



FENWAY FIASCO. In 1978, the Boston Red Sox and New York Yankees, probably the two best teams in the majors that year, staged one of the great dramas of the century. Fourteen games ahead of the Yankees on July 19th, the Red Sox suddenly lost half of their lead with a bad road trip at the end of July, matched Yankee wins through August, then lost the other half of the lead in early September, completing what was, numerically, the worst fold in modern major league history. The collapse of the injury-riddled Bosox in September was climaxed by a four-game slaughter by the Yankees at Fenway Park called *The Boston Massacre*. Later that month, Boston removed part of the stigma of its disintegration by recovering remarkably, rallying from 3½ games behind to tie New York on the closing day. In the October 2 playoff game at Fenway Park, Bucky Dent's three-run homer over *The Wall* put the Yanks ahead in the seventh inning and another homer by Reggie Jackson gave them their winning run in a 5-4 thriller.