Women finish first, men find faster foes

The Dalhousie women's swim team emerged victorious this past weekend at the first AUAA meet of the season, held at Mount Allison University. The women recorded 132 points, eighteen better than second place Mount A. The men had to settle with second place at 120 points as a vastly improved Memorial team accumulated 139. Other teams participating at the meet were Acadia and UNB.

Leading the women's squad was third year veteran and new team captain, Susan Mason, with wins in all four of her individual events; the 400M free, 100M butterfly, 100M free and 400M IM. Mason was also successful in qualifying for the CIAU championships in

each of her swims. Also with wins for Dalhousie were Susan Bennie in the 50M free and Louise Deveau in the 800M free. Second place finishes were had by Carol Flynn in the 800M free and Dawn Suto in both the 100M and 200M backstroke. Dalhousie won the 400M medley relay and the 800M free relay while placing second to Mt. A. in the 400M free relay.

The men's team was shocked to find they have serious competition this year. Memorial took many of the top finishes leaving Dalhousie with two wins by team captain Brian Jessop in the 1500M free and the 400M IM as well as a first in the 200M backstroke by Donald Pooley. Jessop swam CIAU qualifying times in the

400M IM, 200M butterfly, and 400M free. Respectable times were recorded by Ron Stegan, Arthur Rennie and Stuart Mc-Lennan in the sprint freestyle events. Dalhousie won the 400M medley relay and placed second to Memorial in the 800M and 400M free relays.

Although it was an early season meet, many of the swimmers from Dal, and the conference in general, recorded very fast times. This was especially apparent in the events. Dalhousie's new talent and fresh look at the competition, we should see quite a successful season for the Tigers. Dal's next league meet is at the Dalplex on November 8th with UNB and Memorial providing the opposition.

Verbal Diarrhea

Them post-season blues

by Greg Dennis

For the past week I have been the victim of the annual depression that affects millions of North Americans. I feel strung-out, like a junkie undergoing cold turkey; bored like a New Yorker in Moncton; empty like a drained beer bot-

I got them post-baseball season blues.

And because of the sensational season that was laid to rest last Tuesday, when Willie Wilson struck out on a Tug McGraw screwball, the depression, the void is very

What a season it was! Three tight division races. George Brett's flirtation with the .400 mark. A most entertaining post-season. What more could a ball fan ask for?

Baseball is a great sport. The unknowing dismiss it as boring; an insipid, methodic kid's game played by overpaid adults in baggy pants and funny socks. A pox on those ignorant heathens! In what other sport can you enjoy the relaxtion of sitting in a sunny park, sipping a cold one, watching professionals ply their trade? Where else can you find a single play as exciting as a triple steal? Can the drama of the Philadelphia-Houston series be equalled in another sporting event? Where else can power and grace be exhibited so regularly? Where else can the antics and humour of a Mark Fidrych or the afore mentioned McGraw be found? Nowhere, but in baseball.

Yes, it was quite a year; one that almost ended before it barely began. The major league owners and the players association were at odds over, among other things, compensation for free agents. The owners wanted a roster players instead of an amateur draft pick for any player they lost in the free agent market.

The players, fearing this would hinder teams from bidding for free agents, walked out during the last week of spring training and threatened to strike on May 23 if the owners stuck to their demand. Fortunately for me, and all baseball fans, a compromise was reached at the 11th hour — the issue is still unsettled — and the season progressed gloriously.

For the second year in a row four new divisional champions were crowned - New York and Kansas City in the American League and the Phillies and Astros in the National. Also for the second straight year, the National Expos finished a short hair's length behind the eventual World Series winner. For the first time ever Philadelphia won a series and all ball parks attracted over 1,000,000 fans. Also unprecedented, the Toronto Blue Jays failed to lose 100 games.

As usual there were milestones. Oakland's Ricky Henderson broke Ty Cobb's A.L. base stealing mark. Expo hurlar Bill Gullickson set a rookie record by with 18 strikeouts in a nine inning game. Dave Conception of the Reds, who was Bob Gibson's 3,000th strikeout victim in 1974, was at the plate this year when Nolan Ryan of the Astros equalled the feat. Ken Landreaux of the Twins had a 31 game hitting streak. Milwaukee's Robin Yount became the youngest player ever to reach the 1,000 hit plateau. Expo manager Dick Williams won his 1,000 game. Boston captain Carl Yastrzemski had 100 hits for the 20th year in a row, a shot of Hank Aaron's major league mark. Reggie Jackson, the stick that stirs the Yankee drink, slugged his 400th home run. Cincy's Johnny Bench surpassed Yogi Berra's home run record for catchers (afterwhich Yogi said, "I knew that record

would stand until it was

Typically, loony happenings were abound in the 1980 baseball year. The salesmanpunching, dirt-kicking Billy Martin led the usually lethargic Oakland A's to a second place finish. Jerry Coleman came down from the broadcast booth to manage the San Diego Padres. Fiftyseven year young Minnie Minosa batted twice for the Chicago White Sox. Pete Rose introduced the spike to baseball. And Blue Jay shortstop Bob Bailor pitched twoand-one-third innings of runless baseball.

Medically, things this year were somewhat strange. The Royal's Darrell Porter and Dodger's Bob Welch were rehabilitated for alcoholism problems. Houston fireballer James Rodney Richard suffered a stroke which ended his year and almost his career. The topper, of course, was the attention, ah, piled upon poor George Brett who will likely be more remembered in 1980 for his World Series hemorrhoids than his .390 batting average.

Alas, the year is history. Sigh. What does a fan do now? There's only one thing to do wait 'til spring. What else?

Consider the options. Take hockey, please. The poorly aligned, mismanaged National Hockey League generates as much excitement as a Halifax municipal election. The Canadian Football League will finish in December to everyone's apathy while below the border, U.S. football will occupy a few Sundays but only until its culmination in January.

Oh, February. The coldest and lonliest of months. But wait, fear not. February has but 28 days this year and you know what March brings! Spring training. Then before anyone knows it, an umpire in Cincinnatti will be throwing out the first ball of the 1981 season...Jees, I feel better already. Where's my ball hat?

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