

AL East: Orioles and Red Sox will be rough

■ Continued from Page 8
BALTIMORE ORIOLES
(71-73 in 1995, third place)
MANAGER: Davey Johnson

The most significant off-season addition to this club was not on the field but in the front office. New general manager Pat Gillick, the mastermind behind the Toronto Blue Jays dominance of the 80s and early 90s, instantly went to work signing free agents and working trades that will turn the O's from a sub-.500 team into one that should win the division.

The list of moves Gillick made includes signing the year's most coveted free agent in Roberto Alomar. The best second baseman in baseball, Alomar will pair with Cal Ripken at shortstop to form the most potent double play tandem in the game.

He will also add offense to a team that should have no problems scoring runs with the likes of Bobby Bonilla, Rafael Palmeiro, Ripken, Chris Hoiles and Brady Anderson.

But more than just his defense (only four errors committed in 1995) and his bat (a career .300 hitter), Alomar will bring intensity and excitement to a team plagued with lack of enthusiasm last season.

Other additions included pitchers David Wells, Roger McDowell, Randy Myers, and Kent Merker, who spent last season as the No. 5 starter for the World Champion Atlanta Braves. Merker and Wells will add stability and depth to a starting rotation that includes ace Mike Mussina, Scott Erickson and rookie Jimmy Haynes.

New manager Davey Johnson, who has never finished lower than second in his eight years of managing, will show this team how to be a winner.

NEW YORK YANKEES
(79-65, second place)
MANAGER: Joe Torre

On paper, the Yankees look like they should challenge the Cleveland Indians for the best record in baseball. They have arguably the best starting pitching in the American league with David Cone, Jimmy Key, Kenny Rogers, Andy Pettitte and Scott Kamieniecki. This doesn't even include the comebacks being attempted by Dwight Gooden and Melido Perez. But health and durability is a big question with these guys.

The offense should produce with the likes of Paul O'Neill, Wade Boggs, Bernie Williams and newly acquired Tino Martinez.

But two things will need to happen for this team to be successful: 1) Someone will have to step up and lead this team now that Don Mattingly has retired, and 2) George Steinbrenner needs to sit on his hands, let this team develop and let new manager Joe Torre control the destiny of his team. Look for the Yankees to ride the wild card into the playoffs.

BOSTON RED SOX
(86-58, first place)
MANAGER: Kevin Kennedy

The BoSox will definitely contend for a playoff spot but uncertain starting pitching and no definite closer will be what bridges the gap between this team and the Orioles and Yankees.

Roger Clemens will win between 17 and 20 games as usual, but then who else will step in? Aaron Sele has only won 18 games in his career and was injured most of last year. Tim Wakefield had a great first half last year, but he has been unreliable and inconsistent the

rest of his career. Either Flash Gordon or Jamie Moyer will have to produce.

The addition of Will Cordero, who is expected to play third, and Kevin Mitchell will give them instant offense to go along with league MVP Mo Vaughn, Jose Canseco and catcher Mike Stanley, who defected from the Yankees in the off season, in hitter-friendly Fenway Park.

If they stay healthy, look for them to contend until late August but run out of gas down the stretch.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS
(56-88, fifth place)
MANAGER: Cito Gaston

Can this really be the same team that dominated in the 80s and won back-to-back World Series in 1992 and 1993? Gone from last year are Roberto Alomar, Devon White and Paul Molitor. This leaves John Olerud, Joe Carter and little else to lead the team.

The only reason Toronto will finish ahead of Detroit in the bottom of the East is the prospect of pitchers Juan Guzman and Pat Hentgen returning to their All-Star form.

Look for manager Cito Gaston to be the first coaching casualty of the season.

DETROIT TIGERS
(80-84, fourth place)
MANAGER: Buddy Bell

To call 1996 a rebuilding year for the lowly Tigers is an overstatement. This team is going to be bad, plain and simple. They have no pitching, and while they do have decent hitters in the lineup, it is made up of a bunch of guys that should be designated hitters instead of position players.

It will be a long season in the Motor City.

Do you have asthma?

Enrollment is Now Open for a
Clinical Research Trial of an
Asthma Medication



Participants receive:

- Examinations, breathing tests, EKG, laboratory testing and study medication at no charge
- Payment for study participation

Call our office to see if you qualify

REFERRAL NOT REQUIRED

Allergy and Asthma Research Group

1488 Oak Street, Eugene, OR 97401

683-4324

Kraig W. Jacobson, M.D. • Robert Frost Jones, M.D.

YOU CAN STILL KEEP UP WITH
UO LIFE AFTER YOU GRADUATE.

o.d.e. on the world wide web:

<http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~ode>

NO MATTER HOW FAR YOU TRAVEL,
YOU'RE ALWAYS CLOSE TO CAMPUS.

Please recycle this paper!

1-800-COLLECT

Proudly Sponsors Intramural Sports At University of Oregon

1-800-COLLECT

Intramural-Recreational SPORTS

Sports:

Softball
Soccer
Ultimate Frisbee

Manager's Meeting:

April 8, 4:00pm, 117 Fenton
April 16, 4:00pm, Fir Room-EMU
April 24, 4:00pm, Maple Room-EMU

Instant Lottery Scheduling:

April 9, 102 Esslinger
April 17, 102 Esslinger
NONE

Play Begins:

April 12
April 23
April 29

SIGN UP TODAY



NIRSA Endorsed

See Your
Intramural
Recreational
Department

Dial 1-800-COLLECT and Save Up to 44%.