# **Sports**



## **Red Sox hire 28-year-old manager**

Boston Red Sox are so comfortable putting the team in the hands of 28year-old Theo Epstein. After all, the New York Yankees won three World Series after they hired the youngest general manager in the major leagues.

The Red Sox made Epstein the youngest GM in big league history on Monday, giving the local boy wonder a promotion and hoping he can lead the team to its first World Series title since 1918.

"We're going to become a championship organization," he said at a news conference at Fenway Park, about a mile from where he was raised. "We're going to win a World Series.'

Much has been made of Epstein's age — the joke on talk radio is that he can be a San Francisco Giants bat boy when he grows up — but the only difference between him and previous Boston GMs is the era in which the Red Sox first broke their hearts.

It's now 84 seasons since the Red Sox last won it all, a fact not lost on Epstein. He moved to the area at the age of 4 1/2 in 1978 — "the Bucky Dent year," he noted, though no one around here really needs reminding.

the club's first was hired in 1933. "Growing up in New England, you never lose the Red Sox from your blood. Being here, being general manager of this club, it just feels right."

The Red Sox had been without a permanent general manager since Florida financier John W. Henry bought the team in spring training and fired Dan Duquette. Mike Port was the interim GM during the season and a candidate for the long-term job; he has been invited to remain as vice president of baseball operations but has not decided whether to accept.

Former Philadelphia Phillies general manager Lee Thomas, who had been a special assistant under Port, has been asked to stay on, with expanded duties. Former Detroit Tigers GM Bill Lajoie could be asked aboard as the Red Sox try to supplement Epstein's brains and exuberance with more experienced hands — an organizational structure the Yankees used to ease Brian Cashman into the top job there.

"I definitely see a similarity," said Red Sox president Larry Lucchino, was being considered, Lucchino began who has nurtured Epstein at three ma- to focus on the candidate right in front "I was a Red Sox fan from Day 1," jor league organizations. "But it's not of him.

BOSTON(AP)—It's no wonder the said Epstein, who is the 11th GM since just a Yankees model, it's the kind of baseball braintrust they're using in Oakland and other places.'

> Lucchino was running the show in Baltimore when Epstein came on as an intern, and he followed Lucchino to the San Diego Padres. Epstein spent two years in San Diego's media relations department, two as a baseball operations assistant and became the Padres' director of baseball operations after his graduation in 2000.

> Still, his heart was with the Red Sox. And when the group headed by Henry and TV producer Tom Werner bought the team in February and put Lucchino in charge, Epstein came in as assistant GM.

> He toiled at Port's side this year, representing the club at the general managers' meetings and even negotiating with Oakland over compensation when it appeared that Athletics GM Billy Beane would take the Boston job. Beane backed out, citing family reasons, and joined in the chorus of those recommending Epstein for the job.

Last week, without ever interviewing Epstein or even acknowledging he

# Two Cowgirls named All-League

The Goodland Cowgirls placed two juniors on the Northwest Kansas All-League Volleyball team selected by the coaches.

Juniors Alisha McKee and Janae McKee were named to the all-league team. The Colby Lady Eagles had three on the team, there were two from St. Francis and two from Oberlin. There was one from Hoxie, Atwood and Quinter.

The Colby Lady Eagles won the regional tournament, defeating the Cowgirls to advance to state. Colby did not make it out of pool play at state, losing

## **Wildcats** get first win

CHARLOTTE AMALIE, U.S. Virgin Islands (AP) — This was what Kansas State coach Jim Wooldridge expected of senior forwards Pervis Pasco and Matt Siebrandt.

It's what they expected of themselves, too.

After both were held out of double figures in the Wildcats' first two games -both losses -Pasco scored 14 points and Siebrandt had 12 in Kansas State's 82-71 win over Michigan on Monday.

"It was really frustrating," Pasco said of Kansas State's first 0-2 start since the 1983-84 season. "I think I basically just tried to do too much instead of being myself and getting the team into a rhythm."

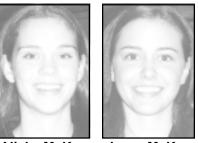
Both teams got off to a slow start in Monday's game, part of the University of the Virgin Islands Paradise Jam tournament.

While the Wildcats (1-2) missed six of their first seven field-goal attempts, they made 13 of 19 during the remainder of the half, breaking away from a 7-7 tie with a 34-16 spurt over the final 12 minutes.

The Wildcats converted 10 Wolverines turnovers into 12 points during the first half.

"It was a much-needed win for us," Wooldridge said. "I told the kids after the game that I was really proud of the way they came out and started the game.

'I've been pleased all weekend with their effort," Wooldridge said. "We've got a lot of improving to do as a team, but it was a great win for us."



Alisha McKee Janae McKee

two of their three matches. Northwest Kansas All-League Vol- junior leyball Teams members are:

Tiffany Focke, Colby senior Alisha McKee, Goodland junior Jacie Hoyt, Hoxie sophmore Amber Feikert, St. Francis senior Shannon Lowry, Atwood senior Kortney Stapp, Decatur County senior

Bethanie Linden, Colby junior Summar Stephens, Colby senior Jeree Selensky, Quinter junior Heather Culwell, St. Francis senior Janae McKee, Goodland junior Kelsey Dorshorst, Decatur County

## **Brewster All-Star Booster Club**

#### November 27-December 1, 2002

Wednesday, Nov. 27 - Dec. 1 - NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING BREAK

**Tuesday, Dec. 3** - High School Scholars Bowl at Greeley Co., 4 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 5 - Winter Music Program 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 6 - High School Basketball at Grinnell 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 9 - High School Scholars Bowl at Colby 4 p.m.; Junior High Scholars Bowl at Tribune 4 p.m. **Tuesday, Dec. 10** - Early Dismissal 12:19 p.m.; Sagebrush Shootout at Brewster 3 p.m.



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