

It's that time of year again! The BBL is coming back for a tenth season, now bigger than ever as the league has been split into two sub-leagues of 22, one playing each version of the game.

As is tradition, I have gone through and done basic analysis on each team. To create an initial power ranking, each team's offense and defense got graded on a five-value scale, with ratings on the higher end carrying a larger increase in score (values are 0/1/2/4/6), though it is worth noting that, as is usual with me, I assigned very very few ratings at either far end of the scale. Extra modifiers were then added based on other factors, mainly the team's home field and coach, to reach a final point value. In case of ties, I used my own judgment to rank the tied teams.

So enjoy the team analyses, and check out the end of this article for official predictions!

Thanks to Crazyei8hts for providing team previews and defensive alignments, and to Vissery for providing data on teams' average skill ratings!

Disclaimer: These were based on brief, not all-encompassing team analyses done on a total of forty-four teams. I make no guarantees as to their accuracy, quality, or consistency. Also, I'm not trying to make anybody feel bad here – I am analyzing the teams as honestly as possible and some are weaker than others, but I hope you won't let it get you down if I gave your team a poor grade. Think of it instead as a challenge to prove me wrong!

## 1) Humongous Giants



BATting ORDER		
	NAME	POS.
1	ZOE M.	SS
2	CHERYL R.	C
3	GRACE T.	2B
4	LANCE L.	1B
5	ALEX G.	3B
6	PARKER G.	LF
7	RUTH P.	RF
8	JOELLA M.	CF
9	CINDY C.	P

Coach: Itanium (1-season veteran, 8-8 lifetime record, 1 division title)

Division: American League (AL) East

Home field: Parks Department #2

First pick: Sammy Sosa (#4 overall, later traded for Cheryl Reynolds)

Last pick: Cindy Chang (#183 overall)

Average arm strength: 51 (#22 in league)

Average swing power: 63 (#20 in league)

Average speed tier: 4.3 (#2 in league)

Average throwing accuracy: 43 (#22 in league)

Average eye: 47 (#20 in league)

Average relief rating: 161 (#22 in league)

Defense: Average. This infield looks quite good and its blazing speed should cause a lot of annoyance for the opposition. But that outfield looks *very* abusable. Why is the best outfielder in right field instead of center or left?

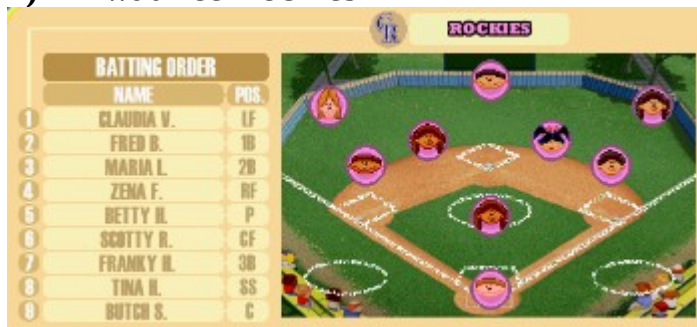
Offense: Fantastic! There's a lot of good speed on this team, and everybody who doesn't run fast can really mash the ball. Cindy in the ninth round is insanely good value, and ensured that this lineup has no weak points. They could keep going for days.

Other modifiers: +3. IT did a fantastic job at drafting for his field, as Parks will give the power hitters an even easier time hitting it out, give the speedsters an even easier time outrunning the defense, and minimize the damage that the weak outfield will cause.

Total: 11

Additional comments: Anybody who's looking to draft for offense should take a look at how this team was put together. This is a lethal lineup while still having the pieces on defense to hold down the fort enough to keep scores beatable, and something will be very wrong if they aren't one of the season's top teams.

## 2) Milwaukee Rockies



BATTING ORDER		
	NAME	POS.
1	CLAUDIA V.	LF
2	FRED B.	1B
3	MARIA L.	2B
4	ZENA F.	RF
5	BETTY H.	P
6	SCOTTY H.	CF
7	FRANKY H.	3B
8	TINA H.	SS
9	BUTCH S.	C

Coach: crazyei8hts (10-season/12.5-team veteran, 134-83 lifetime record, 5 division titles, 3 wildcard titles, 5 LDS titles, 4 LCS titles, 1 WS title, 4 player awards)

Division: AL West

Home field: Parks Department #2

First pick: Zena Fromme (#23 overall)

Last pick: Butch Sherrod (Post-draft waivers)

Average arm strength: 71 (#7 in league)

Average swing power: 69 (#12 in league)

Average speed tier: 3.7 (#11 in league)

Average eye: 67 (#3 in league)

Average intelligence: 47 (#20 in league)

Average height: 2.1 (#20 in league)

Defense: Good. That's a lot of strong arms! While the right side is a bit weaker and things will be a bit more dicey after a couple of pitching changes, in its initial form this defense will get the ball around fast and be tough to find a hole in.

Offense: Good. That's a lot of strong bats! This is very much a Crazyei8hts kind of lineup, and while Scotty, Tina, and Butch will cause some problems, the stacked rest of the lineup should be able to carry them just fine.

Other modifiers: +2. Parks is the perfect field for a bunch of bats, and Crazy is the perfect coach for them, in addition to being a perennial playoff contender.

Total: 10

Additional comments: This should be a very comfortable team for Crazy. I'd expect them to be top playoff contenders.

### 3) St. Louis Cardinals



Coach: Chellow (BBL rookie)

Division: AL East

Home field: Eckman Acres

First pick: Derek Jeter (#9 overall)

Last pick: Dominique Lowe (#180 overall)

Average arm strength: 74 (#3 in league)

Average swing power: 63 (#19 in league)

Average speed tier: 4.1 (#4 in league)

Average coordination: 72 (#1 in league)

Average throwing accuracy: 69 (#2 in league)

Average eye: 68 (#2 in league)

Average intelligence: 46 (#22 in league)

Defense: Good. Jeter and Maxwell playing left infield will be absolutely lethal for grounders, and there's good speed all around the field. The only possible concern will be the relatively weak arms throughout the outfield.

Offense: Good. There's a lot of speed on this team, and speed is good. There's also enough bats to keep them moving around, and only two players who lack either of those skills. This isn't a top-tier lineup, but it's still pretty good.

Other modifiers: 0. Eckman Acres will accentuate the strength of this defense, but on the other hand will be a tougher place for the limited-power offense to keep things going. Chellow never played Backyard Baseball before this season, but on the other hand it sounds like he's putting plenty of work in and is a quick study.

Total: 8

Additional comments: Chellow's inexperience makes this a risky team to bet on, but his help from an experienced veteran certainly shows in the strong team build.

### 4) Green Reds



Coach: personizzle (BBL rookie, Backyard Baseball OnLine (BBOL) veteran)  
Division: National League (NL) East  
Home field: Steele Stadium  
First pick: Raul Mondesi (#14 overall, later traded for Pablo Sanchez)  
Last pick: Olive Hussein (Post-draft waivers)

Average arm strength: 72 (#6 in league)  
Average swing power: 83 (#1 in league)  
Average speed tier: 3.4 (#19 in league)  
Average contact hitting: 42 (#22 in league)  
Average relief rating: 163 (#20 in league)

Defense: Average. The outfield is pretty good but will have Nancy in right later on. The infield's solid, but a little slow. Olive's 18 coordination and 2 height at first base is an interesting experiment. I was teetering on the edge of rating this "good", and a bit more speed probably would've done it.  
Offense: Good. Personizzle is going for the sequel to last season's Royals, with three(!) 100 power bats, three more above 80, and two more about 70. I'd call this the best power lineup in the entire league this season, and the speed isn't a big liability either. Should be able to get a lot done.  
Other modifiers: +2. A super power squad at Steele, you say? Not the most creative approach, but it should be an effective one.

Total: 8

Additional comments: The real question for this team is if Personizzle can harness power bats as consistently as Vissery. A lineup like this can get a lot done, but in those cases, I think individual coaches' hitting skills make the difference between an utterly dominant team and one that can't quite get it done reliably enough.

## 5) Boston Royals



BATTING ORDER		
	NAME	POS.
1	STAN O.	LF
2	CHIPPER J.	SS
3	HENRI D.	3B
4	JANE D.	CF
5	YVONNE C.	P
6	MURRAY G.	C
7	MIKE P.	1B
8	OMAR S.	RF
9	THOR H.	2B

Coach: Vissery (3-season veteran, 20-15 lifetime record, 1 division title, 1 LDS title)  
Division: AL East  
Home field: Steele Stadium  
First pick: Henri Deschenes (#3 overall)  
Last pick: Thor Herring (#198 overall)

Average arm strength: 69 (#10 in league)  
Average swing power: 75 (#4 in league)  
Average speed tier: 3.7 (#11 in league)  
Average aggression: 62 (#3 in league)

Defense: Average. Lots of decent but not amazing fielders. "Who will pitch next?" is going to be an interesting guessing game, but if the wrong players (specifically, Chipper and Henri) come in first, the defense might be in some trouble.

Offense: Good. Lots of strong bats *and* a good speed base should mean good things for this team, although Murray and Thor are going to cause their share of frustration.

Other modifiers: +2. Steele is a great field for all the 80+ power bats, and Vissery has been proven as a force to be reckoned with.

Total: 8

Additional comments: The new Boston Royals may not be as dominant as last season's, but they still ought to be strong contenders.

## 6) Super-Duper Evil Rays



Coach: AnjouPays (BBL rookie)

Division: AL East

Home field: Cement Gardens

First pick: Dawn Cozart (#18 overall)

Last pick: Melissa Waters (#187 overall)

Average arm strength: 61 (#17 in league)

Average swing power: 70 (#11 in league)

Average speed tier: 4.1 (#4 in league)

Average coordination: 68 (#2 in league)

Average eye: 42 (#22 in league)

Average aggression: 63 (#2 in league)

Average intelligence: 72 (#1 in league)

Defense: Good. There's no super arms on the team, and things might get a bit dicey after a couple of pitching changes, but the starting defense is well-put-together with good range.

Offense: Average. There's a good bit of speed and a lot of solid bats, but the lack of top-tier power is a bit of a concern. This lineup is teetering on the edge between average and good, but ultimately I doubt if it's dynamic enough.

Other modifiers: +2. Cement Gardens is the perfect field for this sort of team.

Total: 8

Additional comments: Anjou loaded up on solid but unspectacular bats and arms. We'll see if the all-around approach works for him; getting as much speed as he did should be a big help with that.

## 7) Montreal Pirates



Coach: QuestionMonkey (2-season veteran, 11-17 lifetime record)

Division: AL East

Home field: Cement Gardens

First pick: Julie Dunkel (#2 overall)

Last pick: Rosanna Phelps (#184 overall)

Average arm strength: 74 (#2 in league)

Average swing power: 69 (#14 in league)

Average speed tier: 4.3 (#2 in league)

Average eye: 46 (#21 in league)

Average aggression: 40 (#21 in league)

Average intelligence: #47 (#21 in league)

Defense: Good. Lots of good arms here where they really matter. Julie + Barry should make for a lethal infield at the start of the game, and Gwen in left field is perfect backup for Molly at third. Although I think Molly should be catching instead of Don, this is still a defense without any glaring faults.

Offense: Average. I was a bit torn here, as the four best players should all help a good bit and the team has only one slow runner, but I'm a bit concerned about the three weak hitters, and my own experience is that Molly and Alexis can be frustratingly inconsistent.

Other modifiers: +2. A team with healthy speed like this one should thrive at the Gardens.

Total: 8

Additional comments: This offense is tough for me to get a good read on. It could be really good or it could struggle to produce consistently. The team's fate may well hinge on which of those two is the case.

## 8) Minnesota Twins



Coach: MikeMadness (BBL rookie)

*Some draft picks made by Emery92*

Division: AL West  
Home field: Parks Department #2  
First pick: Kenny Lofton (#13 overall)  
Last pick: Linda Potter (post-draft waivers)

Average arm strength: 85 (#1 in league)  
Average swing power: 58 (#21 in league)  
Average speed tier: 3.8 (#9 in league)  
Average height: 2.8 (#2 in league)  
Average relief rating: 212 (#2 in league)

Defense: Fantastic! It looks like Emery began assembling this team with an eye for defense, and MikeMadness certainly continued that trend. Arms everywhere with the weakest at first base! Randy Johnson's clone on the mound! Maynard at shortstop! A terrifying outfield! This is the scariest defense in the league this season.

Offense: Poor. One trend Mike did not continue was speed, as after the initial three speedsters the rest of the team consists entirely of slow runners. There's also only a few stronger bats and none in the top tier. The defense did come with a cost, and this team might have trouble scoring much.

Other modifiers: 0. Parks is not a great fit for this team, and its bouncy surface may make it easier to poke the ball past the slower fielders. On the other hand, Mike has been working very hard in practice this preseason, and lots of practice often helps.

Total: 7

Additional comments: Mike's worried about not putting up great scores in practice, but with a defense like this, he might not have to score very much to succeed.

## 9) Atlanta Braves



The image shows a screenshot from a baseball game interface for the Atlanta Braves. On the left is a 'BATTING ORDER' table, and on the right is a fielding diagram with player icons on the field.

	BATTING ORDER	NAME	POS.
1		SHANE S.	CF
2		LIZ K.	LF
3		MARILYN M.	SS
4		SUSAN G.	C
5		JORGE G.	3B
6		RAMONA B.	RF
7		KRISTEN S.	2B
8		DOMINIC H.	P
9		RACHEL L.	1B

Coach: Natetastic28 (3-season veteran, 24-21 lifetime record, 1 division title, 1 WC title)

Division: NL West

Home field: Steele Stadium

First pick: Marilyn McDonnell (#11 overall)

Last pick: Dominic Hoskins (#181 overall)

Average arm strength: 61 (#16 in league)  
Average swing power: 73 (#6 in league)  
Average speed tier: 4 (#7 in league)

Defense: Good. This is an intimidating field! The outfield has good range and should get the job done well. The infield has Jeter's clone to up the ante, as well as a solid supporting cast. Kristen at 2B feels odd but makes sense as she's the likely first reliever. The big question mark is Susan behind the plate –

will that 75 arm be enough to get the job done? I think it was worth the risk to put Marilyn out in the field.

Offense: Average. This lineup is very solid all-around but doesn't have any big edges on the competition.

Other modifiers: +1. Nate has proven his capabilities by now and made the playoffs with a less impressive (on paper) team last season.

Total: 7

Additional comments: I think Nate has a solid setup here to make a run at a third straight playoff appearance.

## 10) White Cubs



BATTING ORDER		
	NAME	POS
1	KEN G.	LF
2	ACHMED K.	CF
3	AMIR K.	RF
4	VLADIMIR G.	C
5	JASON K.	SS
6	ANGELA B.	P
7	ERNE S.	1B
8	JASON G.	2B
9	JOHNNY O.	3B

Coach: mattitude (BBL rookie, BBOL veteran)

Division: NL East

Home field: Steele Stadium

First pick: Ken Griffey, Jr. (#20 overall)

Last pick: Johnny Omar (#186 overall)

Average arm strength: 52 (#21 in league)

Average swing power: 78 (#2 in league)

Average speed tier: 3.3 (#20 in league)

Average throwing accuracy: 51 (#20 in league)

Average aggression: 69 (#1 in league)

Average height: 2.8 (#2 in league)

Defense: Poor. It's on the edge, but the presence of Angela is enough for me to put it in the lower tier. Only four strong arms away from home and a weak 3B likely after ten runs are also notable issues. But it has just enough pieces to not be a total pushover.

Offense: Good. This is a power-stacked squad, and unlike some others, I think the array of power bats is good enough to make it work despite the total lack of speedsters. Away games with no powerups for Jomar might prove trickier, though.

Other modifiers: +2. Steele Stadium will give Ernie a nice boost, as well as providing a nice home-run target that almost everybody on the team will be able to take advantage of.

Total: 7

Additional comments: With eight unique kids plus Jomar, this ought to be a fan favorite team, and a fun one for Mattitude to play with. I know I'm a fan.

## 11) Florida Marlins



Coach: Loba (BBL rookie, BBOL veteran)

Division: AL West

Home field: Tin Can Alley

First pick: Pablo Sanchez (#12 overall, later traded for Raul Mondesi)

Last pick: Colleen Klinker (#182 overall)

Average arm strength: 67 (#12 in league)

Average swing power: 75 (#5 in league)

Average speed tier: 3.7 (#11 in league)

Average coordination: 51 (#21 in league)

Defense: Average. I'm guessing Mikey had to play shortstop instead of catcher due to his likelihood of being the second reliever, but that's still rather unfortunate for this team. This defense isn't terrible and does boast some good arms, but it doesn't really seem to gel together to me.

Offense: Average. The speed isn't terrible and there's good power at the top of the scale, but there's a lack of all-around players on offense that makes me doubt the lineup.

Other modifiers: +2. A team full of 60+ power hitters should thrive in Tin Can Alley, and Loba made a good BBL entrance by performing well in Winterball with a lousy team.

Total: 6

Additional comments: By the numbers, it seems like this team should be pretty good, but something about it just feels *wrong* to me.

## 12) New York Mets



Coach: Wizard (5-season/6-team veteran, 52-40 lifetime record, 1 division title, 2 WC titles, 1 LDS title, 2 player awards)

Division: NL West

Home field: Playground Commons

First pick: Cheryl Reynolds (#8 overall, later traded for Sammy Sosa)

Last pick: Terry Vega (#197 overall)

Average arm strength: 70 (#9 in league)  
Average swing power: 72 (#7 in league)  
Average speed tier: 3.9 (#8 in league)  
Average contact hitting: 45 (#21 in league)

Defense: Average. Those are some lethal arms on the left side of the field, but the rest of the defense is nothing special. I'm not a fan of leaving slow Tracy out on the field while having Sosa catch. And the lack of any true pitchers has the potential to become a big problem.

Offense: Average. This is another high-average-power squad that seemingly lacks the speed or top end needed to be a really dynamic offense.

Other modifiers: +2. Wizard is a skilled veteran who has previously seen success with primarily-power teams.

Total: 6

Additional comments: No-pitcher teams have worked in this league's past. Can Wiz make it work again?

### 13) Humongous Blue Jays



BATTING ORDER		
	NAME	POS.
1	KIESHA P.	SS
2	JOCINDA S.	1B
3	SALLY D.	3B
4	TONY D.	C
5	LISA G.	CF
6	RANDY J.	P
7	DMITRI P.	RF
8	BILLY JEAN D.	2B
9	RICKY J.	LF

Coach: Eauxps I. Fourgott (7-season/10-team veteran, 59-92 lifetime record, 2 division titles, 1 LDS title, 2 player awards)

Division: AL West

Home field: Dirt Yards

First pick: Kiesha Phillips (#17 overall)

Last pick: Ricky Johnson (#178 overall)

Average arm strength: 72 (#4 in league)  
Average swing power: 63 (#18 in league)  
Average speed tier: 3.7 (#11 in league)  
Average coordination: 52 (#20 in league)  
Average height: 4.1 (#1 in league)

Defense: Good. I don't think there are any significant weaknesses in my defensive lineup, Randy Johnson is always difficult to get a foothold against, and all of the tall players on this team ought to be a significant annoyance to the opposition.

Offense: Poor. While this lineup isn't a total trainwreck, there's nothing special in it either, and it's going to take a lot of work to score a significant amount with it.

Other modifiers: 0. A significant assumption in my field choice here is that my tall players' extended reach will mean that Dirt Yards disadvantages them less than opposing defenses, and a scrimmage confirmed that it is certainly well-suited for this lineup. On the other hand, this is unquestionably a defensive team, and my track record with defensive teams is not good.

Total: 5

Additional comments: I like what I've assembled here and think this squad has the potential to be more than just a meme team, but it's far from a given.

## 14) Humongous Astros



Coach: Freakshow55 (BBL rookie, BBOL veteran)

Division: AL West

Home field: Tin Can Alley

First pick: Larry Walker (#16 overall)

Last pick: PJ Shareef (#193 overall)

Average arm strength: 67 (#14 in league)

Average swing power: 71 (#9 in league)

Average speed tier: 3.3 (#20 in league)

Average stamina: 78 (#2 in league)

Average contact hitting: 47 (#20 in league)

Average coordination: 67 (#3 in league)

Average height: 2.8 (#2 in league)

Average relief rating: 163 (#21 in league)

Defense: Average. There's a lack of top talent here, especially with the team's best fielder stuck in right field due to relief pitching concerns. Still, the rest of the lineup is solid and should do a serviceable job – just nothing really special.

Offense: Average. Six bats at or above 80 power sounds pretty scary, and PJ is pretty good for a weak link, but only two of those bats are above 85 and one above 90. I'd feel better about what all those bats could do if the team had a bit more speed on it.

Other modifiers: +1. If all those bats can consistently put the ball on TCA's trailer, it'll be a major boost for the team.

Total: 5

Additional comments: This looks like it should be a scary team at first glance, but especially given Freakshow's comments about the inconsistency of power, I wonder if it will instead have a lot of frustrating games.

## 15) Blue Angels



Coach: bobbyJONES2370 (1-season veteran, 6-8 lifetime record, 1 player award)

Division: NL West

Home field: Eckman Acres

First pick: Leah Wayne (#7 overall)

Last pick: Erin Harris (#190 overall)

Average arm strength: 70 (#8 in league)

Average swing power: 70 (#10 in league)

Average speed tier: 4.1 (#4 in league)

Average stamina: 37 (#22 in league)

Average relief rating: 228 (#1 in league)

Defense: Average. This infield is pretty great in its initial form, but if opponents can wear out a couple of pitchers, it could get torn apart, and the outfield is uninspiring.

Offense: Good. Lots of solid bats, AND good speed! While it isn't too flashy, I see this as a well-balanced offense that could get a lot done.

Other modifiers: -1. With a lot of moderately good bats and no super speedsters, this offense might not look so good at the defense-friendly Eckman Acres.

Total: 5

Additional comments: I can see this being a team that usually either gives up very low or very high scores, with little in between. Which could mean Bobby is stuck with some not-so-fun flashbacks to last season.

## 16) Seattle Fishes



Coach: elchrisblanco (4.5-season veteran, 42-33 lifetime record, 1 division title, 1 WC title, 1 LDS title)

Division: NL East

Home field: Dirt Yards

First pick: Pete Wheeler (#1 overall)

Last pick: Todd Xavier (#188 overall)

Average arm strength: 58 (#20 in league)  
 Average swing power: 58 (#22 in league)  
 Average speed tier: 4.6 (#1 in league)  
 Average stamina: 81 (#1 in league)  
 Average aggression: 37 (#22 in league)

Defense: Poor. The three super speedsters will undoubtedly prove annoying, but I don't much like the defense other than that. There's a lack of great arms here, Samuel at shortstop seems too weak, and the prospect of Ray subbing to SS or CF after ten runs is not a pretty one.

Offense: Average. Once again, three super speedsters is a fantastic asset, but the rest of the lineup lacks great tools and might struggle to get much done when those three aren't involved.

Other modifiers: 0. Dirt Yards will be a two-edged sword for this team, great for the speedsters and otherwise mediocre offense, but much less great for the sub-par throwing arms.

Total: 3

Additional comments: The triple super-speed team is unexplored ground in the BBL. I personally am doubtful that it's enough to win games largely by itself, but maybe I'm wrong and Chris has found an incredible weapon for this season. In either case I applaud him for trying it out.

## 17) Milwaukee Mariners



Coach: GSchlim (7-season/9-team veteran, 79-81 lifetime record, 2 division titles, 3 WC titles, 1 LDS title, 1 LCS title, 1 WS title, 2 player awards)

Division: NL West

Home field: Sandy Flats

First pick: Jessica Wassersas (#15 overall)

Last pick: Matthew La Cruz (#194 overall)

Average arm strength: 72 (#4 in league)  
 Average swing power: 76 (#3 in league)  
 Average speed tier: 3.2 (#22 in league)

Defense: Poor. Third and short have great arms, but they have to get to the ball first. Jessica should be great in center field, but the edge outfielders aren't so great, doubly so once Steph goes in to pitch. Putting Emily behind the plate instead of Bags seems like a mistake to me.

Offense: Average. Seven players with over 80 power is seriously impressive! What's also impressive is how slow this team is, with only two average-speed and a single fast player breaking up the trend.

Power in the 80s isn't "all home runs all the time" tier, and hits that don't clear the fence might struggle to accomplish very much.

Other modifiers: 0. Sandy Flats doesn't seem like a field where so many slow players will do very well. On the other hand, this team's coach has made it work before.

Total: 3

Additional comments: Gschlim is one of the only coaches to actually successfully pull off the "Big Bats at Sandy Flats" strategy, and with a similarly slow team to boot, but that was a long time ago. Can he do it again in the modern meta?

## 18) Little Bombers



The image shows a screenshot from a baseball game interface. On the left is a batting order table, and on the right is a top-down view of a baseball field with player icons.

BATTING ORDER		
	NAME	POS
1	LINDSY F.	LF
2	NOMAR G.	SS
3	PAMELA K.	3B
4	AICIA B.	1B
5	DEREK M.	2B
6	GAB. W.	CF
7	RONNY D.	RF
8	TIFFANY B.	P
9	TRENT S.	C

Coach: Jakethesnak (BBL rookie)

Division: NL West

Home field: Eckman Acres

First pick: Lindsay Felgate (#6 overall)

Last pick: Tiffany Bosworth (#185 overall)

Average arm strength: 67 (#13 in league)

Average swing power: 64 (#17 in league)

Average speed tier: 3.8 (#9 in league)

Average contact hitting: 62 (#3 in league)

Average throwing accuracy: 66 (#3 in league)

Average relief rating: 208 (#3 in league)

Defense: Average. Practically every fielder here feels like the definition of "solid, but unspectacular" for their position.

Offense: Poor. There's some decent power on the upper end and nothing here is *terrible*, but the team as a whole could have used more speed or top tier power than just Lindsay, and those three weaker bats in particular could stunt their efforts.

Other modifiers: -1. I don't feel like Eckman Acres is a very good fit for this offense.

Total: 2

Additional comments: Jakethesnak didn't do a terrible job drafting, but his team does lack real bite. Maybe I'm just biased, but I don't think it's the right sort of squad to build around Lindsay.

## 19) Green Monsters



Coach: Yurya (8.5-season/11-team veteran, 105-84 lifetime record, 4 division titles, 1 WC title, 3 LDS titles, 1 LCS title, 4 player awards)

Division: NL East

Home field: Playground Commons

First pick: Jay Green (#5 overall)

Last pick: Berit Greenwalt (#195 overall)

Average arm strength: 60 (#19 in league)

Average swing power: 72 (#8 in league)

Average speed tier: 3.7 (#11 in league)

Average stamina: 47 (#20 in league)

Average intelligence: 68 (#2 in league)

Defense: Poor. A top non-catcher arm rating of 72 really sticks out, and those two 72 arms will be the first to tire from pitching. Bobby leaves a gaping void in right field. I don't know about this one.

Offense: Average. It's fun to have Berit back in action, but she won't be doing this lineup any favors.

Other than her, though, it's actually quite solid, if not super-amazing. Solid power, solid speed, Gwynn the only other weaker player.

Other modifiers: -1. The offense-friendly Playground Commons isn't going to help this team's case on defense at all.

Total: 2

Additional comments: Yurya clearly decided to go casual for his first post-Commissioner season, with a total 180 from last season's Monsters. Hopefully he enjoys it, because I don't think he'll be making another championship run.

## 20) Red Red Sox



Coach: alex7456 (BBL rookie, BBOL veteran)

Division: NL East

Home field: Eckman Acres

First pick: Chico Pappas (#10 overall)

Last pick: Kimmy Eckman (#179 overall)

Average arm strength: 66 (#15 in league)  
Average swing power: 64 (#15 in league)  
Average speed tier: 3.6 (#11 in league)  
Average stamina: 39 (#21 in league)  
Average contact hitting: 63 (#2 in league)  
Average throwing accuracy: 47 (#21 in league)  
Average aggression: 41 (#20 in league)  
Average height: 2.1 (#20 in league)

Defense: Poor. There's some laser arms on this team, but they're mostly stuck on the edges of the field where they won't see as much action. I don't feel right field is a good fit for Kimmy, or that having a 3 height first base was worth sticking one of the fastest fielders and strongest arms at first base. And assuming Curt does go behind the plate after subbing out, will he still be an effective catcher when tired?

Offense: Poor. Lots of moderately powerful bats, but only two above 80, and too many slow players for me to feel good about what those bats can really accomplish. The lineup's potential really falls off after the three great speedsters.

Other modifiers: 0. The advantage from Kimmy's home field boost will likely be canceled out by the rougher time the remaining slow players will have on offense.

Total: 2

Additional comments: Alex went for a lot of players with one big strength but also a notable weakness. I don't know that they gel together into an effective team, but maybe he can prove me wrong by maximizing those strengths.

## 21) Montreal Expos



Coach: MartianMan (2-season veteran, 3-25 lifetime record)

Team drafted by jlund24

Division: AL West

Home field: Cement Gardens

First pick: Ted Williams (custom) (#22 overall)

Last pick: Olga Tollefson (#177 overall)

Average arm strength: 68 (#11 in league)  
Average swing power: 64 (#16 in league)  
Average speed tier: 3.6 (#18 in league)  
Average stamina: 71 (#3 in league)  
Average contact hitting: 75 (#1 in league)

Average coordination: 49 (#22 in league)  
Average throwing accuracy: 71 (#1 in league)  
Average eye: 78 (#1 in league)  
Average intelligence: 66 (#3 in league)

Defense: Poor. Libby Futterman is by far the league's worst catcher this season, and the defense as a whole is light on speed. There are a number of decent fielders, but nobody spectacular, and I think they could have been better-arranged.

Offense: Poor. Speed this low plus only two bats better than 80 power is not a winning combination. This is very much a lineup that has to rely on stringing together long rallies, which can be difficult to do.

Other modifiers: 0. I could be wrong, but I do think Cement Gardens is a pretty good field for an array of mid-power bats like this one. On the other hand, MartianMan has struggled in his two seasons so far, and even had to forfeit a guaranteed win last season.

Total: 2

Additional comments: Jlund has now come full circle, drafting a weaker "fun" team and then leaving it for somebody else to coach. Martian can just be glad that this one doesn't have to play at Sandy Flats.

## 22) Little Padres



Coach: benjaminion (BBL rookie)  
Division: NL West  
Home field: Playground Commons  
First pick: Zenon Estrada (#19 overall)  
Last pick: Jerry Mahoney (#191 overall)

Average arm strength: 61 (#18 in league)  
Average swing power: 69 (#12 in league)  
Average speed tier: 3.7 (#11 in league)  
Average height: 2.1 (#20 in league)

Defense: Terrible. This field looks mostly okay, but it lacks any strong points and the arms are on the weak side... and Wendy Parsons coming in to pitch early will almost certainly leave them completely vulnerable to stolen bases. In a league where a strong catcher is fully ingrained into the meta, this could be the kiss of death.

Offense: Average. This needed just a couple more big bats or fast players to move up a level. I do like that everybody slow has a pretty good bat, though.

Other modifiers: -1. Playground Commons isn't great for a team weak on defense, especially when they really lack the speed edge to take advantage of it.

Total: 1

Additional comments: This team's just a couple little steps (and a fix for Wendy) away from being a quite solid offense team. But that could instead mean that I'm selling Benjaminion just a little bit short.

## Predictions

It is worth noting that these are more or less made up on the fly, and should be taken with several grains of salt.

### AL West

- 6) **Expos.** MartianMan did not inherit an enviable position. Hopefully he's mainly in this to have fun.
- 5) **Astros.** From the sound of it, Freakshow is going to rue going mostly for power. He won't be able to harness his bats consistently enough to win out a lot.
- 4) **Marlins.** This team won't be terrible, but I'm still skeptical of them.
- 3) **Blue Jays.** I think I'll be able to make a good splash with this team and have a solid season, but fall short of the actual playoffs.
- 2) **Twins.** Mike's incredible defense will win a lot of games by itself, and he should be competitive for a playoff slot even if he doesn't put up amazing scores.
- 1) **Rockies.** After a rougher Season 9, Crazy's ready to be a dominant division winner again, and will prove difficult to stop.

### AL East

- 5) **Pirates.** This is a division with a lot of teams of a similar power level, albeit that level is extremely high in this case. QM has been the one who couldn't keep up in similar situations in the past, and he may well do so again.
- 4) **Evil Rays.** In pretty much any other division, I'd put Anjou higher, but he's stuck in a Division of Doom, and even this good-looking team might not be good enough to make it out alive.
- 3) **Cardinals.** Prior experience or no prior experience, I think Chellow will perform well with this team and has good odds to take a wildcard spot.
- 2) **Royals.** Vissery brought Chellow into the league, but will be reminding him who the superior player is en route to a second straight playoff appearance.
- 1) **Giants.** He is trapped in an extremely competitive division, and this is the most likely way for something to go wrong and his incredible team to miss the playoffs. But I'm still in IT's corner for now, and I think his team is good enough to win even this division.

### NL West

- 6) **Padres.** Wendy coming on to pitch will be the death of this team.
- 5) **Bombers.** I don't think this team will prove dynamic enough to win a lot of games.
- 4) **Mariners.** Schlim will be able to harness this team well enough to get some wins under his belt, but I don't think the team build will prove to be as effective as it was in Season 3.
- 3) **Angels.** Bobby's good offense will help him to win a decent share of games, but the defense will crumble enough for him suffer a more heartbreaking losses as well. Still, I think he has solid odds to secure a wildcard spot.
- 2) **Mets.** Lack of pitching will lose this team some games, but Wizard should be able to leverage the offense well enough to stay in the playoff hunt yet again, this time actually grabbing a wildcard.
- 1) **Braves.** With another strong defense and offense that should prove good enough, Nate's got a good shot at punching a ticket to the playoffs for the third straight season.

### NL East

**5) Monsters.** After a triumphant return to his early-season dominance last season, Yurya will come crashing back down with a forgettable performance. The Monsters may end up only being Green with jealousy.

**4) Red Sox.** I don't think this team of specialists will have the all-around skill it takes to be strong contenders.

**3) Fishes.** Chris will leverage this super-speed to take home some games, but without better support from the rest of the time, it won't be enough to make the playoffs.

**2) Cubs.** Mattitude will have a good run with this team and will have a lot of people rooting for them to make playoffs, but the defense might crumble one too many times for them to make it in the end.

**1) Reds.** Much like the Royals last season, Personizzle will hit away and roll over his opponents en route to a division title.

### **Playoffs**

**Division Playoffs:** Giants over Cardinals, Rockies over Royals, Reds over Angels, Braves over Mets

**League Championship Series:** Rockies over Giants, Braves over Reds

**Backyard World Series:** Braves over Rockies. The sky might be the limit for Nate without Emery to knock him out of the playoffs. His team has the all-around strength and stability that flashier teams lack, and that may well prove to be what it takes to bring home the trophy.