

# Sports

## 1983 likely to be year of the Expo, Cardinals second

Editor's note: This is the second of a four-part series predicting the outcome of the 1983 major league baseball season. All four stories will be the opinion of the author.

By Tim Woods

Three of the last four World Series champions — Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and St. Louis — have come from the National League's Eastern Division.

Yet Montreal — the division's winningest team the past four seasons — has won just one divisional championship during that time. Led by new manager Bill Virdon, the Expos' turn to win it all should come in 1983.

**MONTREAL:** Virdon, the third Expos skipper in as many seasons, has as much talent at his disposal as any manager today. His mission — and he has no choice but to accept it — is to take Montreal to the Series, something that his predecessors, Dick Williams and Jim Fanning, were unable to do.

Catcher Gary Carter, first baseman Al Oliver and center fielder Andre Dawson are the nucleus of an explosive offense. Steve Rogers, Bill Gullickson, Scott Sanderson and Charlie Lea form a solid starting rotation. Jeff Reardon and Woodie Fryman head a reliable bullpen.

So what's been keeping the Expos home in October? Well, no one really knows. Montreal couldn't win with Williams, who is certainly one of the best managers around. They couldn't win with Fanning, who Oliver said was "too nice a man to be a manager."

So the Expos hired Virdon, a no-nonsense tactician who was fired after last season by Houston. If Oliver thinks Montreal needs a "tough guy" manager to win the East, then Virdon could be the one to supply that discipline.

One key question needs to be answered, though: namely, the availability of left fielder Tim Lincecum. Potentially one of the game's most exciting players and best leadoff men, Lincecum underwent off-season treatment for a cocaine habit on which he spent nearly \$50,000 last season.

Lincecum's comeback will affect Montreal's chances to win the East, but the Expos still appear to be a solid bet. You can only keep a good team down for so long.

**ST. LOUIS:** The Cardinals won their ninth world championship last year by being a remarkably consistent club, winning 46 games both at home and on the road. Manager Whitey Herzog has all the horses necessary to win it all again.

But the Redbirds have several key holes to fill. Their starting pitching, a real question mark before last season, remains a problem for Herzog after Steve Mura was lost in the free-agent compensation pool, and John Stuper, who looked so good during the second half of the season and in the National League Championship Series and World Series, developed a sore pitching arm during spring train-

ing. So Herzog has only two proven starters, Joaquin Andujar and Bob Forsch, as the team prepares to head north.

But St. Louis has a solid bench, led by utility infielder Mike Ramsey and outfielders David Greene and Dane Iorg. They have a solid nickel-and-dime offense, which is geared to the slick artificial turf and wide expanses of Busch Memorial Stadium. And they have the NL's premier relief pitcher, Bruce Sutter.

So the Redbirds will be dangerous once again, and could easily top Montreal if the Expos falter.

**PHILADELPHIA:** The Phillies are celebrating their 100th anniversary by fielding the NL's oldest lineup, one averaging nearly 33 years of age.

But wisdom comes with age, and Philly is hoping that newly acquired 39-year-old second baseman Joe Morgan and 41-year-old first baseman-pinch hitter Tony Perez will coax one last year of brilliance out of Father Time.

Still, the pitching is woefully thin behind four-time Cy Young Award winner Steve Carlton and Dick Ruthven, the only Phillies to win more than 10 games last season. And unless Manager Pat Corrales can find a bullpen stopper — Ron Reed led the club with just 14 saves a year ago, compared with Sutter's 36 — Philly could have a lot of trouble staying in ball games.

**PITTSBURGH:** The Pirates have two of the game's bright young stars, catcher Tony Pena and second baseman Johnny Ray, plus a good pitching staff, led by John Candelaria and Kent Tekulve.

But the Bucs lost speedy center fielder Omar Moreno

to free agency, and no current Pirate can likely do the things Moreno could be in the leadoff slot. Lee Lacy and the much-traveled Lee Mazzilli will try to replace Moreno, but what Pittsburgh desperately needs is a return to form by Dave Parker, who played in just 73 games a year ago.

**CHICAGO:** General Manager Dallas Green is slowly building the Cubs, although the team probably won't finish any higher than fifth.

Still, Greene is trying to instill a winning attitude in Wrigley Field. Acquiring third baseman Ron Cey from Los Angeles during the off-season was a step in the right direction.

**NEW YORK:** The Mets were awful in 1982, and they really don't look much better going into 1983. Newly acquired Tom Seaver and Mike Torrez, who finished a combined 14-22 with a 5.33 ERA last year, are being counted on to bolster the Mets' starting rotation, so the pitching doesn't appear to be that promising.

The Mets should be equally inept on offense, especially with catcher John Stearns, a .293 hitter in 1982, out indefinitely with a torn rotator cuff in his throwing shoulder.

Still, it will be interesting to watch Mets first baseman Dave Kingman, who had more strikeouts (156) than base hits (149) a year ago, and free agent slugger George Foster, a left fielder who was paid \$2 million in 1982 but hit just 13 homers.

Tomorrow: American League West

## Water ski team plans first invitational

By Chris Welsch

Jerry Althouse jumped into the water March 2.

Althouse, president of the UNL Water Ski team, began spring training before most snow skiers get off the slopes.

"It wasn't that cold," he said. "If you fall down though, that's a shock."

Althouse and about 50 members of the water ski team are training more intently than last season. After several unsuccessful attempts to obtain funding from UNL, team manager Bill Schneiderwind found support from Master Craft boats and Lawlor's sporting goods store.

The team hopes to construct a slalom course, of several buoys, at Pawnee Lake. Both Althouse and Schneiderwind are looking for a lake they can use exclusively.

Water ski competition includes three events: the slalom event, the trick event and the jump event.

In the slalom event, the skier must maneuver around six buoys placed on alternating sides of the boat's path. Points are based on the speed of the boat and the length of the tow rope. Althouse is considered a top contender for a national collegiate slalom title this year, Schneiderwind said.

Skiers have 20 seconds to perform as many tricks as possible in the trick event. A special squarish pair of trick skis are used in this event.

The jump event is usually the last event in college meets. Distance is the only factor judged in the jump competition. All three events are totaled for the overall awards. Men's and women's scores are totaled to determine the championship team of the tournament. Only the top five individuals on a team compete for points in each event.

The UNL Water Ski team will be the host for the First Annual Cornhusker Open Intercollegiate Water Ski Tournament April 22 at the Peterson-Piercy ski site in Prague.

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Must have car and be able to type. Knowledge of city streets helpful. 473-7412 for interview appointment.

### announcements

Zapatos Alegres Dancers  
Friday April 1, 7:00 pm in Nebraska Union movie "Boulevard Nights" 8:30 pm Chicano Special Events/Masa "Fun Run" Saturday April 2, Registration \$2 come out and run for fun. T-shirts will be awarded. Sponsored by UPC Chicano Special Events.

Sig Eps  
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5:30 Be There  
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Glenda Abhayta — Rockwell International Corporation, 6:00 pm Nebraska Union Rostrom, Nebraska Native Am. Student Congress

Photographers — Why not enter the UPC-East Photography Contest? Any color or black & white photograph which is 5"X7" to 8"X10", matted, mounted or framed could be a winner. Prizes in each division. Deadline for entries is April 5. Call 472-1780 for details.

"IS THERE LIFE AFTER COLLEGE?" Comedian Bill Alexander has the answer for you on Tues. April 5, 8 p.m. Union Ballroom.

From the Comedy Cellar in New York — Bill Alexander and his comedy routine, "Is There Life After College?" Tuesday April 5 8 p.m. Union Ballroom. Don't Miss it!

Phi Mu Honey Bunnies On Sale at Booth in City Union. East Union — Tuesday! GET YOURS NOW!

Triangle Little Sisters are selling Easter Baskets today 9:00-3:00 at the Union, will sell the 29th and 31st at the East Campus Union. Will deliver on the 31st both City and East campus only. All proceeds will go to Christian Childrens Fund. Send someone special an Easter Basket. Cost is only \$3.

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