

THE LEAGUE TO BE NAMED LATER
 ROTISSE-MEMO from the League Office
 December 10, 1993

Here, finally, is the much-anticipated LTBNL 1993 Season Wrap-Up Newsletter: The League Office's annual compendium of meaningful statistics, insightful commentary, random musings, and 20/20 hindsight. Read on for instructions on Winter Rosters, Winter Waivers, and the Winter Meeting, the annual LTBNL financial report, and a wrap-up of strange and/or notable happenings in the LTBNL in 1993.

Congratulations to Dan's Fever, the 1993 LTBNL Pennant Winner, and to all of the other money-winners. Elsewhere on this page you will find the 1993 Final LTBNL Standings, with a breakdown of final batting and pitching statistics (a somewhat different format than you are used to seeing). Also on this page is the final LTBNL financial report, up-to-date as of the date of this Newsletter. The League Office estimates that, after subtracting expenses of approximately \$140-\$150, the prize pool this year will be about \$925, another new record. The Fever can expect a check of about \$462.50 (50%), the Green Monsters around \$231.25 (25%), the Doug Outs about \$138.75 (15%), and the QuagMyers \$92.50 (10%). By comparison, the Monsters in 1992 got a first-place check of \$400.00, and the Fever got \$356.94 for winning the pennant in 1991.

As always, the League Office respectfully requests that all teams submit payment as soon as possible, so that the winners' checks can be distributed before the 1993 season is nothing more than a distant memory. (Those owners who had to field threatening calls and letters last season from the LTBNL's designated bill collector, K.C. Green, can attest that it was not a pleasant experience.) The amount your team owes is the number at the bottom of your column. If you believe that the amount you owe is incorrect, please contact the League Office.

Winter Waivers: Appended to the end of this Newsletter are the most recent LTBNL rosters, which have been edited to remove "X" and "F" players (all of whom go back into the free agent pool). The Official Rules provide that each owner is to submit its winter roster of 23 players to the League Office by October 15, which, obviously, has come and gone. So, please send your list by January 10 (along with your check if you owe). You may protect 23 players from your combined active and reserve rosters, irrespective of position. You must protect players under long-term contracts (unless you wish to buy out the contract and pay the penalty). Any player who is not protected is placed on waivers. Once all the lists are in, the League Office will distribute a list of waived players; teams may then claim a player (in inverse order of last year's standings). Trading between teams is permitted to resume after all the protected lists are in. Fifteen player freeze lists will be due, as always, at the end of March.

Winter Meeting: Traditionally, all team owners gather at least once over the winter to celebrate the past season, talk trade, douse the winner with Yoo-Hoo, and present the coveted Cup to be Named Later. Unfortunately, last winter passed without the Meeting taking place, and the Yoo-Hoo shower took place immediately prior to the auction draft, in early April. Various owners were heard to grumble that this turn of events was "sad," "weak," and/or "lame." Therefore, the League Office urges owners to show some enthusiasm and make suggestions for the date, time and venue of this year's Winter Meeting. If you have such a

1993 FINAL LTBNL STANDINGS

Team	Pts	Behind
1 DAN'S FEVER	79.5	--
2 GREEN MONSTERS	75.5	4
3 DOUG OUTS	72	7.5
4 QUAGMYERS	67.5	12
5 KARNOLD KNOWLEDGE	60	19.5
6 WRECKING CREW	59	20.5
7 CANDY STRIPERS	50.5	29
8 GREGORY PECKERS	42	37.5
9 SHOW HOFFS	40	39.5
10 PATRICK DIVISION	31.5	48
11 DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	30	49.5
12 SOL TRAIN	16.5	63

Team Pitching Totals

Team	Pts	W	Sv	HRM	ERA
DAN'S FEVER	40.5	78	71	1.2477	3.460
DOUG OUTS	38.5	74	73	1.2529	3.514
WRECKING CREW	34	81	36	1.2714	3.760
QUAGMYERS	33.5	74	79	1.3037	3.856
GREEN MONSTERS	31.5	84	86	1.3559	3.980
CANDY STRIPERS	27.5	84	41	1.3511	4.091
KARNOLD KNOWLEDGE	27.5	61	71	1.3292	3.733
DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	25	99	34	1.3531	4.148
GREGORY PECKERS	21	68	33	1.3066	3.874
PATRICK DIVISION	17	70	17	1.3597	3.764
SHOW HOFFS	11	71	5	1.3588	4.221
SOL TRAIN	5	60	11	1.4631	4.626

Team Batting Totals

Team	Pts	Avg	HR	RBI	SB
GREEN MONSTERS	44	.2759	196	875	204
DAN'S FEVER	39	.2752	182	758	174
QUAGMYERS	34	.2805	155	741	135
DOUG OUTS	33.5	.2733	165	773	128
KARNOLD KNOWLEDGE	32.5	.2793	160	752	128
SHOW HOFFS	29	.2877	146	728	106
WRECKING CREW	25	.2724	118	700	230
CANDY STRIPERS	23	.2634	162	636	140
GREGORY PECKERS	21	.2715	143	666	132
PATRICK DIVISION	14.5	.2725	124	601	90
SOL TRAIN	11.5	.2682	120	620	90
DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	5	.2678	115	568	49

	STRPRS	FEVER	DILEM	D-OUTS	MONSTR	PECKRS	KMOWL	DIYSH	QUAGS	HOFFS	SOL TR	W-CREW	TOTAL	EXPENSES
Prey Balance	0.00	0.00	-0.80	0.00	0.00	-0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1.50	
Basic Fees	27.10	26.80	27.20	26.00	26.10	27.00	25.80	26.00	24.90	26.10	26.10	27.70	316.90	
Bonus/Buyout	0.00	5.60	5.10	1.50	9.20	0.80	0.00	0.00	5.30	1.80	0.00	1.20	30.50	
Stats Assmt	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	240.00	
Off-Season	2.00	1.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	
Opening Day	2.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	12.00	
Week 1	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	12.00	13.14
Week 2	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	4.00	16.00	1.74
Week 3	2.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	2.00	4.00	2.00	0.00	4.00	3.00	0.00	2.00	23.00	1.74
Week 4	4.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	2.00	5.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	3.00	0.00	19.00	1.45
Week 5	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	4.00	0.00	6.00	4.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	22.00	17.29
Week 6	2.00	2.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	13.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	4.00	28.00	1.16
Week 7	4.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	24.00	1.16
Week 8	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	10.00	0.87
Week 9	10.00	4.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	26.00	15.01
Week 10	2.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00	8.00	4.00	3.00	0.00	8.00	6.00	39.00	0.87
Week 11	2.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	4.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.00	0.87
Week 12	2.00	4.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	7.00	1.00	0.00	2.00	4.00	26.00	0.58
Week 13	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	15.82
Week 14	8.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	0.87
Week 15	6.00	4.00	0.00	2.00	4.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	28.00	0.87
Week 16	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	16.00	0.87
Week 17	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	17.00	0.58
Week 18	4.00	4.00	0.00	4.00	2.00	6.00	6.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32.00	14.82
Week 19	2.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.87
Week 20	1.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	15.00	0.87
Week 21	2.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	1.00	11.00	2.00	7.00	3.00	0.00	5.00	39.00	0.87
Week 22	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	15.82
Week 23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.87
Week 24	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	9.59
Week 25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	1.10
Post-Season	0.00	0.00	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	112.10	110.40	60.50	69.60	92.30	99.10	101.80	71.00	124.20	57.90	77.10	95.90	1071.90	119.70
Received	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	119.70	50.00	50.00	50.00	419.70	
TOTAL	112.10	110.40	10.50	69.60	42.30	99.10	101.80	21.00	4.50	7.90	27.10	45.90	652.20	

suggestion, or wish to volunteer to take this rotisserie bull by the horns and be designated Winter social director, please contact the League Office.

We now move on to the 1993 Rotisserie Year in Review, in which the League Office, in its capacity as semi-official LTBNL historian, offers its own commentary on the rotisserie the year that was. As always, the League Office, in offering this compilation of half-baked "insight" and pseudo-scientific jargon, wishes to offend no one -- or at least, wishes to offend everyone fairly equally.

A prefatory note: Throughout this section you will see references to "earnings," "profits," and "losses" by various players. As many owners know, the League Office computer has a program called "Patton \$ on Disc," which calculates approximate rotisserie player "earnings" (or how much their statistics were worth) by comparing their accrued statistics to those of all the other players in the league, based on each team having a salary cap of \$260. A profit on a player would be his earnings less his salary, and in theory, the team that buys the most profits in the auction/draft should win the league. If you wish to see a player-by-player print-out of your team's profits and losses, or of the entire league, let the League Office know.

A summary of each team's profits and losses is presented below. The players used for this study were the 23 players frozen prior to the auction draft or bought during the auction; not included are reserve picks and free agent acquisitions. As might be expected, champion Dan's Fever had the highest team profit this year. KEY: "\$" is the total salary paid for the players; "\$" is the total of the players' earnings; and "+/-" is the total profit or loss.

	Hitters			Pitchers			Total		
	Sal	\$	+/-	Sal	\$	+/-	Sal	\$	+/-
DAN'S FEVER	154	213	59	104	145	41	258	358	100
DOUG OUTS	159	187	28	101	160	59	260	347	87
GR MONSTERS	177	228	51	83	97	14	260	325	65
K KNOWLEDGE	115	157	42	143	135	-8	258	292	34
WRECK'G CREW	181	158	-23	79	134	55	260	292	32
QUAGMYERS	158	179	21	91	97	6	249	276	27
GREG PECKERS	161	197	36	98	75	-23	259	272	13
C STRIPERS	167	145	-22	79	100	21	246	245	-1
SHOW HOFFS	199	191	-8	56	44	-12	255	235	-20
DR'S DILEMMA	159	144	-15	98	45	-53	257	189	-68
P DIVISION	181	124	-57	79	61	-18	260	185	-75
SOL TRAIN	145	122	-23	112	-2	-114	257	120	-137

Some astute readers might note the similarity of the above profit and loss summary to the sometimes dreaded, but always entertaining "Hypothetical League." Most of you will remember that the Hypothetical League is another sort of retrospective attempt to measure which rotisserie team fared the best in compiling its original 23-player team through freezes and the auction/draft. This feature simply inputs each team's opening day roster into the computer and calculates what the standings would have been at year's end if every team had competed all season with its original 23-man roster. By comparing the Hypothetical League with the actual final standings, it can be determined which rotisserie GMs improved their teams during the course of the season through trades and free agent acquisitions, and which managed their way out of contention.

THE HYPOTHETICAL LEAGUE

Team	Pts	Behind
1 DAN'S FEVER	76	--
2 GREEN MONSTERS	69	7
2 DOUG OUTS	69	7
4 GREGORY PECKERS	59	17
5 QUAGMYERS	54	22
6 WRECKING CREW	52	24
7 SHOW HOFFS	50.5	25.5
8 KARNOLD KNOWLEDGE	50	26
9 CANDY STRIPERS	49	27
10 DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	39	37
11 PATRICK DIVISION	32.5	43.5
12 SOL TRAIN	24	52

Team Batting Totals

	Pts	Avg	HR	RBI	SB
GREEN MONSTERS	42	.275	183	827	200
DAN'S FEVER	41	.276	181	761	174
GREGORY PECKERS	35	.276	160	757	149
SHOW HOFFS	33	.288	136	710	107
DOUG OUTS	31	.271	169	730	133
QUAGMYERS	30	.285	147	647	98
KARNOLD KNOWLEDGE	21	.279	127	613	88
WRECKING CREW	19	.267	106	622	185
DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	18	.274	133	644	60
CANDY STRIPERS	17	.269	132	519	131
SOL TRAIN	15	.276	79	467	106
PATRICK DIVISION	10	.268	115	534	75

Team Pitching Totals

	Pts	W	Sv	ERA	Ratio
DOUG OUTS	38	70	73	3.34	1.221
DAN'S FEVER	35	66	69	3.28	1.246
WRECKING CREW	33	65	39	3.42	1.218
CANDY STRIPERS	32	82	29	3.80	1.296
KARNOLD KNOWLEDGE	29	52	112	3.67	1.299
GREEN MONSTERS	27	77	85	4.06	1.389
GREGORY PECKERS	24	44	26	3.62	1.276
QUAGMYERS	24	67	90	4.15	1.359
PATRICK DIVISION	22.5	74	5	3.85	1.349
DOCTOR'S DILEMMA	21	84	0	4.18	1.348
SHOW HOFFS	17.5	71	5	4.16	1.350
SOL TRAIN	9	55	10	4.49	1.431

Above all else, 1993 was a banner year for offense. As was predicted by many, National League expansion led to a significant increase in offensive production throughout the majors, and much worse pitching numbers than in recent years. In the NL, the overall ERA was 4.04, the highest since 1987 (the rabbit ball year), and up more than half a run over 1992's 3.50 ERA. Thanks in part to the Rockies, home runs in the

NL were up 55 percent over 1992 (but even if the two expansion teams' homers are subtracted, homers were still up 36 percent). In the LTBNL, the overall batting average was .274, 11 points higher than in 1992. The LTBNL ERA was 3.92, again almost half a run higher than in '92 (3.45). The NL overall ratio was 1.357; in the LTBNL it was 1.329 (up from 1.263).

Expansion in the NL meant expansion in the LTBNL as well. In early March, the LTBNL announced the addition of the Show Hoffs and the Sol Train, two entries from Columbus, Ohio. An expansion draft was held on March 9, during which the new teams acquired talents such as Will Clark, Brett Butler, and Tony Gwynn. The Show Hoffs had a strong offensive team, leading the LTBNL in batting, and finished a respectable ninth, after peaking in seventh place in early August. The future looks bright for the Show Hoffs, who somehow stole Jeff "The Barbarian" Conine (.292, 79 RBI, earned \$18) for \$4 and Darryl Kile (15-8, 3.51, earned \$17) for \$1 late in the auction, and also own the rights to future Braves' SS Chipper Jones. The 'Hoffs also inked OF Luis Gonzalez, whom the Gregory Peckers left unprotected for the expansion draft at \$13, to a two-year deal at \$18, which paid dividends when Gonzalez had his best season yet (.300, 72 RBI, 20 SB, earned \$24).

The other expansion team, the Sol Train, didn't fare as well, and can trace their difficulties directly to their acquisition of several high-priced, under-achieving pitchers in the auction. The Train paid \$35 for Doug Drabek, \$27 for John Smiley, and \$17 for Tim Wakefield. What looked like a very strong starting rotation turned out to be a bust, as the three pitchers earned \$11, minus \$7, and minus \$16, respectively, for a total loss of \$91 on those three pitchers alone. A bright spot was Mets' 2B Jeff Kent (.270, 21 HR, 80 RBI), snagged in the expansion draft for \$4, who earned \$18. The Train also prudently pilfered promising Phil Plantier from the Peckers in mid-June. Plantier had a huge year, ending with 34 HR and 100 RBI (earned \$21).

The strongest showing by any new team, though, was by the Wrecking Crew, who took charge of the woeful Brock's Bombers, a ninth-place team last year, and guided them to a sixth-place finish. Early on, the Wreckers climbed to within a point of the lead. They were in the hunt for the money most of the season, and with better power numbers might have captured fourth place. Their unique "tag-team" style of ownership made for an entertaining auction, to say the least. ("Ozzie Canseco?! What the hell do we want with Ozzie Canseco?") Give them credit, though, for drafting Greg McMichael (19 saves, 2.06 ERA, earned \$28) for \$2 ("Who in the hell is Greg McMichael?!") and Chuck Carr for \$10, and for the FAAB signing of the year, Mike Lansing (.287, 23 SB), who earned \$15. Memo to the Crew for next year: You don't get extra points for lapping the field in stolen bases.

The early part of the season was dominated by the eventual third place finisher, the Doug Outs. The 'Outs were a factor most of the season, holding first for six weeks between Opening Day and mid-June, climbing to within one point of the lead by August 9, and to within 6.5 points by September 27. The Doug Outs strengthened their squad for the stretch run with a classic trade-deadline deal with the Gregory Peckers, acquiring free-agents-to-be Mark Grace, Brett Butler, and Orlando Merced in exchange for the beloved Andy Van Slyke (\$16B) and change. The trade ultimately resulted in a 3.5 point gain for the 'Outs, but it wasn't enough to catch the Fever or Monsters.

Last year in this space we reported on two Doug Outs trades that shook the LTBNL: The Curt Schilling for Dick Schofield heist, which probably deprived the QuagMyers of any chance of winning the LTBNL pennant, and the Darren Daulton deal with the Candy Stripers, which definitely deprived the Stripers of any chance of ever watching a Phillies game again without medication. This season, the Stripers were able to return the favor. On June 8, the Doug Outs, desperate for pitching, traded Sammy Sosa (\$10B) to the Stripers for Tommy Greene (\$5A), who already had eight wins to go along with a 1.87 ERA and 0.845 ratio. Greene promptly went in the tank, posting a 5.65 ERA and 1.664 ratio with only four wins over his next 73 innings, before finally straightening things out by September. In the meantime, Sosa went on a tear, hitting 24 homers, swiping 28 bases, and generally making a nuisance of himself. To make things worse, at about the same time, the Columbus cable system added Chicago superstation WGN to its lineup. After yet another multiple-homer game by Sammy, a distraught Doug May called the League Office to nominate himself for this year's "Darren Daulton Separation Anxiety Award." (Honorable mention to the Peckers for the aforementioned Plantier deal.)

The heartiest of congratulations to Dan's Fever, the 1993 LTBNL Champions, who rode exceptional performances by Greg Maddux (20 W, 2.36 ERA, 1.049 ratio, earned \$48), Mike Piazza (.318, 35 HR, 112 RBI, earned \$35), and Fred McGriff (.291, 37 HR, 101 RBI, earned \$31) to the title. The Fever's 79.5 total points constitute a new LTBNL record, although expansion from ten to twelve teams made a new record a foregone conclusion. The Fever rallied from a disappointing sixth place finish in 1992 to secure their second crown in the past three years. The Fever join the QuagMyers (champs in 1989 and 1990) as the only two-time winners of the Yoo-Hoo shower.

Dan's Fever spent fifteen weeks in first place, taking over for good on August 16. The second-place Green Monsters rallied to within three points by September 20, but never got any nearer to the top, as the Fever held on for the relatively narrow victory.

Two years ago, the Monsters, who have finished in the money every year of their existence, were awarded the "Dave Stewart Grace in the Face of Adversity Award," after publicly crowing that if the season had only lasted a few weeks longer, by gosh they'd have caught the faltering Fever. This year, by contrast, both the Monsters and the Fever agreed that the key to the Fever victory was the timely demise of a certain ill-tempered Cincinnati reliever.

As the August 31 trade deadline approached, the Fever bullpen, anchored (??) by Mitch Williams, stood tied for fourth in saves, with third place -- or even second -- seemingly within easy reach. If the Fever could pick up a few points there, they reasoned, they could coast to the pennant. One fateful day at New York's Shea Stadium, the Fever, Patrick Division, and Candy Stripers convened to watch the Rockies battle the Mets. Through the haze of the Stripers' cigar smoke, the Fever wheedled the Division into parting with Rob Dibble in exchange for Bruce Hurst. (The Division would later claim that the entire trade should have been nullified, as a low-flying airplane made it difficult for him to hear the Fever's proposal. "I thought he said 'bratwurst,' not 'Bruce Hurst.'")

At the time of the trade, Dibble's numbers were quite respectable: 19

saves out of 25 tries and a 3.06 ERA. However, Dibble never recorded a save for the Fever, and had several appearances where he didn't come close to recording an out.

Dibble's appearances for Dan's Fever:

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA	
8/31	2/3	2	2	2	1	0	3.50	(L, 1-2; BS, 7)
9/04	1/3	2	4	4	4	0	4.46	
9/07 (Gm 1)	0	1	3	3	2	0	5.20	(BS, 8)
9/07 (Gm 2)	2	3	3	3	0	5	5.63	
9/10	1/3	1	1	1	1	0	5.82	(L, 1-3)
9/14	1	1	0	0	0	0	5.67	
9/15	0	1	1	1	0	0	5.90	(L, 1-4; BS, 9)
9/17	2	3	4	4	1	2	6.48	

Highlights: Dibble's mop-up work in the second game of the September 7 doubleheader, woeful as it was, actually lowered Dibble's ERA as a member of the Fever from 81.00 to 36.00. In that game he gave up the fourth of four homers hit in the game by Mark Whiten ("I wanted to challenge him," Dibble said). His appearance on September 15 against the Braves consisted of one pitch: a slider that Ron Gant hit off the top of the left field wall for a dramatic three-run game-winning homer with two out in the ninth. Dibble wound up the year with an ERA of 25.58 and ratio of 3.63 for the Fever. Lucky for the Fever that the similar struggles of David "Fat Boy" West and The Wild Thing in the World Series didn't count against them.

The second-place Monsters began to smell blood. By this time, the Fever team ERA had risen from 3.45 to 3.52, and with no pitching on their reserve roster to promote, the Fever couldn't even replace Dibble. The bleeding finally stopped on September 22, when the Reds placed Dibble on the 15-day DL, shutting him down for the year. This time around, the Monsters were heard to remark that if Rob Dibble's shoulder had only lasted a few more weeks, by golly, they'd have caught the Fever.

Of course, the Green Monsters didn't help themselves any by displaying an unnatural affection for and unwarranted loyalty to two of the most notorious ratio killers in Rotisserie history -- Ben Rivera and Tim Pugh -- who just kept compiling bad numbers over a lot of innings. The Monsters finished ninth in ratio at 1.356, the lowest they finished in any category. Of no particular assistance was the amazingly hittable Pugh (200 hits in 164.1 innings) with a ratio of 1.576 (1.520 in 149.1 IP for the Monsters). Opponents hit .303 off Pugh, the highest opposition batting average of any pitcher with 160-plus innings. Rivera was worse; he walked a total of 85 batters in only 163 innings (the most walks per nine innings of any pitcher with 160-plus innings) for a ratio of 1.595 (1.616 in 142.1 IP for the Monsters). The League Office feels a duty, painful though it might be, to point out that if Rivera's and Pugh's 291.2 innings are subtracted from the Monsters' totals, they would have finished with a ratio of 1.299 over 1,072 IP, which would have been good for fourth place in that category. Even when Pugh's and Rivera's 22 total wins are subtracted, the Monsters still would have had a net gain of one and one-half points in the overall standings without these two stalwarts.

Fairness, however, compels the League Office to admit that the Managerial Move of the Year involved Pugh and the Monsters. On

September 28, the Monsters phoned the League Office with what at first seemed a very curious move: they reserved Greg W. Harris and recalled Pugh for the last week of the season. The move paid off: While Harris was getting shelled by the Braves in his last start of the season, Tim Pugh took a no-hitter into the ninth against the Padres and finished with a one-hit shutout (unlikely, indeed, given Pugh's opposition BA). It would probably be unkind to point out that Pugh walked five during the course of his one-hitter.

We might also mention the Monsters' shrewd auction purchases of Gregg Jefferies for \$29 and Mark Whiten for \$8. Jefferies (.342, 16 HR, 83 RBI, 46 SB) earned \$41 and was 1993's second most valuable offensive Rotisserie performer. Hard-hittin' Whiten (25 HR, 99 RBI, earned \$22) had the most amazing box score line of the year:

	ab	r	h	bi
Whiten, cf	5	4	4	12

This performance came in the second game of a September 7 doubleheader, and included four very long home runs (a feat only slightly diminished by the fact that it occurred against Reds' pitching; see the note on Rob Dibble above). For that week, the Monsters hit .326 with 17 HR and 60 RBI.

For the Candy Stripers, 1993 was a year to count at-bats. During the draft, the Stripers concentrated on acquiring pitching and outfielders. By the end of the Draft, having blown a third of their draft-day budget (\$52) on Barry Bonds, the Stripers found themselves with an Opening Day infield of Archi Cianfrocco, Jeff Branson, Alex Arias, Chris Donnels, Lenny Harris, and Dave Martinez. Not exactly Tinker-to-Evers-to-Chance. Other owners seemed stunned by the Stripers' tactic: previous teams had decided to concede the saves or stolen bases categories early on, but no one had ever tried to win a Rotisserie pennant without an infield.

In mid-May, with the Stripers in first place in batting average at .290, owner Candy "Sue" Ross, leafing through the Official Rules for the first time, came across the "Fenokee AB Requirement" of Rule IX, which provides that a team must have a minimum of 4,250 at-bats during the season in order to be awarded any points in the batting average category. (The Rule is intended to prevent an "all pitching" strategy, whereby a team assembles an ace pitching staff, plus Barry Bonds and 13 Lenny Harrises, in an attempt to collect 48 pitching points, 12 BA points, and slip into the first division). At the time, the Stripers had fewer than 900 AB, were on a pace to pick up only about 3,300 for the year, and clearly would need to average almost 200 AB a week for the rest of the season, in contrast to the 130 AB per week they'd been averaging over the first few weeks of the season.

A frenzy of transactions ensued. In short order, the Stripers traded Tommy Greene, John Smoltz, and Marquis Grissom, acquiring everyday players Sammy Sosa, Eddie Murray, and Darren Lewis. They also added semi-regulars Scott Servais, Phil Clark, and Chris Jones through FAAB signings. The Stripers' at-bat totals began to climb (94 AB in Week 8, 170 in Week 10, 260 in Week 14, and so on). Alas, as their ABs climbed, their BA fell. By the end of the season, the Stripers were hitting only .263, and would have finished dead last in batting average had not the Doctor's Dilemma bailed them out by failing to meet the Fenokee AB Requirement themselves (the Dilemma finished with 4,249 AB,

one AB short).

The biggest controversy of the year was stirred up by Karnold Nowledge and Doctor's Dilemma a few weeks before the trade deadline. On Friday the 13th of August, as the League Office prepared to shut down for its well-earned annual summer vacation, the Nowledge phoned in a 26-player trade that in essence swapped their worst 13 players for the Dilemma's best 13. The League Office, having received information that the Dilemma would not return under the same ownership for 1994, was certain that such a transparently collusive trade must have been no more than a practical joke. The Nowledge were told that the League Office was closed for vacation, and to call acting League secretary K.C. Green, who had unwittingly agreed to record the transactions for that week.

As word of the purported transaction spread, tempers rose. A clear majority of owners felt that to permit the deal to take place would badly disrupt the competitive balance of the LTBNL. These owners objected not only because the Nowledge would be immeasurably strengthened for the pennant drive (and the Dilemma decimated), but also because the trade would have anti-competitive results reaching far beyond the 1993 season. The trade clearly amounted to no more than a collusive combination of two teams into one, the majority reasoned, with the Dilemma becoming the Nowledge's farm team. How could the LTBNL in good conscience expect a new owner to take over the Dilemma under such circumstances? The Nowledge replied that LTBNL rules do not permit a majority to review, let alone ultimately scuttle, any proposed trade. The League Office, back from vacation, suddenly began acting much more like Fay Vincent than Judge Landis (or even Bowie Kuhn), unwilling to act decisively to strike down the trade, instead urging the majority to convene the Committee of the Whole (all League owners) under Rule XIX to vote upon the controversy.

Ultimately, fisticuffs were avoided when the Nowledge announced that the "trade" had never really occurred, and instead traded for Barry Bonds, Larry Walker, and Lee Smith, just before the deadline. The League Office admits that, to this day, it does not know for certain whether the Nowledge ever really were serious about the deal, or whether the League's leg was being pulled on a rather grand scale. The point is made, however, that perhaps some sort of anti-dumping rule should be reinstated, or at minimum the LTBNL needs a mechanism by which to resolve questions of interpreting league rules. Rule XIX says that an Executive Committee of three team owners should be designated to interpret the rules and dispose of such altercations. The LTBNL also could join the Rotisserie League Baseball Association (for a fee), which will issue rulings on rules disputes.

The acquisition of Bonds and Walker bumped the Nowledge up three places in homers and two in RBI, but the loss of Rod Beck, who had 10 saves in September, cost them a point and a half in saves. The Nowledge were not able to rally for a fourth-place finish, but they did succeed in putting a scare into the fourth place QuagMyers and third place Doug Outs. The Nowledge got big returns from Beck, Matt Williams (.294, 38 HR, 110 RBI, earned \$32), Bernard Gilkey (earned \$25), and Jeff Fassero (12 W, 2.29 ERA, 1.156 ratio, earned \$27), but their season may really have been doomed when they paid a whopping \$38 for John Franco on draft day. Franco finished with 10 saves, a 5.20 ERA, and a 1.789 ratio, and earned a meager \$4. The \$34 loss on Franco tied the Sol Train's John Smiley for biggest loss of the year. With Beck gone to the Stripers, Lee Smith to the Yankees, and with Franco's career in jeopardy, will

the Nowledge be able to come up with a closer for 1994? The Cardinals seem ready to hand the job to righty Mike Perez, whom the Nowledge have locked up for \$13. But Perez has said he'd really prefer to remain in a set-up role: "Being a closer is a lot of pressure!"

For the QuagMyers, 1993 presented the opportunity to say "I told you so" to all the owners who have heaped abuse upon the Quags over the years for paying outlandish sums of money for Andres Galarraga, only to be rewarded with feeble performances. El Gato Gigantico cost a modest \$18 in the 1993 draft, and he paid off in big fashion, earning \$36 and winning the batting title with a .370 average (22 HR, 98 RBI). He also crushed the longest homer of the year in the NL, a 473-footer against the Marlins on July 6. The other side of the coin for the Quags was Bip Roberts, with whom the Quags became enamored during the 1992 pennant drive, after acquiring him in a fire sale deal from the Bombers. The Quags were delighted when they bought Bip in the '93 draft for \$35, but a series of injuries limited him to only 292 AB, in which he hit .240 with 18 RBI and 26 SB (earning a meager \$7). Bip's inability to play through the pain (and questionable attitude) led to the somewhat awkward situation of his teammates urging him not to play. The Cincinnati papers reported that the ailing Bip claimed Kevin "Blood and Guts" Mitchell and others had told him he was a shell of his healthy self: "They're saying, 'We love you, dude, and that's why we hate to see you playing.'" But when the Reds finally placed Bip on the DL, they sent him home to San Diego to recuperate. After the season ended, Davey Johnson admitted that bad-attitude Bip was banished "for the benefit of the other 24 guys on the team." Bip won't be back with the Reds next year, and the Quags aren't holding a spot for him either.

Some other various awards and oddities:

Rotisserie MVP (hitter): Barry Bonds (.336, 46 HR, 123 RBI, 29 SB). A true four-category player, Bonds earned \$51, justifying the Stripers' decision to spend an outlandish \$52 on him. He easily outdistanced runner-up Gregg Jefferies (earned \$41).

Rotisserie Cy Young: NOT Greg Maddux, Bill Swift, nor John Burkett, but John Wetteland (9-3, 43 saves, 1.37 ERA, 1.008 Ratio, earned \$53). Rod Beck was next best, at \$50, and Maddux was tops among starters, earning \$48.

Worst Rotisserie Hitter: Kevin Baez, who hit .183 in 126 AB with the Mets, and Brian Hunter, who played sparingly for the Braves but figures prominently in the Pirates' plans for next year, both earned minus \$2.

Worst Rotisserie Pitcher: Don Baylor said Andy Ashby had the best arm in the Rockies' camp, and the Green Monsters were sufficiently impressed to promote Ashby for an eventful week in May. He finished the season as a Padre, with a 6.80 ERA and 1.821 Ratio over 123 innings, earning an amazing minus \$26. Ashby easily outpaced Mets' lefty Pete Schourek (earned minus \$17) for this dubious distinction. About Schourek, who threw 48 innings for the Quags before they lost patience, Mets' skipper Dallas Green said: "If you want him, you can have him for Christmas."

Biggest profits on players bought in the auction/draft: Jim Gott (bought by the Fever for \$3; earned \$29) and Greg McMichael (bought by the Wrecking Crew for \$2; earned \$28) each turned a profit of \$26; Andres Galarraga (Quags paid \$18; he earned \$36) was tops among hitters

with an \$18 profit.

Biggest losses on players bought in the auction/draft: John Smiley (Sol Train paid \$27; he earned minus \$7) and John Franco (Nowledge paid \$38; he earned \$4) each lost \$34; Darryl Strawberry (Division paid \$30; he earned \$0) was a \$30 loss.

Best freezes: John Wetteland (Quags) earned a profit of \$29 (frozen at \$24, earned \$53); Mike Piazza (Fever) turned a \$25 profit (frozen at \$10, earned \$35).

Best Reserve List pick: Jim Eisenreich, snagged in the third round of the reserve draft by the Patrick Division, earned \$16. Jose Bautista, taken by Doctor's Dilemma in the second round of the reserve draft, quietly earned \$19 but was never promoted to the Dilemma's active roster.

Best FAAB acquisitions: Mike Lansing, signed by the Wrecking Crew for \$11 in mid-April, earned \$15. Kirk Reuter, a \$24 addition to the Candy Stripers' roster at the all-star break, earned \$14. Willie Blair, signed by the Stripers as a free agent not once but twice, earned minus \$7.

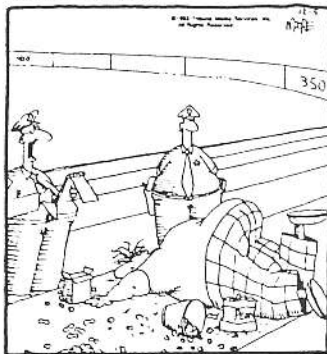
Best player nobody ever owned: Cardinals' lefty reliever Paul Kilgus compiled an impressive 0.63 ERA and 0.907 Ratio over 29 innings, earning \$9. The rotisserie world yawned.

Most players used: A total of 46 different players appeared at one time or another on the Peckers' active roster, breaking last year's record of 42 (held jointly by the Peckers and the Doug Outs). Runner-up: The Stripers used 42 or 43 players, depending on how many times you count Willie Blair.

Most profligate spender: The QuagMyers led the way this season, spending \$124.20, breaking the Peckers' 1992 record of \$124.00.

Whew! We come to the end of a newsletter that turned out to be a long one! Thanks to all of those who contributed ideas. And now, with the LTBNL season having been wrapped up, all the awards handed out, and the hot stove league well underway, all that remains is for the League Office to remind all LTBNL owners to submit their winter rosters (use the form at right if you wish) by January 10. Happy holidays!

In The Bleachers



"Well, Higgins, he's dead as a mackerel! But look at all this food: Popcorn, peanuts, Cracker Jack. I doubt this guy cared if he ever got back."

THE LEAGUE TO BE NAMED LATER

WINTER ROSTER of _____

Instructions: List the 23 players (irrespective of position) from your combined Active and Reserve rosters you wish to protect. Complete rosters are found on the next page. All players not protected are placed on waivers. Once the League Office has received all the protected lists, it will circulate a list of waived players for the first round of Winter Waivers.

Return your list by January 10, 1994 to 312 Tusculum Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226, call (513) 321-8277 (home) or (606) 291-1274 (work), or fax it to (606) 291-1274.

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 14. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 15. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 16. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 17. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 18. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 19. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 20. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 21. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 22. _____ |
| 11. _____ | 23. _____ |
| 12. _____ | |

Suggestions for Winter Meeting: (Date, place, etc.)

GREEN MONSTERS
K.C. Green
513/791-6924

WRECKING CREW
Chris Benitendi
513/977-8157

KARNOLD KNOWLEDGE
Tom Arnold
513/751-2051

PATRICK DIVISION
Pat Muldowney
516/561-9040

QUAGMYERS
Tom Myers
513/321-8277

SHOW HOFFS
Dan Hoffman
614/777-0522

P Sanderson 24A F Castillo 8B Portugal 1B S Fernandez 16B Harkey 8B
P Glavine 12C Harnisch 12C J Ruffin 6A Andersen 11A Boucher 4A Deshaies 24A
P R Myers 25B X Hernandez 1B P Martinez 12B B Hurst 1A Spradlin 6A Gooden 18A
P Benes 24A Franco 38A Belcher 19A Wetteland 24B Walk 5A
P Rojas 3B Arocha 12B A Watson 4A Aquino 3A Rogers 3A
P To Jones 3A Brocail 11A Guzman 17A Worrall 7B De Martinez 32A Hoffman 5A
P Rijo 33A Hickerson 10A Fassero 4A Hammond 1A Hough 4A
P GW Harris 9A McMichael 2A D Jackson 4A Hibbard 5A Kile 1A
P* Oliver 7B Manwaring 10B Cabrera 1A Berryhill 4B Taubensee 3B Fletcher 1B
C Wilkins 2B D Wilson 5A Hundley 4A Olson 4A O'Brien 8A
1B Velazquez 12A Destrade 18A Bagwell 21C Bream 7B Galarraga 18A W Clark 45B
2B Samuel 9A Lansing 11A Alicea 15A Biggio 28A J Gardner 8A Lemke 1B
3B Jefferies 29A Caminiti 11B Pendleton 23B Batista 1A Sheffield 13B Sabo 27A
SS J King 14A Boger 9A Benevides 4A McKnight 5A Castilla 1A Sanchez 7B
MIF Stocker 9A Vizcaino 1A McMichael 2A Zeile 15A Karros 13C Uribe 9A
COR H Rodriguez 1B Murray 22A Gilkey 4B L Gonzalez 18C
OF Whiten 8A E Davis 27B Ry Thompson 10A Mitchell 37A Howard 9A Gynn 30B
OF Gant 16G Grissom 38B D May 8B Cole 12A D Sanders 11B Dv Smith 2B
OF Lankford 20G Da Clark 4A Bonds 52A Lo Smith 7A Frazier 10A Dykstra 32A
OF G Hill 11A Orsulak 6A Eisenreich 10A Conine 4A
OF A Martin 14A Carr 10A Benzinger 1A Cotto 10A Royer 5A Ro Thompson 18A
UT* G Pena 12D Je Clark 9B Dunston 7A

FAAB\$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0

KEY: A = 1st year at current salary
B = 2nd year at current salary
C = 1st yr of 2-yr long-term K
D = 1st yr of 3-yr long-term K
E = 1st yr of 4-yr long-term K
F = Final year of long-term K
G = 2nd yr of 3-yr long-term K
X = Option year
* Active roster may include UT or extra (10th) pitcher

As of 11/01/93

CANDY STRIPERS
Sue Ross
513/761-5367

DOUG QUTS
Doug May
614/486-0138

DAN'S FEVER
Dan Myers
516/261-8861

DR'S DILEMMA
Todd Lang
513/961-LANG

GREGORY PECKERS
Breg May
614/279-2110

SOL TRAIN
Scott Solis
614/486-1882

P Astacio 3B Avery 14C Burkett 7B Wohlers 8C Barnes 9B
P B Williams 1A Schilling 1B West 3A Morgan 15C Rapp 6A Bowen 2B
P D Jones 21B Swift 12B Tomlin 16A Swindell 24B Reynoso 1A S Reed 1B
P P Smith 2B Harvey 34A Whitehurst 1B Tewksbury 29A K Hill 10B Wagner 12A
P Beck 30B Candiotti 21A Mi Williams 28B Burba 10A Osborne 11A Bottenfield 1A
P Mulholland 19A Mahholz 15A G Maddux 33A Browning 11A Holmes 24A Johnston 5A
P Rueter 24A Z Smith 7A Ruffin 7A Dewey 24A Scott 11A
P Ke Gross 8A T Greene 5A Gott 3A Armstrong 4A Cooke 12A R Lewis 4A
P Ayala 12A Ge Harris 3A M Jackson 12A Drabek 35A Wakefield 17A
P* Servais 6A Daulton 15C Piazza 10B Ca Hernandez 7B Ausmus 5A Girardi 8A
C Pratt 1A Je Reed 7A Slaughter 3B Santiago 18A Pappas 5A Schaeffer 5A
1B Cianfrocco 5A McGriff 40B Bonilla 35A R Jordan 12B
2B Branson 3B Sandberg 35A Jo Reed 10A DeShields 24G Kent 4B
3B Renteria 2A Hollins 13B Wallach 12A Sharperson 6B C Hayes 19A K Young 1B
SS Arias 1A Duncan 17A Ja Bell 15C Clayton 9B Gutierrez 9A Weiss 7A
MIF Mejia 8A E Young 5B Cordero 20A Garcia 8B Barberie 17A
COR Da Martinez 10A Berry 4A L Harris 8A H Morris 20G W Greene 1B Buechele 12A
OF Brumfield 6A Justice 20G Finley 13C Carreon 2A Briley 1A R Kelly 37A
OF Sosa 10B Butler 30B Jordan 3B Anthony 1B Alou 2B Plantier 20A
OF Tarasco 4A Chamberlain 15C Whitmore 24A VanderWal 12A
OF C Jones 12A Roberson 24A Felix 13A Van Slyke 16B Snyder 7B
UT* P Clark 7A Milligan 6A Rhodes 4A Incaviglia 16A W Wilson 13A M Thompson 2B
Sherman 1A Burnitz 8A

FAAB\$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0

R1 Klesko 5B G Young 1A De White 5A Shaw 12A Draper 1A Shipley 1A
R2 J Lopez 11A B Smith 11A Maldonado 16A Bautista 11A Nevin 11A Goodwin 5B
R3 Pose 14A W Wilson 10A Pennyfeather 5A E Bell 4A Ti Worrell 10A Moeller 10A
R4 Hosesy 9A Parrett 9A Wied 8B J Hamilton 9A Daal 5A J Hollins 9A
R5 Shelton 11A Plesac 8A Black 3B T Alvarez 8A T Williams 4A J Martinez 1B
R6 C James 2B Scioscia 1A Wen 5A Eiland 3A S Wilson 7A
R7 Blair 5A Cummings 6A B Henry 8A Roper 6A Turner 8A S Valdez 6A
R8 Kranepool 1A DeJesus 5A P Fletcher 5A D Young 5A R White 5A M Kelly 7B
R9 Ja Clark 3A Minor 2A Koelling 5A Torres 4A Brink 4A Decker 3A
R10 Wendell 7B Backlund 3A Juden 10A C Reese 3A Walters 3B Berroa 2B
R11 Donnels 1A J Howell 7A Dozier 2A Amaro 3B Huskey 2A
R12 Freeman 11A Osuna 6A Sanford 24A Innis 1A B Barber 1A

FAAB\$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0