

Sports Slants - cont'd

cisco and Los Angeles of the NL west and Chicago White Sox of the American League west.

In fact, Expos had a better percentage than the top team in that crazy, mixed-up American League east division. Milwaukee Brewers, currently the hottest team in either division, and latest leader of that division, had a .534 percentage at that time. The Expos' percentage was .557, on 29 wins and 25 losses.

As of last Monday night, however, Expos were back on the skids. They had lost another close on to the Dodgers, then dropped an even tighter one (1-0) to St. Louis Cardinals.

Fanning and Expos president John McHale, while comparing their squad with the '69 Mets are realists and know the team isn't going to win their division unless supernatural forces intervene.

Fanning and McHale, actually, will be quite happy with an over .500 season, something they've never even come close to. To finish with an even .500 season, they must win 88 games.

The Expos brass feels that if the team won 90 games, it would have a good crack at the pennant (or at least the east division crown).

After all, Pittsburgh Pirates won the east flag in 1970 with only 89 triumphs.

Now for the comparison between the '69 Mets and the '73 Expos. The way Fanning and McHale look at it (and manager Gene Mauch isn't exactly disagreeing), aside from their super pitcher, Tom Seaver, the Mets didn't have any more talent than the present-day Expos.

Matter of fact, Expos feel that their ace reliever, Mike Marshall, is just as valuable as Seaver was to the Mets that year.

Catching, John Boccabella, an 11-year veteran, is said to be better than the Mets' '69 backstopper, Jerry Grote, both offensively and defensively.

In the infield, Mike Jorgensen rates higher than either Ed Kranepool or Donn Clendenon (of the Mets), defensively, and, of late, has been of top value with a bat. Second baseman, Ron Hunt is a better second baseman than Kranepool ever was, Tim Foli isn't quite in the class of the Mets' (1969 version) Ken Harrelson, but Bob Bailey is said to have met Ed Charles beat in every way at the hot corner.

Now for the outfield:

Ron Fairly, who is off to his best season ever, doesn't quite have the power that Met Cleon Jones had, but Fairly makes that up with his golden glove. Tommy Agee of the Mets hit 26 homers in '69, which is probably better

than Boots Day or Ron Woods will hit this year with the Expos, but Ken Singleton has a big edge over the Mets' Ron Swoboda.

The Mets' starting pitchers were probably better than the Expos, but the Montrealers offset that by having a classier bullpen.

The way Montreal executives look at it right now, Pittsburgh Pirates are beset with indecision, the 1973 Mets have been ruined through injury and St. Louis Cardinals are hot and cold.

So, the team they have to beat for that east division title are the current leaders, Chicago Cubs. The Cubs are hot right now. But beyond their starting eight, there's not much left. The Cubs have little depth ... and the slightest injury or sign of exhaustion and, poof, it's all over.

Who knows? This could be the year for Montreal Expos!

INFORMATION ONTARIO

People, Ideas and Laws is the title of a very interesting publication now available free of charge at your Northern Affairs Office.

Published by The Ministry of Government Services, People, Ideas and Laws explains in an easy to read manner the responsibility of the Ontario Government in the law making process of Canada and how this responsibility evolved since Confederation. The role of the Legislative Assembly, The M.P.P., The Cabinet, and The Speaker is explained. How bills are introduced and laws made are covered in detail.

We believe this is must reading for all residents of Ontario and will be of special interest to students.

For your free copy of this publication and the many other interesting information publications we carry contact our office located at Box 280, Marathon.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Lundberg attended Convocation Exercises at York University on June 8th when their daughter Karin received her B.A. majoring in Psychology. They visited in Owen Sound with Mr. and Mrs. Reg Gill and in Toronto with daughter Karin and Joan, Mrs. W. Ireland and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Stewart and Lisa Dawn attended Convocation Ceremonies in Toronto on June 11th when their daughter Debbie received her Bachelor of Law degree from Osgoode Hall. She is in Thunder Bay articling for the law firm of Dubinsky, Kovanchak, Ferris, Ross and Dube.