FROM THE BULLPEN

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2001 Season

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Brethren:

In spite of the fact that I am in the midst of a grueling, gut-wrenching, two-week, hand-to-hand combat medical malpractice trial, I would be abdicating my responsibility to the league and to each of you if I didn't take a moment to report that:

SENATORS LEAD LEAGUE!

Kings of Capitol Hill Now on Top of Hill

Just because I'm currently involved in a heated medical malpractice skirmish that would make former Senator Kerrey's days in the Mekong Delta seem like a day at the beach by comparison, doesn't mean that I'm not going to take a few minutes today to fulfill my duty as league scribe by getting out this short *Bullpen*. You thirst for knowledge and information, I know, and so I am here for you.

Let's begin with the league standings through four weeks of play:

Week 4 Standings

1.	Senators	1620
2.	Wahoos	1521
3.	Pirates	1439
4.	Cubs*	1386
5.	Tribe	1378
6.	Reds	1331
7.	Redbirds	1317
8.	Blues	1314
9.	Skipjacks	1225
10.	Tigers	1215
11.	Bombers	1138

12. Chiefs 949

The top hitter of the week is Carlos Delgado of the **Pirates** with 178 points, although it must be noted that 60 of these points are bonus jobbies because of his two turkeys. Without these, the **Senators**' own Manny Ramirez with 154 points would be the league's top point-getter through four.

The top pitcher in the league is Hideo Nomo of the **Cubs***, now with 140 points. Ditto on the bonus points with Hideo. But for Nomo's No-No, Wade Miller would be the top scoring pitcher in the league through Week Four.

The top hitting team at this point in the season is your **Omaha Senators** with 1100 points, more than the composite total of the **Chiefs** and darned close to the **Bronx Bombers**' total team output. A close second are the **Pirates** with 1050 hitting points. The most feeble of the hitting squads would be the **Chiefs**, who have been able to muster up the puny total of only 544 hitting points through four. With both Junior and Big Mac on the DL for now, it doesn't look like this situation will be improving anytime soon for our amigo B.T.

The top pitching team through four weeks is – no surprise here – the **Hanover Wahoos** with 566 points, followed by Tirebiter's team with 520 and the **Senators** with 519. On the flip side, the **Blues** have the lowest pitching total through four weeks with 364 points, just ahead of the anemic **Bronx Bombers** with 394.

Week 4 Point Totals

1.	Blues	529
2.	Senators	514
3.	Cubs*	375
4.	Redbirds	343
5.	Tigers	338

6.	Bombers	334
7.	Skipjacks	307
8.	Reds	304
9.	Tribe	302
10.	Pirates	86
11.	Wahoos	266
12.	Chiefs	254

Holy cow, the **Blues** had a whopping total of 529 points – I haven't checked the archives, but this has to be in the top two or three weekly totals of all time – and still are in 8th place? Go figure. And how could a team that I picked to finish dead-derriere last, and deservedly so, muster up 529 points for the week? Wish I had time to take a look and try to figure this one out.

I better close out this issue of *From the Bullpen* as I'm headed home for Will's debut as a baseball player. We'll see if he and Joe are soon to be the 21st century versions of Dizzy and Daffy Dean or Big Poison and Little Poison Waner. I'll keep you posted.

From the mountaintop, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Skipper