

Minor League Transactions: March 28-April 4

Article XX(B) major league free agents are indicated with a double asterisk (**)

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: C Mike Brenly (released by Cubs, March 29), 1B Nick Evans (released by Dodgers, March 18)

Released: LHP Rommie Lewis, C Mark Reed, 2B Daniel Pulfer, OF Ryan LaPensee, OF Joe Loftus

Recalled: OF Alfredo Marte

Added to 40-man roster: SS Josh Wilson

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Randall Delgado, LHP Joe Paterson, OF Tony Campana

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Mike Bolsinger, RHP Tyler Green, RHP Bryan Henry, RHP Ray Hernandez, RHP D.J. Johnson, RHP Mat Sample, LHP John Pedrotty, C Chris McMurray, OF Keon Broxton, OF Ollie Linton

Atlanta Braves

Signed: RHP Greg Ross (released by Tigers, March 25)

Released: LHP Dimasther Delgado, OF Josh Kroeger

Traded: C Troy Snitker to Pirates for future considerations

Added to 40-man roster: C Evan Gattis

Option transferred: RHP Juan Jaime (Double-A to high Class A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Brett Cammons, RHP Yean Carlos Gil, RHP Benino Pruneda, RHP Jason Rice, LHP Robert Fish, LHP David Starn, C Matt Kennelly, C Shawn McGill, OF Chase Anselment

Evan Gattis smacked 34 home runs last season between high Class A, Double-A and the Venezuelan League, then won a job as Braves part-time catcher by hitting .368 (21-for-57) with six homers and five doubles this spring. He homered in his first major league game, of course.

Panamanian lefty **Dimasther Delgado** appeared on three organizational Top 30 Prospects lists, peaking at No. 12 in '10, the same season he missed in its entirety after breaking his leg in an offseason car accident. In two tries at high Class A Lynchburg, he logged a 3.93 ERA, 1.41 WHIP and 1.8 K-BB ratio as a starter, suggesting his future may be in relief.

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Freddy Garcia (released by Padres, March 24), OF Ademar Rifaela

Released: RHP Pat Egan, RHP Jaime Esquivel, RHP Chase Johnson, C Joe Oliveira, C Jim Vahalik, SS Chris Wade, OF Adam Greenberg, OF Will Howard, OF Jeremy Nowak, OF Chris Pettit, OF Buddy Sosnoskie

Acquired: RHP Scott Proctor from Giants for cash considerations

Added to 40-man roster: 1B Steve Pearce

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Josh Stinson

Option transferred: OF Xavier Avery (Triple-A to Double-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Bobby Bundy, RHP Dylan Bundy, RHP Oliver Drake, RHP Dan Klein, RHP Joel Pineiro, RHP Stu Pomeranz, LHP Zach Braddock, LHP Rich Rundles, LHP Rick Zagone, C Zach Booker, C Joel Polanco, C Scott Thomas, 2B Shawn Roof, OF Austin Knight

*[The 18-year-old Curacao native **Ademar Rifaela** will make his professional debut in the Dominican Summer League according to Honkbalsite.com. He played for Curacao in the 2007 Little League World Series. The Orioles currently have seven players under contract from Curacao]*

The Orioles claimed **Josh Stinson** on waivers from the Athletics, who had recently claimed him from the Brewers, who claimed him from the Mets a year ago. Stinson will join other recent Baltimore acquisitions Jairo Asencio, Scott Proctor and Julio Rodriguez as bullpen depth in the high minors. The Orioles also have a quartet relievers with prospect value to reclaim at Triple-A Norfolk in Mike Belfiore, Rob Delaney, Adam Russell and Daniel Schlereth.

Boston Red Sox

Signed: 1B Brandon Snyder (released by Rangers, March 27)

Released: RHP Jon Bachanov, RHP Rey Cotilla, RHP Tyler Lockwood, LHP Kevin Brahney, C Roberto Reyes, OF Matt Marquis, OF Ryan Sweeney

Loaned to Mexican League: RHP Marco Duarte (to Mexico City)

Added to 40-man roster: OF Jackie Bradley

Optioned to Triple-A: 1B Mauro Gomez

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Daniel Bard

Designated for assignment: 1B Mauro Gomez

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Chris Balcom-Miller, RHP Luis Diaz, RHP Jeremy Kehrt, RHP Aaron Kurcz, LHP Matt Maloney, C Tim Roberson, C Matt Spring, OF Mitch Maier

The Red Sox selected **Jon Bachanov** from the White Sox in last December's minor league Rule 5 draft. New Red Sox Gulf Coast League manager Tom Kotchman scouted and signed Bachanov for the Angels in '07.

Chicago Cubs

Signed: 2B Donnie Murphy (released by Brewers, March 27), OF Ryan Sweeney (released by Red Sox, March 30)

Released: RHP Jay Jackson, RHP Hayden Simpson, RHP Brett Wallach, RHP Joe Zeller, LHP Casey Harman, LHP Dontrelle

Willis, C Mike Brenly, OF Evan Crawford

Added to 40-man roster: LHP Hisanori Takahashi, SS Alberto Gonzalez, OF Brent Lillibridge

Optioned to Triple-A: OF Brett Jackson

Option transferred: RHP Alberto Cabrera, RHP Trey McNutt (both Triple-A to Double-A)

Removed from 40-man: RHP Guillermo Moscoso (outrighted to Rookie-level Arizona League)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Esmailin Caridad, RHP Marcelo Carrero, RHP Dayan Diaz, RHP Michael Jensen, RHP Chang-Yong Lim, RHP Matt Loosen, RHP Jose Rosario, RHP Casey Weathers, LHP Kyler Burke, LHP Jeff Lorick, LHP Andrew McKirahan, C Yaniel Cabezas, C Carlos Escobar, 1B Greg Rohan, 3B Brad Zepenas, OF Albert Almora

Jay Jackson looked like a ninth-round find out of the '08 draft when he reached Triple-A the following year, but after three full seasons at Iowa produced a 5.27 ERA and 1.47 WHIP, he'll try to latch on with a new organization. Jackson's strikeout rate perked up—8.7 SO/9—after moving to the bullpen last season, so the second act of his career may include waiting by the bullpen phone.

Poor health sabotaged **Hayden Simpson's** career. The 16th pick in the '10 draft suffered from mononucleosis and an elbow tear before he even got going, but Cubs correspondent Phil Rogers lays the blame for Simpson's failure at the feet of a previous front-office regime that didn't want to spend in the draft. Nonetheless, Simpson (6.42 ERA in 161 innings) joins an ignominious list of pitchers selected by Chicago with its top pick: '02 first-rounder Bobby Brownlie, '04 second-rounder Grant Johnson and '05 first-rounder Mark Pawelek.

Cubs No. 2 prospect and the sixth pick in last year's draft **Albert Almora** begins on the disabled list after breaking the hamate bone in his left hand.

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Jason Berken (released by Cubs, March 22), SS Jean Almaraz (released by Angels, March 27), SS Tyler Greene (released by Astros, March 26), OF Luis Durango (released by Royals, April 1)

Released: 2B Erik Morrison, 3B Nick Giarraputo, 3B Andy Gonzalez, 3B Thomas McCarthy, 3B Jake Oester, OF Stefan Gartrell, OF John Shelby III

Acquired: 1B Lars Anderson from Blue Jays for cash considerations

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Brian Omogrosso

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Scott Carroll, RHP Dan Remenowsky, LHP Charlie Leesman, LHP Trevor Reckling, LHP Santos Rodriguez, C Damaso Espino, C Luis Sierra, 1B Lars Anderson, 3B Josh Bell, OF Blake Tekotte

Placed on 60-day DL: RHP Kyle Bellamy

*[Selected by the White Sox in the 31st round of the June 2006 First-Year Player Draft, **Gartrell** (29) showed good power at AAA level, smashing 73 HRs in three seasons (2010-2012) along with poor plate discipline (393 SO). In 2011, he was an International League All-Star]*

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Mike MacDougal, RHP Yohan Pino (released and re-signed)

Released: RHP Lorgi Pineda, RHP Yohan Pino, RHP Kanekoa Texeira, LHP Stephen Hunt, C Mark Fleury, OF Jefry Sierra

Added to 40-man roster: SS Cesar Izturis, OF Derrick Robinson

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Logan Ondrusek

Option transferred: RHP Curtis Partch (Triple-A to Double-A)

Removed from 40-man: RHP Jose Arredondo, SS Jason Donald (both outrighted to Triple-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Kevin Arico, RHP Ryan Kemp, RHP Brian Pearl, RHP Daniel Tuttle, LHP Blaine Howell, LHP Chris Manno, 1B Neftali Soto, OF Jon Matthews

Cleveland Indians

Released: RHP Antwonie Hubbard, OF Jordan Henry, OF Jeremie Tice

Traded: C Brian Jeroloman to Pirates for future considerations

Added to 40-man roster: LHP Scott Kazmir, OF Ryan Raburn

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Nick Hagadone

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Robert Whitenack

Option transferred: RHP Trey Haley, RHP Danny Salazar, LHP T.J. House (all three players Triple-A to Double-A)

Removed from 40-man: LHP David Huff (outrighted to Triple-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Austin Adams, RHP Joseph Colon, RHP Clayton Cook, RHP Trey Haley, RHP Chen Lee, RHP Mason Radeke, LHP Elvis Araujo, LHP Mike Rayl, LHP Tyler Sturdevant, C Xavier de los Santos, C Alex Monsalve, 2B Cord Phelps, 2B Nate Spears, 3B Kyle Bellows, OF Bo Greenwell, OF Matt LaPorta

The Indians claimed **Robert Whitenack** on waivers from the Cubs.

Colorado Rockies

Signed: C Chris O'Dowd (released by Padres, March 28), 1B Dean Espy (released by Royals, March 27)

Released: RHP Giancarlo Alvarado, RHP Stephen Dodson, RHP Adam Jorgenson, RHP Chad Rose, RHP Joey Williamson, RHP Kurt Yacko, LHP Craig Bennigson, C Chris Cowell, C Ralph Henriquez, C Gustavo Molina, C James Skelton, 1B Jared Clark, 2B Jimmy Cesario, 3B Russ Mitchell, OF Robert de la Cruz, OF Blake Gailen, OF Mike Mitchell

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Chris Volstad, C Yorvit Torrealba

Optioned to Triple-A: OF Tyler Colvin

Option transferred: RHP Joe Gardner (Triple-A to Double-A)

Designated for assignment: RHP Will Harris

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Bruce Kern, LHP Erick Threats, 2B Taylor Featherston, 3B Sam Mende, OF Rafael Ortega, OF Jared Simon

Chris O'Dowd is the son of Rockies general manager Dan O'Dowd. The Padres selected him in the 23rd round of last year's draft out of Dartmouth.

Detroit Tigers

Signed: LHP Blaine Hardy (released by Royals, March 21)

Released: RHP Luis Hidalgo, RHP Rob Waite, C Gabriel Purroy, 1B Jose Soledad, 3B Edgar Corcino, SS Cale Iorg, OF Eliezer Mesa

Added to 40-man roster: 3B Matt Tuasosopo, OF Don Kelly

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Luis Marte, RHP Evan Reed, RHP Bruce Rondon, SS Danny Worth

The Tigers selected **Eliezer Mesa** from the Athletics in last December's minor league Rule 5 draft. Elsewhere, Detroit claimed Evan Reed on waivers from the Marlins.

Long the organization's torch-bearer for infield defensive play, '07 sixth-rounder **Cale Iorg** hit .213 at Double-A (1,002 at-bats) and .199 at Triple-A (512 at-bats), indicating his bat is too light even for utility work. Players like Danny Worth, Hernan Perez and Dixon Machado had passed him on the organization depth chart.

Houston Astros

Traded: OF Jake Goebbert to Athletics for LHP Travis Blackley

Recalled: OF J.D. Martinez

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Edgar Gonzalez, LHP Erik Bedard, OF Rick Ankiel

Option transferred: RHP Ross Seaton (Triple-A to Double-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Murilo Gouvea, RHP Chia-Jen Lo, RHP Kyle Weiland, LHP Sergio Escalona, LHP Kenny Long, C Max Stassi, 3B Andy Simunic, 3B Brandon Wikoff, OF Grant Hogue, OF Telvin Nash

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Cesar Arreaza

Released: C Ryan Jenkins, 3B Nick DelGuidice, OF Luis Durango

Added to 40-man roster: 3B Miguel Tejada

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Louis Coleman

Option transferred: LHP John Lamb (Double-A to high Class A)

Removed from 40-man: C Brett Hayes (outrighted to Triple-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Greg Billo, RHP Chase Boruff, RHP Chas Byrne, RHP Devon Lowery, RHP Tim Melville, RHP Matt Murray, RHP Anthony Ortega, RHP Matt Ridings, RHP Tyler Sample, RHP Leonel Santiago, LHP Buddy Baumann, LHP Justin Marks, LHP George Sherrill, LHP Crawford Simmons, C Jose Bonilla, C Alex Marquez, 1B Chad Tracy, 2B Sharlon Schoop, 3B Adrian Morales, 3B Freddy Sandoval, OF Chris Elder, OF Roman Hernandez, OF Alex Llanos, OF Carlo Testa, OF Charles Thomas

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Alex Keudell (released by Rays, March 28), C Mark Fleury (released by Reds, March 29)

Released: RHP Matt Collins, SS Brandon Brewer

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Mark Lowe, 3B Brendan Harris, OF J.B. Shuck

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP David Carpenter, C John Hester, 3B Luis Jimenez, OF Kole Calhoun

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Mike Clevinger, RHP Johnny Holtman, RHP Brandon Hynick, RHP Heath Nichols, RHP Tony Pena, LHP Carmine Giardina, LHP Brandon Sisk, C Zac Livingston, C Elio Sarmiento, 1B Matt Scioscia, OF Jeremy Cruz, OF Paul McNulty

Los Angeles Dodgers

Released: RHP Kevin Gregg, LHP Cole St. Clair, C Wilkin Castillo, 3B Joe Becker, OF P.J. Phillips

Recalled: SS Justin Sellers

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Stephen Fife, RHP Josh Wall, 2B Alex Castellanos, OF Elian Herrera

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Juan Abreu, RHP Juan Noriega, RHP Matt Palmer, RHP Mario Santiago, C Steve Cilladi, C Jan Vazquez, 2B Pedro Guerrero, SS Casio Grider, SS Ozzie Martinez, OF Brian Cavazos-Galvez, OF Jeremy Moore, OF Pat Stover, OF Joey Winker

Miami Marlins

Released: RHP Michael Garcia, RHP John Omahen, RHP Chris Squires, LHP Tyler Kehrer, 1B Pedro Acosta, 3B Patrick Claussen, 3B Tug Hulett, SS Rony Peralta, OF Dallas Poulk, OF John Schultz, OF Donnie Webb

Recalled: RHP Alex Sanabia

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Jose Fernandez, RHP John Maine, RHP Chad Qualls**, RHP Kevin Slowey, 1B Casey Kotchman**, 2B Chris Valaika, OF Austin Kearns**

Optioned to Triple-A: C Kyle Skipworth

Option transferred: OF Kyle Jensen (Triple-A to Double-A)

Designated for assignment: RHP Evan Reed, LHP Scott Maine, 3B Zack Cox

Removed from 40-man: LHP Scott Maine, OF Gorkys Hernandez (both players outrighted to Triple-A), 3B Zack Cox (outrighted to Double-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Pete Andrelczyk, RHP Bryan Evans, RHP Casey McCarthy, RHP Brad Mincey, RHP Matt Montgomery, RHP Joey O'Gara, LHP Ramon Benjamin, LHP Grant Dayton, LHP Andrew Heaney, LHP Greg Nappo, C Jose Ceballos, 1B Aaron Dudley, 3B Kevin Kouzmanoff, OF Brent Keys, OF Jake Marisnick, OF Ryan McIntyre, OF Marcell Ozuna, OF James Wooster, OF Christian Yelich

To make room on the 40-man roster for veterans such as Austin Kearns, Casey Kotchman, John Maine, Chad Qualls, Kevin Slowey and Chris Valaika, Miami elected to outright to the minors two players they acquired in trades last July 31. Both **Zack Cox** and **Gorkys Hernandez** cleared waivers and will have to earn their way back onto the 40-man.

The Marlins' projected super-prospect outfielder at Double-A Jacksonville did not materialize on Opening Day. **Jake Marisnick** (fractured hand), **Marcell Ozuna** (fractured hand) and **Christian Yelich** (plantar faciitis) all begin the season on the disabled list.

The Marlins selected **Tyler Kehrer** from the Angels in December's minor league Rule 5 draft.

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: RHP Estevenson Encarnacion (released by Indians, March 23)

Released: RHP Austin Hall, RHP Maverick Lasker, RHP Joel Pierce, RHP Michael White, RHP Brandon Williamson, 2B Carlos George

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Alfredo Figaro

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Eric Arnett, RHP Nick Bucci, RHP Austin Ross, RHP Cody Scarpetta, SS Hector Gomez

Minnesota Twins

Signed: 2B Eric Farris (released by Mariners, March 29)

Released: RHP Chris Province, 1B Steven Liddle, OF Ricky Manning, OF Kelvin Mention

Added to 40-man roster: OF Wilkin Ramirez

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Bryan Augenstein, RHP Nick Blackburn, RHP Kyle Davies, RHP Sam Deduno, RHP Dallas Gallant, RHP Jhon Garcia, RHP Deolis Guerra, RHP Rich Harden, RHP Matt Hauser, RHP B.J. Hermsen, RHP Lester Oliveros, RHP Dan Sattler, RHP Tim Shibuya, RHP Esmerling Vasquez, RHP Dakota Watts, RHP Alex Wimmers, LHP Rafael Perez, LHP Aaron Thompson, 1B Adam Bryant, SS Levi Michael, OF Nate Roberts

[Ramirez earned a spot after batting .404/.433/.579 this spring. He'll back up at the corner outfield spots. He has MLB experience (35 games) with Detroit-2009 and Atlanta-2011]

New York Mets

Released: RHP Craig Hansen, RHP Brad Holt, LHP Danny Ray Herrera, 2B Brandon Brown, OF Corey Patterson, OF Mike Wilson, OF Pedro Zapata

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Scott Atchison, RHP LaTroy Hawkins**, LHP Scott Rice, OF Marlon Byrd

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Rob Carson, 3B Zach Lutz

Option transferred: RHP Gonzalez Germen, 3B Wilmer Flores, OF Juan Lagares (all three players Double-A to Triple-A), RHP Hansel Robles (low Class A to high Class A), OF Cesar Puello (high Class A to Double-A)

Removed from 40-man: LHP Darin Gorski (outrighted to Double-A), 2B Reese Havens (outrighted to Triple-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Ryan Fraser, RHP Michael Fulmer, RHP Taylor Whiteman, LHP Tim Byrdak, LHP Alex Panteliodis, LHP Carlos Vazquez, OF Matt den Dekker

Following a sterling debut for short-season Brooklyn in '08—he led the New York-Penn League in ERA, strikeout rate and opponent average—**Brad Holt** failed to clear the Double-A hurdle in multiple tries. In parts of four seasons for Binghamton, he logged a 5.53 ERA, 1.53 WHIP and 1.4 K-BB ratio. Working in relief the past two seasons, Holt missed enough bats (8.4 SO/9) and allowed just five home runs in 86 innings, but he struggled terribly with control (4.9 BB/9).

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Chien-Ming Wang, 2B David Adams (re-signed)

Released: RHP Luis Chirinos, RHP Craig Heyer, LHP Evan DeLuca, SS Leugim Barroso, OF Juan Rivera**

Traded: SS Jose Mojica to Phillies for future considerations

Recalled: RHP Adam Warren

Added to 40-man roster: 1B Lyle Overbay, 3B Jayson Nix, OF Ben Francisco

Optioned to Triple-A: OF Melky Mesa

Option transferred: LHP Francisco Rondon (Triple-A to Double-A)

Removed from 40-man: RHP Sam Demel (outrighted to Triple-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Matt Daley, RHP Jairo Heredia, RHP David Herndon, RHP Diego Moreno, RHP Jose Ramirez, RHP Pat Venditte, RHP Chien-Ming Wang, RHP Chase Whitley, LHP Rigoberto Arrebatto, LHP Manny Banuelos, C Tyson Blaser, 2B Reegie Corona, OF Adonis Garcia, OF Ronnier Mustelie, OF Ravel Santana

*[The cut of **Juan Rivera** opens things up at first base for Lyle Overbay, who will get the majority of starts until Mark Teixeira returns in late May or early June from his wrist injury. Rivera batted .244/.286/.375 with 9 home runs and 47 RBI in 109 games last season for the Dodgers. Since the cut was made within five days from the opening day, Rivera will still get the \$100,000 retention bonus]*

The Yankees claimed **Sam Demel** on waivers from the Astros, who claimed him from the Diamondbacks in November. New York snuck him through waivers and outrighted him to Triple-A.

Oakland Athletics

Signed: RHP Mike DeMark (released by D-backs, March 19), RHP Zach Neal (released by Marlins, March 26), C Ryan Delgado (Fargo-Moorhead (American Association))

Released: RHP Daniel Petitti, LHP Chaz Mye, OF Royce Consigli

Traded: LHP Travis Blackley to Astros for OF Jake Goebbert

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Will Harris, RHP Dan Otero, LHP Pedro Figueroa, LHP Jordan Norberto, SS Andy Parrino

Option transferred: RHP Arnold Leon (Triple-A to Double-A)

Removed from 40-man: 1B Daric Barton (outrighted to Triple-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Andrew Carignan, RHP Ryan Doolittle, RHP Shawn Haviland, RHP Brett Hunter, LHP Trey Barham, LHP Brent Powers, LHP Julio Ramos, C Diomedes Lopez, C Beau Taylor, 2B Chih-Fang Pan, 3B Chad Lewis, OF Rashun Dixon

Jake Goebbert could boost his fourth-outfielder profile by taking up center field, but given his below-average speed and range, he'll probably have to settle for being a lefty-swinging, line-drive hitting, strike-zone managing, gap-power-having corner outfielder. The '09 13th-rounder from Northwestern hit .304/.399/.473 with nine homers in 368 at-bats for Double-A Corpus Christi last season, showing a fine 55-to-57 walk-to-strikeout ratio.

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: 2B Shawn Williams (released and re-signed)

Released: RHP Jordan Ellis, 2B Shawn Williams

Acquired: SS Jose Mojica from Yankees for future considerations

Returned Rule 5 selection: OF Ender Inciarte (to Diamondbacks)

Added to 40-man roster: C Humberto Quintero

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Mike Stutes

Option transferred: LHP Mauricio Robles, C Sebastian Valle (both players Triple-A to Double-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Edgar Garcia, RHP Kenny Giles, LHP Tom Cochran, LHP Mario Hollands, C Kevin Quaranto, 2B Alejandro Villalobos, 2B Shawn Williams, SS Andres Blanco, SS Matt Tolbert, OF Miguel Alvarez, OF Kelly Dugan, OF Jiwan James, OF Peter Lavin

Ender Inciarte made the Phillies' Opening Day roster, though he lost his place on Day Two when the organization claimed Ezequiel Carrera on waivers from the Indians.

Pittsburgh Pirates

Released: 3B Jeremy Farrell

Acquired: C Brian Jeroloman from Indians for future considerations

Acquired: C Troy Snitker from Braves for future considerations

Option transferred: RHP Stolmy Pimentel (Triple-A to Double-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Ryan Beckman, RHP Aaron Pribanic, LHP Rinku Singh, C Brian Esposito, C Rudy Pena, 3B Jolbert Cabrera, OF Evan Chambers, OF Miles Durham, OF Austin McClune, OF Gavi Nivar, OF Anthony Norman

*[Indian-born **Rinku Singh** (24) was signed by the Pirates as a non-drafted free agent on Nov. 24, 2008. He's on the Single-A West Virginia roster, where he posted a solid 3-1-1 record with 3.00 ERA & 1.25 WHIP as long relief in 72 innings last season]*

St. Louis Cardinals

Released: 1B David Bergin, OF Chris Edmondson, OF David Medina

Recalled: SS Ryan Jackson

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Maikel Cleto, OF Adron Chambers

Option transferred: RHP Michael Blazek, RHP Keith Butler, LHP Kevin Siegrist (all three players Triple-A to Double-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Kyle Barraclough, RHP Logan Billbrough, RHP Chris Corrigan, RHP Scott Gorgen, RHP Aidan Lucas, RHP Zach Russell, RHP Jordan Swagerty, LHP Ryan Sherriff, LHP Jay Voss, C Juan Castillo, 1B Jeremy Schaffer

San Diego Padres

Released: C Matt Colantonio, C Chris O'Dowd, SS Tyler Stubblefield, OF Mike Gallic

Added to 40-man roster: 3B Jedd Gyorko, 3B Cody Ransom

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Tommy Layne, 1B Kyle Blanks

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Hayden Beard, RHP Chris Fetter, RHP Greg Gonzalez, RHP Adys Portillo, RHP Jason Ray, RHP Jerry Sullivan, LHP Juan Oramas, 2B Anthony Contreras, 2B Casey McElroy, 3B Edinson Rincon, SS Beamer Weems, OF Luis Domoromo, OF Rymer Liriano

Placed on 60-day DL: LHP Matt LaChappa

Jeff Gyorko, a second round pick in 2010, hit .257/.286/.486 (19-for-74) with four homers during spring training, but his place on the active roster was secured when third baseman Chase Headley and second baseman Logan Forsythe started on the big league disabled list.

San Francisco Giants

Signed: RHP Ramon Ramirez (re-signed)

Released: RHP Kevin Couture, RHP Willy Lebron, RHP Mitch Mormann, RHP Shawn Sanford, RHP Kyle Vazquez, LHP Franklin Noel, LHP Matt Yourkin, 2B Carlos Willoughby, 3B Daniel Mayora, OF Mike Mergenthaler

Traded: RHP Scott Proctor to Orioles for cash considerations

Recalled: SS Nick Noonan

Added to 40-man roster: C Guillermo Quiroz

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Jean Machi, OF Francisco Peguero

Optioned to high Class A: RHP Hunter Strickland

Option transferred: SS Ehire Adrianza (Triple-A to Double-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Brett Bochy, RHP Drew Bowlin, RHP Jose Casilla, RHP Edward Concepcion, RHP Paul Davis, RHP Jacob Dunnington, RHP Austin Fleet, RHP Stephen Harrold, RHP Shane Loux, RHP Jon Meloan, RHP Taylor Rogers, RHP Ryan Sadowski, RHP Justin Schumer, RHP Mason Tobin, LHP Kelvin Marte, LHP Carlos Teller, C Trevor Brown, C Tyler LaTorre, C Brad Moss, C Jesus Navarro, 2B Brock Bond, 3B Myles Schroder

The Giants claimed **Hunter Strickland** on waivers from the Pirates. Pittsburgh acquired him in the trade that sent Adam LaRoche to the Red Sox.

Seattle Mariners

Released: LHP Eric Niesen, C Ronny Paulino, 1B Dennis Raben, 2B Eric Farris, OF Dan Carroll

Added to 40-man roster: RHP D.J. Mitchell

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP D.J. Mitchell

Option transferred: RHP Hector Noesi, RHP Chance Ruffin, 3B Vinnie Catricala (all three players Triple-A to Double-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Tyler Blandford, RHP Moises Hernandez, RHP Erasmo Ramirez, RHP Jandy Sena, LHP Anthony Fernandez, LHP Anthony Vasquez, C Marcus Littlewood, 1B Mickey Wiswall, 2B Dillon Hazlett, 2B Stefen Romero, OF Joe Dunigan, OF Mike McGee, OF Kalian Sams

Placed on 60-day DL: RHP Brent Johnson

The Mariners parted ways with two more one-time organization prospects at the end of spring training. Joining Jharmidy DeJesus and Mario Martinez (from the previous installment) on the discard pile are '07 third-rounder Dan Carroll and '08 second-rounder Dennis Raben. **Carroll** showed off versatility and plus wheels—he stole 62 bases in '11—but hit just .274/.388/.435 in 708 plate appearances for hitter's paradise high Class A High Desert. Injuries, and not a lack of production, doomed former Miami Hurricane **Dennis Raben**. The first baseman mashed 39 homers and slugged .565 in 182 career games for High Desert.

Tampa Bay Rays

Released: RHP Kris Carlson, RHP R.J. Davis, RHP Rob Finneran, RHP Alex Keudell, RHP Jason McEachern, RHP Jason Wilson, LHP Kevin James, C Alejandro Torres, 1B Mike Sheridan

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Juan Oviedo**, RHP Jamey Wright**, 1B Shelley Duncan

Designated for assignment: C Robinson Chirinos, C Stephen Vogt

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Matt Nevarez, RHP Zach Quate, RHP Wilking Rodriguez, RHP Trevor Shull, LHP Grayson Garvin, SS Brandon Martin, SS Juniel Querecuto, OF Brett Nommensen

A 13th-round pick in '08, high school righty **Jason McEachern** reached the low Class A Midwest League but never delivered on his projection and enhanced his fastball velocity.

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Tim Kennelly (released by Phillies, March 16)

Released: RHP Shawn Blackwell, RHP Jorge DeJesus, RHP Kyle Devore, RHP Ben Henry, RHP Brandon Kuter, RHP Daniel Lopez, RHP Steve McKinnon, RHP Yonata Ortega, RHP Zach Osborne, RHP Denny Peralta, RHP Andres Perez-Lobo, RHP Zach Simons, RHP Chance Sossamon, RHP Matt Thompson, RHP Brett Weibley, LHP Tim Murphy, LHP Austen Thrailkill, 1B Brandon Allen, 1B Yefry Castillo, 2B Gabe Suarez, 3B Marquez Smith, OF Jared Prince, OF Jeremy Williams

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Cory Burns, RHP Josh Lindblom, SS Jurickson Profar

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Derek Lowe**, OF Jeff Baker**

Option transferred: RHP Wilmer Font, RHP Neil Ramirez (both players Triple-A to Double-A)

Removed from 40-man: LHP Brad Mills (outrighted to Triple-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Kyle McClellan, RHP Francisco Mendoza, RHP Justin Miller, RHP David Perez, RHP Tyler Tufts, RHP Matt West, LHP Chad Bell, LHP Richard Bleier, LHP Greg Williams, C Juan Apodaca, C Vin DiFazio, 1B Jhonny Gomez, 1B Ronald Guzman, 2B Nick Urbanus, OF Mike Bianucci

The Rangers selected **Marquez Smith** from the Reds in December's minor league Rule 5 draft.

Toronto Blue Jays

Released: RHP Julio Carmona, 1B Ryan Strieby, OF Kenen Bailli, OF Chris Peters

Traded: 1B Lars Anderson to White Sox for cash considerations

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Alex Burnett, 1B Clint Robinson

Option transferred: 1B Clint Robinson (Triple-A to Double-A)

Removed from 40-man: 1B Lars Anderson (outrighted to Triple-A)

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Dan Barnes, RHP Chad Jenkins, RHP Dayton Marze, RHP Todd Redmond, RHP John Stilson, LHP John Anderson, LHP Evan Crawford, LHP Sean Nolin, LHP Tyler Ybarra, C A.J. Jimenez, 1B K.C. Hobson, 2B Lance Zawadzki

The Blue Jays claimed **Alex Burnett** (Twins) and **Clint Robinson** (Pirates) on waivers this spring.

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Mike Broadway (released by Padres, March 23), RHP Chris Young (re-signed), C Sean McCauley

Released: RHP Alex Kreis, RHP Hassan Pena, LHP Brandon Mann, OF Ray Kruml

Placed on 7-day DL: RHP Wirkin Estevez, RHP Cole Kimball, RHP Brad Meyers, RHP Adam Olbrychowski, RHP Cameron Selik, RHP Matt Torra, RHP Dean Weaver, LHP Bill Bray, LHP Matt Purke, LHP Todd Simko, LHP Sammy Solis, C Sam Palace, C Andruth Ramirez, C Kris Watts, 3B Melvin Dorta, SS Brian Bocoock, OF Erik Komatsu, OF Jason Michaels, OF Chris Rahl

*[Cuban refugee **Pena** (28) was selected by Washington in the 13th round of the 2006 Draft out of Palm Beach Community College. Last season, he pitched at AAA-Syracuse as reliever, posting a 3-5-4 record with 3.81 ERA & 1.32 WHIP in 56.2 innings. He would have been eligible for minor league free agency after the current season]*

Minor League Transactions: March 21-27

Article XX(B) major league free agents are indicated by a double asterisk (**). Chad Gaudin, Jason Giambi, Brandon Inge and Jonathan Sanchez all made active rosters, but most others were granted their release so that they could either negotiate with a new club or re-sign with the same club under modified terms.

Arizona Diamondbacks

Released: RHP Josh Booty, RHP Robert Coe, RHP Jeremy Erben, RHP Kable Hogben, C Rod Barajas**

Acquired: OF Justin Greene from White Sox for future considerations

Atlanta Braves

Signed: RHP Mark Pope (released by Padres, March 23), RHP Ryan Woolley (released by Tigers, March 25), OF Kyle Russell (released by Dodgers, March 19)

Released: RHP Eduardo Castillo, RHP Jaden Dillon, RHP Robinson Lopez, RHP Ian Marshall, LHP Mike Tarsi, LHP Fabian Williamson, LHP Alfonso Yevoli, OF Collin DeLome, OF Ryan Harvey, OF Adam Milligan

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP David Carpenter, SS Tyler Pastornicky, OF Jose Constanza

Optioned to Double-A: C Christian Bethancourt

We wrote in the '11 Prospect Handbook that **Adam Milligan** has "well above-average raw power and can hit the ball out of the park to all fields." That story checks out, given Milligan's career .490 slugging percentage (.216 ISO), but so too does this caveat: "(He) will have to prove he can make enough contact against more advanced pitching." Playing in a career-high 121 games last season, mostly at high Class A Lynchburg, Milligan struck out 172 times, a full 36 percent of plate appearances.

*[The 21-year-old Panamian C **Christian Bethancourt** hit just .243/.275/.291 in 71 games last year at the Double-A level. He will only reach the majors in 2013 in the event of an emergency]*

Baltimore Orioles

Released: RHP David Baker, RHP Tyler Claburn, RHP Jesse Fernandez, RHP Kyle Mertins, RHP Mike Recchia, LHP Matt Bywater, LHP Cameron Coffey, LHP Logan Mahon, LHP Dan Meyer, LHP Eric Wooten, C Adam Davis, C Kevin Dultz, 3B Dudley Leonora, OF Tim Smith

Acquired: RHP Jairo Asencio from Brewers for cash considerations

Traded: OF Ronnie Welty to Phillies for RHP Julio Rodriguez

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Zach Britton, 2B Yamaico Navarro, 2B Jonathan Schoop, 3B Danny Valencia, OF Russ Canzler

The Orioles signed **Logan Mahon** (Frontier), **Kyle Mertins** (American Association) and **Mike Recchia** (Frontier) out of independent leagues in the offseason.

Who wants to bet against the Orioles turning **Jairo Asencio** and Julio Rodriguez into useful bullpen pieces one year after the organization revived the career of Miguel Gonzalez and received the best work of Pedro Strop's career? *[The Orioles' interest in Asencio dates back to last season. **Asencio**, 28, split the 2012 season between the Indians and Cubs, pitching to a 4.91 ERA, 6.5 K/9 and 4.2 BB/9 in 40 1/3 innings of relief work. He's been flat-out dominant at the Triple-A level, compiling a 2.52 ERA, 10.2 K/9 and 2.9 BB/9 in 139 1/3 innings, though that's yet to transfer over to the big league level. Asencio has averaged 92.3 mph on his heater throughout his career and owns a 40.8 percent ground-ball rate. He pitched previously under a false name: Luis Valdez]*

Boston Red Sox

Released: RHP Luis Bastardo, RHP Sully Bonnelly, RHP J.D. Durbin, RHP Oscar Melendez, RHP Charle Rosario, LHP Ricardo Betancourt, LHP Sergio Espinosa, LHP Sean Henn, 1B Drew Hedman, 1B Lyle Overbay**, OF Lucas LeBlanc

Optioned to Triple-A: C Ryan Lavarney, 2B Brock Holt

Chicago Cubs

Released: RHP Jason Berken, RHP Ty'Relle Harris, RHP Scott Weismann, LHP Matt Spencer, 1B Paul Hoilman, 3B Dustin Harrington, OF Elieser Bonne, OF Nelson Perez

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Rafael Dolis, LHP Chris Rusin

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Jeremy Erben (released by D-backs, March 25)

Released: 1B Randy Ruiz, OF Cyle Hankerd, OF Darian Sandford

Acquired: 2B Cody Puckett from Reds for future considerations

Traded: 3B Juan Silverio to Reds for future considerations

Traded: OF Justin Greene to Diamondbacks for future considerations

Optioned to Triple-A: OF Jordan Danks, OF Blake Tekotte

The White Sox signed **Juan Silverio** for \$600,000 in August '07, though that signing proved to be the tip of the kickback iceberg for former international scouting director Dave Wilder. Silverio hasn't advanced past high Class A in five seasons, batting .256/.300/.436 for Winston-Salem in 123 games, though he draws compliments for his glove work at third base. Keep in mind, though, that almost everybody hits at Winston-Salem, the Carolina League's top hitter's park.

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: C Konrad Schmidt (released by Rangers, March 23)

Released: RHP Justice French, RHP Stalin Gerson, RHP Lucas O'Rear, RHP Mark Serrano, RHP Jeff Stevens, RHP Dan Wolford, C Miguel Olivo**, 2B Taylor Wrenn, 3B Matt Mangini, 3B Nate Samson, OF Kurt Muller

Traded: 2B Cody Puckett to White Sox for future considerations

Acquired: 3B Juan Silverio from White Sox for future considerations

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Matt Capps (re-signed), RHP Daisuke Matsuzaka (re-signed)

Released: RHP Matt Capps**, RHP Estevenson Encarnacion, RHP Luis Encarnacion, RHP Daisuke Matsuzaka**, LHP Danny Jimenez, LHP Kyle Petter, C Tyler Cannon, C Dwight Childs, 1B Evan Frazar, 2B Davis Stoneburner, SS Jairo Kelly, OF Mark Bradley, OF Mark Brown, OF Andrew Campbell, OF Hunter Jones, OF Chia-Ching Lin

Returned Rule 5 selection: 1B Chris McGuiness (to Rangers)

Added to 40-man roster: 1B Jason Giambi**

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Trevor Bauer, RHP Corey Kluber, LHP Scott Barnes, C Yan Gomes, 2B Cord Phelps

The Indians' first-base depth chart stretches three deep with Nick Swisher, Mark Reynolds and Carlos Santana—and don't forget Jason Giambi—but Rule 5 pick Chris McGuiness did himself no favors by batting 8-for-41 (.195) with two doubles this spring.

*[It's just a procedural move to avoid paying **Matsuzaka** a \$100,000 bonus. The Indians are expected to restructure a new deal by early next week. Matsuzaka didn't make the Indians' Opening Day roster, but is expected to remain in the organization. The same is for **Capps**]*

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Giancarlo Alvarado (Yokohama (Japan))

Released: RHP Miguel Batista**, RHP Jeff Bennett, RHP Chris Dennis, RHP Taylor Reid, RHP Mike Wolford, LHP Brian Rike, LHP Kyle Roliard, C Anthony Aguilera, C Steve Domecus, C Richard Pirkle, 1B Ryan Garko, OF Jarod Berggren, OF Jeremy McLeod, OF Mike Zuanich

Returned Rule 5 selection: LHP Danny Rosenbaum (to Nationals)

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Tyler Chatwood, RHP Rob Scahill, LHP Christian Friedrich, LHP Josh Outman, LHP Drew Pomeranz, 2B Charlie Culberson, 2B D.J. LeMahieu, OF Charlie Blackmon

A 35-year-old **Giancarlo Alvarado** started the World Baseball Classic finale for Puerto Rico, allowing two runs in one inning to the tournament-champion Dominican Republic. He pitched at the Triple-A level from '06 to '09 before spending the previous three years in Japan, where he allowed a 3.53 ERA over 258 innings. *[The deal with Alvarado was agreed to before the World Baseball Classic. The 35-year-old has spent the past three seasons with the Hiroshima Carp (2010-11) and the Yokohama Bay Stars (2012) of NPB. He went 12-21, 3.53 ERA overall in 257.2 innings]*

*[**Rosenbaum** allowed four runs and didn't record any strikeouts over eight innings this spring for the Rockies. The southpaw could start the season at Triple-A]*

Detroit Tigers

Signed: 3B Mario Martinez (released by Mariners, March 25)

Released: RHP Trevor Bell, RHP Daniel Bennett, RHP Michael Dube, RHP Shane Dyer, RHP Eric Heckaman, RHP Tim Kelley, RHP Ramon Lebron, RHP Matt Little, RHP Carlos Monasterios, RHP Greg Ross, RHP Brian Stroud, RHP Tyler White, RHP Ryan Woolley, LHP Luke Sommer, LHP Shawn Teufel, LHP Jared Wesson, C Jordan Guida, C Dan Killian, C Charlie Neil, 1B Juaner Aguasvivas, 2B Carlos de los Santos, 2B Cory Jensen, OF Michael Rockett

Traded: C Curt Casali to Rays as compensation for Rule 5 pick LHP Kyle Lobstein

Traded: OF Jonathan Roof to Phillies for future considerations

Returned Rule 5 selection: 2B Jeff Kobernus (to Nationals)

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Luke Putkonen, OF Quintin Berry
Removed from 40-man: LHP Kyle Lobstein (outrighted to Double-A)

[The Tigers retained the rights to Rule 5 selection Kyle Lobstein by trading catcher Curt Casali to the Rays, the team announced. Additionally, Detroit outrighted the contract of Lobstein to Double-A Erie. Lobstein, a 23-year-old southpaw, was chosen by the Mets from the Rays with the 10th pick in December's Rule 5 draft, and immediately traded to the Tigers for cash considerations. After evaluating him over a dozen spring innings, it seems the Tigers didn't want to stash him all year in their big league bullpen but did find him worth retaining. Last year in Double-A, Lobstein posted a 4.06 ERA, 8.1 K/9, 4.3 BB/9, and 0.75 HR/9 in 27 starts. Baseball America ranked him 19th among Tigers prospects, noting "the craftiness to pitch in the Majors." Casali, 24, hit .270/.365/.427 in 385 plate appearances across A and High-A ball last year. BA wrote that he "profiles as a solid backup catcher at the Major League level"]

Houston Astros

Signed: RHP Gerardo Ramirez (released by Twins, March 22)
Released: RHP Danny Meszaros, C Ben Heath, OF Adam Bailey
Traded: OF Mike Kvasnicka to Twins for RHP Gonzalo Sanudo
Optioned to Triple-A: 2B Jake Elmore, OF J.D. Martinez
Optioned to Double-A: RHP Chia-Jen Lo

Gonzalo Sanudo compiled a 33-to-2 strikeout-to-walk ratio as a 20-year-old mostly-reliever in the Rookie-level Gulf Coast League last season. *[The 21-year-old was signed by the Twins as a non-drafted free agent on March 12, 2011 out of Mexico]*

Kansas City Royals

Signed: LHP George Sherrill (re-signed), OF Xavier Nady (re-signed)
Released: RHP Mike Giovenco, RHP Nick Graffeo, RHP Joe Karlik, RHP Patrick Keating, RHP Jason Mitchell, RHP Leondy Perez, RHP Elisaul Pimentel, RHP Lincoln Rassi, RHP Jamie Richmond, LHP Mitchell Beacom, LHP Rudy Brown, LHP Allen Caldwell, LHP Blaine Hardy, LHP Jose Jimenez, LHP George Sherrill**, 1B Dean Espy, 1B Ian Gac, 3B Michael Liberto, SS Adrian Martinez, OF Endy Chavez**, OF Xavier Nady**, OF Nick Van Stratten
Acquired: OF Desmond Henry from Rangers as player to be named for LHP Tommy Hottovy
Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Francisley Bueno, LHP Donnie Joseph, 2B Irving Falu, 2B Johnny Giavotella, OF David Lough

A fourth-round pick by the Rangers out of high school in '11, **Desmond Henry** ought to feel right at home in a Royals organization that values elite speed. See also: Jarrod Dyson, Derrick Robinson, Justin Tripp, Terrance Gore, et al. With just 25 games of pro experience, however, Henry may need another run in short-season ball before he reaches full speed next season.

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Mark Lowe (released by Dodgers, March 24)
Released: RHP Ben Fritz, RHP Eddie McKiernan, RHP Nick Mutz, RHP Logan Odom, RHP Orlando Ramirez, LHP Aaron Meade, C Jose Jimenez, C Ricky Pacione, 2B Bill Hall**, SS Jean Almanzar
Traded: RHP Steve Geltz to Rays for RHP Dane de la Rosa
Traded: OF Vernon Wells to Yankees for LHP Kramer Sneed and OF Exicardo Cayones
Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Elvin Ramirez, 2B Tommy Field, OF Scott Cousins
Optioned to Double-A: LHP Nick Maronde

Nick Mutz logged a 5-to-1 strikeout-to-walk ratio for Rookie-level Orem in '11, the same year he went in the ninth round of the draft despite not pitching that spring. All optimism evaporated following a nine-appearance run with low Class A Cedar Rapids last year in which Mutz put up a 11.81 ERA and 3.00 WHIP over 10 2/3 innings.

The Angels stockpiled reliever depth near the end of spring training, signing **Mark Lowe** as a free agent and acquiring hard-throwing righthanders Dane de la Rosa (tops out at 94 mph) and Mets' DFA **Elvin Ramirez** (98 mph) in minor trades.

Los Angeles Dodgers

Released: RHP Florencio Bustillos, RHP Mark Lowe**, RHP Brock Mansion, RHP Joe Robinson, LHP Mike Antonini, LHP Fabio Castro, LHP Alfredo Unzue, OF Nick Akins
Optioned to Triple-A: SS Dee Gordon
Optioned to Double-A: OF Yasiel Puig

Nick Akins attracted attention from a segment of prospect watchers when he clubbed 15 home runs and slugged .650 for Rookie-level Ogden of the Pioneer League in '10. Others, realizing that Ogden plays in an extreme hitter's park in an extreme hitter's league, preferred to wait to see what Akins could do in more neutral conditions before buying in to his prospect-dom. In this case, patience proved to be a virtue. In parts of two seasons with low Class A Great Lakes, Akins hit .226/.327/.407 with 20 homers in 575 plate appearances.

Miami Marlins

Signed: SS Wilson Valdez (released by Giants, March 22), OF Matt Diaz (released by Yankees, March 17)
Released: RHP Graham Johnson, RHP Zach Neal, RHP Alan Oaks, 1B Brian McConkey, OF Rand Smith
Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Tom Koehler, RHP Jacob Turner, LHP Dan Jennings

The Marlins exercised a fourth minor league option to send **Jacob Turner** to Triple-A New Orleans, but it's safe to assume he would have cracked the Miami rotation had he not allowed 14 runs on 18 hits over 13 innings this spring. After all, projected big league starters Henderson Alvarez and Nate Eovaldi will begin the season on the disabled list, and their absence triggered a chain reaction that resulted in the Marlins turning to Plan C. That would be filling out the rotation with Kevin Slowey (5.14 ERA at Triple-A last season) and elite prospect Jose Fernandez (finished last season in high Class A).

Milwaukee Brewers

Released: C Emmanuel Quiles, 2B Donnie Murphy, OF Chuck Caufield

Traded: RHP Jairo Asencio to Orioles for cash considerations

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Michael Olmsted, RHP Josh Stinson, OF Caleb Gindl

Minnesota Twins

Released: RHP Ricardo Arevalo, RHP Patrick Arnold, RHP Hung Yi Chen, RHP Scott Elarton, RHP Tyler Herr, RHP Gerardo Ramirez, LHP Jason Lane, LHP Cole Nelson, OF Danny Rams

Traded: RHP Gonzalo Sanudo to Astros for OF Mike Kvasnicka

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Alex Burnett, LHP Pedro Hernandez, C Drew Butera, OF Joe Benson

*[Signed by the Twins as a non-drafted free agent out of Taiwan on June 28, 2010, the 20-year-old **Chen** spent two seasons in the Gulf Coast League. Last year he went 2-3, 3.41 ERA in 29 relief innings, with 26 SO and 5 BB]*

The Twins acquired 6-foot-7 lefty **Cole Nelson** in the August '11 trade that shipped Delmon Young to the Tigers.

The 33rd pick in the '10 draft, **Mike Kvasnicka** starred at the University of Minnesota but fell into a supporting role with low Class A Lexington in the Astros system, batting .232/.275/.412 in 345 at-bats last season. He may not have much feel for hitting, but Kvasnicka did smack 15 home runs last season in 88 games, so the power is real.

New York Mets

Signed: LHP Pedro Feliciano (re-signed), LHP Shawn Teufel (released by Tigers, March 25)

Released: RHP Kyle Allen, RHP Yohan Almonte, RHP Jeff Kaplan, RHP Brandon Moore, RHP Andy Wells, RHP Jared West, LHP Pedro Feliciano**, LHP Brandon Sage

Optioned to Triple-A: C Travis d'Arnaud

Removed from 40-man: SS Brandon Hicks (outrighted to Triple-A)

Shawn Teufel is the son of Tim Teufel, former Mets second baseman and current third-base coach in New York.

New York Yankees

Signed: 1B Lyle Overbay (released by Red Sox, March 26)

Released: RHP Cory Arbiso, RHP Dawerd Cruz, RHP Pedro Guerra, RHP Melvin Mercedes, RHP Will Oliver, RHP Matt Richardson, LHP Matt Bashore, C David Remedios, 2B David Adams, SS Fernando Perez

Traded: LHP Kramer Sneed and OF Exicardo Cayones to Angels for OF Vernon Wells

Oakland Athletics

Released: RHP Logan Chitwood, RHP Nate Eppley, RHP Cecil Tanner, LHP A.J. Huttenlocker, C John Nester, C Rhett Stafford, 2B Ryan Pineda

Optioned to Triple-A: 2B Jemile Weeks, OF Shane Peterson

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Luis Garcia (Newark (Can-Am))

Released: RHP Brian Bass, RHP Aaron Cook**, RHP Austin Hyatt, RHP Rodrigo Lopez, RHP Jorge Lorenzo, RHP Troy Marks, RHP Marek Minarik, RHP Jordan Whatcott, LHP Brendan Lafferty, LHP David Newmann, C John Hill, SS Yuniesky Betancourt, SS Tim Carver

Traded: RHP Julio Rodriguez to Orioles for OF Ronnie Welty

Acquired: OF Jonathan Roof from Tigers for future considerations

Optioned to Triple-A: 1B Darin Ruf

*[The 19-year-old **Minarik** was signed out of the Czech Republic and spent two seasons in the GCL. Last season registered 11SO/2BB and 20 hits in 17 IP for a 2.65 ERA]*

The Phillies acquired **Brendan Lafferty** in the offseason, selecting him from the Royals in the minor league Rule 5 draft.

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: RHP Jose Contreras (re-signed)

Released: RHP Jose Contreras**, RHP Jordan Cooper, RHP Zach Foster, RHP Nathan Kilcrease, RHP Logan Pevny, LHP Mike Jefferson, LHP Josh Poytress, OF Brad Hawpe

Added to 40-man roster: LHP Jonathan Sanchez**, 3B Brandon Inge**

Designated for assignment: RHP Hunter Strickland, 1B Clint Robinson

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Kyle McPherson, RHP Bryan Morris, SS Jordy Mercer, OF Alex Presley

St. Louis Cardinals

Signed: 3B Ruben Gotay

Released: RHP Yunior Castillo, OF Gary Apelian, OF Anthony Bryant

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Sam Freeman

San Diego Padres

Released: RHP Mike Broadway, RHP Freddy Garcia**, RHP Erik Hamren, RHP Chris Haney, RHP Mark Pope, LHP Mark Hardy, LHP Kyle Ottoson, LHP Mark Picca, 1B Goose Kallunki, 2B Cody Gabbell, OF Kyung-Min Na, OF Anthony Renteria

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Brad Boxberger, RHP Nick Vincent

Outrighted to Mexican League: RHP Federico Castaneda, LHP Arturo Lopez (both to Mexico City)

Center fielder **Kyung-Min Na** hit .155/.227/.216 in 53 games last season, his one and only with the Padres after they acquired him plus Andrew Cashner in the January '12 trade that sent Anthony Rizzo to the Cubs. Na never had time to set his feet as he careened between low Class A, Triple-A and Double-A for San Diego.

San Francisco Giants

Released: RHP Ramon Ramirez**, C Alex Burg, 3B Garrett Buechele, SS Wilson Valdez

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Chad Gaudin**

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Dan Runzler

Seattle Mariners

Signed: OF Endy Chavez (released by Royals, March 22)

Released: RHP Domingo Brazoban, RHP Josh Corrales, RHP Jon Garland, RHP Taylor Stanton, C Tyler Jones, 1B Jharmidy DeJesus, 1B Mike Jacobs, 3B Mario Martinez, OF Charles Jimenez

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Kameron Loe

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Erasmo Ramirez, OF Carlos Peguero

The Mariners committed \$1 million in bonus money to sign then-shortstop **Jharmidy DeJesus** out of the Dominican Republic in '07, but he never mastered low Class A and batted .220/.292/.363 for Clinton last season as a corner infielder.

Another international prospect bust, slick-fielding third baseman **Mario Martinez** hit a pedestrian .260/.310/.454 in two tries at high Class A High Desert, the best hitter's park in the U.S. minors. He signed out of Venezuela for \$600,000 in '06.

Tampa Bay Rays

Released: RHP Nick Barnese, RHP Joe Cruz, LHP Luke Goodgion, OF Jack Cust, OF Nick Weglarz

Traded: RHP Dane de la Rosa to Angels for RHP Steve Geltz

Acquired: C Curt Casali from Tigers as compensation for Rule 5 pick LHP Kyle Lobstein

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Brandon Gomes, C Chris Gimenez

Tampa Bay will have to settle for two stud lefties out of the '07 draft—David Price and Matt Moore—because third-rounder **Nick Barnese** is a Ray no more. He spent much of the past two seasons at Double-A Montgomery, logging a 4.40 ERA over 174 innings with similarly uninspiring ratios of 6.3 strikeouts and 4.2 walks per nine innings. *[Barnese was a third-round pick of the Rays back in 2007, but his performance has slipped since he began experiencing shoulder issues in 2010. The 24-year-old posted a 5.40 ERA and 35/26 K/BB ratio in 61 2/3 innings last season between rookie ball and Double-A Montgomery. Someone will surely take him on as a reclamation project, but there's not a lot to get excited about]*

[Weglarz received just four spring plate appearances for the Rays. The former top prospect batted .239/.349/.413 with 14 home runs and 58 RBI in 109 games last season at the Double-A level]

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Yoshinori Tateyama (re-signed)

Released: RHP Drew Benes, RHP Jouser Martinez, LHP Scott Olsen, LHP Pedro Tirado, C Konrad Schmidt, 1B Brandon Snyder, 2B Santiago Chirino

Traded: OF Desmond Henry to Royals as player to be named for LHP Tommy Hottovy

Returned Rule 5 selection: RHP Coty Woods (to Rockies)

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Justin Grimm

Justin Grimm had the inside track on the No. 5 starter gig following Martin Perez's injury, but Texas opted for Nick Tepesch instead when Grimm allowed 10 runs on 15 hits over 9 1/3 spring innings.

Toronto Blue Jays

Released: RHP Travis Garrett, RHP Tucker Jensen, RHP Nick Purdy, RHP Rich Thompson

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Brad Lincoln, RHP Todd Redmond, C Josh Thole, OF Anthony Gose

Optioned to high Class A: LHP Ricky Romero

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Fiyeral Charlis, LHP J.C. Romero, OF Anthony Bryant (released by Cardinals, March 24)

Released: RHP Inocencio Heredia, RHP Casey Upperman, RHP Chris Young** , LHP Ryan Demmin, LHP Bobby Lucas, LHP Blake Monar, LHP Andrew Wall, 3B Stephen King, OF Wade Moore, OF J.P. Ramirez, OF Delwyn Young

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Cole Kimball

Removed from 40-man: 3B Carlos Rivero (outrighted to Triple-A)

[Rivero, signed by Cleveland in 2005 out of Venezuela, didn't make the Nationals' Opening Day roster and had to clear waivers before being sent to the minors. He batted .303/.347/.435 with 10 home runs in 126 games at the Triple-A level in 2012]

Minor League Transactions: March 14-20

Arizona Diamondbacks

Released: RHP Alex Capaul, RHP Chris Cox, RHP Mike DeMark, RHP Donny Medlinger, RHP Jared Ray, LHP Matt Way, 1B Tyler Bream, 2B Adam McConnell, 3B Bubu Garcia, 3B Chris Nowak, SS Niko Gallego, OF Raoul Torrez

Returned Rule 5 selection: RHP Starling Peralta (to Cubs)

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Tyler Skaggs

Chris Cox (Can-Am), **Chris Nowak** (Atlantic) and **Matt Way** (Atlantic) all signed with the Diamondbacks out of independent leagues last fall.

Atlanta Braves

Released: RHP Donovan Drake, RHP Dave Filak, RHP Andrew Wilson

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP David Hale, 1B Ernesto Mejia

The Braves moved **Dave Filak**, a '10 fourth-rounder from Oneonta State (N.Y.), to the low Class A bullpen last summer, but the results (5.40 ERA, 12 walks in 16 2/3 innings) did not improve. In two seasons with Rome, Filak went 7-14, 6.24 in 37 games (29 starts) with a 1.58 WHIP, 8.2 strikeouts and 5.1 walks per nine innings.

Baltimore Orioles

Traded: 1B Mike Flacco to Red Sox for cash considerations

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Todd Redmond, C Luis Exposito, OF L.J. Hoes

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Dylan Bundy

Boston Red Sox

Signed: RHP Chad Nading (San Angelo (North American))

Released: RHP Brenden Shepard, RHP Tyler Wilson, C Adalberto Ibarra, 2B Zach Gentile

Acquired: 1B Mike Flacco from Orioles for cash considerations

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Rubby de la Rosa, RHP Allen Webster, RHP Alex Wilson, C Dan Butler

Optioned to Double-A: C Christian Vazquez

Chicago Cubs

Released: RHP Ryan Hartman, RHP Su-Min Jung

Acquired: 1B Jose Dore from Padres for future considerations

Optioned to Triple-A: 3B Josh Vitters, SS Junior Lake

Optioned to Double-A: 3B Christian Villanueva

Optioned to high Class A: OF Jorge Soler

[Signed by the Cubs as an international free agent out of Gim Hae City, South Korea prior to the 2009 season, 23-year-old Jung never pitched above A-level. He went 10-8-1, 4.14 ERA, 1.46 WHIP in 71 games and 210.2 IP in four seasons overall]

The Cubs have acquired a handful of Padres prospects in recent years, including **Jose Dore** ('10 eighth round; signed for \$450,000), righthander Zach Cates ('10 third round; signed for \$765,000) and first baseman Anthony Rizzo (no introduction necessary). This is no coincidence given that Chicago GM Jed Hoyer, senior VP of scouting and player development Jason McLeod and scouting director Jaron Madison acquired all three players when they manned the same posts in the Padres front office.

Chicago White Sox

Released: RHP Leroy Hunt, RHP Keegan Linza, RHP Dustin Umberger, LHP Chris Hanna, LHP Connor Whalen

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Deunte Heath, RHP Jhan Marinez, RHP Andre Rienzo, C Josh Phegley, 3B Brent Morel, OF Jared Mitchell

Cincinnati Reds

Released: RHP Ryan Fennell, RHP Cole Green, RHP Erik Miller, 1B Robert Maddox, OF Matt Lentz, OF Andrew Means

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Curtis Partch, RHP Pedro Villarreal, 1B Neftali Soto, 3B Henry Rodriguez

Optioned to Double-A: 1B Donald Lutz

Cleveland Indians

Released: 2B Aaron Fields

Optioned to Triple-A: 1B Mike McDade, SS Juan Diaz

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Giancarlo Alvarado, SS Niko Gallego (released by D-backs, March 14)

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Joe Gardner, RHP Will Harris, RHP Josh Sullivan, 3B Ryan Wheeler, OF Tim Wheeler

Detroit Tigers

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Jose Ortega, LHP Duane Below, LHP Casey Crosby, C Bryan Holaday

Optioned to Double-A: 2B Hernan Perez

Houston Astros

Signed: OF Raoul Torrez (released by D-backs, March 14)

Released: RHP Zach Grimmett, LHP Jeremiah Meiners, 3B John Hinson

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Paul Clemens, RHP John Ely, RHP Jordan Lyles, LHP Dallas Keuchel, 2B Jimmy Paredes, SS Jonathan Villar, OF Robbie Grossman

Kansas City Royals

Released: 3B Matt Sweeney

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Nate Adcock, LHP Will Smith, LHP Everett Teaford

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: C Chris Snyder (released by Nationals, March 18)

Released: RHP Frank DeJulio, RHP Bryant George, RHP Chris Scholl, LHP Junior Carlin, LHP Dakota Robinson, C Adrian Gutierrez, 1B Casey Haerther, OF Drew Martinez, OF James Sneed

Acquired: RHP Mike Cisco from Phillies for future considerations

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Ryan Brasier, RHP Barry Enright, RHP Michael Kohn

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Bernardo Reyes, C Dashenko Ricardo (released by Giants, Jan. 24)

Released: RHP Riley Welch, LHP Kazuki Nishijima, LHP Jordan Roberts, C Ramon Castro, 1B Nick Evans, 3B Dallas McPherson, OF Gregory Pena, OF Kyle Russell

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Javy Guerra, RHP Shawn Tolleson, RHP Chris Withrow, SS Justin Sellers

The Dodgers signed 17-year-old **Bernardo Reyes** out of Sonora, Mexico.

*[Japanes lefty **Nishijima** (24) pitched two seasons in the Dodgers' system at Ogden/Pioneer League. In 2012, he went 8-1, 4.56 ERA in 47.1 relief innings. He was signed in November 2010 out of Meiji University in Tokyo, with Keiichi Kojima, the team's supervisor of scouting in Japan, praising "his good curveball and his consistent arm slot" Kojima said. "He locates fastballs on the lower part of the plate and induces a lot of ground balls"]*

Dashenko Ricardo caught eight games for the Netherlands in the World Baseball Classic, going 5-for-22 (.227) at the plate and helping the pitching staff navigate its way to the semifinal round. He threw out 37 percent of basestealers last season in the short-season Northwest League with an arm so strong that the Giants attempted to convert him to pitcher in '11 after taking him in the minor league Rule 5 draft.

Kyle Russell established University of Texas records for both single-season (28) and career (57) home runs, and the '07 third-rounder ought to have no trouble latching on with another club if he's healthy. Despite striking out nearly a third of the time at the Double-A level, Russell hit 40 homers in 270 games, posting an isolated slugging percentage of .229.

*[**McPherson** signed a minor league deal with the Dodgers during the offseason, but was reassigned to minor league camp earlier this month. The 32-year-old former top prospect batted .265/.344/.490 with 17 homers and 62 RBI in 81 games last season with the Pirates' Triple-A affiliate]*

Miami Marlins

Signed: C Koyie Hill (released by Rangers, Sept. 4)

Released: RHP Luis Gomez (also played as Daniel Gil), RHP Jose Rodriguez, LHP Kevin Gelinias, 2B Chone Figgins, 3B

Pedro Mendoza

Returned Rule 5 selection: LHP Braulio Lara (to Rays)

Lefty **Kevin Gelinas** struck out 29 and walked five in 23 relief innings last season for Abilene of the North American League, ranking as BA's top prospect in the independent leagues.

Milwaukee Brewers

Released: RHP Stosh Wawrzasek, SS Bobby Crosby

Traded: RHP Darren Byrd to Athletics for 3B Steve Parker

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Hiram Burgos

Minnesota Twins

Signed: 1B Curt Smith

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Kyle Gibson, LHP Caleb Thielbar, OF Oswaldo Arcia

Curt Smith, everyday first baseman for the Netherlands in the WBC, went 9-for-28 (.321) in the tournament to earn a shot with the Twins. He spent last season at Double-A with the Marlins, and the 26-year-old won player of the year honors in the '08 Appalachian League while in the Cardinals system. *[Smith was originally a 39th-round draft pick of the Cardinals in 2008 and he has a .301/.341/.461 line in 1703 career minor league PA in the Cards' and Marlins' systems]*

New York Mets

Optioned to Double-A: 3B Wilmer Flores

New York Yankees

Released: OF Matt Diaz

Oakland Athletics

Released: RHP Argenis Paez, LHP Garrett Olson (signed by Doosan (Korea))

Traded: LHP Ian Krol to Nationals to complete three-team deal in which Nationals sent OF Michael Morse to Mariners, Mariners sent C John Jaso to Athletics, and Athletics sent RHPs A.J. Cole and Blake Treinen and a player to be named to Nationals

Traded: 3B Steve Parker to Brewers for RHP Darren Byrd

Loaned to Mexican League: SS Hiram Martinez (to Quintana Roo)

Optioned to Triple-A: OF Grant Green, OF Michael Taylor

*[The Athletics announced that they have released pitcher **Garrett Olson** so that he can pursue a pitching opportunity in Korea. The left-hander signed a minor league deal with Oakland back in December but wasn't likely to make the squad. Olson will sign with the Doosan Bears. Olson has spent parts of the last six seasons in the major leagues with the Orioles, Mariners, Pirates, and Mets. The 29-year-old has a career 6.26 ERA with 6.0 K/9 and 4.5 BB/9, including 44 starts. He made 21 starts and 13 relief appearances for the Mets' Triple-A affiliate last season and posted a 4.63 ERA with 7.9 K/9 and 3.9 BB/9]*

Philadelphia Phillies

Released: RHP Garrett Claypool, RHP Tim Kennelly, RHP Moises Rivas, RHP Matt Sisto, LHP Luis Gonzalez, LHP Corey Young, 1B Chris Duffy, 2B Stefan Jarrin, OF Gauntlett Eldemire

Traded: RHP Mike Cisco to Angels for future considerations

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Justin De Fratus, LHP Jake Diekman, 2B Cesar Hernandez

A 40th-round pick in '11, **Stefan Jarrin** was the player to be named received by the Phillies in last summer's Shane Victorino deal with the Dodgers. Philadelphia also acquired righties Ethan Martin and Josh Lindblom in that deal.

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: 3B Jolbert Cabrera (Puebla (Mexican))

Released: RHP Mike Colla, RHP Aliaksei Lukashevich, LHP Martires Cadet, LHP Wilson Lee, LHP Porfirio Lopez, LHP Philippe Valiquette

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Phil Irwin, LHP Andy Oliver, C Tony Sanchez

Aliaksei Lukashevich made 13 appearances in Gulf Coast League last year, his first pro season, but more notably he's the first player ever signed out of Belarus. *[Lukashevich was the first-ever player to be signed out of Belarus. The 18-year-old right-hander posted a 1-0 record with an ERA of 0.47 in 13 games for the Gulf Coast League affiliated of the Pirates last year. He struck out 12 and walked eight in 19 innings]*

St. Louis Cardinals

Released: RHP Cesar Aguilar, RHP Burny Mitchem, 1B Roberto de la Cruz, SS Daniel Barbuena, OF Virgil Hill, OF Ricardo Lizcano, OF Reggie Williams Jr.

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Michael Blazek, RHP Keith Butler, RHP Eric Fornataro, RHP Victor Marte, RHP Eduardo Sanchez, SS Ryan Jackson

Intrigued by his raw power, the Cardinals dropped \$1.1 million to sign **Roberto de la Cruz** on July 2, 2008. Despite threatening the Appalachian League record books with 16 homers in '11, he never advanced past low Class A in the Cardinals system, batting .227/.262/.384 in 846 career at-bats.

San Diego Padres

Released: RHP Daniel Cropper, RHP James Jones, RHP Eddie Kunz, RHP Ryan Quigley, RHP Adam Schrader, RHP Will Scott, RHP Chris Wilkes, LHP Jeremy Gagliotti, LHP Jeremy Gould, LHP Dustin Pease, 1B Alexi Colon, 1B Connor Powers

Traded: 1B Jose Dore to Cubs for future considerations

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Miles Mikolas, OF Jaff Decker

[Kunz was a supplemental first-round pick of the Mets in 2007, but he has failed to live up to the hype. The 26-year-old right-hander hasn't pitched in the majors since 2008 and posted a 5.77 ERA and 39/39 K/BB ratio over 87 1/3 innings last season between AA and AAA]

San Francisco Giants

Signed: RHP Yusmeiro Petit (accepted outright assignment), C Mark Wagner (Wichita (American Association))

Released: RHP Demondre Arnold, RHP Keith Bilodeau, RHP Matt Graham, RHP Tyler Hess, RHP Reinier Roibal, LHP Zak Edgington, LHP Gaspar Santiago, LHP Jason Stevenson, C Rey Duran, 2B Jose Cuevas, OF Wendell Fairley, OF Nick Liles, OF Jarrad Page

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Jake Dunning, RHP Chris Heston, RHP Dan Otero, RHP Sandy Rosario, SS Ehire Adrianza, SS Nick Noonan, OF Roger Kieschnick, OF Juan Perez

Optioned to high Class A: LHP Edwin Escobar

Removed from 40-man: RHP Yusmeiro Petit (outrighted to Triple-A)

The 29th pick in the '07 draft, **Wendell Fairley** topped out in Double-A, where he put up a .613 OPS in parts of two seasons. The toolsy Mississippi prep outfielder batted .257/.340/.328 in 1,396 career at-bats in the Giants system. San Francisco more than salvaged that '07 draft, however, taking lefty Madison Bumgarner 10th overall, righty Tim Alderson 22nd overall and second baseman Charlie Culberson 51st overall. Through trades, the Giants turned Alderson into Freddy Sanchez and Culberson into Marco Scutaro, the starting second basemen on the club's 2010 and '12 World Series winners, respectively.

Seattle Mariners

Released: RHP Wes Alsup, RHP Mario DeJesus, RHP Nolan Diaz, RHP Joe DiRocco, RHP Tim Griffin, RHP Ambioris Hidalgo, RHP Brandon Plotz, RHP Marcos Reyna, RHP John Taylor, 1B Reginald Lampe

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Yoervis Medina, RHP Hector Noesi, LHP Danny Hultzen, LHP Bobby LaFromboise, 3B Vinnie Catricala, 3B Alex Liddi, SS Carlos Triunfel, OF Eric Thames

Optioned to Double-A: 3B Francisco Martinez, OF Julio Morban

Tampa Bay Rays

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Josh Lueke, C Robinson Chirinos, C Stephen Vogt, SS Tim Beckham, SS Hak-Ju Lee, OF Brandon Guyer

Texas Rangers

Released: RHP Yoshinori Tateyama

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Wilmer Font, LHP Jeff Beliveau, 3B Mike Olt, OF Engel Beltre

[Tateyama signed a minor league deal with Texas after throwing just 17 big league innings last year, posting a 9.00 ERA with 9.5 K/9 and 3.2 BB/9. Tateyama did perform well in Triple-A in 2012, putting up a 1.13 ERA in 39 2/3 innings. He also played a larger role with the big club in 2011, logging 44 innings and managing a 4.50 ERA on the back of 8.8 K/9 and 2.3 BB/9]

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Marco Grifantini (Parma (Italy))

Released: RHP Mike Benacka, RHP Matt Daly, RHP Jon Lucas, RHP Ronald Uviedo, LHP Greg Smith, C Joel Galarraga

Optioned to Triple-A: 1B Lars Anderson, SS Ryan Goins

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Chad Jenkins

A product of UC Davis, **Marco Grifantini** (27) signed with Parma of the Italian League in '09 and spent four seasons there. He pitched for Italy in the recently-completed World Baseball Classic, making one relief appearance and allowing three runs on three hits in one inning, striking out two. *[Grifantini had a 1.33 ERA as a college freshman, going 8-2 with a save. He went 4-0 with a 2.52 ERA his second season in junior college. Transferring to UC Davis, he fell to 0-1, 8.36 as a junior. His senior season, he had a 1-0, 2.89 record but gave up 28 hits in 18 2/3 IP. Being of Italian descent, Grifantini was able to play in the Italian Baseball League without counting as a foreign import. He was with Team Italy for the 2009 Baseball World Cup and was a late addition to the team's roster for the 2013 WBC. He took the loss against Team USA in the team's first round game. He pitched for Italy at the 2010 European Championship in Germany which the Italians claimed beating Netherlands 8-4 in the final game. In that tournament Grifantini impressed with a mix of low-90s (reaching 94 mph) fastball and 12-to-6 solid curveball. The Blue Jays assigned him to A-Advanced Dunedin/Florida State League]*

Washington Nationals

Released: RHP Randy Consuegra, RHP Francisco Samuel, C Chris Snyder

Acquired: LHP Ian Krol from Athletics to complete three-team deal in which Nationals sent OF Michael Morse to Mariners, Mariners sent C John Jaso to Athletics, and Athletics sent RHPs A.J. Cole and Blake Treinen and a player to be named to Nationals

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Erik Davis, RHP Yunesky Maya, RHP Ryan Perry, C Jhonatan Solano, 1B Chris Marrero, OF Corey Brown, OF Eury Perez

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Nate Karns, C Sandy Leon, 3B Anthony Rendon

Minor League Transactions: March 9-13

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: RHP Dan Cortes (did not play in '12)

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Chase Anderson, RHP Charles Brewer, LHP Eury de la Rosa, OF Alfredo Marte

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Eric Smith, RHP Zeke Spruill, OF Keon Broxton

This is the same **Dan Cortes** who was once a prospect for the White Sox, Royals and Mariners, and you can get a sense of how the industry viewed his potential because he was traded twice for big leaguers. Kansas City parted with Mike MacDougal to acquire Cortes in July '06, and Seattle sent Yuniesky Betancourt to K.C. in July '09 to add Cortes. Non-tendered by the Mariners following the '11 season, Cortes maintained a high strikeout rate to the end. As a reliever for Triple-A Tacoma, he struck out 59 in 52 innings, but also walked 33 and allowed 56 hits.

Atlanta Braves

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Cory Rasmus

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Juan Jaime, RHP Aaron Northcraft

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: LHP Clayton Tanner

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Zach Clark, LHP Mike Belfiore, OF Xavier Avery

[Tanner, a third-round pick of the Giants in the 2006 draft, has a career 3.85 ERA and 6.6 K/9 in 182 games (123 starts) over seven seasons in the Giants' and Reds' minor league systems. O's scouted Tanner when he pitched for Australia during the World Baseball Classic]

Boston Red Sox

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Steven Wright, OF Alex Hassan

Chicago Cubs

Released: RHP Hung-Wen Chen, RHP Arturo Maltos-Garcia, RHP Austin Urban, RHP Tony York, LHP Kyle Shepard

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Alberto Cabrera, RHP Trey McNutt, LHP Brooks Raley, 2B Logan Watkins

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Robert Whitenack

[27-year-old Hung-Wen Chen pitched for Taiwan in the 2013 WBC: 3 SO, 3 BB, 2 hits, 2 ER in 3.1 IP, recording 1 Save & 1 Loss]

Chicago White Sox

Released: LHP Brandon Parrent

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Simon Castro, LHP Santos Rodriguez

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Nestor Molina

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Jason Kilby

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Daniel Corcino, LHP Tony Cingrani

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Kyle Lotzkar, RHP Josh Ravin

Optioned to high Class A: RHP Carlos Contreras, OF Yorman Rodriguez

Optioned to low Class A: LHP Ismael Guillon

Jason Kilby, a 21-year-old Aussie, made six appearances for Brisbane of the Australian Baseball League this winter, striking out 13 and walking nine in 14 innings. The Reds signed Dakota Mitchell, another Australian righthander, back in February.

Cleveland Indians

Released: OF Ben Francisco

Added to 40-man roster: LHP Rich Hill

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Trey Haley, RHP Chen Lee, RHP Danny Salazar, LHP T.J. House, OF Tim Fedroff

The Indians quickly vouched for the quality of **Rich Hill's** stuff in his comeback from Tommy John surgery. They added him to the 40-man on March 11, well in advance of Opening Day. Hill has looked sharp this spring, striking out eight and walking three in 5 2/3 innings.

Colorado Rockies

Optioned to Double-A: SS Cristhian Adames, OF Rafael Ortega

Detroit Tigers

Optioned to Double-A: C Ramon Cabrera, SS Dixon Machado

Optioned to high Class A: RHP Melvin Mercedes

Houston Astros

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Jose Cisnero, RHP Jarred Cosart, RHP Sam Demel, RHP Ross Seaton, LHP Brett Oberholtzer, LHP Rudy Owens

In addition to the five starters listed here—everyone but Sam Demel—the Oklahoma City rotation could get even more crowded depending on which pitchers make Houston's big league rotation. Lucas Harrell and Bud Norris are shoo-ins, leaving returnees Jordan Lyles and Dallas Keuchel along with newcomers Philip Humber (out of options), John Ely, Alex White and Brad Peacock on the bubble for the final three spots.

Kansas City Royals

Released: SS Luis Piteron

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Chris Dwyer, LHP Justin Marks

Optioned to Double-A: LHP John Lamb

Los Angeles Angels

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Brandon Sisk

Optioned to Double-A: OF Travis Witherspoon

Los Angeles Dodgers

Released: LHP Victor Garate, LHP Wilmin Rodriguez, C Angelo Ponte

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Steve Ames, RHP Matt Magill

Miami Marlins

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Chris Hatcher, RHP Evan Reed, RHP Alex Sanabia, LHP Brad Hand, OF Kyle Jensen

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Sam Dyson, LHP Edgar Olmos, OF Marcell Ozuna

Milwaukee Brewers

Released: RHP Kelvin Escobar

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Johnny Hellweg, RHP Jesus Sanchez, RHP Tyler Thornburg, 2B Scooter Gennett, OF Josh Prince

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Nick Bucci

Minnesota Twins

Optioned to Triple-A: C Chris Herrmann

Optioned to Double-A: RHP B.J. Hermsen, RHP Trevor May, RHP Mike Tonkin, C Josmil Pinto, SS Danny Santana

New York Mets

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Collin McHugh, RHP Elvin Ramirez, RHP Zack Wheeler

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Gonzalez Germen, LHP Darin Gorski, 2B Reese Havens, SS Wilfredo Tovar, OF Juan Lagares

Optioned to high Class A: OF Cesar Puello

Optioned to low Class A: RHP Hansel Robles

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Chris Bootcheck, OF Ben Francisco (released by Indians, March 11)

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Dellin Betances, RHP Brett Marshall, RHP Adam Warren, LHP Manny Banuelos, LHP Francisco Rondon, C Austin Romine, 2B Corban Joseph, OF Zoilo Almonte

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Jose Ramirez, LHP Nik Turley, OF Ramon Flores

Oakland Athletics

Signed: RHP Sergio Perez

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Jesse Chavez, RHP Alex Leon, LHP Andrew Werner

Optioned to low Class A: RHP Michael Ynoa

[Perez (28), a 2nd round pick by the Astros in 2006 – signed for \$550K – spent parts of the last three seasons in AAA both as a starter and reliever and went 37-42, 4.23 ERA, 1.51 WHIP in seven seasons in the Houston' system. He qualified for minor league free agency after the 2012 season and pitched for Spain during the 2013 WBC suffering the loss vs. Puerto Rico (0-3)]

Philadelphia Phillies

Released: RHP Ryan Duke, RHP Juan Morillo, OF Joe Mather

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Tyler Cloyd, RHP Ethan Martin, RHP Jonathan Pettibone, RHP B.J. Rosenberg, LHP Mauricio Robles, LHP Joe Savery, C Sebastian Valle, OF Tyson Gillies

Optioned to Double-A: OF Zach Collier

Pittsburgh Pirates

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Vic Black, RHP Stolmy Pimentel, RHP Hunter Strickland, RHP Duke Welker, 1B Clint Robinson, OF Jerry Sands

St. Louis Cardinals

Signed: OF Jimmy Parque (Rockford (Frontier))

Released: RHP Adam Reifer

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Jorge Rondon, LHP Kevin Siegrist

The Cardinals outrighted righty reliever **Adam Reifer** off the 40-man roster last November, following a so-so year with Triple-A Memphis (58 games, 1.31 WHIP, 6.2 strikeouts and 2.8 walks per nine innings). The 26-year-old never cracked the Cardinals' Top 10, but he appeared in the Prospect Handbook every year from '08 through '11 thanks to a cutting mid-90s fastball.

San Diego Padres

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Fautino de los Santos

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Adys Portillo, LHP Jose DePaula, 3B Edinson Rincon, OF Rymer Liriano

Optioned to high Class A: OF Yeison Asencio

Jose DePaula made only one appearances in big league camp before being optioned to Double-A San Antonio, but just being in camp is an improvement over last year. He returned home to the Dominican Republic last March in an effort to clear up conflicting dates of birth in his documentation, but resolution proved to be slow and DePaula spent the entire '12 season on the restricted list. The end result: He's 24 instead of 23, having had his DOB adjusted to March 4, 1989. Though he didn't pitch last summer, DePaula made 14 appearances for Cibao in the Dominican League, notching all sorts of good indicators—1.23 WHIP, 1.9 groundout-airout ratio—and tying for the league lead with 42 strikeouts in 40 innings. He made three playoff starts, as well, allowing four runs in 11 innings.

Seattle Mariners

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Chance Ruffin

Optioned to Double-A: LHP Anthony Fernandez

Tampa Bay Rays

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Chris Archer, RHP Alex Colome, RHP Jake Odorizzi, LHP Frank de los Santos, LHP Mike Montgomery, LHP Alex Torres

Optioned to Double-A: LHP Enny Romero
Optioned to high Class A: LHP Felipe Rivero

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Derek Lowe (Article XX-B free agent)
Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Neil Ramirez
Optioned to Double-A: RHP Justin Miller

When **Derek Lowe** signed with the Rangers he joined four other 40-something major league free agents—Miguel Batista (Rockies), Jose Contreras (Pirates), Jason Giambi (Indians) and LaTroy Hawkins (Mets) are the others—looking for another shot on a minor league deal. Because of Lowe and Co.'s status as Article XX(B) free agents, they receive contract provisions that other players who signed minor league contracts do not.

Toronto Blue Jays

Optioned to Double-A: LHP Evan Crawford, C A.J. Jimenez

Minor League Transactions: Feb. 26-March 8

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: RHP Josh Booty

It's official: The Diamondbacks *actually* signed 37-year-old **Josh Booty** to a minor league contract after he won the MLB Network reality series competition "The Next Knuckler." Booty made the majors as a third baseman with the 1996-98 Marlins and apparently still was under contract with Miami (see below).

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: 2B Tucker Nathans (Newark (Cam-Am))

Boston Red Sox

Signed: LHP Ryan Rowland-Smith
Optioned to Double-A: LHP Drake Britton

Drake Britton faces charges of driving under the influence, reckless driving and property damage following his arrest in Estero, Fla., in early March. The Red Sox optioned him to minor league camp the following day.

Chicago Cubs

Signed: RHP Armando Rivero
Released: RHP Carlos Severino
Optioned to Double-A: OF Matt Szczur

According to correspondent Phil Rogers, Cuban defector **Armando Rivero** finally signed with the Cubs for a \$3.1M bonus, after being waylaid in Haiti while waiting for a visa. He throws a mid-90s fastball and a splitter, which the Cubs believe make him a potential middle reliever. He's 25 with four pro seasons in the *Serie Nacional*, so his signing does not affect Chicago's international spending budget. In his final season in Cuba in 2010-11, Rivero had a 3.06 ERA with 38 strikeouts and 21 walks in 47 innings.

Chicago White Sox

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Charlie Leesman

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Mark Prior (released by Red Sox, Aug. 17)

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Bobby Cassevah (elected free agency from Angels), 3B C.J. Gillman (Windy City (Frontier))

C.J. Gillman hails from the Denver suburb of Littleton, Colo., and following his senior year at Dayton last year he hit .246/.328/.318 in 211 at-bats in the Frontier League.

Detroit Tigers

Signed: RHP Justin Souza, C Dan Killian (Evansville (Frontier))

Houston Astros

Signed: C Cody Clark

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Cesar Arreaza, 3B Freddy Sandoval (Somerset (Atlantic))

Optioned to Double-A: LHP Noel Arguelles

Los Angeles Angels

Released: RHP Hiroyuki Kobayashi

Elected free agency: RHP Bobby Cassevah

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Steve Geltz

Removed from 40-man: RHP Bobby Cassevah (outrighted to Triple-A)

*[The Angels signed **Kobayashi** to a minor league contract in late January but apparently weren't very impressed with him this spring in camp. The 34-year-old right-hander posted a 3.00 ERA and 45/19 K/BB ratio over 39 innings in 2011 for the Hanshin Tigers of Japan's Central League. He did not pitch in 2012]*

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Pablo Gonzalez, OF Robbie Garvey (Washington (Frontier))

Released: RHP Hector Correa

*[The Dodgers signed Puerto-Rican **Correa** (25) as a minor league free agent last November. He was selected by the Marlins in the 4th round of the 2006 First-Year Player Draft, then acquired by San Francisco from Florida in exchange for Ronny Paulino on March 27, 2009. With the Giants reached AA level in 2011, but played in only 8 games at A+/San José last season, while on 40-man roster: 7.50 ERA in 18 innings]*

Miami Marlins

Released: RHP Michael Wuertz, 3B Josh Booty

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Scott Maine

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Arquimedes Caminero, 3B Zack Cox

Milwaukee Brewers

Released: RHP Juan Francisco, RHP Yefri Saba, C Deivi Mejia, OF Malcolm Dowell

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Santo Manzanillo, RHP Ariel Pena, LHP Miguel de los Santos

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Kyle Davies (did not play in '12), LHP Chad Rodgers (released by Braves, July 12)

New York Mets

Signed: RHP LaTroy Hawkins (re-signed)

Released: RHP LaTroy Hawkins (subsequently re-signed), 1B Kevin Weijertse

*[The Mets recently released and quickly re-signed right-hander **LaTroy Hawkins**, The move was just "procedural," according to ESPN New York's Adam Rubin, as the Mets needed to "correct something in [Hawkins'] contract." Hawkins, 40, signed his original minor league deal with the Mets in January]*

*[22-year-old Dutch infielder **Kevin Weijertse**, former player of Konica Minolta Pioniers and Corendon Kinheim in the Dutch Hoofdklasse, had signed with the Mets organization in 2009. He played three seasons professionally in the Dominican Summer League and the Appalachian League. He batted .183/.323/.196 with five doubles, 45 runs and 27 RBI in 155 games in affiliated minor league ball. The first baseman will return to the Netherlands and will join L&D Amsterdam in the Hoofdklasse. At Amsterdam he will be reunited with Björn Hato, who had signed with the Mets in 2009 as well, but already got released in 2011]*

New York Yankees

Optioned to Triple-A: 2B David Adams

Signed: RHP Chris Bootcheck

*[The deal does not carry an invitation to major league camp, so **Bootcheck** will not be in the running for an Opening Day roster spot. He posted an underwhelming 4.06 ERA in 44 1/3 innings last year for the Tigers' Triple-A team]*

Oakland Athletics

Signed: 2B Antonio Lamas (Monclova (Mexican))

A 23-year-old middle infielder who already has five seasons in the Mexican League under his belt, **Antonio Lamas** is a career .307/.350/.437 hitter for Monclova through more than 1,300 at-bats. He ranked second in the ML last year with 153 hits and third with 34 doubles, while batting .336/.383/.523 in 455 at-bats.

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Troy Marks, C Matt Hitt (NDFB—Eastern Michigan), 2B Shawn Williams (Long Island (Atlantic)), SS Miguel Abreu (re-signed), SS Andres Blanco (re-signed)

The Phillies scouted 6-foot-5 righty **Troy Marks** in the California Winter League early this year. He went undrafted out of Nevada-Las Vegas in 2012.

*[The Phillies re-signed infielder **Andres Blanco** to a minor league contract. The club released Blanco a few weeks ago. Blanco last played in the majors in 2011 and he has a career .634 OPS in 654 PA over six seasons with the Rangers, Cubs and Royals. He spent last year with the Phillies' Triple-A affiliate]*

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: C Brian Esposito

Released: LHP Aaron Poreda

Hard-throwing lefty **Aaron Poreda** is best known either for being the 25th pick in the '07 draft (by the White Sox) or for being the centerpiece of the '09 Jake Peavy trade (with the Padres). He walked 141 batters in 141 innings at Triple-A, so San Diego left Poreda exposed in the '11 minor league Rule 5 draft. The Pirates selected him, though he made just three appearances for Double-A Altoona last season while dealing with a shoulder injury.

San Francisco Giants

Optioned to high Class A: 1B Angel Villalona

Seattle Mariners

Released: OF Richard Palase

Texas Rangers

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Roman Mendez

Optioned to high Class A: RHP Matt West

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: SS Munenori Kawasaki (released by Mariners, Oct. 24)

Optioned to Triple-A: OF Moises Sierra

Washington Nationals

Signed: 3B Melvin Dorta (did not play in '12), OF Jason Michaels (re-signed), OF Israel Mota

Released: LHP Will Ohman

Optioned to low Class A: LHP Matt Purke

Jason Michaels, who hit .202/.265/.288 in 104 at-bats for Triple-A Syracuse a year ago, apparently will wear two hats this season: player and minor league hitting coach.

Israel Mota is the second player signed by the Nationals out of the International Prospect League this offseason. They also signed righthander Luis Torres in February.

Minor League Transactions: Feb. 20-25

Chicago Cubs

Signed: C-OF Rony Rodriguez (Quebec (Can-Am))

*[The 2012 season was **Rodriguez's** first as a professional. In 46 games with the Capitales, hit .233 with six home runs, 15 RBI and 10 doubles for the league champions. Quebec signed Rodriguez out of the University of Miami, where, in his senior season, he put together a .280 average with 14 doubles for the Hurricanes, who went 36-23. In 2011 as a junior, he finished second in the Atlantic Coast Conference with a .596 slugging percentage, tied for second in the ACC with 13 home runs, and led Miami with 16 doubles. Rodriguez is the third 2012 Quebec player to be sold to a major-league organization this off-season, along with LHP Tony Davis (Toronto) and RHP Chris Cox (Arizona)]*

Chicago White Sox

Traded: RHP Jeff Sopic to Giants for 3B Conor Gillaspie

Colorado Rockies

Released: C Franmy Pena

Los Angeles Dodgers

Released: LHP Wander Beras

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Andy Wells (York (Atlantic)), 1B Rhyne Hughes

Hughes batted .261/.393/.459 in 111 at-bats for Cibao of the Dominican League, finishing third in the DL in on-base percentage. *[Hughes has a career .267/.328/.457 batting line at Triple-A. He made his big league debut with the O's back in 2010, appearing in 14 games but posting just a .530 OPS in 51 trips to the plate]*

New York Yankees

Signed: OF Juan Rivera (Article XX-B free agent)

Oakland Athletics

Released: 1B Miguel Marte, 2B Luis Osorio

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: 2B Yuniesky Betancourt (released by Royals, Aug. 14)

Traded: RHP Michael Schwimer to Blue Jays for 1B Art Charles

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: RHP Jose Contreras (Article XX-B free agent)

San Diego Padres

Signed: RHP David Reyes (Mexico City (Mexican))

San Francisco Giants

Traded: 3B Conor Gillaspie to White Sox for RHP Jeff Sopic

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Francisco Diaz

Traded: 1B Art Charles to Phillies for RHP Michael Schwimer

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Chris Young (Article XX-B free agent)

[Young posted a decent 4.15 ERA in 115 innings for the Mets last season after returning from rotator cuff surgery. The 33-year-old is unlikely to crack the Nats' Opening Day roster and will operate only as organizational rotation depth]

Minor League Transactions: Feb. 14-19**Arizona Diamondbacks**

Signed: RHP Thomas Brendel, RHP Bobby Hillier (Normal (Frontier)), RHP Brandon Sinnery (Lincoln (American Association))

Traded: RHP Jesus Castillo and RHP Erick Leal to Cubs for OF Tony Campana

Bobby Hillier pitched in the Frontier League last season, but the best look scouts got at the former Thiel (Pa.) College righty came in the California Winter League this February. Hillier is one of three CWL class of '13 players to sign contracts with major league organizations this offseason.

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Kevin Jacob (released by Cardinals, Oct. 3), RHP Jair Jurrjens (non-tendered by Braves), LHP Harry Marino (released by D-backs, Oct. 5)

Removed from 40-man: OF Trayvon Robinson (outrighted to Triple-A)

Boston Red Sox

Signed: LHP Matt Maloney

Chicago Cubs

Signed: SS Brent Lillibridge

Traded: OF Tony Campana to Diamondbacks for RHP Jesus Castillo and RHP Erick Leal

Cleveland Indians

Signed: LHP Rich Hill (non-tendered by Red Sox)

Houston Astros

Signed: LHP Erik Bedard (released by Pirates, Aug. 28)

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Chad Cordero (did not play in '12), RHP Ben Fritz (did not play in '11 or '12), RHP Hiroyuki Kobayashi (Hanshin (Japan))

Ben Fritz was Oakland's fourth first-round selection in 2002 Draft (30th overall), following Nick Swisher, Joe Blanton and John McCurdy. Fritz went to spring training with the Tigers in '10, but his most recent pro experience actually came with Lancaster of the Atlantic League that same season.

Hiroyuki Kobayashi pitched in Japan's industrial league last season, but prior to that the 34-year-old righthander had logged 12 years in Nippon Professional Baseball, his final season with Hanshin in '11. He owns a career 3.53 ERA and 3.2-to-1 strikeout-to-walk ratio in 370 appearances in NPB. Kobayashi saved 29 games for Lotte in '10, his only season as a closer.

Miami Marlins

Signed: 1B Casey Kotchman (Article XX-B free agent), 2B Nick Green (re-signed)

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Kyle Davies (did not play in '12), LHP Rafael Perez (non-tendered by Indians)

New York Mets

Signed: RHP LaTroy Hawkins (Article XX-B free agent), LHP Justin Hampson (re-signed), OF James Roche (Newark (Can-Am))

[Hampson, 32, registered a promising 2.33 ERA across 65 2/3 innings last season with Triple-A Buffalo. He will function as organizational relief depth in 2013]

New York Yankees

Signed: 1B Dan Johnson (non-tendered by White Sox)

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Rodrigo Lopez, 1B Austin Gallagher (released by Dodgers, Jan. 13)

Released: SS Andres Blanco

Austin Gallagher, a former Dodgers minor league first baseman, tested positive for the stimulant Methylhexanamine in January and must sit out 50 games this spring. The 24-year-old Gallagher, the older brother of Royals prospect Cameron, hit .283/.383/.481 with 15 homers in 374 at-bats for high Class A Rancho Cucamonga last season, his third straight in the California League.

*[Venezuelan infielder **Andres Blanco** (28) spent 2012 season at AAA-Lehigh Valley where he hit .235/.301/.346 with 10 HRs and 40 RBI in 120 games. The switch-hitter accrued 235 games at MLB level with Kansas City, Ch. Cubs and Texas between 2004-2011 hitting a modest .255/.301/.333 while displaying good defensive skills; the Phillies re-signed him last November before he could hit Milb free agency]*

Pittsburgh Pirates

Released: C Wyatt Toregas

San Diego Padres

Signed: RHP Freddy Garcia (Article XX-B free agent), LHP Juan Delgado, 2B Anthony Contreras (re-signed), OF Leonardo Heras (Mexico City (Mexican))

[Mexican outfielder **Leo Heras** has 6-yrns of pro experience in the Mexican League. The 22-year-old left-handed hit .323/.398/.556 with 24 HRs and 64 RBI in 112 games with Mexico City in the hitter-friendly south of the border league]

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: OF Jack Cust

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Clint Everts (re-signed), SS Jean Almanzar

Released: LHP Jared Potts

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Delvis Gonzalez

Minor League Transactions: Feb. 5-13

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: LHP Henry Garcia (Rio Grande Valley (North American)), C Rod Barajas (Article XX-B free agent)

A 6-foot lefty, **Henry Garcia** spent one season at the University of Texas-Brownsville before latching on the independent North American League last summer, where he walked just six batters in 44 2/3 innings for Rio Grande Valley.

In an interesting bit of synchronicity, **Rod Barajas** rejoins the organization that originally gave him a shot as an undrafted player. The Diamondbacks signed him out of Cerritos (Calif.) JC in '96 and he reached the big leagues three years later, eventually serving as backup catcher on Arizona's '01 World Series champions.

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: OF Kyle Hudson

Removed from 40-man: C Luis Martinez (outrighted to Triple-A)

Boston Red Sox

Signed: RHP Rey Cotilla (Joliet (Frontier)), LHP Sean Henn (Hanwha (Korea))

Drafted three times previously, twice from Miami Dade CC, **Rey Cotilla** played indy ball last season after going undrafted as a North Carolina State senior in '11. According to his Pointstreak bio, Cotilla throws from a sidearm angle.

[**Henn** spent last season in the Korean Baseball Organization (where he pitched in only 14 games and 15 innings for a 8.40 ERA) and hasn't appeared in the majors since 2009. He's merely organizational depth.]

Chicago Cubs

Signed: OF Tim Torres

Removed from 40-man: RHP Lendy Castillo (outrighted to Triple-A)

The Cubs carried Rule 5 pick **Lendy Castillo** all last season—he made 13 appearances for Chicago and seven on rehab—but he'll have to earn a 40-man spot on merit if he makes a future big league appearance.

Chicago White Sox

Signed: LHP Wes Whisler (released by White Sox, April 24)

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Clay Hensley, RHP Dakota Mitchell, RHP Kanekoa Teixeira (re-signed), 3B Niko Vasquez (re-signed)

The Reds will take a "punt" on 18-year-old Australian righty **Dakota Mitchell**. He's recovering from Tommy John surgery but reportedly had drawn interest from at least five big league clubs.

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Daisuke Matsuzaka (Article XX-B free agent), C Omir Santos, 1B Jason Giambi (Article XX-B free agent), OF Jeremy Hermida (released by Padres, Aug. 28)

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Miguel Batista (Article XX-B free agent), C Yorvit Torrealba

Houston Astros

Released: RHP Mark Hamburger

Kansas City Royals

Signed: LHP Mitchell Beacom (released by Giants, Jan. 25), LHP Zach Jackson, 3B Matt Sweeney (released by Orioles, May 27)

Los Angeles Angels

Released: RHP Brandon Lodge

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Kevin Gregg (released by Orioles, Sept. 14), RHP Mark Lowe (Article XX-B free agent), RHP Sean White

Miami Marlins

Signed: 2B Chone Figgins (released by Mariners, Nov. 28)

Removed from 40-man: OF Bryan Petersen (outrighted to Triple-A)

New York Yankees

Traded: OF Abe Almonte to Mariners for RHP Shawn Kelley

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: LHP Corey Young (released by Rangers, June 3)

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: RHP Roman Colon, LHP Jonathan Sanchez (Article XX-B free agent), C Devin Ivany (released by Nationals, Aug. 14), 3B Brandon Inge (Article XX-B free agent), OF Brett Carroll

Removed from 40-man: RHP Vin Mazzaro (outrighted to Triple-A)

San Diego Padres

Signed: RHP Tim Stauffer (re-signed)

Removed from 40-man: SS Jeudy Valdez (outrighted to Triple-A)

Seattle Mariners

Signed: RHP Jon Garland (did not play in '12), RHP Kameron Loe

Traded: RHP Shawn Kelley to Yankees for OF Abe Almonte

Despite a rather listless performance with Escogido in the Dominican League this winter, 23-year-old center fielder **Abe Almonte** features tools that will play in a reserve role at the highest level. He batted .276/.350/.392 in 359 plate appearances for Double-A Trenton in the Yankees system last year, drawing 37 walks and swiping 30 bases in 35 tries to rank fifth in the Eastern League. He switch-hits, plays good defense, runs well and makes smart decisions on the bases and could grow to be a player similar to the Giants' Gregor Blanco.

Tampa Bay Rays

Removed from 40-man: RHP Dane de la Rosa (outrighted to Triple-A)

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Brett Anderson, RHP Drew Benes (released by Cardinals, Dec. 7), OF Todd McDonald

Released: 2B Alex Gonzalez

The Rangers signed converted shortstop **Brett Anderson** out of the California Winter League, where he logged his competitive innings as a pitcher. He hit .197 in three seasons as a position player after his selection by the Tigers in the 12th round of the '08 draft. The native of Bristol, Conn., made it as far as short-season Connecticut of the New York-Penn League in the Detroit system.

*[The Rangers signed **Todd McDonald** for \$475,000, the largest bonus of the 2012-13 international signing period for an Australian hitter. Scouts described McDonald, 17, as one of the toolsier players in Australia. At 6-foot-3, 185 pounds, McDonald is athletic, has excellent plate discipline and a line-drive stroke from the left side. Scouts were mixed on his power, with some saying he's more of a gap power guy, but he's shown he can go over the fences in games. He projects as a corner outfielder with an average arm.]*

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Jonathan Koutis (Lake Erie (Frontier)), 1B Ryan Strieby

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Jeremy Accardo, RHP Mike Crotta, RHP Kelvin Alberto de la Cruz, RHP Adrian Green, RHP Luis Torres, LHP Will Ohman, 1B Micah Owings (released by Padres, Oct. 23)

Venezuelan righty **Luis Torres** signed after being scouted in the International Prospect League. *[Nationals and Torres (18) agreed to a \$75,000 bonus.]*

Minor League Transactions: Jan. 29-Feb. 4

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Matt Bischoff (re-signed), RHP Joel Pineiro (re-signed), LHP Mark Hendrickson (did not play in '12), C Zane Chavez (El Paso (American Association)), OF Chris Dickerson

Boston Red Sox

Removed from 40-man: RHP Chris Carpenter (outrighted to Triple-A)

Chicago Cubs

Signed: C Nathan Maldonado (re-signed), OF Brent Lillibridge

Chicago White Sox

Removed from 40-man: RHP Zach Stewart (outrighted to Triple-A)

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Greg Reynolds, C Miguel Olivo (Article XX-B free agent), OF P.J. Phillips (re-signed)

*[The No. 2 overall pick in the 2006 draft, **Reynolds** has put up a 7.47 ERA over 94 career major league innings and held a 5.30 ERA and ugly 69/46 K/BB ratio over 163 frames at Triple-A for the Rangers in 2012]*

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Matt Capps (Article XX-B free agent)

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Chris Volstad

Houston Astros

Traded: RHP Fernando Rodriguez and SS Jed Lowrie to Athletics for RHP Brad Peacock, C Max Stassi and 1B Chris Carter

Kansas City Royals

Released: LHP Brian Peacock

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Robert Coello, C Elio Sarmiento (released by Rangers, Aug. 24), OF Bill Hall (Article XX-B free agent)

Miami Marlins

Removed from 40-man: OF Kevin Mattison (outrighted to Triple-A)

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: RHP Alfredo Figaro (Orix (Japan))

Released: OF Franklin Romero

*[**Figaro** (28) spent 2011-2012 seasons pitching for Orix: 8-11, 3.31 ERA overall in 187.2 IP, 127 K, 55 BB, 187 H, 1.29 WHIP. The Dominican-born appeared in 13 MLB games with Detroit between 2009-10]*

Minnesota Twins

Signed: SS Doug Bernier, OF Antoan Richardson

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Scott Atchison (non-tendered by Red Sox), RHP LaTroy Hawkins (Article XX-B free agent), OF Marlon Byrd (released by Red Sox, June 12), OF Corey Patterson, OF Mike Wilson

Mike Wilson spent 11 seasons in the Mariners system, three times hitting 20 or more homers in a season. In parts of four seasons with Triple-A Tacoma, he batted .269/.362/.477 in 1,152 plate appearances, slugging 50 homers and driving in 160 in 286 games.

New York Yankees

Signed: 1B Dan Johnson (non-tendered by White Sox)

Oakland Athletics

Released: RHP Matt Thomson, 2B Nino Leyja

Traded: RHP Brad Peacock, C Max Stassi and 1B Chris Carter to Astros for RHP Fernando Rodriguez and SS Jed Lowrie

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: LHP David Newmann (released by Rays, Nov. 12), SS Matt Tolbert, OF Joe Mather

Removed from 40-man: RHP J.C. Ramirez (outrighted to Triple-A)

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: RHP Kyle Waldrop

St. Louis Cardinals

Removed from 40-man: LHP Barret Browning (outrighted to Triple-A)

San Diego Padres

Signed: 2B Adam Buschini

Reinstated from DL: RHP John Hussey

*[25-year-old **Buschini** was a fourth-round pick by Philadelphia in 2009. He showed poor hitting and power tools in two years in the Phillies': .222/.317/.328 in 125 games between A short & A ball, showing however good running speed (31 SB, 8 Triples), not enough to stick. The right-handed hitter spent 2011 (Chico/North American) and 2012 (Amarillo/American Ass.) in Indy leagues. Last season hit .354/.410/.562 with 24 doubles, 8 triples, 14 HR, 74 RBI and 34 SB, prompting the Padres to give him another try at affiliated baseball]*

San Francisco Giants

Signed: RHP Ramon Ramirez (Article XX-B free agent)

Seattle Mariners

Signed: RHP Moises Hernandez (re-signed)

Texas Rangers

Signed: OF Jeff Baker (Article XX-B free agent)

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: 3B Andy LaRoche

Released: RHP Aleson Escalante, C Alexys Rodriguez

Washington Nationals

Signed: C Chris Snyder (Article XX-B free agent)

Minor League Transactions: Jan. 21-28

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: RHP Mike DeMark (re-signed), 3B Chris Nowak (York (Atlantic))

Traded: 3B Chris Johnson and OF Justin Upton to Braves for RHP Randall Delgado, RHP Zeke Spruill, 3B Brandon Drury, SS Nick Ahmed and OF Martin Prado

Chris Nowak played in the Brewers system in '11 but didn't latch on with an affiliated club last year, beginning in the Mexican League (five games) before signing with York and batting .285/.391/.570 with an Atlantic League-leading 34 homers and 107 RBIs in 129 games.

Atlanta Braves

Traded: RHP Randall Delgado, RHP Zeke Spruill, 3B Brandon Drury, SS Nick Ahmed and OF Martin Prado to Diamondbacks for 3B Chris Johnson and OF Justin Upton

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Rob Delaney, RHP Manny Delcarmen, OF Chris Pettit, OF Andrickson Zorrilla (NDFA—Advanced Software Analysis (N.Y.) JC)

Boston Red Sox

Signed: RHP Charlie Haeger (did not play in '12), LHP Christian Perdomo (NDFA—Advanced Software Analysis (N.Y.) JC)
Reinstated from DL: RHP Mathew Price

The Red Sox released **Charlie Haeger** prior to spring training last year, but the knuckleballer is back in the fold after taking a year off.

Chicago Cubs

Signed: OF Bobby Buckner (NDFA—Texas A&M-Corpus Christi)

Former Texas A&M-Corpus Christi outfielder **Boby Buckner** is the son of former big leaguer Bill Buckner, who starred for the Cubs from 1977 to '84.

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Andrew Brackman

The White Sox have gambled on other clubs' first-round pitching talents in the past, hitting the jackpot with the likes of John Danks, Gavin Floyd, Matt Thornton and (briefly) Phil Humber, but **Andrew Brackman** may represent the biggest challenge yet. He hasn't had a walk rate below 5 BB/9 since the first half of '10 with Double-A Trenton in the Yankees system. Chicago also signed reclamation lefty Trevor Reckling this offseason, and they're bringing hard-throwing first-rounders David Purcey ('04 Blue Jays) and Daniel Moskos ('07 Pirates) to big league camp.

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Shaun Ellis, 3B Matt Mangini

The Phillies drafted **Shaun Ellis** in the 32nd round in '08, but he never appeared in a game for the organization. He spent the '09 through '11 seasons playing independent ball, but he appears to have taken a year off prior to signing with Cincinnati.

Cleveland Indians

Signed: OF Ben Francisco (non-tendered by Rays), OF Ryan Raburn (released by Tigers, Nov. 20)

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Marc Magliaro (NDFA—Rowan (N.J.)), 1B Ryan Garko, OF Greg Golson

Houston Astros

Signed: OF Rick Ankiel (released by Nationals, July 27)

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Jamie Richmond (Quebec (Can-Am)), 2B Lewis Urena (re-signed)

Los Angeles Angels

Released: LHP Jo-Jo Reyes (signed with SK Wyverns (Korea))

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Kyle Cofield (released by Pirates, June 29), OF Jaylen Harris

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Chad Qualls, 3B Tug Hulett

Like fellow Miami minor league signee Austin Kearns, **Chad Qualls** is an Article XX(B) major league free agent who qualifies for an automatic June 1 opt-out and a retention bonus if he plays Triple-A ball.

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: SS Bobby Crosby (did not play in 2011-12)

Released: RHP Hitaniel Arias, OF Jose Garcia

New York Mets

Signed: LHP Pedro Feliciano

Pedro Feliciano appeared in zero big league games for the Yankees during the life of his two-year contract. Like Chad Qualls (Marlins, above) he's an Article XX-B major league free agent.

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Chris Smith (Washington (Frontier)), LHP Josh Romanski (re-signed), SS Leugim Barroso (Rio Grande Valley (North American))

Oakland Athletics

Signed: RHP Carlos Fisher, LHP Pedro Viola

Released: OF Rashad Ramsey

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: OF Joe Mather

San Diego Padres

Signed: LHP Arturo Lopez (Mexico City (Mexican))

Released: RHP Chris Franklin, RHP Collin Reynolds, LHP Dan Lazzaroni, 3B Michael Wing

San Francisco Giants

Released: RHP Luis Angeles, RHP Andrew Berger, RHP Tyler Christman, LHP Mitchell Beacom, LHP Ari Ronick, LHP Scotty Walker, C Dashenko Ricardo, 1B Bryan Nicholson

Seattle Mariners

Signed: LHP Eric Niesen (Long Island (Atlantic)), C Ronny Paulino, OF Kurt Fleming (released by Braves, Nov. 15)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Juan Oviedo, OF Shelley Duncan

Texas Rangers

Signed: LHP Nate Robertson

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Jhonny Hernandez, RHP Jairo Rosario, IF Deivy Consuegra

Released: 2B Christian Frias

Washington Nationals

Signed: OF Jerad Head

Minor League Transactions: Jan. 15-20

Atlanta Braves

Signed: LHP Eric Pfisterer (NDFA—Duke), SS Mattia Mercuri

International baseball sites indicate that **Mattia Mercuri** is an 18-year-old Italian middle infielder who played in the IBAF World Championships last year. Baseball-Reference has a record for him on the roster for Nettuno of the Italian Baseball League. *[Mercuri attended the MLB Academy in Tirrenia and had a tryout with Braves Senior ad Nestor Perez in Tenerife (Spain) last December. He'll go to extended spring training before to be assigned to a Rookie league team].*

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Zach Staniewicz, LHP Rich Rundles (re-signed)

Zach Staniewicz pitched for four seasons at Concordia (N.Y.) College, then spent a couple seasons in the low-level independent leagues, working as both an outfielder and righthander. He put his baseball ambitions on the back burner to join the Army in '11, according to The Examiner, a media outlet based in Hudson Valley, N.Y., but he never stopped trying to master a knuckleball. Staniewicz crossed paths with Orioles GM Dan Duquette while serving in the military, and Duquette reportedly liked the knuckler's potential enough to give the 26-year-old a tryout and now a minor league contract. In any other organization, Staniewicz would seem to be the longest of long shots, but Baltimore did resuscitate the careers of Miguel Gonzalez and Lew Ford last year.

Chicago Cubs

Signed: C Jair Fernandez, OF Darnell McDonald

Chicago White Sox

Draft pick signed: 2B Mitch Glasser (39)

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Armando Galarraga, RHP Yohan Pino, RHP Chad Reineke (re-signed)

Cleveland Indians

Released: C Osiel Flores

Colorado Rockies

Signed: C Steve Domecus (released by Dodgers, Jan. 4), C James Skelton

Detroit Tigers

Signed: LHP Will Startup (Sugar Land (Atlantic)), OF Jonathan Roof (released by Padres, Jan. 3)

Houston Astros

Signed: 2B Carlos Perdomo (released by Phillies, Jan. 7)

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Fernando Cabrera

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Peter Moylan (non-tendered by Braves), RHP Mario Santiago (SK Wyverns (Korea)), LHP Victor Garate (York (Atlantic)), C Jesus Flores (non-tendered by Nationals), SS Alfredo Amezaga, OF Ryan Mount (released by Angels, Dec. 7)

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Kevin Slowey, RHP Mitch Talbot (Samsung (Korea)), 2B Matt Downs (released by Astros, Nov. 2), OF Pat White (released by Royals, Dec. 17)

A second-round pick by the NFL's Miami Dolphins in '09, **Pat White** lasted only one season as a quarterback, but he never gave up completely on a baseball career—or an acting career, apparently. Drafted once out of high school by the Angels in '04 and out of West Virginia in '07, '08 and '09 by three different teams, White didn't sign a minor league contract until late '10 when he appeared in instructional league with the Royals. The Marlins will give him another shot, though the 26-year-old has no pro baseball experience.

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: C Robinzon Diaz

New York Mets

Signed: LHP Dario Alvarez, C Landon Powell

The Phillies released **Dario Alvarez** in August '09, but a stint with Anzoategui of the Venezuelan League (five strikeouts, one walk in 5 1/3 innings) prompted the Mets to give him a look.

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Kelvin Castro, OF Thomas Neal (released by Indians, Jan. 11)

Thomas Neal joins a list of righty-hitting, corner-outfield hopefuls in Yankees camp. With an all-lefty starting outfield of Brett Gardner, Curtis Granderson and Ichiro Suzuki, New York probably will elect to carry some righty balance, which is where Russ Canzler, Matt Diaz and Neal come into play. Prospects Zoilo Almonte (a switch-hitter) and Melky Mesa also are on the 40-man roster.

Oakland Athletics

Traded: RHP A.J. Cole, RHP Blake Treinen and a player to be named to Nationals in three-team deal in which Mariners sent C John Jaso to Athletics, and Nationals sent OF Michael Morse to Mariners

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Brian Bass (released by Astros, Aug. 26)

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: OF Brad Hawpe (released by Rangers, June 19)

St. Louis Cardinals

Released: RHP Ethan Cole, 3B Alan Ahmady

San Francisco Giants

Signed: LHP Matt Yourkin (re-signed), 1B Todd Linden (re-signed)

Seattle Mariners

Signed: RHP Brian Sweeney (re-signed)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Jamey Wright

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Kyle McClellan (released by Cardinals, Nov. 13), RHP Kevin Pucetas, LHP Ryan Feierabend (York (Atlantic))

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Austin Bibens-Dirkx, 2B Jarrett Hoffpauir, OF Adam Loewen

Released: RHP Colby Broussard, RHP Phil Brea, RHP Brandon Kaye, RHP Denny Valdez, RHP Les Williams, LHP Shane Davis, C Hector Alvarez, 1B George Carroll, OF Brad McElroy

Removed from 40-man: RHP Chad Beck, LHP Tommy Hottovy (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

Washington Nationals

Traded: OF Michael Morse to Mariners in three-team deal in which Athletics sent RHP A.J. Cole, RHP Blake Treinen and a player to be named to Nationals, and Mariners sent C John Jaso to Athletics

Minor League Transactions: Jan. 8-14**Baltimore Orioles**

Signed: RHP Stu Pomeranz (non-tendered and re-signed), C Chase Weems (re-signed), 1B Steve Pearce (re-signed after outright assignment), 2B Travis Adair (re-signed)

Chicago Cubs

Signed: LHP Gerardo Concepcion (re-signed after outright assignment)

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Tony Pena Jr., LHP Steven Evans (released by Twins, July 24), 3B Nick Giarraputo (New Jersey (Can-Am))

Draft pick signed: OF Jason Coats (29)

Tony Pena Jr.'s second career as a righthanded pitcher has taken him through the Royals, Giants and Red Sox organizations prior to settling with the White Sox this month. (You may recall that Chicago took a chance on another converted shortstop in '09 when it signed Sergio Santos.) Pena garnered attention in the Dominican League, where he led the league with 11.4 SO/9 and ranked fifth with a .195 opponent average, while throwing to his brother Francisco, a Mets farmhand. Tony helped pitch Cibao to the playoffs, where he notched an 11-3 SO-BB ratio in 13 2/3 innings.

A Texas Christian senior, **Coats** was not subject to the signing deadline. His '12 draft scouting report reads in part: "(Coats) set a school record with 99 hits in 2010 before turning in a strong summer in the Cape Cod League . . . (but) his righthanded swing got longer and his pitch recognition regressed (in 2011), and he dropped to the Orioles in the 12th round . . . Coats could be a slightly above-average hitter with average power . . . He fits best in left field with his fringy speed, arm and defense. He missed the Mountain West Conference tournament with a sprained right knee."

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: 3B Nate Samson, SS Cesar Izturis, OF Jonathan Martijn

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Jerry Gil, LHP Scott Kazmir (Sugar Land (Atlantic)), LHP Edward Paredes (Did not play in '12), C Brian Jeroloman

Traded: RHP Jeanmar Gomez to Pirates for OF Quincy Latimore

Jerry Gil reached the majors in '04 and '07 as a light-hitting shortstop, but he hasn't quite gotten over the Triple-A hump in five seasons as a pitcher. With the Estrellas of the Dominican League this winter, he saved eight games in eight tries, picked up two relief wins and posted a fine 20-4 SO-BB ratio in 23 2/3 innings.

A fourth-rounder in '07, **Quincy Latimore** will qualify for minor league free agency following the season if he's not on a 40-man roster. He's got solid power, hitting 15 homers in each of the past two seasons with Double-A Altoona, and brings value with his glove and baserunning skill, but with a career .252 average in the minors, he simply hasn't shown the feel to hit to warrant a closer look.

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Manny Corpas

Detroit Tigers

Signed: LHP Pat Misch, OF Don Kelly (re-signed)

Kansas City Royals

Signed: OF Charles Thomas

This is the same **Charles W. Thomas** who shined as a Braves rookie in '04 and got packaged that winter in the trade that brought Tim Hudson to Atlanta. Thomas has not played affiliated or independent ball in five years, not since playing for the Brewers' Triple-A Nashville affiliate in '07. He's now 34 years old.

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: 3B Jimmy Swift (re-signed)

Released: LHP Yancarlos Santiago, 1B Samir Mendez

Los Angeles Dodgers

Released: RHP Edwin Contreras, 1B Austin Gallagher

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Michael Wuertz (Did not play in '12), 2B Nick Green (re-signed), OF Austin Kearns (re-signed)

Austin Kearns and Matt Diaz (who signed with the Yankees, below) are Article XX-B major league free agents, not to mention righty-hitting corner-outfield veterans, who signed minor league deals this winter. As such, both receive an automatic June 1 opt-out date and a \$100,000 bonus if they open the year in Triple-A.

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: RHP Kelvim Escobar (Did not play in 2010-12), RHP Arcenio Leon (re-signed after outright assignment), OF Chuck Caufield (Forth Worth (North American))

Removed from 40-man: RHP Arcenio Leon (outrighted to Triple-A)

Kelvim Escobar turns 37 in April and has exactly one pro appearance in the past five seasons, yet he landed a spring-training invite with Milwaukee after proving his health with Lara of the Venezuelan League. (He knows Brewers assistant GM Gord Ash from their days in the Blue Jays organization.) Escobar struck out right in 11 VL innings, allowing nine hits and nine walks.

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Patrick Arnold (Lake Erie (Frontier))

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Jim Miller (re-signed after outright assignment), C Bobby Wilson (non-tendered by Blue Jays), 2B Reegie Corona (released by Yankees, March 24), 3B Jayson Nix (re-signed after outright assignment), OF Matt Diaz

Former Yankees prospect **Reegie Corona** missed the entire '11 season with an injury and didn't play last year, but he proved his health with Magallanes of the Venezuelan League, batting 6-for-18 with two doubles and a 3-2 BB-SO ratio.

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: C Miguel Perez (re-signed)

Traded: OF Quincy Latimore to Indians for RHP Jeanmar Gomez

San Diego Padres

Released: 1B Matt Clark (signed with Chunichi (Japan))

Matt Clark has mashed 73 homers in the high minors since '10, yet the Padres carry so many first base/left field types on their 40-man roster—Yonder Alonso, Kyle Blanks, James Darnell, Jaff Decker, Jesus Guzman, Carlos Quentin, Edinson Rincon—that he had virtually no shot at playing time in San Diego. [Update: As noted in comments, the Padres granted Clark his release so that he could play in Japan.]

San Francisco Giants

Signed: 2B Kensuke Tanaka (Nippon-Ham (Japan))

Released: RHP Eric Hacker (signed with NC Dinos (Korea))

Second baseman **Kensuke Tanaka**, 31, finished fifth in the Pacific League batting race last season, hitting .300/.363/.350 with 20 extra-base hits in 457 at-bats for Nippon-Ham. He'll compete for a utility job with the Giants.

Seattle Mariners

Signed: RHP Jeremy Bonderman (Did not play in 2011-12), RHP Jhonny Nunez (released by Rays, July 2)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Juan Sandoval (Oaxaca (Mexican))

[Sandoval (32) is blind in his right eye since he was an innocent bystander in a 2006 shooting incident in a restaurant in his native Dominican Republic. Sandoval had spent four years in the Seattle Mariners system before the accident, reaching Class AA. After the incident, he spent four more seasons in the Mariners, Brewers and Phillies organizations got him as far as Class AAA but with mediocre and sometimes poor results. Finally, he went to the Mexican League in 2011, pitching for three teams over two seasons. "The Mexican League opened the door," Sandoval says. "I got a lot of experience there." Not affiliated with major league teams, Mexican League teams aren't worried about developing prospects. "It was crazy," said Sandoval, who made 67 appearances in 103 games last year, yet produced the best results - a 7-3 record, a 2.97 ERA - of his career – Source: USA Today]

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Clint Everts (re-signed)

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Casey Upperman (released by D-backs, April 14), OF Delwyn Young (Camden (Atlantic))

Minor League Transactions: Jan. 1-7 (2013)

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Kyle Mertins (Sioux Falls (American Association)), RHP Mike Recchia (Windy City (Frontier)), LHP David Quinowski (Lincoln (American Association))

Chicago Cubs

Signed: LHP Hisanori Takahashi (released by Pirates, Oct. 29), LHP Dontrelle Willis (released by Orioles, Oct. 16)

Chicago White Sox

Signed: 1B Randy Ruiz (Yokohama (Japan))

Released: RHP Mitch Mustain, LHP Matt Talley

[Ruiz spent the last three seasons in Japan, playing for Rakuten (2010-11) & Yokohama (2012): he hit a modest .239 in 151 games overall, with 20 HR & 60 RBI]

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: LHP Jakub Izold, 3B Ray Chang

The 19-year-old **Jakub Izold** is reportedly the first player from Slovakia to sign with a MLB organization. He's playing for the Czech Extraleague club Draci Brno since he is 16 years old. He attended MLB tryouts and the MLB European Academy in Tirrenia (Italy) twice. Izold is expected to fly to Arizona for an instructional week at Spring Training at the end of March, but will return to Brno for his graduation. Right after that he is going back to the United States to play in a summer league. Until graduating he will suit up for Draci Brno in the Extraleague and the European Cup. He is currently throwing an 85 to 88 MPH fastball, change up and a curve ball, but would like to add another pitch.

Colorado Rockies

Released: 1B Miguel De Leon, 2B Yafistel Roja

Detroit Tigers

Signed: RHP Michael Dube, OF Michael Hernandez (York (Atlantic))

Houston Astros

Signed: C Jason Jaramillo

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Blaine Boyer (did not play in '12)

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Danny Carela (re-signed), C Ramon Castro (did not play in '12), 2B Felipe Burin, 3B Brian Barden (did not play in '12)

Released: RHP Derek Cone, RHP Ronny Lugo, RHP Bret Montgomery, RHP Jason West, LHP Mike Drowne, LHP Matt Laney, LHP Greg Wilborn, C Steve Domecus, C Andrew Edge, 3B Kevin Thompson, 3B Scott Woodward, SS Charlie Mirabal

Miami Marlins

Signed: C Craig Tatum

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: OF Cole Garner

New York Mets

Signed: SS Omar Quintanilla

Philadelphia Phillies

Released: LHP Pedro Lora, C Liam Bedford, C Angel Chavarin, 2B Carlos Perdomo

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: C Lucas May

San Diego Padres

Signed: SS Cody Ransom

Released: RHP Juan Herrera, LHP Juan Marcano, 1B Clark Murphy, OF Jonathan Roof

San Francisco Giants

Signed: RHP Scott Proctor (Doosan (Korea)), RHP Mason Tobin (released by Rangers, April 4)

Seattle Mariners

Removed from 40-man: RHP D.J. Mitchell (outrighted to Triple-A)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP J.D. Martin

Taken 35th overall by the Indians in '01, **Martin** missed the better part of the '03 and '06 seasons with elbow trouble and didn't reach Triple-A for good until '09. He signed with the Nationals following that season and wound up making 24 career starts for Washington in '09 and '10. Though Martin left most of his velocity on the operating table, he has shown fantastic control versus Triple-A competition, notching a 4.32 ERA, 1.20 WHIP and walk rate of 1.3 per nine over 382 innings.

Texas Rangers

Removed from 40-man: C Eli Whiteside (outrighted to Triple-A)

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Mike Benacka (York (Atlantic)), RHP Scott Copeland (re-signed)

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Ross Ohlendorf, LHP Sean West, C Joe Witkowski (released by Astros, June 9)

Released: LHP Bobby Hansen, LHP Joe Testa, C Jeremy Mayo, 1B Brett Newsome, 2B Hendry Jimenez, OF Tony Nix

Minor League Transactions: Dec. 22-31

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: LHP Zach Braddock (released by Brewers in May), LHP Daniel Schlereth (non-tendered by Tigers), 1B Travis Ishikawa, OF Adam Greenberg (released by Marlins in October)

Released: RHP Jose Mota, RHP Ryan O'Shea, RHP Jose Rivera, RHP Alex Schmarzo, LHP Casey Lambert

Zach Braddock dealt with control problems (5.3 BB/9) in his 51 innings out of the Brewers bullpen in '10 and '11, but he also exhibited swing-and-miss stuff while fanning 10.4 per nine. One of the last cuts in spring training last year, he struggled with anxiety problems before he and Milwaukee agreed that walking away from baseball for a spell was the best course of action.

Boston Red Sox

Released: C Aly Gonzalez

Traded: RHP Mark Melancon, RHP Stolmy Pimentel, 2B Ivan De Jesus Jr. and OF Jerry Sands to Pirates for RHP Joel Hanrahan and SS Brock Holt

Chicago Cubs

Signed: RHP Zach Putnam (non-tendered and re-signed)

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Jeff Marquez, RHP Kevin Whelan, OF Derrick Robinson (non-tendered by Royals)

Cleveland Indians

Signed: 2B Matt Antonelli (released by Yankees in July)

With lefty-hitting regulars at second base (Jason Kipnis) and third base (Lonnie Chisenhall), the Indians could derive value from a player like **Matt Antonelli**—but only if he returns to '11 levels of productivity. He hit just .201/.324/.286 in 44 games for the Triple-A affiliates of the Orioles (with whom he had signed a big league deal) and Yankees last season, his age-27 campaign. The '06 first-rounder had a fine season with Triple-A Syracuse (Nationals) the year before that, batting .297/.393/.460 in 86 games and making the International League all-star team. Cleveland had a player similar to (but more successful than) Antonelli, but they included Jason Donald in the recent three-team extravaganza that brought Trevor Bauer and Drew Stubbs to town.

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Tim Gustafson, LHP Erick Threets

Detroit Tigers

Signed: LHP Luke Sommer

Kansas City Royals

Signed: 1B Chad Tracy, 3B Miguel Tejada, OF Endy Chavez

Much like recent signing Xavier Nady, **Endy Chavez** is an Article XX-B major league free agent who cannot be assigned to Triple-A without first receiving a \$100,000 bonus.

This **Chad Tracy**, the son of former manager Jim, is the one who hit 12 homers in 133 games for Triple-A Colorado Springs in the Rockies system last year.

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: 2B Luis Rodriguez

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: LHP Fabio Castro, LHP Wilmin Rodriguez, 2B Rusty Ryal, 3B Omar Luna, OF Jeremy Moore, OF Scott Van Slyke (re-signed following outright)

Jeremy Moore ranked as the Angels' No. 11 prospect following the '11 season, but he missed all of last year after having hip surgery. He may lack the plate discipline to ever play regularly, but the 25-year-old lefty hitter could provide a cheap source of power, speed and defensive versatility in the outfield.

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Doug Mathis (Lotte (Japan)), 3B Audy Ciriaco

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: RHP Jim Hoey, SS Ozzie Chavez (released by Braves in April), OF Rene Tosoni

A draft-and-follow signing by the Twins, **Rene Tosoni** won MVP honors at the '09 Futures Game and peaked as Minnesota's No. 12 prospect following the '10 season. A pair of miserable seasons at Triple-A Rochester followed—he hit .215/.280/.315 in 375 PA—effectively removing Tosoni from the Twins' plans. With a smooth lefty stroke, some speed and some power, he could serve as a big league extra if all the stars align.

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Rich Harden (did not play in 2012)

Oakland Athletics

Signed: RHP Brian Gordon (Samsung (Korea)), LHP Frank Gailley

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Edgar Garcia (El Paso (American Association))

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: OF Miles Durham (St. Paul (American Association))

Traded: RHP Joel Hanrahan and SS Brock Holt to Red Sox for RHP Mark Melancon, RHP Stolmy Pimentel, 2B Ivan De Jesus Jr. and OF Jerry Sands

San Diego Padres

Signed: C Rene Rivera, SS Gregorio Petit

Seattle Mariners

Signed: 1B Mike Jacobs, 3B Leury Bonilla (re-signed)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: C Craig Albernaz (re-signed)

Released: 3B Felix Gonzalez

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Yoshinori Tateyama (re-signed)

Washington Nationals

Signed: 3B Mike Costanzo

Minor League Transactions: Dec. 14-21**Arizona Diamondbacks**

Signed: RHP Brad Allen (Florence (Frontier)), RHP Nelson Figueroa, RHP Alexis Lara, RHP Warner Madrigal, C Mark Reed (released by D-backs, July 7)

Return of Rule 5 pick (2011): SS Gustavo Nunez (to Tigers)

Atlanta Braves

Released: SS K.C. Clabough, SS Logan Robbins

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Chase Johnson (Amarillo (American Association)), RHP Marcel Prado (El Paso (American Association)), RHP Zech Zinicola, SS Chris Wade (Windy City (Frontier))

Removed from 40-man: 1B Steve Pearce (outrighted to Triple-A)

Boston Red Sox

Removed from 40-man: RHP Pedro Beato (outrighted to Triple-A)

Chicago Cubs

Signed: RHP Drew Carpenter, RHP Chang-Yong Lim (Yakult (Japan)), RHP Cory Wade, 1B Brad Nelson

Released: RHP Pete Levitt, RHP Bryce Shafer, LHP Willington Cruz

Removed from 40-man: LHP Gerardo Concepcion (outrighted to low Class A)

A Korean national, **Chang-Yong Lim** has posted fine results as a sidearming righty reliever in Japan. In five seasons with Yakult, he notched 128 saves to go with a 2.09 ERA, 1.03 WHIP and ratios of 8.9 strikeouts and 2.6 walks per nine innings. Lim missed the bulk of last season after having Tommy John surgery, and the 36-year-old won't be expected back until the second half of this season.

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Jeff Gray, RHP Matt Zaleski (re-signed), C Damaso Espino (re-signed), 3B Andy Gonzalez

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Loek Van Mil, C Corky Miller (re-signed)

Released: LHP Mitch Clarke, OF Jose Valdelamar

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Joe Martinez

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Justin Berg, RHP Logan Kensing, 3B Russ Mitchell (released by Giants, Aug. 16)

Detroit Tigers

Removed from 40-man: LHP Matt Hoffman (outrighted to Triple-A)

Houston Astros

Traded: LHP Rob Rasmussen to Dodgers for RHP John Ely

Removed from 40-man: 3B Brandon Laird, OF Che-Hsuan Lin (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

Kansas City Royals

Signed: OF Xavier Nady

Released: OF Pat White

Because he's an Article XX-B major league free agent, **Xavier Nady** will receive a \$100,000 retention bonus if the Royals assign him to Triple-A to begin the 2013 season. He also receives an automatic June 1 opt-out date if he is playing in the minors at the time.

Los Angeles Angels

Released: RHP Baudilio Lopez, 2B Landis Ware

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: 3B Dallas McPherson

Traded: RHP John Ely to Astros for LHP Rob Rasmussen

Removed from 40-man: OF Scott Van Slyke (outrighted to Triple-A)

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP John Maine, SS Chris Gutierrez (re-signed)

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: 2B Donnie Murphy, SS Blake Davis

Released: LHP Mike Francisco, LHP Elliot Glynn, LHP Connor Whalen

Minnesota Twins

Released: 1B Joshua Hendricks

New York Mets

Signed: SS Josh Rodriguez (re-signed)

Traded: RHP R.A. Dickey, C Mike Nickeas and C Josh Thole to Blue Jays for RHP Noah Syndergaard, C John Buck, C Travis d'Arnaud and OF Wuilmer Becerra

Traded: 3B Jefry Marte to Athletics for OF Collin Cowgill

New York Yankees

Released: RHP Reinier Casanova, RHP Ryan Flannery, RHP Jhorge Liccien, SS Yadil Mujica, OF Kelvin Duran, OF Justin James, OF Damon Sublett

Removed from 40-man: RHP Jim Miller, LHP Josh Spence (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

[*Casanova* (25) & *Mujica* (28), both Cuban players, were in the Yankees farm system in 2011-2012 with modest results: Casanova reached A+ level (20K, 13 BB in 19 IP, 5.21 ERA, 1.58 WHIP), Mujica reached AAA (13 G last season; .229/.291/.278 overall). Mujica appeared on the Cuba preliminary roster for the '09 World Baseball Classic and batted .358/.432/.440 that season before defecting. He had emerged as one of Cuba's most promising young middle infielders. A scouting report referred to Mujica as a contact hitter with plus speed, good range and a plus arm from shortstop]

Oakland Athletics

Released: RHP Drew Gagnier, RHP Connor Hoehn, OF Douglas Landaeta, OF Mitch LeVier

Traded: OF Collin Cowgill to Mets for 3B Jefry Marte

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: C Justin Dalles (released by Orioles, Aug. 2), C John Suomi (re-signed)

Released: OF Diego Gonzalez

San Diego Padres

Acquired: OF Sawyer Carroll from Blue Jays for cash considerations

The Padres reacquired Triple-A outfielder **Sawyer Carroll** from the Blue Jays, the team that less than a month ago selected him in the minor league phase of the Rule 5 draft. The '08 supplemental third-rounder hit .263/.337/.401 with eight homers in 372 at-bats for Tucson this season.

San Francisco Giants

Signed: OF Cole Gillespie (released by D-backs, Sept. 20)

Cole Gillespie made a couple fruitless cameos in the big leagues with the Brewers, but he has demonstrated good on-base skills and some pop during his time in Triple-A. Playing for Nashville in '09 and for Reno the past three seasons, the 28-year-old batted .292/.390/.478 with 45 homers in 1,563 at-bats.

Seattle Mariners

Released: RHP Angel Raga, RHP Ernesto Zaragoza, C Ivan Brea, C Ivan Ramirez, 2B Felipe Burin, 3B Jose Martinez

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Yael Regalado (NDFB—Washington HS, New York)

Texas Rangers

Signed: 1B Brandon Allen (SoftBank (Japan)), 1B Brandon Snyder (non-tendered and re-signed), 2B Gabe Suarez

Removed from 40-man: C Konrad Schmidt (outrighted to Triple-A)

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Dave Bush (SK Wyverns (Korea)), RHP Ramon Ortiz, LHP Tony Davis (Quebec (Can-Am)), 2B Lance Zawadzki, OF Ryan Langerhans

Released: RHP Justin Cryer

Traded: RHP Noah Syndergaard, C John Buck, C Travis d'Arnaud and OF Wuilmer Becerra to Mets for RHP R.A. Dickey, C Mike Nieceas and C Josh Thole

Traded: OF Sawyer Carroll to Padres for cash considerations

Removed from 40-man: RHP Mickey Storey (outrighted to Triple-A)

Washington Nationals

Signed: SS Brian Bocoock

Released: LHP Raul Ruiz

Minor League Transactions: Dec. 7-13

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: LHP Steve Garrison, SS Josh Wilson

Released: RHP Teofilo Gutierrez

Atlanta Braves

Signed: RHP Robinson Lopez (released by Cubs, Feb. '12)

The Braves originally signed **Robinson Lopez** out of the Dominican Republic in 2008, then traded him and two other minor league players to the Cubs for Derrek Lee in August '10.

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: LHP Logan Mahon (Gateway (Frontier)), C Kevin Dultz (released by D-backs, Oct. '12), SS Niuman Romero

Boston Red Sox

Signed: 2B Jonathan Diaz

Acquired: RHP Graham Godfrey from Athletics as player to be named for RHP Sandy Rosario

Acquired: RHP Kyle Kaminska from Pirates as player to be named for RHP Zach Stewart

Chicago Cubs

Signed: RHP Jensen Lewis

Chicago White Sox

Signed: OF Ruben Sierra Jr. (Normal (Frontier))

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Fernando Nieve

Houston Astros

Acquired: RHP Ricky Martinez from Cardinals for cash considerations

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Dan Wheeler, LHP George Sherrill, C Mitch Canham (Long Island (Atlantic)), OF Willy Taveras

Released: RHP Jose Brazoban, 3B John Whittleman

Traded: RHP Jake Odorizzi, LHP Mike Montgomery, 3B Patrick Leonard and OF Wil Myers to Rays for RHP Wade Davis, RHP James Shields and a player to be named

Los Angeles Angels

Released: RHP Brian Lawrence, 2B Ryan Mount

Los Angeles Dodgers

Traded: SS Jake Lemmerman to Cardinals for 2B Skip Schumaker

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Jonathan Albaladejo, RHP Amaury Rivas, SS Ed Lucas

Released: C Dallas Hord

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: LHP Travis Webb

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Bryan Augenstein, RHP Scott Elarton, RHP Virgil Vasquez (Southern Maryland (Atlantic)), LHP Mike O'Connor, 1B Reynaldo Rodriguez, SS Ray Olmedo, OF Brandon Boggs, OF Clete Thomas (re-signed)

Released: RHP Ricky Bowen, RHP Steve Hirschfeld, LHP Clint Dempster, LHP Corey Kimes, 3B Jacob Younis, OF Wang-Wei Lin

New York Yankees

Removed from 40-man: 3B Jayson Nix (outrighted to Triple-A)

Oakland Athletics

Signed: RHP Yeiper Castillo

Released: RHP Chad Lee

Traded: RHP Graham Godfrey to Red Sox as player to be named for RHP Sandy Rosario

Philadelphia Phillies

Traded: RHP Lisalberto Bonilla and RHP Josh Lindblom to Rangers for 3B Michael Young and cash

Pittsburgh Pirates

Traded: RHP Kyle Kaminska to Red Sox as player to be named for RHP Zach Stewart

St. Louis Cardinals

Released: RHP Drew Benes

Traded: 2B Skip Schumaker to Dodgers for SS Jake Lemmerman

Traded: RHP Ricky Martinez to Astros for cash considerations

San Diego Padres

Signed: RHP Sean O'Sullivan, LHP Matt LaChappa (re-signed), LHP Juan Oramas (non-tendered and re-signed)

Acquired: RHP Wilfredo Boscan from Rangers as player to be named for RHP Cory Burns

Traded: 1B Vince Belnome to Rays for LHP Chris Rearick

San Francisco Giants

Signed: RHP Chad Gaudin, RHP Shane Loux, RHP Jon Meloan, RHP Ryan Sadowski (Lotte (Korea)), SS Wilson Valdez, OF Javier Herrera (Southern Illinois (Frontier))

A former top prospect with the Athletics, **Javier Herrera** has had a huge winter in the Venezuelan League, batting .407/.455/.780 with seven homers in 18 games for La Guaira, where he's teammates with Giants players Gregor Blanco and Hector Sanchez. The 27-year-old Herrera flamed out in the A's system, falling prey to injuries and a drug suspension, and earned his release in May '09. He bounced around independent ball in '12.

Seattle Mariners

Released: RHP Tim Boyce, RHP Ivan Julio, RHP Junior Nunez, RHP Zach Sterling, 3B Luis Matias

Tampa Bay Rays

Traded: RHP Wade Davis, RHP James Shields and a player to be named to Royals for RHP Jake Odorizzi, LHP Mike Montgomery, 3B Patrick Leonard and OF Wil Myers

Traded: LHP Chris Rearick to Padres for 1B Vince Belnome

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Jake Brigham (non-tendered and re-signed), RHP Jocer Martinez (released by White Sox, Oct. '09), RHP Evan Meek, RHP Randy Wells, 2B Yangervis Solarte (re-signed), OF Chih-Hsien Chiang

Traded: 3B Michael Young and cash to Phillies for RHP Lisalberto Bonilla and RHP Josh Lindblom

Acquired: RHP Wilfredo Boscan to Padres as player to be named for RHP Cory Burns

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Buddy Carlyle, RHP Chorye Spoone (re-signed), RHP Rich Thompson, RHP Claudio Vargas, LHP Juan Perez, LHP Greg Smith, 1B Luis Jimenez, OF Eugenio Velez

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Tyler Herron (Fargo-Moorhead (American Association)), RHP Paterson Segura, LHP Francis Castro, 3B Neivy Piliier

Neivy Piliier, who signed for \$225,000, has a quick bat and a strong arm at third base, while Paterson Segura tops out at 92 mph and offers advanced pitchability for his age, according to the website for the Dominican Prospect League.

Minor League Transactions: Nov. 27-Dec. 6

Arizona Diamondbacks

Rule 5 selection: OF Ender Inciarte (MLB, Phillies)

Atlanta Braves

Signed: C Matt Pagnozzi, 2B Blake DeWitt

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Adam Russell, C Jose Gil, C Jim Vahalik (Washington (Frontier)), 2B Shawn Roof, OF Conor Jackson, OF Buddy Sosenoskie (Fargo-Moorhead (American Association))

Traded: RHP Jhondaniel Medina to Pirates for 2B Yamaico Navarro

Rule 5 selection: OF Robbie Widlansky (AAA, Angels)

Boston Red Sox

Signed: RHP Anthony Carter (non-tender by White Sox), RHP Oscar Villarreal, C Alberto Rosario

Traded: RHP Zach Stewart to Pirates for a player to be named

Traded: 2B Jeff Kobernus (Rule 5 pick) to Tigers for OF Justin Henry

Rule 5 selections: RHP Josh Fields (MLB, Astros), RHP Ryan Pressly (MLB, Twins)

For the second year in a row, the Red Sox immediately traded their major league Rule 5 pick for a player whom they can keep in the minors with no strings attached. This time they selected Nationals Double-A second baseman Jeff Kobernus and then traded him to the Tigers for **Justin Henry**, a center fielder/third baseman/second baseman who can really run (double-plus grades) and defend in the outfield. The 27-year-old hit .300/.372/.357 with 22 steals in 376 at-bats for Triple-A Toledo. Last year, Boston took Triple-A shortstop Marwin Gonzalez from the Cubs and flipped him to the Astros for righthander Marco Duarte, who struck out 7.5 and walked 3.6 per nine innings across two levels as a reliever for the Red Sox this season.

Chicago Cubs

Removed from 40-man: RHP Casey Coleman (outrighted to Triple-A)

Rule 5 selections: RHP Alvido Jimenez (AAA, Blue Jays), RHP Starling Peralta (MLB, Diamondbacks), 3B Matt Cerda (AAA, Cardinals), OF Michael Burgess (AAA, Astros)

Chicago White Sox

Rule 5 selection: RHP Jon Bachanov (AAA, Red Sox)

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: SS Kris Negron (non-tendered and re-signed), OF Denis Phipps (non-tendered and re-signed)

Rule 5 selection: 3B Marquez Smith (AAA, Rangers)

The Reds had signed **Marquez Smith** as a minor league free agent in November.

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Kota Kobayashi

Rule 5 selections: RHP Hector Rondon (MLB, Cubs), LHP T.J. McFarland (MLB, Orioles)

Cleveland signed 21-year-old Japanese righty reliever **Kota Kobayashi**, who played in the minors for the Yokohama organization for three seasons. The Bay Stars drafted him out of high school in '09 and released him in November.

Colorado Rockies

Traded: RHP Alex Gillingham and RHP Alex White to Astros for RHP Wilton Lopez and a player to be named

Rule 5 selection: RHP Coty Woods (MLB, Rangers)

Detroit Tigers

Signed: RHP Trevor Bell, 1B John Lindsey (re-signed), 3B Matt Tuiasosopo

Traded: OF Justin Henry to Red Sox for 2B Jeff Kobernus (Rule 5 pick)

Rule 5 selections: LHP Efrain Nieves (AAA, Blue Jays), LHP Jay Voss (AAA, Cardinals)

A righty hitter, **Kobernus** showed a wide platoon split with Double-A Harrisburg this season, batting .319/.376/.352 versus lefties but putting up a meager .631 OPS against righties. The Tigers are most interested in his 42 stolen bases, most likely. Lobstein also had split issues in Double-A, showing strong strikeout potential against lefty batters (29 percent whiffs) and good control (8 percent walks) as a starter for Montgomery. That ratio could widen in a relief role if the Tigers go that route.

Houston Astros

Traded: RHP Wilton Lopez and a player to be named to Rockies for RHP Alex Gillingham and RHP Alex White

Kansas City Royals

Traded: RHP Vin Mazzaro and 1B Clint Robinson to Pirates for RHP Luis Santos and LHP Luis Rico

Elected free agency: RHP Chris Volstad

Removed from 40-man: RHP Chris Volstad, LHP Ryan Verdugo, C Adam Moore (all players outrighted to Triple-A)

Rule 5 selections: RHP Federico Castaneda (AAA, Padres), RHP Ethan Hollingsworth (AAA, Pirates), LHP Ryan Dennick (AAA, Reds), LHP Brendan Lafferty (AAA, Phillies), 2B Diego Goris (AAA, Padres)

Los Angeles Angels

Rule 5 selections: LHP Tyler Kehrner (AAA, Marlins), SS Angel Sanchez (MLB, White Sox)

With the free agent departure of utilityman Maicer Izturis this offseason, the Angels made shortstop **Angel Sanchez** a priority on the minor league free agent market. They signed him to a minor league deal just as the World Series wound down, but now Sanchez will go to spring training as a Rule 5 pick with the White Sox, who apparently had similar designs.

Los Angeles Dodgers

Rule 5 selection: OF Alfredo Silverio (MLB, Marlins)

Miami Marlins

Signed: LHP Zach Phillips, OF Jordan Brown

Traded: SS Yunel Escobar to Rays for 2B Derek Dietrich

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: RHP Chris Jakubauskas, SS Hainley Statia (re-signed)

Traded: OF Raul Mondesi Jr. to Rays for RHP Burke Badenhop

Rule 5 selection: 2B Eric Farris (AAA, Mariners)

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Lester Oliveros (non-tendered and re-signed), LHP Jason Lane (Sugar Land (Atlantic))

Traded: OF Denard Span to Nationals for RHP Alex Meyer

Removed from 40-man: RHP Deolis Guerra (outrighted to Triple-A)

Rule 5 selection: RHP Tom Boleska (AAA, Orioles)

*[The 23-year-old **Deolis Guerra** was signed by the Mets out of Venezuela in 2005 as one of the that year top international prospects; prior the 2008 season, he was traded with Philip Humber, Kevin Mulvey and Carlos Gomez to Twins for Johan Santana. The righty was ranked #35 best prospect in baseball and #2 Mets prospect in 2008 by mlb.com. Guerra simply hasn't performed in the upper minors (reached AAA) as requested by his prospect label: he owns an overall record of 46-57-2 with a 4.87 ERA & 1.40 WHIP in 7 pro seasons. Guerra is out of options and eligible to become a minor league free agent after the 2013 season]*

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP David Herndon (re-signed)

Oakland Athletics

Signed: 3B Scott Moore, OF D'Arby Myers

Traded: RHP Zach Thornton to Pirates for RHP Chris Resop

Rule 5 selections: SS Michael Gilmartin (AAA, Reds), OF Eliezer Mesa (AAA, Tigers)

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Zach Miner, LHP Cesar Jimenez, C Humberto Quintero

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: LHP Philippe Valiquette, LHP Mike Zagurski

Acquired: RHP Zach Stewart from Red Sox for a player to be named

Traded: RHP Luis Santos and LHP Luis Rico to Royals for RHP Vin Mazzaro and 1B Clint Robinson

Traded: 2B Yamaico Navarro to Orioles for RHP Jhondaniel Medina

Traded: RHP Chris Resop to Athletics for RHP Zach Thornton

Removed from 40-man: 1B Matt Hague (outrighted to Triple-A)

Rule 5 selection: 3B Elevys Gonzalez (AAA, Dodgers)

St. Louis Cardinals

Signed: OF Justin Christian

Rule 5 selection: 1B Steve Hill (AAA, Athletics)

San Diego Padres

Signed: RHP Daniel Stange (re-signed), LHP Jeremy Gould

Rule 5 selections: 1B Nate Freiman (MLB, Astros), OF Sawyer Carroll (AAA, Blue Jays)

San Francisco Giants

Signed: LHP Carlos Teller

Rule 5 selection: RHP Cameron Lamb (AAA, Astros)

Released by the Pirates in March '09, lefty **Carlos Teller** hasn't pitched in affiliated ball in three years, though he has made winter-ball appearances in Mexico in '10 and Venezuela in '11. The Giants signed him on the heels of his showing

with Nicaragua in the World Baseball Classic qualifier, in which Teller worked one inning, allowing one hit and striking out one.

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Will Inman, OF Jason Bourgeois, OF Nick Weglarz

Traded: RHP Burke Badenhop to Brewers for OF Raul Mondesi Jr.

Traded: 2B Derek Dietrich to Marlins for SS Yunel Escobar

Rule 5 selections: RHP Scott Shuman (AAA, Giants), LHP Braulio Lara (MLB, Marlins), LHP Kyle Lobstein (MLB, Mets)

The Rays got raided for three of the most interesting arms taken in the Rule 5 draft, the dark horse being Double-A righty reliever **Scott Shuman**. Despite a 8.83 ERA and 2.28 WHIP, he could have some utility as a situational reliever—and he comes with no strings attached as a minor league selection. Shuman bumped 95 mph and induced righties to chase an often effective slider. They hit .224/.388/.329 in 98 matchups, striking out 36 percent of the time (but also walking 21 percent of the time). If there's any organization that can fix him, it's the Giants.

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Collin Balester

Rule 5 selections: 1B Chris McGuiness (MLB, Indians), 3B Tommy Mendonca (AAA, Athletics)

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Alberto Guzman, RHP Yonardo Herdenez

Elected free agency: RHP Cory Wade

Removed from 40-man: RHP Joel Carreno, RHP Cory Wade, 2B Mike McCoy (all players outrighted to Triple-A)

Rule 5 selection: 3B Mark Sobolewski (AAA, Twins)

Washington Nationals

Signed: LHP Bobby Bramhall, LHP Bill Bray

Traded: RHP Alex Meyer to Twins for OF Denard Span

Rule 5 selections: RHP Hector Nelo (AAA, Dodgers), LHP Jack McGeary (AAA, Red Sox), LHP Danny Rosenbaum (MLB, Rockies), 2B Jeff Kobernus (MLB, Red Sox)

Minor League Transactions: Nov. 20-26

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: RHP Robert Coe (St. Paul (American Association)), RHP Chris Cox (Quebec (Can-Am)), 1B Mark Teahen, 3B Ryan Stovall (Fargo-Moorhead (American Association))

Atlanta Braves

Signed: RHP Reinier Roll

[Roll defected from Cuba in 2009. He pitched for the Industriales Habana in the Cuban Serie Nacional]

Baltimore Orioles

Added to 40-man roster: LHP Mike Belfiore, 2B Jonathan Schoop

Removed from 40-man: RHP Oliver Drake (outrighted to Triple-A)

Boston Red Sox

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Allen Webster, RHP Alex Wilson, RHP Steve Wright, C Dan Butler, C Christian Vazquez, OF Alex Hassan

Removed from 40-man: 2B Ivan De Jesus Jr. (outrighted to Triple-A)

Chicago Cubs

Traded: RHP Jake Brigham to Rangers for RHP Barret Loux and a player to be named

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Trey McNutt, RHP Robert Whitenack, 2B Logan Watkins, 3B Christian Villanueva

Removed from 40-man: RHP Carlos Gutierrez (outrighted to Triple-A)

Chicago White Sox

Signed: LHP Trevor Reckling, OF Cyle Hankerd (re-signed)

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Charlie Shirek

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Jose Diaz, LHP Wilkin de la Rosa (re-signed), LHP Lee Hyde

Cleveland Indians

Elected free agency: OF Brent Lillibridge

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Trey Haley, RHP Chen Lee, LHP T.J. House, OF Tim Fedroff

Removed from 40-man: RHP Fabio Martinez, 1B Matt LaPorta, OF Brent Lillibridge (all players outrighted to Triple-A)

Colorado Rockies

Elected free agency: OF Andrew Brown

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Joe Gardner, SS Cristhian Adames, OF Tim Wheeler

Removed from 40-man: 1B Matt McBride, OF Andrew Brown (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

Detroit Tigers

Signed: RHP Shane Dyer, RHP Jess Todd, 3B Kevin Russo

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Melvin Mercedes, RHP Bruce Rondon, SS Dixon Machado

Removed from 40-man: RHP Tyler Stohr (outrighted to Triple-A)

Houston Astros

Signed: RHP Edgar Gonzalez (re-signed), RHP Jose Valdez (re-signed), LHP Sergio Escalona (re-signed), OF Trevor Crowe

Elected free agency: 3B Scott Moore

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Jose Cisnero, RHP Jarred Cosart, RHP Chia-Jen Lo, RHP Ross Seaton, LHP Brett Oberholtzer, SS Jonathan Villar, OF Robbie Grossman

Removed from 40-man: 3B Scott Moore (outrighted to Triple-A)

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Darwin Polanco, LHP Estarling Cordero, LHP Jose Jimenez, SS Luis Valenzuela

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Juan Gutierrez, LHP Chris Dwyer, LHP Donnie Joseph, LHP John Lamb, LHP Justin Marks, LHP Mike Montgomery

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Jarrett Grube (re-signed), RHP Brandon Hynick, 3B Brendan Harris, OF Matt Young

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Ryan Brasier, LHP Brandon Sisk, OF Travis Witherspoon

Los Angeles Dodgers

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Steve Ames, RHP Matt Magill

Miami Marlins

Added to 40-man roster: LHP Edgar Olmos, C Kyle Skipworth, OF Kyle Jensen, OF Marcell Ozuna

Minnesota Twins

Signed: 1B Jeff Clement

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Kyle Gibson, RHP B.J. Hermsen, RHP Mike Tonkin, RHP Tim Wood, LHP Caleb Thielbar, C Josmil Pinto, SS Danny Santana, OF Aaron Hicks

New York Mets

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Greg Burke, RHP Gonzalez Germen, RHP Hansel Robles, RHP Zack Wheeler, LHP Darin Gorski, SS Wilfredo Tovar

New York Yankees

Elected free agency: RHP David Herndon

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Brett Marshall, RHP Jose Ramirez, LHP Manny Banuelos, LHP Francisco Rondon, LHP Nik Turley, OF Ramon Flores

Removed from 40-man: RHP David Herndon (outrighted to Triple-A)

Oakland Athletics

Signed: RHP Kyler Newby

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Arnold Leon, RHP Michael Ynoa, OF Grant Green, OF Shane Peterson

Removed from 40-man: RHP Andrew Carignan (outrighted to Triple-A)

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Brandon Erbe

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Ethan Martin, RHP Trevor May, RHP Jon Pettibone, OF Zach Collier

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: RHP David Bromberg, RHP Erik Cordier

Released: RHP Aneudy Merejo, LHP Justin Ennis, 2B Jorge Bishop

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Vic Black, RHP Phil Irwin, RHP Hunter Strickland, C Ramon Cabrera, C Tony Sanchez

St. Louis Cardinals

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Michael Blazek, RHP Keith Butler, RHP Eric Fornataro, LHP Kevin Siegrist

San Diego Padres

Released: RHP Daniel Sarria

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Adys Portillo, OF Yeison Asencio, OF Jaff Decker

*[Signed by the Padres as a non-drafted free agent out of Venezuela on July 2, 2008 (\$2M signing bonus), **Portillo** was named the Padres' #18 prospect by MLB.com entering the 2012 season. Rated as having the best fastball in the Padres organization by Baseball America following the 2011 season, Portillo pitched well at A level in 2012 (6-6, 1.87 ERA in 18 starts, earning All-Star selection), before being hit hard at San Antonio/AA, where he finished his season with a 2-5 record, 7.20 ERA in 8 starts]*

San Francisco Giants

Signed: C Tyler LaTorre (re-signed), C Guillermo Quiroz

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Jake Dunning, RHP Chris Heston, LHP Edwin Escobar, SS Nick Noonan, OF Juan Perez

*[**LaTorre** (29) is on the Italy's provisional roster for the upcoming World Baseball Classic. He was signed by the Giants as a NDFA out of University of Cal-Davis in 2006 and became a Milb free agent after the 2012 season. He played at Fresno/AAA the last two seasons; owns a career .247/.345/.347 in 349 games]*

Seattle Mariners

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Brandon Maurer, LHP Anthony Fernandez, LHP Bobby LaFromboise, 3B Vinnie Catricala, OF Julio Morban

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: 2B Mike Fontenot, OF Rich Thompson (re-signed)

Added to 40-man roster: LHP Felipe Rivero, LHP Enny Romero, 2B Tim Beckham, SS Hak-Ju Lee

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Johan Yan (re-signed)

Traded: RHP Barret Loux and a player to be named to Cubs for RHP Jake Brigham

Toronto Blue Jays

Added to 40-man roster: C A.J. Jimenez, SS Ryan Goins

Washington Nationals

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Erik Davis, RHP Nate Karns

Minor League Transactions: Nov. 13-19

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: LHP Rommie Lewis (Bridgeport (Atlantic)), 1B Kila Ka'aihue

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Chase Anderson, RHP Charles Brewer, RHP Eric Smith, LHP Eury de la Rosa, OF Keon Broxton

Atlanta Braves

Signed: RHP James Hoyt (Tabasco (Mexican)), RHP Jonathan Santiago, LHP Dusty Hughes (re-signed), C Shawn McGill (re-signed)

Released: RHP Kevin McKague, LHP Matt Fouch, LHP Elvin Garcia, LHP Mike Hashem, C Ryan Query, 1B Mike Spina, 2B Luis Madrid, 3B Angel Vargas, OF Emmanuel Daniel, OF Kurt Fleming

Added to 40-man roster: RHP David Hale, RHP Aaron Northcraft, RHP Cory Rasmus, RHP Zeke Spruill, C Christian Bethancourt

Righthanded reliever **James Hoyt** pitched for Centenary College (La.) in '10, joined the independent North American League for the '11 season and then latched on with the indy American Association and Mexican League this year. The 26-year-old has shown swing-and-miss stuff for four different pro teams—Yuma, Edinburg, Wichita and Tabasco—striking out 104 batters over 78 relief innings. Of course, he's also walked 5.3 batters per nine innings in that time.

Among the released players are a pair of former Army pitchers: **Kevin McKague**, a 23rd-round righty drafted this year, and lefty **Matt Fouch**, who had been on baseball's military list since July '10.

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Daniel McCutchen, LHP Dan Meyer (Long Island (Atlantic)), OF Lew Ford (re-signed)

Boston Red Sox

Released: RHP Mike Gleason, RHP Jadd Schmeltzer, OF Seth Schwindenhammer

Chicago Cubs

Signed: C J.C. Boscan, SS Alberto Gonzalez, OF Brian Bogusevic, OF Johermyn Chavez

Chicago White Sox

Signed: LHP David Purcey, C Bryan Anderson, SS Steve Tolleson, OF John Shelby III (Gateway (Frontier))

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Andre Rienzo, LHP Santos Rodriguez, C Josh Phegley, OF Jared Mitchell

*[**Rienzo** (24) was signed by Chicago out of Brazil in 2009. Last season, he pitched between A adv & AA levels with a game at AAA-Charlotte. In four pro seasons he registered a very good 9.72/SO9, to go along with a 3.34 ERA & 1.30 WHIP. Rienzo is on the Brazil provisional roster for the 2013 World Baseball Classic. "The Brazilian prospect's stock took a hit when he had to sit out to serve a 50-game suspension for testing positive for performance-enhancing drugs. That happened after four starts in the Carolina League, but he did come back and went straight to Double-A. Rienzo has a ton of arm strength with an excellent fastball that has above-average movement. He's struggled with command of his secondary stuff in the past, but if he continues to develop with the suspension behind him, Rienzo has the chance to be one of the more intriguing arms in the system. *Mlb.com* ranked him #18 WS prospect after 2012 season" (source: *mlb.com*)]*

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Jeff Stevens, C Nevin Ashley, 2B Emmanuel Burriss

Released: OF Yordanys Perez

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Carlos Contreras, RHP Daniel Corcino, RHP Curtis Partch, RHP Josh Ravin, LHP Ismael Guillon, OF Yorman Rodriguez

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Jose Flores (re-signed), 2B Nate Spears, OF Matt Carson, OF Cedric Hunter

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Jeff Manship

Detroit Tigers

Signed: C Brad Davis (re-signed)

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Brian Sanches, LHP Atahualpa Severino

Elected free agency: OF Jason Bourgeois

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Billy Buckner, LHP Jo-Jo Reyes, LHP Mitch Stetter, C Luke Carlin, OF Trent Oeltjen, OF J.B. Shuck

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Juan Abreu, RHP Hector Correa, RHP Greg Infante, LHP Kelvin de la Cruz, LHP Thomas Melgarejo, C Wilkin Castillo, 1B Nick Evans, 3B C.J. Retherford (re-signed), SS Miguel Rojas

Miami Marlins

Released: RHP Eduardo Jorge

Traded: RHP Josh Johnson, LHP Mark Buehrle, C John Buck, SS Jose Reyes, OF Emilio Bonifacio and cash to Blue Jays for RHP Henderson Alvarez, RHP Anthony DeSclafani, LHP Justin Nicolino, C Jeff Mathis, SS Yunel Escobar, SS Adeiny Hechavarria and OF Jake Marisnick

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: RHP Frankie de la Cruz, LHP Zach Kroenke, C Blake Lalli

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Nick Bucci, RHP Hiram Burgos, 2B Scooter Gennett, OF Khris Davis, OF Josh Prince

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Tim Wood, SS James Beresford (re-signed)

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Wanel Mesa (Bridgeport (Atlantic)), RHP Carlos Torres, LHP Scott Rice, SS Brian Bixler, OF Jamie Hoffmann

Oakland Athletics

Signed: LHP Justin Thomas, SS Darwin Perez

Traded: RHP Tyson Ross and 1B A.J. Kirby-Jones to Padres for LHP Andrew Werner and SS Andy Parrino

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: 3B Josh Fields

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: RHP Brooks Brown, RHP Luis Sanz, 3B Alex Valdez (Carmen (Mexican)), OF Felix Pie

San Diego Padres

Traded: LHP Andrew Werner and SS Andy Parrino to Athletics for RHP Tyson Ross and 1B A.J. Kirby-Jones

San Francisco Giants

Signed: RHP Fabio Castillo, RHP Eric Hacker (re-signed), RHP Willy Lebron

Seattle Mariners

Signed: C Jesus Sucre (re-signed)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Matt Buschmann (re-signed)

Released: LHP David Newmann

Texas Rangers

Added to 40-man roster: LHP Joe Ortiz, 2B Leury Garcia

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Ronald Uviedo (re-signed), RHP Neil Wagner, LHP Willie Collazo (re-signed), LHP Alex Hinshaw, 2B Jim Negrych, 2B Julio Izturis, OF Ricardo Nanita (re-signed)

Traded: RHP Henderson Alvarez, RHP Anthony DeSclafani, LHP Justin Nicolino, C Jeff Mathis, SS Yunel Escobar, SS Adeiny Hechavarria and OF Jake Marisnick to Marlins for RHP Josh Johnson, LHP Mark Buehrle, C John Buck, SS Jose Reyes, OF Emilio Bonifacio and cash

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Caleb Clay, RHP Randy Consuegra, RHP Deibi Yrizarri, LHP Fernando Abad

The Nationals signed **Randy Consuegra** following his stint with the Colombian team in the World Baseball Classic qualifier, where he struck out the only batter he faced. Released by the Red Sox in January '11, he hasn't played affiliated ball the past two seasons. Washington previously plucked a quality relief arm out of an international tournament when they signed Mexican righty Rafael Martin in February '10 on the heels of his fine performance (4 strikeouts, one hit, no runs in 2 1/3 innings) in the '09 Caribbean Series.

Minor League Transactions: Nov. 6-12**Arizona Diamondbacks**

Signed: RHP Eddie Bonine, RHP Garrett Mock, OF Brad Snyder

Released: LHP Mike Hampton

Mike Hampton made 14 appearances in the Diamondbacks organization in '10, but he had been voluntarily retired since March '11. [*Hampton will serve as pitching coach for the Angels' Double-A Arkansas club next season, a hiring that required his release from Arizona.*]

Atlanta Braves

Signed: RHP Wilmi Francisco

Chicago Cubs

Signed: RHP Blake Parker (re-signed)

Released: 1B Rebel Ridling

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Ramon Troncoso

Traded: RHP Brandon Kloess to Padres for OF Blake Tekotte

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: 1B Mike Hessman, 3B Marquez Smith

Released: OF Wilfrel Estevez

Elected free agency: SS Wilson Valdez

Removed from 40-man: SS Wilson Valdez (outrighted to Triple-A)

Veteran minor league slugger **Mike Hessman** mashed 35 home runs for Triple-A Oklahoma City in '12, running his total in the domestic minors to 364. He also has 14 in the big leagues and six in Japan.

Detroit Tigers

Signed: LHP Jose Alvarez

Kansas City Royals

Signed: C Manny Pina (re-signed), 1B Ian Gac, 3B Brandon Wood, OF Luis Durango, OF Jose Mogollon

Released: OF Ysmelin Alcantara

Removed from 40-man: OF Jason Bourgeois (outrighted to Triple-A)

The Rockies deployed **Brandon Wood** as a utility infielder at Triple-A Colorado Springs this season—43 games at third, 17 at short, 22 at second—though the three-time Angels No. 1 prospect hit just .259/.313/.409 with 10 homers in favorable hitting conditions. He's entering his age-28 season, so a big league breakthrough still is possible.

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Jordan Smith, 2B Chris Valaika, 3B Kevin Kouzmanoff

Minnesota Twins

Signed: C Eric Fryer, SS Jason Christian

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Greg Burke, C Mike Nickeas (re-signed)

Released: C Tony Piazza

An '03 12th-rounder, Tony Piazza had been on the restricted list since spring training '07.

Oakland Athletics

Signed: C Luke Montz

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: RHP Ryan Reid, 1B Jeff Larish (re-signed), 3B Jared Goedert, OF Darren Ford

St. Louis Cardinals

Signed: C Rob Johnson

San Diego Padres

Signed: C Eddy Rodriguez (re-signed)

Traded: OF Blake Tekotte to White Sox for RHP Brandon Kloess

Signed by the White Sox out of the Frontier League in June '09, **Kloess** sinks the ball at 90-92 mph and throws strikes, and if everything breaks right he could pick up middle-relief innings in San Diego. Still, that's not a bad return for the designated-for-assignment Blake Tekotte.

San Francisco Giants

Elected free agency: 2B Emmanuel Burriss

Assigned to Arizona Fall League: LHP Ryan Bradley

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Yonata Ortega, RHP Zach Simons, LHP Scott Olsen, C Juan Apodaca, OF Jim Adduci, OF Aaron Cunningham

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Justin Germano, RHP Bobby Korecky (re-signed)

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Yefri Pena, 2B Will Rhymes, SS Leudys Baez, OF Ray Kruml

Minor League Transactions: Nov. 1-5

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: C Tuffy Gosewisch

Elected free agency: LHP Mike Zagurski

Removed from 40-man: LHP Mike Zagurski, 3B Josh Bell (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

Atlanta Braves

Signed: 1B Chris Garcia (re-signed)

Elected free agency: C J.C. Boscan

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Juan Jaime, 1B Ernesto Mejia

Removed from 40-man: LHP Robert Fish, C J.C. Boscan (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

Credit the Braves pro scouting department with finding power reliever **Juan Jaime** and power-hitting first baseman **Ernesto Mejia**, both of whom signed minor league contracts with the organization and eventually worked their way onto the 40-man roster. The 25-year-old **Jaime** missed all of '10 and '11 after having Tommy John surgery, earning his release from the Diamondbacks, but he proved healthy and effective with high Class A Lynchburg this season, ranking among the Carolina League leaders with 42 appearances and 18 saves while striking out 73 in 51 innings. He touches 98 mph but lacks feel for a fringy slider and changeup, but if he continues to miss bats and limit baserunners he might have a big league future. **Mejia** originally signed with the Braves out of Venezuela in July '02—he spent the '10 season in the Royals system—but he didn't garner much prospect buzz until this season when International League managers voted him the Triple-A circuit's top power prospect. The 26-year-old batted .296/.347/.502 with 24 homers for Gwinnett, leading the IL with 92 RBIs, 152 hits and 258 total bases. In an era where even corner power can be difficult (or prohibitively expensive) to acquire, Mejia has it in spades.

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Eric Beaulac (re-signed), C Zach Booker (re-signed), C Joel Polanco (re-signed), C Chris Robinson (re-signed), C Scott Thomas (re-signed)

Removed from 40-man: LHP Zach Phillips, SS Steve Tolleson, OF Lew Ford (all players outrighted to Triple-A)

Boston Red Sox

Signed: OF Mitch Maier (elected free agency from Royals)

Chicago Cubs

Signed: LHP Kyler Burke (re-signed), 3B Jonathan Mota (re-signed)

Chicago White Sox

Traded: OF Kenny Williams Jr. to Rockies for 1B Mark Tracy

In a minor trade with major league implications, the White Sox dealt Double-A outfielder **Kenny Williams Jr.**, the son of team president and former GM Ken, to the Rockies for high Class A first baseman **Mark Tracy**, the son of former manager Jim.

Cincinnati Reds

Released: RHP Dan Jensen, RHP Josh Judy, LHP Chris Joyce, 2B James Ewing, OF Brayan Arias, OF Spencer Dickinson

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Hector Rondon (re-signed)

Elected free agency: RHP Kevin Slowey, OF Vinny Rottino

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Leuris Gomez (re-signed), RHP Michael Marbry (re-signed), OF Blake Gailen (Lancaster (Atlantic))

Traded: 1B Mark Tracy to White Sox for OF Kenny Williams Jr.

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Josh Sullivan

Removed from 40-man: RHP Carlos Torres (outrighted to Triple-A)

Assigned to Arizona Fall League: RHP Michael Marbry

Josh Sullivan earned a place on the 40-man with a combination of good stuff—a mid-90s sinker, solid slider—and strong results with Double-A Tulsa. The 28-year-old struck out 63 in 62 innings and ranked among the Texas League leaders with 17 saves and 60 games.

Blake Gailen has played in five different independent leagues and appeared in 29 games for the Angels' Double-A Arkansas club in '11, but he accrued the most personal honors this season. He won Atlantic League MVP honors, the BA Independent Leagues Player of the Year award and earned a minor league deal with the Rockies.

Detroit Tigers

Signed: RHP Cesar Carrillo (re-signed), RHP David Kopp (re-signed), LHP Ramon Garcia (re-signed), LHP Efrain Nieves (re-signed), SS Argenis Diaz (re-signed), OF Marcus Lemon (re-signed)

Elected free agency: OF Don Kelly

Houston Astros

Released: RHP Yoiner Angulo, RHP Xavier Baso, RHP Blake Ford, RHP Juan Mojica, RHP Nate Pettus, RHP Brad Propst, RHP Rodney Quintero, LHP Ricardo Batista, LHP Steve Dennison, LHP Brad Dydalewicz, LHP Gabriel Garcia, LHP Kilby Pena, C Kenny Diaz, C Franny Polanco, 1B Kyle Redinger, 2B Matt Downs, 2B Neiko Johnson, 3B Jordan Kreke, SS Jimmy Howick, OF Emilio King, OF Jarrod McKinney, OF J.B. Shuck, OF Garen Wright

Removed from 40-man: RHP Jorge DeLeon, RHP Chuckie Fick, RHP Edgar Gonzalez, RHP Jose Valdez, RHP Kyle Weiland, LHP Fernando Abad, LHP Sergio Escalona, 2B Matt Downs, OF Brian Bogusevic, OF J.B. Shuck (all players outrighted to Triple-A)

Among those outrighted to Triple-A, Chuckie Fick and Kyle Weiland remain in the Astros organization, but six others appear on the list of minor league free agents published yesterday. Those free agents are righties Jorge De Leon, Edgar Gonzalez and Jose Valdez; lefties Fernando Abad and Sergio Escalona and outfielder Brian Bogusevic. Matt Downs and J.B. Shuck were granted their release. Houston's 40-man roster stands at 31 players and includes offseason waiver claims Sam Demel, Jake Elmore and Che-Hsuan Lin.

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Anthony Ortega (released by Angels Nov. '11), LHP Carlos Herrera, SS Sharlon Schoop (re-signed), OF Paulo Orlando (re-signed), OF Jose Angel Sanchez (Hawaii (North American))

Removed from 40-man: C Manny Pina (outrighted to Triple-A)

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Blake Johnson (re-signed), RHP Luis Vasquez (re-signed), LHP Geison Aguasviva (re-signed), OF Alfredo Silverio (re-signed)

Removed from 40-man: OF Alfredo Silverio (outrighted to Triple-A)

Miami Marlins

Reinstated from DL: 2B German Duran

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: RHP Jairo Asencio, C Anderson de la Rosa (re-signed)

Elected free agency: 1B Travis Ishikawa, OF Nyjer Morgan

Removed from 40-man: 1B Travis Ishikawa, OF Nyjer Morgan (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

The Brewers struck early to secure two of the best relievers available on the minor league free agent market. They signed righthanders **Jairo Asencio** (minor league deal) and Michael Olmsted (major league deal) hours after they were eligible to sign with new clubs. The Red Sox didn't have room to protect Olmsted on their 40-man roster, but he offers intriguing upside, having touched 97 mph in the Eastern League this season and striking out 31 in 20 innings for Double-A Portland this season while allowing no homers or earned runs.

[On 24th Jan. 2013, **Morgan** signed a \$1.5M plus incentives contract with the Yokohama BayStars of Japan Central League]

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Sam Deduno (re-signed after electing free agency), RHP Luis Perdomo (re-signed), RHP P.J. Walters (re-signed after electing free agency)

Elected free agency: RHP Sam Deduno

Removed from 40-man: RHP Sam Deduno (outrighted to Triple-A)

New York Mets

Removed from 40-man: C Mike Nickeas (outrighted to Triple-A)

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Juan Morillo (re-signed), 2B Michael Martinez (re-signed), SS Andres Blanco (re-signed)

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: C Wyatt Toregas (re-signed)

Removed from 40-man: C Ali Solis (outrighted to Triple-A)

St. Louis Cardinals

Removed from 40-man: RHP Adam Reifer, C Bryan Anderson, C Steve Hill (all players outrighted to Triple-A)

San Francisco Giants

Signed: RHP Boof Bonser (re-signed), RHP Omar Javier (Newark (Can-Am)), 1B Mark Minicozzi (re-signed)

Removed from 40-man: 2B Emmanuel Burriss (outrighted to Triple-A)

Seattle Mariners

Released: RHP Yao Wen Chang

Tampa Bay Rays

Added to 40-man roster: LHP Frank de los Santos

Signed out of the Dominican Republic in '06, **Frank de los Santos** reached Triple-A Durham for the first time this season and impressed with a three-pitch mix—firm low-90s fastball, quality slider and change—out of the bullpen. The 24-year-old worked in 27 games for the Bulls, notching 6.8 strikeouts and 2.7 walks per nine innings.

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Fernando Hernandez (re-signed), 2B Oliver Dominguez (re-signed), SS Amadeo Zazueta (re-signed)

Washington Nationals

Signed: C Kris Watts (re-signed), 1B Jimmy VanOstrand (re-signed)