

From the Bullpen

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Hot Stove League



2006 Season

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Boys,

In case any of you hadn't noticed, we are now done with January and well into that month of the year which yields the most glorious of refrains

Pitchers and catchers report.

We are almost through another Nebraska winter, and soon to be enjoying a Heartland spring and all that comes with it, including the funnest day of the year, Draft Day. After enduring the usual Possum attempts to inject disorder and chaos into the scheduling process, we now have a concensus if not a mandate for Draft Day to take place on Saturday, March 25, 2006, beginning at 1 p.m. sharp. Be here, and be on time, or be prepared to suffer the consequences.

WINTER MEETING

We are also just a few short weeks away from our annual winter meeting, this year to take place at Tirebiter's rumpus room in his freshly remodeled basement. Once again, this year's event promises to be filled with food, frivolity, and other festivities, some of which must remain confidential at this time. However, in the event that you need any further enticement to attend this year's winter meeting, take a look at what others have been saying about it:

I hear Emeril's cooking up the eats, and promises thirds. Count me and my backpack in. -- Shamu

What better way to spend a Saturday night than paying homage to an insufferable five-time winner? I'd rather host a Tupperware party, but (sigh) count me in. -- Magpie

Where else can I get a 5X bowling shirt with a Skipjack logo on it? See you on the 25th! -- U-Bob

I can't stop talking about it. -- SloPay

I haven't been this excited since being picked to do the tango with Nathan Lane on "Dancing with the Stars." -- Mouse

Well, there you have it. Five endorsements that can't be understated. Be at Jim Ed's for the social event of the Hot Stove League winter season.

WHITE SOX WIN

Okay, so I'm a little bit late in reporting on the results of the 2005 World Series, but I'm sure that most of you caught the outcome in the newspaper. What you may not have known is that the Palehoses' victorious 2005 season was only the second time since 1917 that the White Sox had even been to the Fall Classic. The other, in 1959, featured Bill Veeck's Go-Go Sox in a 4 games to 2 loss to the Los Angeles Dodgers. And how many of you knew that this Series featured the longest-ever World Series game, a 14-inning, five hour and 41-minute Game 3 that ended in a 7-5 White Sox victory? And how many of you knew that a World Series game has never before ended with a walk, as Game 3 almost did in the bottom of the 9th? Now you do.

This indeed seemed to be a team of destiny, what with Scott Podsednik's first home run of the season happening in the World Series, and the spectacular ninth inning catch made by the Sox shortstop (Uribe) in the final game. When it's your time to win, it's your time to win.

Next issue: Update of individual all-time leaders in the Hot Stove League.

That's all for now. I'm headed for Mexico. Catch you on the flip side.

Skipper