

PRO GOLF

Luke Donald can't secure world's No. 1 ranking. B6

SPORTS

SCOREBOARD B2 ♦ ROUNDUP B3 ♦ COMICS B4 ♦ ADVICE B5 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS B6 ♦ TV B8

Monday, April 25, 2011
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Playwright captures the aura of Auerbach

CRANSTON — Ken Dooley of Newport at age 79 has long kept the written word coming as fast as a Boston Celtics fast break. His resume includes 38 books and numerous films and plays.



RICK MCGOWAN

Academy and Providence College, schools with a long hoop tradition.

Dooley first met the late Celtics legend Arnold "Red" Auerbach, architect of the most storied franchise in the National Basketball Association, in 1984 to do a motivational film.

After all, who better to talk about management techniques than this native of Brooklyn who totaled nine titles as coach and an additional seven as general manager and president of the Green?

Dooley, who was first introduced to the coach by Boston Globe sports columnist Bob Ryan, and Auerbach hit it off well enough to

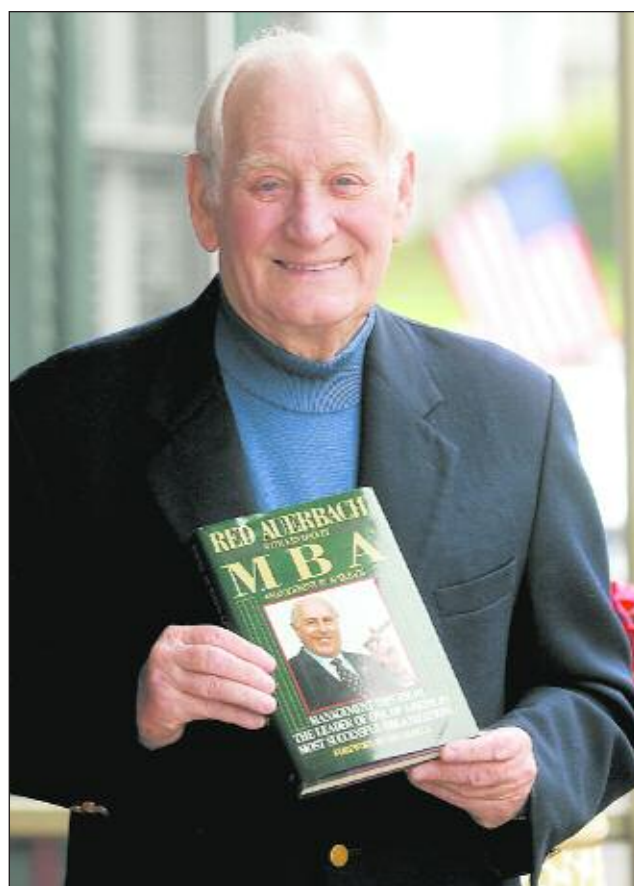
collaborate on a book some years later and remained close friends. The year after Auerbach died in 2006, Dooley got the idea that much in Auerbach's life could be brought to life on the stage.

"I was in Sarasota, Florida, and I went to see a one-man play based on Yogi Berra," Dooley recalled during intermission of "The Auerbach Dynasty" on Saturday night. "It was a cute little play with all these sayings, most of which Berra never said. And I thought at the time..."

He thought that the story of Auerbach, with his victory cigar and his colorful ways and his role in breaking the color barrier in the NBA and his run-ins with sportswriters and agents and referees and all the rest in a Celtics career that spanned from 1950 into the next millennium, could also be a one-man act.

"I thought it would make a good play," said Dooley, who also wrote "The John Gordon Murder Trial," which opened at the Park Theatre in January.

Dooley said the Gordon play, about the trial of an Irish immigrant in the 1800s, took a



Jacqueline Marquie ♦ Daily News Staff

Ken Dooley of Newport, who wrote 'The Auerbach Dynasty,' a one-man play about the Celtics legendary coach, holds a book he wrote about him.

AUERBACH B3

PRO BASEBALL: BOSTON 7, L.A. ANGELS 0

Red Sox winning behind pitching

John Lackey extends the team's win streak to five games by throwing eight shutout innings.

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — John Lackey kept the line moving — a variation on one of Boston manager Terry Francona's favorite expressions regarding his potent batting order: Only this time, it has to do with the Red Sox's starting rotation.

Lackey beat his former team again with eight superb innings, Carl Crawford hit his first home run in a Boston uniform and the Red Sox completed a pitching-dominated four-game sweep of the Angels on Sunday with a 7-0 victory that extended their winning streak to five.

The Red Sox extended their streak to nine consecutive games in which their starting pitcher has gone at least five innings and allowed fewer than three runs.

The rotation, which has a 0.88 earned run average during this stretch, tied the longest such streak in franchise history, set in 1946.

"Sure, there's definitely a sense of not wanting to be the guy to stop the streak," Lackey said. "It's a pretty good run, but it's not unexpected. We've got some guys here with some pretty good track records."

Lackey (2-2) scattered six hits, struck out six and stranded eight baserunners, becoming the third straight Boston starter to hold the Angels scoreless. The right-hander's solid outing came on the heels of Daisuke Matsuzaka's eight innings of one-hit ball in Saturday night's 5-0 victory.

Josh Beckett allowed two runs and just three hits over eight innings in the series opener before the Red Sox won 4-2 in 11 innings.

The next night, Jon Lester gave up four hits in six scoreless innings of a 4-3 win, helping Boston's rotation carve out a minuscule 0.60 ERA in the series.

The only blemish was Torii Hunter's two-run homer off Beckett.

"I think it obviously helps to see somebody do it. You just try to follow it and not screw it up," Lester said after Sunday's game. "We're just executing pitches right now. That's the main thing. We're very confident. We just have to stay healthy. We've been in this position before with a good rotation and weren't able to stay healthy, which didn't get us anywhere."

So if everyone keeps taking their turn, everything should take care of itself."

Lackey, who spent his first eight big league seasons with the Halos and won Game 7 of the 2002 World Series as a rookie, is 4-0 with a 2.45 ERA in four starts against them.

Two of those wins have come at Angel Stadium, where Lackey is 51-32 with a 3.93 ERA in 114 starts, including a 4-2 victory for the Red Sox last July 27.

"I've won a few games in this stadium for sure," said Lackey, who left Anaheim to sign a five-year, \$82.5 million free-agent con-

CELTICS B3

SOX B6

PRO BASKETBALL: BOSTON 101, NEW YORK 89

Rest for the weary



Associated Press

Paul Pierce of the Celtics fends off Carmelo Anthony of the Knicks on Sunday afternoon at Madison Square Garden in New York. Pierce had 13 points in helping Boston notch a four-game sweep in the first-round Eastern Conference series.

Aging Celtics stars wait after polishing off Knicks

NEW YORK (AP) — The Celtics looked beatable in Boston, and the Knicks thought they could finish the job at home. Instead, the Celtics quickly finished them off.

Kevin Garnett had 26 points and 10 rebounds, Rajon Rondo added 21 points and 12 assists, and Boston swept its way into the Eastern Conference semifinals, holding on for a 101-89 victory over New York on Sunday.

Ray Allen and reserve Glen Davis each added 14 points for the Celtics, the

first team to qualify for the second round. It was the first sweep for Boston since 1992 against Indiana, the last series victory for their old Big Three before Larry Bird retired.

It didn't appear that drought would end when the Celtics needed late shots by Allen and Garnett to win the first two games. But they elevated their play in the first postseason games at Madison Square Garden in seven years, winning both by double digits.

"I think we just really settled into a

good rhythm once we got on the road," Paul Pierce said. "I think sometimes the road can kind of bring you together."

The Celtics had a 23-point lead cut to four in the fourth quarter, but pulled away again behind Garnett, who scored 20 after halftime. The Celtics now could have a week off while they wait for likely opponent Miami, which was forced to a fifth game earlier Sunday after a late rally by Philadelphia.

Boston nearly faced the same sce-

nario, but a Knicks comeback attempt stalled in the final minutes before they were saluted by their orange-clad crowd after delivering the best season in New York in a decade.

"Everybody understood what was at stake. Give a team some confidence, even in a 3-0 series to win a game, you never know what can happen," Pierce said. "So it was just very important for us to withstand the run. They made a



Associated Press

Boston Bruins forward turned goalie Michael Ryder steps in front of a Tomas Plekanec shot during Game 5 on Saturday night at TD Garden.

PRO HOCKEY: BOSTON vs. MONTREAL

Ryder's stop saved Bruins

BOSTON (AP) — As a child growing up in Newfoundland, Michael Ryder played goalie in ball hockey games until his father told him to come out of the net.

So when he found himself alone in the crease on Saturday night after Tim Thomas moved out to cut down the angle on a breakaway, Ryder's instincts took over.

"They just made a pass in front and I knew Timmy was out of position," the Bruins forward said. "I tried blocking any way I can, and ended up getting the glove on it."

TUESDAY

Game 6 (Bruins lead 3-2)
Boston at Montreal, 7 p.m.
TV/Radio: NESN,
WBZ 98.5 FM

Ryder's glove save in the first period helped preserve a scoreless game, and Boston went on to beat the Canadiens 2-1 in double overtime to take a 3-2 lead in their best-of-seven first round playoff series.

It was Boston's third straight victory after losing the first two games of the series at home.

"You're disappointed and you're sad at the result, but I still think that there's lots of positive from the game," Montreal coach Jacques Martin said on Sunday. "It wasn't like we sat back. We got behind, but we attacked. It's the competition. We had some great opportunities in the overtime and we weren't able to put it in."

BRUINS B6

SPORTS

PRO TENNIS: BARCELONA OPEN

Nadal again thwarts Ferrer

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Rafael Nadal beat David Ferrer 6-2, 6-4 in their second all-Spanish final in two weeks to claim his sixth Barcelona Open title Sunday.

The top-ranked Spaniard won his 29th straight match at the clay court event when Ferrer hit his backhand wide.

"It is a dream for me to win here six times," said Nadal, whose sole loss at Barcelona came against another countryman, Alex Corretja, in 2003. "I think it will be difficult to repeat. Six years is a long time in the life of a tennis player."

It was Nadal's 45th career ATP World Tour title and his second consecutive trophy after beating Ferrer at Monte Carlo in straight sets April 17. Nadal won at Barcelona from 2005-09, including title match victories over Ferrer in 2008 and 2009, before sitting out last year's edition to rest.

"I feel bad for David because no one deserves to win here more than him for what it means to him and the work he has put in to reach three finals," Nadal said after improving his career record against Ferrer to 13-5, including a 5-0 record in finals.

Nadal has beaten Ferrer 10 straight times

'I think my first set today was my best of the season.'

RAFAEL NADAL

who secured his 45th ATP World Tour title on Sunday

on clay since losing to him in 2004. Ferrer has played in four finals this year, winning two and finishing as runner-up to Nadal twice.

The 24-year-old Nadal became the first player to win two tournaments six or more times — he has won Monte Carlo seven times — in the tour's Open era.

His 31st clay court title also moved him into third place all time. The last time he lost on his preferred surface was to Robin Soderling at the 2009 French Open.

"I think my first set today was my best of the season," Nadal said. "My forehand was also better today. Last week I felt like I wasn't causing enough pain for my opponents with my forehand, but today I could change its direction and send it down the line."

Both players struggled to hold their serve in a match that had six breaks for Nadal and three for Ferrer.

"He served better in the first set, but we both struggled with our serves and there were a lot of breaks," Ferrer said. "We have both had better days."

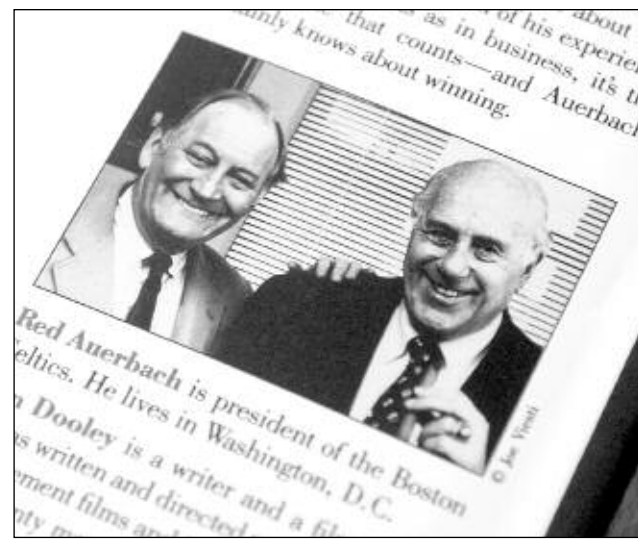
Nadal hit one of his patented left-hand drives into the corner to break Ferrer in the first game of the second set, but Ferrer began to show some of the fight from Monte Carlo when he tested Nadal before falling 6-4, 7-5.

The No. 2-ranked Spanish player saved a break point to hold in the third game and broke Nadal's serve when he forced Nadal to return long in the fourth, pulling even at 2-2.

As Ferrer reduced his errors, Nadal's volleys started to drift wide and he was broken for a second straight game when Ferrer's forehand winner gave him a 4-2 lead.

But Nadal responded, swatting Ferrer's drop shot to break him in the seventh game, and he broke his opponent again in his next service game to regain the lead for good when Ferrer's cross shot landed wide.

"I don't know why, but I wasn't able to keep up the rhythm of play," Ferrer said. "I didn't serve well in the second set at this important moment when maybe I had a chance."



Jacqueline Marqu ♦ Daily News staff

Ken Dooley, a playwright, author and filmmaker who lives in Newport, is pictured with Red Auerbach on the inside of Dooley's book about the Celtics legend.

Auerbach

Continued from B1

lot longer to write than his current show. "Once I got started on this one, I knew so many of the stories," he said.

Jeff Gill, who played the defense attorney in the Gordon play, has the role as Auerbach. "Jeff is a fine actor from the Cape," Dooley said. "He's done a lot of acting in Boston."

Gill doesn't have Auerbach's hoarse voice and in his bald headpiece he resembles Peter Boyle in the "Young Frankenstein" movie. But in his light brown sports jacket and striped tie, Gill displays the gruffness and spirit in this extended monologue.

Gill works between an easy chair and end table on the right and a bigger table on the left. There are glasses of water on each side between an old players' bench with a basketball and a few books. Gill has a white sheet of paper he refers to periodically to keep his thoughts flowing.

In the background is a screen that continually displays numerous stills of photos, many of them featuring newspaper clips and some especially interesting shots of Auerbach's early years in New York City and at George Washington University.

In one, he wears a sweater in which he looks like he just stepped out of the International Tennis Hall of Fame, whose courts are a whole other world removed from the old Boston Garden.

Auerbach made history when the Celtics drafted Chuck Cooper in the second round of the 1950 draft as the first black player to join an NBA team. That development and others with Auerbach and the Celtics breaking new ground in the color barrier — first NBA team to start five black players, first NBA team to have a black coach (Bill Russell) — helped inspire Dooley to write the play.

The first act reveals how former Celtics owner Walter Brown and Auerbach disagreed on their reaction to the team's black players not being allowed to eat with their white teammates during a road trip for an exhibition game in the days of Jim Crow laws in the early 1950s.

"Red always took the position of 'Stare them down and play the game,'" Dooley said. "We'll show them how great we are."

"Walter said, 'Pull them off.'"

Dooley was having lunch with Auerbach the year

before he died and asked, "Red, when you look back on it now, would you do it any differently?" And he looked at me and said, 'I think Walter was right.'"

Brown and Auerbach were morally right about drafting Cooper; even though there were howls of protest that Boston bypassed Bob Cousy, the passing whiz from nearby College of the Holy Cross, in Auerbach's first draft that year.

Auerbach's decision wasn't lost on Bobby Douglas, then the coach of the Harlem Rens, considered the best team in professional basketball.

He told Auerbach, "You just did for basketball what Branch Rickey did for baseball," referring to the man who made Jackie Robinson the first black player in the major leagues in 1947.

Dooley said Auerbach told him that story off the record in 1984. "He never let me use it. Then that day we had lunch (some two decades later) I said, 'Red, neither of us are getting any younger.' He said, 'You can use it when I'm gone.'"

Such anecdotes shouldn't be limited to an older audience, which was the demographic on Saturday night.

Two hours of stream of consciousness and no video about the old days may not fully resonate with a younger crowd, but a condensed version of "The Auerbach Dynasty" with its emphasis on breaking racial barriers could be a valuable teaching tool for school groups.

"Dynasty," Red spits. "Words like that belong in a Chinese history book."

There are enough words in this play, from Auerbach's take on the best Celtic he ever coached; the difference between Bill Russell and Wilt Chamberlain; the style of play-by-play announcer Johnny Most; the dazzle of "The Cooz" and the Larry Bird era, among others.

And Dooley's still dishing it out. He's currently writing a book with K.C. Jones and Sam Jones entitled "From White to Black: The story of the black pioneers in the NBA."

"The Auerbach Dynasty" concludes its run on Friday and Saturday night at 8 and Sunday afternoon at 3. Tickets cost \$35, with a 15 percent discount for seniors and students. Call 467-7375 or go online at parktheaterri.com.

Rick McGowan is a Daily News sportswriter. Send him e-mail at McGowan@NewportRI.com.

Celtics

Continued from B1

great run and the crowd really got behind them, but in the fourth quarter we just really settled down in the last six or seven minutes, executed the offense and were able to put the game out of reach."

Carmelo Anthony had 32 points and nine rebounds, and Amare Stoudemire, who decided to play after his back felt better, finished with 19 points and 12 boards but shot only 5-for-20 from the field.

"It was all heart. He just gave it all. With him and Carmelo going forward, the Knicks are in good shape," Knicks coach Mike D'Antoni said.

The Knicks shot 34 percent and were quickly dispatched in their first playoff appearance since 2004, when they were also swept in the first round. They haven't won a playoff game in 10 years.

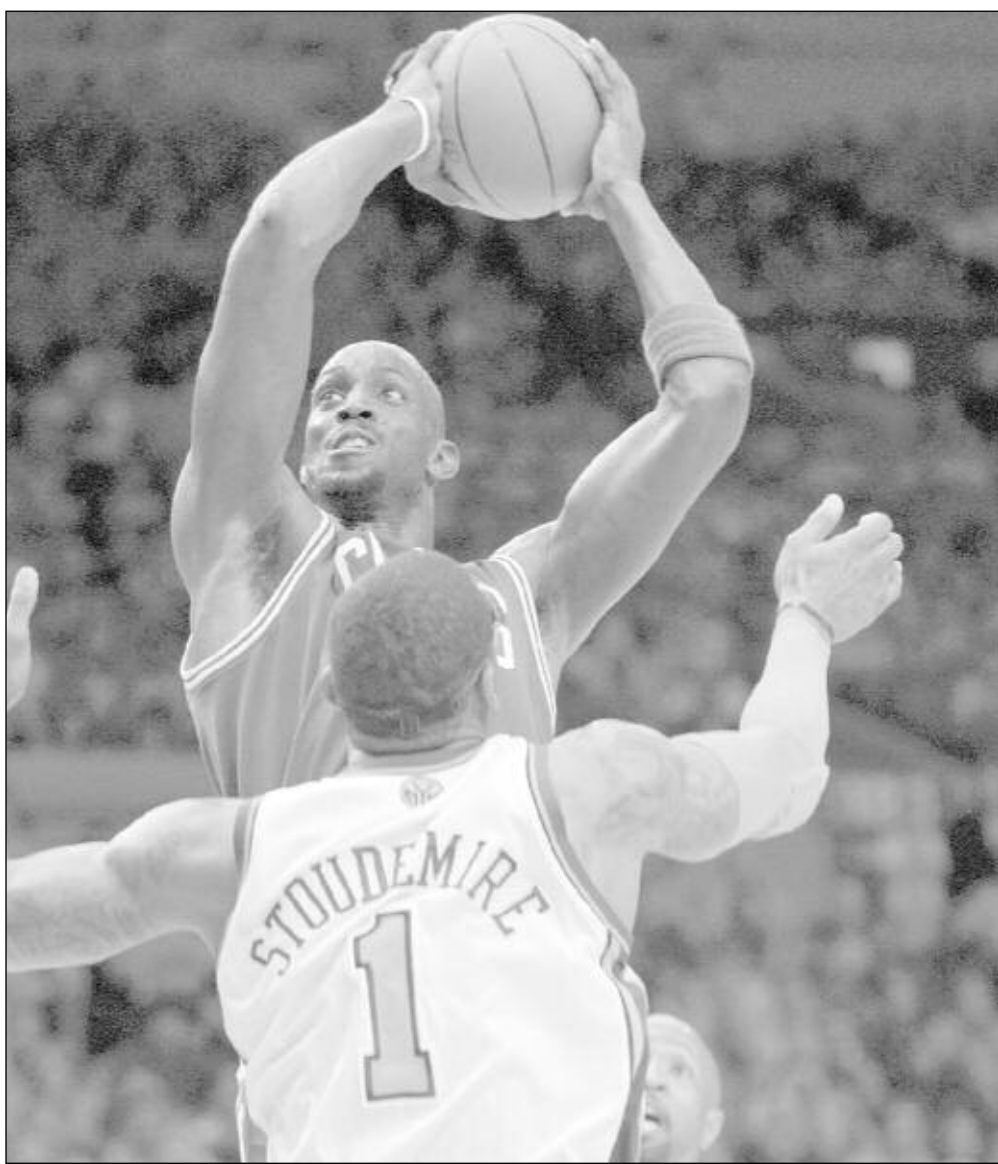
"Tonight was one of those games that we have to leave it all out on the court. Wasn't no need to take anything home with us, and we did that," Anthony said. "So I'm pretty sure that we gained a lot of respect from a lot of people right now, but this is the first step of something great."

The Celtics were only 10-11 in their last 21 games of the regular season, struggling to adjust to a changed lineup after trading center Kendrick Perkins to Oklahoma City at the deadline and renewing questions they were too old.

The Knicks believed they could challenge them, but Chauncey Billups was lost for good after straining his left knee in the final minute of Game 1 and Stoudemire was never the same after hurting his back during warmups before Game 2.

Meanwhile, the Celtics got better as the series went along, pulling out two close victories in Boston and saving their best for Madison Square Garden.

Garnett made three straight field goals to make it 70-48 in the third quarter before the Celtics



Associated Press

Boston forward Kevin Garnett, shooting in front of Amare Stoudemire of the Knicks, scored 20 of his 26 points in the second half as the Celtics won 101-89.

let the Knicks back into it.

Consecutive run-out dunks by Anthony cut it to 14, and New York had it all the way down to 10 when Shawne Williams' 3-pointer with 36 seconds remaining trimmed it to 82-72 after three.

Stoudemire opened the fourth with a basket and Anthony followed, bringing it within six and forcing coach Doc Rivers to put Garnett back into the game.

He made a pair of free throws, but baskets by Stoudemire and Anthony

Carter made it 84-80 with 7:34 to go.

"I thought we dropped the guard a little bit," Rivers said. "Give them credit, I thought they played desperate and you could see it in their play and their defensive energy."

But Boston never let it get closer and finally put it away when consecutive jumpers by Rondo and Garnett extended the score to 95-85 with 4:22 to play.

Disappointed in their effort in a blowout loss Friday, the Knicks showed plenty of fight.

Anthony knocked Rondo down for a flagrant foul and Stoudemire was called for a technical after he shoved Delonte West in the back following the Boston guard's hard foul on Knicks rookie Landry Fields.

But New York, which went 42-40 to end a franchise-worst streak of nine straight losing seasons, simply didn't have enough to match Boston, which got 13 points from Pierce.

Stoudemire made only one field goal in the first half as Boston led 55-38.

COMING EVENTS

TODAY

HIGH SCHOOLS

Baseball
Rogers at Scituate, 3:45 p.m.

Softball

Middletown at Narragansett, 4 p.m.

Boys tennis

Narragansett at Tiverton, 3:45 p.m.,

Girls lacrosse

Tiverton at Portsmouth, 7:45 p.m.

Golf

Tiverton, East Providence, Mount Hope at Swansea CC, 2:45 p.m.

Portsmouth, Barrington, Rogers at Newport CC, 3:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

HIGH SCHOOLS

Boys tennis

Portsmouth at East Providence, 3:30 p.m.
Middletown at Narragansett, 3:45 p.m.

Boys lacrosse

Cumberland at Middletown, 7 p.m.

Baseball

Toll Gate at Tiverton, 3:30 p.m.
Bishop Hendricken at Portsmouth, 4 p.m.
Middletown at Moses Brown, 4 p.m.

Softball

Portsmouth at Tiverton, 4 p.m.
Rogers at St. Raphael Academy, 4 p.m.

Golf

Middletown, Bay View at Wannamoisett CC, 3:30 p.m.

SCHOOL ROUNDUP

BOYS LACROSSE

Ravens stop Berwick

Nick Albertson had a career-high five goals, Matt Brigham added three and Portsmouth Abbey stopped Berwick 12-5 on the road Saturday afternoon. Riley Kinnane chipped in with three assists, while Drake Kreinz had two goals and an assist.

On defense, Mitch Green, Jake Flynn, Drew Clendenen, Danny Welch, Will Locke, Zach Pray and Donovan Reyes stood out.

SAILING

Dragons blank Falmouth

Inclement weather couldn't keep St. George's from posting a 3-0 win over Falmouth

on Saturday in Newport. Evan Read, Madeleine Parker, Pearson Potts, Caitlin Connerney, Will Greer, Alex Wilsterman and Roger Dorr sailed well for the Dragons.

BOYS TENNIS

St. George's prevails

Behind a sweep of the doubles matches, St. George's handed St. Mark's an 11-3 loss on Saturday inside the Dorrance Field House in Middletown. Emil Henry and Sam Peterson at No. 1, Stathi Kyriakides and Drew Michaelis at No. 2 and Younghan Park and Tyler Pesek at No. 3 teamed to win doubles matches.

Kyriakides, Pesek and Rahul Fazalbhoy all had two-set victories in singles, while Henry and Michaelis claimed one set each.

BULLETIN BOARD

BASEBALL

Pitch, Hit & Run

The city of Newport Recreation Department will conduct the local competition for the Pitch, Hit & Run competition tonight from 6-7:30 at Toppa Field.

The event is free and open to boys and girls ages 7-14. Local winners will advance to the state final, which will be held at McCoy Stadium on May 21.

For more information contact Ed Harrigan at 845-5800.

SOFTBALL

Tiverton Men's League

The Tiverton Men's Softball League has openings for slow pitch softball teams. All games are played at the Bulgarmarsh Recreation Field in Tiverton.

The league starts the first week of May and ends in September. Games are played Monday through Friday at 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

For more details, contact Ted Fitzpatrick at 624-8277 or e-mail tedfitz@comcast.net.

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Patches & Insignia (each)	\$1 to \$150
WW2 Leather Flight Jackets	\$50 to \$1,200
Paratrooper Jackets & Gear	\$100 to \$600
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