Analysis

Is Earl Weaver a genius? O's performance says no
By Robert Laherre

Earl Weaver looks aged and bewildered. Earl Weaver must have a lot of questions to ask; a lot of Monday morning quarterbacking to do. Why was a totally dominating team like the Baltimore Orioles tamed by a team that squeaked by the Montreal Expos?

This is not to insult the championship Pittsburgh Pirates, but the Orioles seemed to exhibit almost inhuman ferocity when playing baseball this year. They masqued an American League that featured quality teams like the Red Sox, Angels, Brewers, Yankees (?), Royals, Rangers, and Twins. The Pirates won the division in the very last part of the season. What explains the result of this seeming mismatch?

The Pirates played hard in the World Series. The Orioles did not. With the exception of Dave Parker and Omar Moreno, the Pirates played clutch baseball; the Orioles did not. The Pirates played in a unified manner. The Orioles seemed somewhat laid back in the final games.

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