

# ***BRASSBALL: News and Notes***

Volume I, No.6  
March, 1995

## **DRAFT DAY A SUCCESS**

I'd like to thank each of you for helping to make our start-up draft the success it was. Organizing 24 people for a project like this isn't easy, but you folks were all great. With the possible exception of a couple guys not getting update calls, the draft went smoother than I anticipated.

Special thanks to the ten people who made it to the draft in person. Your ability to go the extra mile (literally) not only helped expedite the draft, but also made it that much more enjoyable. I really think the fact that so many of us were there in person and were able to meet will only make this league stronger.

## **Team Rosters and Bank Accounts Enclosed**

Please note that the roster sheets not only include your players and their corresponding contracts, but they also include your up to date bank account balance, as well as your draft choice situation for the '96 rookie draft. Keep these in a safe place. I will send out updated rosters periodically, however I strongly recommend that, in the future, you update these yourselves each month when I publish the trades. Speaking of trades...

## **Trades--(draft day)**

1. Arlington Trades Picks #662, 710, 758, 806, and \$100,000 to Secaucus for Picks #660, 708, 756, and 804.
2. Blind Lemons trade pick #721 to Bloomington for \$500,000.
3. Secaucus trades pick #877, 900, 925, and 948 to Bloomington for \$502,000.
4. Long Island trades Terry Pendleton to Richmond Madhatters for Pick #588 (Espinoza) and \$1,000,000.

## **(post-draft deals)**

5. Long Island traded S. Fletcher to Bloomington for \$100,000.
6. Santa Monica traded Ramon Martinez to SoCal for John Burkett, 1.75 million, and SoCal's first and sixth round draft picks in the 1996 draft.
7. SoCal traded J. Edmonds to Richmond Madhatters for Spike Owen.
8. SoCal traded Dw. Smith, Chris Jones, and SoCal's 3rd round draft choice in '96 to Richmond for \$500,000 and the Madhatter's 3rd round pick in the '96 draft.
9. Santa Monica traded Brian Jordan to Richmond for Thomas Howard and \$2,000,000.
10. Santa Monica traded Greg Swindell to Poway for W. Williams, J. Navarro, and 3.5 million.
11. Santa Monica traded R. Henderson and Chris Gwynn to Florida for Kirk Gibson, \$4,000,000, and Florida's 5th round pick in the '96 draft.
12. Richmond traded its 1st round pick in the '96 draft to St. Lucie for Heath Slocumb.
13. Richmond traded J. Edmonds to the Blind Lemons for Michael Tucker.
14. Richmond trades J. Eisenreich to Secaucus for Darnell Coles and Tony Tarasco.

## Trade Wire

Santa Monica says... "K. Gibson and E. Murray available for prospects or draft picks, and AB's. Relievers are available for innings and cash or prospects."

Bloomington says... "Brian R. Hunter and Incaviglia are available. Both players have outstanding power on their cards, especially vs. RHP. Both have the maximum # of ball park homers and the accompanying auto HR chances to boot. Both have very affordable contracts. I'm interested in young players with bright futures, cash, draft picks--anything to help the Bee's franchise in the future. Bob Hamelin, with the second best power card vs. RHP in the entire '94 card set, may also be had in the right deal. Looking for more of the same future improvements if I traded Bob, especially established young pitchers."

Cook County says... "I have two established, full-time catchers in Pat Borders and Don Slaught. Both are available. I'm looking for an every day center fielder, picks, cash, and prospects. Danny Tartabull and Phil Plantier *may* also be available if the deal is right. Would want established young pitcher and/or some of what I've previously mentioned. Also, Mark Clark could be had for those of you looking for a very good pitcher this year. In addition to what I've previously mentioned, I'm looking for a solid power-hitting first baseman beginning next year.

## Two Guest Authors in this Newsletter

Mike O'Connor and David Caddell have sent in articles for this months newsletter. Remember, BRASSBALL pays you for your articles! I encourage all of you to do so if your time permits. Thanks.

## BRASSBALL League Directory

I know everyone has been busy preparing for the draft and for the beginning of the season, therefore I have been lax in pushing us all to send Doug Kehlmeier our bio for the league directory. However, I am now going to ask you all to get this done. When the directory is complete, I know it will be something we will all enjoy owning. However, it will only work if *we all* contribute. Therefore, I ask that those who haven't, set aside 20-30 minutes and get this done. Dont forget to send a picture of yourself as well. I am setting a **postmark deadline** of April 1. Those failing to meet this deadline will incur the wrath of the commish, as well as a fine. So please, keep me happy!

## Important Note!!!

Opponents of the Santa Barbara Outlaws in April games should send their instructions to the following address:



Brian thanks you.

## Bank Accounts

The following list shows where each of us stand money wise going into the start of the season:

1. Tolar	33.45 mil	13. Richmond	20.3 mil
2. St. Lucie	29.75 mil	14. Nome	19.75 mil
3. Racine	28.55 mil	15. Nashville	19.65 mil
4. Charlevoix	27.45 mil	16. Arlington	
5. Emerald City	26.15 mil	Cook County	19.15 mil
6. Blind Lemons	25.20 mil	Poway	
7. Secaucus	25.152 mil	19. Minnesota	19.05 mil
8. S. Monica	25.0 mil	20. Long Island	16.05 mil
9. Wauwatosa	24.95 mil	21. SoCal	14.00 mil
10. Bloomington	24.848 mil	22. Box City	12.45 mil
11. Florida	24.75 mil	23. Hessville	10.25 mil
12. E. Indy	22.85 mil	24. S. Barbara	9.85 mil

## TEAM SKETCHES

Now that the draft is over and the season is about to begin, I thought I'd take a little text space up and do a quick overview of each team and how they shape up for this year, as well as down the road. Any comments made by me are in no way intended to offend or upset anyone. However, if I do upset anyone, please feel free to register any complaints you may have with Colby Wright. He'll be happy to deal with you.

### *NL CENTRAL*

**Blind Lemons:** Although they dealt away the #1 pick and the rights to Griffey, the deal enabled the Lems to snare Alou at #8 and O'Neill in the 2nd round. The Lems then came back and took Saberhagen and Alvarez with their next two picks. Pat Rapp and Scott Sanders give the Lems two more nice young arms, and the two Mike's, Kingery and Stanley, add to their offense.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Joe Oliver--34th round. Could compete for the Lem's starting catching job in '96.

**Bloomington:** Solid draft for the future. Three young guns in the rotation are Hentgen, Trachsel, and Karsay. "Comeback" could be the key word for the Bees. If McGwire, Robby Thompson, and Gant return to their past form, they will team with Piazza, Hamelin, Ventura, and Sierra to form a scary offense.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Ray Durham--will be a stud at 2B.

**Charlevoix:** Solid infield with Palmeiro, Kent, Dunston, and E. Martinez. Joe Carter and Brett Butler provide some sock in the outfield. "CY" Maddux and PJ Martinez are a scary 1-2 punch in the rotation. Swift and Dave West round out a tough rotation. Cutters will compete for World Series birth.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Doc Gooden--29th round. IF he gets his act together, could be a productive pitcher for 5-6 more years.

**East Indy:** May contend for division crown. Larkin, Bonilla, and Kevin Mitchell provide a scary threesome. Cone, Ashby, and Zane Smith are solid in the rotation. Mitchell's defection overseas will harm the Tiggers in '96.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Bonilla--5th round. I'm sorry, but a guy with his track record for run production shouldn't have slipped this far down. Just my opinion.

### *NL EAST*

**Long Island:** Two of the best first basemen in baseball reside in Long Island. Frank Thomas and John Olerud look to battle it out for the batting title for years to come. Appier and Smoltz head the Tiger rotation. Tigers have some great outfield prospects as well. (Rivera, Trot Nixon, and Karim Garcia)

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Deshields--end of 4th round.---he's still only a pup.

**Racine:** After tabbing Kenny Lofton in first round, the Heat came back with 2 studs, Mussina and Bere, with next two picks. Youngsters Clayton, Al Martin, and Jose Oliva promise a nice future for Racine.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Antonio Osuna---round 33. He could be among the leaders in saves in all BRASSBALL in '96.

**Secaucus:** GREAT starting rotation! Clemens, Key, Danny Jackson, Darling, and Van Lanningham. With Canseco and Caminiti leading the offense, the Travelers will be tough. May be a slugger away from World Series.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Van Lanningham--12th round. Could develop into staff ace.

**Wauwatosa:** Anyone need a lefty? The Wizards have cornered the market on southpaws, with Avery, Fassero, Langston, Sid Fernandez, Howe, and Randy Myers. Whiten, Biggio, Will Clark, and Scott Cooper give the W's a very tough offense.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Todd Walker--13th round. Hitting MACHINE! Only question is, at what position?

### NL WEST

**Emerald City:** First two picks used on all-star middle infield of Cordero and Knoblauch. Throw in Grace, Puckett, and Derek Bell and the Cyclones should score some runs. May have to wait a year or two while young pitchers Brian Anderson, Sterling Hitchcock, and Andrew Lorraine develop. When they do, they'll team up with two good ones in Gordon and Bobby Jones.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Ben Grieve--14th round. He may not arrive until '98, but how can so many people be wrong?

**Nashville:** Need Pitching? Look at this squad! Randy Johnson, Jose Rijo, and Alex Fernandez?! SMOKE! Add in phenoms Alan Benes and John Wasdin and this team could win the E.R.A. title for years. A bullpen with Beck, Carrasco, and Lee Smith cant be all bad either. (except maybe this year)

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Jose Offerman--19th round. Will start at SS for the Assassins in '96.

**Nome Gnomes:** In two years, may have the best outfield in all BRASSBALL. Manny Ramirez, Brian L. Hunter, and Reggie Sanders are all potential impact players. Team them with Fryman and Ivan Rodriguez and the future looks good.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** G. Pena--15th round. I know, he has been a disappointment thus far. But if he ever gets his act together, he could be well worth it.

**Tolar Rattlers:** Went with some solid, experienced veterans. Gwynn, Molitor, Boggs, (how many batting titles is that?) and Ripken will provide excellent leadership for the younger Rattlers. Should compete for division in '95, and has 33.5 million in the bank. WOW!

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Todd Jones---Future closer.

### A.L. CENTRAL

**Cook County Maulers:** Present looks bleak, but Maulers may rise soon. Youngsters Cliff Floyd and Carlos Delgado are key. If they develop as expected, and team with Juan Gonzalez, Sheffield, Palmer, and Gates, offense could be frightening. Pitching staff needs work.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Bryan Harvey and Duane Ward--17th and 18th rounds. *If* they come back from injuries, look for some heat out of the Mauler pen in '96.

**Arlington Thoroughbreds:** Among the best teams in all BRASSBALL. Good 3 starters in Bones, Me. Perez, and Bobby Munoz. Great offense with Salmon, Matt Williams, Lankford, Klesko, and Jimmy Leyritz. Should lead the A.L. in homers. May be a starter away from a World Series trip.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Todd Hollandsworth--29th round--Next Dodger rookie of year?

**Richmond Madhatters:** Will battle for division with Arlington and Box City. Best pitching in division. (Drabek, J.Hamilton, Sh.Reynolds, Jim Bullinger) Daulton, Chili Davis, and Roberto Alomar give Richmond a nice offense as well.

**STEAL OF DRAFT:** Josias Manzanillo--15th round--He may turn out to be a bust. I just like saying his name. *J-O-S-I-A-S M-A-N-Z-A-N-I-L-L-O!!!*

**Box City Parcelmen:** Best outfield in all BRASSBALL? Could be, with Bonds, Dykstra, and Buhner. Ken Ryan and Roberto Hernandez form great bullpen tandem. Ken Hill is a gem! May need to upgrade other starters to win this year.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Kile--8th round. If he returns to form.

### A.L.EAST

**Florida Aces:** GREAT offense. Bagwell, Galarraga, Boone, Mack, Rickey Henderson, and Jefferies. Whew! But the Aces may need all of that and more. The starting rotation, with Morris, Stewart, and Mike Moore is a little past its prime. But help *is* on the way! Billy Wagner, Doug Million, Ho Park, Jose Silva, and A. Benitez are all top prospects. **STEAL:** Benitez--16th round--future all-star closer.

### *A.L. EAST (cont)*

**Hessville Evereadys:** Early picks built a great outfield in Sosa, Walker, and Bernie Williams. Hal Morris and Ozzie Guillen solid at 1B and SS. With Black Jack McDowell, Smiley, and David Wells hurling, the Evereadys will compete in this division.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Tim Laker--round 32. May be starting at catcher in '96.

**Minnesota Mudcats:** The only rival to Nashville's stable of quality arms. Benes, Ben McDonald, and Astacio form a fearsome foursome. If prospects Roper, Latroy Hawkins, and Jaret Wright develop--OUCH!! Team could be awesome by '97 if Charles Johnson and Alex Rodriguez develop to join Tino Martinez, Carlos Garcia, and Todd Zeile.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Zeile--8th round? Why?

**St. Lucie Snook:** Speaking of guys slipping, how bout Albert Belle to pick #9. This guy flirted with the triple crown last year. I'm sure "Kirkwood" didn't mind. The Snook sport a nice veteran rotation with Dennis Martinez, Glavine, Kevin Gross, and Mark Portugal. Three great outfield prospects as well--Abreu, Vl. Guerrero, and D. Erstad.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Erstad--round 30. Talk to me in three or four years.

### *A.L. WEST*

**Poway Posse:** Baerga, Bichette, Grissom, Mattingly, and Luis Gonzalez. These guys can hit! But do they have the pitching? Nied, Mahomes, Swindell, and Kenny Rogers need to improve for the Posse to improve.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Pokey Reese--29th round. May be starting at SS for the Posse by '97.

**Santa Barbara Outlaws:** Mondesi, Hoiles, and the Vaughn Brothers (Greg and Mo) should light up the Outlaw scoreboard. Fans may have to wait for young pitchers VanPoppel, Gomes, and S. Soderstrom to develop.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Kevin Tapani--10th round. What happened to this guy? Outlaws hope he returns to form of the early 90's.

**Santa Monica Sharks:** Trading up to get Griffey may set back the Sharks a year or so, but after that, look out! Youngsters Thome, Jeter, JR Phillips, along with a large bank account and some recently acquired draft picks will accelerate the team's development.

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Curt Schilling and Tommy Greene--8th and 9th rounds. Could be #1 & 2 starters in Shark rotation next year!

**SoCal Golden Knights:** Championship contender! McGriff, Sandy Alomar, Justice, Wallach, Steve Finley, and Jay Bell form a great nucleus. The rotation is solid with Ramon Martinez, Nagy, and Freeman. Needs one more starter. (who doesn't?)

**STEAL OF THE DRAFT:** Rickert Frickert. (Faneyte) Those who attended the draft need no explanation.

## **DEADLINES**

Everyone should, once again, read over your constitution so you are clear on how we are doing things. Especially crucial is the league deadline listing on pages 28-29. Please make a special note of these. Upcoming **postmark** deadlines include:

- March 20: Pitching rotation for April games do out to Commish. (ME)
- March 20: Road instructions due out to April opponents.
- April 15: Series report form due out to your league reporter.
- April 15: series result mailings due to your April home opponents.
- April 25: Team leaders form (through all April games) due to your statistician.

**\*\*Special note:** Please do not wait til the last minute on league deadlines. The newsletter will get out that much quicker if everyone gets results out quickly. It also will make things easier on the reporters, statisticians, and yours truly. Thanks.

Also, if you do not wish to get back the bulky play by play from your road series, say so in your instructions so that your opponent need not waste his money on postage.

### **BRASSBALL TIDBITS**

---Remember, for a trade to take effect for the following month, it must be postmarked to me by the 20th.

---Reread pages 17-20 of constitution. Important stuff.

---If for some reason any of you lost your Team Leader or Series Report form, let me know ASAP and I'll get you another copy.

*TALK TO YOU IN APRIL,*

*KK*

I would like to thank all the individuals who put in all the extra time and effort necessary to make the draft run smoothly and quickly. All the managers in the league appreciate it.

The West Coast Draft Headquarters Saturday, February 18, 1995 had all four managers from the American League Western Division in one room. The managers are Scott Campbell, Brian Budzyn, Bruce Julin and Mike O'Connor. Managers in our division had picks 8, 16, 21 and 23. The day started greatly. At 7 o'clock, Kevin called to confirm the first pick in the draft was Griffey. I had obtained the first overall pick in the draft in a trade. Brian had the first player stolen from him in the draft at the beginning of the second round. He selected Mo Vaughn with the 23rd pick. He was asked for his next selection because he was to pick 26th, which was only two players away, and the next manager had two consecutive picks. Wil Cordero was his selection. The phone rang a couple of minutes later and we all assumed it was for Bruce, but no it was for Brian. Allen Nelson had taken Wil Cordero with one of his two selections. After Scott Campbell selected 33rd we had to wait until the third round before our group had another selection. I had traded my second round pick in the deal for the first pick in the draft. I said I would draft Pedro Martinez with my pick in the third round. Allen Telgenhof stole him with the pick before mine. We were beginning to wonder if our draft headquarters had been bugged by the Allen's. (Allen Nelson and Allen Telgenhof). We sailed along into the fourth round. After Scott made his selection in the fourth round the other managers asked me which players I was considering for my next picks. I was going to have two picks before another manager in our draft headquarters would have a selection. DeSheilds and a starting pitcher, hopefully, Sele were the players under consideration. The update from Chicago came in and 5 of the next 7 selections were starting pitchers, including Sele. I decided to take a starting pitcher and hope DeSheilds would fall to my next selection. Ramon Martinez was selected. I was going to take DeSheilds or Trachsel with my next selection. Both were taken with selections before my pick. We went though to Scott's selection in the sixth round without any problems. I again had two picks in a row. I said my first selection would be Melido Perez and I was not sure who my second selection would be. This time three picks before my selection Colby Wright took Melido Perez. We now knew it was not the Allen's who had bugged our draft headquarters. The other managers told me it was the curse of Griffey. I decided not to say whom my next pick was going to be. Rickey Henderson was still available for me to select. After Scott made his selection in the 8th round I decided to tempt fate again. I said it was time to take that pitching card of Ontiveros. Tom Johnson took him two selections before mine. Tired of having my carded players taken, I decided it was time to take two amateur players with my next selections. Derek Jeter and Ruben Rivera were the players being considered. I took Jeter and before my next pick Rivera was taken by Tom Taormina. My fall back pick was Bill Swift. He was taken one pick before me by Allen Telgenhof. The bugged draft headquarters theory sprang to life again. I pulled out my cards and began to look at Marvin Freeman's card. Before I even got a chance to look at it, Scott Campbell drafted him. I started looking for a camera over my shoulder. I decided to settle for Mark Portugal. This time Charles Kirkwood took my player one pick before me. I decided to take Willie Banks with my next selection. He made it to my pick. Bruce was upset, however, because his next selection was going to be Willie Banks. Brian had Allen Nelson steal another player from him between the 14th and 15th round. Brian made the selection of Hudek. The phone rang. It was for Brian and not Bruce. Hudek had been selected. Brian needed to make another selection. I sailed along happily into the 14th round. The player being considered was Roger Cedeno, but I decided to wait until the pick I had at the beginning of the 15th round, which I had obtained in the trade for the first pick in the draft, and take some needed innings. Greg Swindell was selected. The last pick in the 14th round, taken by Doug Kehlmeier, who I had made the trade with, was Roger Cedeno. West Coast Draft Headquarters burst out laughing. The curse of Griffey was alive and well. I was ready to scream. It seemed I was one round behind all day in trying to obtain the players I wanted. A tribute to the good managers in this league or none of us know what we are doing. We will all find out soon enough.

Hopefully a good time was had by all in this dispersal draft. Now it is time to analyze our teams, begin trading to fill our holes and improve the team and play the games. See you at Santa Monica Stadium. The balls will be jumping out of the park with my pitching staff.

"Baseball News You Cannot Get Anywhere Else"

THE INSIDE PITCH



The legendary "Mighty Casey" shows the form that brought him to the forefront of baseball earlier this century.

Casey was being recruited by the Richmond Madhatters as a hitting coach.

After watching the carnage of an intersquad game, Casey turned down the job saying, "Pennant fever for the Madhatters will be a 24 hour virus. This team with the exception of Darrin Daulton, Chili Davis, and some of their pitchers all belong in the minor leagues.

This team is so bad that vendors will be selling hotdogs "to go" by the 6th inning. They showed me ways to lose I never knew existed. They are like a man swimming in the ocean with a cut on his arm . . . sooner or later the sharks are gonna get him."

After receiving word of what Casey had said, Madhatter owner and manager, David Caddell, said, "I have never been wrong in drafting a player, I can't help it if they forget everything I preach. Besides that old man is only known for striking out in big games."



## TOP TEN LIST

Jose Canseco's Most Frequently Used Excuses For Failing To Make The Catch.

Drum Roll, please . . .

10. I was having a V-8.
9. The sun reflected off the bald guy in the third row and blinded me.
8. Umpires would not let me use the bullpen cart.
7. Fumes from the outfield grass make me dizzy.
6. My feelings were hurt by the jeers of so-called "fans".
5. I was having a Maalox moment.
4. The San Diego Chicken flashed me it's breast. Their big enough to feed a small village.
3. It's Miller time !
2. I've fallen and can't get up.
1. Voodoo Love.

If that was not bad enough, how about . . .

What do you get when you cross a Madhatter with a Dead Head?

A ballplayer wearing a tie-dyed t-shirt smoking artificial grass who thinks he is the reincarnation of Ralph Cramden.

A bit of baseball trivia - Who is the only player ever to hit two grand slams in one game?

Answer: Jim Gentile, 1961, for Baltimore vs. the L.A. Angels.

## Casey At The Bat

... Oh! Somewhere in this favored land the sun shines bright,  
the band is playing somewhere, and somewhere hearts are light;  
and somewhere men are laughing, and somewhere children shout,  
but there is no joy in Mudville: Mighty Casey has struck out.

Ernest Lawrence Thayer

The Boys of Strat

Oh! Somewhere in the League of Strat  
on any given night,  
men are little boys once more,  
hopes are high,  
eyes are shining bright.

Somewhere a phone is ringing,  
a trade is in the making,  
and with some friendly persuasion,  
the guy is for the taking.

For someone there'll be no sleep,  
no form of respite from his plight •  
because of the deal that got away,  
there'll be no rest tonight . . .

His fate, like the dice, has been cast.

Gayle Caddell

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