

Former Marlins owner headser group that buys Boston Red Soffirefig

Sale ends seven decades of ownership by the Yawkey faminares, sudder so sever

FORT MYERS, Fla. (AP) ---Former Florida Marlins owner John Henry and his partners completed their record \$660 million purchase of the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday, ending seven decades of ownership by the Yawkey family and its trust.

Thursday, February 28, 2002

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The closing of the deal, which probably will lead to the ouster of general manager Dan Duquette, marked the end of an era that saw a downtrodden team grow into one of the premier franchises in sports but fail. in its quest to win the World Series for the first time since 1918. It also closed an often contentious 16-month sale process.

"It seemed like a good baseball game," Henry said of the process. "It was always in doubt up until the end.'

Henry and incoming team president Larry Lucchino refused to outline personnel changes until after the sale was completed.

Duquette was expected to be the first to go, a move that could come this week. The Henry group has done little to dampen speculation that Duquette will be replaced, perhaps by vice president of baseball operations Mike Port on an interim bases.

Duquette said Wednesday he expected to be part of the team. Lucchino has said he does not anticipate wholesale changes immediately.

Today is a day for celebration," Lucchino said. "We've been waiting a long time to celebrate. ... We'll get to work tomorrow."

going to be hands on," former Red Sox outfielder Dwight Evans, now the hitting coach, said Wednesday. "They're going to be in the clubhouse. They're going to be in there after the game and before the game, which will be good.'

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These guys, I think are going to be hands on. They're going to be in the clubhouse. They're going to be in there after the game and before the game, which will be good.

> - Dwight Evans Red Sox hitting coach

The purchase also includes 80 percent of the New England Sports Network plus \$40 million in assumed debt. The price more than doubled the previous record for a baseball franchise the \$323 million paid by Larry Dolan for the Cleveland Indians in 2000.

The Red Sox announced the agreement with Henry's group on Dec. 20, but the deal was held up as losing bidders tried to restart the auction and Massachusetts Attorney General

"These guys, I think, are Thomas Reilly investigated whether the Jean R. Yawkey A change of § Trust, which owned 53 percent John Henry's of the team, would receive fair group value completed the

Reilly later withdrew his objections and major league baseball owners approved the deal on Jan. 16 by a vote of 29-0 with one abstention, the New York Yankees.

Henry has an agreement to sell his 1 percent of the Yankees to the New York Yankees Partnership for between \$4 mil-lion and \$5 million, a pair of high-ranking baseball officials familiar with the transaction said on the condition of anonymity. Lucchino and Tom Werner,

another Henry partner, also had to reach agreements to divest themselves of their interest in the San Diego Padres before the closing could take place. Thomas Yawkey bought the

Red Sox from J.A. Robert Quinn in 1933 and when Thomas Yawkey died in 1976, his wife took over. When Jean Yawkey died, she

willed all her holdings to her trust, giving John Harrington, her longtime adviser, power to run the team. "I'm proud to have been part

of the Yawkey baseball era, and I think Tom and Jean would be pleased to see their team passing on to a group with outstanding baseball experience, a passion for the game, and a commitment to our community," Harrington said in a statement.

Wednesday's sale completed an unprecedented musical chairs among baseball owners. On Feb.

1912-13 James R. Mole 1913-16 Joseph J. Lan 1917-23 Harry H. Fraze 1923-33 J.A. Robert 0. 1933-76 Thomas A. Ya 1976-77 Jean R. Yaw

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Boston Red Sox

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Trust for \$660 million, pl

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1904-11 John I. Taylor

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the other 29 major least for \$120 million.



Pudge hits homeria first spring at-bat

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. sion he signed after (AP) — Texas catcher Ivan Rodriguez, who missed the final six weeks of last season after knee surgery, homered in his first at-bat of the spring Wednesday.

lowing surgery for ten Chris Magruder, fielder, had three hits, i Woodard. Mark Tei Rangers' No. 1 draft

make the team as a r a two-run homer

intrasquad game. Rodriguez's homer came in

season. He spent rehabilitating his left

year, was 3-for-3

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John Henrysgmany people 2002-SOURCE: Boston Red Sax of David Bur 16, Henry sold the Mr. Burgert, \$158.5 million to Jeffina police office who sold the Montrealitic for aidin

ISETUPI today! \$99.99 Retail Price - \$30.00 Mail-In Rebate	200 BONUS WEEKEND MINUTES when you	Rodriguez's homer came in the first inning off Hideki Irabu, who is trying to make the Rangers' roster. Irabu was the losing pitcher, allowing five hits and two runs over two innings. Rodriguez, a 10-time All- Star, is going into the final year of a \$42 million, five-year exten-	year, was 3-for-3 an twice. Kenny Rogers was ning pitcher in the g veteran left-hander all hits and one run o innings. He struck including Alex Rodrig and did not walk a bat
Now Only	ISETUPI	Rope Continued from page 1B	week's Big 12 Co Tournament where t meet Oklahoma State
school of the second se	<section-header></section-header>	of those defensive rebounds if we want to win the game." Skibbe led all scorers in the game and added 12 of Oklahoma State's rebounds for her eighth double-double of the season. Leading A&M was sopho- more guard Toccara Williams, who added seven steals to her 14 points. Senior guard LaToya Rose, playing her final game at Reed Arena, added 10 points. The Cowgirls (15-14, 7-9) earned a split for the season with the Aggies, who defeated OSU in Stillwater earlier this season, 70-65.	Tuesday at noon in round in Kansas City. The Aggies likely the tournament without ices of their leading so ior forward Meg Bana went down with a set ankle sprain with just eight minutes remain first half. She is doubt remainder of the seaso "Meg is our leadi this season, so of cour us that she might not play," Gillom said. "S holds this team togeth really don't have a c have to play hard wh
Includes \$15 worth of minutes.	IRECT offer good with every purchase of \$50 card or more while promotion lasts.	The loss gave the Aggies the ninth seed going into next	[to the tournament], what we intend to do.
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