

Ryan Sweeney traded to Red Sox

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Former Cedar Rapids Xavier prep Ryan Sweeney was traded Wednesday from the Oakland Athletics to the Boston Red Sox as part of a five-player deal.

Oakland sent Sweeney and pitcher Andrew Bailey to Boston for outfielder Josh Reddick, and minor league infielder Miles Head and pitcher Raul Alcantara.

Sweeney has a .283 career batting average in six major league seasons, the last four with the Oakland Athletics. He batted .265 with one home run and 25 RBI last season in a limited role as Oakland's fourth outfielder.

Sweeney told the [San Francisco Chronicle](#) that he had talked to Red Sox Manager Bobby Valentine and General Manager Ben Cherington about his new role with the Red Sox. He said they told him his line-drive swing is well-suited for Fenway Park.

"I'm looking forward to playing for a winning team," Sweeney told The Chronicle. "And hopefully winning a championship."

Sweeney, 26, broke into the major leagues in 2006 with the Chicago White Sox. He was a second round pick of the White Sox in the 2003 first year player draft out of Xavier High School.