

Sports Slants - continued

he goes he is questioned about his hockey fights. He also informs you that he doesn't mind talking about it.

"I don't really like to fight," he says, "but if I fight and it helps us (Philadelphia Flyers) win, then it gives me a good feeling inside."

Now that he's been labelled as a rough, tough customer who'll rip off his gloves at the drop of a hockey puck, Schultz plans to keep right on bashing heads. His fighting has been converted into dollars and cents, so he is not about to stop.

"It's one of my assets (fighting) and if it helps us win games, I'll keep on fighting," he says.

Fighting is so much a part of Dave's game that he talks about it as other NHLers would discuss goals and assists, in terms of slumps.

"I had a bad start this year. I couldn't get going and for a while I lost my confidence. But in the playoffs everything fell into place. I got in a groove and I was winning my fights pretty good."

Schultz says it was a rough season for him. "A lot of guys went gunning for me -- guys like Battleship Kelly, Wayne Cashman, etc..."

I guess it'll be the same next year. But I'm not going to worry about it. I'm on vacation now. Maybe I'll get my block knocked off next season, who knows ... but right now I just want to enjoy my holiday."

Aside from being the meanie that he's reputed to be, Schultz is a honey of a male specimen. He may look like a madman when you see him on your TV screen, but he's a real lady's man. When he appeared at the Kinsmen-club-sponsored sports dinner here two weeks ago, more than 50 women attended the dinner.

In the past, dinners organizers say, we've only had a handful of women attend the 'bash'. And you could tell at the dinner that those women were going goo-goo over Big Bad Dave.

I was glad to shake his hand, but if he and I should meet again, I'll recommend a simple nod as we are reintroduced. My hand still hurts from the squeeze ...

FLASH: Word has it that Gene Mauch, manager of Montreal Expos, will leave his post next season to take over as manager of Los Angeles Dodgers. Walter Alston, the dean of major league managers with 21 years at the Dodgers' helm, will supposedly retire after this season, even if the Dodgers win the World Series.

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