

**Cast your vote:  
Did Josh Beckett  
deserve the Cy  
Young Award?**

Take the survey at  
[projosports.com/redsox](http://projosports.com/redsox)



**DIVISION II VOLLEYBALL FINALISTS SET:** View the gallery at [HSGameTime.com/rhodeisland](http://HSGameTime.com/rhodeisland)

**Can't be there?**

Then follow the games — including URI-Brown tonight — via our live scoreboards at [projosports.com](http://projosports.com)

**State of the rivalry**

A quick look at the URI-Brown basketball series, which resumes tonight after a one-year layoff:

|                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>SERIES BEGAN</b>   | 1906-07                          |
| <b>SERIES RECORD</b>  | URI leads, 97-52                 |
| <b>CURRENT STREAK</b> | URI has won last four            |
| <b>LAST MEETING</b>   | URI 72, Brown 68 on Dec. 5, 2006 |

For up-to-the-second stats and scores: [projosports.com](http://projosports.com)

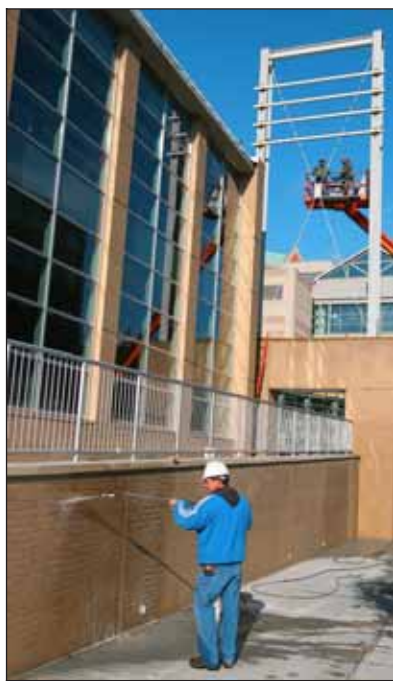


SECTION C  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2007

# projo SPORTS

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**A SHOWCASE  
IN THE MAKING**



PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / STEVE SZYDLOWSKI

A worker applies some finishing touches to a wall at the Dunkin' Donuts Center, which reopens tonight when the Providence Bruins host the Portland Pirates.

The 34-year-old Dunkin' Donuts Center has been undergoing a face-lift. When fans enter the building tonight for the Providence Bruins' home-opener, they will pass through a new façade into a refurbished lobby. The main concourse will be wider and there will be new restrooms. Two new wings on each side of the building will provide more natural light and there are sections within the arena where fans can sit in the new seats.

The improvements are part of Phase 2 of the reconstruction of the arena. **Story, C2.**



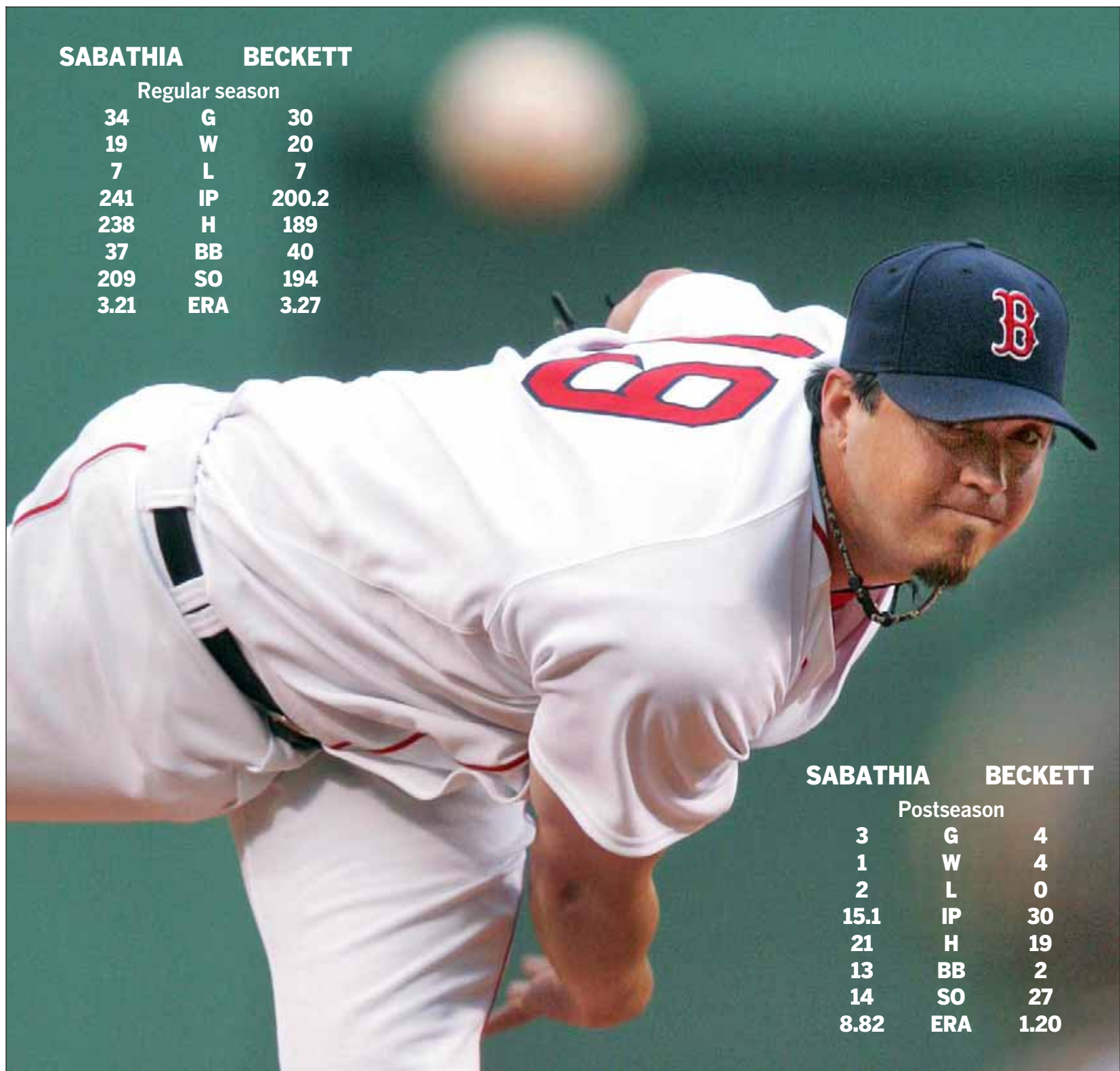
A new video scoreboard, glass and dasher boards were part of the first phase of the Dunkin' Donuts Center reconstruction.

**A work in progress**

|                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Main lobby</b>                  | Patrons may enter, partially open |
| <b>Food courts</b>                 | 2 open/2 to open next month       |
| <b>Portable carts</b>              | Available                         |
| <b>Restrooms</b>                   | Available                         |
| <b>Restaurant</b>                  | Opens in January                  |
| <b>Bridge to Convention Center</b> | Opens in January                  |
| <b>Offices</b>                     | Open in May                       |

# SECOND BEST

## Beckett's lesser workload tipped the balance



| SABATHIA       |     | BECKETT |
|----------------|-----|---------|
| Regular season |     |         |
| 34             | G   | 30      |
| 19             | W   | 20      |
| 7              | L   | 7       |
| 241            | IP  | 200.2   |
| 238            | H   | 189     |
| 37             | BB  | 40      |
| 209            | SO  | 194     |
| 3.21           | ERA | 3.27    |

| SABATHIA   |     | BECKETT |
|------------|-----|---------|
| Postseason |     |         |
| 3          | G   | 4       |
| 1          | W   | 4       |
| 2          | L   | 0       |
| 15.1       | IP  | 30      |
| 21         | H   | 19      |
| 13         | BB  | 2       |
| 14         | SO  | 27      |
| 8.82       | ERA | 1.20    |

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / GLENN OSMUNDSON

Josh Beckett, delivering a pitch during a July game against the Devil Rays at Fenway Park, made fewer starts than Cy Young Award winner C.C. Sabathia of the Indians, but he was nearly unhittable in the playoffs and the World Series.

**BY SEAN MCADAM**  
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

BOSTON — C.C. Sabathia beat out Josh Beckett for the American League Cy Young Award.

But at what price? Sabathia, who received 19 first-place votes to Beckett's seven, had one fewer win (19) than Beckett (20) and a slightly lower ERA (3.21) than the Red Sox' starter (3.27).

The Cleveland lefty's big edge with voters came in workload. Sabathia led all major-league starters with 241 innings, compared to Beckett's 200%. Sabathia also made 34 starts, to Beckett's 30.

Beckett missed two starts during the middle of the season and another in the final week as the Red Sox juggled their starting rotation to get their pitchers some extra rest for the postseason.

That strategy seemed to pay off. Beckett was nearly unhittable in the postseason, going 4-0 with a 1.20 ERA, while Sabathia, whose command wasn't nearly as sharp as it had been during the regular season, was 1-2 with an 8.80 ERA. Both of his losses came against Beckett.

In a conference call with reporters yesterday, Sabathia, who became the first Cleveland pitcher in 35 years to win the award, said he didn't feel fatigued from his regular-season work.

"I feel fine," said Sabathia. "I had no problems going into the playoffs or throughout the playoffs."

But in October, Sabathia's command wasn't nearly as sharp as it had been from April through September. In the regular season, he posted a remarkable 5.24 strikeouts-to-walks ratio, among the best in recent history. He walked just 35 hitters in 34 starts.

"I think just keeping down the walks," said Sabathia, "and being able to go deep in the games, I think was the biggest deal in helping me win this."

SEE **BECKETT, C3**

# Rams might not be able to buy a victory over Bears

URI is visiting College Hill for the first time in four years, and was able to top Brown last season by only six points in Kingston.

**BY PAUL KENYON**  
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

PROVIDENCE — Most everyone who lives in Rhode Island is aware of the state's financial crisis, and tonight the issue impacts the state's college basketball picture.

URI visits Brown for a 7 o'clock contest at the Pizzitola Center — which is a story in and of itself.

It will be the first time in four years

the Rams have visited College Hill. It is a trip URI had hoped it would not be making anymore. When the Ryan Center was built, URI officials hoped the bigger facility would allow their school to do what so many of the power programs in the country long have done — that is "buy" more games. That included Brown. Rhody officials told Brown they would do what Providence College does every season. They would pay the Bears to visit the Ryan Center.

Brown accepted. Two years ago, the last time the Bears were supposed to be the home team, URI paid Brown about \$35,000 to travel to Kingston. The Rams won, 57-40. Previous to that, URI had struggled on its most recent trips to the

Pizz. Rhody won, 66-62, four years ago and Brown pulled off the upset, 91-76, six years ago.

Now, times have changed. Not only does the state, and thus the state university as well, have financial problems, but the college basketball world has changed dramatically in the last two years. Gregg Burke, the University of Rhode Island's deputy director of athletics and the person who oversees basketball scheduling, spoke about it yesterday. He said the state's financial situation is only part of the reason the Rams are heading back to Brown. The changes in the college basketball world

SEE **URI-BROWN, C5**

**URI at Brown**

- **TIME:** 7 p.m.
- **SITE:** Pizzitola Sports Center, 235 Hope St., Providence.
- **TV:** None
- **RADIO:** WSKO-AM (790), WHJJ-AM (920), WSKO-FM (99.7), WJZS-FM (99.3)
- **TEAM RECORDS:** URI 1-0, Brown 1-1.
- **THE LINE:** URI by 8 1/2.
- **DID YOU KNOW ...** URI is 6-2 in games at the Pizzitola Sports Center.



NYT / RYAN T. CONATY

Craig Robinson, Brown's head basketball coach, says that his Bears must slow down the fast-paced Rams for a chance at victory tonight.