

Kirby, Indians: cool — but not winners

by Ian Istvanffy
AL East

Toronto Blue Jays — Bad manager, overrated outfield but with their fine pitching staff, good defense, and the balance in the offence, they are still the class of this receding division. 91-71.

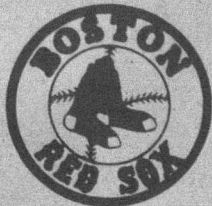
Milwaukee Brewers — You got to like a team named the Brewers — at least I do. Good overall talent, good manager. They're an up-and-coming team. 87-75.

New York Yankees — They look bad now, but a lot of their players are due to bounce back (Don Mattingly, Rickey Henderson). Not serious contenders, however. 83-79.

Cleveland Indians — When you play in the city with the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, you are bound to be second best in fan

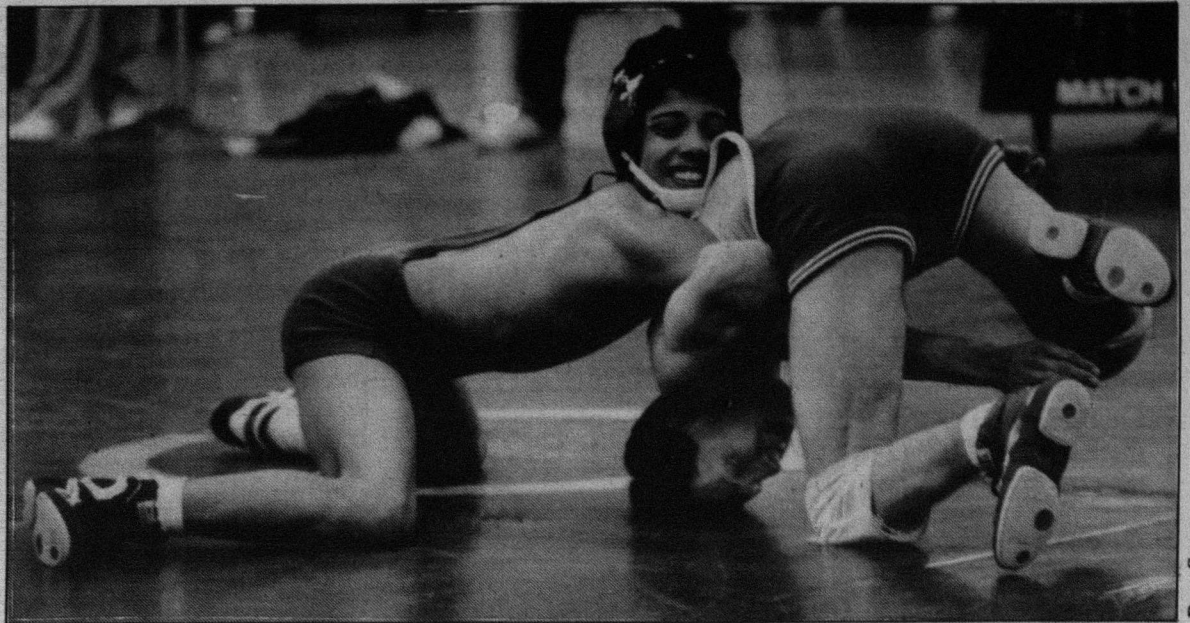
interest. They're still a very cool team to root for. 82-80.

Boston Red Sox My childhood faves are about to fall on hard times — even if they get decent value for Boggs. 80-82.



Detroit Tigers — Their pitching is better than you might think but the offence is terrible. This is not a good sign in a hitters park. 76-86.

Baltimore Orioles — They will be better than last season but I guess that's like saying George Bush is smart compared to the



Ron Sears

These two flyweights grappled for a national title last weekend at the Van Vliet Centre.

guy he's following. 66-96.

Al. West

Oakland Athletics — They are still the best team in this improving division. This year will be tougher haul for them though. 89-73.

Kansas City Royals — A National League type team playing in the American League. With a break or two, they could come through. 87-75.

Texas Rangers — Off season moves have helped (they picked up Palmeiro, Franco, and Ryan) They are close. Also, they are a well-named franchise: a sports rarity. 86-76.

Minnesota Twins — Kirby, Kirby Puckett, King of the North Woods. Next to James Brown (the godfather of soul) the coolest man alive. 83-79.

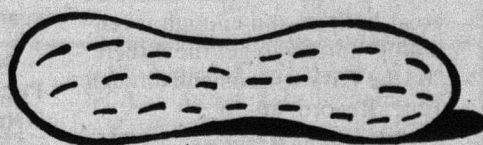
Chicago White Sox — The

south side deserves better. Let the Yuppies have the Cubs. 77-85.

Seattle Mariners — The worst major league city in the majors. A textbook example of why quality front office management is essential for winning pennants. 75-87

California Angels — Bad, Bad, Bad. The farm team plays here in town but I think someone leached the soil. They play as badly as the "parent" team. Saving grace: a guy named Chili. 70-92.

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