

SPB1 1988 preseason forecast from Street&Schmoody Baseball Publications

Seasons Past Baseball's premier publication, Street&Schmoody's 1988 Baseball Yearbook has produced, for their loyal readership, another rousing preview for the upcoming 35th season of SPB1. Fans of the league have come to enjoy the new playoff format and will not be disappointed as the Dayton Triangles are this season's surprise pick to gain a spot in the ladder playoff system.

With the Seasons Past ladder playoff system implemented, both leagues ended up with the first and second place finishers in their league championships. Congratulations are in order for the SPB1 1987 Bolton Hill Scotties (their first championship in franchise history). For this season's prediction, Street&Schmoody divides each league into top tier and bottom tier. Here are the following predicted finishes.

AMERICAN LEAGUE predicted finishes:

Top Tier (top four teams make playoff ladder)

1. 110 wins      Bloomington Hoosiers
2. 88 wins        Frankfort Tigers
3. 87 wins        Carolina Bandits
4. 85 wins        Dayton Triangles
  
5. 83 wins        Collierstown Highlanders
6. 79 wins        Hatteras Pelicans III
7. 78 wins        Rockford Forest Citys
8. 77 wins        Indy Alley Cats
9. 75 wins        Cuyahoga River Flames
10. 69 wins       Cleveland Spiders
11. 54 wins       Evanston Black Sox

Street&Schmoody predict that the Hoosiers will run away with AL title by a comfortable margin with no other AL team reaching the 90 win mark.

Collierstown Highlanders should be in the running for the last wild card playoff spot but the Triangles will hold on and be looking forward to their first playoff spot since 1982. The Tigers and Bandits should keep their consecutive playoff streaks going as the #2 and #3 seeds, while last season's playoff participant, the Alley Cats are projected to miss the playoffs and falling to eighth in the AL.

NATIONAL LEAGUE predicted finishes:

Top Tier (top four teams make playoff ladder)

1. 101 wins Bolton Hill Scotties
2. 97 wins Beast Coast Brushbacks
3. 95 wins Wichita Wind Surge
4. 93 wins Spirit Mountain Volcanoes
5. 91 wins Flushing Rats
6. 78 wins New York Mets
7. 74 wins Fairfax Peppers
8. 71 wins Milwaukee Road
9. 70 wins Blue Ridge Mountaineers
10. 67 wins Ottawa Lynx
11. 59 wins East Kenosha Lakers

Street&Schmoody forecasts that there will be five teams contending for four playoff spots in the NL and it will be a 90 win team that loses out on the fourth and last wild card playoff spot. Look for the Scotties to defend their first place finish while the Brushbacks, Wind Surge, and Volcanoes all finish within four games of each other.

This is how Street&Schmoody sees the SPB1 1987 playoff ladder shaking out:

AL Playoffs:

- (#3) Carolina Bandits will defeat (#4) Dayton Triangles 4-0.
- (#2) Frankfort Tigers will squeeze by (#3) Carolina Bandits 4-2.
- (#1) Bloomington Hoosiers will defeat (#2) Frankfort Tigers 4-1.

NL Playoffs:

- (#4) Spirit Mountain Volcanoes will take down (#3) Wichita Wind Surge 4-2.
- (#2) Flushing Rats will get by (#4) Spirit Mountain Volcanoes 4-1.
- (#1) Bolton Hill Scotties will defeat (#2) Flushing Rats 4-3.

World Series: (AL #1) Bloomington Hoosiers 4 vs. (NL #1) Bolton Hill Scotties 3.

SPB1 1988 Champion: Bloomington Hoosiers



**Bloomington Hoosiers:**      **Batters**      **29.2 avg -25 (2) +35 (0)**  
    **Pitchers**      **28.4 avg -25 (4) +35 (0)**

**BA .302 (T2) OBP .385 (2) SLG .478 (2) Runs 1054 (2) HR 203 (T6) SB 87 (T10)**  
**ERA 4.35 (T7) 9.1 H/9 (5) 2.6 BB/9 (1) 6.0 K/9 (9) Sv 41 (T5) K 967 (8) CG 32 (1)**

Bloomington Hoosiers (AL 110-52 1st). Four straight SPB1 league championships along with three consecutive 100+ win season has these Hoosiers the prohibitive AL favorite to make the World Series. This is definitely the current dynasty to beat. The Hoosiers have a rotation that likes to go long. Leading SPB1 in complete games and low walk rate, Steve Lehman has this rotation set up to wash, rinse, and repeat. I think we have found out the secret meaning of Hoosier. Hoosiers hitting is league elite, being one of three teams (Scotties, Mets) to score over a thousand runs.

Ozzie Virgil (.251/17/52) and Bill Schroeder (.260/9/35) will again share the catching duties with rookie Ron Karkovice (.096/2/6) looking to replace one of the starters sometime in the near future. The left side of the infield will be manned by Kelly Gruber (.194/6/22) at third base and Gold Glove winner, the ‘Wizard of Oz’, Ozzie Smith (.303/3/50) at shortstop. Reliable Ryne Sandberg (.316/13/60) at second base and smooth fielding Keith Hernandez (.316/19/88) at first base take command of the right side of the infield. Robin Yount (.321/18/90) and Carney Lansford (.273/20/79) will split DH duties while also sharing some first base duty. Randy Ready (.340/8/58), (FA’88 8th rnd/#168) Tim Jones (DNP), (FA’88 8th rnd/#164) Mark Davidson (.257/3/28), Ken Phelps (.243/26/96) and Pedro Guerrero (.346/24/128) will provide the hurrahs from the bench. The Hoosiers outfield will line up with Kevin McReynolds (.275/19/73) in left, Brett Butler (.277/11/69) in center and (TA Lakers) Gold Glove winner Andy Van Slyke (.290/23/63) in right.

GM Lehman has perhaps the AL top ranked pitching staff with the acquisition of (TA Lakers) Teddy Higuera (16-13/4.13/197k) to tag team with Brett Saberhagen (19-9/3.71/135k), Mike Boddicker (14-4/4.04/113k), Dennis Martinez (9-6/5.12/81), and Bruce Hurst (18-7/4.28/175k). Allan Anderson (0-0/10.50/5k) and Dave Dravecky (8-5/3.84/59k) will provide spot starts. Wes Gardner (0-0/7.94/37k), (FA’88 4th rnd/#87) StanCliburn (DNP), Dale Mohorcic (4-6/3.38/43k), and (FA’88 5th rnd/#109) German Jimenez (DNP) fill in the bullpen innings while (FA’88 1st rnd/#21) Greg W. Harris (DNP) and (TA Lakers) Ken Dayley (1-2/3.77/51k) split the closer role

These Hoosiers are still the class of the American League with two World Series appearances and there does not appear to be any let up heading into this season. It is appearing ever more likely these Hoosiers will capture their seventh League Championship. Only Mike See’s 11 League Championships with the Thunder have more.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Steve Lehman	1/#21	MR Greg W. Harris
Candlestick Park	2/#43 traded to Volcanoes	
	3/#65 traded to Lakers	

Hoosiers Farewell: Tony Gwynn (.398/8/101), Tim Flannery (DNP), Charlie Leibrandt (19-6/3.61/132k), Ron Guidry (6-2/4.07/77k), Mark Knudson (3-1/2.35/13k), Randy St. Claire (3-2/4.89/18k).

	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983 NL West	71	91	.438	4th
1984 AL West	87	75	.537	T2nd
1985 AL West	109	53	.673	1st
1986 AL	105	57	.648	1st
1987 AL	110	52	.679	1st

Franchise (1983-1987)	482	328	.595	1 Wild Card	1 Division Flag	4 League Championships
				2 World Series Titles		
Franchise (1954-1987)	2750	2707	.504	1 Wild Card	2 Division Flags	6 League Championships
				2 World Series Titles		

**Blue Ridge Mountaineers:            Batters 29.2 avg -25 (3) +35 (2)**  
**Pitchers 28.5 avg -25 (6) +35 (2)**

**BA .272 (T11) OBP .329 (15) SLG .440 (10) Runs 776 (13) HR 196 (9) SB 44 (22)**  
**ERA 4.35 (8) 9.4 H/9 (8) 3.2 BB/9 (7) 4.8 K/9 (21) Sv 38 (10) K 766 (21) CG 15 (T10)**

Blue Ridge Mountaineers (NL 83-79 7th). From a top league ranked offense and pitching staff to mediocrity in one season portends the Mountaineers drop into the middle ranks. Street&Schmoody's see the Mountaineers continuing their downward trend. GM Brunner managed to find four players in the first two rounds of the 1987 free agent draft to restock the roster in the coming seasons.

A veteran lineup is led by Dave Valle (.276/7/31) and Bob Melvin (.225/12/35) splitting the catching chores. The infield will be seasoned and ready to improve its offensive output from first to third with Gold Glove winner Eddie Murray (.288/18/81), Gold Glove winner Frank White (.271/12/47), Greg Gagne (.283/5/36), and Gold Glove winner Gary Gaetti (.273/31/122) all looking to have encore performances. A completely revamped outfield is what GM Brunner is counting on to carry this team back to the mountain top. From left to right it looks like Pete Incaviglia (.298/27/82), Oddibe McDowell (.278/11/41) and John Shelby (.270/20/61) splitting center, and Tony Armas (.000/0/0) in right. Look for Dave Parker (.258/23/77) and Mike Davis (.259/16/57) to share DHing. Dwayne Murphy (.295/11/34), (FA'88 5th rnd/#55) Jim Pankovits (.111/0/2), Jim Walewander (.167/2/7), and Al Pedrique (.202/0/12) provide bench support.

The Mountaineers pitching staff will have Bert Blyleven (8-16/5.88/123k), Bob Knepper (11-9/4.66/64k), Joe Magrane (8-3/3.57/60k), and Zane Smith (16-7/4.33/80) taking up most of the starts while (FA'88 4th rnd/#77) Mike Campbell (5-1/3.47/32k) and Don Sutton (8-10/4.74/71k) fill in the spot starts. (TA Scotties) Neil Allen (1-0/6.23/18k), (FA'88 1st rnd/#11) Todd Stottlemire (DNP), and Roy Smith (1-5/5.19/4k) will be depended upon in the bullpen with Chuck Crim (9-9/2.54/40k) appearing to be the closer by default.

It seems unlikely that the Mountaineers will improve on last season. Time will tell, but this team is going to have to play out of this world to even scratch .500 in the competitive National League. Street&Schmoody's has these Mountaineers finishing no higher than 9th place.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Steve Brunner	1/#11	SP Todd Stottlemire
Anaheim Stadium	2/#33	MR Dennis Cook
	2/#42 acquired from Mets	2B Mark Lemke
	2/#44 acquired from Scotties	SP Trevor Wilson
	3/#55 traded to Alley Cats	

Mountaineers Farewell: Bob Boone (.274/0/42), Sal Butera (.333/0/1), Reggie Jackson (.244/13/61), Charlie Hough (22-9/3.16/177k), Tim Stoddard (4-2/6.59/48k), Willie Hernandez (4-6/4.92/52k), Dan Quisenberry (5-1/4.01/13k), Neil Allen (1-0/6.23/18k).

	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983 NL East	100	62	.617	1st
1984 NL East	111	51	.685	1st
1985 NL East	96	66	.593	2nd
1986 NL	110	52	.679	1st
1987 NL	83	79	.512	7th

Franchise (1983-1987)	500	310	.617	1 Wild Card	2 Division Flags	3 League Championships
				1 World Series Title		
Franchise (1969-1987)	1554	1524	.505	1 Wild Card	3 Division Flags	3 League Championships
				1 World Series Title		

**Bolton Hill Scotties:**      **Batters**            **29.1 avg**   **-25 (4)**   **+35 (4)**  
    **Pitchers**            **29.9 avg**   **-25 (3)**   **+35 (1)**

**BA .279 (4) OBP .349 (4) SLG .435 (8) Runs 852 (5) HR 171 (9) SB 60 (17)**  
**ERA 3.71 (1) 8.4 H/9 (1) 2.8 BB/9 (2) 6.2 K/9 (6) Sv 29 (T17) K 1001 (5) CG 27 (2)**

Bolton Hill Scotties (NL 111-51 1st). GM Marc Unger took home the first World Series title in franchise history. Can these Scotties make it a repeat. These Scotties dominated the SPB1 team pitching rankings last season and with first round free agent pick closer Gregg Olson, a bullpen weakness now is a strength. Don't look now, but Street&Schmoody's has this team running away with the NL title.

GM Marc Unger will again rely on one of the more potent NL offenses and reliable pitching and that should be enough for the Scotties to secure the best record and the #1 seed in the NL. This franchise is starting to look like a juggernaut that will be able to carry any pitching staff.

Catching will be shared by (TA Alley Cats) Carlton Fisk (.251/28/69) and Alan Ashby (.339/33/96) with (FA'88 5th rnd/#110) Steve Lake (.213/4/22) providing backup. 3B Wade Boggs (.348/28/156) mans the hot corner. Shortstop belongs to Alan Trammell (.337/20/122) while second base will a platoon with Jose Oquendo (.241/2/33), and Wally Backman (.315/0/18). Dwight Evans (.312/43/159) returns power numbers at first base. From left to right will be Tim Raines (.332/20/109), Milt Thompson (.289/9/69) and RF Jesse Barfield (.293/22/112) roaming the outfield turf at Exhibition Stadium. (TA Lakers) Cory Snyder (.229/32/89) will fill in the DH role. Look for 'Governor' Jerry Browne (.304/3/58), Manny Trillo (.286/7/22), (FA'88 6th rnd/#128) Jim Eppard (DNP), and (FA'88 4th rnd/#88) Donell Nixon (.264/1/11) to highlight the Scotties bench.

Leading the rotation will be 41yr old Nolan Ryan (17-4/3.84/259k) along with Bob Ojeda (5-2/4.24/33k), Pascual Perez (6-2/2.21/49k), Eric Show (8-9/6.68/78k), Tom Candiotti (15-3/2.94/82k). Don Carman (14-6/3.52/116k) will be an effective spot starter and long reliever along with Juan Berenguer (7-3/3.20/60k), Terry Leach (4-3/4.33/38k), Roger McDowell (1-2/1.50/20k), Edwin Nunez (2-2/5.06/26k) and (FA'88 8th rnd/#170) Juan Eichelberger (DNP) filling in the rest of the bullpen. Look for Jeff Reardon (5-2/3.77/46k) to pass the closer role to (FA'88 1st rnd/#18) Gregg Olson (DNP).

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Marc Unger	1/#18 acquired from Alley Cats	CL Gregg Olson
Exhibition Stadium	1/#22	1B Hal Morris
	2/#44 traded to Mountaineers	
	3/#66 traded to Alley Cats	

Scotties Farewell: Jim Sundberg (.267/2/6), Rick Cerone (.328/3/31), Gary Varsho (DNP), Curt Ford (.279/7/36), Rick Reuschel (19-8/2.98/105k), Ted Power (4-0/4.04/37k).

		W	L		
Pct.	Finish				
1983	AL West	100	62	.617	T1st
1984	NL West	101	61	.623	1st
1985	NL West	90	72	.556	1st
1986	NL	92	70	.568	4th
1987	NL	111	51	.685	1st

Franchise (1983-1987)	494	316	.610	2 Wild Cards	3 Divisional Flags	1 League Championship
				1 World Series Title		
Franchise (1977-1987)	853	929	.479	2 Wild Cards	3 Divisional Flags	1 League Championship
				1 World Series Title		



**Cleveland Spiders:**      **Batters**      **27.7 avg -25 (6) +35 (3)**  
                                  **Pitchers**      **27.8 avg -25 (6) +35 (0)**

**BA .261 (T16) OBP .315 (21) SLG .398 (T19) Runs 721 (18) HR 135 (20) SB 80 (13)**  
**ERA 5.09 (17) 10.4 H/9 (18) 3.9 BB/9 (20) 6.1 K/9 (7) Sv 40 (T7) K 965 (9) CG 8 (21)**

Cleveland Spiders (AL 67-95 9th). The Spiders seem to be in free fall and where they land in 1988 will depend on improving a league bottom ranked offense.

The last time Spiders GM Chris Williams finished in fifth place, he ripped off three straight divisional titles. Now, there are no divisions, so will GM Williams at least reach the playoff ladder? Chances look slim and their prognosis to top 70 wins will be a challenge.

The rotation looks to consist of Atlee Hammaker (8-7/3.86/102k), John Tudor (7-7/5.02/68k), Don Robinson (4-3/3.76/76k), Bobby Witt (8-11/5.42/183k) as the main horses with Mike Birkbeck (0-4/12.67/13k), and (FA'88 1st rnd/#4) John Smoltz (DNP) picking up spot starts. Ricky Horton (6-13/5.20/59k), Mark Grant (10-7/4.57/92k), Bob Stanley (8-15/6.31/68k) will chew up most of the long and middle innings while Dave Leiper (3-6/4.75/47k), Joe Price (1-2/3.28/7k), Don Aase (1-2/11.74/5k) and Terry Mulholland (DNP) will take the innings that fall their way. Steve Farr (4-7/5.40/77k) will be the closer.

Platoon seems to be the trend for these current Spiders. Rich Gedman (.229/1/11) returns in the starting catching role with a plethora of support from Darren Daulton (.238/3/25), Mackey Sasser (.324/0/3) and Kirt Manwaring (.154/0/1). (FA'88 4th rnd/#72) Chris Brown (.286/1/4) will share third base duties with re-acquired (FA'88 8th rnd/#156) Jim "Light My Fire" Morrison (.230/9/65) and Walt Weiss (.42/0/1) will share shortstop while Robby Thompson (.277/10/60) has a grip on second base. Platooning will again come into the equation at first base as Cecil Fielder (.282/17/47) and Mike Diaz (.187/13/31) will see the majority of appearances. Expect Kevin Bass (.311/24/85) to be the steady right fielder, (TA Wind Surge) Billy Hatcher (.297/6/37) in center and (FA'88 3rd rnd/#50) Pat Sheridan (DNP) taking over in left and platooning with (TA Pelicans) Jeffrey Leonard (.271/14/78). While it is not clear who will be the starting DH for the Spiders and this may be one of the reasons along with the multiple platoons, that Spider fans might be enduring the start of a franchise rebuild. Dave Clark (.204/3/12), (FA'88 7th rnd/#138) Joel Youngblood (.318/3/8), (FA'88 6th rnd/#116) Mike Kingery (.270/4/51) and Ron Washington (.231/0/5) are some of the choice players coming off off the Spider's bench.

The Spiders appear to be in the middle of a rebuild as they are forecasted to be competing for the basement in the American League. The question is, how long will they be basement Spiders?

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Chris Williams	1/#4	SP John Smoltz
	2/#28	MR Rick Reed
Fenway Park	3/#50	OF Pat Sheridan

Spiders Farewell: Jay Aldrich (4-1/6.49/29k), Dorn Taylor (1-3/5.28/44k), Scott Fletcher (.303/9/72), Steve Lake (.213/4/22), Mickey Hatcher (.256/6/34), Jose Uribe (.286/1/37), Jose Cruz (.263/18/70), Ken Williams (.269/12/44), Mike Easler (.265/3/38).

	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983 NL East	92	70	.568	1st
1984 AL East	93	69	.574	1st
1985 AL East	90	72	.593	1st
1986 NL	80	82	.494	5th
1987 NL	67	95	.414	9th

Franchise (1983-1987)	422	388	.521	3 Divisional Flags
Franchise (1961-1987)	2287	2090	.523	3 Divisional Flags 4 League Championships 3 World Series Titles

**Collierstown Highlanders:**

<b>Batters</b>	<b>28.6 avg</b>	<b>-25 (5)</b>	<b>+35 (1)</b>
<b>Pitchers</b>	<b>27.8 avg</b>	<b>-25 (5)</b>	<b>+35 (1)</b>

**BA .261 (T17) OBP .334 (12) SLG .386 (21) Runs 751 (17) HR 117 (21) SB 177 (2)**  
**ERA 4.21 (6) 9.1 H/9 (6) 3.4 BB/9 (11) 6.0 K/9 (8) Sv 46 (4) K 971 (7) CG 10 (T18)**

Collierstown Highlanders (AL 84-78 5th). GM John Moore got the Highlanders one game back of a wild card slot and depending how improved their offense can be, this team will hover near the .500 mark and like last season, 84 wins is not going to make any playoff cuts.

Lance Parrish (.259/15/64) continues to man the starting catching position with Geno Petralli (.272/6/28) the backup. Andres Galarraga (.251/9/70) will take over at first base while Tony Phillips (.292/10/48) will platoon with Mark McLemore (.286/1/34) at second base. The left side of the infield is a weak spot for the Highlanders. The hot corner will be occupied by Tom Bookens (.281/8/55) while look for Dave Anderson (.215/1/20) to split shortstop duties with (FA'88 6th rnd/#122) Paul Zuvella (.500/0/0) and Ron Oester (.193/1/28). Willie Upshaw (.268/12/80) will be the primary DH. From left to right expect Rickey Henderson (.278/17/46), Gary Redus (.243/12/75) and Stan Javier (.194/1/8). Bench warmers are expected to be (FA'88 5th rnd/#100) Terry Blocker (DNP), Lance Johnson (.214/0/3) and (FA'88 7th rnd/#144) Jerry Royster (.261/5/23).

The rotation is anticipated to be Ed Whitson (10-13/3.89/131k), Jeff Russell (4-2/3.56/58k), Jay Tibbs (4-11/6.09/59k), (FA'88 2nd rnd/#34) Don August (DNP), and (FA'88 3rd rnd/#56) Charlie Lea (DNP). Look for Floyd Youmans (11-2/3.94/96k), and Kevin Brown (DNP) to get some starts. Charlie Puleo (6-6/3.49/102k) and Andy McGaffigan (6-5/3.39/96k) look to be the long relievers with Brian Holton (5-3/3.46/66k), Greg "Moon Man" Minton (6-0/2.96/30k), Steve Bedrosian (7-5/4.17/58k) and Greg Cadaret (1-1/4.81/35k) chewing up the innings before hulking closer Lee Smith (4-4/4.29/68) is called on to intimidate the opposition.

These Highlanders just might squeeze into the playoff seeding if they can manage to win the close games and with the bullpen they have, it looks more than likely that they will be successful, however, the offense will really need to step up its game. The Highlanders will need to put the place setters on base for their sluggers to come through. Problem is that the Highlanders hit the second least homers in the SPB1, so clutch hitting will need to be their forte, if they want to make the playoffs. Smith&Schmoody's does not believe the Highlanders have it in them to make the playoffs, instead breaking even with 81 wins.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: John Moore	1/#12	MR Tom Gordon
Veterans Stadium	2/#34	SP Don August
	3/#56	SP Charlie Lea

Highlanders Farewell: Mike Kingery (.270/4/51), Donell Nixon (.264/1/11), Larry Herndon (.311/9/31), Joaquin Andujar (0-5/6.14/29k), Scott McGregor (3-7/5.46/32k).

	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983 NL West	99	63	.611	1st
1984 AL East	70	92	.432	4th
1985 AL East	72	90	.444	5th
1986 AL	90	72	.556	3rd
1987 AL	84	78	.519	5th

Franchise (1983-1987)	415	395	.512	1 Wild Card	2 Division Flags	1 League Championship
				1 World Series Title		
Franchise (1954-1987)	2633	2821	.483	1 Wild Card	2 Division Flags	2 League Championships
				1 World Series Title		

**Cuyahoga River Flames: Batters**            27.6 avg   -25 (7)   +35 (2)  
**Pitchers**                                    28.8 avg   -25 (5)   +35 (2)

**BA .257 (T19) OBP .325 (17) SLG .398 (T19) Runs 703 (20) HR 163 (16) SB 64 (17)**  
**ERA 5.00 (T14) 9.8 H/9 (13) 3.8 BB/9 (19) 6.3 K/9 (5) Sv 28 (20) K 998 (6) CG 13 (14)**

Cuyahoga River Flames (AL 61-101 11th). GM Marc Robinson might just have enough offense this season to push his team to win twenty more games and come close to .500. Especially, if he is able to squeeze every at bat available to cover any positional deficiencies.

Gary Carter (.205/14/61) returns as the starting catcher with B.J. Surhoff (.270/6/60) serving behind the dish, whenever he is not at the hot corner. Sid Bream (.246/4/26) will have primary first base duties with steady Jim Gantner (.255/3/21) to his right at second base. Kevin Elster (.107/0/0) is the primary shortstop and (FA'88 3rd rnd/#47) Jeff Hamilton (1g) will share third with Surhoff. Look for Mike Marshall (.281/20/86k), Gerald Young (.302/5/23) and Dave Winfield (.267/14/54) returning to left, center and right. Darrin Jackson (.167/0/0), Mike Young (.249/12/37) and Keith Hughes (.261/0/1) will spot the starters in the outfield along with Franklin Stubbs (), Luis Aguayo (.253/12/34), (TA Alley Cats) Wallace Johnson (.379/2/8) supporting the infielders, but no obvious full-time DH on this roster.

SP Mike Scott (11-16/3.78/220k) will lead the Flames rotation followed by Jerry Reuss (5-12/6.56/47k), Rick Rhoden (6-12/4.79/131k), Chuck Finley (3-<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.72/66k) and Bill Swift (DNP). Look for Fernando Valenzuela (3-19/6.15/140k) and Rich Yett (3-1/4.01/37k) to supplement the starters. The bullpen features (FA'88 4th rnd/#69) Jose Alvarez (DNP) and Les Lancaster (6-10/6.51/83k) in long roles, Jeff Sellers (4-11/5.74/78k), (FA'88 5th rnd/#91) Steve Shields (DNP) and Rod Scurry (DNP) in middle and short with Mike Henneman (2-2/4.30/55k) closing the door.

These Flames are going to either improve to an 80+ win team settling back to their niche, or as evidenced by no real full-time DH, these Flames may just extinguish into smoke. Street&Schmoody's predict GM Robinson will conjure enough pitching and hitting to begin their leap forward to .500.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Marc Robinson	1/#5	OF Gary Sheffield
Cleveland Municipal Stadium	2/#25	MR Jeff Brantley
	3/#47	3B Jeff Hamilton

Flames Farewell: Curt Ford (.279/7/36), Greg Walker (.275/21/66), Billy Ripken (.304/4/25), Glenn Hoffman (.255/3/20), Lee Lacy (.291/14/36), George Frazier (9-6/3.49/69k), Barry Jones (0-1/3.78/9k), Greg Booker (4-5/4.73/24k), Mario Soto (2-1/3.43/18k), Bill Wilkinson (6-7/1.80/64k).

	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983 AL Central	91	71	.562	2nd
1984 AL East	86	76	.531	2nd
1985 AL East	88	74	.543	2nd
1986 AL	68	94	.420	9th
1987 AL	61	101	.377	11th
Franchise (1983-1987)	394	416	.486	
Franchise (1969-1987)	1359	1719	.442	1 Divisional Flag



**East Kenosha Lakers: Batters 26.6 avg -25 (10) +35 (1)**  
**Pitchers 30.7 avg -25 (3) +35 (1)**

**BA .253 (22) OBP .317 (20) SLG .407 (16) Runs 696 (21) HR 173 (14) SB 73 (16)**  
**ERA 5.27 (18) 10.5 H/9 (20) 4.0 BB/9 (22) 5.6 K/9 (15) Sv 25 (22) K 895 (15) CG 22 (4)**

Le Rouge (NL 62-100 9th). Veteran GM Dave Lauer has decided to end his one year retirement and takes over the '87 Le Rouge and return the formerly Asheville Tourists franchise into a more successful one. Newly arrived since last fronting a franchise in the 1986 season GM Lauer looks to bring respectability to a dormant franchise suffering a 100 loss season.

The Lakers weak spot will be at catching and finding enough at bats for the position. (TA Forest Citys) Bruce Benedict (.111/0/4), and Mark Salas (.250/8/29) will take up the majority of the appearances. (FA'88 1st rnd/#6) Mark Grace (DNP) looks to be the franchise future at first base while regular Alvin Davis (.339/21/65) will now slot into DH full time. (TA Flames) Billy Ripken (.304/4/25) gets the nod at second. (TA Triangles) Luis Rivera (2g/0ab) handles shortstop while Brook Jacoby (.258/20/71) mans the hot corner. From left to right will be Claudell Washington (.243/8/41), Willie McGee (.273/7/57), and (TA Hoosiers) Gold Glove winner Tony Gwynn (.398/8/101). Ernest Riles (.232/8/35), (TA Lynx) Nelson Liriano (.281/1/12), Curt Ford (.279/7/36), Donnie Hill (.234/5/30), (FA'88 3rd rnd/#65) Ken Williams (.269/12/44), Matt Williams (.171/6/13), and Shane Mack (.273/1/12) will all provide bench and pinch hit opportunities.

The Lakers rotation looks to line up with (TA Hoosiers) Charlie Liebrandt (19-6/3.61/132k), (TA Peppers) Tommy John (17-6/3.78/72k), (TA Bandits) Shane Rawley (10-14/5.12/113k), Bruce Ruffin (10-17/5.58/104k) and (TA Volcanoes) Dan Petry (6-10/7.60/70k) with Fred Tolliver (0-1/5.66/26k), (FA'88 3rd rnd/#48) Paul Gibson (DNP), and (TA Brushbacks) Bud Black (6-6/4.57/52k) all putting in spot starts. The rest of the bullpen lines up with long relievers and spot starters (TA Brushbacks) Larry McWilliams (0-0/6.00/6k) and (TA Rats) Mike Smithson (4-5/7.05/46k) along with Frank DiPino (4-5/4.88/54k) and (TA Flames) Don Heinkel (DNP) with Gibson and Black in support. It appears to be Craig Lefferts (2-9/6.75/43k) will get the closer's cap.

Now that the former cityless Le Rouge has passed into history, Smith&Schmoody's predicts these Lakers will avoid 100 losses, but in the tough National League, the Lakers pitching staff will probably continue to maintain their lower tier team rankings which will not be enough to come close for a .500 season.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Dave Lauer	1/#6	1B Mark Grace
Astrodome	2/#26	MR Norm Charlton
	3/#48	MR Paul Gibson
	3/#65	3B Ken Williams

Lakers (Le Rouge) Farewell: Larry Owen (.120/6/21), Mark Davidson (.257/3/28), Glenn Hubbard (.215/6/25), Gary Varsho (DNP), Vance Law (.283/13/60), Dave Engle (.257/1/9), Andy Van Slyke (.290/23/63), Cory Snyder (.229/32/89), Teddy Higuera (16-13/4.13/197k), Dave Stieb (5-14/5.04/117k), Ken Schrom (9-13/5.37/55k), Jeff M. Robinson (1-1/7.96/19k), Bill Dawley (5-3/4.13/67k), Dan Schatzeder (2-8/7.40/61k), Ken Dayley (1-2/3.77/51k), Odell Jones (DNP), Gene Walter (1-0/1.10/7k).

	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983 NL West	74	88	.457	3rd
1984 NL East	74	88	.457	5th
1985 NL East	80	82	.494	T3rd
1986 NL	68	94	.494	10th
1987 NL	62	100	.383	9th

Franchise (1983-1987)	358	452	.442	
Franchise (1962-1987)	2051	2161	.487	5 Divisional Flags 1 League Championship

**Evanston Black Sox:**      **Batters**      **27.3 avg**   **-25 (7)**   **+35 (2)**  
    **Pitchers**      **27.5 avg**   **-25 (4)**   **+35 (0)**

**BA .270 (T13) OBP .331 (14) SLG .415 (14) Runs 762 (16) HR 166 (15) SB 44 (14)**  
**ERA 5.34 (19) 10.4 H/9 (19) 3.7 BB/9 (16) 5.9 K/9 (11) Sv 31 (T15) K 938 (11) CG 23 (3)**

Evanston Black Sox (AL 69-93 8th). It does not look well for Black Sox fans as GM John Ungashick will be looking to turn team fortunes around, but with this current edition of players, 'wait 'til next year' is already resounding from upper management.

Jody Davis (.236/23/61) and (TA Pelicans) Gold Glove winner Bo Diaz (.237/8/45) will share catching duties. Larry Parrish (.277/44/110) starts at first base and Gold Glove winner Bill Doran (.273/19/75) will complement the right side at second base. Chris James (.300/17/64) will be tasked with the hot corner, while (FA'88 2nd rnd/#29) Andres Thomas (.167/0/1) takes over at shortstop. Rafael Palmeiro (.333/16/49) starts in left field, with Henry Cotto (.240/4/19) patrolling center. Right field will be a platoon of John Moses (.256/0/25) and Herm Winningham (.226//37). Finding a full time DH will be a challenge for GM Ungashick as he scrambles to find an uncovered player any team is willing to discard. The bench will have Bob Dernier (.297/11/38), Lonnie Smith (.348/6/25), (FA'88 7th rnd/#139) Doug Jennings (DNP), (TA Tigers) Ken Gerhart (.217/20/36) and Roberto Kelly (.217/0/6) to back up outfielders and take turns at DH. (TA Forest Citys) Jim Traber (DNP), (FA'88 8th rnd/#157) Greg Gross (.267/0/1), (FA'88 6th rnd/#117) Ed Romero (.234/0/24), and Wayne Tolleson (.240/0/31) provide the infield support.

Frank Tanana (12-12/4.02/162k) will be the alpha dog of the Black Sox moundsmen with Tim Belcher (3-1/2.65/23k), Mike Dunne (9-9/5.18/66k) and Kirk McCaskill (4-5/5.14/62k) filling out the rotation. (FA'88 5th rnd/#95) Rod Nichols (DNP) and (FA'88 1st rnd/#7) Curt Schilling (DNP) provide additional spot starts. (FA'88 3rd rnd/#51) Jeff Pico (DNP) and Mike Maddux (1-2/9.70/17k) will take up long innings and spot starts while Rick Honeycutt (5-13/6.46/83k), Keith Atherton (4-3/6.10/46k) and Jeff Bittiger (1-1/2.65/15k) and will fill in the gap to closer Dave Smith (5-7/2.82/73k/20sv).

The Black Sox set a team record for futility with 105 losses two seasons ago. Street&Schmoody's predict that these Black Sox will threaten to break their own record for futility with another bottom basement performance.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: John Ungashick	1/#7	SP Curt Schilling
Comiskey Park	2/#29	SS Andres Thomas
	3/#51	MR Jeff Pico

Black Sox Farewell: Darrell Porter (.266/9/34), Dave Concepcion (.334/1/31), Bill Buckner (.263/7/63), Pete Stanicek (.254/0/7), Joe Niekro (5-12/6.50/87), Joe Johnson (3-5/6.72/36k), Ken Dixon (9-3/5.02/101k), Jeff Calhoun (3-6/3.83/44k), Frank Wills (0-1/9.45/5k), Jack Lazorko (3-6/5.90/49k).

	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983 AL Central	98	64	.605	1st
1984 AL West	86	76	.531	4th
1985 AL West	78	84	.481	5th
1986 AL	57	105	.352	10th
1987 AL	69	93	.426	8th

Franchise (1983-1987)	388	422	.479	1 Divisional Flag	1 League Championship
Franchise (1954-1987)	2705	2749	.496	2 Divisional Flags	1 League Championship

**Fairfax Peppers:**            **Batters**            **27.1 avg**   **-25 (6)**   **+35 (0)**  
    **Pitchers**            **26.2 avg**   **-25 (8)**   **+35 (0)**

**BA .276 (6) OBP .336 (10) SLG .436 (12) Runs 798 (T11) HR 181 (11) SB 58 (19)**  
**ERA 4.50 (11) 9.5 H/9 (10) 3.4 BB/9 (10) 4.7 K/9 (22) Sv 41 (T5) K 756 (22) CG 12 (T15)**

Fairfax Peppers (NL 86-76 6th). Finishing four games out from a wild card playoff spot, GM Ron Peterson has these Peppers maturing with age and Street&Schmoody's sees that as not necessarily as beneficial with the Peppers declining precipitously, possibly a more than ten game swing from 1987.

The Peppers will need a Two Terrific Terry performance as they will be platooning Terry Kennedy (.274/7/32) and Terry Steinbach (.242/8/47) at the backstop. It appears first base will be another platoon position between Tim Teufel (.272/7/35) and Dan Pasqua (.271/26/68), though Teufel will see some time at second base as it is not clear who will win out at that position. Jeff Kunkel (.250/0/1) and (TA Lakers) Glenn Hubbard (.215/6/25) will probably see the most starts there. Barry Larkin (.257/14/50) has shortstop nailed down and Kevin Mitchell (.278/27/90) will bring some power to the hot corner. George Bell (.305/37/142) will be in left, while the Wilson brothers, Mookie (.323/15/52) in center and Glenn (.235/10/53) in right, will defend the ballpark fences. Cecil Espy (6g/0ab) will see the majority of starts at DH. Gold Glove winner Dion James (.316/13/73), Casey Candaele (.312/2/35), (FA'88 6th rnd/#124) Leon Durham (.282/9/43), (FA'88 7th rnd/#146) Thad Bosley (.204/2/10) and (FA'88 3rd rnd/#58) Craig Worthington (DNP) will provide the clutch hitting coming off the bench.

Starting pitching and long relief are strengths for this Peppers team. Bill Wegman (14-8/3.81/94k), John Smiley (1-2/2.81/41k), Jimmy Jones (6-2/5.93/18k), Rich Dotson (11-15/4.35/109k) and John Candelaria (7-7/5.04/71k) will carry the rotation with Calvin Schiraldi (3-4/4.16/74k) providing spot starts. Jeff Ballard (4-3/7.71/11k), Scott Bankhead (3-12/7.53/54k), Jeff "Don't kick sand in my face" Musselman (1-0/2.83/20k), Frank Williams (4-7/4.53/23k) and (FA'88 4th rnd/#80) Cris Carpenter (DNP) all are capable of long and middle relief and it appears John Cerutti (3-2/5.12/48k) will be the closer.

These Peppers have a lot of question marks for too many positions in their lineup and Street&Schmoody's do not forecast a winning season in the tough National League. If the Peppers pitching staff can prevent teams from scoring, these Peppers may just have enough to spice to up their win total nearer .500. Street&Schmoody's does not see that possibility this season.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Ron Peterson	1/#14	SP Ken Hill
	2/#36	OF Felix Jose
Memorial Stadium	3/#58	3B Craig Worthington

Peppers Farewell: Andres Thomas (.167/0/1), Alan 'Nose Candy' Wiggins (.274/1/23), Jim Walewander (.167/2/7), Juan Beniquez (.232/7/27), Ruppert Jones (.279/4/29), Tommy John (17-6/3.78/72k), Steve Shields (DNP) Mark Huisman (4-1/2.68/38k).

	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983 NL East	84	78	.519	2nd
1984 NL East	75	87	.463	4th
1985 NL East	65	97	.401	5th
1986 NL	81	81	.500	5th
1987 NL	86	76	.531	6th

Franchise (1983-1987)	391	419	.483	1 Wild Card	1 Divisional Flags	
Franchise (1954-1987)	2881	2573	.528	1 Wild Card	3 Divisional Flags	5 League Championships
				2 World Series		





**Hatteras Pelicans III:      Batters            28.4 avg   -25 (8) +35 (4)**  
**Pitchers            28.6 avg   -25 (2) +35 (1)**

**BA .257 (T19) OBP .314 (22) SLG .406 (T17) Runs 718 (19) HR 145 (18) SB 62 (18)**  
**ERA 5.06 (16) 10.0 H/9 (14) 3.8 BB/9 (18) 5.3 K/9 (19) Sv 33 (14) K 844 (19) CG 10 (T18)**

Hatteras Pelicans (AL 66-96 11th). Another move to another stadium. Perhaps Busch Stadium provides the environment that the Pelicans need to start moving the needle to .500. Arlington did not seem to assist with hitting or pitching and a dozen game drop off in wins predicated the Pelicans to seek greener pastures.

Don Slaught (.183/8/18) should see the majority of the time behind the dish with Charlie O'Brien (.250/0/2) (TA Alley Cats) Rick Cerone (.328/3/31) and (FA'88 1st rnd/#2) Craig Biggio (DNP) in relief. Jim Presley (.228/14/55) mans the hot corner with (FA'88 2nd rnd/#27) Luis Alicea (DNP) at shortstop. Juan Samuel (.254/29/88) and Steve Balboni (.221/24/60) occupy second and first base. Gold Glove winner Barry Bonds (.241/21/78) has left field, Dave Henderson (.237/5/21) covers center and Harold Baines (.313/24/76) looks to be the right fielder with Paul O'Neill (.290/13/36) splitting outfield chores and DHing along with Don Baylor (.250/19/49). (TA Spiders) Scott Fletcher (.303/9/72), (TA Black Sox) Bill Buckner (.263/7/63), Mike Gallego (.313/1/7), (FA'88 4th rnd/#71) Mickey Hatcher (.256/6/34) and returning Pelican (FA'88 7th rnd/#137) George Hendrick (.282/2/15) will be the bench warmers par excellence and pinch hitting heroes.

Dave Stewart (9-17/6.04/155k), Jack Morris (16-14/3.55/197k), Jim Clancy (9-18/4.51/138k) and Jamie Moyer (7-14/6.39/115k) all return to carry the bulk of the starting innings, while Al Leiter (1-3/14.66/17k) spot starts. Craig McMurtry (DNP) and Ken Howell (3-3/6.17/60k) will eat up bullpen innings with Jeff Robinson (3-1/2.31/72k), Larry Andersen (3-3/4.59/56k) and Ray Hayward (DNP) supporting in middle relief and short roles. John Franco (6-4/3.91/50k) will close against lefties and Tom Henke (1-6/2.83/82/14sv) has right handed closing duties. The Pelicans are one of the few teams with a two headed closer.

Street&Schmoody's sees a nine game improvement and out of the basement for the Pelicans as this team will improve to tie the Alley Cats for seventh place. A starting rotation that returns a season more experienced as well as a young slugging lineup that will keep the Pelicans in more games.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Jim Wheeler	1/#2	2B Craig Biggio
	2/#27	SS Luis Alicea
Busch Stadium	3/#49	MR Jim Corsi

Pelicans Farewell: Thad Bosley (.204/2/10), Joel Youngblood (.318/3/8), Joel Davis (3-5/4.05/27k), Dale Sveum (.272/21/72), Jeffrey Leonard (.271/14/78), Bo Diaz (.237/8/45), Ed Vande Berg (0-0/4.58/19k).

	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983 NL Central	93	69	.574	2nd
1984 AL East	67	95	.414	5th
1985 AL East	57	105	.352	4th
1986 AL	78	84	.481	7th
1987 AL	66	96	.407	11th
Franchise (1983-1987)	361	449	.446	
Franchise (1977-1987)	750	1032	.421	

**Indy Alley Cats:**            **Batters**            **29.4 avg**   **-25 (6)**   **+35 (3)**  
    **Pitchers**            **30.6 avg**   **-25 (2)**   **+35 (5)**

**BA .284 (2) OBP .355 (2) SLG .449 (2) Runs 878 (3) HR 207 (3) SB 86 (T9)**  
**ERA 5.11 (20) 10.7 H/9 (T21) 3.3 BB/9 (T8) 5.1 K/9 (21) Sv 24 (21) K 810 (21) CG 18 (T12)**

Indy Alley Cats (AL 92-70 2nd). The Alley Cats are looking to keep their winning ways from last season. Unfortunately, their pitching staff will once again be the near the bottom of league rankings.

Andy Allanson (.205/0/13) and (TA Road) Ron Hassey (.151/0/4) will split the catching chores with Tim Wallach (.267/23/93) back to man the hot corner. Dale Sveum (.272/21/72) and Garry Templeton (.234/3/37) platoons at shortstop with Tom Foley (.263/4/33) and Steve Lombardozzi (.276/6/35) platooning at second base. (TA Flames) Greg Walker (.275/21/66) and (TA Forest Citys) Darrell Evans (.284/20/57) will split time at first base and DH. Todd Benzinger (.323/9/38), Ellis Burks (.248/20/70) and Andre Dawson (.303/52/123) from left to right in the outfield. Mike Schmidt (.308/39/102) provides pop off the bench. Lloyd McClendon (.231/3/13), (FA'88 5th rnd/#106) Danny Heep (.153/1/7), Gary Roenicke (.261/7/16) and rookie (FA'88 7th rnd/#150) Doug Dascenzo (DNP) fill in the bench warming infield and outfield spots.

(TA Scotties) Gold Glove winner Rick Reuschel (19-8/2.98/105k), Doyle Alexander (17-4/2.71/96k), Charlie Hough (22-9/3.16/177k), Walt Terrell (16-10/4.32/120k) and Brian Fisher (10-7/4.27/104k) will comprise the starting rotation with (FA'88 2nd rnd/#39) Jack Armstrong (DNP) and Randy O'Neal (3-3/5.19/33k) the spot starters. The bullpen will comprise of rookie (FA'88 4th rnd/#75) Steve Rosenberg (DNP), (TA Road) Mike Bielecki (2-2/4.84/19k), Dan Quisenberry (5-1/4.01/13k) and Rich 'Goose' Gossage (1-5/5.79/50k/11sv) with Doug Jones (3-1/2.38/69k) in the closer role.

Smith&Schmoody's has these Alley Cats slinking back into the depths of mediocrity as their vaunted offense will not be able to provide the spark necessary to carry these Alley Cats back into the playoffs much less finish any closer than seventh place.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Rick Ryan	1/#18 traded to Scotties	
Wrigley Field	2/#39 acquired from Volcanoes	SP Jack Armstrong
	2/#40 traded to Forest Citys	
	3/#55 acquired from Mountaineers	MR Tony Fossas
	3/#62	OF Greg Briley
	3/#66 acquired from Scotties	2B Keith Miller

Alley Cats Farewell: Carlton Fisk (.251/28/69), Rick Cerone (.328/3/31), Wallace Johnson (.379/2/8), Leon Durham (.283/19/69), Lloyd Moseby (.278/29/83), Curt Ford (.279/7/36), Jim Lindeman (.197/4/11), Bill Gullickson (7-12/5.40/66k), Joe Magrane (13-7/3.79/92k), Bob James (1-4/5.52/31), Jeff Sellers (4-11/5.74/78k), Andy Hawkins (6-2/6.01/43k), Ed Vande Berg (0-0/4.58/19k), Wally Ritchie (1-1/4.91/28k), Bill Wilkinson (6-7/1.80/64k), David Palmer (6-8/4.44/96k), Matt Young (2-4/5.40/18k), Willie Hernandez (2-0/6.67/22k).

		W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983	NL Central	64	98	.395	4th
1984	AL West	87	75	.537	T2nd
1985	AL West	92	71	.564	4th
1986	AL	70	92	.432	8th
1987	AL	92	70	.568	2nd

Franchise (1983-1987)	405	400	.500	1 Wild Card	1 Divisional Flags	1 League Championship
Franchise (1954-1987)	2794	2661	.512	1 Wild Card	4 Divisional Flags	3 League Championships
				2 World Series		



**New York Mets:**           **Batters**           **27.7 avg**   **-25 (5)**   **+35 (2)**  
                                   **Pitchers**           **26.7 avg**   **-25 (5)**   **+35 (2)**

**BA .302 (T2) OBP .374 (3) SLG .467 (6) Runs 1010 (3) HR 175 (13) SB 121 (6)**  
**ERA 3.45 (1) 8.6 H/9 (T3) 2.9 BB/9 (T3) 6.5 K/9 (1) Sv 47 (T4) K 1045 (1) CG 22 (6)**

New York Mets (NL 103-59 2nd). Another mirror year, a rise in the standings to second best in the NL, what will 1988 hold for these Mets? Look for GM Don Rahn his winning ways, though, in the tough National League, the Mets may be looking at some surprise contenders for their usual near the top spot.

Bob Boone (.274/0/42) and Nelson Santovenia (DNP) will split the catching duties. Kent Hrbek (.311/34/111) has taken over first base and Don Mattingly (.335/36/155) will be the primary DH, though the two will swap places on occasions. Marty Barrett (.320/1/82) returns at second base while shortstop will be a platoon between Rafael Belliard (.241/1/10) and Alfredo Griffin (.304/7/50). Kevin Seitzer (.337/13/89) is the full time hot corner guy. Randy Bush (.238/3/21) and Tracy Jones (.284/8/43) split left field. Von Hayes (.322/25/76) takes over in center and slugger Rob Deer (.249/22/79) holds down right field. R.J. Reynolds (.370/2/47), Rick Leach (.317/1/25) and (FA'88 1st rnd/#20) Darryl Hamilton (DNP) will back up the outfielders while Jay Bell (.350/0/14), Rick Dempsey (.098/1/3) and (FA'88 7th rnd/#152) Angel Salazar (.231/2/38) provide infield bench support.

Roger Clemens (17-9/3.38/208k), Bob Welch (17-10/4.11/148k), Dennis Rasmussen (14-8/3.96/146k) and Sid Fernandez (14-9/4.76/136k) will handle the majority of the starts for the strong pitching Mets. (TA Forest City) Danny Cox (15-8/4.90/108k) and Dennis 'Oil Can' Boyd (2-1/4.47/16k) provide the spot starts. Mark Williamson (2-0/2.39/41k) and Gene Nelson (9-3/4.22/86k) will handle the long bullpen innings, while Lance McCullers (3-2/4.31/71k) and Dennis Lamp (0-2/6.03/24k) will take care of the short innings. Todd Worrell (9-8/3.42/68k/25sv) and Brian Harvey (DNP) will end up sharing closing duties.

The Mets have been near the top of the SPB1 team pitching leaders for some time and this particular staff looks as if it can repeat last season's success. The question for Mets fans is how long can this franchise keep winning at the century mark? Street&Schmoody's sees the Mets dropping in wins dramatically to fall in a tie with the Brushbacks for the final wild card.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Don Rahn	1/#20	OF Darryl Hamilton
	2/#42 traded to Mountaineers	
Three Rivers Stadium	3/#64 traded to Forest Citys	

Mets Farewell: Junior Ortiz (.269/8/33), Sal Butera (.333/0/1), Dave Parker (.258/23/77), Mickey Brantley (.281/4/37), Denny Walling (.250/4/24), Chris Brown (.286/1/4), Eric Nolte (4-3/5.50/38k), Bryan Clark (1-0/3.63/10k), Tim Stoddard (4-2/6.59/48k).

		W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983	AL East	55	107	.340	4th
1984	NL East	76	86	.469	3rd
1985	NL East	106	56	.654	1st
1986	NL	103	59	.636	3rd
1987	NL	103	59	.636	2nd

Franchise (1983-1987)	443	367	.547	1 Wild Card	2 Divisional Flags
Franchise (1954-1987)	2751	2703	.504	1 Wild Card	6 Divisional Flags 5 League Championships 2 World Series

**Ottawa Lynx:**                    **Batters**                    **26.5 avg**   **-25 (11)**   **+35 (1)**  
    **Pitchers**                    **27.7 avg**   **-25 (4)**   **+35 (0)**

**BA .259 (18)) OBP .321 (18) SLG .376 (22) Runs 631 (22) HR 104 (22) SB 48 (21)**  
**ERA 5.00 (T14) 10.1 H/9 (16) 3.1 BB/9 (3) 5.7 K/9 (13) Sv 26 (21) K 911 (13) CG 9 (20)**

Ottawa Lynx (NL 53-109 11th). Finish yet again at the bottom of the standings, Lynx fans have no where else but to look up as GM Stan Barkun uses the draft to start positioning the Lynx for a climb in the standings. It just won't happen this year.

Mike Stanley (.261/3/21) and Jeff Reed (.190/2/23) return as battery mates for the pitching staff. Third base will be a platoon situation with Al Newman (.274/3/32) and Rene Gonzales (.266/2/9). Shortstop will probably be a cornucopia of players spending time there, to include Curt Wilkerson (.268/1/18) and (FA'88 4th rnd/#84) Dave Concepcion (.334/1/31). Rookie (FA'88 1st rnd/#3) Roberto Alomar (DNP) has the lockdown on second base while Dave Magadan (.292/3/20) and Mike Aldrete (.303/4/40) split time at first base. Luis Polonia (.345/5/22), Lenny Dykstra (.254/9/42) and Ivan Calderon (.309/28/84) will start in the outfield from left to right. Otis Nixon (.125/0/1), (FA'88 4th rnd/#70) Pete Stanicek (.254/0/7), Mike Fitzgerald (.237/5/32) and John Cangelosi (.277/5/24) will contribute gloves and bats from the bench.

Greg Swindell (3-9/4.66/112k), David Cone (5-4/3.67/57k), Bob Walk (4-9/7.26/65k) and Danny Darwin (3-19/5.81/107k) and Jimmy Key (15-11/3.506/155k) are the main horses in the Lynx rotation. (TA Lakers)(FA'88 2nd rnd/#26) Norm Charlton (DNP) will provide spot starts. Neal Heaton (8-15/4.64/103k), Jerry Reed (3-3/4.81/38k), Kevin Coffman (DNP) and Lee Guetterman (1-5/5.82/34k) comprise the bullpen with Jesse Orosco (4-4/5.31/55k) and Alejandro Pena (1-8/3.07/60k) competing for the closing slot.

Street&Schmoody's does not see how the Lynx can escape from their basement dwelling. Pitching will be improved but it will be on the offense side of the ball that the Lynx will need to make a difference and their roster seems to have more holes in it than swiss cheese. Do not look for the Lynx to gain traction this year, but if they can manage to improve the offense with each draft, Lynx fans may not have much longer to look for a new and improved team.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Stan Barkun	1/#3	2B Roberto Alomar
	2/#23	C Sandy Alomar
Olympic Stadium	3/#45	MR Donn Pall

Lynx Farewell: Danny Heep (.153/1/7), Angel Salazar (.231/2/38), Garth Iorg (.244/5/24), Rick Burleson (.195/2/16), Ed Milner (.250/3/18), Nelson Liriano (.281/1/12), David Palmer (6-8/4.44/96k),

	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983 AL East	66	96	.407	2nd
1984 NL West	62	100	.383	4th
1985 NL West	66	96	.407	5th
1986 NL	66	96	.407	11th
1987 NL	53	109	.327	11th
Franchise (1983-1987)	313	497	.386	
Franchise (1954-1987)	2757	2697	.506	2 Divisional Flags 2 League Championships 2 World Series

**Rockford Forest Citys:    Batters            28.6 avg    -25 (5)    +35 (2)**  
**Pitchers        27.4 avg    -25 (5)    +35 (1)**

**BA .270 (T13)    OBP .345 (7)    SLG .442 (T8)    Runs 862 (9)    HR 203 (T6)    SB 87 (T10)**  
**ERA 5.38 (20)    10.2 H/9 (17)    3.6 BB/9 (14)    5.6 K/9 (14)    Sv 37 (11)    K 894 (16)    CG 20 (5)**

Rockford Forest Citys (AL 74-88 6th). This may be the settling point for the Forest Citys as they use the draft to stock up on roster players.

Damon Berryhill (.500/0/0) and Jamie Quirk (.224/7/27) will share the catching duties with (TA Lakers) Larry Owen (.120/6/21) backing up. Steve Buechele (.276/14/47) and Shawon Dunston (.252/4/25) will defend the left side of the infield while Lou Whitaker (.295/12/74) and Nick Esasky (.270/29/105) and (TA Alley Cats) Leon Durham (.283/19/69) will take care of the right side of the infield. Phil Bradley (.301/5/39) will move from left to center while Joe Orsulak (DNP) takes over in left and Tom Brunanasky (.254/37/124) in right field. Look for John Kruk (.300/15/78) and Rance Mulliniks (.326/13/59) to split DHing while rookie (FA'88 2nd rnd/#40) Rickey Jordan (DNP), Terry Puhl (.265/0/4), Bill Pecota (.281/4/15), Chris Speier (.249/14/51) and (FA'88 3rd rnd/#64) Ron Jones (DNP) provide defensive and pinch hitting support from the bench.

Rick Sutcliffe (10-13/5.54/189k), (TA Alley Cats) Andy Hawkins (6-2/6.01/43k), John Farrell (3-3/5.11/21k), Willie Fraser (10-11/4.51/100k) and Jose Rijo (1-4/7.66/35k) comprise a competent rotation with (FA'88 2nd rnd/#31) Brian Holman (DNP), Steve Ontiveros (5-3/5.46/76k) and (FA'88 1st rnd/#9) Eric Hanson (DNP) fill in the spot starts. Bob Forsch (10-11/5.21/106k), Tom Niedenfuer (2-3/3.89/22k/17sv), Pat Perry (6-9/4.93/32k), and (TA Black Sox) Frank Wills (0-1/9.45/5k) make up the rest of the bullpen with Jeff Montgomery (1-1/9.00/11k) moving into the closer.

These Forest Citys are probably closer to repeating last season's mid league finish than improving their position in the league standings.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Terry Baxter	1/#9	SP Eric Hanson
Fulton County Stadium	2/#31	SP Brian Holman
	2/#40	1B Ricky Jordan
	3/#53	C Bob Geren
	3/#64	OF Ron Jones

Forest Citys Farewell: Bruce Benedict (.111/0/4), Juan Eichelberger (DNP), Chris Bando (.204/4/20), Jim Traber (DNP), Darrell Evans (.284/20/57), Gary Roenicke (.261/7/16), Danny Cox (15-8/4.90/108k), Bob Stoddard (3-4/4.89/26k), Nate Snell (1-1/9.12/11k), Rich "Goose" Gossage (1-5/5.79/50k/11sv).

	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983 AL Central	79	83	.488	4th
1984 AL West	81	81	.500	6th
1985 AL West	104	58	.642	2nd
1986 AL	84	78	.519	4th
1987 AL	74	88	.457	6th

Franchise (1983-1987)	422	388	.521	2 Wild Cards
Franchise (1962-1987)	2161	2051	.513	2 Wild Cards 2 Divisional Flags 2 League Championships 2 World Series



**Wichita Wind Surge**      **Batters**      **27.8 avg**    **-25 (8)**    **+35 (0)**  
    **Pitchers**      **27.0 avg**    **-25 (5)**    **+35 (1)**

**BA .296 (4) OBP .354 (4) SLG .468 (5) Runs 957 (4) HR 188 (10) SB 130 (4)**  
**ERA 4.45 (10) 9.4 H/9 (9) 3.2 BB/9 (5) 5.2 K/9 (20) Sv 40 (T7) K 830 (20) CG 17 (T8)**

Wichita Wind Surge (NL 90-72 5th). Missing a wild card playoff spot by two games has GM Craig Korol looking at all the possible ways he can get the Wind Surge back into the top tier of the National League.

Benito Santiago (.341/15/64) and Mike LaValliere (.313/0/33) will be sharing catching duties. Terry Pendleton (.280/13/86) and (FA'88 3rd rnd/#60) Denny Walling (.250/4/33) will platoon at third base. (TA Spiders) Jose Uribe (.286/1/37) handles shortstop duty with Harold Reynolds (.290/1/50/41sb) his keystone caper combination at second base. Glenn Davis (.245/21/82) will handle first base. Mike Greenwell (.298/12/73), Kirby Puckett (.379/28/119) and Hubie Brooks (.250/11/56) look to be the starting outfield from left to right. Bo Jackson (.293/18/49) and Danny Tartabull (.326/35/120) will divide the DH and spot outfield duties. Rookie (FA'88 4th rnd/#82) Joey Meyer (DNP), Spike Owen (.243/0/25) and Brian Harper (DNP) provide additional glove and bat from the bench.

Orel Hershiser (15-9/4.16/142k), Kevin Gross (5-12/5.03/101k), Jim Deshaies (5-9/7.21/56k), John Dopson (DNP) and Curt Young (12-5/4.82/111k) will be the main horses for the Wind Surge rotation. Les Straker (8-4/4.50/28k) and Greg Matthews (19-4/2.90/94k) will provide necessary spot starts. Jeff Parrett (2-3/4.17/43k), Rob Murphy (3-7/4.60/52k), Paul Assenmacher (2-2/5.08/28k), and Mike Morgan (9-8/5.97/56k) will figure in the majority of bullpen innings while Dan Plesac (6-7/2.90/78k/24sv) appears to have the closing role with (FA'88 4th rnd/#74) Bruce Sutter (DNP) in support.

Street&Schmoody predicts that theWind Surge should be able to bring its fans another playoff spot after coming so close last season.

1988 draft:	Rnd/Pick	Player
GM: Craig Korol	1/#16	OF Dante Bichette
Metrodome	2/#38	SP Bob Milacki
	3/#60	3B Denny Walling

Wind Surge Farewell: Bob Brower (.300/1/2), Greg Gross (.267/0/1), Jeff Hamilton (1g), Billy Hatcher (.297/6/37), Joey Cora (.246/0/21), Jeff Dedmon (3-2/2.50/34k).

	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1983 NL East	57	105	.352	4th
1984 NL West	72	90	.404	3rd
1985 NL West	83	79	.512	2nd
1986 NL	104	58	.642	2nd
1987 NL	90	72	.556	5th

Franchise (1983-1987)	406	404	.501	1 Wild Card 2 Division Flags
Franchise (1969-1987)	1269	1647	.435	1 Wild Card 2 Division Flags