

# The Boston Globe



BARRY CHIN/GLOBE STAFF

Playoff MVP Jaylen Brown hoisted the Larry O'Brien Championship trophy toward the Garden rafters, marking the end of a remarkable season and a dominating playoff run.

DAN SHAUGHNESSY

## Boston blitzes past Mavericks on path to history

Light up a Hoyo de Monterrey in honor of Red Auerbach and get ready for another parade. Playing on their fabled parquet floor, with banners flapping high above courtside, the Celtics won their NBA-best 18th championship Monday with a 106-88, NBA Finals Game 5 victory over the Dallas Mavericks.

Order is restored to the pro basketball universe. From the 1950s through the '80s, Boston's Green Team ruled the National Basketball Association. The torch has been passed to a new generation of champions: Jayson Tatum and Jaylen Brown.

"It's time for us to graduate," Brown told Tatum before Game 5.

When it was over, Brown received the Bill Russell Finals MVP Trophy.

"It was a full team effort and Jayson Tatum was with me the whole way," said Brown.

Boston's bookend superstars reached the summit in their seventh season together (107 career playoff games), shredding all competition in one of the most dominant seasons in the history of the league. With the two Jays leading the way, buffeted by Brad Stevens's acquisitions Derrick White, Jrue Holiday, and Kristaps Porzingis, the Celtics won 80 of 101 games and went 16-3 in the playoffs.

Blitzing past Miami (4-1), Cleveland (4-1), Indiana (4-0) and Dallas (4-1), coach Joe Mazzulla's champs went six weeks without losing a playoff game before suffering a 38-point beatdown in Dal-

SHAUGHNESSY, Page C5

NBA FINALS: GAME 5



106

88



# Sweet 18

'We got the best fans in the world. You get very few chances in life to be great.'

JOE MAZZULLA, *Celtics coach*

## A pure eruption of pent-up joy for team faithful

By Danny McDonald

GLOBE STAFF

and Ava Berger and Lila Hempel-Edgers

GLOBE CORRESPONDENTS

Delirious with jubilation, Boston Celtics fans celebrated the franchise's 18th title, and the first since 2008, as the city's West End was transformed into one big party Monday night, with the green-



KAYLA BARTKOWSKI FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Fans (from left) Hannah Vanden Burgt, Brynn Sandy, Tim Faucett, and Tim Armata celebrated at The Greatest Bar in Boston.

and-white clad masses pouring onto the streets near TD Garden following their team's defeat of the Dallas Mavericks.

"Let's go Celtics!" the throngs chanted. Some danced. Some sang. Some screamed. Some hugged their loved ones. Some embraced strangers.

Likewise, in the area's bars, there was unbri-

FANS, Page A10

1956-57 | 1958-59 | 1959-60 | 1960-61 | 1961-62 | 1962-63 | 1963-64 | 1964-65 | 1965-66  
1967-68 | 1968-69 | 1973-74 | 1975-76 | 1980-81 | 1983-84 | 1985-86 | 2007-08 | 2023-24

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### In the news

The US surgeon general is calling for warning labels on social media to warn users that the platforms can harm children's mental health. **A2.**

A former Vermont man who had been accused of serving as a "lookout" while two fellow inmates beat James "Whitey" Bulger to death in his prison cell in 2018 is free after prosecutors dropped their

claim that he played a role in the slaying. **B1.**

Rhode Island's largest health care system is eyeing some of Steward Health Care's hospitals in Massachusetts ahead of

a bankruptcy auction. **D1.**

Israeli leader Benjamin Netanyahu has dissolved his government's war Cabinet — the emergency panel convened to manage the war in Gaza. **A6.**

### Feverish fans

Tuesday: Heat could set record. High 90-95, low 68-73.  
Wednesday: Even hotter. High 91-96, low 70-75.  
Obituaries, **C10.**  
Comics and Weather, **D5-6.**