

Fall baseball promises no excitement for fans

By KYLE MARSHALL

What happened to the pennant races?

Here it is the end of August, and two of major league baseball's four divisions have been decided. Clear front-runners have emerged in the other two, making for a September almost as exciting as the Republican National Convention.

(As of Thursday morning, the closest race was the National League East, where the Cubs led the Mets by four games.)

If there's any consolation at all, it's that several newly revived teams are leading the pack. The Chicago Cubs weren't expected to contend this year, but they find themselves in great position to win the division and battle for their first league pennant since 1945. The team they have to beat, the New York Mets, also figured to be also-rans again. They too have fooled the critics.

And do you know anyone who picked the Minnesota Twins to win the American League West? As the only team over .500 in their division, the Twins now seem destined to face the Detroit Tigers for the league championship.

But nowhere does the lack of an exciting race hurt more than in the NL West, where millions of cable-TV viewers across the country have watched America's Team, the Atlanta Braves, languish in defeat since the All-Star break. Give the division-leading San Diego Padres credit; with fine pitching, they have compiled the second-best record in baseball.

The Braves were expected to battle

the Padres and the Los Angeles Dodgers right down to the wire. That's not the way things have developed, as the Padres — led by pitchers Eric Show (13-7), Ed Whitson (12-7) and Goose Gosage (24 saves), and league-leading hitter Tony Gwynn (.362) — have slowly widened their margin to more than 10 games over the second-place Braves. The Padres managed to win games despite manager Dick Williams, who was given a 10-day suspension for allowing his pitchers to take shots at Braves hurler Pascual Perez. Baseball deserves better than the brutality to which Williams resorted.

It seems reasonably safe to say that Atlanta would have made a better run at the Padres if third baseman Bob Horner had not been sidelined with a broken wrist since May. Without Horner's bat in the lineup, the Braves hitting-wise were a mediocre team at best.

Of course, the truly good teams win despite such setbacks, and that's what San Diego has done.

A few predictions by an amateur on how the two championship series should shape up: The Padres probably have the pitching to stop their likely opponent, the Chicago Cubs. (It still hasn't set in that the Cubs, long known for their folding acts late in the season, could win their division.)

And in the American League, it would be suicidal to pick anyone other than Detroit, who has won almost seven out of every 10 games they've played this year.

Kyle Marshall, a senior economics and journalism major from Hendersonville, is state and national editor of The Daily Tar Heel.

Oh the times, they have a-changed

By DORRIE PENCE and KATHERINE SCHULTZ

Who would have thought that someday we would be the oldest undergraduates on campus? Yet, here we are after three short years — seniors. Although the title does hold an ominous air, we shouldn't be weighed down by the authority we've attained. When those blatantly naive freshmen begin to grate on our nerves, let's be patient, and reach through a fogged memory back to our freshman year.

1981. Freshmen were of legal drinking age. Remember all those fraternity parties that did wonders for our student i.d. photos and swim tests the next day? Or if you didn't drink then, remember all those mature people who imbibed to the extreme and littered your dormitory bathroom with their breakfasts, lunches and dinners? Remember when places you purchased your alcohol had inspiring names? "The Happy Store," for instance. What kind of inspiration can we derive from "Top of the Hill"? A quest for the meaning of life, maybe.

Henderson Street Bar used to be the place to go. The juke box cranked out

the dance classics of the day: "Rock the Casbah" and "Angel is a Centerfold." Now all the baggers have migrated to Papagayo's. Why? Is it a sign of failing patriotism? Do we suddenly feel the need to sit while drinking, when only yesterday we were willing to stand over just about anything while bending the proverbial elbow?

On the subject of sports, remember when Carmichael was the center of basketball and not just "the other gym"? Carmichael was smaller, more intimate; it inspired a winning tradition. The new "facility" has forced the basketball program to prostitute itself to the alumni.

And isn't it strange how our players never seem to complete their intended four years here anymore? Perhaps legal tender is more appealing than the completion of a major in physical education. Basketball has been somewhat anticlimactic since we won the National championship, anyway. Remember that night? How many perfect strangers did you hug or kiss, willingly or not?

Another event to remember: the snow-storm that canceled classes for the first time since the Civil War. Its timing was almost simultaneous with the attempt to freeze Port Charles by the Cassidines on "General Hospital." But then GH became

so ludicrous (as if it wasn't before) that the masses turned to "All My Children." Now that Jenny Gardner-Nelson bit the dust — or, more accurately, kissed the surf — we are going to have to seek a new after-lunch activity; perhaps working on our resumes, an activity that should provide as much comic relief and pathos as any daytime drama.

Face it. The vacation is almost over. For those of us with little or no inclination to go to grad school and become professional students, the "real world" looms ominously around the corner. In preparing to enter it, we must tout our mundane summer jobs as important educational experiences, and print them as such in handsome typeface on our resumes. A job of shoving Whoppers at gluttonous truck drivers and buses of church groups suddenly becomes a post as "Dietary Supervisor."

This past summer, of course, you went to Europe — the summer of oats sown, of one last episode of frivolous adventure. That is if your Daddy could afford it. You

paid through the proverbial nose to "see the world" and ended up seeing numerous others from Chapel Hill with the same intention. For those who, like us, stayed home, don't despair: you are neither boring friends with hyperbolic accounts of romance under the Eiffel Tower nor disgusting them with your self-proclaimed weariness with American ways. Tell these future expatriates that you yourself went South of the Border. But don't mention that the "border" in question was that of North Carolina, and that your destination was Myrtle Beach.

While these starry-eyed freshmen invade our seasoned, skeptical turf, remember the good times we've had. It's been a great three years. Let's make this last one the best.

Dorrie Pence, a senior English major from Chapel Hill, and Katherine Schultz, a senior journalism major from Winston-Salem, have survived three years at Carolina but are placing no wagers on making it through a fourth.



The Golden Dragon

金 龍

"The First Fast Service Chinese Restaurant in the Triangle Area"

UNC-STUDENT GOURMET CHOICE AWARD, 1983

Over the years you have known us for the consistent high quality of our food.

- Always fresh • Always at a low cost
- Always the best available ingredients
- Always served with efficiency so your wait is never very long

Franklin Centre
Downtown Chapel Hill
Across from the Varsity Theater

929-5728

Pro Motion Concerts

And the Carolina Union
in association with the Record Bar
PRESENT

IN CONCERT
MISSING PERSONS
RHYME & REASON TOUR '84

AND
THE PRESSURE BOYS
Wednesday, August 29
8:00 P.M.

Tickets available at the Carolina Union Box Office
and at all Record Bars in Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill

Fitch Up Your New Home Or Apartment

See Us For
Pre-finished shelving
Brackets
Bookends
Standards & Supports
Glass Shelving

See Us For
Corner Clips

The easiest, fastest, pull-it-together yourself furniture idea since nails.

CORNER CLIPS

SEE US FOR
hager wood

See Us For
Cinderblocks & Shelving

SEE US FOR—Stain, Brushes, and Sandpaper!
Get ready for our
ANNUAL BACKYARD SALE!
It'll be bigger and better than ever!

309 north greenboro street, carroll/chapel hill, telephone 942-3153
open daily 8-5, saturday 10 noon

FITCH LUMBER

UNC Student Accident and Sickness Insurance Plan

Available to all registered students at the University of North Carolina.

Last date for enrollment
September 30, 1984

Effective for twelve month period
August 15, 1984 to August 15, 1985

Local Broker:
Hill, Chesson and Roach
P. O. Box 3666
Chapel Hill, NC 27515
Phone: (919) 967-5900

Is your calculator in the same class you are?

Move up to the TI-66. The easy 512 step programmable.

You're into higher math and your old calculator helped get you there. But now it's time for something more. The TI-66 from Texas Instruments. The TI-66 offers full programming power and flexibility so you can solve complex and repetitive math problems quickly, easily and with fewer keystrokes than you thought possible. Its 512 merged program steps and over 170 built-in scientific, engineering and statistical functions make for powerful programming. And the sleek, streamlined design makes for easy use.

Its Algebraic Operating System makes it easy on your brain by allowing you to key in problems as they are written, left to right. And a 10-digit angled Liquid Crystal Display not only makes it easy on your eyes but provides alphanumeric notation of your program steps so you can make easy modifications as you go along. There are large, readable keys for your fingers, and an easy-to-follow guidebook so you shouldn't get confused. And last, but certainly not least, at a suggested retail of \$69.95, there's a price that's easy on your pocketbook.

All in all, if we made the TI-66 programmable calculator any easier to use, it would deserve its own degree.

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS
Creating useful products and services for you.