

The Pinstriped Bostonian: My Life as an Embedded New York Sports Fan Living in Enemy Territory

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Blog Assignment
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Blog 1:



A Rare Moment of New York Sports Bliss in Boston: When I Saw Derek Jeter's Last Game for \$30

There are some universal truths I think we can all agree on: The sky is blue, The Simpsons should have bowed out gracefully in 2003, and **being a Yankees fan in Boston sucks**. Focusing a bit more on the latter of the three, even casually wearing a hat with a Yanks logo is constantly met with jeers, jokes, and eyeroll-inducing “whadaya think of A-Rod?” questions.

In short, it's not easy.

However, the constant struggle that is being an embedded Yankees fan will occasionally allow for some perks. For me, there was no better example of this than Sunday, September 28, 2014 when I got to see [Derek Jeter](#) take his last at-bats as a Yankee... for only \$30.

After all of the fanfare regarding Jeter's last game at [Yankee Stadium](#) a few days earlier, it was slightly lost in the shuffle that the Yankees and Red Sox were both ending their seasons - and Jeter his career - at [Fenway Park](#) that afternoon.

Now, as luck would have it, I happened to be living so close to Fenway at the time that the [Citigo sign](#) lit up my room every night. A Yankees fan's nightmare, you ask? Mostly. But today was different, and I decided that if there was ever a time to take advantage, this was it.

My initial plan to see the game was to go to the [Bleacher Bar](#), which has a clear view into Fenway from center field. But, for reasons I will never truly understand, at 1pm the view of center field was completely blocked by a big screen that began showing the [Buffalo Bills](#) game. Damn upstate-ers... Anyway, I was not happy.

I left the bar, seemingly resigned to the fact that my plan had failed. But suddenly, I overheard one of the ushers at Fenway mention to another fan that standing room tickets had been released at 1pm and the only cost \$30!

I ran to the gate, threw my card into the ticket window, and, just like that, tickets that would have been unattainable in NYC were all mine! As for the rest of the day... well... that's me in the red circle above, watching Jeter take his final bow while Fenway Park chanted his name.



Being a Yankees fan in Boston is pretty terrible. But at least for one day, and \$30, it was pretty awesome. (393 words)

Blog 2:



Tired of Deflategate Discussions? Watch Your Yankees and Giants Games Here When in Boston

Part of the burden of being a [New York sports fan](#) in Boston is the inevitable role of “black sheep” you take on in practically any bar you enter. Whether you regard this title as a badge of honor or a cross to bear is up to you, but I think we can agree that tolerating the 8th refrain of a “Yankees suck” chant as “‘Fitzy’ from Dorchester” chortles something about what [A-Rod](#) does to [Jeter's](#) “Big Unit” can get tiresome after a while.

Thankfully, some establishments across this city have decided to open their doors to weary [New York transplants](#) for some relief on gameday. Here are two spots where you will not only be spared from rants about football PSI and “‘lasah’ shows,” but may actually find the crown on YOUR side!



The Greatest Bar

*262 Friend Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617)-367-0544*

When it comes to watching the [New York Giants](#), there's simply no better place to go than [The Greatest Bar](#). Located right in the shadow of the [TD Garden](#), this would seem to be an unlikely haven for [Giants fans](#) on football Sundays. However, due to arrangements that have been set up by between the bar and the [Boston NY Glants fans](#) Facebook group, [Big Blue](#) supporters can skip the cover fee and take advantage of an exclusive bar menu. Toss in some genuinely raucous Giants fans (don't bring a friend wearing another team's jersey. Trust me) and bar is the perfect place to commiserate in the "helmet-catch" highs and "confused-Eli-face" lows of a [Big Blue football season](#).



Sports Grille Boston

*132 Canal St
Boston, MA 02114
(617)-397-9302*

I distinctly remember turning the corner onto Canal St. on a cold October night in 2010. Under the cover of darkness, and wearing a [Tino Martinez](#) jersey under my jacket, I looked upon an empty Sports Grille - where I had been informed by the [Boston Area New York Yankee Fans](#) Facebook group that a meetup for Game 1

of the ALDS was taking place - and wondered if I was about to become a headline on the next day's Boston Globe ("Local Heroes Liberate 25-Year-Old Man's Head from Yankee Hat Using Sledge Hammer").

However, just as I was contemplating turning back, a shadowy figure emerged on the other side of Canal St., inched their way up to the bar's entrance, walked in, and unfurled a [Derek Jeter jersey](#) of their own from underneath their jacket. WHEW. Such is the life of a Yankee fan in Boston, and you won't find more of them in one place than at this [Bronx Bombers](#)-friendly watering hole.

By the end of the game - which I'm pretty sure the Yanks managed to win - the bar was full of pinstriped jerseys and interlocking NY hats. It's a sight you won't often see in Boston, and an experience you should be sure to take in next season.

There you have it, my two best bets to watch a game in peace. Do you have any other suggestions? Let me know!

(506 words)

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Blog 3:



NFL Week 4 Recap: Big Blue's 2-2!! And It's 2007 All Over Again!

Let's first set the scene... It's mid-September. The [New York Giants](#) are 0-2, reeling after two embarrassing losses, and have one of the worst defenses in the league. Even in the dumpster fire that is the [NFC East](#), the Giants are already in last place as they prepare to square off against a [Washington](#) (don't call them) [Redskins](#) team that is facing some quarterback issues of its own.

On the other end of the spectrum... it is a period of civil war. The [New England Patriots'](#) offense, striking from Foxboro, have won their first two games, marking their latest victories against the evil Park Avenue Empire of the [NFL](#) and its closest supporters (please someone [get this thinly-veiled Star Wars reference](#), even if it makes the Pats the good guys for just a moment)

But seriously, [Belichick and Brady](#) have fully rebounded from a tumultuous offseason and are just mopping the floor with opponents. In the blogosphere there already whispers of a "perfect season."

With the [Giants and Patriots](#) set to square off later in the season, it's already pretty obvious how that game's gonna go. Fast forward two weeks and the Giants defense has recovered and they are 2-2, but no chance they can match the Patriots, right?

By now it must be obvious that I'm talking about 2007, right? Or, wait, am I talking about last weekend? That's right, while [New England sports fans](#) have been abuzz about Tom Brady's road to redemption, they may want to focus on his greatest enemy that may be waiting in the wings: a 9-7 New York Giants team led by [Eli Manning](#).

We all know what happened in 2007, no need to rehash all the details... well.. OH OKAY LET'S REHASH ONE DETAIL:



Ahem, sorry. Anyhow... with 2007 (and 2011, for that matter) in mind, is it really too absurd to think that the New York Giants could be gearing up for one last takedown of the New England Patriots?

Of course, it's still too early to tell if this is a remote possibility. The [2015 Giants](#) still seem to forget that NFL games last for 60 (not 45) minutes, and, for what it's worth, the Patriots are playing with a legitimate chip on their shoulder this season.

All I'm saying is if these two teams find themselves together in San Francisco next February, I'm cautiously optimistic about who may win... again... I sure hope so, I don't want my "18-1" t-shirt to lose all meaning yet!

What do you think?

(416 words)

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