



# FROM THE BULLPEN

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The Hot Stove League  
Eastern Nebraska Division  
1994 Season

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*"His glove is where triples go to die."*

JOSEPH JACKSON ERNST

Ah, the legend of Shoeless Joe lives on! By now, all of you know that a future dominant owner of the Hot Stove League (circa 2030) was born on January 4, 1994. By my projections, Shoeless will be etching the Ernst name on the Cup for the 25th or 26th time in about 2030, after I allow him to take over the day-to-day management of the Senators. And, of course, Shamu's boy<sup>1</sup> will be bringing up the rear in 2030. I have some other projections about the future of the Hot Stove League, but these will be saved for a future issue of *From the Bullpen*.

Congratulations are in order to Rookie and his spouse, Patty, on the recent birth of Matthew James Buser, born January 28, 1994, 8 lbs. 1 oz. Good speed, okay glove. Rookie has indicated that Matthew will be setting the table for Shoeless. Nicely done.

## DRAFT DAY

As you all know, the holiest of all Hot Stove League calendar days, *Draft Day*, has been rescheduled from April 1 to *Saturday, March 26, 1994*. As usual, the HSL Draft will take place at the Gaines Mullen War Room, and will start promptly at 1:00 p.m. As is customary, B.T. will furnish us with sustenance both solid and liquid.

Please lock in March 26th on your calendar, and make whatever arrangements are necessary to be present at the 10th annual Hot Stove League Draft.

## THE TRIP

No, I'm not talking about Curby's most recent bellyflop on an icy corner at 16th and Farnam. I'm talking about this summer's annual sojourn to the Green Cathedrals.

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<sup>1</sup>Rusty Sinclair (Shamu and Jan are pregnant, for those of you who were not aware).

Believe me, Rookie and Possum are putting together -- in the immortal words of Hazel, that wacky TV maid -- **a doozy**. Mark indelibly your calendars for July 8-10, start kissing ass at home, and begin accumulating a secret slush fund to finance this **Trip of Trips**.

While all of the details are not yet available, our enthusiastic and hard-working trip-planning team has indicated that there is a very good possibility that we will be able to visit three epic American League ballparks over the course of this single weekend. Here's what they're shooting for:

DATE	BALLPARK	TEAMS
Friday, July 8, 1994	Fenway	Red Sox v. Mariners
Saturday, July 9, 1994	Yankee Stadium	Yankees v. Angels
Sunday, July 10, 1994	Camden Yards	Orioles v. A's

All I can say is, DAMN! Take out that third mortgage, hire the best divorce lawyer in town, do what you must, but whatever you do, don't miss the 1994 HSL East Coast Swing.

## FROM YOUR HISTORY DEPARTMENT

What better subject for this issue's section on baseball's heroes of yesteryear than the Shoeless one? Joseph Jefferson Jackson was born on July 16, 1889, in Pickens County, South Carolina. His major league debut was August 25, 1908, with the Philadelphia Athletics, where he played with such stars as Eddie Collins, Chief Bender, and Eddie Plank, and was coached by the immortal "Tall Tactician," Connie Mack. However, Shoeless was a washout in Philadelphia, and was traded to the Cleveland Indians, where he played from 1911 to 1915. In mid season 1915, he was traded to the Chicago White Sox, where he was implicated in the infamous Black Sox scandal to throw the 1919 World Series.

Was Shoeless Joe really on the take for the 1919 Series, won by the Cincinnati Reds 5 games to 3? Shoeless batted .375 for the eight-game series, leading both teams. In eight games, he scored 5 runs, knocked in 6, and struck out only twice. He played a sparkling left field, and committed no errors. You be the judge.

After his banishment from baseball, Shoeless owned a liquor store in Greenville, South Carolina, where he died on December 5, 1951. In 13 years, he rapped out 1772 hits, for a lifetime .356 average. Good for #3 on the All-time List. Not bad, Shoeless.

## 1994 CAMPAIGN

By now you have all received your materials for the 1994 season. If after reviewing these materials you have any questions concerning this year's format (which will be virtually identical to last year's), please make your inquiries known. In addition, if there are any potential conflicts with Draft Day, please immediately contact the Skipper.

See you on March 26th!

Skipper