

THE CRIMSON CHIRPER

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Greetings to the HSL from the sad skipper of the Redbirds. It has been a tough season to say the least and I see little hope of drastic improvement from my squad. Sorry that I missed the trip to DC, although there was much entertainment in re-living the trip through Big Johnny's recounting of the adventure. Excellent stuff!!

It has indeed been an interesting first half in major league baseball what with the newly named Rays leading the AL East and a plethora of lesser known and fresh faces leading many hitting and pitching categories. Why didn't I mutter Soto, Kinsler, Hamilton, Cliff Lee, or Volquez among others on draft day. Instead I wrote Tu-lowitzki, Sheffield, Hawpe, Granderson, etc. How about rookie Evan Longoria making the All Star team via the fan vote, probably not the most deserving but the "in" pick based on hype and name.

It is readily apparent that some of the more heartless league members are now circling like vultures around the Redbird squad, having received some very unappealing offers to place more undesirable (Screech, Isringhausen is toast) players on a pathetic squad. I was in the trading mode 2 weeks ago when it seemed that I might again have a healthy squad, now only to regress and have 5 players currently on the DL, the story of my season.

Just watched the Cubs put another W on the board and the Cubby faithful pathetically singing "Go Cubs Go". I almost puked. Like the Brewers trade for CC, and if STL fades, would love to see the Brew Crew overtake the Cubbies and make a post-season run. Please no White Sox/Cubs WS.

How about the Home Run Derby roster for Blah value. They need Manny, A-Rod, Howard, Pujols to make things interesting, isn't that what New York is all about, big

names and bright lights. Who cares what happens to them the 2nd half as none are on my squad. Mouse don't you have a say on what goes on in Gotham City?

What is the deal with Shamu failing to produce Whales Tale and why has our beloved (in his own mind) Skipper given him a free pass. Better late than never I always say. Chuck I have to be honest with you, I think you pen a fine product and in any event could it be any worse than the June 30, 2008 From the Reservation? Is everything ok over there in Iowa?

On draft day, how many in our league would have dreamed of a starting roster of pitchers consisting of:

1. Edison Volquez
2. Dustin Duschesser (whatever his name is)
3. Zach Greinke
4. Cliff Lee
5. Jar Juirgens
6. Aaron Laffey
7. Ron Mahay

Give me a break!! If anyone thinks they will surpass Stretch, you are dreaming, just shows you how far clean living will take you.

Good luck to all except Skipper and BT (business is business) in the second half and go Redbirds!!