

FBBA Draft Day # 29



Notice how QUIET the room becomes moments before the draft begins. The boys of the FBBA are there to work. Once Butch's beer is chilled and the gavel, (ash tray) is dropped it's PLAY BALL and the wanna be GMs are unleashed. Starting with last year's champs, the AMAZINS, let's look at how the first half of the season sets up.

AMAZINS – Carefully calculated the pre-season keepers into a solid base with good players and money to spend. Starsburg and Puig became their first impact paler draftees as they started their title defense. Though not as formidable as the 2015 draft day squad, I see Tom and Alan as one of the early \$ teams with solid offense and pitching potential. Lester, Matz and Stras. are a great trio and Maeda (at a risky \$8) and Wood have considerable upside. Not much team speed and nowhere near last year's power but well-rounded enough and savvy owners. Should get a boost in mid-season at the latest when Glasnow enters to Buc rotation. In the hunt early.

Holey Sox – I got 'em #1 after draft day, though not invincible. Balanced offense up and down the roster as Polanco and Blackmon mature. Welcome off – season addition of Carpenter who is slated to lead-off which probably is not ideal for all stats. Some needs: Adams to play regularly and pitching starters aren't very deep with only Cueto and Martinez to claim as "anchors". That leaves Niese as an important piece for a 5 starter team coming out of the box. Can't afford to let guys that go down wind up frozen which may arguably have cost them a real shot at the title last year. Votto may not see a pitch to hit after July if the Reds unload as expected. Solid team.



Senators. The new triumvirate of honest Ed, Mr. Bill and The Cap have an offence with some pop and speed. Keepers Fowler and Heyward in Chi-town are prime and if Billy Hamilton can hit .240, may have most overall team speed. Batting average may be dicey with power guys like, Bruce and Carter playing regularly and the on-paper draft of Wright, Zimmermann, and Holliday are all injury risks with big upsides Leaving \$10 on table and coming away with no closer was unconscionable and can only be fixed if Quack, Clippard or Rivero grabs closer spot or by trade of offense for a proven closer. 7 serviceable starters bodes well for Ks and wins potential but Koehler and DeLaRosa are WHIP & ERA risks which can blow up those categories. A lot can go right... or wrong. Upper middle of the pack right now.

Cardenales – welcome to Anthony and Michael. Zobrist the only real impact player on offense on draft day to go with a very solid trio of Pence, Rizzo, and Seager. Little team speed and only modest pop from the rest of the bats. Soler's gotta play regular and will if the Schwarb flunks the everyday job in Chicago. Duvall emerging as LF in Cincy will help. Hard to endorse a team of 5 starters when 60% of them are in Cincy. Wacha, at a pretty steep price needs a good, full year. Work to do, time to do it. Michael, you may have to flesh out that rotation. How is your arm. Not serious contenders early.



Boomers - So what else is new? Top 4 starters perhaps in history of FBBA.... But that's it. Got plenty of saves coming... Now , the offense. Gordon.... Then there's Gordon.... And oh, have I mentioned Gordon? I don't see 75 homers on the roster, compromising RBIS and RUNS (OK, I will concede Gordon) Pitching should get him 45 points, offense at a generous 20 = 65 and a recipes for 5th place at best. That said, Lou always manages to surprise me and likely will again. Don't wait too long to try to beef up.

Ball Four – Tough to go solo after a while spent with a brilliant partner (lol)). At first, I thought Eric had a train wreck on his hands and then looked at roster and see only a partial train wreck – PITCHING. Offense boasts of Posey, Conforto, Braun, Ozuna (whom I like for a big comeback year. Bour in Miami also has some under- the- radar pop. Kang due back soon at Wong (at \$12 – eek) is more than serviceable. Not a terrible array. Only DeGrom can be counted on and Velasquez and Eickoff show promise for the long haul but they are part of the Philly factor. Eric is a quick read and knows how to climb uphill over the long season which he will have to start doing pretty soon.

Amigos – I like this team. Rat-a-tat Tommy and the gabby, loquacious, outspoken, chatty Buff should contend for a check with this squad. Baez (the steal of the draft for \$1 caught us all asleep),



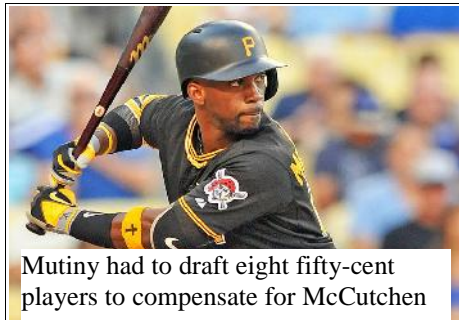
Steal of the draft?

then J. Peralta by mid-season and beyond will help the likes of Gonzo, Duda Stanton and Pederson (nowhere to go but up) can bomb. Myers under the radar in SD but a steady bat. Decent array of starters and a shot of Bailey by early June to help Cy Young dark horse Cole in rotation. Saves covered with Grilli (Vizcaino soon to come) and Hoover though with week teams can help them tread water. Lower check money team right now.

Zombs - Comeback year for the Commish & Kin. Solid 10 contributors on offense. Well-rounded with pop from Marte, AGon (tho' at 34 I sense a bit of a decline whenever they don't play the Padres), Franco in Philly (love 'im), Peralta, a real unsung star in Az. and the emerging Grichuk in StL. Revere needed for SBs and it cost them at a whopping \$16 –(banking on the BA and Runs to boot). Harvey, Miller (out of the Atlanta jail) and Syndy (another dark horse Cy Young pick) a 3 solid anchors, Garcia (injury risk???) and Nola with upsides and if they get a full year of closing duty from shit-for-brains Rodney and Darth Vadar (at least in DC) Papelbon they will have another solid category. I got 'em neck and neck with Holey Sox. Good team.

Love, the Machine – Got “Polloxed” a few hrs. before draft (why any starter plays the last 3 days of Spring training is beyond me) leaving a key cog to replace on offense. Only solace was that he didn't cost the \$15-17 he was worth). Resisted the temptation to spend their considerable \$ on McCutch or Harper and parleyed their dollars into Freeman, Cespedes which enabled them to overpay for the best catcher in the draft, Mesoraco, and the best closer in the league in Jansen. Well done. Add another notch in their “Belt” and I like their offense overall. Not so much the pitching with the \$15.50 Liriano (yikes!). Smarj is the staff anchor I quest and Corbin may be their most key player. Upper middle of the pack.

Mutiny – Aggressively picked up the guy they most wanted, Greinke, at a fair price and then surprised me with the \$30 McCutch (not McCutch – the \$30).



Mutiny had to draft eight fifty-cent players to compensate for McCutchen

Couldda had 30 players for that cost instead of effectively taking themselves out of the last 6 players of the draft with only \$9 for \$6). Yelich a star in the making but he only hit 7 homers last year (I think), which he will double I am sure. Grandy won't hit 25 this year and Howard will be part-time in Philly or in AL by late July. Only 2 anchor starters and one of them a Padre with a lotta innings already thrown in his arm (Shields). Might be wise to trade Rosey ,a front line closer, for a middle line closer and add some pop. No money threat right now.

Butts – Ying to Kaboom's Yang . No wonder they are cousins. Goldy, Arenado, Harper = 125 homers , 300+ RBIs and Runs at an average of \$60 per player. The other \$70 is what will determine the check size. I am leary of a staff anchored by Kazmir, making Mike Leake, very, very key. McGee in Colorado may soon split closing duties with Motte so his \$8.50 salary is steep in my estimation. Segura pricey at \$9 but has the upside in SBs an a fresjh start in Az. I think he will return close to the value Tony paid. This is no last place team and I see them contending all year

unless one of the big three goes down with an injury.

In summary: Holey Sox and Zombies -top class
Amigo, Amazins, Butts in contention
Senators, LM, Kabooms are lurking
Rest of the pack outside looking in.

Move musings:

Butts – eventually beef up Starting pitching
Mutiny – get another bat for a “B” starter
LM – salvage Pollock’s spot somehow
Zombs – do nothing until somebody else does
Amigos – swap a bit of offense for speed
Ball Four – Conforto for a quality pitching upgrade?
Cardenales – a “B” bat for a “b” starter
Holey Sox – no brain farts when roster needs replacements
Kabooms – closer for some pop
Senators – pop for a closer (see Lou)
Amazins – “B” pitcher for a “B” bat



Can Story elevate the Love Machine from lurkers to leaders?

Situations to watch

10. Juggling of Adams and Moss in St. Louis
11. The Story/Reyes story
12. Dodger rotation and the maniac Puig
13. When Reds finish rebuilding.
14. Youth movements in Atl and Philly
15. The year of the CUBS
16. Papelbon in DC
17. Closer revolving door throughout league
18. Will Marlins surprise


JULY 9 – MID SEASON GATHERING AND TRADE FEST SOMEWHERE – SAVE THE DATE

***** Senators officially dedicate this season to the memory of Charlie Mascialino, one time, all-time Kingsman and the original Mr. Met as well as HS classmate at Nazareth of Ed & John who died suddenly on Monday morning April 4th of complications from Parkinson’s. Charlie’s last act among us was watching the METS lose to KC. Those bastards owed Charlie better than that!!!



Projections from the outer burro

Mike McNicholl

Team	Total	RK	W	RK	SO	RK	WHIP	RK	ERA	RK	SVH	RK	HR	RK	RBI	RK	SB	RK	R	RK	AVG	RK
 Hosox	86	86.0	89	10.0	1237	7.0	1.189	7.0	3.184	9.0	127	10.0	209	9.0	821	10.0	130	8.0	881	10.0	0.269	6.0
Senators	74	74.0	85	9.0	1279	10.0	1.206	4.0	3.480	4.0	65	2.0	216	10.0	875	11.0	170	11.0	964	11.0	0.261	2.0
Kaboomers	68	68.0	96	11.0	1326	11.0	1.075	11.0	2.950	11.0	134	11.0	109	1.0	538	1.0	126	7.0	625	1.0	0.263	3.0
Cardenals	67	67.0	79	6.0	1118	4.0	1.188	8.0	3.307	7.0	106	9.0	190	5.0	818	9.0	76	2.0	874	9.0	0.272	8.0
Zombies	62	62.0	83	8.0	1243	8.0	1.193	6.0	3.466	5.0	77	4.0	163	2.0	737	3.0	154	10.0	799	6.0	0.274	10.0
Butt Pirtes	57	57.0	65	2.0	934	2.0	1.178	9.0	3.500	3.0	83	6.0	201	7.0	789	6.0	106	6.0	818	7.0	0.274	9.0
Love Machine	57	57.0	69	3.0	1144	5.0	1.229	3.0	3.600	2.0	95	7.0	192	6.0	805	7.0	136	9.0	847	8.0	0.270	7.0
Amazins	57	57.0	78	5.0	1193	6.0	1.196	5.0	3.127	10.0	67	3.0	189	4.0	739	4.0	101	5.0	767	4.0	0.275	11.0
Ball Four	54	54.0	56	1.0	929	1.0	1.137	10.0	3.246	8.0	82	5.0	203	8.0	817	8.0	96	4.0	789	5.0	0.268	4.0
Amigos	40	40.0	80	7.0	1250	9.0	1.268	1.0	3.721	1.0	52	1.0	225	11.0	768	5.0	70	1.0	761	3.0	0.260	1.0
Mutiny	38	38.0	70	4.0	1064	3.0	1.230	2.0	3.407	6.0	97	8.0	165	3.0	661	2.0	93	3.0	742	2.0	0.268	5.0

Forecasted standings based on rosters as of draft day and Rotowire player projections
 (Note:SVH is not our 2xS+H formula – had to hack a bit to get something close)