

Leaves are pretty, but in fall, it's all about baseball



SPORTS STAFF

Group Commentary

It's October, and you know what that means: time to covet cashmere sweaters and scream at the TV screen because your favourite player got called out at third. Yes, it's MLB finals season, when the boys of summer don their long sleeves and start playing games that people care about. Read on to find out what we expect and hope for this year's major league playoff season.

Trevor Phillips

October is the greatest month of the year. October is to the sports fan as May is to a gardener: complete and utter bliss. Every September when the leaves start to change colour and begin to drop, I begin eyeing the cornucopia

of sporting events that will eventually litter my fall days. My Octoberfest is simple: booze, chips, and wall-to-wall football, hockey, and, of course, playoff baseball.

My infatuation with the sport began when I was just a young kid watching whatever my old man told me to and loving it. But over the last few years, the fun has been sucked out of post-season baseball. Since the Red Sox came back down 3-0 to the Yankees in 2004, I just haven't been as entertained as usual. Perhaps that's due to a growing animosity toward the league because of the lack of Blue Jay success, but I think it's really due to the lack of amazing individual efforts.

Since 1993 we have been able to witness some pretty amazing moments: Counsel's game-winning single in '97; Luis Gonzalez against Rivera in '01; Bonds' post-season homerun barrage in '02; Josh Beckett in '03; and Schilling's bloody sock in '04—all of these memories not only take me back to great moments in baseball his-

tory, but to the amazing points in my life I identify them with on my personal timeline. So, in 2007, with some great new performers in the playoffs, mixed with old faces, I look forward to making new memories with just 20 days left to work with.

Marc Affeld

I predict that beloved American comedian Jimmy Fallon will play a huge part in the Boston Red Sox's almost certain victory over the Colorado Rockies in game seven of the 2007 World Series.

Despite a heated argument on the subject with girlfriend Drew Barrymore, Fallon will decide to attend the final game of the World Series, citing his life-long passion for watching the Red Sox lose. Red Sox manager Terry Francona, in need of a designated hitter, will pull Fallon from the stands in the bottom of the ninth—as Francona has, obviously, become a huge fan of Fallon ever since he saw that Pepsi commercial where Fallon dances adorably on top of a car

with Parker Posey.

Fallon will hit an epic, World Series-winning walk-off single, ending the two year drought that has been slightly irritating the more hardcore of Red Sox bandwagon jumpers.

The whole historic event will, sadly, do very little to boost the rapidly waning popularity of the lovably quirky funnyman, and will additionally mark the beginning of a new Red Sox curse, which will become commonly known as "The Curse of the Boobino." You can count on it.

Ben Carter

The prevailing wisdom regarding this season's baseball playoffs is that the ALCS, featuring Cleveland and Boston—the two best teams from this year's regular season—might as well be the World Series. That said, don't be surprised if one of the National League contenders ends up the 2007 World Series Champion.

Maybe you won't be initially blown away by either of the NL contend-

ers, but hear me out. As surprising as the thought of Orlando Hudson or Miguel Batista contributing anything more than solid defence up the middle—or bushels of blown saves—to a winning baseball team, some of the best Rockies will leave you just as confused. Brad Hawpe? Troy Tulowitzki? But the 215 RBIs between these two unknowns, as well as the power contributions from Matt Holliday, Garrett Atkins, and the always reliable Todd Helton, should give the Rockies the edge.

Boston's playoff experience should lead them past the young, powerful, but untested Indians, and they would be the favourite against either the Rockies or the Diamondbacks.

But very often in the World Series, it's the hottest team in the past few weeks of the season—a term that aptly describes this year's Rockies team—that pulls it off rather than the proven regular-season winner. The Red Sox are the favourite to win it all, but there isn't a pushover to be found remaining in October.

While you were stuffing yourself with turkey last weekend, die-hard mountain unicyclists were gathering in the hills around Buffalo Creek, Colorado for the **1st annual Colorado MUifest.**

Mountain unicycling is much the same as mountain biking, except participants don't have a gear system, which would allow them to coast, reach high speeds, or climb hills easily.

Here at the Gateway, we like things like wheels and volunteers to come in even numbers, so come to a **meeting Tuesdays at 5:30**, and bring a friend.



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