

RED SOX IN JAPAN



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB BREIDENBACH

Boston right fielder Brandon Moss ties the game with his solo homer in the ninth. Complete coverage in [projoSports, C1](#).

For the fans, Opening Day's an eye-opener

At one Providence bar, the crowd arrives extra early to watch the Red Sox beat the A's, 6-5, in the season opener in Tokyo.

BY BRANDIE JEFFERSON
PROJO.COM STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE — If you wanted a seat at McFadden's at 7:15 a.m. yesterday, you were too late. Ditto for tables and booths.

In fact, Kyle Bosworth, 25, said he was upset because he didn't get to the downtown bar until 6:30 a.m. "The opening pitch was at 6:15."

"Six-oh-six," a friend chimed in.

The Red Sox played their season-opening game in Japan yesterday, a reason for many Rhode Islanders to roll out of bed hours early.

At McFadden's they wore suits and jerseys and even pajamas. They ate doughnuts and muffins, drank juice and coffee donated by Dunkin' Donuts and — yes, at 7 a.m. — a spectrum of beer, wine and spirits.

"I'm not the only one drinking," Bosworth said. And he wasn't, not by a stretch.

But hey, it's a special occasion.

"Only because it's in Japan," he said.

"You had a lot of suits and ties, people coming in before work," said bartender Jason Eppich, who estimated that 250-300 people showed up to watch at least part of the game at McFadden's.

SEE [FANS, A4](#)

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Extra: Who's your opening day MVP, Manny or Moss? To respond, and for more photos from Japan, go to [projosports.com/redsox](#)

A gloomy outlook among consumers over the economy

The level of confidence plunges to its lowest point in five years and a new report shows housing prices continue to fall.

BY JAMES P. MILLER
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO — Consumer confidence plummeted to a five-year low this month, according to a report released yesterday, as Americans gloomily surveyed an economic landscape blighted by soaring energy costs, inflation, sinking home values and a downturn in the job market.

The Conference Board, a business-backed research group, said yesterday that its Consumer Confidence Index plunged to 64.5 this month from a revised 76.4 last month.

This month's confidence report, which suggests household spending will drop sharply in coming months, is "very grim news indeed," said High Frequency Economics' Ian Shepherdson. "This is one of the most alarming economic reports we have seen in this cycle so far."

SEE [ECONOMY, A6](#)

Cicilline moves swiftly to name new chief for Providence schools

Thomas M. Brady, 57, interim superintendent of the Philadelphia school district, is hired just days after the resignation of Supt. Donnie Evans.

BY LINDA BORG
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE — Providence has a new superintendent of schools, Thomas M. Brady, a retired Army colonel who quotes ancient Chinese philosophers and launched a \$4.5-billion overhaul of public school buildings in Washington, D.C.

Flanked by members of the School Board, Mayor David N. Cicilline announced the hiring of the new superintendent yesterday afternoon, one week after Supt. Donnie Evans surprised observers



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BILL MURPHY

Thomas M. Brady starts work July 14.

with his letter of resignation, which takes effect in September.

Brady, 57, is interim superintendent of the 173,000-student Philadelphia school district, the eighth-largest in the nation. He came to Philadelphia in March from Washington, D.C., where he was the school system's chief operating officer. His last post in his 25-year Army career was as commander of Fort Belvoir, Va., from 1995 to 97, a position he said was akin to running a midsize city.

Cicilline said Brady's strong leadership skills

SEE [BRADY, A4](#)

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Your turn: Can anyone manage Providence schools? To respond, go to [projo.com](#)

Pushed to the limit

fourth of eight parts

STORY BY RICHARD SALIT
PHOTOGRAPHS BY FRIEDA SQUIRES
THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / FRIEDA SQUIRES

Gunnery Sgt. Sandra Center orders Nicole Lobecker, who overheated in training, to Holding Company. At right is Navy Chief Dawn Calhoun.

Officer Candidate School (OCS) recently returned to Naval Station Newport. Those who complete the rigorous 12-week program become commissioned officers in the U.S. Navy. But not all are successful. Reporter Richard Salit and photographer Frieda Squires followed five candidates — Adam Cole, Sarah Engemann, Matthew Gottschalk, Nicole Lobecker and Jason Moehlmann — who joined Class 05-08 last fall.

For those who make it out of 'poopy suits': 'Welcome Aboard'

"Bring some attitude," Navy Lt. Eric Sutherland tells his Navy officers before they storm the barracks.

The nervous students fall out of their rooms and stand stiffly at their doorways.

"Did you brush your teeth this morning? Your breath stinks!" Lt. William F. Martin tells Matthew Gottschalk. To someone else, he says, "Did you brush your nails? You make me sick."

Another day, another rude awakening at OCS.

Today, the members of Class 05-08 get a taste of the major challenge that awaits them in three weeks — an exacting and stressful personnel inspection, not by Navy officers but by Marine drill instructors.

This is the first day the students have been liberated from their despised "poopy" suits, the baggy green coveralls they have worn since arriving five days ago. They now get to wear khaki pants and shirts and black shoes. But they better be wearing the new uniforms properly.

Their shoes and belt buckles need to be shined to a high gloss, their pants and shirts must be free of wrinkles and loose threads, and their "gigline" should be perfectly straight, meaning their shirt buttons, belt buckle and pants zipper are all in line. Zipper pulls must be "grounded," not sticking out, and shoelaces tied the OCS way. Nails must

SEE [ABOARD, A7](#)



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BATTLE OVER IRAQI CITY

The government in Baghdad faces its gravest challenge in months as militiamen loyal to Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr battle the Iraqi army over control of the country's second-largest city. **A6**

MISSILE MISTAKE

The U.S. military mistakenly ships intercontinental ballistic missile parts to Taiwan, triggering a broad investigation at the Pentagon. **A2**

PENSION DEBATE

The Rhode Island Bar Association opposes proposals that would scale back pensions for state judges, but Governor Scarciari says the judiciary shouldn't be exempt from pension cuts already applied to other state employees. **B1**



CHEF'S SECRETS

How does a 32-year-old restaurant stay both busy and current with all the competition posed from the many newcomers to the Providence dining scene? Capriccio's chef, Nino D'Urso, shares his secrets. **F1**