

SEASONS PAST BASEBALL
1955 SEASON

11/01/1993

MANAGER BIOS

RED SEARS

D.O.B. 11/27/35

Born: Springfield, MA

Occupation: Retired Sports Editor-Baltimore Sun

Wife's Name: Jeanne

Children: Timothy, Stephen, Christine, Patrick

3 Favorite Players/Teams

Bobby Doerr 46 Red Sox

Ted Williams 48 Braves

Warren Spahn 69 Orioles

EXPANSION PLANS

Much thought has been given as to the procedure the league will use when facing the expansion issue. I have selected the following method as I believe it is the least painful to the existing managers yet will still make the expansion teams at least as competitive as they were in real life. Here's how it will work:

Prior to the beginning of the 1961 season Rookie draft, two (2) new expansion managers will enter the league. My goal is to always keep the actual number of teams in the league to within two (2) of the actual Major League number. These managers will flip a coin to determine which will have the first pick of available players and rotate back and forth throughout the draft. The loser will then receive the first pick of the available stadiums to play in.

Each expansion manager will then select eighteen (18) players from the rosters of the actual expansion clubs. In 1961 the players will be selected from the Washington Senators and Los Angeles Angels. In 1962 the rosters will be filled from the New York Mets and Houston Colt .45's. All players on these rosters will be eligible to be selected. So what this most likely means is that whoever has Leon Wagner prior to the draft will lose him from his team. You can only guess as who may be selected from that point on.

There will be no limit on the number of players an existing team may lose. However, it appears that maximum number could be three (3) or four (4). After each expansion team has picked his 18 players, the remaining unselected players will return to their respective SPB teams. The regular process of cutting down to the pre-rookie draft roster limit will then occur followed by the Rookie Draft. The 2 new expansion managers will draft from the last two (2) positions in each round of the Rookie Draft. Once again a coin flip will determine each's position.

I believe that this is the most equitable manner of conducting the expansion drafts and we will follow this pattern with each Major League expansion. So be aware that some of your current players may be exposed to future drafts. We will all lose some good players in this process but the process will also make the league stronger as the new teams will still be competitive. So make your draft plans accordingly! Please contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding this procedure.

1956 ROOKIE DRAFT

Plans are being developed to hold the 1956 Rookie Draft on Saturday April 23, 1994 in Lafayette, Indiana. Steve Ehresman has volunteered to host the 1956 Rookie Draft and as this location is centrally located, it will allow the most managers to participate in person. Thus far those planning to attend are: Red Sears, Gary Plunkitt, John Turnbull, Steve Ehresman, Rick Ryan, Jeff Nicholson, and Jim Wheeler. Again, plan ahead to keep this month and date open.

And for those who REALLY like to plan ahead, John Turnbull has produced a schedule of all key league dates through the year 2004. So make your travel plans now for that 2004 Rookie Draft!

A BASEBALL WHAT???

This month our newsletter is privileged to receive the prose of "The Baseball Curmudgeon". Both he and Doctor Diamond will be making regular visits to our league so be prepared for their unique perspectives on SPB baseball.

THE BASEBALL CURMUDGEON

(So, who is the BASEBALL CURMUDGEON? Just your basic old, gravel-voiced 1955 pressbox gadfly who has been living off ballpark food and Jack Daniels while chomping on thick cigars since the days of Cap Anson. Cynical and irascible might be the best way to describe him, although his philosophy is basically, "I'm here to protect this game.")

What the heck is this game coming to? Here we are fat and comfortable, a nice fourteen team setup. Good little old-money club. Now, some of these newcomers want to do some drastic things. Like even adding new teams.

They call this expansion inevitable. Why? It'll only destroy this great game of baseball. Imagine, ballplayers in the major leagues playing in some new-fangled stadium on the left coast. Probably be sun-tanned all year long. Ah, and they call that progress? Might even be hanging out with some Hollywood people like Frank "It's My Own Hair" Sinatra or Betty "No More Wire Hangers" Davis.

And what about the players? There are 26 minor leagues, all the way down to the lowest "D" classification. They even have a team in Lafayette in the Midwest League for '56. What are they going to do, rush players up and call them major leaguers? They'll never be ready. And what'll happen to the statistics? Probably, someone will even come close to breaking the immortal Babe's record. Prepare yourself for the attack of the asterisk people.

But things are happening. It seems that Walter O'Malley is working on swapping the Dodgers' Ft. Worth franchise to the Cubs. In return, the Dodgers would get that little PCL park, Wrigley Field in Los Angeles. No, I talked to O'Malley the other day and he assured me, it's just a move for a new minor league team in the future. And think nothing of the fact that the Dodgers will play 7 home games next year in Jersey City. Mr. O'Malley never lies. He just wants that little cozy ballpark for his youngsters to prepare for those Ebbets Field confines.

So, these backroom discussions are going on. Insiders, sworn to confidentiality, tell me that plans are underway right now to add some teams for the 1961 season. The questions to be answered are how much each franchise owner will get in fees and how they will screw the new ownership by providing only the lamest, oldest and incompetent ballplayers to any new clubs.

And I saw this new-fangled thing the other day in the official book that only we big-time baseball writer's have access to, THE BASEBALL YEAR & NOTE BOOK. It's called the FORMULA for OFFENSIVE VALUE OF PLAYERS. Pretty basic, but scary that some nerd with a slide rule is starting to evaluate players beyond batting average, HRs and RBIs.

You give 1 point for a walk, stolen base and single, two for a double, three for a triple and four for a HR. Then, you divide by the total times at bat. Supposed to rate the best players. There's even talk of

using these new computers, the ones they use in the war to fire missiles to keep baseball stats. Can't do that. What'll happen to pencil makers? Not that we pay for them, but why make it easy for fans in the future. Let the kids learn math by figuring the average at home.

Besides, nobody could ever get one of those big computers into their house.

SEASONS PAST BASEBALL SEASON SCHEDULE

YEAR	DRAFT	TRADE	MON 1	MON 2	MON 3	MON 4	MON 5	MON 6	WSERIES
1955:	JUL93	AUG93	SEP93	OCT93	NOV93	DEC93	JAN94	FEB94	MAR94
1956:	APR94	MAY94	JUN94	JUL94	AUG94	SEP94	OCT94	NOV94	DEC94
1957:	JAN95	FEB95	MAR95	APR95	MAY95	JUN95	JUL95	AUG95	SEP95
1958:	OCT95	NOV95	DEC95	JAN96	FEB96	MAR96	APR96	MAY96	JUN96
1959:	JUL96	AUG96	SEP96	OCT96	NOV96	DEC96	JAN97	FEB97	MAR97
1960:	APR97	MAY97	JUN97	JUL97	AUG97	SEP97	OCT97	NOV97	DEC97
1961:	JAN98	FEB98	MAR98	APR98	MAY98	JUN98	JUL98	AUG98	SEP98
1962:	OCT98	NOV98	DEC98	JAN99	FEB99	MAR99	APR99	MAY99	JUN99
1963:	JUL99	AUG99	SEP99	OCT99	NOV99	DEC99	JAN00	FEB00	MAR00
1964:	APR00	MAY00	JUN00	JUL00	AUG00	SEP00	OCT00	NOV00	DEC00
1965:	JAN01	FEB01	MAR01	APR01	MAY01	JUN01	JUL01	AUG01	SEP01
1966:	OCT01	NOV01	DEC01	JAN02	FEB02	MAR02	APR02	MAY02	JUN02
1967:	JUL02	AUG02	SEP02	OCT02	NOV02	DEC02	JAN03	FEB03	MAR03
1968:	APR03	MAY03	JUN03	JUL03	AUG03	SEP03	OCT03	NOV03	DEC03
1969:	JAN04	FEB04	MAR04	APR04	MAY04	JUN04	JUL04	AUG04	SEP04