

▼ California native Jimmie Johnson speeds to victory as the 2007 NASCAR Nextel Cup Champion, defeating his Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jeff Gordon by 77 points.



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▲ Athletes from around the world train for the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing as the city prepares for the arrival of hundreds of competitors and millions of spectators.

▼ The Anaheim Ducks claim their first Stanley Cup, beating the Ottawa Senators in five games for the 2007 NHL championship.



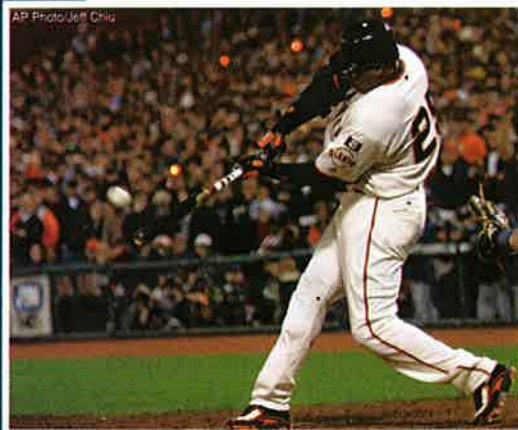
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▲ Super Bowl XLII MVP Eli Manning leads the New York Giants on a last-minute scoring drive to upset the heavily favored New England Patriots 17-14, shattering the Patriots' bid for a perfect 19-0 season.

◀ Belgian Justine Henin defeats Russian Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-1, 6-3 to win her second U.S. Open title in New York.



AP Photo/Ueff Chu

▲ Power hitters Barry Bonds, Frank Thomas, Alex "A-Rod" Rodriguez, Craig Biggio and Jim Thome all achieve home run milestones in their Major League Baseball careers.



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► Brett Favre of the Green Bay Packers surpasses Dan Marino's touchdown pass record with number 422. 2007 NFL MVP Tom Brady of the New England Patriots sets the single regular-season mark for touchdown passes with 50.



AP Photo/AJ Mast