

Collins in position to cash in after Skins wins

Years after patiently waiting for a chance to play, **Todd Collins** finally caught a break. The former Walpole High quarterback came on to lead the Redskins to four straight victories and a playoff berth in place of injured starter **Jason Campbell**, and now he is scheduled to become an unrestricted free agent.

In a league where quality signal-callers seem to be tougher to find each year, the 36-year-old Collins — who had not started a regular-season game since 1997, mainly because of the good health of the starters ahead of him — figures to draw interest on

the open market.

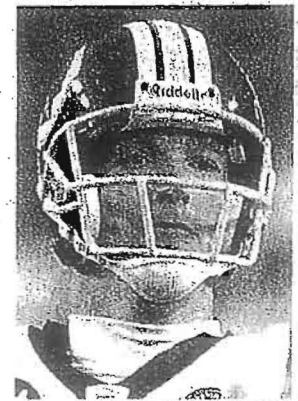
“It’s a funny business, you’re sort of like a human stock, going up and down,” said Collins’s agent, Boston-based **Brad Blank**. “To me, Todd Collins is no different today than he was seven weeks ago, but his value is greater today since he had a chance to expose his talent on national TV. I think people now have a renewed opinion of him.”

Blank joked with Collins that if he were 25 years old, he might be looking at a \$100 million contract.

“We acknowledge that’s not the case,

but we’re definitely hopeful whether it’s the Redskins or someone else that he’ll have a chance to play,” Blank said. “One of the things we talked about is that even though he’s not young, his body is still young. He hasn’t had a lot of physical deterioration that other guys his age have because he hasn’t played in as many games.”

Redskins officials told Collins they’d like him to return next season, but clouding the picture is the fact that the coaching staff is in transition following **Joe Gibbs’s** resignation.



JONATHAN ERNST/REUTERS

TODD COLLINS
He doesn't feel 36