

What should the Red Sox do before the trading deadline?

Tell us what you think at [projosports.com/redsox](http://projosports.com/redsox)



RED SOX SWEEP AWAY TWINS: View the gallery at [projosports.com/redsox](http://projosports.com/redsox)

The Fishing Report

Get Tom Meade's roundup of conditions around Rhode Island waters today at [projosports.com/outdoors](http://projosports.com/outdoors)

Closer encounters

Red Sox closer Jonathan Papelbon recorded his 99th career save in his 175th appearance Tues. night. Since 1956, only Seattle's Kazuhiro Sasaki had more saves in as many outings:

PITCHERS	TEAM	SAVES
Kazuhiro Sasaki	Mariners	111
Jonathan Papelbon	Red Sox	99
Bobby Jenks	White Sox	93
Billy Koch	Blue Jays	92

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

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# THE TOP STORY?

It's been an eventful first sixth months in local sports, and it got us thinking: What has been the biggest local sports story of 2008? We've come up with eight nominees, ranging from pro sports to local high school events, and we're asking you now on [projosports.com](http://projosports.com) to pick the No. 1 story of the first half of the year.

Patriots QB Tom Brady got sacked five times by a suffocating New York Giants pass rush shuts down New England's vaunted passing attack, taking away a Pats' triumph in the Super Bowl.

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB BREIDENBACH



PATRIOTS SHOCKED IN SUPER BOWL XLII

With the chance to become the first team in NFL history to complete its season 19-0, the Patriots were heavy favorites in their rematch against the New York Giants, whom they'd beaten in the regular-season finale just five weeks earlier. But a suffocating New York pass rush shut down New England's vaunted attack, David Tyree set up the game-winning touchdown with one of the most spectacular catches ever seen on an NFL field, and New York prevailed, 17-14.

CELTICS BEAT LAKERS IN NBA FINALS

Although they finished the regular season with the best record in basketball, the Celtics struggled at times in the playoffs and were underdogs against Kobe Bryant and the red-hot Los Angeles Lakers in the Finals. Boston won Games One and Two at home, lost Game Three in Los Angeles, then took control of the series with a magical comeback in Game Four. After a near-miss in Game Five, the Celtics embarrassed the Lakers in Game Six to clinch the franchise's 17th championship.

JON LESTER'S NO-HITTER

Less than two years after cancer put a hold on his career, the 24-year-old Red Sox left-hander pitched the 18th no-hitter in franchise history -- and the fourth this decade -- in a May 19 game against the Kansas City Royals. Lester allowed only two base runners, on a pair of walks, and got some help from Jacoby Ellsbury's diving catch in the fourth inning. "To watch him do that tonight was beyond words," manager Terry Francona said.

MANNY HITS NUMBER 500

At the start of the season, he needed 10 long balls to become the 24th member of baseball's elite power-hitting club. He started the season on a tear, then went into a tailspin after collecting home run No. 498. He finally got number 499 in Seattle, and by the time he got to Baltimore, Manny would not be denied. He hit No. 500 in the seventh inning on May 31, off former teammate Chad Bradford, then for good measure added home runs in the next two games at Camden Yards.

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE FIRES TIM WELSH AND HIRES KENO DAVIS

When the Friars fell in the first round of the Big East Tournament, everyone knew that the end had come to the 10-year Welsh era. But the search to find his replacement was more eventful than anyone might have guessed. After Jim Larranaga and Travis Ford bowed out, PC still managed to land a high-profile name to guide its men's basketball program. The hiring of Davis, the national Coach of the Year after taking Drake to the NCAA Tournament, has some Friar fans dreaming big again.

ELIZABETH BEISEL QUALIFIES FOR THE OLYMPICS

From North Kingstown to Beijing -- it's a big step for anyone, and especially for a 15-year-old. But Elizabeth Beisel proved she was up to the task when the high school junior finished second in both the 400-meter individual medley and the 200-meter backstroke at the U.S. Olympic Trials in Omaha, Neb. Four months earlier, Beisel set Rhode Island records in the 200-yard freestyle and 100-yard backstroke while also leading two relay teams to first-place finishes in the state meet.

RYAN WESTMORELAND DRAFTED BY THE RED SOX

Nearly untouchable as a pitcher, striking out 89 of the 129 batters he faced during his senior season at Portsmouth High School, Westmoreland drew the attention of the pros because of his all-around ability, and specifically his bat. With a scholarship to play baseball at Vanderbilt University already in hand, Westmoreland became the fifth-round draft choice of his favorite team, the Boston Red Sox, in the 2008 Major League Draft.

JULIET VONGPHOUMY WINS HIGH SCHOOL GOLF CROWN

At just 14 years old, Vongphoumy became the first girl ever to win the co-ed state championship tournament when she claimed a two-stroke victory in May at the Cranston Country Club. The victory earned the La Salle Academy student the chance to become the first female player at the Rhode Island Amateur tournament. The daughter of immigrants from Laos, who hopes to become a golfer on the LPGA Tour, Vongphoumy developed her game at the Button Hole Learning Center.

The survey will remain active until the end of this month, and we'll report the results in early August. Go to [projosports.com](http://projosports.com) and place your vote today.

RED SOX 18, TWINS 5

## Fenway is at its best, hosting Sox' hit parade

Boston makes it three straight over Minnesota with a powerful attack in a game that had some unusual moments.

BY STEVEN KRASNER  
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

BOSTON — If it had been a night game, with all the unusual stuff that happened during Boston's series-sweeping 18-5 victory yesterday over Minnesota at Fenway Park, someone might have suggested there must have been a full moon.

Instead, there was bright sunshine, which actually played a major role in yesterday's game as the Red Sox made it three straight over the Twins, who had been red-hot before entering Fenway.

Of course, there also was the relatively mundane, including a pair of RBI doubles and a run-producing single by Manny Ramirez, four hits from Jacoby Ellsbury and three from Sean Casey, not to mention a three-run double by Dustin Pedroia that extended his hitting streak to 17 games. Every starter except Brandon Moss (1-for-5) had a multiple-hit afternoon and an RBI.

Boston buried the Twins under a barrage of 23 hits for 18 runs, both season-highs, a pounding that didn't include a homer until Kevin Cash and Kevin Youkilis went deep in the eighth even though the wind was blowing out to left-center.

The Sox, though, did accumulate seven doubles, including three in a game-deciding seven-run blitz in the seventh inning, as well as a triple.

SEE RED SOX, C5



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB BREIDENBACH

Twins center fielder Denard Span looks like he catches a fly ball hit by Jason Varitek, but the original call was changed, giving the Sox catcher a single.

## Seriously, this laughter bordered on the absurd

BOSTON — This is why managers have gray hair. Or, in the case of Red Sox manager Terry Francona, no hair at all.

Fans see that the Sox scored a season-high 18 runs while pounding out a season-high 23 hits in sweeping the Twins yesterday afternoon at hot and muggy Fenway and figure the game was a blowout, no contest, a rout.

They watch the highlights of Kevin Youkilis and Kevin Cash hitting homers; of Manny being Manny by not only driving in three runs with a couple of doubles, but also throwing out a runner trying to go from first to third; of speedy Jacoby Ellsbury getting four hits and scampering around the bases; of designated hitter Sean Casey banging out three hits; of Dustin Pedroia extending his hitting streak to 17 games with a couple of late-inning hits — including a bases-clearing, three-run double, and they assume that yester-

SEE DONALDSON, C5



AP / CHARLES KRUPA

Forward Paul Pierce helped carry the Celtics over the Lakers for Boston's 17th title.



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / RUBEN W. PEREZ

PC hired Keno Davis, who coached at Drake University, to get the Friars back on track, ending the 10-year Tim Welsh era.

The Red Sox' Manny Ramirez became the 24th member of an exclusive club: players who have hit 500 home runs.

AP / STEVE RUARK



AP / MARK J. TERRILL

North Kingstown's Elizabeth Beisel will swim in the Olympics in two events.



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB BREIDENBACH

Red Sox starter Jon Lester pitched a no-hitter, the franchise's 18th, against Kansas City on May 19.



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / RUBEN W. PEREZ

Portsmouth senior Ryan Westmoreland became the fifth-round choice of the Red Sox in the MLB Draft.



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB BREIDENBACH

La Salle's Juliet Vongphoumy became the first girl ever to win the RIIL state golf championship in May.