



FROM THE BULLPEN

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The Hot Stove League
Eastern Nebraska Division
1993 Season

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CHIEFS HALFWAY HOME

Fully one-half of the 1993 Hot Stove League campaign is in the jar, and the feisty Chiefs maintain their steely grip on first place. Through the first half of the campaign, the standings are:

1.	Lincoln Chiefs	4511	_____)	
2.	Omaha Senators	4473	_____)	Tier I
3.	Sin City Reds	4358	_____)	
4.	Omaha Skipjacks	4350	_____)	Tier II
5.	Lincoln Colemans*	4250	_____)	
6.	Boston Red Sox	4134	_____)	
7.	Kansas City Blues	4036	_____)	Tier III
8.	Lincoln Cubs	4018	_____)	
9.	Omaha Redbirds	3884	_____)	
10.	Detroit Tigers	3801	_____)	Tier IV
11.	Omaha Bronx Bombers	3787	_____)	
12.	Transactions Suspended**	3428	_____)	Tierdrops

The above standings are through last Sunday, the halfway point of the season. However, from Sunday until the date that *F.T.B.* went to press, the overachieving Chiefs widened their lead on the field to 150 points, with the continued fantasy performances of

*Formerly known as the Lincoln Tribe.

**Formerly known as the Lincoln Pirates, now known in Bill James baseball parlance as "Transactions Suspended."

Rod Beck, Mike Piazza, Rick Wilkins, and others. Not unlike their pilot, the Chiefs cannot keep it up.***

SQUEEZE PLAY

If *F.T.B.* could afford a cartoonist for its staff, the September 1 issue would likely feature a caricature of B.T.'s mastodonic melon caught in the grip of a huge vise, symbolic of the agonizing squeeze that will be administered to the Chiefs' cocksure manager as his rambunctious squad begins running afoul of the B.J.F.B. point limitations for hitters. As an example, the Chiefs hitters presently are on a pace to hit 285 home runs. Unfortunately for B.T., he will stop accruing points for home runs after No. 210. Ditto for hitting points, where the Chiefs project to score 1447, with points ceasing to accrue after the 1300 limit. Ditto for doubles. Ditto for RBIs. Ditto for saves. Although B.T. seems to worry not about this little "future" problem, come September, the Chiefs may look like they are collectively moonwalking as the rest of the League sprints by. WhiteSot has likened the situation to Big Daddy Don Garlitz running a dragster in the Indy 500. While Big Daddy's sled might be leading the pack after the first lap, it only counts if you are in first place at the end. Consider yourself warned, B.T., and get to work on reshaping that team.

RED ALERT IN MAINE

Responding to several hysterical reports of sightings of a rowdy gang of red-haired, mesh-clad individuals hunched around a huge lobster pot, authorities in the state of Maine discovered 40 individuals fitting the reported description, dipping Copenhagen and eating furiously to fight off hypoglycemia. Upon further inquiry, the authorities determined the disturbance to be the Sinclair family enjoying another 4th of July holiday reunion in Maine. Not to worry, folks. A scary sight, but a friendly group.

NOTABLE QUOTES

- A baseball beat writer recently noted that Sparky Anderson engaged in a 20-minute soliloquy with his slumping Tigers, trying to spark a bit of life into his squad. The writer noted that this was "plenty of time for Sparky to do irreparable damage to the English language as we know it."
- "I ain't got no 'S' on my chest. I'm not Superbrother or nothing," -- remarks from the eloquent Kevin Mitchell, angry at manager Davey Johnson for having the temerity to put him in a game without first asking him if his sprained wrist felt better.

*** As demonstrated last night by Danny Jackson, as he gave up 15 hits and 11 runs in 4 innings, negating 24½ Chief points.

THE TRIP

It's just around the corner. Four weeks to be exact. Buckle up your chin straps, and get ready for the trip to end all trips.

POTPOURRI

League MVP of the Year:	Barry Bonds	412 points
Cy Young of the Year:	Randy Johnson	332 points
Who's Hot:	Greg Jefferies	48/108 (.444)
	Rick Wilkins	36/87 (.414)
Who's Not:	Moises Alou	.180
	Craig Biggio	.212

See ya.

Skipper