

Jim Rice deserves better from the fans

To The Sentinel:

I think the fans in New England can be both your best friend and worst enemy at the same time.

For example, take the recent release of Red Sox superstar Jim Rice. For years, Rice gave the Boston fans what they wanted. In 1975, he gave staggering rookie numbers but was overshadowed by fellow rookie and teammate Fred Lynn.

In 1978, he was the league's most valuable player. He either led the league or was in the top five in home runs and RBI for the better part of his career. He started on several All-Star teams. He was one of our hometown heroes.

In 1987, Rice's career went on a downslide. He wasn't the leader

in home runs or RBI, but was still a team leader.

Rice is on his way out now. Instead of going out like a hero, he is going out with bad things being said about him. He is going out with fans booing him instead of giving standing O's like years before.

Why are they doing this? Because he had a few mediocre seasons. What about all of the years and things he did in a positive

manner? Do these no longer matter?

The fans of New England treat their stars like gods until they make a few mistakes. Then the fans would like to throw them to the dogs like they never did anything good for the team.

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