

THE TAMPA TRIBUNE

By Joey Johnston | The Tampa Tribune
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MAGADAN BACK HOME

Red Sox hitting coach **Dave Magadan**, who was once called "the finest athlete ever at **Jesuit High School**" by **Bill Minahan**, the school's former football coach and athletic director, has enjoyed being back home.

His 90-year-old father, Joe Sr., is a big Rays fan and watched every television game this season.

"He's rooting for me - I think," Magadan said with a laugh. "I have a lot of friends who are Rays fans. I understand how they're supporting the home team. And it's great to see something like this happening in my hometown. But, hey, we want another ring." Magadan was a late call-up on the 1986 Mets and didn't get a championship ring that season (although he and three others were given rings 10 years later, courtesy of pitcher Randy Myers, who footed the bill). Last season was different. In his first season on the Red Sox field staff, Boston won the World Series.

"Being part of that was a true highlight," Magadan said. "It makes you hungry to do it again."