



League News *January 2003*

www.brassball.org

Cure for the Winter Doldrums

Ah, the winter off-season. Always quiet. Like usual I am patiently awaiting the check in of pitchers and catchers. Unfortunately for me my Brewers offer little consolation. If only they would totally tear the thing down, ala the Twins. At least then I'd know I'd be able to go watch youngsters striving to become future Brewers. Right now I find myself loathing the inevitable yearly parade of have been's and never will be's. Sigh. But as the title above suggests I have found momentary relief from being a Brewer fan ☺ It comes in the form of the startup draft for BRASSWORLD. I must say the members assembled so far seem to be the conscientious and competitive equals of their BRASSball and BRASS brethren. For curiosity's sake I include the first round of picks:

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|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Alex Rodriguez | 9. Jim Thome | 17. Joel Pineiro |
| 2. Albert Pujols | 10. Vladimir Guerrero | 18. Lance Berkman |
| 3. Pedro Martinez | 11. Eric Chavez | 19. Carlos Beltran |
| 4. Ichiro | 12. Todd Helton | 20. Jason Giambi |
| 5. Roy Oswalt | 13. Barry Zito | 21. Manny Ramirez |
| 6. Miguel Tejada | 14. Nomar Garciaparra | 22. Brian Giles |
| 7. Mark Prior | 15. Alfonso Soriano | 23. Curt Schilling |
| 8. Barry Bonds | 16. Derek Jeter | 24. Andruw Jones |

I would need Vaughn to confirm, but I suspect Barry Bonds may hold the distinction of being a first round pick in the startup drafts of all three BRASS leagues.

For those more curious about how things are progressing in BRASSWORLD feel free to check out www.brassworld.org.

Draft Day

A big reminder here: the annual draft is set for Saturday, March 1st. On or before February 25th you need to have your 30 man protected lists to our draft conductor, Paul Weltz. Feel free to CC Corey or I as a backup but make sure that Paul receives your protected list. A few other reminders related to the draft: AM's do not count against the 30 man limit, if you wish to retain players you left unprotected you need to draft them back, at the draft's conclusion you are allowed a limit of 40 non-AM players and

finally a trade freeze goes into effect on the 25th when Paul has all the lists. Please get the necessary info to Paul in a timely manner so he can get the lists turned around to us as quickly as possible.

Mark your calendars!

2003 Schedule

Included in the ZIP archive you will find the 2003 League Schedule. Our reigning champs from the beautiful Quad Cities, Moline, will kick off their defense against a familiar foe: the 2002 runners-up from Ocala. An all the more interesting series for Ocala fans in April will be the invasion from the North that comes in the yearly form of the rival Mudcats. Perennial AL contenders, Cook County, will kick off the season versus the defending NL East champion Glen Allen. Free Agency's surprise team, Springfield, will entertain the three-time BRASSball champs from Box City to start the season. The tough NL Central teams will spend their first month playing against the jumbled AL West. As of now the AL West could see a new champ with all the activity emanating from Toledo. The Stanley Sioux still look good in the Central though.

Always a highlight is the BRASSball All Star game. The honor for hosting this year's event falls to Paul and his Stanley Sioux. Paul and his Sioux have been fine BRASSball members and are quite deserved of this honor. TeePee Tomb should be filled to the brim with excitement as the potential looms for a large Sioux representation on the NL squad.

Ballpark Changes

If you consult Corey's roster file you will see he has a section on your Team chart entitled "Ballpark Changes Allowed." If this box reads "YES" you are allowed to change your park in any fashion you wish for the \$500,000 fee. All changes need to be submitted by March 15th for the first league roster file, but please submit your changes earlier if possible.

Trades and Roster Stuff

39. Stanley trades Moises Alou and Ryan Drese to Toledo for Jose Valentin, Jose Macias, Toledo's 2003 4th round draft pick and \$400,000.
40. Stanley trades Joe Girardi, Wendell Magee, John Valentin, Brian Moehler and \$600,000 to Hessville for two bags of Sam's premium honey-roasted peanuts.
41. Hessville trades Jose Vidro to Metropolis for Dennis Tankersley, Rafael Soriano, Jose Ortiz, Brooklyn's 2003 1st round draft choice and \$200,000.
42. Toledo trades Einar Diaz, Brandon Berger, Calvin Maduro, Adrian Brown, Jose Cabrera, Mike Mathews and \$500,000 to Moline for Moline's 2003 5th round draft choice.
43. Plaza trades Angel Echevarria to Cook County for \$50,000.
44. Brooklyn trades James Baldwin to Charlevoix for Charlevoix's 2003 5th round draft choice.

Amateur Cuts

Metropolis - Released Ben Christensen and Denny Bautista.

Plaza - Released Ryan Anderson, Ryan Christiansen and Nate McLouth.

Springfield - Released Luis Montanez.

Guest Authors

Upcoming League Deadlines

February 25th Deadline to submit 30 man protected lists to Paul Wertz, Draft Conductor.

February 25th Trade freeze goes into effect

February 25th Deadline for submitting articles for the next issue

March 1st DRAFT DAY 2003!

Next Issue of “League News”

Probably won't be a whirlwind of news next month either, but I'll dust off the BRASSball history book and look back at Draft 1998. Till then...enjoy your draft preparation.



Champion David Barber (left) receives his trophy from some huge doofus ☺

Articles

None ☹