

FROM THE BULLPEN

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Hot Stove League
Eastern Nebraska Division
1988 Season

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Dear League Owners/Managers:

The biggest day of the year for the Hot Stove League is fast approaching. I hope all of you have been doing your homework. We will soon find out which of you will be blurting out a "Mike Heath" or a "Willie Wilson" in the sixth round this year.

The draft is set to begin at 1:00 p.m. at the law offices of Gaines, Mullen, Pansing, Hogan & Cotton, 10050 Regency Circle (Regency One Building), Suite 200. Our building is located between the Marriott Hotel and the Regency Norwest Bank. Scooter has promised to furnish epicurean delights from one of his many McRunza franchises (no knapsacks allowed, Snickler), and liquid refreshments will no doubt also be available.

Also on the agenda for draft day is golfing at Miracle Hills. We presently have two tee-off times for four persons each, beginning at 8:30 a.m. and 8:36 a.m. Please let me know immediately if you will not be available to golf on Saturday morning.

The first Hot Stove League Spring Training Exodus to Parts South was a staggering success. While most of you limp-wristed namby-pambies were wearing out your hackneyed excuses for not joining the southern swing (read: spousal prohibition), Jigger, Underbelly and the Skipper were terrorizing the Arizona snowbirds in our fabulous Crown Vic, swapping spellbinding tales of baseball lore with the cognoscenti of America's favorite sport, and fostering goodwill for the Eastern Division of the Hot Stove League. The 89° weather and 33° beer were tough to take, but as your chosen delegation, we were happy to suffer through it for the good of the league.

Naturally, we would like to share with our baseball brethren some of the hot tips we picked up while down under (however, no warranty is made as to the accuracy of these tips):

-The Hawk is looking good, poised for another big season.

-Strawboo has a new rap hit out.

- Jody Davis has lost a step.
- Bob Brenly only looks like he's 66 years old.
- Jeffrey "Institutional Face" Leonard has found inner peace with his Walkman stereo.
- Carney Lansford has as much pop in his bat as ever.
- Bob Welch is back on the bottle again.
- Dave Parker has been seen snorting up the chalk lines.
- Walt Weiss (SS - Oakland A's) may be the next Jose Uribe.
- Jose Uribe may be the next Shawon Dunston.
- Rick Honeycutt could win 20 games this year.
- Mike Aldrete might be the next Dan Pasqua.
- Candy Maldonado looks poised for another injury-prone year.
- Bob Melvin should go back to the Blue Notes.
- Atlee Hammaker is losing his battle with AIDS.
- Edgar Martinez (OF - Seattle) could be this year's Mark McGwire.
- Jim Presley looks ready for another season of 4-0-0-0 box scores.
- Look out for Rolando Roomes (OF - Cubs).
- Leon "the Peon" Durham appears certain to break out of that 8 year slump.
- Just for you, Chuck, the Goose hasn't lost a thing -- grab him early.

Of course, there are a few other dandy little tidbits that we simply are not willing to share with you leeches, but these will be disclosed after the draft.

Enclosed for your reading pleasure is a little article on another rotissary league trip to Phoenix, which closely paralleled our own experience, and a few photographs from the First Annual Southern Swing.

For those of you golfing, I will see you at Miracle Hills prior to tee-off time, and the rest of you at 1:00 p.m. at our offices. In the meantime, I urge each of you to pray for ecclesiastical guidance in this

year's draft. Given the spate of information absorbed by the Skipper in Phoenix, there will be no denying him his first Hot Stove League crown.

Your fearless leader,

Skipper

P.S. Jigger has announced that he will be having a party on Friday night prior to the draft. Bad move, Jigger. You will need all of your brain cells on Saturday to compete with this cagey group. All of you are encouraged to attend.