and that's indoors," quarterback Todd Collins said. "I would think that an indoor facility would be louder than outdoor, but I

hear that Seattle is louder. The last time I was out there in a game was [with] Kansas City. It sure is pretty loud."

Although silent counts and an increased emphasis on the use of hand signals can help in overcoming crowd noise, the Redskins would prefer to eliminate the crowd factor completely. Taking a big lead early in the game is the best way to accomplish that goal, players said. In the NFC semifinal at Qwest Field in the 2005 season, the Redskins took a 3-0 lead in the first quarter but trailed 17-3 in the fourth.

"If we can find a way to get things going early in the game," Portis said, "I'm sure that would help."

Although that is the "best way to minimize the noise, jump on 'em with a lead and make the fans think a little bit, a true fan's going to be loud no matter what score is," Daniels said. "They've got good fans there, and I think they're going to be loud. We've just got to prepare ourselves to go in there and for it to be real noisy. Hopefully, we can handle it better this time."

TEAM STATISTICS

CATEGORY	REDSKINS	OPP
Passing Yds.	3,463	3,424
Pass Cmp-Att.	319-525	351-602
Rushing Yds.	1,871	1,460
Rush Att-Avg.	498-3.8	391-3.7
First Downs	307	291
3rd-Down Conv.	92-226	78-218
4th-Down Conv.	6-15	10-17
Kickoff Returns-Avg.	65-23.8	66-19.5
Punt Returns-Avg.	40-7.5	32-6.3
Punts-Avg.	75-41.0	81-43.0
Time of Possession	31:10	29:37

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

PASSING	CMP	ATT	YDS	TD	INT
Campbell	250	417	2,700	12	11
Collins	67	105	888	5	0

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Portis	325	1,262	3.9	32	11
Betts	93	335	3.6	20	1
Campbell	36	185	5.1	29	1
Sellers	26	78	3.0	15	2

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Cooley	66	786	11.9	39	8
Moss	61	808	13.2	49	3
Randle El	51	728	14.3	54	1
Portis	47	389	8.3	54	0
McCardell	22	256	11.6	32	1
Betts	21	174	8.3	28	1
Sellers	17	117	6.9	24	1

KICKING	1-29	30-39	40-49	50+
Suisham	10-10	8-10	10-13	1-2

SACKS: Carter 10, Washington 5, Wilson 4, McIntosh 3, Landry 2, Griffin 2, Daniels 2, Torrence, Evans, Golston.

INTERCEPTIONS: Taylor 5, Springs 4, Fletcher 3, Rogers, Smoot.

INJURY REPORT

OUT: QB Jason Campbell (knee).

QUESTIONABLE: WR James Thrash (ankle).