



# FROM THE BULLPEN

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"Mamas, don't let your babies grow up to be Senators."

Because they stink. After many tearful sessions with a psychiatrist, I have finally come to grips with my '94 Senators team. They just stink. No, it's not my fault. I didn't really pick that bad a team. All you can do is draft your team, and the players are the ones that have to perform. Bad things happen to good people. I mustn't blame myself. It had to do with my childhood. I'm okay, I'm okay, I'm okay.

That's more like it. I feel much better. Now let's take a look at things around the League.

## TIGERS TAKE TUMBLE

Misery truly does love company. How satisfying it was to receive our stat pack for the 7th week, and see that the Tigers had a Senator-like Week from Hell. Buoyed by a sparkling (neg. 7) output from the crackerjack pitching staff, the Tigers totaled

136 points for the week. I truly thought that the Senators' 138-point output of a few weeks ago would be the HSL nadir in the '94 campaign. Of course, even with that laughable point total for the week, the Tigers remain perched comfortably above the cellar-dwelling Senators. Here's how things stand after seven weeks of the season:

### Week 7

1. Redbirds	2596
2. Chiefs	2384
3. Cubs	2309
4. Reds	2301
5. Red Sox	2256
6. Bronx Bombers	2244
7. Skipjacks	2133
8. Blues	2081
9. Tribe	1965
10. Pirates	1956
11. Tigers	1855
12. Senators	1731

It is apparent that the HSL East Division is not holding up its part of the bargain. It is noteworthy that after the front-running Redbirds, which still have a 200-point bulge over the pack, and the 2nd place Chiefs, the

next four teams are within 65 points of each other.

Here are the one-week totals for the 7th week:

1. Bronx Bombers	459
2. Red Sox	404
3. Skipjacks	385
4. Redbirds	385
5. Reds	358
6. Cubs	338
7. Chiefs	319
8. Pirates	308
9. Tribe	299
10. Senators	261
11. Blues	231
12. Tigers	136

The Bronx Bombers, not unlike the other Bronx Bombers, are red hot. 459 points for the week! It is notable that Mouse's hitters alone scored more points (284) for the week than the entire squads of three other teams. His hitters and pitchers each alone top the entire Tigers squad for the week.

Frank Thomas' stay at the top spot was short. Ken Griffey, Jr. has overtaken the lead for the MVP race with 264 points. The sizzling Greg Mad-

dux continues to lead the Cy Young race with 236 points.

Here are the top five hitters and pitchers through May 22:

#### HITTERS

1. Ken Griffey, Jr. (Chiefs)	264
2. Frank Thomas (Redbirds)	250
3. Albert Belle (Cubs)	234
4. Paul O'Neill (Red Sox)	228
5. Joe Carter (Redbirds)	222

#### PITCHERS

1. Greg Maddux (Blues)	236
2. David Cone (Red Sox)	189
3. Mike Mussina (Cubs)	186
4. Roger Clemens (Redbirds)	177
5. Lee Smith (Bronx Bombers)	175

### MY WEEKLY WHINE LIST

Lamentations, Chapter 7. Chris Hammond, finally ensconced in the Senators' lineup, throws two more innings of shutout ball, stretching his streak to 24 innings, and then leaves his second consecutive game with a sore back. Tim P-Ugh takes it on the chin again, putting together his second or third consecutive negative output. James Mouton, warranted by BTBT to be a budding superstar and certain full-time right fielder, is flirting with the Mendoza line and Riding Pine. Kent Mercker manages to put together another sparkling four innings of no-hit ball – for the Senators' top farm club.

But there was a recent glimmer of hope. There I was last weekend, far away in the magical hamlet of Iowa City, enjoying the beautiful city and weather and thinking very little about the hapless Senators, when I read the Sunday morning box scores and saw the huge night that Paul Molitor put together (5-3-4-4), the big night had by Robin Ventura, and the box score

from the previous evening's shutout by my own Pat Hentgen. For a very brief spell, for a few dizzying moments, there was a lifting of the rain clouds for the '94 Senators squad. Later that same day, still basking in the glory of the weekend's events, as my wife urged us to leave our hotel room for dinner, I demanded to catch at least the day's line scores, to see how my starting pitching triumvirate of Mark Langston, Juan Guzman and Tim Pugh fared. My newfound hopes were quickly dashed as I watched the scores flash across the screen. Toronto, 0-8; California, 0-4; Cincinnati, 3-10. Very, very nice.

The Senators' pitchers are not content to simply lose a game, give up a few hits, and walk away with one or two or three points. No, they seem to relish – perhaps deriving some sort of perverse pleasure – getting their asses kicked one or two starts out of three. There is no doubt that the Senators lead the galaxy in pitching performances resulting in at least negative 10 points. Ouch. Those really hurt.

### FOR THE RECORD

- Ken Griffey, Jr. now has 21 home runs in 43 games. He is on pace to shatter Roger Maris' mark.

- Joe Carter has 54 RBIs in 42 games. Hack Wilson, look out.

- Frank Thomas, at last look, had scored 49 runs in 41 games. This speed merchant is on pace to endanger the 200-run barrier. Wow.

### WEDDING BELL BLUES

U-belly has announced that he will be joined in wedded bliss on Saturday, October 8, 1994. More details to follow. More importantly, we are

planning a bachelor party junket to Atlanta for a Braves game during the weekend of September 10-11, 17-18, or 24-25, or perhaps all three weekends. Call the Skipper to make reservations for that sure-to-be-epic event.

See you next week.

Skipper