

## High for Lowe

Longtime area softball coach closes in on 400th victory.



## First mission

Director J.J. Abrams makes his big-screen debut with 'Mission: Impossible III.' B1



# The Standard-Times

S E R V I N G   T H E   S O U T H C O A S T   C O M M U N I T Y

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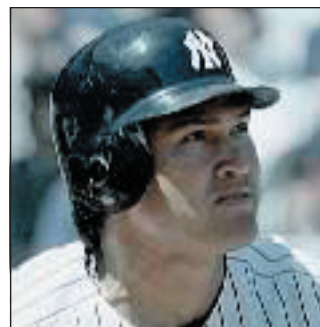
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## The 'Idiot' returns: SouthCoast fans ready to boo Damon



Johnny Damon makes his return as a Yankee today...

By LAUREN DALEY  
Standard-Times staff writer

If the SouthCoast sector of Red Sox Nation is any indicator, Johnny Damon better duck and cover tonight.

Because the biggest Green Monster at Fenway tonight will be the greedy former "Idiot," SouthCoast Sox fans said yesterday.

"We're going to boo — boo big time," said Debbie Veloza, of Westport, who shopped for Sox sandals at the Dartmouth Mall with her friend, Debbie Silva, yesterday.

"We're season-ticket holders for the Patriots, and at one game, they had a cardboard cut-out of Johnny Damon,"

said Ms. Veloza.

"Everybody threw ketchup and mustard packets at him. Whatever they could find, they threw. It was great."

Overwhelmingly, Sox fans said yesterday Damon was "a traitor," "a turncoat," "greedy," and — perhaps the worst insult of all — a "Yankee."

Tonight, the former long-haired Sox center fielder will enter Fenway Park violating Boston's only dress code:

No pinstripes.

"He's a traitor. He needs a Chuck Norris round-house kick to the face," said Joe Schlieff, a UMass-Dartmouth freshman, who's apparently harboring more than a little resentment.

"He left for the money because he knows this is his last chance. He's getting old."

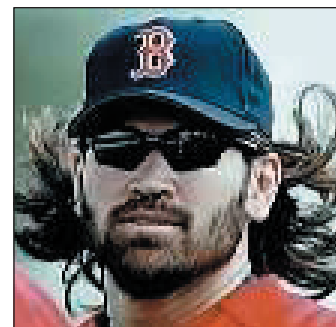
Joey Garcia, of Dartmouth, is just as upset.

"He's a traitor. I hate the Yankees. They're the worst team, and he left for the money."

Wesley Grant, an employee at the Dartmouth Mall, shook his head when asked about Damon.

"There's no loyalty in sports anymore. It wasn't so much the trade as the way he did it. Two weeks before he left, he said he wanted Boston. Then the Yankees flashed money in his face.

See DAMON A5



... after four years and a World Series title in Boston.

File photos by the Associated Press

## Paving the waves



Above, UMass Dartmouth students Mike Sullivan and Mike Cronenberger pick up speed during the Concrete Canoe Race at Apponagansett Point Park in Padanaram. Below, canoes get into position before the start of the race.

Photos by DAVID W. OLIVEIRA/Standard-Times special

## Students compete in concrete canoe race at Padanaram Harbor

By CURT BROWN  
Standard-Times staff writer

DARTMOUTH — Think concrete can't float? Think again.

Civil engineering students from 10 universities put their concrete canoes — ranging in weight from 150 pounds to more than 300 pounds — to the test yesterday in Padanaram Harbor in a series of sprints and slalom races, designed to test the students' ability to apply practical engineering principles.

The secret to making the concrete canoes seaworthy, according to Dr. Christos G. Papakonstantinou, a civil engineering professor at UMass Dartmouth, is to remove the sand and the stones from the concrete and use lightweight materials like glass spheres and ceramic bubbles in their place.

"I didn't think it would float, but

when you think of it the density (of the canoe) is lighter than water," said Ryan McCoy, a 22-year-old UMass Dartmouth civil engineering student from Newburyport.

"I knew you could do it as long as you can make it buoyant," said Bryan Engstrom, 22, a UMass Dartmouth civil engineering student from West Bridgewater. "Other people said what are you talking about?"

UMass Dartmouth's entry in the concrete canoe races — dubbed The Almost New But Not Quite Old Whaler — is 150 pounds and about 20 feet long.

Mike Cronenberger, a UMass Dartmouth civil engineering student and one of the rowers, said it was "easy" to row the canoe when they were going straight ahead, but turning was another matter.

"I don't know about the slalom,"



Mr. Cronenberger said, expressing some doubts about the upcoming races.

In addition to issues of maneuverability, the collegiate teams had to battle a very strong current and gusty winds yesterday on the harbor.

Building the canoe and planning the event was a challenge, but UMass Dartmouth students

said they are pleased with how things turned out.

They made the mold from 2x4 and 2x6 sections of plywood, and placed the concrete mix and fiberglass on the mold.

"It is the lightest of all the ones this year," said Jim Antonizick, a 22-year-old UMass Dartmouth civil engineering student from

See CANOES A5

## Healey support wavers in GOP

Some local Republicans hesitant to back campaign

By JACK SPILLANE  
Standard-Times staff writer

There was an undercurrent at the state Republican convention in Lowell this weekend.

You could feel it in the tepid applause that former U.S. Sen. Edward Brooke, a legendary African-American moderate, received when he told the party it needs to market itself to a broader range of voters.

You could actually see it on the mouths of the delegates who wore red masking tape with the word "Life" inscribed on it. And you could hear it in the comment that a young SouthCoast Republican told The Standard-Times on the assurance that it would not identify him.

"There's a lot of ambivalence about Kerry Healey at this convention," he said.

Some actually prefer Christy Mihos, the outspoken former turnpike authority member, who last month bolted the GOP to run for governor as an independent, the UMass-Dartmouth student said.

Mr. Mihos has claimed party leaders would not give him a fair shot at the nomination.

After the gubernatorial ticket, the Massachusetts Republicans this year had an even harder time than usual fielding credible candidates for other statewide offices, not to mention the state's all Democratic congressional delegation.

"The party has a lot of problems," said the young SouthCoast Republican, who described

See HEALEY A9

### THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED

The UMass Dartmouth College Republicans, a minority among students on campus, participated in the Republican Convention in Lowell. A9.

### INSIDE TODAY

WEATHER Partly cloudy and windy; high 56, low 41. A11

LOTTERY Daily Number: 0687; more lottery, A2.

### To our readers

Due to technical issues, yesterday's edition of SouthCoastToday.com was not posted until 8:30 p.m. We apologize to our readers.

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## Area to feel effects of immigrant walkout

By JOAO FERREIRA  
Standard-Times staff writer

NEW BEDFORD — What would a day without immigrants be like in SouthCoast?

A group of advocates and immigrants want to tell everyone today what that would be when they assemble in front of the Hastings Keith Federal Building as part of the "Imagine a Day Without Immigrants" national event.

A rally is planned downtown for 5 p.m. The event, which will last until 7 p.m., will include cultural acts and speeches.

As part of the observance, organizers also want employers to give their employees part of the day off for the activities and show their solidarity and support for immigration reform. Immigrants are also pledging to boycott commerce

### A DAY WITHOUT IMMIGRANTS

Widespread boycotts from work and school are expected today, but not all immigrants will walk out, deciding instead to support the effort in other ways. A3.

so the impact of a "Day Without Immigrants" is felt.

"Most people are basically saying that they're not buying anything that day," said Jose Soler of the Massachusetts Central Labor Council. "There has to be a meaningful immigrant reform law, what's out there is not meaningful yet."

As the issue has become a hot topic with Washington legislators, immigrant advocates are

See IMMIGRANTS A5

## FIRE RAVAGES WAREHAM HOME



Firefighters battle a blaze that ripped through a home at 10 Blackmore Pond Road in Wareham yesterday. No one was injured, though the house was gutted. Story, A9.

ED PEPIN/Standard-Times special

