

Baseball does not need expansion



Overtime
MARK ALBERSTAT

MOST PEOPLE WHO KNOW me know that I am a baseball fan. That's a bit of an understatement — they know me as a baseball fanatic. What they really don't know is that I can't remember who is on which team.

Sure, I know Gooden is with the Mets and Henderson's a Yankee, but as for the bulk of the players who I say, "oh, yeah, so and so has got a great arm, but is a little anemic at bat," or, "blank and blank are one of the greatest double play combinations in baseball today." You see, I know the faces, positions, sometimes names, but almost never (except for the biggies) who they play for.

This may seem trivial to some of you out there but try to be a sports writer and not know who plays for who. It's not easy and at times downright frustrating.

For this reason, and some others, I am dead set against more expansion in baseball. I'm sure some of you reading this column may be from B.C. and say, wait a second, Vancouver with B.C. Place has a good shot at being one of those cities expanded to. Well, I say sorry chief, my memory is stretched as it is.

Another reason British Columbia may not get a major league team is that the Americans almost worked themselves into a frenzy earlier this season over the threat of an all-Canadian World Series. Another Canadian team would only emphasize this threat.

I believe an all-Canadian World Series is more of a threat to National American Security and

the health of countless Americans than a Russian invasion or every one learning the recipe of Coca-Cola.

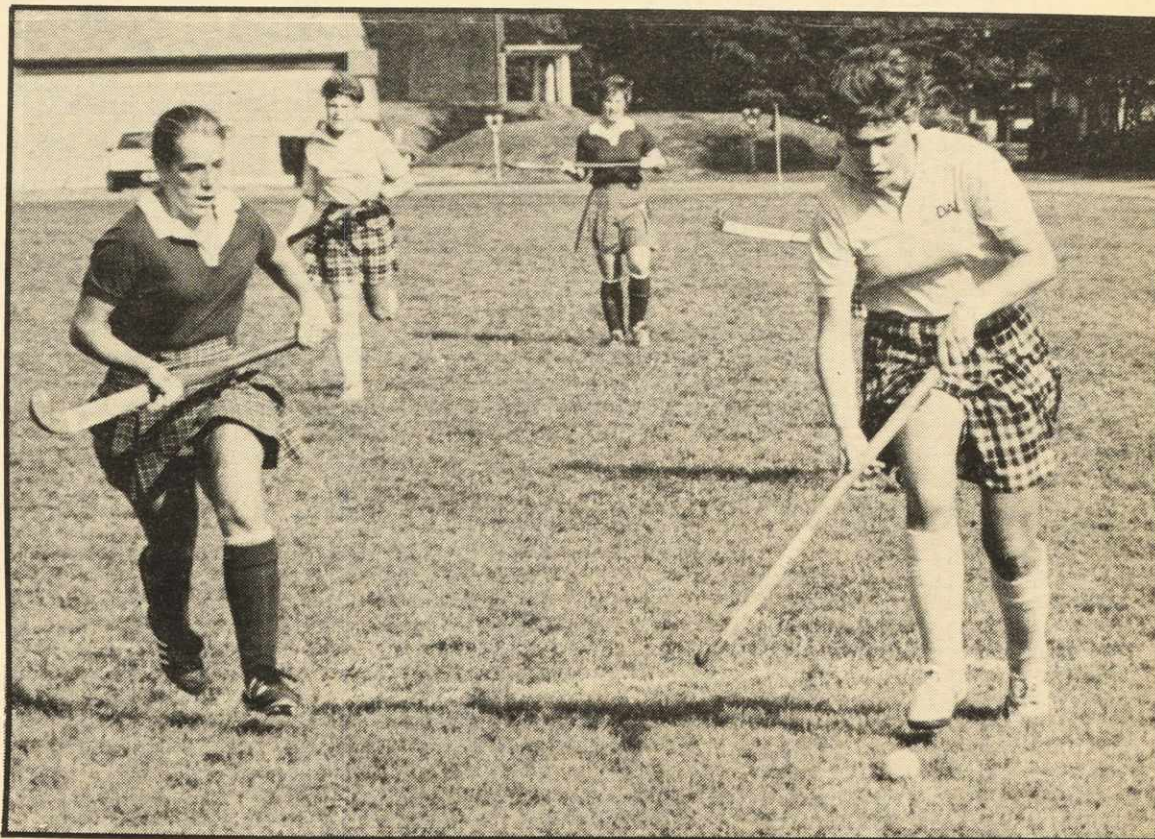
Another reason why there should not be expansion in baseball, which is related to my faulty memory, is the number of players.

Recently a friend of mine said, "I don't like dynasties in sports." We were talking about the struggling Tigers and how well they did last season. Look what a dynasty is these days, two years in a row.

All this talk of mock dynasties is telling us that there just are too many teams and too little talent, much to little. Granted, baseball like all other sports, needs the weak teams for the stronger ones to win against and for the future stars to learn on but we already have those teams. Let's now create new ones.

Way back when there were not as many teams as we have now, there were dynasties. The Yankees are a prime example. These old teams were virtually top-heavy with talent, and this talent was all round talent, not the specialty talent so often found today. The really good players all spread out throughout the league, for good or bad, but they are and so is the talent. Let's not spread it any thinner.

So the next time you think about expansion, think about my more-than-inadequate memory and also think about what happens when the talent is stretched even further.



Dalhousie women's field hockey, shown here in action against Memorial University of Newfoundland last weekend, swept two games from MUN, 4-0, 1-0 Saturday and Sunday. The Tigers also defeated St. Mary's University 6-0 Wednesday to extend their unbeaten streak to five games. Dal Photo — Peter Katsiitis.

Field hockey Tigers sweep Memorial

By MARY ELLEN JONES

THE DALHOUSIE WOMEN'S Field hockey team earned a pair of wins over Memorial University of Newfoundland Saturday and Sunday at Studley Field.

Saturday's match ended with a 4-0 tally, while Sunday's victory was a 1-0 shutout.

Scoring in Saturday's game were Janice Cossar with two markers and Patti Meehan and Gail Broerick with a single each. Meehan was the lone goal scorer in Sunday's game, with her goal coming early in the second half.

Claudette Levy was in net both games to earn the shutouts.

After four regular season games for the Tigers, Darlene Stoyka, Dalhousie rookie field hockey head coach, put no more importance on these games than any others played thus far.

"Every game is important

when we're trying to fight it out to end up in first place so we can have the home field advantage in the AUSA finals," she said.

In the Sunday game, Dalhousie was not as sharp as they had been the previous day in the 4-0 win.

"Today's win was a surprise," noted Stoyka Sunday, "but we managed to eke out a win. I think it was pretty sloppy all around but we were lucky."

The sloppy play in the second game could be attributed to playing back-to-back games against the same team.

"It could possibly be because they were tired plus when you beat a team the day before, you have a tendency to come out flat and think 'we've got it easy now'," Stoyka noted.

With a slim 1-0 win, the offense lacked the drive which it has shown in previous games, and

much of the play was in the middle of the field.

"I'd prefer the ball to be going out to the wings, and it is something we will have to work on," said Stoyka.

Stoyka was hesitant to identify an outstanding player in the game. "If anyone I would have to say Denise Palrine in the back-field (sweeper) position," said Stoyka. "She came up with a lot of balls for us and saved us quite a few times."

After half time, the Tigers' offense sparked to life.

"Basically I told them that they were sloppy and that things had to be tightened up," Stoyka said. "It seemed like it was in slow motion during the first half. I said we needed a goal right off, and we got one."

The Tigers' next home game is Saturday at 3 p.m. when they host Universite de Moncton.

Women's soccer seeks status

By ANNE EDWARDS

TERRY MACDONALD HAS been actively involved in women's soccer at Dalhousie for five years. During each of these five years Dalhousie dominated competition against other area universities. However not until the last two years have these wins been recognized as University championships.

The reason for this is that women's soccer is referred to as a "club" sport, which means they do not get the support that a Varsity team gets even though they play under AUSA regulations.

Coach MacDonald would like

to see all Women's Soccer teams get the status that they deserve, which includes funding for away games, referees that get paid for attending games, and AUSA standings.

"Women's soccer is terrific because it lends itself to people of very different physical abilities. It is great for fitness and is a good team sport. Also it is a popular sport especially in Nova Scotia where there are teams from the junior high school level through high school and right up until university play. With this much enthusiasm we can see why there are twenty times as

many soccer players than field hockey," said MacDonald.

Even though Women's Soccer is a predominant sport and Nova Scotia ranks third in Canada, Coach MacDonald still has to pay for his team's uniforms, referees, and raise money for away games. For three years now MacDonald has been pushing hard to make women's soccer a full AUSA sport but it hasn't happened yet.

"Each year we carry about sixteen players and we play in an eight-team University competition, but cannot get the AUSA backing even though we have all the right qualifications," said MacDonald.

Tiger sports this week

Date	Sport	Vs.	Place	Time
Sept. 28	Soccer	UNB	Home	1 p.m.
Sept. 28	Field Hockey	UDM	Home	3 p.m.
Sept. 29	Field Hockey	Acadia	Home	1 p.m.
Sept. 29	Soccer	UDM	Home	3 p.m.
Oct. 2	Swimming	Alumni Mt.	Home	TBA