

Come on Orioles - Canadiens - Bombers - etc.

By Mary Hubelit

This is the time of year when TV is most justified - by sports fans. Non-sports can probably find something interesting on the tube too - I wouldn't know. Before going any further, a big round of applause for all the people, local, regional and national, who brighten our lives with these games. Our current shift system for the workers does tend to

frustrate and confuse normal family lifestyles, and it is refreshing to watch for a while as these well-paid, wellpadded athletes work their b....., work their way through their respective seasons.

As a youngster, my participation in school sports was limited to basketball. I loved it. At that time one of the positions was 'jumping centre' and even the

shortest girl could serve if properly motivated. In my case the right motivation was pure Irish cussedness - Jean Dunn was a beautiful tall, blond, lovely girl (all the things I wasn't!), so I tried to be as good a jumping centre as she was. It's as simple as

Baseball? No. I was of course drafted for tryouts because outdoor sports were good for us

and one should be as beneficial as the other, right? Wrong. My first time at bat I stood there with the bat over my shoulder and stared, completely hypnotized as that ball whizzed toward me and smacked me on the forehead. I think Florence Lousley was the pitcher. I think my brother, playing something else on the other side of the school yard, carried me home. I

think he probably wailed at my Mother "Can't this kid do anything right?" as he dumped me on the kitchen floor.

That incident probably explains me to a lot of people, but its immediate result was that I refused to go out on the ball diamond again. The immediate result of that was that I was required to stay after school for a month, writing five hundred (count 'em) times each day: "I must participate in school sports." My Mother broke that up by a visit to the Principal, during which interview she put forward such arguments

as "She has weak ankles, you know - maybe she could be trained as a referee or something?", or "How am I going to teach that girl to cook and serve meals if you keep her here till supper-time every day?"

Now that I am crowding seventy and the ol' bod doesn't like vigorous movement, I have to take my sports vicariously, sitting down. This brings me to the little monologue which concludes this article. I hope there aren't too many homes where the following situation might exist:

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splendid athletes, but why do they wear so much here, so little there, sort of thing? When they fall on top of each other, seems to me they could get hurt all over, no?

And something else, dear.... sorry, I promised not to interrrupt but the game lasts for hours - surely you could spare me ten seconds! After all, I'm just trying to share your interests, and communicate.

Anyway this word "down" - do you mean if all those chaps didn't fall on the ball-carrier he could run all the way to the other fellows' goal and score by setting the football down in behind the post? I think the term "touch-down" is an understatement. What I see on TV is more like "crashdown", "knock-down" or perhaps "smashdown"; a "touch" it isn't.

The officials, those in the prison stripes, don't seem in the least intimidated by such monsters as Barnes, Ilesic et al. Of course, proper authority usually radiates an aura of invincibility, but emotions do run high in this game, and the players are human (I think).

Yes, it is definitely cowardly to seize the chin-guard of the helmet, especially when one's dentures are hanging from it! Not the dentures? Oh, I'm sorry. No, I've nothing more to ask right now, thank you dear for being so patient. In the kitchen? Yes, as a matter of fact I do have things to do out there. You're only a man, you wouldn't understand, but that's all right - it's my job, isn't

Oh goody, only three minutes fifty-four seconds left in the game, eh? And it's 4:14 p.m. now?.....Oh? It's over? But dear, their timing is a little off, I think - the clock out here reads 4:25".

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The Hospital Board representative will be expected to attend a minimum of two evening meetings per month, and some additional meetings, and out of town travel will probably be

necessary. The Pinewood Court Board meets monthly in Terrace Bay and Thunder Bay alternately. There is a small stipend paid to

members of the Board. Interested individuals should contact the Municipal Office before October 21st, 1983.

