

## FROM THE BULLPEN

No. 1

04/14/86

### OWNERS AND MANAGERS:

Welcome to the 1986 Season, baseball enthusiasts! Enclosed you will find for your edification and enjoyment the following materials:

1. 1986 Draft - Order of Selection;
2. 1986 Team Rosters;
3. 1985 League Totals;
4. 1986 short-form results through games of Sunday, April 13, 1986.

A summary of our revised scoring system and related information will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. The first official score tabulation should be coming out towards the 1st of May, subject to available data.

By popular demand, it looks like the official Owner/Manager Retreat to Kansas City this summer will be the weekend of August 15-17, to view the Royals' trouncing of the accursed Yankees. However, another possible hiatus might be taken on the weekend of July 11-13, to witness a Royal slaughtering of the hapless Tigers. "Possum" Bridges and the undersigned are also testing the waters for the BoSox's visit to Kansas City on April 26-27.

In case you were wondering about a couple of new nicknames that have surfaced on the enclosed team rosters, the underpinnings for these monikers are as follows:

"Possum" Bridges: This sobriquet was selected because of Edson's dogged defense of his selection of Gary ("I'm 32 and fading") Carter over Don "The Bat" Mattingly. That's "possum" as in "treed possum."

"Rookie" Hurlbut: Mike Heath, 8th round pick. Enough said?

And now, what you've all been waiting for, this writer's comments about the outcome of the 1986 draft, provided to you without charge:

### CARDINALS

Good job of picking by Craig, even though his boys are off to a slow start. This squad will be in the thick of things come September.

Best Pick: Keith Hernandez, 4th round. He's out to redeem himself for his prior indiscretion with drug use.

Weakest Pick: Carlton Fisk, 13th round. Coming off the year of his life, and no longer a catcher.

Team Strength: Infield, relief pitching.

Team Weakness: Outfielders.

Team Advantage: Was picked while Scott was out of town.

Predicted Order of Finish: Second.

### TIGERS

Big Guy has once again proved that fans who follow Detroit teams are destined for Motor City mediocrity. What possible basis could he have for picking Chet "The Jet" Lemon other than that he is a Tiger.

Best Pick: The Doctor (Dwight Gooden). One of his few redeeming draft selections.

Weakest Pick: Willie McGee, 4th round. There's no better move than picking a guy coming off his career year.

Team Strength: Starting pitching.

Team Weakness: Outfielders.

Team Advantage: The Big Guy is due.

Predicted Order of Finish: Third.

### ROYALS

Once again, the undersigned has selected a squad that will surely vie for the championship. Make those checks out to David D. Ernst, boys.

Best Pick: Hard to pick just one from this stellar bunch, but probably Jack Clark, 6th round.

Worst Pick: Ron Hassey. I seem to have forgotten about the existence of Butch Wynegar.

Team Strength: Infield, relief pitching.

Team Weakness: Starting pitching. Once again I have assembled a questionable staff.

Team Advantage: Owner/Manager is a shrewd dealer, who will once again likely fleece another owner/manager in a late-season swap.

Predicted Order of Finish: At the top.

### CUBS

This year's draft should prove conclusively that even a blind pig stumbles upon an acorn once in a while. Last year's squad was Chuck's acorn. He will go hungry this fall.

Best Pick: Fernando Valenzuela, 5th round.

Worst Pick: Tie - Jose Cruz and Andre Dawson, 12th and 13th rounds, respectively. Two more "coma" selections from Chuck.

Team Strength: Eddie Murray, Ryne Sandburg, Rickie Henderson.

Team Weakness: Remainder of roster.

Team Advantage: Pure luck of the owner/manager.

Predicted Order of Finish: Dead last.

### RED SOX

At first blush, Ted has picked a weak team. Since he has been trying to initiate trades since the conclusion of the second round of the draft, he obviously is not a happy buckeroo. However, through the first week of play, his hitters are flourishing. Time should alter that markedly.

Best Pick: George Bell, 6th round.

Worst Pick: Gary Carter, 1st round (instead of you-know-who).

Team Strength: Outfield.

Team Weakness: Third base, starting pitchers.

Team Advantage: Possum's supplemental draft savvy.

Predicted Order of Finish: Fourth.

### BRAVES

Bob has selected a good nucleus for a first year owner/ manager, thanks in part to Ted. However, talent falls off rapidly after the first few. Apparently, the drugs began taking effect after the 7th round, with an intermittent spurt during the 4th round.

Best Pick: Danny Tartabull. A true "sleeper" pick.

Worst Pick: With little question, Mike Heath.

Team Strength: Outfield, first base.

Team Weaknesses: Catcher, shortstop, starting pitching.

Team Advantage: Manager is a quick study.

Predicted Order of Finish: Fifth.

### RESULTS FROM FIRST WEEK

	<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>RBI</u>	<u>Avg.</u>	<u>GW</u>	<u>E</u>
Cards	324	43	78	33	.2407	4	11
Tigers	335	27	81	32	.2418	4	8
Royals	317	47	88	37	.2776	6	6
Cubs	320	33	71	30	.2219	2	2
Red Sox	343	46	102	47	.2974	5	12
Braves	319	44	88	42	.2759	7	2

### NOTABLES

- Through five games, Bob Horner's line score looks like this: 14 0 0 0.
- Dave Parker has 12 runs/RBI's.
- Darryl Strawberry has yet to drive in a run.

- Tony Armas is RBI-less.
- Since going 4-for-5 on opening day, Harold Baines' line score is 15 0 0 0.
- Sure-handed Billie Buck has managed 3 errors thus far.
- Chet-the-Jet is 2-for-18 with no runs or RBI's.
- Willie McGee is 2-for-22.
- Lance Parrish's line score is 21 0 2 0.
- Tim Raines' line score is 20 0 2 0.
- Johnnie Ray has 8 RBI's and 2 game-winners.
- George Brett has 3 taters.
- Ron Hassey has batted 4 times.
- Ernie Riles has 2 game-winners.
- Willie Wilson is a sparkling 3-for-25.
- Jose Cruz has yet to play.
- Andre Dawson is just too damn old, Chuck.
- In 23 at-bats, Eddie Murray has not driven in a run.
- Tony Pena has neither scored nor driven in a run.
- Ted's starting third baseman, Buddy Bell, is 1-for-18 with no runs or RBI's.
- Hubie Brooks and Mike Scioscia have 3 errors each.
- Gary Carter has 7 RBI's.
- Wade Boggs is 10-for-27.
- Dannie Tartabull has 13 runs/RBI's.
- The line score for Bob's crackerjack catching tandem is as follows:

Heath 15 1 1 0      Whitt 5 0 0 0

### BIG DAYS AT THE PLATE

	<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>RBI</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
04/08/86 - Jim Presley (Cards)	4	2	3	6	41
04/11/86 - Gary Carter (Red Sox)	5	3	3	5	43

### WEAK EFFORTS WITH THE STICK

		<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>RBI</u>
04/11/86 - Keith Hernandez (Cards)	7	0	0	0	(w/1 E)
04/11/86 - Darryl Strawberry (Cards)	6	0	0	0	

### BIG DAYS ON THE MOUND

	<u>IP</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>ER</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>SO</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
04/07/86 - F. Valenzuela (Cubs)	9	10	1	1	1	9	37
04/08/86 - John Tudor (Cards)	9	5	1	1	1	1	35½
04/08/86 - Rick Mahler (Red Sox)	9	5	0	0	2	1	47

### RAG ARMS OF THE WEEK

	<u>IP</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>ER</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>SO</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
04/10/86 - Jimmy Key (Braves) -9-5/6	1/3	5	5	5	5	0	0
04/11/86 - Joe Hesketh (Braves) -11-2/3	2-2/3	5	5	5	5	1	2
04/09/86 - J. Candelaria	2	6	4	4	4	1	0

-5-1/2

(Braves)

04/13/86 - Rick Sutcliffe

4

7

5

5

5

1

-12-1/2

(Tigers)

### BEST DAYS AS A TEAM - BATTING

Opening Day - Braves Avg. .454

04/10/86 - Red Sox 29 Runs/RBI's

### WORST DAYS AT THE PLATE - TEAM

	<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>RBI</u>	<u>AVERAGE</u>
04/08/86 - Cubs	30	2	3	0	.100
04/08/86 - Braves	39	4	5	0	.128
04/09/86 - Tigers	34	1	6	3	.176

And thus ends the first "From the Bullpen" newsletter from your humble scribe. Your comments and suggestions for future newsletters are most welcome.

Yours very truly,

David D. Ernst

P.S. Suggestions for a name for our league are being taken.