

THE LEAGUE TO BE NAMED LATER  
 ROTISSE-MEMO from the League Office  
 January 19, 1993

Mid-winter Greetings from the League Office! Here, finally, is the long-delayed LTBNL 1992 Season Wrap-Up Newsletter. Barring a lockout, only 31 days remain until pitchers and catchers report! Topics to be addressed in this communique include the following: The 1992 Rotisserie Year in Review; Finances; Expansion; certain Ballot Issues, and most important, Minority Hiring.

First, the Year in Review. For those of you with short memories, here are the 1992 LTBNL Final Standings:

Team	Pts	Behind
1 GREEN MONSTERS	65.5	--
2 QUAGMYERS	58.5	7
3 KARNOLD NOWLEDGE	58.5	7
4 CANDY STRIPERS	54	11.5
5 DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	44.5	21
6 DAN'S FEVER	43	22.5
7 GREGORIAN CHANCE	40.5	25
8 DOUG OUTS	38.5	27
9 BROCK'S BOMBERS	23	42.5
10 PATRICK DIVISION	11	54.5

Team Batting Totals

	Pts	Avg	HR	RBI	SB
QUAGMYERS	33.5	.2721	136	671	165
KARNOLD NOWLEDGE	32.5	.2694	136	715	151
GREEN MONSTERS	31	.2659	152	729	123
CANDY STRIPERS	30	.2754	113	639	207
DAN'S FEVER	27	.2654	123	649	177
GREGORIAN CHANCE	20	.2595	100	650	145
DOUG OUTS	14	.2526	133	602	84
BROCK'S BOMBERS	14	.2624	75	423	143
DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	12	.2612	86	487	85
PATRICK DIVISION	6	.2426	62	398	104

Team Pitching Totals

	Pts	W	Sv	H&W	ERA
GREEN MONSTERS	34.5	91	70	1.2100	3.262
DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	32.5	91	44	1.2462	3.104
KARNOLD NOWLEDGE	26	68	78	1.2747	3.225
QUAGMYERS	25	82	72	1.2690	3.581
DOUG OUTS	24.5	76	24	1.2348	3.273
CANDY STRIPERS	24	103	6	1.2488	3.288
GREGORIAN CHANCE	20.5	76	26	1.2488	3.541
DAN'S FEVER	16	70	51	1.3061	3.581
BROCK'S BOMBERS	9	63	33	1.3361	3.884
PATRICK DIVISION	8	35	22	1.2817	3.651

Hearty congratulations to K.C. Green and the Green Monsters, the 1992 LTBNL Champs with 65.5 total points, the highest season-ending points total in LTBNL history. The Monsters, who spent 15 weeks in first place, finished a full 7 points ahead of the QuagMyers and Karnold Nowledge, and in the sportscaster vernacular, "It wasn't as close as the score would indicate." The Monsters took over sole possession of first place at the end of August and cruised to a relatively easy Yoo Hoo Shower. Admitted to the LTBNL as an expansion franchise in 1990, the perennial powerhouse with the AL-style name is thought to be widely loathed by other LTBNL owners, if only due to their historic success. The Monsters have finished in the money in every year of their existence. "We made it too easy on that damn guy," one LTBNL owner griped while waiting for the Commissioner to come on the line for a conference call. "I certainly hope we learned a lesson for the next time we expand." (More on this subject later on.)

The Monsters may have wrapped up the pennant, and pulled off the trade of the year, when they grabbed reliever Randy Myers from the Doug Outs for Dave Magadan and Jeff Treadway on June 23. At the time, the Monsters were languishing in fifth place overall and stood seventh in saves.

	W/L	Sv	BS	IP	ERA	Ratio
Randy Myers, pre-trade:	2-1	13	4	32.0	6.19	1.72
Myers, as a Monster:	1-5	25	4	47.2	3.02	1.32

With the addition of sometime Expo closer Mel "My Uncle's the Manager" Rojas (a crafty May 26 FAAB addition) and with the emergence of failed starter Anthony Young as the Mets' stopper, the Monsters created a top-notch bullpen out of thin air, eventually finishing in the top three in all four pitching categories. "That damn guy is unbelievably lucky," grouched one owner in a deposition, undoubtedly referring to the Monsters' crack player development department, which seems to have a knack for acquiring players just before they emerge as stars (Young, Rojas, Ron Gant (16D), Tom Glavine (7B)). Likewise, the Monsters snagged Greg Maddux at \$1 off the Knowledge's roster during the 1990 Expansion Draft. The Monsters will lose Maddux, Andre Dawson and others to free agency, however, and it remains to be seen if they can remain a factor in 1993.

Magnanimous in victory or defeat, the Monsters last year were awarded the "Dave Stewart Grace in the Face of Adversity Award" for noting, perhaps correctly, that had the 1991 season extended only one more week, by golly they would have caught Dan's Fever for first place. In their acceptance speech, the Monsters predicted, "We'll be back this year ... but will Dan's Fever?" For that, the Monsters are this year awarded the Nostradamus Trophy.

In terms of players exchanged, the biggest blockbuster trade of the year occurred just before the All-Star break, in the aisle behind the blue seats at Riverfront Stadium. The Doug Outs, still with their wits about them despite the fact that the Candy Stripers had already bought several rounds of beers, dealt "X" players Barry Bonds and Jose Rijo, along with Striper-for-Life Lenny "Bonehead" Harris, to the Candy Stripers for a package of Andy Van Slyke (16A), Darren Daulton (10B), Randy Tomlin and Bob Walk. Perhaps this was the proverbial trade that helped both teams -- although not too much. Both teams improved one place in the standings between the time of the trade and season's end. Bonds did knock in 54 runs for the Stripers, who finished in the money for the third time in their history, but the eyes of Head Striper Candy "Sue" Ross were locked on ex-Striper Darren Daulton (who's really a "pretty neat" catcher to have, according to one former LTBNL owner). Sue sweated each of the 14 post-trade Daulton Dingers, reportedly developing an ulcer during the second half. "It got to the point where I was constantly waking up in the middle of the night in a cold sweat, having dreamt that Darren went long again." Tragically, Sue still is unable to watch SportsCenter without medication. Doug Out GM Doug May, however, has developed a strong "nuke-u-lous" of cheap youngsters, and may be a force to reckon with for years to come. The heist of the year may have been landing Curt Schilling from the Quags for Dick Schofield.

Another eyebrow-raiser was the controversial deadline deal between Brock's Bombers and the QuagMyers. The Bombers by deadline time were out of contention and held several soon-to-be-free agent aces (most notably Ryne Sandberg (40F) and Bip Roberts (15F)), setting up a classic fire sale situation. The Bombers entertained offers of young talent on deadline day from the Knowledge, Gregorian Chance, and the Quags. To the dismay of the Chance and Knowledge, the Bombers settled on Todd Zeile and John VanderWal from the Quags for Roberts, but were chagrined when Zeile was banished to the minors less than a week later. Roberts crashed into the centerfield fence in Atlanta the next day and was carted off on a stretcher, but rallied to hit .363 with 14 steals as a Quag. Memo to the Bombers: At last glance, VanderWal was hitting .304 for Escogido in the Dominican League.

With the Monsters sewing up first with relative ease, the major standings battle was for second place, and was waged between the Knowledge and the QuagMyers, two teams who have now finished in the money in three of the four LTBNL seasons. Entering play on October 3, the next-to-last day of the season, the Knowledge held down second by a point, 59-58, but led the Quags by only a single home run, 136-135. That day, unlikely power hitter Dave Martinez launched a solo shot into the green seats at Riverfront (landing five rows in front of the stunned Quag owner) for Quag dinger number 136. Mid-season Knowledge addition Matt Williams (.224 and

only 10 homers in 400 Nowledge at bats) went oh-fer six in the 13-inning season finale, despite swinging for the fences in an attempt to placate the distraught Nowledge owner. The tie in the homer category meant a tie overall, at 58.5 points, and second place was awarded to the QuagMyers under the tie-breaker rule, four categories to three. The Nowledge immediately demanded an audit, and have spent the last three months combing every NL box score for just one more home run.

This year's biggest spender was defending champ Dan's Fever. In an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to replicate last year's success, the Fever led the LTBNL with a \$124 bill, breaking the record of \$121.23 set last year by Gregorian Chance. In Week 21, the Fever single-handedly injected \$19 into the prize pool, for which the money winners are quite grateful. To no one's surprise, the Chance were also among the League's most profligate spenders, adding \$123.30 to the jackpot. The Chance and Doug Outs tied for the highest number of players used, each team using a whopping 42. Those two teams also pulled off what was quite possibly the least significant Rotisserie trade of all time, when, on June 23, they breathlessly called the League Office to announce that Roger Mason had been swapped for John Wehner. The May Boys: Two Bucs' fans with too much time on their hands.

The Doug Outs are awarded this year's Bad Timing Award. During Week 19, Doug Out righty Kevin 'Totally' Gross pitched the only no-hitter thrown in the majors in 1992. That same week, the Doug Outs saw this line in their morning Columbus Dispatch:

Lo. Smith, 1f      ab    r    h    bi  
                         6    3    5    6

Included was Lonnie's first grand slam since 1986. The problem? Both Gross and Smith were spending Week 19 on the 'Outs Reserve List. Runner up in this category goes to the QuagMyers, for single-handedly reviving the season of Andres Galarraga. Through July 20, the Big Cat was hitting an anemic .189, with 2 homers and only 10 RBI in 169 at-bats. On July 21, the Quags made the agonizing decision to sit him down for a week. Suddenly, he awoke from his season-long slumber, hitting .481 with 2 HR and 7 RBI for the week while raising his average some forty points. Many thanks to the numerous owners who called to point out the resurgence of El Gato Gigantico.

By popular demand, we now present the return of the sometimes dreaded, but always entertaining "Hypothetical League." Those who have been here before will remember that the Hypothetical League attempts to measure which Rotisserie team fared best in the Auction/Draft, by calculating where each team would have finished had every team competed all year with its Opening Day roster. This feature is feared by some, because while nothing in the Rotisserie world happens in a vacuum, it shows that hypothetically anyway, sometimes a Rotisserie GM can simply manage his or her way out of contention.

#### THE HYPOTHETICAL LEAGUE

	Team	Pts	Behind
1	QUAGMYERS	60	--
2	GREEN MONSTERS	55	5
2	CANDY STRIPERS	55	5
4	KARNOLD NOWLEDGE	53	7
5	DOUG OUTS	50	10
6	GREGORIAN CHANCE	46	14
7	DAN'S FEVER	41	19
8	DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	34	26
9	BROCK'S BOMBERS	28	32
10	PATRICK DIVISION	18	42

#### Team Batting Totals

	Pts	Avg	HR	RBI	SB
CANDY STRIPERS	34	.2771	121	631	154
GREEN MONSTERS	30	.2649	149	702	120
KARNOLD NOWLEDGE	29	.2735	117	628	151
GREGORIAN CHANCE	27	.2619	104	644	169
QUAGMYERS	27	.2788	115	565	128
DAN'S FEVER	23	.2608	106	574	156
DOUG OUTS	18	.2624	114	554	105
BROCK'S BOMBERS	18	.2713	71	381	153
DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	9	.2592	95	510	79
PATRICK DIVISION	5	.2405	58	371	102

#### Team Pitching Totals

	Pts	W	Sv	H&W	ERA
QUAGMYERS	33	63	87	1.1579	3.088
DOUG OUTS	32	65	45	1.2376	2.997
GREEN MONSTERS	25	81	37	1.2470	3.542
DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	25	85	17	1.2621	3.173
KARNOLD NOWLEDGE	24	55	83	1.2501	3.176
CANDY STRIPERS	21	93	3	1.2623	3.373
GREGORIAN CHANCE	19	79	16	1.2455	3.618
DAN'S FEVER	18	70	35	1.2982	3.533
PATRICK DIVISION	13	32	22	1.2825	3.489
BROCK'S BOMBERS	10	56	33	1.3522	3.834

Our next topic: Expansion. As everyone must be aware, the National League has added franchises in Colorado and Florida for the 1993 season. That means, or at least it should mean, that the LTBNL should add one or two franchises as well, to soak up at least some of the marginal players who'll be collecting dingers, ribbies, and issuing intentional walks this year. After all, if Todd Benzing can continue to hold down a job in the National League, he ought to at least be given the chance to earn one in the LTBNL.

Whom to add? Several candidates have expressed at least some degree of interest in applying for an expansion franchise. One has expressed unbridled enthusiasm, two or three others appear somewhat intrigued (and may need spousal approval), and still others may exist, lurking on the fringes of organized society, waiting for an invitation to come forward. This is it! Last call! Attached to the end of this newsletter you'll find a candidate information sheet, which the League Office is asking that all interested candidates submit. The League Office has had some degree of difficulty in gauging exactly how serious or viable the various candidates are, and likewise would be uncomfortable deciding, on its own, which candidates should be granted the two franchises. Therefore, if you wish to nominate a candidate, please have him fill out the form and send it to the League Office by January 31. After that, the League Office intends to take a brief survey of all interested owners and reach a quick consensus as to whom to ask to join. If you want to be consulted, please so indicate.

The League Office has already, informally, solicited advice from a majority of existing owners as to how the expansion franchises should be stocked with players. The consensus of owners polled is that existing teams should be permitted to protect a certain number of their players, and the expansion teams should be allowed to pick a roster of players from among the unprotected. Rotisserie, as we all know, is an art that imitates life.

The League Office suggests that the following format be used for an expansion draft:

Each existing team protects 15 players from its combined Active and Reserve rosters. No "X" or "F" players may be protected, of course. "X" and "F" players have been omitted from the attached rosters. (Remember that the contract status of players on the attached sheet is 1992 status; so a 1992 "A" player will, if protected, be a "B" player in 1993.) Submit your list of 15 on the form at the end of this newsletter by January 31.

An existing team may choose not to protect a player under a long-term contract (a "C," "D," or "G" player), under the hope that he will be drafted by an expansion team (and

thereby relieve the existing team of the obligation of protecting him and paying his salary). However, if such a player is left unprotected and is not drafted by an expansion team, the existing team must add the player back to its roster following the expansion draft. Such a player must be protected on a team's "Freeze List" to be submitted March 31. (NOTE: A controversy has developed over the rule regarding buying-out a player under a long-term contract; you are being asked to vote on how this rule should be applied. See below.)

The two expansion teams then each draft as few as 10 and as many as 15 players from the pool of unprotected players, taking each player subject to his current salary and contract status. Each existing team will lose at least 2 players, but no more than 3. The draft will take place as soon as practicable after the expansion teams have been chosen, probably by conference call.

Winter Waivers would then take place under last year's rules. Waiver claims may be made by any team in inverse order of 1992 standings, with expansion teams picking last. Each team that claims a player on waivers would, in turn, waive a player. Eligible players would be any players not protected by an existing team and not drafted by an expansion team. The League Office will provide a list of eligible players. Winter Waivers continues, round by round, until a round in which no player is claimed (last year, it only lasted one round).

All teams should submit their Freeze Lists, as usual, on March 31. The maximum number of players that can be protected is 15; there is no minimum.

The Auction/Draft will take place on either Saturday April 3 or Sunday April 4, 1993, at approximately Noon, at a site to be named later. Please vote, on the attached form, as to which day you prefer; the majority will rule. If you wish to volunteer to host the Draft, please speak up.

One other subject you are being asked to vote on is the interpretation of the controversial long-term contract buyout rule. The Rule says that a player with a long-term contract may be released back into the free agent pool (that is, not protected on a team's roster prior to Auction/Draft Day), but a team that chooses to do so must pay into the prize pool, above the \$260 Auction Draft Day limit, a sum equal to twice the remaining value of the player's contract. In the past, this rule has been interpreted like most of the other financial rules; i.e., in the LTBNL, we divide by ten. Some owners think this interpretation does not provide enough of a penalty to an owner who signs a player to a long-term contract, but then doesn't want to live up to it. Example: Last year, the Monsters owned Craig Lefferts at 11C going on 11F; that is, he would have been entering the final year of a 2-year contract in 1992. Lefferts had been moved from the Padres' bullpen to the starting rotation in spring training, thereby decreasing his value significantly. The Monsters chose to buy out the remaining year of his contract, and paid a penalty of \$2.20 (twice the remaining value of the contract times 10 percent). If the rule were strictly interpreted, the Monsters' penalty would have been far greater: \$22.00. Please vote on how you would have the LTBNL interpret and apply this rule. Here are three alternatives:

- A. Strict interpretation (Monsters pay \$22.00);
- B. Status quo (Monsters pay \$2.20); or
- C. Compromise (remaining value of contract, not doubled or multiplied by 10 percent) (Monsters pay \$11.00)

One more thing to vote on: When should we have the Winter Meeting and Awards Banquet? As everyone must know, the Winter Meeting provides a chance for the presentation of the coveted Cup to Be Named Later to the pennant winner, together with the traditional Yoo-Hoo dousing. The League Office would like to suggest the weekend of February 19-20. In addition to its obvious significance (February 19 is the first day pitchers and catchers can report to spring training), it might also be a good chance to hold the expansion draft (if the new teams can be present), or the first round of Winter Waivers.

Finally, we turn to the subject of finances. Attached is the 1992 report, showing total expected receipts of approximately \$950, a new record. Expenses this year will likely run about \$150, leaving in the neighborhood of \$800 for distribution. The Green Monsters should expect a check of about \$400, the Quags \$200, the Knowledge \$120, and the Strippers \$80. All distributions should be slightly larger than last year. In 1991, the champion Fever received a first place check in the amount of \$356.94.

As always, most teams have deferred paying their league fees until the last possible moment, which, of course, now has arrived. The League Office realizes that it has itself to blame, for this is the first financial report distributed to owners since May or June. Still, the League Office would appreciate you forwarding your check as soon as possible, so that big checks can be presented to the winners soon. Please send your fees along with your 15-man protected list by January 31. For all we know, the Monsters may be planning a scouting trip in the Grapefruit League with their winnings. Naturally, if you are yourself a money winner, you may pay the difference between your anticipated winnings and the amount you owe.

	STRPRS	D-OUTS	FEVER	DILEM	CHANCE	MONST	BOHBRS	KNOWL	P.DIV	QUAGS	TOTAL	EXPENSES
Prev Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00	23.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.14	0.00	25.34	
Basic Fees	27.90	26.10	27.70	26.00	27.50	24.00	26.00	25.30	25.50	27.60	263.60	
Bonus Fees	1.50	6.00	3.30	0.00	4.80	14.40	1.20	1.50	0.00	3.00	35.70	
Stats Assmt	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	200.00	
Off-Season	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	
Pre-Season	0.00	2.00	6.00	0.00	4.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	4.00	26.00	
Week 1	0.00	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	2.00	6.00	20.00	2.32
Week 2	4.00	5.00	4.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	4.00	2.00	2.00	6.00	29.00	2.03
Week 3	0.00	4.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	7.00	5.00	25.00	2.32
Week 4	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	10.00	13.32
Week 5	2.00	3.00	2.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	2.00	3.00	20.00	2.32
Week 6	0.00	2.00	0.00	1.00	4.00	2.00	2.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	2.32
Week 7	0.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	4.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	4.00	20.00	2.03
Week 8	1.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	4.00	2.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	13.00	14.16
Week 9	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	8.00	2.03
Week 10	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	2.03
Week 11	1.00	1.00	8.00	0.00	3.00	3.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	28.00	2.32
Week 12	0.00	2.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	18.00	2.03
Week 13	4.00	0.00	4.00	2.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.00	13.32
Week 14	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	6.00	16.00	2.03
Week 15	4.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	10.00	2.03
Week 16	6.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	28.00	2.32
Week 17	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	4.00	12.00	13.32
Week 18	4.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	2.03
Week 19	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	1.00	7.00	2.03
Week 20	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	8.00	2.32
Week 21	2.00	2.00	19.00	0.00	11.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.00	48.00	2.03
Week 22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	0.00	5.00	20.00	12.03
Week 23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.03
Week 24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.32
Week 25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00
Post-Seas	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUBTOTAL	89.40	96.10	124.00	80.20	123.30	80.40	69.20	91.80	73.64	118.60	946.64	113.04
Received	0.00	0.00	49.30	0.00	0.00	58.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	107.70	
TOTAL	89.40	96.10	74.70	80.20	123.30	22.00	69.20	91.80	73.64	118.60	838.94	