

SPBI 1972 Newsletter

1972 Rookie Draft

The 1972 rookie draft was once again held in Chicago, hosted by John Ungashick. In attendance were a total of 8 managers; Chris Williams, Gary Plunkitt, John Turnbull, Joe DeZarlo, Dave Lauer, Don Zminda, John Ungashick, and Rich Applegate.

Most of us arrived in Chicago on Friday, and we had out traditional German dinner at Kuhn's Deli & Café, along with the obligatory German "refreshments".

After the early draft on Saturday morning, most of the crew spent the afternoon at Wrigley Field to watch the Cubs host the Astros. According to all, the game was very exciting. Gary wrote "What a friggin' game!!". Actually, he didn't say friggin'... I added that because it sounds better ☺

After the gang got back from the Cubs game, we had a nice dinner at a great Ribs joint, Sweat Baby Ray's. Kudos to John Ungashick on picking another great restaurant. Well, that just about wrapped up another SPBI draft. We can't wait for the 1973 draft. Rumors about an Anheuser-Busch trip circulated the halls of the Holiday Inn Express...

1972 Trades

There were a total of 65 trades made in preparation for the 1972 season. With 22 trades, Rick Ryan once again is crowned "Trader Rick". Rick was involved in over one-third of all trades this season! No other team was close to Rick's swash-buckling ways, as the Mountaineers' Steve Brunner came in second with 12 trades.

The Cougars, Stallions and Peppers each participated in just 1 trade. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it".

Team	# Trades
Cubs	22
Mountaineers	12
Eagles	10
Chiefs	9
Tigers	9
Volcanoes	8
Rats	6
Replacements	6
Black Sox	6
Red Storm	6
Forest Citys	5

Team	# Trades
Saxons	5
Stars	4
Triangles	4
Thunder	4
Tourists	3
Bombers	3
Spiders	3
Dukes	2
Cougars	1
Stallions	1
Peppers	1

1972 Predictions

I will make another stab at predicting the outcome of SPBI (1971 team name in parenthesis if different).

AL East

The Rats, with a good balance of pitching and hitting, should win this division. The Volcanoes, Mountaineers, Red Storm and Saxons will all battle for the final 4 slots, as 2nd place is up for grabs in the AL East.

AL West

This division race will be a real dog-fight between the Triangles and the Cubs, probably the top 2 teams in the AL. The Tigers won't be far behind, and could make this an exciting 3-way race! The Stallions and Cougars will battle for 4th place. The Replacements rebuilding will continue, as they will most likely finish last this season.

NL East

If you thought the AL West race looks close, just wait until this division battle heats up! The Bombers, Chiefs, Tourists and Spiders will all contend for the top spot. There is no clear-cut leader in this division, and the top 4 teams could win anywhere from 75-85 games each. The Black Sox will struggle all season, and will wind alone in last place.

NL West

Time to take off the gloves and watch the Thunder and the Forest Citys try to knock each other out all season. The Forest Citys can hit, but the Thunder can pitch equally as well. The Thunder's defense could ruin a few games for this top-notch pitching staff. The Stars will stay right on the heels of the front-runners, and could even sneak into 2nd place with a little luck. The Peppers should claim 4th place all to themselves. The Eagles and Dukes will have trouble keeping runs off the board, and will battle for last place.

AL Championship

The Rats vs. the Triangles. Both teams are similar offensively, but the Triangles have the edge when it comes to pitching, boasting the lowest walks per nine innings in the league. Triangles win in 4.

NL Championship

The Thunder vs. the Bombers. The Thunder's pitching staff is just too much to overcome in a short series. Thunder win in 4.

World Series

The Thunder vs. the Triangles. These two teams have the best pitching staffs in the league, so this is going to be a great matchup. The Thunder have more team speed, but the Triangles have a slight edge in power and getting on base. Triangles win in 7.

<<<<<<<<<< American League East >>>>>>>>>>

Flushing Rats, Joe DeZarlo.

1971 Record: 104-58, 1971 World Series Champions
1972 Prediction: 95-67

Spirit Mountain Volcanoes, Marc Hollingsworth.

1971 Record: 66-96, 4th Place American League East
1972 Prediction: 81-81

Blue Ridge Mountaineers, Steve Brunner.

1971 Record: 57-105, 5th Place American League East
1972 Prediction: 78-84

Niskayuna Red Storm, Don Rahn.

1971 Record: 91-71, tied-2nd Place American League East
1972 Prediction: 76-86

Schaumburg Saxons, Vin Onstott.

1971 Record: 91-71, tied-2nd Place American League East
1972 Prediction: 72-90

<<<<<<<<<< American League West >>>>>>>>>>

Dayton Triangles, John Turnbull.

1971 Record: 86-76, 3rd Place American League West
1972 Prediction: 96-66

Rossville Cubs, Rick Ryan.

1971 Record: 99-63, 2nd Place American League West
1972 Prediction: 94-68

Frankfort Tigers, Gary Plunkitt.

1971 Record: 108-54, 1st Place American League West
1972 Prediction: 90-72

Baltimore Stallions, Greg Henning.

1971 Record: 81-81, 4th Place American League West
1972 Prediction: 77-85

Glendale Cougars, Mike Cascarano (Elkhart Eels).

1971 Record: 57-105, 5th Place American League West
1972 Prediction: 74-88

Twin City Replacements, Marc Robinson (Mill City Millers).

1971 Record: 42-120, 6th Place American League West
1972 Prediction: 54-108

<<<<<<<<<< National League East >>>>>>>>>>

Kansas City Bombers, Bob Calicchia (Kansas City Red Streaks).

1971 Record: 72-90, 4th Place National League East
1972 Prediction: 86-76

Lafayette Chiefs, Steve Ehresman.

1971 Record: 80-82, 3rd Place National League East
1972 Prediction: 81-81

Cleveland Spiders, Chris Williams.

1971 Record: 101-61, 2nd Place National League East
1972 Prediction: 78-84

Asheville Tourists, Rich Applegate.

1971 Record: 104-58, 1st Place National League East
1972 Prediction: 76-86

Evanston Black Sox, John Ungashick.

1971 Record: 69-93, 5th Place National League East
1972 Prediction: 68-94

<<<<<<<<<< National League West >>>>>>>>>>

Las Vegas Thunder, Mike See.

1971 Record: 108-54, National League Champions
1972 Prediction: 103-59

Rockford Forest Citys, Terry Baxter.

1971 Record: 89-73, 2nd Place National League West
1972 Prediction: 101-61

Hollywood Stars, Don Zminda.

1971 Record: 69-93, 5th Place National League West
1972 Prediction: 90-72

Fairfax Peppers, Ron Peterson.

1971 Record: 70-92, 4th Place National League West
1972 Prediction: 79-83

Kenosha Eagles, Dave Lauer.

1971 Record: 63-99, 6th Place National League West
1972 Prediction: 65-97

Amboy Dukes, Al "Doc" Schweitzer.

1971 Record: 75-87, 3rd Place National League West
1972 Prediction: 56-106