

FROM THE BULLPEN

Official Publication of
The Hot Stove League
Eastern Nebraska Division
1991 Season

Edition No. 19
October 9, 1991

Freunde:

WHITESOT TAKES 4TH TITLE



Achtung!!! Herr Masterspieler has returned from his sojourn to the Fatherland¹, and after debugging the computer of its virus which was inadvertently contracted from his replacement flunky², we now have final statistics for the 1991 Hot Stove League season. The results are, in a word, ugly. With only the post-season awards to be added in, the nefarious WhiteSot is a **mortal lock** to capture his fourth League crown. Alas and alack, woe is us. Just take a look:

Tigers	14109
Reds	14065
Cubs	13630
Pirates	13002
Red Sox	12976
Blues	12922
Chiefs	12608
Tribe	12592

¹Spiderbelly simply loved The Sound of Music tour.

²The truly Silent Assassin.

From the Bullpen

Edition No. 19

October 1, 1991

Page 2

Senators	12414
Skipjacks	11925

In my mind, the only way the outcome could have been less palatable is if Possum and WhiteSot had tied for the crown, and if the Skipjacks had surged past the Senators for 9th place. There is some good news. Rumor has it that WhiteSot plans to follow tradition and devote the lion's share of his prize money for the good of the League and its members.

Of course, there are the post-season awards to think of. Unfortunately, it is highly unlikely that the awards will tip the balance in favor of the Reds, since it appears that Barry Bonds has the N.L. MVP sewed up. Even if the Reds pick up 150 points for Cal Ripken as the A.L. MVP, it will not be enough so long as Bonds picks up 150 points for the Tigers. But let's not forget about Terry Pendleton. After all, he brought the Braves back from worst to first. Hmmm. That settles it. My vote goes to Pendleton. Reds win.

Just for giggles, let's take a look at the top twenty-five hitters this year, and let's see how they did last year and where they were drafted:

			<u>This Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>Draft Position</u>	
1.	Paul Molitor	Cubs	1527	-	136	
2.	Rubin Sierra	Cubs	1512	1180	10	
3.	Frank Thomas	Red Sox	1466	-	87	
4.	Cal Ripken	Reds	1426	1173	3	
5.	Barry Bonds	Tigers	1418	1422	16	
6.	Jose Canseco	Chiefs	1411	1161	2	
7.	Cecil Fielder	Tigers	1403	1366	85	
8.	Rafael Palmeiro	Blues	1392	1207	118	
9.	Ryne Sandberg	Senators	1387	1386	1	
10.	Bobby Bonilla	Pirates	1350	1401	5	
11.	Julio Franco	Reds	1326	1186	23	
12.	Ron Gant	Tigers	1312	1283	65	
13.	Will Clark	Reds	1311	1259	4	(Red Sox)
14.	Joe Carter	Blues	1309	1228	18	
15.	Devon White	Reds	1307	742	253	
16.	Brett Butler	Tribe	1290	1295	39	
17.	Kirby Puckett	Mudhens	1289	1186	17	
18.	Ken Griffey, Jr.	Blues	1285	1239	8	
19.	Howard Johnson	Tigers	1267	1118	26	
20.	Roberto Alomar	Tribe	1245	1045	49	
21.	Robin Ventura	Cubs	1242	744	168	(Reds)
22.	Chili Davis	Red Sox	1235	837	143	(Reds)

23.	Tim Raines	Reds	1230	992	33
24.	Chris Sabo	Mudhens	1211	1136	74
25.	Fred McGriff	Tribe	1205	1225	29

Now let's take a look at the top twenty-five pitchers:

1.	Roger Clemens	Tigers	694.1	726.6	6	
2.	Lee Smith	Senators	622.0	-	Supp.Dr.	
3.	Tom Glavine	Senators	613.2	226.1	231	
4.	Brian Harvey	Red Sox	585.7	-	224	
5.	Jack McDowell	Reds	584.7	-	115	(Pirates)
6.	Dennis Eckersley	Reds	570.0	650.6	103	
7.	Dennis Martinez	Tigers	549.0	416.0	91	(Cubs)
8.	Mark Langston	Reds	542.1	261.0	77	(RedSox)
9.	Rick Aguilera	Blues	532.5	457.1	193	
10.	Jim Abbott	Blues	522.5	-	263	
11.	Scott Erickson	Blues	517.0	-	Supp.Dr.	
12.	Jose Rijo	Tigers	510.6	468.5	75	
13.	John Smiley	Red Sox	507.7	180.1	124	
14.	Greg Maddux	Red Sox	506.0	410.5	44	
15.	Jack Morris	Tribe	504.7	-	162	
16.	Kevin Tapani	Mudhens	487.0	296.6	200	(Senators)
17.	Jeff Montgomery	Red Sox	487.0	-	Supp.Dr.	
18.	Mike Morgan	Pirates	481.6	307.0	Supp.Dr.	
19.	Ramone Martinez	Chiefs	481.1	656.1	32	
20.	Mike Moore	Tigers	480.0	218.1	185	
21.	Zane Smith	Tigers	478.5	-	126	
22.	Rob Dibble	Mudhens	470.6	481.0	164	
23.	Nolan Ryan	Pirates	469.5	480.5	86	
24.	David Cone	Reds	466.2	468.7	43	
25.	Bret Saberhagen	Tigers	463.6	184.5	55	

And now for some of my keen-witted observations:

It was a hitters' year. Last year, the top point-getter was Barry Bonds with 1422, followed by Bobby Bonilla with 1401. This year we had 7 players over 1400 points. Last year, there were only 6 players who had 1300 or more points. This year there are 15. Interestingly, last year there were 23 players with 1200 or more points, and this year there are only 25.

From the Bullpen

Edition No. 19

October 1, 1991

Page 4

1991 was a year of good, but not great, pitching. This year there were 15 pitchers who scored over 500 points for the year. Last year, there were 14. In 1989 there were 24.

The Tigers were pitching heavy, with six Tigers in the top 25 pitchers.

Shamu, under his own power, drafted the top two players in the League. Will wonders never cease?

The lowly Skipjacks' top player was Kirby Puckett, 17th overall with 1289 points. Last year, this would have put Kirby in the top 10 overall. The competition is getting tougher!

Let's look at some of last year's stars who did not crack the top 25 this year:

Skipper's List of Major Disappointments

	<u>Last Year's Rank</u>	<u>Last Year's Points</u>
Lenny Dykstra	5	1312
Eddie Murray	6	1303
Rickie Henderson	8	1294
Willie McGee	9	1293
Darryl Strawberry	11	1268
Kelly Gruber	12	1267
Ellis Burks (never-ever)	13	1266
George Brett	15	1252

That's all for now. More stats next week.

Skipper

R.I.P. Leo Durocher

(1905-1991)