

BRASSBALL: News and Notes

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DRAFT COMPLETE--SEASON DRAWS NEARER!!

As the clock struck 10PM on the evening of February 10th, just about the time the draft was concluding, all I could think was, why did Bud Black last until pick #290!?! Well, not really. Needless to say, it was a long, but enjoyable day. I thank you all for helping to make it run as smoothly as possible. Thanks to Colby for all his help as well. Time to get those road instructions and April rotations together.

All players who were drafted have been signed to contracts. Enclosed with this newsletter you will find up-to-the-minute rosters, including all trades made in February. Also included in this newsletter is a rundown of all players signed to major league deals, as well as a pick by pick draft report.

NEW OWNERS

Scott Adams joins Rick Matson in rounding out the two vacancies we had in the AL West. Scott comes to us highly recommended by Rob Workman. His team will be known as the Midwest Storm, and the club will play in New Comiskey Park.

Also joining us is Brendan Conrad. Brendan takes over the Tolar Rattler franchise. The team has been re-named the Canyon County Cannons. Because Canyon County has not yet finished its new stadium, the Cannons will play the '96 season in the old Tolar park. However, the Cannons will begin play in their shiny new ballpark in 1997. (Jim Klugh has had a death in the family, and quite naturally his heart was not in playing this year. We will miss Jim. However, I am confident that Brendan, recommended by Brian Budzyn, will be a quality addition to the league.) Welcome to both of you!

LET'S CLEAR THIS UP ONCE AND FOR ALL

There was some confusion during the draft in regards to the ramifications of selecting a player from another squad who was not protected on the original team's 30-man list. That goes for me as well. Here is how things will go. Any player selected off another team, who was on a minor-league contract, need not be kept on the new team's 25 man roster during the season. Any player who was on a major league contract, whether the player has a card or not, must be kept on the new team's 25-man roster the entire year, or offered back to his original team for \$25,000, as is stated in the Constitution.

I cannot recall the motivation for placing this particular rule in the Constitution. (page 6, Section II, letter o.) I guess it was to simulate as close as possible the Rule V draft in MLB. However, the true purpose of the 30-man protected list was to prevent hoarding of talent by any one team. Forcing a team to keep a player taken off another team on its 25 man roster all year will not promote the selecting of players off deeper teams. Therefore, beginning next year, a team selecting a player from another team must only reimburse that team for the remaining money on the contract, plus \$50,000.

The reason I am allowing players on minor league deals to be kept by their new teams without forcing them to remain on the 25 man roster is, quite simply, I goofed. When asked by several people during the draft about this topic, I advised them that minor leaguers did not need to be activated. I cannot in good faith change directions now. My apologies to any team who lost a minor leaguer because of this. You have my permission to make up a Kevin voodoo doll and stick it with pins. But, quite frankly, I do not see many of you being that upset. After all, if the player you lost was that vital to your team, you would have protected him.

More importantly, I urge all of you to analyze the draft list, as well as your updated rosters. Some of you may have lost players whom you neither protected, nor informed me you were calling back. Remember, you had to utilize a draft pick to recall an unprotected player. If you did not, I assumed you no longer wanted that player. Those of you who stopped drafting early may have lost a player you did not know about. I do not want two teams thinking they own the same player. Any questions should be brought to my attention as

soon as possible. The following list is my interpretation of players who were taken off their original teams, along with the team which drafted them. I may have missed one or two, sooo please double check your rosters and draft list, to see if you lost someone.

<u>Player</u>	<u>Taken from</u>	<u>By</u>
Sanford	Charlevoix	Arlington
Bowen	S.Barbara	Naptown
Sabo	Charlevoix	Naptown
C.Hernandez	Bloomington	Crown Point
Strange	Bloomington	Tolar
Donnels	Charlevoix	Hessville
Amaral	Emerald City	Hessville
Schullstrom	Tolar	Motor City
Fermin	S.Barbara	Motor City
Spiers	Emerald City	Midwest Storm
P.Clark	Tolar	Motor City

(MO)/(MA) DISTINCTION

As most of you know, a (MO) contract signifies a player who has never had a major league contract, and is currently in the minors. A (MA) contract goes to a player who has completed his first major league deal, and **then** is signed to a minor league deal. Both types of players are complete property of their team, and may be signed to a major league deal of any duration at any time. Many of you had expressed confusion on why a player who goes through free agency, receives no bids, and is re-signed by the original team to a (MA) contract is eligible for free agency the next year. I agree. If a player gets no offers in free agency, and his original team wants to put out the money to keep him in the minors, it is only fair that the player remain that team's property if and when the player rewards the team by coming back with a solid year in the future. Therefore, Section IV, letter p on page 9 of the Constitution is no longer applicable as regards the aforementioned subject. I will send out a one-page amendment to the Constitution, including our recent rule changes, in next month's newsletter.

TRADES

52. Socal trades Gilkey, Chris Jones, and Wehner to Richmond for Jefferies, Jason Bates, Stynes, Jack Howell, and Luis Ortiz.
53. Naptown trades Carlos Perez, Cuyler, and 1 million to Richmond for Rickey Henderson and Art Rhodes.
54. Naptown trades Mike Kingery to Nome for Orsulak and Geronimo Pena.
55. Nome trades J. Leiber, Eric Anthony, Petagine, and Mariano Rivera to South Bend for Curt Schilling, Eddie Murray, Scott Radinsky, and Joe Grahe.
56. Motor City purchased Pagliarulo from Long Island for \$150,000.
57. Long Island traded Shipley to Chicago for Chicago's #6 in '97.

TRADE WIRE

Cook County says...Looking for a utility infielder to back up at SS/3B. If you have excess in this area, even if it is only 100 or so plate appearances, let's talk!! Maybe we can help each other.

Naptown says....Need a lead-off hitter versus LHP. Only need a few ABs. Offering Joe Orsulak or cash.

Long Island says....Looking for some decent pitching, about 50-100 innings, and PA's at catcher.

Bloomington says....Jeff Nelson is available for the right price. Limitless are the possibilities--pick(s), player(s), cash, or a combination of things. I'd also be interested in discussing a potential upgrade at a position (ie:Nelson and Gil for a better SS or Nelson and Becker for a better CF, or Nelson and Sierra for a better RF or Nelson and Higginson for a better LF,) etc.

Richmond says...Have extra quality innings available in Pedro Astacio and Mike Maddux. Looking for a fair deal. Will accept picks, minor/amateur players, or an outfielder.

CUTS

Long Island cuts Omar Oliveras.
South Bend cuts Jose Silva.
Hessville cuts Rod Henderson and Brian Sackinsky.
East Indy cuts Marcos Armas, R. Butler, Hiatt, Mike Gardiner, Fajardo, and Chris Turner.
Box City cuts Finvold, Ben Rivera, T. McGriff, Merriman, Dalesandro, Jose DeJesus, and Bournigal.
Cook County cuts Manny Lee and Jim Gott.
Midwest Storm cuts Nigel Wilson.
Motor City cuts Booty, Pat Watkins.
Nashville cuts Micah Franklin.

LEAGUE JOBS

Thanks to Lenny, fresh off his free agency conductor experience, for volunteering to handle the AL reporter duties this year. Also to Al Telgenhof, who volunteered to handle the free agency process next year.

I still need an AL Statistician!!! It sure would suck if there were no stats in the AL this year, wouldn't it? I sure wouldn't mind if one of you guys volunteered.

DUES

I received 7 or 8 checks for the additional \$7.50 (to cover last years shortage) requested last month. Thanks for the quick response. I'll count on the rest of you to get me yours in the coming weeks. (Brendan and Scott--get me your dues as soon as you are able--thanks)

FINES

Nashville, East Indy, and Racine are fined 250,000 for late postmark on contracts to 1996 draftees.

BANK ACCOUNTS

1. Midwest Storm	\$38,609,721	13. E. Indy	\$20,765,666
2. South Bend	\$35,792,054	14. Minnesota	\$20,044,000
3. Bloomington	\$35,331,333	15. Nome	\$19,860,445
4. Motor City	\$32,311,344	16. Hessville	\$17,258,000
5. Cook Co.	\$30,915,666	17. Arlington	\$17,196,334
6. St. Lucie	\$30,300,000	18. Charlevoix	\$15,827,333
7. Box City	\$26,661,113	19. Richmond	\$ 9,506,666
8. Naptown	\$24,490,053	20. Long Isl.	\$ 7,912,778
9. Canyon Co.	\$23,775,000	21. Racine	\$ 7,252,000
10. Nashville	\$23,502,777	22. S. Barbara	\$ 2,992,667
11. Emerald City	\$22,464,333	23. Wauwatosa	\$ 1,750,000
12. Social	\$20,977,889	24. Crown Point	\$ 166,467

UPCOMING DEADLINES

March 20: April rotations, trade report, trade wires, newsletter articles, road instructions due out

That's all for now!! Talk to ya around opening day!!

KK

Round #8	Round #10																			
200 Team X-Matt Stairs	248 Team X-Andy Allanson																			
201 South Bend-Les Norman	249 South Bend-PASS																			
202 Bloomington-Scott Fletcher	250 Bloomington-PASS																			
203 Santa Barbara-Ed Vosberg	251 Santa Barbara-PASS																			
204 Cook Co-Jeff McCurry	252 Cook County-Steve Cox																			
205 Nome-Brent Cookson	253 Nome-Bryan Eversgerd																			
206 Emerald City-Bob Natal	254 Emerald City-PASS																			
207 Minnesota-Eric Helfand	255 Minnesota-PASS																			
208 Motor City-Eric Schuistrom	256 Motor City-Buddy Groom																			
209 Crown Point-Franklin Stubbs	257 Crown Point-Ron Rightnowar																			
210 Richmond-PASS	258 Richmond-PASS																			
211 Racine-Tony McKnight	259 Racine-PASS																			
212 Tolar-Milt Thompson	260 Tolar-Steve Howe																			
213 Wauwatosa-PASS	261 Wauwatosa-PASS																			
214 St Lucie-PASS	262 St Lucie-PASS																			
215 Naptown-Ron Villone	263 Naptown-Pat Gomez																			
216 Nashville-Pete Incviglia	264 Nashville-Greg Hansell																			
217 E Indy-Robin Jennings	265 E Indy-Jim Converse																			
218 Arlington-Jeff Huson	266 Arlington-Adam Riggs																			
219 Social-Henry Mercedes	267 Social-Kevin Elster																			
220 Hessville-Bobby Estalilla	268 Hessville-PASS																			
221 Charlevoix-Rick Helling	269 Charlevoix-PASS																			
222 Long Island-PASS	270 Long Island-PASS																			
223 Box City-Steve Rodriguez	271 Box City-Curbs Pride																			
Round #9	Round #11	Round 12	Round 13	Round 14	Round 15	16	17	18	19	20										
224 Team X-Bill Spiers (EmCity)	272 Team X-PASS																			
225 South Bend-Brian Hunter	273 South Bend-PASS																			
226 Bloomington-PASS	274 Bloomington-PASS																			
227 Santa Barbara-PASS	275 S Barbara-PASS																			
228 Cook County-Scott Sanderson	276 Cook Co-PASS																			
229 Nome-Kevin Roberson	277 Nome-PASS																			
230 Emerald City-Eric Owens	278 E City-PASS																			
231 Minnesota-PASS	279 Minnesota-PASS																			
232 Motor City-Wayne Kirby	280 Motor City-Dave Righetti	Dennie Cook	Bryan Hickerson	Danny Cox	Terry Burrows	Winfield	P.Clark	Beltre	Fermin	Caraballo										
233 Crown Point-Carlos Hernandez	281 Crown Point-Mark Lee	Chris Gwynn	Jorge Bnto	Rudy Seanez																
234 Richmond-PASS	282 Richmond-PASS																			
235 Racine-PASS	283 Racine-PASS																			
236 Tolar-Dave Martinez	284 Tolar-Doug Strange	Richie Sexton	Angel Echevarria	Russ Mormon																
237 Wauwatosa-PASS	285 Wauwatosa-PASS																			
238 St Lucie-PASS	286 St Lucie-PASS																			
239 Naptown-Rick Otero	287 Naptown-Nerfi Perez	Ozzie Smith	PASS																	
240 Nashville-Ed Giovanola	288 Nashville-PASS																			
241 E Indy-Kevin Mitchell	289 E Indy-Troy Neel	Jeff Tabaka	Felix Jose	Ryan Thompson																
242 Arlington-Joe Ausanio	290 Arlington-Bud Black	Darnell Coles	Bob McDonald																	
243 Social-Larry Casian	291 Social-Ruben Amaro	Craig Worthingtn	Dave Leiper	Brian Harper																
244 Hessville-Chris Donnells (CHAR)	292 Hessville-PASS																			
245 Charlevoix-Kevin Maas	293 Charlevoix-PASS																			
246 Long Island-PASS	294 Long Island-PASS																			
247 Box City-Joe Kmak	295 Box City-Everett Stull																			