

Minor League Transactions: March 20-27

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: OF Aaron Cunningham (released by Cubs, March 12), OF Trent Oeltjen

Released: RHP Brian Broderick, RHP Robert Coe, RHP Conrad Flynn, RHP Adam Russell, RHP Patrick Smith, LHP Luis Collazo, 1B Shelley Duncan, 2B Antonio Alvarez, SS Tommy Manzella, OF David Nick, OF Ryan Stovall

Traded: OF Keon Broxton to Pirates for cash

A fourth-round pick out of high school in 2009, **David Nick** reached Double-A Mobile in each of the past two seasons, batting a cumulative .241/.294/.339 in 144 games. With limited power or speed, however, and with a tumble down the defensive spectrum from prep shortstop to pro second baseman to, most recently, left fielder, he fell out of the organization's plans. *[Nick signed with Southern Illinois of the Frontier League after the release]*

Keon Broxton, a third-rounder from the same draft as Nick, also moves on from the Diamondbacks following his trade to the Pirates.

The Diamondbacks' roots in Australia run deep. Assistant to the general manager Craig Shipley was the first Aussie to debut in the majors during the 20th century; Ryan Rowland-Smith made the club's Opening Day roster as its 13th pitcher (and third lefty reliever); Arizona opened its 2014 season with two games in Australia; and now it has veteran minor league outfielder **Trent Oeltjen**, a 31-year-old, lefty-hitting Aussie with a career .484 slugging percentage at the Triple-A level.

Atlanta Braves

Released: RHP Freddy Garcia, RHP Wilson Rivera, RHP Clint Wright, LHP Robert Fish, 1B Robinson Arno, 2B Ross Heffley, 2B Omar Luna, OF Dan Brewer, OF Dustin Martin

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Juan Jaime, RHP Luis Vasquez, LHP Ryan Buchter, C Christian Bethancourt, 1B Ernesto Mejia, OF Jose Constanza, OF Todd Cunningham, OF Joey Terdoslavich

Optioned to Double-A: SS Elmer Reyes

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Brady Adamek (released by Cardinals, March 18), RHP Luis Ayala (released by Nationals, March 19), 1B Brett Wallace (released by Astros, March 12)

Released: RHP Eric Beaulac, RHP Sander Beck, RHP Juan Guzman, RHP Julio Rodriguez, RHP Zach Staniewicz, RHP Casey Upperman, RHP Luis Vizcaino, LHP Zach Fowler, LHP Steve Garrison, LHP Aaron Laffey, LHP Harry Marino, 1B Aaron Baker, 1B Nik Balog, 1B Matt LaPorta, 1B Connor Narron, 1B Henry Wrigley, OF Steve Bumbry, OF Jack Cust

Traded: SS Alex Gonzalez to Tigers for 2B Steve Lombardozzi

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Brad Brach, RHP Steve Johnson, 3B David Adams, OF Henry Urrutia

Designated for assignment: C Johnny Monell

Removed from 40-man: LHP Kelvin de la Cruz (outrighted to Triple-A)

The Orioles signed minor league free agent **Kelvin de la Cruz** to a major league contract last November, but because he was out of options, they had to run him through waivers to send him to Triple-A Norfolk, which is what they did.

Baltimore acquired **Aaron Baker** from the Pirates in the July 2011 trade in which they sent Derrek Lee to Pittsburgh.

A 2010 fifth-round pick, **Connor Narron** signed as a prep shortstop but in pro ball backslid offensively, hitting .211/.314/.293 in four seasons, and defensively, settling at first base at high Class A Frederick last year. The Orioles gave him \$650,000 to sign out of a North Carolina high school away from a commitment to North Carolina in 2010. It won't be officially reported until next week's transactions, but Narron has been picked up by the Brewers.

Boston Red Sox

Signed: LHP Rich Hill (re-signed under new terms)

Released: LHP Rich Hill (subsequently re-signed), LHP Jose Mijares, 1B Nathan Minnich

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Rubby de la Rosa, C Dan Butler, 2B Brock Holt

Chicago Cubs

Signed: LHP Tsuyoshi Wada (re-signed under new terms), C Nathan Maldonado (re-signed)

Released: RHP Paolo Espino, RHP Chang-Yong Lim, RHP Loiger Padron, RHP Orbandy Rodriguez, RHP Nick Struck, LHP Frank Del Valle, LHP Tsuyoshi Wada (subsequently re-signed), LHP Al Yevoli, C Wilfredo Petit, 2B Ryan Roberts, SS Walter Ibarra, SS Alex Sanchez, OF Jose Dore, OF Reggie Golden

Traded: 1B Trevor Gretzky to Angels for 1B Matt Scioscia

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Blake Parker, RHP Neil Ramirez

Right fielder **Reggie Golden** hit .236/.308/.390 in 139 pro games, but the Cubs expected much more from their 2010 second-rounder based on his bat speed and raw tools. Three times he ranked among the Cubs top 31 prospects, but he topped out at low Class A Kane County in the Chicago system last year.

*[After being cut, **Chang-Yong Lim** signed a one-year \$465K deal with the Korea champions' Samsung Lions]*

Chicago White Sox

Released: RHP Stew Brase, RHP Eric Jaffe, RHP Henry Mabee, RHP Kyle McMillen, RHP Tony Pena Jr., RHP Salvador Sanchez, RHP Steven Upchurch, LHP Ryan Bollinger, C Chris McMurray, C Angel Rosario, 2B Cody Puckett, 3B Eric Grabe, 3B Ben Kline, SS Jake Brown, OF Mark Haddow, OF Eric Patterson, OF Corey Thompson

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Jake Petricka, 3B Matt Davidson, OF Jordan Danks

Option transferred: RHP Nestor Molina, LHP Frank de los Santos (both players Triple-A to Double-A), OF Jared Mitchell (Double-A to Triple-A)

One of the two players acquired from the Rays for Jesse Crain last year, **Ben Kline** never actually suited up for a Chicago affiliate because he joined the organization in October as a player to be named.

Cincinnati Reds

Released: RHP Pat Doyle

Acquired: 3B Danny Mateo from Royals for cash

Danny Mateo had a down year at high Class A Wilmington in 2013, but the 21-year-old switch-hitter has a nice lefthanded swing and hit nine homers in a tough hitter's park last year.

Cleveland Indians

Signed: OF Jerad Head, OF Ollie Linton (released by D-backs, Aug. 30)

Released: RHP David Aardsma, RHP Martin Alcantara, RHP Danny Carela, RHP Aaron Harang, RHP Cody Penny, RHP Felix Sterling, LHP Geoff Davenport, LHP J.D. Reichenbach, OF Jeff Francoeur

Added to 40-man roster: SS Elliot Johnson

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Trevor Bauer, RHP C.C. Lee, RHP Josh Tomlin, SS Justin Sellers

Colorado Rockies

Signed: LHP Jon Keck (released by Royals, March 18)

Released: RHP Justin Berg, RHP Ryan Buch, RHP Bobby Cassevah, RHP Owen Dew, RHP Joe Gardner, RHP Steven Hensley, RHP Ben Hughes, RHP Patrick Johnson, RHP Mike McClendon, RHP Geoff Parker, LHP Ryan Kulik, C Allan de San Miguel, C Jose Gonzalez, C Victor Monteagudo, C Dallas Tarleton, 1B Joe Maloney, 1B Ben Waldrip, 2B Tyler Kuhn, 3B Matt Argyropoulos, SS Niuman Romero, OF Jaron Shepherd

Added to 40-man roster: C Michael McKenry

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Rob Scahill, C Michael McKenry, 3B Ryan Wheeler, SS Josh Rutledge

With the release of **Joe Gardner**, the Rockies have only one player remaining whom they acquired from the Indians for Ubaldo Jimenez in July 2011, and that player would be catcher/first baseman/right fielder Matt McBride. Colorado, however, did turn trade headliners Drew Pomeranz and Alex White, a pair of Cleveland first-rounders, into Brett Anderson and Wilton Lopez.

Detroit Tigers

Signed: OF J.D. Martinez (released by Astros, March 22)

Released: RHP Nick Carmichael, RHP Josh Carr, RHP Juan Falcon, RHP Drew Harrison, RHP Hudson Randall, RHP Hunter Scantling, LHP Joe Flattery, LHP Preston Jamison, LHP Wil Ledezma, LHP Alex Phillips, C Luis Sanz, 1B Andrew Allen, 2B Taylor Johnson, OF Jordan Allen, OF Zach Kirksey, OF Jake Stewart

Traded: 2B Steve Lombardozzi to Orioles for SS Alex Gonzalez

Added to 40-man roster: SS Alex Gonzalez

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Jose Ortega, LHP Kyle Lobstein, 2B Hernan Perez, SS Eugenio Suarez

Option transferred: SS Eugenio Suarez (Triple-A to Double-A)

Houston Astros

Released: RHP Alan Abreu, RHP Charles Basford, RHP Erick Gonzalez, RHP Peter Moylan, RHP Gera Sanchez, LHP Joe Bircher, LHP Kenny Long, C Ernesto Genoves, 1B Jesse Wierzbicki, 2B Brandon Wikoff, 3B Ryan Dineen, 3B Darwin Rivera, SS Cesar Izturis, OF J.D. Martinez

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Josh Zeid, LHP Darin Downs, 1B Jon Singleton

Option transferred: LHP Luis Cruz (Triple-A to Double-A)

The Astros acquired **Charles Basford** last June when they traded Fernando Martinez to the Yankees. F-Mart, the two-time Mets No. 1 prospect, became ensnared in the Biogenesis scandal last August and began serving a 50-game suspension. He's a free agent at this time.

Kansas City Royals

Released: RHP Kevin Allen, RHP Danny Hernandez, RHP Jon Rauch, LHP Clayton Schulz, C Alex Marquez, 1B Sam Bates, 1B Dennis Raben, OF Roman Hernandez, OF Yem Prades

Traded: C Adam Moore to Padres and 3B Danny Mateo to Reds for cash

Returned Rule 5 pick: LHP Patrick Schuster (to Diamondbacks)

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Danny Duffy, LHP Donnie Joseph, 2B Johnny Giavotella, OF Jimmy Paredes

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

Selected by the Astros with the No. 1 pick in last December's Rule 5 draft, then immediately sold to the Padres, then waived to the Royals this spring, **Patrick Schuster's** stay in Kansas City lasted just two days before the Royals returned him to the Diamondbacks. They claimed Schuster so they could perform a simultaneous 40-man roster move in which they designated Carlos Peguero for assignment.

Los Angeles Angels

Released: RHP Eric Cedejas, RHP Mike Cisco, RHP Ty Kelley, RHP Pat Lowery, RHP Gabriel Perez, RHP Mike Piazza, RHP Daniel Tillman, LHP Clay Rapada, C Brad Guenther, C Yorvit Torrealba, 1B Taylor Johnson, 1B Carlos Pena, 2B Nate Goro, 3B Chad Tracy, OF Joel Capote

Traded: 1B Matt Scioscia to Cubs for 1B Trevor Gretzky

Added to 40-man roster: SS John McDonald

Daniel Tillman once seemed like a solid relief prospect for the Angels, but the 2010 second-rounder struggled through an injury-plagued 2013 in which he logged a 1.42 WHIP and walk rate of 7.5 per nine innings in 24 relief appearances.

Los Angeles Dodgers

Released: RHP Edwin Carl

Optioned to Triple-A: C Tim Federowicz, 2B Alex Guerrero

Miami Marlins

Signed: OF Alonzo Harris (released by Mets, March 27)

Released: RHP Pete Andrelczyk, RHP Kelvin Castro, RHP Dane Stone, LHP Jose Gonzalez, LHP Chad James, C Tony Caldwell, 1B Ron Miller, 1B Ty Wigginton, 2B Luis Ortiz, 3B Taylor Terrasas

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Arquimedes Caminero, RHP Carter Capps, 2B Donovan Solano, OF Jake Marisnick

The 18th overall pick in the 2009 draft, **Chad James** went 2-6, 5.74 in 13 starts at low Class A Greensboro in 2013 after spending the previous two years in the high Class A Florida State League. His problems extended past the field—and the Marlins suspended him for a month in 2012, and he showed up to camp that year out of shape—and ultimately James did nothing to disrupt a run of top pitching picks by Miami gone bad. That list also includes Brett Sinkbeil (19th overall, 2006), Chris Volstad (16th, 2005), Taylor Tankersley (27th, 2004) and Jeff Allison (16th, 2003). Jose Fernandez (14th, 2011) and Andrew Heaney (ninth, 2012) could change that tide.

Milwaukee Brewers

Released: RHP Jono Arnold, RHP Eric Arnett, RHP Estevenson Encarnacion, RHP Scott Harkin, RHP Taylor Mangum, RHP Santo Manzanillo, RHP Eduard Reyes, LHP David Otterman, LHP Juan Santiago, LHP Taylor Wall, LHP Alan Williams, C Brent Dean, C Michael Turay, 1B Adam Giacalone, 1B Cody Hawn, 1B Jesse Weiss, 2B Renaldo Jenkins, 2B Joe Thurston, 3B Jalen Harris, 3B Mike Walker, OF Greg Golson, OF Charlie Markson, OF Ben McMahan, OF T.J. Mittelstaedt, OF Chad Stang

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Alfredo Figaro, RHP Rob Wooten, 2B Elian Herrera, OF Caleb Gindl

Regarding the release of 2009 first-rounder **Eric Arnett**, correspondent Tom Haudricourt quotes Brewers assistant GM Gord Ash as saying, "We were prepared to continue working with (Arnett), but he chose to move on."

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Matt Guerrier (re-signed under new terms)

Released: RHP Matt Guerrier (subsequently re-signed), RHP Matt Hauser, RHP Dakota Watts, OF Jermaine Mitchell

Traded: RHP Vance Worley to Pirates for cash

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Ryan Pressly, RHP Mike Tonkin, C Chris Herrmann

Removed from 40-man: RHP Vance Worley, OF Chris Parmelee (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Kyle Farnsworth (re-signed under new terms)

Released: RHP Marco Camarena, RHP Cristian Chivilli, RHP Kyle Farnsworth (subsequently re-signed), RHP Wanel Mesa, RHP Chris Schwinden, RHP Ernesto Yanez, LHP Mark Cohoon, LHP Shawn Teufel, LHP Jhonathan Torres, LHP David Wynn, 1B Chris Garcia, 2B Yucarybert de la Cruz, OF Joe Bonfe, OF Jonathan Clark, OF Alonzo Harris, OF Eris Peguero, OF James Roche

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Jose Valverde, LHP John Lannan

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Vic Black, 2B Wilmer Flores, 3B Zach Lutz, OF Matt den Dekker, OF Kirk Nieuwenhuis

New York Yankees

Released: RHP Kenedy Agramonte, RHP Zach Arneson, RHP Adam Smith, RHP Zach Varce, RHP Derek Varnadore, 3B Kevin Mahoney, OF Kelvin De Leon

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Preston Claiborne, C J.R. Murphy, C Austin Romine, OF Zoilo Almonte

Option transferred: RHP Bryan Mitchell (Triple-A to Double-A)

Left fielder **Kelvin De Leon** signed for \$1.1 million during the 2007 international signing period, a bonus amount that trailed only the \$1.5 million received by third baseman Michael Almanzar from the Red Sox. *[In six pro seasons, the 23-year-old hit a combined .236/.304/.371, topping at A Adv.]*

Oakland Athletics

Released: RHP Rony Acevedo, C Reynaldo Mateo

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Alex Leon, RHP Josh Lindblom, 1B Nate Freiman, OF Kent Matthes

Philadelphia Phillies

Released: RHP Zach Cooper, RHP Colby Shreve, RHP Mike Stutes, LHP Kyler Burke, LHP Nick Hernandez, C Justin Dalles, C Josh Ludy, C Bob Stumpo, 2B Sam Dove, 2B Jim Negrych, 3B Logan Pierce, SS Ronny Cedeno, OF Bobby Abreu

Elected free agency: 2B Kevin Frandsen

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Jonathan Pettibone, C Cameron Rupp

Removed from 40-man: 2B Kevin Frandsen (outrighted to Triple-A)

Pittsburgh Pirates

Released: RHP Axel Diaz, RHP Cesar Lopez, RHP Elvin Ramirez, RHP Kirk Singer, LHP Eliecer Navarro, C Erick Fernandez, OF Carlos Mesa

Acquired: RHP Vance Worley from Twins and OF Keon Broxton from Diamondbacks for cash

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Brandon Cumpton, RHP Jared Hughes, RHP Phil Irwin, 1B Chris McGuiness, 3B Brent Morel, OF Jaff Decker, OF Andrew Lambo

St. Louis Cardinals

Signed: RHP David Aardsma (released by Indians, March 21)

Released: 2B Colin Walsh, 3B Trevor Martin, SS Ronny Gil

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Sam Freeman, SS Greg Garcia, OF Randal Grichuk

Optioned to Double-A: SS Aledmys Diaz

Removed from 40-man: RHP Angel Castro, OF Joey Butler (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

The Cardinals signed minor league free agent **Angel Castro** to a major league deal last offseason, but after allowing seven runs in 2 2/3 innings this spring he lost his place on the 40-man roster.

San Diego Padres

Signed: OF Jeff Francoeur (released by Indians, March 22)

Released: RHP Vladimir de la Cruz, RHP Tyler Hale, LHP Zach Braddock, LHP Christian Miller, C Danny Masiello, 1B Miguel Jimenez, 2B Michael Bass, 2B Adam Ford, 2B Gabe Suarez, SS Anthony Torres, SS Brandon Wood

Acquired: C Adam Moore from Royals for cash

Optioned to Triple-A: SS Ryan Jackson, OF Alex Castellanos

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Jesse Hahn

San Francisco Giants

Released: RHP Kameron Loe

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Erik Cordier, RHP Jake Dunning, RHP Heath Hembree, RHP George Kontos

Seattle Mariners

Signed: C Humberto Quintero (re-signed under new terms), OF Endy Chavez (re-signed under new terms)

Released: RHP Scott Baker, RHP Ricky Claudio, RHP Matt Vedo, LHP Anthony Vasquez, LHP Tyler Wright, C Humberto Quintero (subsequently re-signed), 1B Taylor Ard, 1B Rich Poythress, OF Endy Chavez (subsequently re-signed), OF Alfredo Morales, OF Jesus Ugueto, OF James Zamarripa, OF Janelfry Zorrilla

Designated for assignment: LHP Bobby LaFromboise

Tampa Bay Rays

Released: RHP Marquis Fleming, RHP Nate Garcia, RHP Cory Jordan, RHP Mark Lowe, RHP Sergio Perez, RHP Trevor Shull, LHP Erik Bedard, LHP Ryan Carpenter, LHP Shay Crawford, LHP Rick Teasley, C Keith Castillo, C Adam Pendleton, 1B Travis Flores, OF Johnny Eierman, OF Erick Vasquez

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Brad Boxberger

The Rays released a pair of 2011 draft picks in third-round high school left fielder **Johnny Eierman** and seventh-round college lefty **Ryan Carpenter**. Eierman topped out at Rookie-level Princeton last year and hit .234/.298/.378 in 96 pro games in the Tampa Bay system. In his draft report, we wrote, "Eierman has well above-average bat speed to match his foot speed, though . . . he has a long righthanded stroke with an inconsistent load, and he's too aggressive at the plate."

Texas Rangers

Signed: C Chris Snyder (released by Nationals, March 24)

Released: RHP Eric Brooks, RHP Jose Contreras, RHP Armando Galarraga, RHP John Niggli, RHP Britt Robertshaw, RHP John Straka, OF Kalian Sams

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Neftali Feliz

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Roman Mendez

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Guillermo de la Cruz, RHP Shawn Hill

Released: RHP Javier Avendano, RHP Alvido Jimenez, RHP Tomo Ohka, LHP Deivy Estrada, LHP Juan Perez

Optioned to Triple-A: C Erik Kratz, OF Anthony Gose, OF Kevin Pillar

Washington Nationals

Released: RHP Martires Arias, RHP Clay Hensley, RHP Greg Holt, RHP Kelvin Perez, RHP Chris Young, LHP Mike Gonzalez, LHP Christian Meza, LHP Casey Selsor, C Chris Snyder, 2B Jamey Carroll, 2B Mike Fontenot, 2B Drew Rossi, 2B Taylor Wrenn, SS Kyle Attil, SS Francisco Soriano, OF Joe Dunigan, OF Wander Ramos

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Christian Garcia, RHP Ryan Mattheus, LHP Xavier Cedeno, C Jhonatan Solano, 2B Jeff Kobernus, SS Zach Walters, OF Tyler Moore

Optioned to Double-A: C Sandy Leon

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Arizona Diamondbacks

Released: RHP Matt Langwell, 2B John Leonard, 2B Randy McCurry, 2B Jorge Vega-Rosado, OF Yogey Perez-Ramos

Acquired: LHP Spencer Arroyo from White Sox for cash

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Joe Paterson

The Diamondbacks acquired **Matt Langwell** from the Indians last Sept. 1 as the player to be named in the August waiver trade of Jason Kubel. He made eight relief appearances for Arizona and five others with Cleveland, logging 12 strikeouts and a 1.43 WHIP in 14 total innings.

Atlanta Braves

Released: RHP Mike Volpe, LHP Thomas Keeling, 2B Marquis Riley

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Wirfin Obispo

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Aaron Northcraft, LHP Carlos Perez

Thomas Keeling joined the Braves organization last June in the deal that sent first baseman Juan Francisco to the Brewers. In 29 post-trade appearances at Double-A Mississippi, Keeling walked 28 batters and allowed five homers in 25 1/3 innings, producing a 5.68 ERA and 2.09 WHIP.

Baltimore Orioles

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Suk-Min Yoon, C Johnny Monell

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Dylan Bundy

Boston Red Sox

Signed: RHP Michael Olmsted (released by Brewers, March 10)

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Anthony Ranaudo, RHP Allen Webster, RHP Alex Wilson, C Christian Vazquez, 3B Garin Cecchini, OF Bryce Brentz, OF Alex Hassan

Chicago Cubs

Released: RHP Carlos Gutierrez, C Yaniel Cabezas, C Carlos Escobar, C Neftali Rosario, 1B Kelvin Freeman, 3B Greg Rohan, SS Brad Zepenas

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Dallas Beeler, RHP Arodys Vizcaino, LHP Zac Rosscup, 2B Arismendy Alcantara, 2B Logan Watkins, 3B Christian Villanueva, 3B Josh Vitters, OF Brett Jackson, OF Matt Szczur

Optioned to Double-A: OF Jorge Soler

The Cubs claimed **Carlos Gutierrez** on waivers from the Twins following the 2012 season, but they received just six appearances and 11 2/3 innings from him in 2013 before he had shoulder surgery in July. Minnesota selected Gutierrez 27th overall in 2008 but has not yet reached the majors, and while his strikeout rate spiked after permanently moving to the bullpen at Triple-A Rochester in 2011, he also hasn't been completely healthy since that season, either.

Chicago White Sox

Released: RHP Kyle Bellamy, RHP Dan Remenowsky, RHP Diogenes Rosario, LHP Gregg Downing, 1B Mike McDade, 1B Brent Tanner

Traded: LHP Spencer Arroyo to Diamondbacks for cash

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Nestor Molina, RHP Andre Rienzo, LHP Frank de los Santos, LHP Eric Surkamp, C Josh Phegley, SS Carlos Sanchez

Cincinnati Reds

Released: RHP Shaun Ellis, RHP Joey Housey, RHP Oswaldo Mieres, LHP Trevor Reckling, OF Willie Cabrera, OF Gauntlett Eldemire

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Curtis Partch, C Tucker Barnhart

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Bijelic Mena, RHP Adam Miller (Sugar Land (Atlantic)), RHP Yhon Ventura, SS Ismael Bautista (released by Royals, July 31)

Released: RHP Manuel Carmona, RHP Bryce Stowell, RHP Jack Wagoner, RHP Walker White, RHP Robert Whitenack, LHP Carlos Diaz, LHP Harold Guerrero, 3B Kyle Bellows

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Preston Guilmet, RHP Frank Herrmann, RHP Bryan Price, LHP Scott Barnes, LHP Nick Hagadone, LHP Colt Hynes, 3B David Adams

Adam Miller rejoins the organization for which he ranked as the No. 1 prospect each year from 2004-07. Since leaving the Indians system as a minor league free agent following the 2011 season, he has pitched in the Yankees system and also in two different independent leagues. Miller spent last year with Sugar Land of the Atlantic League, striking out 36 in 62 innings to go with a 4.79 ERA and 1.50 WHIP.

Colorado Rockies

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Christian Friedrich, 1B Kyle Parker, SS Cristhian Adames, OF Kent Matthes

Optioned to Double-A: LHP Kraig Sitton

Optioned to high Class A: RHP Raul Fernandez

Detroit Tigers

Signed: RHP Bryan Augenstein (released by Twins, May 30)

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Justin Miller, 1B Jordan Lennerton, OF Daniel Fields

Optioned to Double-A: 3B Francisco Martinez, OF Steven Moya

Houston Astros

Released: RHP Ryan Connolly, RHP Zach Dando, RHP Alex Gillingham, RHP Euris Quezada, LHP Kyle Hallock, LHP Blair Walters, 2B Parker Hipp, 3B Angel Ibanez, OF Jean Batista

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Jose Cisnero, RHP Chia-Jen Lo, RHP Collin McHugh, LHP Rudy Owens

Houston has emphasized volume when trading away veteran pieces the past few years, but two of the pitchers acquired in those deals took their lumps at high Class A Lancaster last year and will not be Astros this season. **Alex Gillingham**, a product of the Wilton Lopez deal with the Rockies (along with righty Alex White), made just three appearances for the JetHawks but allowed 16 hits and 10 runs in eight innings. Lefty **Blair Walters**, part of the haul from the White Sox for Brett Myers in July 2012, allowed a 7.36 ERA and 1.92 WHIP over 73 innings at Lancaster.

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Brett Tomko (York (Atlantic)), RHP Ramon Troncoso (elected free agency from White Sox)

Released: RHP Tyler Mack, RHP Kellen Moen, LHP Jon Keck, 3B Nick Cuckovich, OF Alex Hudak

Traded: 3B Brandon Laird to Nationals for a player to be named

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Michael Mariot, LHP Justin Marks, C Francisco Pena, 2B Christian Colon

Los Angeles Angels

Released: RHP Garrett Bush, RHP Brandon Efferson, RHP Andres Perez, LHP Brandon Love, LHP Max Russell, C Zac Livingston, OF Julio Concepcion, OF Ryan Jones

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Josh Wall, LHP Buddy Boshers, 1B Efen Navarro, 2B Tommy Field, 3B Luis Jimenez

The Angels traded international bonus slot No. 2, which amounted to \$360,500, to the Mets last July for **Julio Concepcion** and **Andres Perez**, a pair of org players who were in short-season ball at the time of the trade.

Los Angeles Dodgers

Released: RHP Sawil Gonzalez, LHP Geison Aguasviva, LHP Jake Hermsen, C Steve Cilladi, OF Gerson Nunez

Added to 40-man roster: 2B Justin Turner, 3B Chone Figgins

Optioned to Double-A: SS Erisbel Arruebarrena

Miami Marlins

Released: RHP Edward Cruz, RHP Robert Ravago, RHP Rob Waite, LHP Beau Wright

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Sam Dyson, LHP Brian Flynn, C Rob Brantly

Optioned to Double-A: LHP Edgar Olmos

Milwaukee Brewers

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Michael Blazek, RHP Hiram Burgos, RHP Mike Fiers

Removed from 40-man: OF Sean Halton (outrighted to Triple-A)

Minnesota Twins

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Kris Johnson, C Eric Fryer, SS Danny Santana

New York Mets

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Jake deGrom, RHP Ryan Reid, C Juan Centeno

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Jeff Walters

New York Yankees

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Bryan Mitchell, OF Ramon Flores

Optioned to high Class A: RHP Jose Campos, LHP Manny Banuelos

Oakland Athletics

Released: RHP Brett Hunter

Philadelphia Phillies

Released: RHP Geoff Broussard, RHP Karl Gelinas, LHP Braden Shull, C Lou Marson, OF Johnny Knight, OF Hilton Richardson

Acquired: C Koyie Hill from Nationals for cash

Returned Rule 5 selection: RHP Kevin Munson (to Diamondbacks)

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Jeremy Horst, OF Tyson Gillies

Optioned to Double-A: C Tommy Joseph, OF Zach Collier

Despite having plenty of vacancies in the bullpen behind Jonathan Papelbon and Antonio Bastardo, the Phillies didn't want to roll the dice on Rule 5 pick **Kevin Munson** after he gave up seven hits and walked eight in seven spring innings. He cleared waivers and returned to the Diamondbacks, who bought him back for \$25,000.

Pittsburgh Pirates

Released: RHP Ethan Hollingsworth, RHP Kevin Kleis, RHP Seth McClung, LHP Dalton Friend, LHP Zac Fuesser

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Duke Welker, OF Gregory Polanco

St. Louis Cardinals

Released: RHP Brady Adamek

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Eric Fornataro, LHP Tyler Lyons, C Audry Perez, OF Oscar Taveras

San Diego Padres

Signed: RHP Hector Ambriz (elected free agency from Astros)

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Keyvius Sampson, RHP Burch Smith, OF Reymond Fuentes

Optioned to Double-A: OF Rymer Liriano

Tooled-up right fielder **Rymer Liriano** will pick up where he left off in 2012, when he spent the second half at Double-A San Antonio. He missed the entire 2013 season after having Tommy John surgery, and he played in just four games in the Dominican League over the winter, going 1-for-9.

San Francisco Giants

Released: RHP Drew Bowlin, RHP Paul Davis, RHP Renzo Freites, RHP Luis Rojas, RHP Justin Schumer, RHP Casey Weathers, 1B Joey Rapp, 2B Stephen Branca, 2B Ryan Cavan, 3B Shayne Houck, SS Cristian Otero, OF Christian Diaz, OF Mark Teahen

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Jose De Paula, LHP Edwin Escobar, 2B Nick Noonan, OF Roger Kieschnick

Seattle Mariners

Released: RHP George Drullard, RHP Charles Kaalekahi, RHP George Mieses, RHP Gabe Saquilon, RHP Bobby Shore, RHP Tyler Sparger, LHP Steve Ewing, LHP Michaelangelo Guzman, LHP Wander Marte, LHP Scott Ronnenbergh, OF Cavan Cohoes, OF Cory Scammell

Optioned to Triple-A: C Jesus Montero, OF Xavier Avery, OF James Jones

Tampa Bay Rays

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Nate Karns, RHP Kirby Yates, LHP Jeff Beliveau, LHP C.J. Riefenhauser, 3B Vince Belnome, SS Hak-Ju Lee, OF Kevin Kiermaier

Texas Rangers

Released: RHP Travis Dean, RHP Jose Samayoa, RHP Michael Zouzalik

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Cory Burns, RHP Miles Mikolas, RHP Nick Tepesch, SS Andy Parrino

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Jose Nivar, 1B Mike McDade (released by White Sox, March 13)

Released: RHP Drew Permon, LHP Kyle Anderson, LHP Corey Gorman, LHP Carlos Pina

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Kyle Drabek, RHP Chad Jenkins, RHP Neil Wagner, LHP Sean Nolin

Washington Nationals

Signed: 1B Sandy Guerrero (released by White Sox, Oct. 15)

Released: RHP Luis Ayala, RHP Silvio Medina, RHP Kelvin Rodriguez, RHP Cameron Selik, RHP Rob Wort, LHP Joel Barrientos, LHP Elliott Waterman, C Kevin Flynn, C Thor Meeks, 3B Wes Schill, OF Jordan Poole

Traded: C Koyie Hill to Phillies for cash

Acquired: 3B Brandon Laird from Royals for a player to be named

Optioned to Triple-A: OF Eury Perez, OF Steven Souza

Optioned to Double-A: LHP Matt Purke, LHP Sammy Solis, OF Michael Taylor

Side-winding righty reliever **Rob Wort** struck out 95 batters in 56 2/3 innings at high Class A Potomac in 2012, a total high enough to rank 13th in the Carolina League. His control backed up in a big way last season (8.0 walks per nine innings) when he repeated at Potomac, which when combined with injury issues led to his release this spring.

Minor League Transactions: March 6-12

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: LHP Armando Reyes

Released: RHP Bradley Blanks, RHP Thomas Brendel, RHP Jose Gonzalez, RHP Tyler Green, RHP Luis Hernandez, RHP Seth Lintz, RHP Brett Lorin, LHP Michael Blake, LHP Sean Mahley, LHP Eric Perrault, 1B Joash Brodin, 2B Denver Chavez, OF Justin Bianco, OF Michael Lang

Returned Rule 5 selection: RHP Marcos Mateo (to Cubs)

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Zeke Spruill, LHP Eury de la Rosa, OF Ender Inciarte, OF Alfredo Marte

Removed from 40-man: LHP Santos Rodriguez (outrighted to Triple-A)

The D'backs cut ties with 2011 third-rounder **Justin Bianco**, a 21-year-old outfielder who hit .222/.295/.315 in parts of three seasons in short-season ball. Drafted out of high school in Canonsburg, Pa., Bianco had no standout tool as an amateur and might have benefitted with further physical development had he carried through on his college commitment to Pittsburgh.

A Rule 5 pick last December, hard-throwing reliever **Marcos Mateo** cleared waivers and returned to the Cubs—with Chicago paying a \$25,000 fee—after being outrighted by the D'backs. As he was already outrighted at the end of the 2012 season by the Cubs, Mateo could have elected free agency.

Atlanta Braves

Signed: C Yenier Bello

Acquired: RHP Zach Stewart from White Sox for cash

The Braves signed 29-year-old Cuban catcher **Yenier Bello** for \$400,000, though they don't necessarily view him as an option for Opening Day. Atlanta has four players who might see time behind the plate in 2014: Evan Gattis, Ryan Doumit,

Gerald Laird and prospect Christian Bethancourt. Bello's first attempt to defect from Cuba in 2012 was unsuccessful, but after retiring from baseball the following spring, he moved to Ecuador and recovered his confiscated passport. He later established residency in Mexico, whereupon MLB declared him a free agent this February. *[Bello received a \$400K signing bonus and an invite to big league Spring Training. He has reportedly drawn interest from as many as 20 MLB clubs. In Cuba's Serie Nacional in 2011, Bello hit .274 and slugged 13 homers over the season's 90-game schedule, so he's expected to bring some power to the backstop position]*

Baltimore Orioles

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Mike Belfiore, LHP Tim Berry, C Michael Ohlman

Chicago Cubs

Released: RHP Alan Oaks, OF Aaron Cunningham

Chicago White Sox

Traded: RHP Zach Stewart to Braves for cash

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Charlie Leesman

Optioned to Double-A: OF Jared Mitchell, OF Trayce Thompson

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: OF Willie Cabrera (St. Paul (American Association)), OF Gauntlett Eldemire (Lake Erie (Frontier))

Released: RHP Jesus Adames, RHP Jason Kilby, RHP Werleen Taveras, 1B Aldi Guzman, 1B Carlos Sanchez, 3B Henry Rodriguez

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Carlos Contreras, RHP Daniel Corcino, RHP Chad Rogers, LHP David Holmberg, OF Ryan LaMarre, OF Donald Lutz

Optioned to Double-A: LHP Ismael Guillon, OF Juan Duran, OF Yorman Rodriguez

[Willie Cabrera was signed as a N DFA by the Braves back in 2006. In six years with Atlanta topped at AAA, hitting a combined .278/.330/.406. The last two seasons, the 27-year-old played for St. Paul, hitting a very good .316/.369/.497 with 24 homers in two years]

The Reds signed Australian righty **Jason Kilby** last March, but the 22-year-old did not pitch in 2013 due to injury.

Cleveland Indians

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Austin Adams, LHP T.J. House, 1B Jesus Aguilar, 2B Jose Ramirez, SS Erik Gonzalez, OF Carlos Moncrief

Colorado Rockies

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Tyler Matzek

Optioned to high Class A: LHP Jayson Aquino, SS Rosell Herrera

Detroit Tigers

Signed: LHP Nate Robertson

Released: RHP Luis Marte, 2B Javier Azcona

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Melvin Mercedes, LHP Casey Crosby

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Jose Valdez, C Ramon Cabrera

Houston Astros

Released: 1B Brett Wallace

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Paul Clemens, RHP David Martinez, LHP Luis Cruz, C Max Stassi, OF Domingo Santana

Kansas City Royals

Released: RHP Brad Penny, C Troy Snitker

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Chris Dwyer

Optioned to Double-A: LHP John Lamb, 3B Cheslor Cuthbert, OF Lane Adams

Los Angeles Angels

Released: LHP Drew Taylor

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Michael Roth

Removed from 40-man: LHP Rob Carson, C John Hester (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: OF Joe Meggs (Joliet (Frontier))

Released: RHP Pablo Gonzalez, LHP Jhosue Bermudez, C Dashenko Ricardo

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Matt Magill

*[After getting the boot from the Dodgers, 24-year-old Dutch catcher **Dashenko Ricardo** signed with Corendon Kinheim in the Dutch League]*

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Elias Hernandez

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Michael Brady, OF Kyle Jensen

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Angel Sanchez, RHP Jose Urena, LHP Grant Dayton, C J.T. Realmuto, OF Brent Keys

Milwaukee Brewers

Released: RHP Michael Olmsted, RHP R.J. Seidel, C Tyler Roberts

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Johnny Hellweg, RHP Jimmy Nelson, RHP Ariel Pena, 1B Hunter Morris, 1B Jason Rogers

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Brooks Hall, RHP Kevin Shackelford

Removed from 40-man: RHP Jose de la Torre (outrighted to Triple-A)

Minnesota Twins

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Trevor May, LHP Logan Darnell, LHP Edgar Ibarra, LHP Brooks Raley

Optioned to Double-A: 1B Kennys Vargas

Optioned to high Class A: 2B Jorge Polanco, OF Max Kepler

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Mike Hepple (Evansville (Frontier))

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Josh Edgin, SS Wilfredo Tovar
Optioned to Double-A: RHP Erik Goeddel, OF Cesar Puello
Optioned to low Class A: LHP Steve Matz

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Andrew Bailey (non-tendered by Red Sox)
Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Jose Ramirez, LHP Nik Turley, OF Slade Heathcott
Optioned to Double-A: C Gary Sanchez

Oakland Athletics

Optioned to Triple-A: OF Shane Peterson
Optioned to Double-A: RHP Raul Alcantara
Optioned to high Class A: RHP Michael Ynoa

Philadelphia Phillies

Released: RHP Ronald Mendez, RHP Felix Santos, RHP Matt Soren, LHP Rob Marcello
Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Luis Garcia
Optioned to Double-A: OF Aaron Altherr, OF Kelly Dugan
Removed from 40-man: RHP Mike Stutes (outrighted to Triple-A)

Pittsburgh Pirates

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Casey Sadler
Optioned to Double-A: LHP Joely Rodriguez, SS Alen Hanson

St. Louis Cardinals

Released: RHP Amauris Capellan, LHP Ben Freeman
Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Angel Castro, OF Mike O'Neill, OF Rafael Ortega

San Diego Padres

Signed: C John Nester (Evansville (Frontier))
Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Juan Oramas
Optioned to Double-A: OF Yeison Asencio

San Francisco Giants

Signed: OF Darren Ford
Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Mike Kickham, 1B Angel Villalona, 3B Adam Duvall, OF Gary Brown
Optioned to high Class A: RHP Kendry Flores, RHP Hunter Strickland

Seattle Mariners

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Logan Bawcom, LHP Bobby LaFromboise, C Jesus Sucre, 1B Ji-Man Choi, SS Carlos Triunfel

Tampa Bay Rays

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Alex Colome, LHP Mike Montgomery, LHP Enny Romero

Texas Rangers

Released: RHP David Gates
Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Wilmer Font, RHP Ben Rowen
Optioned to Double-A: RHP Lisalberto Bonilla, SS Luis Sardinas
Optioned to high Class A: RHP Matt West

Toronto Blue Jays

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Liam Hendriks, RHP Deck McGuire, RHP Mickey Storey, LHP Rob Rasmussen
Optioned to Double-A: C A.J. Jimenez, OF Kenny Wilson

Washington Nationals

Signed: LHP Mike Gonzalez (Article XX-B free agent)
Optioned to Double-A: LHP Felipe Rivero

Minor League Transactions: Feb. 27-March 5

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: C Lars Davis
Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Chase Anderson, RHP Charles Brewer, RHP Alex Sanabia
Optioned to Double-A: LHP Santos Rodriguez

Atlanta Braves

Signed: RHP Freddy Garcia (re-signed, Article XX-B free agent)

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Joe Van Meter, LHP Chris Jones (re-signed), LHP Johan Santana (Article XX-B free agent)
Released: LHP Elvin Ortiz

Boston Red Sox

Signed: OF Bo Greenwell

Chicago Cubs

Signed: LHP Jonathan Sanchez

Cincinnati Reds

Released: RHP Vaughn Covington

Cleveland Indians

Removed from 40-man: 1B David Cooper (outrighted to Triple-A)

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Brandon Erbe (released by Phillies, May 1), C Victor Monteagudo (NDFAs—Felician (N.J.))

Detroit Tigers

Signed: LHP Wil Ledezma (Lotte (Japan)), OF Wynton Bernard (released by Padres, Jan. 23)

Wil Ledezma pitched for seven organizations, plus one in Japan, in the decade between stints with the Tigers. He first joined the organization as a Rule 5 pick from the Red Sox system in 2003, spending four-plus years with Detroit. He might have more job security in the big leagues if not for his trouble retiring lefthanders (.303/.368/.451 in 510 career plate appearances). *[Last season, pitching for Chiba Lotte in Japan, the lefty threw 30.2 relief innings with a 3-3 record, 3.23 ERA & 1.44 WHIP]*

Kansas City Royals

Signed: C Jesus Flores

Released: RHP Guillermo Mota

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Joe Martinez, LHP Shakiro Pina

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Steve Edlefsen, RHP Danny Keller (released by Brewers, Oct. 25), RHP Ryan Sadowski

Optioned to Triple-A: RHP Stephen Fife, RHP Yimi Garcia, OF Nick Buss

Optioned to Double-A: RHP Pedro Baez, LHP Jarret Martin

Philadelphia Phillies

Released: SS Jairo Cardozo

Pittsburgh Pirates

Removed from 40-man: SS Chase d'Arnaud (outrighted to Triple-A)

St. Louis Cardinals

Signed: C Charlie Neil (York (Atlantic))

San Diego Padres

Signed: C Victor Romero (NDFC—Oklahoma State)

Seattle Mariners

Optioned to Triple-A: LHP Danny Hultzen

Optioned to Double-A: LHP Anthony Fernandez, OF Julio Morban

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Diego Castillo, RHP Sergio Perez (Puebla (Mexican))

Released: RHP John Farrell

Texas Rangers

Released: RHP Raul Beaton

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Radhames Liz (LG Twins (Korea)), RHP Frank Viola III

The Blue Jays signed a pair of righthanders with interesting back stories in affiliated ball. On the strength of a plus fastball, **Radhames Liz** peaked as the No. 2 prospect in the Orioles system in 2008, but he raised all sorts of red flags in his big league time with Baltimore, spanning trial runs in 2007-09, including a 7.50 ERA over 110 innings, a 1.89 WHIP and a 1.1 SO/BB ratio. Still just 30, he found success in Korea, where he's spent the past three seasons, and now returns to the States. Last season for the LG Twins he led the KBO with 188 strikeouts while finishing fourth in the ERA race at 3.06, according to MyKBO.net.

Frank Viola III washed out in the White Sox system in 2008 after suffering a knee injury, and while he latched on in the independent American Association in 2010, he failed to capture the attention of a major league organization in subsequent years. That is until this spring. Learning a knuckleball made all the difference for Viola, who trained with R.A. Dickey, and after three-plus years of fine-tuning the pitch he's ready to unleash it in the affiliated minors.

Washington Nationals

Signed: LHP Michael Archibald, LHP Isaias Silva

Minor League Transactions: Feb. 13-26

Arizona Diamondbacks

Placed on voluntarily retired list: C Joel Thys, OF Todd Glaesmann

Glaesmann, a 23-year-old corner outfielder who appeared in the 2013 Prospect Handbook, has decided to retire rather than head to spring training with the Diamondbacks. He joined the Arizona organization last December as the player to be named in the three-team trade that landed Heath Bell and Ryan Hanigan with the Rays, prospect southpaw David Holmberg with the Reds and righty Justin Choate with the D-backs. Glaesmann, who signed with the Rays for \$930,000 as a third-round pick out of high school in 2009, spent last season at Double-A Montgomery, batting .240/.289/.378 with 11 homers in 132 games. Noted for a strong throwing arm and plus raw power, he peaked at No. 16 on Tampa Bay's prospect list heading into 2010. With a .257 average and .308 on-base percentage in full-season ball, however, his batting approach required improvement to unlock his power more frequently.

Atlanta Braves

Released: C Nick DeSantiago, 1B Mat Gamel

The Braves had mapped out first base/DH at-bats for **Mat Gamel** at Triple-A Gwinnett, but those plans fell through when he re-injured his twice-surgically-repaired right knee in a workout, earning him his release.

Chicago Cubs

Signed: 2B Emilio Bonifacio (released by Royals, Feb. 10)

Cincinnati Reds

Removed from 40-man: 2B Henry Rodriguez (outrighted to Triple-A)

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Aaron Harang (Article XX-B free agent)

Released: 3B Kelvin Diaz

Reinstated from restricted list: 3B Kelvin Diaz

Signed in 2005, [Kelvin Diaz](#) had been on the Indians' restricted list since June 2009. The third baseman spent all four of his pro seasons in the Dominican Summer League, hitting .315/.406/.489 in 242 games.

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Manny Corpas (re-signed), RHP Nick Masset (Article XX-B free agent)

Detroit Tigers

Signed: RHP Kevin Whelan

[Kevin Whelan](#) returns to the organization that originally made him a fourth-round pick in 2005. The Tigers subsequently traded him and two others to the Yankees in November 2006 for Gary Sheffield. The 30-year-old Whelan has logged 43 career saves at the Triple-A level with a strikeout rate of 11.6 per nine innings, but he'll vie for bullpen supremacy with a host of veteran non-roster invites, such as Duane Below, Jhan Marinez, Luis Marte and Eduardo Sanchez.

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Hassan Pena (Quintana Roo (Mexican)), LHP Mitch Stetter (released by Angels, Aug. 7)), OF Devon Torrence

[Pena, a Cuban refugee, was selected by Washington in the 13th round of the 2006 Draft out of Palm Beach Community College. The 29-year-old spent six seasons in the Nats' system topping at AAA. The 6'-2" 210 hurler was released at the end of spring training in 2013 and signed with Quintana Roo in Mexico. Pena ranked fourth in the Mexican League for saves (24), posting a 3.33 ERA in 48.2 relief innings. The righty pitched in Venezuela (Zulia) during the winter resulting again in the league save leader with 12 (2.45 ERA, 1.12 WHIP in 25.2 innings). That showing earned him the selection in the Venezuelan team for the Caribbean Series, where he made four scoreless appearances. The Royals assigned him at AAA-Omaha]

[Mitch Stetter](#) pitched for Triple-A Salt Lake in the Angels system last year, but he's signing this contract with the Royals as a coach, according to a recent Tweet from his account.

This is the same [Devon Torrence](#) who spent 2007 and '08 at Rookie-level Greeneville after the Astros made him a 16th-round pick out of high school in Canton, Ohio. He's better known as a cornerback for the Ohio State football team, and, according to Wikipedia, he signed contracts with three NFL teams (and one Canadian Football League one) but never appeared in a regular-season game. Torrence is still just 24 as he gives baseball another go.

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Brandon Lyon (released by Red Sox, Aug. 1), C Yorvit Torrealba (Article XX-B free agent), OF Brennan Boesch (released by Yankees, July 19)

Miami Marlins

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

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Buddy Carlyle, LHP Dana Eveland (Hanwha (Korea))

[Dana Eveland](#) went 6-14, 5.54 in 32 games for Hanwha in the Korean major league last season, allowing 190 hits and 65 walks while striking out 129 in 172 innings. (All statistics courtesy of the wonderful resource MyKBO.net.) The 30-year-old southpaw has logged 114 appearances in the big leagues, including 61 starts, for the Brewers, Diamondbacks, Athletics, Blue Jays, Pirates, Dodgers and Orioles. *[Mets signed LHP Dana Eveland to a minor league contract. He did not receive an invitation to spring training. After posting a 4.73 ERA over 32 1/3 frames for the Orioles in 2012, Eveland spent last season in Korea pitching for the Hanwha Eagles (6-14, 5.54 ERA, 1.48 WHIP in 172.1IP)]*

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: OF Brandon Short

Released: RHP Chad Gaudin, OF Kyrell Hudson

Oregon State commit [Kyrell Hudson](#) hadn't played much baseball when the Phillies signed him for \$475,000 as a third-round pick in 2009. Despite his athleticism, he never developed much feel to hit and concludes his Phillies career with a .224/.271/.286 batting line over five seasons. Hudson spent 2013 at high Class A Clearwater. According to *BeisbolJunkie* Kyrell Hudson actually was placed on the restricted list last July at Clearwater so he could resume his football career. He was originally committed to be a WR at Oregon but picked baseball instead. He did play in the fall for a community college in California hoping to draw some scouts & get reacquainted with football again.

The Phillies released [Chad Gaudin](#), who worked as a starter/reliever for the Giants last year, one day after signing him after he failed his physical exam.

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: LHP Yao-Hsun Yang (Softbank (Japan)), C Omir Santos

[Pirates signed LHP Yao-Hsun Yang to a minor league contract with an invitation to spring training. Yang owns a 3.08 ERA in Japan's Nippon Professional Baseball League, in 12 starts and 26 relief appearances in seven seasons with the SoftBank Hawks, but he missed most of last season due to injury, playing only 9 games in the minors. A native of Taiwan, the 31-year-old pitched for Chinese Taipei in the World Baseball Classic in 2009 and 2013]

St. Louis Cardinals

Signed: RHP Steven de la Cruz (released by Cubs, April 28)

The 20-year-old [Steven de la Cruz](#) worked as a catcher in the Cubs system, batting a cumulative .213/.292/.277 in the Dominican Summer League in 2011 and '12.

San Francisco Giants

Signed: RHP Kameron Loe (Article XX-B free agent)

Seattle Mariners

Signed: RHP Zach Miner, LHP Randy Wolf (did not play in 2013)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Francisco Antonio Pena, RHP Chander Sanz, RHP Jose Zerpa, LHP Erik Bedard (Article XX-B free agent)

Traded: LHP Felipe Rivero, C Jose Lobaton and OF Drew Vettleson to Nationals for RHP Nate Karns

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Scott Richmond (re-signed)

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Josh Roenicke, 2B Drew Rossi (Washington (Frontier) in 2011)

Traded: RHP Nate Karns to Rays for LHP Felipe Rivero, C Jose Lobaton and OF Drew Vettleson

Drew Rossi's father Phil is a pro scout for the Marlins, but the junior Rossi never turned to nepotism to get signed in affiliated ball. Undrafted as a shortstop out of Mitchell (Conn.) in 2011, he spent that summer in the independent Frontier League. While a few opportunities in the Can-Am League fell through, according to the detailed piece by Donnie Collins linked above, he has stayed in playing shape by working at the Baseball State Academy in Scranton, Pa.

Minor League Transactions: Feb. 6-12

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Juan Morillo (Laguna (Mexican)), LHP Steve Garrison, 1B Matt LaPorta, 1B Henry Wrigley

Chicago White Sox

Released: SS Jairo Kelly

Removed from 40-man: RHP Deunte Heath (outrighted to Triple-A)

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Pat Egan, OF Roger Bernadina

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Kyle Davies, 1B/OF Bryan LaHair

*[Indians signed 1B/OF **Bryan LaHair** to a minor league contract with an invitation to spring training. LaHair, a former All-Star in 2012, was released by the Fukuoka Softbank Hawks of Japan's Pacific League last month after he hit just .230/.236/.428, with 16 HR & 57 RBI in 111 games, during his lone season in Nippon Professional Baseball]*

Colorado Rockies

Signed: 1B Joe Maloney (released by Rangers, Jan. 14)

Houston Astros

Removed from 40-man: 1B Brett Wallace (outrighted to Triple-A)

Kansas City Royals

Removed from 40-man: LHP Everett Teaford (outrighted to Triple-A)

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Luis Chirinos (Lincoln (American Association)), 2B Justin Turner (non-tendered by Mets)

*[The 6'2"-170 **Chirinos** split the 2013 campaign between Lincoln and El Paso, going 3-4 with a 4.96 ERA. The native of Maracay, Venezuela, appeared in 23 games, starting 16 and logging 94.1 innings between the two clubs. He also had a splendid 2012 with El Paso, logging a 5-2 record and a 3.11 ERA after joining the club in midseason from Rio Grande Valley of the North American League. Previously, the 23-year-old also spent the 2011 season with Rio Grande Valley, and played four seasons (2007-2010) in the Marlins' organization, reaching as high as Single-A]*

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Chaz Roe (elected free agency from Rangers – outright assignment refused)

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: LHP Kevin James (did not play in 2013)

Removed from 40-man: RHP Donovan Hand (outrighted to Triple-A)

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Matt Guerrier (Article XX-B free agent), RHP Todd Van Steensel (did not play in 2013), 1B Brad Nelson

A native of Sydney, Australia, **Todd Van Steensel** pitched for the Twins' Rookie-level Elizabethton affiliate in 2011 before being released that offseason. He pitched for Kinheim in the Dutch major league in 2012 and has participated in the Australian Baseball League each of the past four winters, and now the 23-year-old Van Steensel is ready for another shot at affiliated ball after working 18 innings in the ABL this offseason.

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Jose Valverde (released by Tigers, Aug. 7), 1B Chris Garcia (released by Braves, July 2)

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Chad Gaudin (Article XX-B free agent)

St. Louis Cardinals

Signed: RHP Pat Neshek

San Diego Padres

Signed: RHP Josh Geer (re-signed), RHP Rob Johnson, LHP Tony Sipp

Save for two relief appearances in the majors, **Rob Johnson** had spent his entire pro career as a catcher, logging a combined 265 games for the Mariners, Padres, Mets and Cardinals and batting .200/.275/.295. Now he'll try to make a Padres affiliate as a relief pitcher, with his most recent mound work coming for St. Louis last Aug. 7 with a four-pitch strikeout to end a blowout loss to the Dodgers.

Seattle Mariners

Released: RHP Richard White

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Jose Zerpa

Released: C Chad Nacapoy

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Jason Knapp (did not play in 2013)

Once a highly-regarded pitching prospect in the Phillies system before shoulder trouble derailed his career, **Jason Knapp** served as a headlining prospect acquisition for the Indians when they dealt Cliff Lee to Philadelphia in July 2009. (Cleveland also received Carlos Carrasco, Jason Donald and Lou Marson in that deal.) Knapp spent all of 2011 and 2012 on the shelf and then did not play in 2013 following his release from the Indians. He made a total of 13 appearances in four years following the trade, but the 6-foot-5 righty with the best fastball in the 2009 South Atlantic League has serious value to reclaim—if he's healthy.

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: C/OF Yusuf Carter (Bridgeport (Atlantic)), OF Ryan Scoma (Winnipeg (American Association))

[Carter, 29, a 12th round pick by the Cubs in 2005, spent seven seasons in affiliated ball with the Cubs & A's topping at AA. The switch-hitter played parts of the last three years in the Atlantic League. Last season the 6'3"-197 hit .265/.301/.522 for Bridgeport with 16 HR in 73 games. The guy has good power, but needs to walk more (only 14 BB vs. 66 K in 2013)]

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Luis Ayala (Article XX-B free agent)

Minor League Transactions: Jan. 30-Feb. 5**Arizona Diamondbacks**

Signed: RHP Brian Broderick

Released: RHP Yiomer Camacho, RHP Eric Meyerchick, 2B Ronny Mejias, OF Yeisson Rosario

Atlanta Braves

Signed: RHP Luis Mora

Released: C Dave Valle

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Evan Meek, LHP Roy Merritt (Somerset (Atlantic)), C Shawn McGill, SS Alex Gonzalez (released by Brewers, June 3), OF Jack Cust (did not play in 2013)

Released: C Scott Thomas

Boston Red Sox

Signed: RHP Chris Resop, C Mike Brenly

Removed from 40-man: RHP Brayan Villarreal (outrighted to Triple-A)

Chicago Cubs

Released: RHP Daniel Adrian, RHP Carlos Martinez-Pumarino, RHP Eddie Orozco, LHP Matt Iannazzo, LHP Sheldon McDonald, OF Taiwan Easterling

Chicago White Sox

Signed: LHP Dylan Chavez (released by Red Sox, Dec. 13), LHP Gregg Downing (Gateway (Frontier))

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: SS Ramon Santiago (Article XX-B free agent)

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Alejandro Izaguirre

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Owen Dew (released by Indians, Jan. 8), RHP Ryan Gibbard (released by Brewers, Oct. 25), LHP Garrett Schlecht (released by Cubs, Jan. 7), C Jose Gonzalez (re-signed), SS Paul Janish (non-tendered by Braves)

Listed as a lefthanded pitcher here, **Garrett Schlecht** played outfield for three seasons in the Cubs system, batting .224/.335/.294 in 214 at-bats in the Rookie-level Arizona League. The 2011 ninth-rounder will attempt to make the conversion to the mound in the Rockies system.

Detroit Tigers

Signed: 1B Lance Durham (re-signed)

Kansas City Royals

Signed: C Troy Snitker (Southern Maryland (Atlantic))

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: 3B Chad Tracy (Article XX-B free agent)

Los Angeles Dodgers

Released: RHP Jose Augusto Diaz, RHP Jackson Mateo, LHP Jake Fisher, C Jonathan Linares

Miami Marlins

Signed: OF Reed Johnson (Article XX-B free agent)

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: C Lucas May

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Matt Guerrier (Article XX-B free agent), 2B Tony Thomas

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Kyle Farnsworth (Article XX-B free agent), C Taylor Teagarden, 1B Matt Clark (Chunichi (Japan)), OF Brian Burgamy (Sugar Land (Atlantic))

*[The Mets announced that they've signed utilityman **Matt Clark** (6' 5"- 215) to a minor league deal with an invite to Spring Training. The former Padres farmhand (18th round pick/2008 – LSU) spent the 2013 season with NPB's Chunichi Dragons, batting .238/.328/.457 with 25 homers. The 27-year-old is primarily a first baseman but has also corner outfield experience. The left-handed is a .291/.365/.502 hitter In 1045 Triple-A at-bats]*

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Cole Kimball

Oakland Athletics

Signed: OF Sam Fuld (non-tendered by Rays)

Elected free agency: OF Corey Brown

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: 3B K.C. Serna (Sioux Falls (American Association)), SS Brian Bixler

*[**Serna**, was suspended by Oregon during his junior year for violating team rules, then fell down in the draft board to the 42nd-round (Cleveland) in the 2011 draft. The 6'-185 Serna spent the 2011 season with Class-A Mahoning Valley of the New York-Penn League and was released during the 2012 spring training due to makeup issues. Last season, the right-handed played for Amarillo where he hit .304/.362/.424 with 17 SB while displaying above average defense at shortstop. That showing earned him **BA 2013 Top Indy Prospect** honor. According to Amarillo's manager, Bobby Brown, "His range, arm strength and instincts are second to none". Serna has the defensive skills to stick at shortstop in affiliated ball. During the winter, Amarillo traded him to Sioux Falls]*

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: OF Quincy Latimore (Washington (Frontier))

The Pirates originally signed **Quincy Latimore** out of high school as a fourth-rounder in 2007, then traded him to the Indians for righthander Jeanmar Gomez, who had been designated for assignment, in January 2013.

San Diego Padres

Released: SS Beamer Weems

San Francisco Giants

Signed: OF Tyler Graham (Winnipeg (American Association))

The Giants originally signed center fielder **Tyler Graham** as a 19th-round pick out of Oregon State in 2006. He played exclusively in independent ball in 2013, hitting .296/.342/.339 with 31 steals in 65 games for two American Association clubs.

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: 3B Wilson Betemit (released by Orioles, Sept. 24)

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Daniel Bard (non-tendered by Cubs), RHP Armando Galarraga, LHP Martire Garcia (did not play in 2012-13), OF Che-Hsuan Lin

Elected free agency: RHP Chaz Roe

Removed from 40-man: RHP Chaz Roe (outrighted to Triple-A)

Though not reflected here, the Rangers actually signed **Che-Hsuan Lin** as a righthanded pitcher, according to a press release. Known for his outstanding throwing arm when he played the outfield, Lin made two relief appearances for Triple-A Oklahoma City last year in the Astros system. The 25-year-old appeared in nine big league games for the Red Sox in 2012.

Washington Nationals

Signed: C Koyie Hill

Minor League Transactions: Jan. 23-29

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: RHP Derek Cape (NDFA—Lindsey Wilson (Ky.)), RHP Cesar Carrillo (Sugar Land (Atlantic)), RHP Johnny Omahen (Traverse City (Frontier)), SS Gerard Hall (Schaumburg (Frontier))

One of the more active clubs when it comes to scouting and signing players from independent leagues, the Diamondbacks this time sign three with prior experience in affiliated ball. Among the three is 2005 first-round pick **Cesar Carrillo**, who probably is most famous for being the tip of the Biogenesis iceberg when Major League Baseball suspended him for 100 games last March.

Gerard Hall signed with the Royals in 2009 as a nondrafted free agent out of Old Dominion. He made it to the high Class A Carolina League in 2011 but spent the past two seasons manning shortstop for Schaumburg in the Frontier League, batting .273/.331/.441 with 10 homers in 91 games last year.

Johnny Omahen, a Marlins 35th-round pick from Cal State San Marcos in 2011, pitched in relief at low Class A Greensboro in 2012. Released at the end of spring training last year, he latched on with Traverse City and went 8-9, 3.37 in 21 appearances (19 starts), striking out 6.1 batters per nine innings and allowing just two homers in 115 frames.

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Eric Beaulac (re-signed), LHP Aaron Laffey, 1B Scott Savastano (released by Mariners, Jan. 23), 1B Chad Tracy (York (Atlantic)), OF Quintin Berry

Boston Red Sox

Signed: 2B Ryan Dent (re-signed), OF Scott Cousins

Released: OF Cody Koback

Chicago Cubs

Signed: RHP Chang-Yong Lim (non-tendered by Cubs)

[Cubs re-signed RHP [Chang-yong Lim](#) to a minor league contract. The Cubs non-tendered the Korean reliever in December but have now brought him back. Lim, 37, pitched in six games for the Cubbies last season and held a 1.61 ERA in 21 games in the minors. He'll provide depth at Triple-A]

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Edgar Gonzalez, C Bryan Anderson, 2B Jamodrick McGruder (released by Mariners, Jan. 23), 3B Chris Nelson (non-tendered by Angels)

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP David Aardsma, LHP Ramon Tineo, C Luke Carlin, 1B Ronnys Mora, SS Elliot Johnson (non-tendered by Braves), SS Hazzent Torrealba

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Mike McClendon (re-signed), LHP Evan DeLuca (Windy City (Frontier)), SS Niuman Romero

Released: RHP Angel Reyes

Houston Astros

Signed: SS Cesar Izturis (Article XX-B free agent), SS Gregorio Petit

The Astros will have multiple fallback options if sophomore shortstop Jonathan Villar is not ready to assume the everyday job. Utility type Marwin Gonzalez is on the 40-man roster, while veterans [Cesar Izturis](#) and [Gregorio Petit](#) received invites to big league camp.

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Jon Rauch (released by Orioles, July 3)

Released: LHP Glenn Gibson

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: 3B Ian Stewart (released by Dodgers, Aug. 12)

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: 1B Aaron Bates (Sugar Land (Atlantic)), 3B Chone Figgins (did not play in 2013)

[[Bates](#), 30 in March, was a third-round pick of the Red Sox out of North Carolina State, in 2006 (signing bonus \$440K). The right-handed hitter played 5 games for Boston in 2009. Bates batted .306/.397/.411 with 7 HR & 57 RBI in 126 games last season for Sugar Land (Atlantic League). He'll be assigned to AAA-Albuquerque]

Miami Marlins

Signed: 1B Ty Wigginton (released by Cardinals, July 9), SS Josh Rodriguez

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: 2B Pete Orr, 2B Joe Thurston (Lancaster (Atlantic)), OF Jeremy Hermida

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Dan Turpen (re-signed)

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Chris Leroux (Yakult (Japan))

Oakland Athletics

Removed from 40-man: OF Corey Brown (outrighted to Triple-A)

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Barry Enright, OF Hilton Richardson (did not play in 2012-13)

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: RHP Jen-Lei Liao, LHP Matt Ford (hasn't played since 2008), C Mitch Slaughter (NDFA—Mississippi State), C Mike Spano (NDFA—Florida Atlantic), SS Blake Davis

[The 20-year-old [Liao](#) was signed out of Taiwan as an international free agent. [Piratesprospect.com](#) lists him as a huge guy (6'6"-264, 1.98 mt. for 119 kg) who throws in the upper-80s to low-90s, complementing the fastball with a curve]

[[Matt Ford](#), 32, has been out of baseball since 2008. He pitched for the 2003 Milwaukee Brewers (4.33 ERA in 43.2 IP) after being taken from the Blue Jays as a Rule V pick, then he spent the next five seasons bouncing around the minors and Indy ball. Ford was a third round draft pick in 1999. According to [Piratesprospect.com](#), unless this is a comeback, he might just be a player/coach that doesn't actually play]

San Diego Padres

Signed: OF Xavier Nady

Released: RHP Greg Gonzalez, RHP Ryan Quigley, LHP Drew Harrelson, 2B Travis Whitmore, OF Wynton Bernard, OF Justin Miller

San Francisco Giants

Signed: RHP Mike Broadway, SS Skyler Stromsmoe (re-signed)

Released: RHP Marvin Barrios, RHP Miguel Ferrer, RHP Juan Nova, C Ryan Honeycutt, 2B Jean Delgado, 3B Sam Eberle

Seattle Mariners

Signed: RHP Scott Baker (Article XX-B free agent), RHP Mark Rogers, LHP Joe Beimel, OF Endy Chavez (Article XX-B free agent, re-signed)

Released: RHP Jandy Sena, RHP Luke Taylor, LHP Rusty Shellhorn, 1B Dan Howell, 1B Scott Savastano, 2B Dillon Hazlett, 2B Jamodrick McGruder

A testament both to his talent and proneness to serious injury, [Mark Rogers](#) appeared in eight of the nine Prospect Handbooks published between 2005 and 2013, twice peaking at No. 2 in the Brewers system. He endured another lost year in 2013 as he battled a right shoulder injury, and Milwaukee outrighted him to Triple-A in August. Mariners general

manager Jack Zduriencik originally drafted Rogers with the fifth overall pick in 2004 as scouting director for the Brewers. Rogers' selection was sandwiched between a number of Brewers smash hits in the first round of the draft, including Prince Fielder (2002), Rickie Weeks (2003) and Ryan Braun (2005).

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Juan Sandoval (re-signed), OF Jeremy Moore

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: SS Munenori Kawasaki (Article XX-B free agent who re-signed)

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Juan Bermudez, RHP Warner Madrigal (released by D-backs, June 11), OF Luis Perdomo

[Madrigal went 2-0, 3.23 ERA in 39 relief innings for the NPB Chunichi Dragons (28 K/18 BB, 1.36 WHIP) after Arizona released him so he could pursue an opportunity in Japan]

Minor League Transactions: Jan. 16-22

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: 1B Shelley Duncan

A Tucson native who played college ball at Arizona, **Shelley Duncan** is the son of new D-backs special assistant Dave Duncan. Shelley has logged 330 games in the big leagues, appearing with the Yankees, Indians or Rays in each of the past seven seasons and batting .226/.305/.419 (99 OPS+). He can provide righthanded power at first base, left field or DH.

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: 1B Carlos Andres Diaz, 2B Alexi Casilla (re-signed)

Chicago Cubs

Signed: 1B Lars Anderson (released by White Sox, July 18), OF Chris Coghlan (non-tendered by Marlins)

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Brian Omogrosso (re-signed)

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: 2B Hernan Iribarren

Cleveland Indians

Signed: OF Nyjer Morgan (Yokohama (Japan))

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Guillermo Mota (did not play in 2013), RHP Brad Penny (did not play in 2013)

Released: RHP Harol Rosario

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Lianmy Galan, LHP Mark Mulder (has not played since 2008), C Anderson de la Rosa, SS John McDonald (Article XX-B free agent)

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Mark Pope (Frontier (Frontier)), C Miguel Olivo, 2B Ryan Adams (did not play in 2013), OF Trayvon Robinson

Released: RHP Simon Binns

The Dodgers originally signed **Trayvon Robinson** out of Crenshaw High in Los Angeles, selecting him in the 10th round of the 2005 draft. He burst onto the prospect scene at high Class A Inland Empire in 2009, hitting .306/.375/.500 with 15 homers and 43 steals. The Dodgers traded Robinson at the 2011 trade deadline in the three-team transaction that landed catcher Tim Federowicz and righty Stephen Fife in L.A.

Miami Marlins

Signed: OF Angel Morales

Released: RHP Junior Rincon, LHP Patrick Merkling, OF Connor Burke, OF Ryan McIntyre

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: 1B Lyle Overbay (Article XX-B free agent), 1B Mark Reynolds (Article XX-B free agent)

Even if prospect Hunter Morris, the MVP of the Double-A Southern League in 2012, is not ready to take over at first base, the Brewers have insured they will not feature an encore performance from the first basemen—mostly Juan Francisco and Yunisiky Betancourt—who combined to hit .206/.259/.370 last season. Major league free agents **Lyle Overbay** and **Mark Reynolds** will see to that, with Overbay doubling as a fine option to pinch-hit.

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Giancarlo Alvarado (re-signed), LHP John Lannan, SS Omar Quintanilla (non-tendered by Mets)

Oakland Athletics

Signed: C Dusty Brown (did not play in 2013)

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: C Erick Fernandez (released by Nationals, July 22)

San Diego Padres

Signed: OF Travis Buck (re-signed)

Traded: RHP Matt Andriese, RHP Brad Boxberger, RHP Matt Lollis, 2B Logan Forsythe and 2B Maxx Tissenbaum to Rays for RHP Jesse Hahn and LHP Alex Torres

San Francisco Giants

Released: LHP Randy Zeigler

Seattle Mariners

Signed: C Manny Pina

Tampa Bay Rays

Traded: RHP Jesse Hahn and LHP Alex Torres to Padres for RHP Matt Andriese, RHP Brad Boxberger, RHP Matt Lollis, 2B Logan Forsythe and 2B Maxx Tissenbaum

Texas Rangers

Signed: LHP Rafael Perez

Released: RHP Tyler Tufts

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Jose Diaz, RHP Luis Miguel Gomez, RHP Jeffrey Martinez, RHP Luis Miguel Sanchez, RHP Thony Vinicio, LHP Erick Hurtado (released by Yankees, June 17), SS Junior Vasquez, OF Francisco Javier Rodriguez

All eight players signed by the Blue Jays this time were assigned to Rookie-level affiliates in the system, either in the Gulf Coast League or at Bluefield. From what we can tell, only lefty **Erick Hurtado** has previous experience in affiliated ball.

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Clay Hensley (Sugar Land (Atlantic)), LHP Zach Jackson

Minor League Transactions: Jan. 9-15

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: SS Tommy Manzella (released by White Sox, Aug. 30)

Atlanta Braves

Released: OF Isael Henriquez

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Zach Clark (re-signed), RHP Eddie Gamboa (non-tendered by Orioles), RHP Luis Vizcaino (Yucatan (Mexican)), 2B Brock Bond, OF Delmon Young (Article XX-B free agent)

Though 39-year-old reliever **Luis Vizcaino** hasn't appeared in the majors since making 11 appearances for the 2009 Indians, he has remained active in the Dominican League (pitching for Cibao in 2010 and 2012) and in the Mexican League, where he ranked third with 25 saves in 2013. *[1.40 ERA in 45 IP]*

Boston Red Sox

Signed: RHP Hideyoshi Otake

*[The Red Sox have invited Japanese righty **Hideyoshi Otake** to spring training. Otake comes from Japan's independent Baseball Challenge League. The 25-year old is listed at 5'11, 180 pounds, possesses a 94 mph fastball and is considered by Japanese talent evaluators as one of the best pitchers of the Baseball Challenge League. Otake posted a 1-5 record, 2.23 ERA, 47 strikeouts, 16 walks in 44.1 inning pitched over the course of 46 appearances last year]*

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Dylan Axelrod (non-tendered by White Sox), OF Eric Patterson (released by Brewers, Sept. 26)

Released: RHP Jairo Asencio

The White Sox released **Jairo Asencio** so that he can sign with Kia in Korea, where he could be teammates with fellow foreigners Brett Pill and D.J. Houlton.

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: LHP Jeff Francis (Article XX-B free agent), 2B John Tolisano, OF Thomas Neal

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Scott Atchison (non-tendered by Mets), RHP Danny Carela (released by Phillies, July 28), SS Audy Ciriaco, SS Miguel Eladio, OF Jeff Francoeur (released by Giants, Aug. 24)

Colorado Rockies

Signed: C Allan de San Miguel, OF Evan Frey

Detroit Tigers

Signed: C Luis Exposito, 3B Kevin Russo (re-signed)

Houston Astros

Loaned to Mexican League: LHP Carlos Vazquez (Mexico City)

The Astros acquired **Carlos Vazquez** (22) from the Mets in December, selecting him in the minor league phase of the Rule 5 draft. *[The Mexican-born lefty topped at A Adv. level in four seasons with the Mets (3.44 ERA, 1.15 WHIP overall) and was formerly loaned to the Mexican League in 2011 (Oaxaca)]*

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Anderson Montilla

Released: LHP John Wiedenbauer

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Misja Harcksen

Released: 3B Josh Bell

*[According to Honkbalsite.com 18-year-old Dutch pitcher **Misja Harcksen** signed a contract with the Dodgers. The Rotterdam-native made his Hoofdklasse (the Dutch League) debut for champion DOOR Neptunus this year. He mostly pitched for Neptunus' farm team. During the KNBSB Gala at the beginning of the month he was named best youth pitcher. Harcksen attended the MLB Academy in Regensburg, Germany, in 2013]*

The Dodgers released **Josh Bell** so that he can sign with the LG Twins in Korea, where he could be teammates with fellow foreigners Radhames Liz and Cory Riordan.

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Henry Rodriguez, C Jose Ceballos (re-signed), 3B Taylor Terrasas (released by Reds, Oct. 3), OF Kevin Grove (NDFAs—St. John's)

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: RHP Michael Olmsted (re-signed following outright assignment), LHP Zach Duke (Article XX-B free agent), LHP Brad Mills (Orix (Japan)), 2B Liu Rodriguez (Godo (Italy)), OF Greg Golson, OF Riley Kjelldgaard (re-signed), C Milan Post

[Mills, 29 in March, posted a 3.87 ERA in 97 2/3 innings for Triple-A Round Rock in the Rangers' organization in 2013. He requested his release midseason to sign with Nippon Professional Baseball's Orix Buffaloes (he made only one appearance for the Buffaloes and four for their minor league team (2.50 ERA in 18 innings). Mills has a 7.76 ERA in 53 1/3 career big league innings]

The **Liu Rodriguez** signed by the Brewers is the same one whom the White Sox signed out of Venezuela in 1995 and whom reached the majors for 39 games as a utility infielder in 1999. Since qualifying for minor league free agency after the 2001 season, Rodriguez has played in professional leagues the world over, including the Mexican League (2002, 2004-05), the independent Atlantic and Golden leagues and the Italian Baseball League, where he played last year (and also in 2003). Now 37 years old, Rodriguez has spent the bulk of his time since 2006 playing in the Atlantic League, mostly with York, batting .292/.356/.382 in more than 1,800 trips to the plate in indy ball. Brewerfan.net indicates that Rodriguez will serve in a coaching capacity for the Rookie-level Arizona League club.

[19-year-old (20 next march) Dutch catcher Milan Post has signed a minor league contract with the Milwaukee Brewers organization. He will join the MLB organization for Spring Training. He is one of the most regarded prospects in Europe in the last couple of years, getting an invitation to the MLB European Academy for four consecutive years. According to a report by Honkbalsite.com nine MLB clubs were interested in his services]

Minnesota Twins

Signed: OF Darin Mastroianni (re-signed following outright assignment)

New York Mets

Signed: 2B Jairo Perez (Kansas City (American Association))

[Perez, 25, was signed by the Twins in July 2006 as an international free agent out of Venezuela. In 2011, he hit strong as a 23-year-old in the Midwest League/A (.337/.413/.580 with 15 HR & 60 RBI in 74 games at Beloit). Minnesota cut loose with him the following year, while he was at Fort Myers (FSL/A Adv.). Last season, Perez hit very well in the American Association: .309/.359/.539 with 19 HR & 72 RBI in 96 G, resulting among the league leaders in HR, RBI & SLG. The right-handed hitter has continued his strong showing during the winter for the Lara Cardenales of the Venezuelan League, hitting .342/407/.591 with 7 HR & 35 RBI in 47 games]

New York Yankees

Signed: 2B Scott Sizemore, 2B Yangervis Solarte

[Yankees signed Solarte with an invitation to spring training. Solarte, 26, batted .276/.323/.403 with 12 homers and 75 RBI last season at Triple-A for the Rangers. The utility player will provide the Yanks with some minor league depth]

Oakland Athletics

Released: RHP Leudis Benzant, RHP Jose Castillo, LHP Kevin Rodriguez

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: 2B Jim Negrych

San Diego Padres

Signed: RHP Blaine Boyer (released by Royals, May 16)

Released: RHP Jairo Gomez, RHP Ivan Marcano, SS Cristhofer Martinez

[Boyer will make \$700K if he's in the Majors. He pitched for the Braves, Cardinals, Diamondbacks and Mets, posted a 2.67 ERA with 7.0 K/9 and 1.3 BB/9 in 27 innings for the Hanshin Tigers in Japan last season]

San Francisco Giants

Signed: RHP Juan Gutierrez (non-tendered by Angels), LHP Dontrelle Willis

Released: RHP Caleb Clay

The Giants released **Caleb Clay** so that he can sign with the Hanwha in Korea, where he could be teammates with fellow foreigner Felix Pie.

Seattle Mariners

Signed: RHP Moises Hernandez (re-signed), RHP Logan Kensing, RHP Ramon Ramirez (released by Rays, July 31), C Humberto Quintero (re-signed)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: LHP Jordan Norberto (released by Athletics, May 8), C Eddy Rodriguez, 2B Jayson Nix (non-tendered by Yankees), OF Justin Christian

Removed from 40-man: OF Jerry Sands (outrighted to Triple-A)

Despite not being under contract with a club last August, **Jordan Norberto** nevertheless received a 50-game suspension from Major League Baseball for his association with the Biogenesis clinic. The 27-year-old lefty reliever must serve the entirety of that suspension before he can suit up for a Rays affiliate.

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Justin Germano, OF Bryan Petersen

Released: RHP Richard Alvarez, RHP Alex de la Cruz, RHP Taylor Dennis, RHP John Kukuruda, RHP Santo Perez, LHP Joe Burns, C Joe Maloney, 1B Barrett Serrato, 2B Willy Iretton, 2B Cam Schiller, SS Gabriel Roa, OF Brandon Garcia

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Hansel Rodriguez

Washington Nationals

Signed: 2B Jamey Carroll, 2B Mike Fontenot, OF Joe Dunigan

Released: RHP Mike Boyden, RHP Ben Grisz, LHP Michael Mudron, 2B Matt Foat

Minor League Transactions: Jan. 1-8

Atlanta Braves

Released: RHP Jorge Montenegro, RHP Magdiel Avendano, OF Hector Garcia

Baltimore Orioles

Released: 2B Paco Figueroa

Chicago Cubs

Released: OF Garrett Schlecht

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Scott Carroll (re-signed), 1B Christian Marrero

Released: RHP Cal Bowling, RHP David Haselden, RHP J.R. Ballinger, RHP James Hudelson, RHP Jason Van Skike, RHP Jeremy Erben, LHP Max Peterson, LHP Todd Kibby

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Bob Keppel (Nippon-Ham (Japan)), RHP Sean Black (released by Yankees, Dec. 13)

A supplemental first-round pick in 2000, **Bob Keppel** logged 49 big league appearances with the Royals, Rockies and Twins before migrating to Japan in 2010 and spending four seasons with Nippon-Ham. The 31-year-old went 28-20, 3.67 over 61 starts in NPB, proving to be particularly effective his first two years with the Fighters (3.28 ERA in 321 innings).

Cleveland Indians

Released: RHP Kyle Blair, RHP Michael Goodnight, RHP Owen Dew, RHP Rafael Homblert, 1B Manuel Boscan, OF Victor De Jesus

[Blair, 25, missed much time in the DL last season. Overall the righty pitched only 12.2 innings between Rookie and AA levels for a 2-0 record and a 1.42 ERA (14 K/7 BB, 6 hits allowed). However, in three seasons in the Indians' system, Blair pitched a poor 5.66 ERA (1.45 WHIP) in 167 IP, showing solid swing and miss stuff (7.71 SO/9 IP) but struggling with his control (4.53 BB/9 IP). He was signed by Cleveland in the 4th round of the 2010 Draft out of the University of San Diego (\$585K signing bonus). Baseball America ranked him the #84 best prospect prior that draft. This is the mlb.com pre-draft scouting report: "Blair has average stuff, though his curve has the chance to be a plus pitch, with average command. He knows how to pitch and does a good job using location and deception to his benefit. In all likelihood, he's a middle-to-back of the rotation pitcher, but one who shouldn't take too long to get to the big leagues"]

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Richard Castillo

Detroit Tigers

Signed: OF Trevor Crowe

Released: OF D.J. Driggers

D.J. Driggers received a 50-game suspension on Jan. 9 following his second positive test for recreational drugs.

Houston Astros

Released: RHP Christian Garcia, RHP Javier Lozano, 1B Mike Martinez, OF Javaris Reynolds

Mike Martinez blasted 11 homers for short-season Tri-City last season before drawing a 50-games suspension for amphetamine use.

Kansas City Royals

Signed: C Ramon Hernandez (released by Blue Jays, July 7), 2B Jason Donald

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: LHP Justin Thomas (Nippon-Ham (Japan))

Released: LHP Francisco Santana, C Carlos Ramirez, OF Glenn Beltran

[Thomas posted a 6.93 ERA over 24 2/3 IP with the Mariners, Pirates, Red Sox and Yankees from 2008-12. The 29-year-old southpaw spent the first half of 2013 pitching for the Athletics' Triple-A affiliate before signing with the Japan Nippon Ham Fighters. Thomas didn't fare well with the Fighters (0-2, 8.71 ERA in only 10.1 IP) and with its minor league team (9.61 ERA in 19.2 IP), struggling mightily with his control (20 BB in 30 innings overall!)]

One of the rare players to draw a 100-game suspension, **Carlos Ramirez** rang in the new year with news of his third career positive test for recreational drugs.

Los Angeles Dodgers

Released: RHP Ricardo Perez, C Dimitri de la Fuente, 1B Jake Chaplin

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Rob Waite (re-signed), LHP Alexander Carreras (released by D-backs, July 5)

Acquired: SS Hiram Martinez from Athletics for cash considerations

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: RHP R.J. Seidel (re-signed)

Released: RHP Nick Bucci

Minnesota Twins

Signed: 2B Eric Farris (re-signed)

New York Mets

Signed: C Taylor Teagarden

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Robert Coello

Oakland Athletics

Signed: RHP Manaurys Correa

Traded: SS Hiram Martinez to Marlins for cash considerations

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: RHP Elvin Ramirez, RHP Kyle McPherson (non-tendered by Pirates), LHP Adam Wilk (NC Dinos (Korea)), LHP Daniel Schlereth, 2B Michael Martinez, OF Chris Dickerson

St. Louis Cardinals

Released: RHP Willy Paulino

San Diego Padres

Signed: LHP Zach Braddock (Lancaster (Atlantic)), 3B Brooks Conrad (Hanshin (Japan))

Removed from 40-man: RHP Adys Portillo (outrighted to Double-A)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: SS Ray Olmedo

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Ryan Tatusko (re-signed), LHP Tyler Robertson (re-signed), 2B Taylor Wrenn

Minor League Transactions: Dec. 21-31

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: RHP Rodrigo Takahashi

[Rodrigo Takahashi is a 17yrs old Brazilian with Japanese ancestry. He also plays 3B and attended the 3rd MLB Elite Camp Tryouts in Brazil in January 2013 (source: Baseball Latin America)]

Atlanta Braves

Signed: LHP Atahualpa Severino

Atahualpa Severino dominated lefthanders in 2013 while pitching in relief at Triple-A, holding same-siders to a batting line of .171/.234/.271 while striking out 27.3 percent and walking 6.5 percent of the 77 he faced for Indianapolis and Omaha.

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: OF Xavier Paul (non-tendered by Reds)

Boston Red Sox

Signed: 2B Justin Henry (re-signed)

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Trevor Bell (re-signed)

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Shaun Marcum (released by Mets, July 23), C Matt Treanor (did not play in 2013)

Removed from 40-man: RHP Trey Haley (outrighted to Triple-A)

Houston Astros

Removed from 40-man: RHP Rhiner Cruz (outrighted to Triple-A)

Kansas City Royals

Signed: OF Melky Mesa (released by Yankees, Sept. 1)

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: SS Shawn O'Malley, OF Kyle Hudson

Released: RHP Chris Volstad

The Angels released **Chris Volstad** so that he could sign with Doosan in Korea, a club that could also feature Jorge Cantu and Dustin Nippert among its foreign players (see below).

2014 Foreign Player List

posted Dec 13, 2013, 3:00 PM by mykbonet . [updated Jan 5, 2014, 10:17 PM]

- **Doosan:** [Jorge Cantu\(IF\)](#), [Dustin Nippert \(P\)](#), [Chris Volstad \(P\)](#)
- **Hanwha:** [Caleb Clay \(P\)](#), [Felix Pie \(OF\)](#),
- **KIA:** [Jairo Asencio\(P\)](#), [Brett Pill \(IF\)](#), [DJ Houlton \(P\)](#)
- **Nexen:** [Brandon Knight \(P\)](#), [Andy VanHekken \(P\)](#), [Vinny Rottino \(IF/OF\)](#)
- **LG:** [Radhames Liz \(P\)](#), [Josh Bell \(IF\)](#)
- **Lotte:** [Shane Youman \(P\)](#), [Chris Oxspring \(P\)](#), [Luis Jimenez \(IF\)](#)
- **NC:** [Charlie Shirek \(P\)](#), [Eric Hacker \(P\)](#), [Eric Thames \(OF\)](#), [Thad Weber \(P\)](#)
- **SK:** [Jo-Jo Reyes \(P\)](#), [Ross Wolf \(P\)](#), [Luke Scott \(DH/1B/OF\)](#)
- **Samsung:** [Rick VandenHurk \(P\)](#), [JD Martin \(P\)](#), [Yamaico Navarro](#)

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Kevin Slowey (re-signed), RHP Craig Westcott (released by Giants, Nov. 3), LHP Jose Gonzalez (released by Twins, Dec. 19), C Milan Post, 2B Jordany Valdespin (non-tendered by Mets), OF Joe Benson

Milwaukee Brewers

Removed from 40-man: RHP Michael Olmsted (outrighted to Triple-A)

Minnesota Twins

Signed: 2B Corey Wimberly

Removed from 40-man: OF Darin Mastroianni (outrighted to Triple-A)

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Jeremy Hefner (non-tendered by Mets)

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Bruce Billings, RHP Yoshinori Tateyama (re-signed)

Released: 2B Jerison Lopez, SS Yamaico Navarro

The Yankees released **Yamaico Navarro** so that he could sign with Samsung in Korea, a club that could also feature J.D. Martin and Rick VandenHurk among its foreign players.

Oakland Athletics

Released: 2B Pi'ikea Kitamura

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: 2B Matt Tolbert (re-signed), SS Anthony Phillips, OF Tony Gwynn Jr.

San Diego Padres

Signed: SS Luis Urias, SS Brandon Wood (released by Orioles, July 26)

Seattle Mariners

Removed from 40-man: RHP Chance Ruffin (outrighted to Triple-A)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: OF James Darnell (released by Padres, June 19)

Released: OF Leslie Anderson

The Rays released **Leslie Anderson** so that he could sign with Yomiuri in Japan, where fellow Cubans Barbaro Canizares (SoftBank) and Juan Miranda (Nippon-Ham) also have signed this offseason. The 31-year-old Anderson, a first baseman/left fielder, hit .295/.348/.439 in four seasons at Triple-A Durham but never appeared in the big leagues with Tampa Bay. *[The Central League's Yomiuri Giants announced the signing of left-handed-hitting Leslie Anderson. The 31-year-old played for Cuba in the first two editions of the World Baseball Classic in 2006 and 2009. His one-year deal is believed to be worth \$570K. Tampa Bay signed Anderson after he defected from Cuba prior to the 2010 season, giving him a four-year deal worth \$1.725M. He was designated for assignment and outrighted prior to the 2011 season. Anderson has no major league experience. This year, he batted .292 with 14 HR and 74 RBIs for Triple-A Durham, where he has primarily played first base and left field. In 1599 plate appearances at the Triple-A level, the now-31-year-old Anderson owns a .295/.348/.439 batting line]*

James Darnell has played in just 53 games the past two seasons as he's dealt with a wave of injuries, but the left fielder/third baseman has a strong track record versus lefthanders in the high minors. From 2010-13 he hit .364/.448/.581 with 14 homers in 368 plate appearances (with strikeouts just 11 percent of the time) at Double-A San Antonio and Triple-A Tucson.

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Luis Alexander Jimenez, LHP Ryan Feierabend (re-signed), 2B Kensuke Tanaka (released by Giants, Sept. 4)

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Roy Halladay, LHP Manuel Nunez, 2B Steven Tolleson

The Blue Jays signed **Roy Halladay** to a minor league deal so that the two-time Cy Young Award winner could retire as a member of the organization that drafted him 17th overall in 1995. The White Sox and Red Sox, respectively, pulled off similar maneuvers with retired greats Frank Thomas and Nomar Garciaparra in 2010.

Washington Nationals

Signed: C Chris Snyder, 2B Will Rhymes (re-signed)

Minor League Transactions: Dec. 13-20

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: RHP Bradley Blanks (Laredo (American Association)), RHP Daniel Hudson (re-signed following non-tender), LHP Anthony Collazo (Washington (Frontier)), C Henry Blanco, 3B Andy Marte

Released: OF Jeremy Reed

Acquired: OF Todd Glaesmann from Rays as player to be named in three-team deal in which Diamondbacks sent RHP Heath Bell to Rays and LHP David Holmberg to Reds, Rays sent RHP Justin Choate and a player to be named to Diamondbacks, and Reds sent C Ryan Hanigan to Rays

[Jeremy Reed was signed on January 13, 2013, but didn't play during last season; he was probably on the restricted list]

Atlanta Braves

Released: 1B William Beckwith, OF Chris Edmondson

Traded: LHP Sean Gilmartin to Twins for C Ryan Doumit

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Fabio Castillo, 2B Ivan De Jesus Jr.

Boston Red Sox

Signed: RHP Miguel Celestino (re-signed), RHP Shunsuke Watanabe (Lotte (Japan)), C Matt Spring (re-signed)

Released: RHP Chris Carpenter, RHP Yunior Ortega, RHP Stephen Williams, LHP Dylan Chavez, 1B Jake Davies, 1B Boss Moanarua, OF Jose Colorado, OF Iseha Conklin, OF Felix Sanchez

Traded: RHP Chris Martin and LHP Franklin Morales to Rockies for SS Jonathan Herrera

The Red Sox released [Chris Carpenter](#) so that he could sign with Yakult in Japan. *[Carpenter holds a 5.17 ERA and 10/17 K/BB ratio over 15 2/3 career major league innings]*

According to a Red Sox press release, 37-year-old Japanese righty [Shunsuke Watanabe](#) throws with a submarine delivery, made two Pacific League all-star teams and played for Japan's World Baseball Classic teams in 2006 and '09. He worked as a starter in Japan, logging a 3.65 ERA over 13 seasons. *[The deal does not include an invitation to spring training. Watanabe was used almost exclusively as a starter in Japan, but he'll try to make it up to the majors with the Red Sox as a submarining reliever. The 37-year-old posted a 4.62 ERA with a 9/9 K/BB ratio over 25 1/3 innings in 2013 for the Chiba Lotte Marines. The 37 year-old Watanabe was a member of Japan's World Baseball Classic-winning teams in 2006 and 2009. He was 87-82 with a 3.65 earned run average in 13 seasons with the Marines and was a key member of Lotte's Japan Series-winning squad in 2005. He is a sidearmer who boasts one of the lowest deliveries in professional baseball and his pitches top out around 70 MPH]*

Chicago Cubs

Signed: LHP Tommy Hottovy, C John Baker, 2B Ryan Roberts, OF Ryan Kalish (non-tendered by Red Sox), OF Mitch Maier

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Omar Poveda

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Chien-Ming Wang, 3B Ruben Gotay

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP Gabriel Arias, RHP Travis Banwart, RHP Tyler Cloyd (re-signed following non-tender), RHP Rainer Florez, RHP Jose Nina, OF Matt Carson (re-signed following non-tender)

Colorado Rockies

Traded: SS Jonathan Herrera to Red Sox for RHP Chris Martin and LHP Franklin Morales

Detroit Tigers

Removed from 40-man: RHP Luis Marte, SS Dixon Machado, SS Danny Worth (all players outrighted to Triple-A)

Houston Astros

Signed: RHP Murilo Gouvea (re-signed)

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Cory Wade, OF Johermyn Chavez

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: LHP Clay Rapada

Released: RHP Matt Oye, RHP Robbie Powell, LHP Greg Terhune, OF Gary Mitchell

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Juan Abreu, RHP Drew Carpenter, RHP Sam Demel, RHP Josh Judy, RHP Josh Ravin, RHP Romulo Sanchez (Tabasco (Mexican)), RHP Henry Sosa (Kia (Korea)), LHP Jack McGeary, LHP Fu-Te Ni (released by Tigers, Aug. 7, 2012), 3B Josh Bell (released by Yankees, July 10)

Miami Marlins

Signed: 2B Taylor Harbin

Removed from 40-man: C Kyle Skipworth (outrighted to Triple-A)

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: RHP Johnnie Lowe (re-signed), RHP Santo Manzanillo (re-signed)

Released: RHP Cody Scarpetta

[Cody Scarpetta](#) had Tommy John surgery in 2012, effectively ending his run as a Brewers prospect. Twice he had ranked among the organization's Top 10 Prospects (2011 and '12), but after he exhausted all four minor league options and missed all of the 2012 season, the Brewers removed him from the 40-man roster and now have released him.

Minnesota Twins

Signed: OF Jason Kubel (Article XX(B) free agent)

Released: LHP Jose Gonzalez, OF Romy Jimenez

Traded: C Ryan Doumit to Braves for LHP Sean Gilmartin

[Jason Kubel](#) signed a minor league deal with the team that drafted him out of a Palmdale, Calif., high school in 2000. If he doesn't make the Twins 25-man roster and accepts a Triple-A assignment, then Kubel will receive an automatic June 1 opt-out clause and \$100,000 retention bonus. Same goes for any Article XX(B) major league free agent who signs a minor league deal.

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Matt Daley (re-signed following non-tender)

Released: RHP Ryan Baker, RHP Victor Beriguete, RHP Sean Black, RHP John Brebbia, RHP Mariel Checo, RHP Charlie Haslup, LHP Tim Flight, LHP Aaron Gates, LHP Rich Mascheri, C Jeff Farnham, 1B Saxon Butler, 1B Jimmy Falla, 2B Hector Crespo, SS Ty Afenir, OF Daniel Aldrich, OF Shane Brown, OF Neil Medchill

The Yankees released catcher-turned-reliever [Ryan Baker](#) on the heels of his 50-game suspension taking effect. He refused to take an offseason drug test.

Among the 17 players released by the Yankees are four players they signed in 2013, including 34th-round draft pick [Hector Crespo](#) and 39th-rounder [Ty Afenir](#). New York signed [Jimmy Falla](#) as a nondrafted free agent out of South Florida and signed [Aaron Gates](#) out of the independent United League after he finished his career at Pepperdine.

Oakland Athletics

Signed: 2B Alden Carrithers

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Chris Bootcheck (released by Yankees, Sept. 7), LHP Greg Smith (re-signed), OF Dave Sappelt (released by

Cubs, Nov. 19)

Removed from 40-man: C Sebastian Valle (outrighted to Triple-A)

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: 1B Travis Ishikawa

St. Louis Cardinals

Released: 2B Leandro Mateo

San Diego Padres

Signed: RHP Erick de los Santos

Released: LHP Arturo Lopez

San Francisco Giants

Signed: RHP Andrew Carignan, RHP Adam Reifer, RHP Casey Weathers, 3B Mario Lisson (Minatitlan (Mexican))

Seattle Mariners

Signed: RHP Matt Palmer

Released: RHP Cameron Copping, RHP Isliexel Gonzalez, LHP Nate Koneski, 2B Noe Berroa, 2B Pedro Okuda, 3B Dan Kemp, OF Mike Faulkner, OF Reggie Lawson, OF Raysheron Michel

Removed from 40-man: OF Travis Witherspoon (outrighted to Double-A)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Sandy Brito, RHP Santiago Garrido, RHP Robert Guilamo, RHP Kendri Salvador, RHP Leonel Santiago, RHP Jesus Torres

Released: RHP Pedro Silvestre

Traded: OF Todd Glaesmann to Diamondbacks as player to be named in three-team deal in which Diamondbacks sent RHP Heath Bell to Rays and LHP David Holmberg to Reds, Rays sent RHP Justin Choate and a player to be named to Diamondbacks, and Reds sent C Ryan Hanigan to Rays

Minor league free agent imports [Santiago Garrido](#) and [Leonel Santiago](#) are a pair of righthanders from the Dominican Republic who signed with the Royals in 2007 and pitched in their system in 2013.

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Justin Germano, RHP Colby Lewis (re-signed), RHP Doug Mathis, RHP Daniel McCutchen, RHP Armando Rodriguez, RHP Johan Yan (re-signed), 2B Brent Lillibridge, 2B Kensuke Tanaka (released by Giants, Sept. 4), 3B Kevin Kouzmanoff, OF Che-Hsuan Lin

Released: RHP Ross Wolf

[The Giants released the second baseman/left fielder [Tanaka](#) back in September after designating him for assignment. The 32-year-old saw limited time with the Giants this season but excelled in 400 plate appearances at Triple-A Fresno, batting .329/.400/.397 with three homers and 22 steals]

The Rangers released [Ross Wolf](#) so that he could sign with the SK Wyverns in Korea.

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: LHP Manuel Nunez

Washington Nationals

Signed: C Mitch Canham, 1B Brock Peterson, SS Emmanuel Burriss

[Emmanuel Burriss](#) will contend with Danny Espinosa and Zach Walters for the utility-infield job in Washington, but, hey, at least Steve Lombardozzi is out of the picture. If Burriss makes the Nationals, it will be a homecoming of sorts for the 2006 sandwich pick (by the Giants) who played high school ball at Wilson High in D.C. before moving on to Kent State.

Minor League Transactions: Dec. 6-12

Rule 5 selections here are cataloged by 2013 organization, with designations for major league (MLB), Triple-A (AAA) or Double-A (AA) portion of the draft.

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: SS Melvin Mezquita

Traded: LHP Tyler Skaggs to Angels and OF Adam Eaton to White Sox as part of three-team deal in which Angels sent RHP A.J. Schugel and OF Mark Trumbo to Diamondbacks, and White Sox sent LHP Hector Santiago to Angels and OF Brandon Jacobs to Diamondbacks

Rule 5 draft selections lost: RHP Kevin Munson (MLB, Phillies), LHP Patrick Schuster (MLB, Astros)

Atlanta Braves

Signed: RHP Ramon Moreno, C Ruben Perez, 1B Mark Hamilton

Rule 5 draft selections lost: RHP Mike Lee (AAA, D-backs), LHP Blaine Sims (AA, Astros)

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: 1B Chris Marrero

Acquired: C David Freitas from Athletics as player to be named for RHP Jim Johnson

Removed from 40-man: 2B Cord Phelps (outrighted to Triple-A)

A first-round pick out of high school by the Nationals in 2006, [Chris Marrero](#) has been a staple of Washington prospect lists, appearing in seven consecutive Prospect Handbooks up through the 2013 edition. He has two cups of coffee with the Nationals, totaling 125 at-bats, and he's migrated from third base as an amateur to first base as a pro, but on the plus side he's still just 25 years old. Also of note: the righty-hitting Marrero has fared well versus Triple-A lefties, batting .332/.374/.461 with good bat-to-ball skills (12 percent strikeouts) in 295 plate appearances since 2011.

Boston Red Sox

Signed: RHP Dayan Diaz (released by Cubs, Aug. 23), 3B Carlos Rivero

Rule 5 draft selection lost: 3B Michael Almanzar (MLB, Orioles)

Chicago Cubs

Rule 5 draft selections lost: RHP Marcos Mateo (MLB, D-backs), RHP A.J. Morris (AAA, Pirates), 1B Justin Bour (AAA, Marlins), OF Julio Borbon (AAA, Orioles)

Chicago White Sox

Traded: LHP Hector Santiago to Angels and OF Brandon Jacobs to Diamondbacks as part of three-team deal in which Diamondbacks sent LHP Tyler Skaggs to Angels and OF Adam Eaton to White Sox, and Angels sent RHP A.J. Schugel and OF Mark Trumbo to Diamondbacks

Removed from 40-man: 1B Mike McDade, OF Blake Tekotte (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

Rule 5 draft selection lost: OF Brady Shoemaker (AAA, Marlins)

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: C Corky Miller (re-signed)

Rule 5 draft selection lost: OF Theo Bowe (AAA, Nationals)

Colorado Rockies

Traded: RHP Chris Jensen and LHP Drew Pomeranz to Athletics for LHP Brett Anderson

Rule 5 draft selection lost: 2B Russell Wilson (AAA, Rangers)

Detroit Tigers

Signed: RHP Derek Hankins (Doosan (Korea)), LHP Duane Below (Kia (Korea)), C Craig Albernaz, 2B Marcus Lemon (re-signed)

Rule 5 draft selections lost: C Adolfo Reina (AAA, Padres), 1B Jesus Ustariz (AAA, Cardinals)

Houston Astros

Rule 5 draft selection lost: RHP Enderson Franco (AAA, Rays)

Kansas City Royals

Signed: SS Brian Bocock

Rule 5 draft selection lost: RHP Tyler Sample (AAA, Pirates)

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: C Angel Molina

Traded: RHP A.J. Schugel and OF Mark Trumbo to Diamondbacks as part of three-team deal in which Diamondbacks sent LHP Tyler Skaggs to Angels and OF Adam Eaton to White Sox, and White Sox sent LHP Hector Santiago to Angels and OF Brandon Jacobs to Diamondbacks

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Jefferson Vergara

Rule 5 draft selection lost: OF Kevin Mattison (AAA, Brewers)

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Yohan Pino, 1B C.J. Ziegler (Wichita (American Association))

Rule 5 draft selections lost: RHP Tim Atherton (AAA, Athletics), RHP Jon Velasquez (AAA, Mets)

*[Imposing 1B **C.J. Ziegler**, 28, is listed at 6-4/225. He was drafted by the Giants in the 16th round of the 2008 draft out of Pima community college. San Francisco hastily cut ties with him after two seasons notwithstanding Ziegler hit 7 Hr & 43 RBI in 53 games in the Arizona rookie league in his pro debut. The last four seasons, he played in indy leagues (North American League, Mexican League and American Association) continuing to hit for power and averaging 20 Hrs per season. In 2013, Ziegler enjoyed a record-breaking year hitting .318/.408/.645 while at Wichita, with 30 HR & 99 RBI in 100 games, claiming American Association MVP honors. He led the league for RBI and set new league single-season league record for HR. Baseball America named Ziegler the 2013 Independent League Player of the Year]*

New York Mets

Rule 5 draft selections lost: RHP Martires Arias (AAA, Nationals), LHP Jim Fuller (AAA, Cubs), LHP Carlos Vazquez (AAA, Astros)

New York Yankees

Released: RHP Joaquin Acuna, RHP Daury Aquino, RHP Erick Canela, RHP Edixon Mejia, RHP Edwin Rodriguez, RHP Wilton Rodriguez, LHP Hector Bello, LHP Jose Diaz, C Ignacio Chevalier, C Jose Lopez, 3B Fu-Lin Kuo, OF Wilson Agramonte, OF Jorge Alcantara, OF Sandy Brito, OF Freiter Marte, OF Eladio Moronta

Acquired: RHP Kyle Haynes from Pirates as player to be named for C Chris Stewart

Rule 5 draft selections lost: RHP Kelvin Castro (AA, Marlins), RHP Felipe Gonzalez (AAA, Pirates), RHP Tommy Kahnle (MLB, Rockies), RHP Mikey O'Brien (AAA, Reds), OF Ravel Santana (AAA, Astros)

The Yankees purged 16 players from the organization in mid-December, all of them international free agent signees except for lefthander **Jose Diaz**, a 29th-round pick in 2012 out of high school in Puerto Rico. He spent the 2013 season in the Rookie-level Gulf Coast League.

Oakland Athletics

Traded: LHP Brett Anderson to Rockies for RHP Chris Jensen and LHP Drew Pomeranz

Traded: LHP Jerry Blevins to Nationals for OF Billy Burns

Traded: C David Freitas to Orioles as player to be named for RHP Jim Johnson

Removed from 40-man: LHP Andrew Werner (outrighted to Triple-A)

Rule 5 draft selections lost: 3B Vinnie Catricala (AAA, Brewers), 3B Tony Thompson (AAA, Marlins)

Philadelphia Phillies

Rule 5 draft selections lost: RHP Seth Rosin (MLB, Mets), SS Jonathan Roof (AAA, Red Sox)

Pittsburgh Pirates

Traded: RHP Kyle Haynes to Yankees as player to be named for C Chris Stewart

Rule 5 draft selections lost: RHP Roberto Espinosa (AAA, Blue Jays), LHP Wei-Chung Wang (MLB, Brewers), C Charlie Cutler (AAA, Cubs)

[Wang, 21, was signed 2011 out of Taiwan. The Pirates discovered soon he needed Tommy John surgery, so they opted to void the original deal and to re-sign the pitcher to a new contract at different conditions. When teams void a contract, the Rule 5 stipulations, which allow for four years to evaluate a player before the player becomes eligible – five if he signs while he's 18 or younger – no longer apply and, at that point, the player is eligible for a Rule 5 draft every year. Wang posted a 1-3, 3.23 ERA record in 47.1 IP (with 42 K and only 4 BB) with the GCL Pirates in 2013, the only pro-season in which he played]

St. Louis Cardinals

Signed: 1B Dariel Gomez, SS Oscar Cotes

Rule 5 draft selections lost: RHP Kevin Thomas (AAA, Twins), LHP Hector Hernandez (AAA, D-backs), SS Jake Lemmerman (AAA, Padres)

San Diego Padres

Signed: SS Alberto Gonzalez

San Francisco Giants

Rule 5 draft selection lost: RHP Scott Shuman (AAA, Blue Jays)

Seattle Mariners

Signed: OF Cole Gillespie, OF Burt Reynolds (Camden (Atlantic))

Rule 5 draft selections lost: RHP Jose Valdivia (AAA, Angels), LHP Brian Moran (MLB, Blue Jays)

Burt Reynolds spent three seasons in the Rays system up through 2010 and has played independent ball in the Can-Am (2011-12) and Atlantic (2013) leagues the past three seasons. He signed a minor league deal with the Yankees prior to the 2012 season and now the 25-year-old outfielder has one with the Mariners heading into 2014. Why does that matter? According to the YES Network, Reynolds is Robinson Cano's cousin, and now Cano is under contract with the Mariners for the next 10 years.

Tampa Bay Rays

Rule 5 draft selections lost: C Omar Narvaez (AAA, White Sox)

Texas Rangers

Signed: SS Josh Wilson

Rule 5 draft selections lost: LHP Richard Bleier (AAA, Blue Jays), SS Greg Miclat (AAA, Cardinals)

Toronto Blue Jays

Rule 5 draft selections lost: LHP Evan Crawford (AAA, White Sox)

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Angher Cespedes, LHP Melvin Morel

Traded: OF Billy Burns to Athletics for LHP Jerry Blevins

Rule 5 draft selection lost: C Adrian Nieto (MLB, White Sox)

Minor League Transactions: Nov 29-Dec. 5

Arizona Diamondbacks

Traded: RHP Heath Bell to Rays and LHP David Holmberg to Reds as part of three-team deal in which Rays sent RHP Justin Choate and a player to be named to Diamondbacks, and Reds sent C Ryan Hanigan to Rays

Atlanta Braves

Signed: OF Dustin Martin

Boston Red Sox

Signed: LHP Juan Francisco Perez

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Zach Putnam

With the signing of **Zach Putnam**, the White Sox continue to load up on minor league free agent relievers with strong track records at Double-A and Triple-A. A fifth-round pick in 2008, Putnam has spent the better part of the past four seasons at Triple-A, logging 8.5 strikeouts and 3.3 walks per nine innings. The other recent Chicago signees are Jairo Asencio, Parker Frazier and David Purcey.

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: SS Argenis Diaz

Traded: C Ryan Hanigan to Rays as part of three-team deal in which Diamondbacks sent LHP David Holmberg to Reds and RHP Heath Bell to Rays, and Rays sent RHP Justin Choate and a player to be named to Diamondbacks

Detroit Tigers

Traded: RHP Doug Fister to Nationals for LHPs Robbie Ray and Ian Krol and 2B Steve Lombardozzi

Houston Astros

Signed: RHP Peter Moylan

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Eddy Gonzalez, OF Matt Angle, OF Emmanuel Nere

Milwaukee Brewers

Signed: C Matt Paganzzi, SS Irving Falu (released by Royals, Nov. 25)

Minnesota Twins

Signed: LHP Matt Hoffman, 3B Brandon Waring

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Brian Gordon

[Gordon, 35, was with the Yankees organization briefly in 2011, making two starts at the Major League level and one at Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre before having his contract sold to the SK Wyverns of the Korean Baseball Organization. He did make history in that short stint, however, by becoming the first Major Leaguer to wear a glove made of synthetic material, with that non-leather mitt later being sent to the Hall of Fame. After spending the second half of 2011 (SK) and all of 2012 (Samsung Lions) in Korea, Gordon returned to the U.S. in 2013, signing with the A's organization and going 4-0 with a 3.57 ERA and 23 saves in 51 relief appearances at Triple-A Sacramento. Overall, Gordon, who converted to pitching from the outfield in 2005, has hurled just 14 MLB innings, going 0-1 with a 4.40 ERA in five games (2 GS) with the 2008 Texas Rangers and 2011 Yankees. (source: Lou DiPietro/YES)]

Oakland Athletics

Traded: 2B Chris Bostick and OF Michael Choice to Rangers for RHP Josh Lindblom and OF Craig Gentry

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Jeff Manship

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: RHP Cody Eppley (Lancaster (Atlantic)), LHP Brandon Mann (released by Nationals, March 28), C Nevin Ashley

[Brandon Mann pitched for the Shinano Grandserows in the Baseball Challenge League, an independent league in Japan. He also pitched for the Yokohama BayStars in the NPB in 2011 and 2012, before being signed by the Nats during the spring of 2013 then being released shortly thereafter]

San Diego Padres

Signed: LHP Jason Lane (Sugar Land (Atlantic)), 2B Gabe Suarez (El Paso (American Association))

San Francisco Giants

Signed: C Tyler LaTorre (re-signed)

Tampa Bay Rays

Traded: RHP Justin Choate and a player to be named to Diamondbacks as part of three-team deal in which Reds sent C Ryan Hanigan to Rays, and Diamondbacks sent RHP Heath Bell to Rays and LHP David Holmberg to Reds

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Nate Adcock, RHP Jose Contreras, C Melvin Novoa, SS Jose Israel Contreras

Traded: RHP Josh Lindblom and OF Craig Gentry to Athletics for 2B Chris Bostick and OF Michael Choice to Rangers

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Manny Delcarmen, 2B Oscar Tejada

Traded: LHPs Robbie Ray and Ian Krol and 2B Steve Lombardozzi to Tigers for RHP Doug Fister

Minor League Transactions: Nov. 22-28

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: RHP Adam Russell, RHP Jess Todd, C Bobby Wilson

Elected free agency: LHP Tony Sipp

Removed from 40-man: LHP Tony Sipp (outrighted to Triple-A)

Atlanta Braves

Signed: RHP Ryan Kelly, C Matt Kennelly, OF Derrick Mitchell

A solid track record at Double-A, plus a firm fastball/slider combination, made 26-year-old reliever **Ryan Kelly** an attractive target on the minor league free agent market. He sits in the low 90s and throws a tight slider in the high 80s, using them in concert to strike out 8.0 and walk 3.3 batters per nine innings over 76 career appearances at Double-A San Antonio. Kelly also has an interesting transactional history, which ranges from draft-and-follow signee by the Pirates in 2007 to three separate minor trades—to the Athletics for Corey Wimberly in 2010, to the Rangers for Guillermo Moscoso in 2011 and to the Padres for Luis Martinez later in 2011. In other words, pro scouts have been at least mildly intrigued by Kelly's upside for years.

Baltimore Orioles

Traded: RHP Devin Jones to Padres for RHP Brad Brach

Boston Red Sox

Traded: LHP Luis Ortega to Brewers for RHP Burke Badenhop

Chicago Cubs

Signed: OF Darnell McDonald (re-signed)

Darnell McDonald, the esteemed 35-year-old veteran, played well as a part-time corner outfielder for the Cubs this season (113 OPS+ in 25 games), and he re-signed with the organization on a minor league deal. For his career, he has hit .285/.353/.453 in 463 plate appearances versus big league lefthanders, and with a good spring training McDonald could win a part-time role with Chicago.

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Jairo Asencio, OF Denis Phipps

[28-year-old Phipps was signed by Cincinnati out of the Dominican Republic and spent eight seasons in the Reds' farm system. Last season, the right-handed hitter hit .248/.331/.385, with 27 DB, 2 TB, 9 HR, 49 RBI & 14 stolen bases in 130 games at AAA-Louisville. In 2012, Phipps made a strong MLB debut: .300/.364/.700 in 8 games for the Reds]

Cleveland Indians

Signed: LHP Mike Zagurski

Colorado Rockies

Signed: LHP Carlos Hernandez

Removed from 40-man: OF Tim Wheeler (outrighted to Triple-A)

Strong control and a quality changeup helped 26-year-old **Carlos Hernandez** go 7-7, 2.18 in 25 appearances at Double-A Midland in the Athletics system this season.

Detroit Tigers

Signed: RHP Eduardo Sanchez, LHP Patrick McCoy, 1B Mike Hessman

Mike Hessman will be 36 next season, but he's still cranking out home runs at the Triple-A level, including 25 this year at Louisville and 35 the year before at Oklahoma City. The well-traveled slugger, who won the International League MVP award in 2007 with the Tigers' Toledo affiliate, will take aim at 400 career homers in the domestic minors in 2014. Hessman has gone deep 389 times in the affiliated minors, adding 14 more homers in the U.S. majors and six in the Japanese majors. Furthermore, Hessman can tie the IL's career home-run record if he connects for 14 blasts with Toledo next season. He's sitting on 244, trailing the total of 258 accumulated by Ollie Carnegie, who played for Buffalo in 1931-41 and in 1945.

Kansas City Royals

Signed: 3B Brandon Laird

Removed from 40-man: LHP Noel Arguelles (outrighted to Triple-A)

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Mike Monster

Mike Monster turned down the Reds in 2009 as a 25th-round pick out of high school in Kelowna, B.C., but four years later the Angels clocked him at 97 mph during a tryout and inked him to a deal.

Milwaukee Brewers

Traded: RHP Burke Badenhop to Red Sox for LHP Luis Ortega

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Jon Velasquez (Camden (Atlantic))

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Miguel Socolovich (Hiroshima (Japan))

Removed from 40-man: RHP Hansel Robles (outrighted to Triple-A)

The Mets found a useful arm in Carlos Torres, who notched a 3.44 ERA and 1.11 WHIP in 86 innings for the big club this season, two years after pitching in Japan. They hope lightning strikes twice with the signing of 27-year-old **Miguel Socolovich**, a power-armed reliever who pitched in the Cubs and Orioles systems in 2012. [*Venezuelan-born Socolovich pitched 11.1 strong relief innings for Hiroshima (0.79 ERA). In 2012 made his MLB debut with the Cubs and the Orioles (16 innings, 6.19 ERA)*]

New York Yankees

Signed: OF Russ Canzler

The International League MVP in 2011, first baseman/left fielder **Russ Canzler** has punished Triple-A lefthanders the past three seasons, batting .307/.390/.531 in 433 plate appearances, with 17 home runs and strong walk (12 percent) and strikeout (18 percent) in rates. He turns 28 next season.

Oakland Athletics

Traded: OF John Wooten to Nationals for LHP Fernando Abad

Right fielder **John Wooten**, a righthanded batter, hit .257/.333/.430 with 20 homers in 133 games at low Class A Beloit this season. A 37th-round pick from East Carolina in 2012, he has fringe-average or better tools across the board and ranked fourth in the Midwest League home-run race in 2013.

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: RHP Marek Minarik (released by Phillies, March 23), C Ralph Henriquez (Long Island (Atlantic))

Traded: OF Alex Dickerson to Padres for RHP Miles Mikolas and OF Jaff Decker

The Phillies released 6-foot-7 Czech righthander **Marek Minarik** in spring training following two seasons in the Gulf Coast League. He spent 2013 pitching in Czech Extraleague in his home country.

St. Louis Cardinals

Signed: OF Carlos Luis

San Diego Padres

Traded: RHP Brad Brach to Orioles for RHP Devin Jones

Traded: RHP Miles Mikolas and OF Jaff Decker to Pirates for OF Alex Dickerson

The Padres designated four players for assignment on Nov. 20 to make room for 40-man roster additions Juan Oramas, Donn Roach and Keyvius Sampson, plus free agent Josh Johnson. San Diego lost lefty Jose De Paula on a waiver claim to the Giants, but they were able to trade the other three players—Brad Brach, Jaff Decker and Miles Mikolas—in deals with the Orioles and Pirates. Both of the players the Padres acquired finished the season in the Double-A Eastern League. Both are 23.

Alex Dickerson batted .288/.337/.494 and ranked second in the EL with 36 doubles and 56 extra-base hits in 2013. The physical lefthanded hitter has a chance to hit for average and power—perhaps .260 with 12-15 homers—while playing passable defense in right field or at first base.

Despite leading the EL in runs allowed (95) and serving up 17 homers in 24 starts, **Devin Jones** has three pitches that border on average, with control strong enough to make him a bullpen candidate in the future.

Seattle Mariners

Signed: RHP Stephen Shackleford (re-signed)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Luis Nunez

Texas Rangers

Signed: LHP Yonelvy Pichardo

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Kelvin Perez

Traded: LHP Fernando Abad to Athletics for OF John Wooten

Removed from 40-man: LHP Tyler Robertson (outrighted to Triple-A)

Minor League Transactions: Nov. 14-21

Nov. 20th was the Deadline day for clubs to file reserve lists for Major League club and all Minor League levels. All the 40-man additions in this installment was made for setting reserve lists then protecting players from the next Rule 5 Draft.

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: LHP Ryan Rowland-Smith, 2B Jorge Vega-Rosado (released by Blue Jays, July 1)

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Bo Schultz, OF Ender Inciarte

Atlanta Braves

Signed: RHP Benino Pruneda (re-signed), LHP Brady Feigl (NDFC—Mount St. Mary's), C Steve Lerud, C Jose Yopez (re-signed), OF Jose George

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Luis Vasquez, LHP Carlos Perez, SS Elmer Reyes

The Braves had signed reliever **Luis Vasquez** to a minor league deal hours after he attained free agency from the Dodgers, so rather than risking losing him in the Rule 5 draft, Atlanta added him to the 40-man roster. The 27-year-old misses plenty of bats (career-best 11.6 SO/9 in 2013) and has given up five home runs total in the past four seasons, but walks have been a significant issue (7.1 BB/9 in 2013). Still, Vasquez presents a tough look for righthanders with a sidearm delivery, and he has a nice fastball/slider combo.

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Brock Huntzinger, LHP Nick Additon, SS Sharlon Schoop, OF Ronald Bermudez, OF Chih-Hsien Chiang, OF K.D. Kang

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Eddie Gamboa, LHP Tim Berry, C Michael Ohlman

With the signing of **Sharlon Schoop**, the Orioles could have a sibling double-play combination at Triple-A Norfolk in 2014. That is if prospect Jonathan Schoop plays second base and Sharlon plays shortstop. Both are from Curacao. While they won't be the Ripkens, the 22-year-old Jonathan has some sock in his bat and could be a heavy-hitting infielder for many years.

Boston Red Sox

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Anthony Ranaudo, 3B Garin Cecchini, OF Bryce Brentz

Chicago Cubs

Signed: RHP Paolo Espino, RHP Carlos Pimentel, LHP Jeffry Antigua (re-signed), 2B Chris Valaika, SS Jeudy Valdez, OF Casper Wells

Released: OF Dave Sappelt

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Dallas Beeler, SS Arismendy Alcantara

Dave Sappelt joined the Cubs organization along with Travis Wood and Ronald Torreyes in the December 2011 Sean Marshall trade with the Reds. Chicago made out well in the exchange, receiving a breakthrough performance from Wood in 2013 (3.11 ERA, 1.15 WHIP in 32 starts) while turning Torreyes into \$784,700 in international pool money in a July trade with the Astros.

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Parker Frazier, 3B Alex Liddi, SS Jaime Pedroza

Added to 40-man roster: 2B Carlos Sanchez, OF Trayce Thompson

*[The Italian-born **Liddi** has a .636 OPS in 188 Major League PA with the Mariners since 2011 and he has posted a good .272/.337/.459 slash line in 7 yrs and 3734 career PA in the minors]*

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: RHP Ross Ismail, LHP Nick Schmidt

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Chad Rogers, C Tucker Barnhart, OF Juan Duran, OF Ryan LaMarre

According to his Twitter account, **Ross Ismail** is an international free agent signing from Aruba.

Cleveland Indians

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Austin Adams, RHP Bryan Price, 1B Jesus Aguilar, 3B Erik Gonzalez, OF Carlos Moncrief

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Brooks Brown, RHP Greg Burke, RHP Bobby Cassevah (re-signed), C Matt McBride (re-signed), C Jackson Williams

Released: C Bryce Massanari

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Raul Fernandez, LHP Jayson Aquino, LHP Tyler Matzek, LHP Kraig Sitton, SS Rosell Herrera, OF Kent Matthes, OF Kyle Parker

Detroit Tigers

Signed: RHP Jhan Marinez, C Ronny Paulino (re-signed)

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Justin Miller, RHP Jose Valdez, LHP Kyle Lobstein, 1B Jordan Lennerton, SS Eugenio Suarez, OF Daniel Fields, OF Steven Moya

Houston Astros

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Asher Wojciechowski, LHP Luis Cruz, OF Domingo Santana

Removed from 40-man: OF J.D. Martinez (outrighted to Triple-A)

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Wilking Rodriguez, RHP P.J. Walters, 3B Cody King, OF Gorkys Hernandez (re-signed), OF Edinson Rincon

(re-signed)

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Michael Mariot, 2B Christian Colon, 3B Cheslor Cuthbert, OF Lane Adams

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: LHP Wade LeBlanc, C Luis Martinez

Added to 40-man roster: OF Randal Grichuk

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: LHP Daniel Moskos (EDA Rhinos (Taiwan)), C Alberto Rosario, 1B Clint Robinson, 3B Brendan Harris, OF Jamie Romak

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Pedro Baez, RHP Yimi Garcia, LHP Jarret Martin

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Ronny Fermin, RHP Jesus Sanchez, RHP Juan Sosa

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Mike Brady, RHP Angel Sanchez, RHP Jose Urena, LHP Grant Dayton, C J.T. Realmuto, OF Brent Keys

Milwaukee Brewers

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Brooks Hall, RHP Kevin Shackelford, 1B Hunter Morris, 1B Jason Rogers

Minnesota Twins

Signed: RHP Deolis Guerra (re-signed), OF Chris Rahl

Released: 1B Rory Rhodes, 2B Andy Leer, OF Kelvin Ortiz, OF Rick Schwarz

Added to 40-man roster: LHP Logan Darnell, 1B Kennys Vargas, 2B Jorge Polanco, OF Max Kepler

Removed from 40-man: RHP B.J. Hermsen (outrighted to Triple-A)

New York Mets

Signed: 1B Brandon Allen, OF Eris Peguero (released by Mets, Oct. 16)

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Jake deGrom, RHP Erik Goeddel, RHP Jeff Walters, LHP Steve Matz

New York Yankees

Signed: SS Yamaico Navarro

Released: C Hector Rabago

Traded: RHP Ben Paullus to Padres for 2B Dean Anna

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Jose Campos, RHP Shane Greene, RHP Bryan Mitchell, C Gary Sanchez, 2B Dean Anna, OF Slade Heathcott

Removed from 40-man: 2B Corban Joseph (outrighted to Triple-A)

Oakland Athletics

Signed: RHP Matt Buschmann, RHP Jose Flores, RHP Deryk Hooker, RHP Jeremy McBryde, RHP Fernando Nieve (re-signed), 2B Jose Martinez

Elected free agency: 2B Scott Sizemore

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Raul Alcantara

Removed from 40-man: 2B Scott Sizemore (outrighted to Triple-A)

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: LHP Cesar Jimenez (re-signed), SS Andres Blanco (re-signed), SS Reid Brignac

Added to 40-man roster: LHP Rob Rasmussen, C Tommy Joseph, OF Aaron Altherr, OF Kelly Dugan

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: RHP Collin Balester, RHP Jake Brigham, RHP Jason Erickson (re-signed), RHP Jay Jackson, RHP Josh Kinney, RHP Seth McClung (Puebla (Mexican)), C Miguel Perez (re-signed)

Released: RHP Luis Campos, RHP Jimmy Hernandez

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Casey Sadler, LHP Joely Rodriguez, SS Alen Hanson, OF Gregory Polanco

The 32-year-old [Seth McClung](#) pitched well as a reliever in the Mexican League in 2013, making 24 appearances for two clubs and notching 24 strikeouts and six walks in 23 innings. He logged five saves with a 1.04 WHIP.

St. Louis Cardinals

Signed: C Ed Easley

Added to 40-man roster: SS Greg Garcia, OF Mike O'Neill, OF Oscar Taveras

Removed from 40-man: LHP John Gast, 3B Jermaine Curtis (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

San Diego Padres

Signed: RHP Anthony Carter

Released: RHP Chris Fetter, RHP Neil Jamison, RHP Drew Miller, LHP Brent Carter, C Barry Gunther, 3B Tom King

Traded: 2B Dean Anna to Yankees for RHP Ben Paullus

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Donn Roach, RHP Keyvius Sampson, LHP Juan Oramas

With the exception of 2009 ninth-rounder [Chris Fetter](#), the other five players released by the Padres had been on the restricted list for years. Drew Miller ranked as the system's No. 5 prospect heading into 2008, but injuries and spotty command sidetracked his career, and he had not pitched since making two appearances in 2010.

San Francisco Giants

Signed: SS Brandon Hicks

Elected free agency: RHP Guillermo Moscoso

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Kendry Flores, RHP Hunter Strickland, 3B Adam Duvall, OF Gary Brown

Removed from 40-man: RHP Guillermo Moscoso (outrighted to Triple-A)

Seattle Mariners

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Logan Bawcom, 1B Ji-Man Choi, OF James Jones, OF Stefen Romero

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Mark Lowe (released by Nationals, Sept. 2), RHP Sam Runion, C Mayobanex Acosta (re-signed), C Ali Solis

Released: RHP Eliazar Suero

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Jesse Hahn, RHP Kirby Yates, LHP C.J. Riefenhauser, 1B Vince Belnome

Texas Rangers

Signed: OF Kalia Sams (re-signed), OF Jake Smolinski, OF Brad Snyder

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Lisalberto Bonilla, RHP Ben Rowen, SS Luis Sardinas

Removed from 40-man: LHP Edwar Cabrera (outrighted to Triple-A)

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Mike Broadway, 1B Dan Johnson, SS Jonathan Diaz

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Deck McGuire, OF Kenny Wilson

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Gabriel Alfaro (Oaxaca (Mexican)), RHP Daniel Stange, RHP Chris Young (re-signed), C Jeyner Baez, 3B Melvin Dorta (re-signed)

Released: RHP Yunesky Maya

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Aaron Barrett, LHP Sammy Solis, OF Michael Taylor

Signed by the Blue Jays out of Venezuela in 2001, **Gabriel Alfaro** spent six seasons in the low levels of the Toronto system, topping out at short-season Auburn in 2005 and '06, and he also logged time in the independent Atlantic League prior to joining the Mexican League in 2012. Now 30 years old, Alfaro had a big year with Oaxaca in 2013, logging a 2.71 ERA and 1.13 WHIP in 53 appearances while ranking second in the ML with 26 saves and (among relievers) strikeout rate (12.0 SO/9) and opponent average (.204).

Signed for four years and \$6 million in August 2010 after he defected from Cuba, **Yunesky Maya** did not live up to his billing as a potential mid-rotation arm, making just 16 appearances (10 starts) in parts of three seasons with the Nationals. In four seasons and 76 starts with Triple-A Syracuse, he logged a 4.13 ERA with strong control (2.1 BB/9) and feel to mix and match four pitches. Maya is now listed at age 32 and could make a decent buy-low candidate for an organization seeking pitching depth.

Minor League Transactions: Nov. 7-13

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: LHP Eric Perrault (NDFA—Keene State (N.H.)), C Mark Thomas, OF Danny Dorn

According to his Keene State (N.H.) College player bio, lefthander **Eric Perrault** had Tommy John surgery that wiped out the majority of his junior season.

Atlanta Braves

Signed: 1B Seth Loman

Boston Red Sox

Signed: LHP Tommy Layne, 3B Mario Martinez (re-signed), SS Mike McCoy

Chicago Cubs

Signed: C Eli Whiteside, SS Walter Ibarra, OF Aaron Cunningham

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Jake Floethe (released by Rays, Oct. 29), LHP David Purcey (re-signed), OF Hunter Jones (released by Indians, March 23)

Cincinnati Reds

Signed: LHP Lee Hyde (re-signed), C Rossmel Perez, C Max Ramirez, 2B Rey Navarro, OF Mike Wilson

Colorado Rockies

Signed: RHP Nate Striz, LHP Pedro Hernandez, 2B Rafael Ynoa

Released: RHP Aaron Cook

Detroit Tigers

Signed: LHP Will Startup (re-signed)

Houston Astros

Released: OF Luis de la Rosa

Los Angeles Angels

Signed: RHP Orangel Arenas (re-signed), SS Jimmy Swift (re-signed), OF Julio Concepcion (re-signed)

Released: RHP Alex Da Silva, RHP Caleb Graham, LHP Nic Dellatorre

Los Angeles Dodgers

Signed: RHP Juan Gonzalez, RHP Justin Souza, C J.C. Boscan, 2B Daniel Mayora (Bridgeport (Atlantic))

Miami Marlins

Signed: RHP Eliezer Cuello, C Endy Guaba, SS Juan Diaz, OF Benito Olivo

The Marlins signed righthander **Eliezer Cuello** and catcher **Endy Guaba** out of the Dominican Republic-based International Prospect League.

Minnesota Twins

Signed: SS Jason Bartlett (did not play in 2013)

New York Mets

Signed: RHP Joel Carreno, 3B Anthony Seratelli

New York Yankees

Signed: RHP Jim Miller (re-signed), 3B Zelous Wheeler, OF Antoan Richardson

Philadelphia Phillies

Signed: RHP Shawn Camp, OF Clete Thomas (elected free agency from Twins)

Pittsburgh Pirates

Signed: LHP Jhonathan Ramos (re-signed), C Francisco Diaz (re-signed), OF Miles Durham (re-signed)

Released: RHP Lance Breedlove, C Dylan Child, OF Dan Grovatt

St. Louis Cardinals

Signed: 3B Scott Moore

San Francisco Giants

Signed: RHP Jason Berken, RHP Caleb Clay, RHP Daryl Maday (re-signed), RHP Mason Tobin (re-signed), C Guillermo Quiroz (re-signed)

Tampa Bay Rays

Signed: RHP Eduar Quinonez (re-signed), RHP Jesus A. Sanchez, RHP Albert Suarez (re-signed)

This is [Jesus Armando Sanchez](#), whom the Rays assigned to the Gulf Coast League, and not the free agent righthander by the same name who pitched at Triple-A Nashville in the Brewers system in 2013.

Texas Rangers

Signed: RHP Zach Russell

Toronto Blue Jays

Signed: RHP Marcus Walden (re-signed), LHP Juan Perez (re-signed)

Washington Nationals

Signed: RHP Carlos Acevedo, C Sean McCauley (re-signed), SS Josh R. Johnson (re-signed)

Minor League Transactions: Oct. 31-Nov. 6

To distinguish between players who re-signed before or after hitting the free agent market, we've given them different designations. Those who re-signed before receive an asterisk (), while those who signed after being declared free agents are credited as being (re-signed).*

Arizona Diamondbacks

Signed: OF Jordan Parraz

Atlanta Braves

Signed: RHP Race Parmenter (Southern Illinois (Frontier)), LHP Robert Fish*, C Jerol Guzman

Added to 40-man roster: RHP Wirfin Obispo, LHP Ryan Buchter

Removed from 40-man: 2B Phil Gosselin (outrighted to Triple-A)

Not satisfied to merely build a bullpen from waiver-wire discards—see: David Carpenter, Cristhian Martinez, Eric O'Flaherty and Anthony Varvaro—the Braves also use other pro-scouting channels to procure and hoard free-talent relievers. That's how they acquired Juan Jaime and the two arms they recently added to the 40-man roster: Ryan Buchter and Wirfin Obispo, both of whom spent 2013 at Triple-A Gwinnett and are pitching in winter ball now.

The 29-year-old [Obispo](#), signed last November as a minor league free agent, tops out in the high 90s and posted strong ratios versus Triple-A righties this year, including strikeout and walk rates of 28 and 6 percent. He walks way too many lefties (22 percent), but then he allowed just two extra-base hits in 105 plate appearances.

Acquired in the May 2011 deal that sent Rodrigo Lopez to the Cubs, the 26-year-old [Buchter](#) was one of four pure relievers in the minors this season to strike out 100 batters (103). The other three: Padres righty Leonel Campos (106), Diamondbacks righty Seth Simmons (106) and Mets lefty Jack Leathersich (102). A 6-foot-3 southpaw, Buchter had the highest walk rate of the group (18 percent), though the Braves must be excited about his situational potential seeing as he held Triple-A lefties to a 11-for-89 (.124) line with 48 strikeouts and two extra-base hits in 114 plate appearances. Buchter throws a low-90s heater and a slider that lefties struggle to see well.

Baltimore Orioles

Signed: RHP Tim Alderson (re-signed), 3B Cam Kneeland (Trois-Rivieres (Can-Am))

Elected free agency: 1B Dan Johnson, OF Chris Dickerson

Added to 40-man roster: LHP Chris Jones

Removed from 40-man: 1B Dan Johnson, OF Chris Dickerson (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

Acquired from the Braves for Luis Ayala in April, lefty [Chris Jones](#) spent the majority of the season in the Triple-A Norfolk bullpen. The 25-year-old has situational-relief potential, though he'll have to throw more strikes versus lefties after walking 12 percent of them at Triple-A. On the plus side, same-siders went just 20-for-102 (.196) with zero homers in 117 plate appearances against Jones.

Boston Red Sox

Removed from 40-man: 1B Brandon Snyder, OF Quintin Berry (both players outrighted to Triple-A)

Chicago Cubs

Signed: RHP Eduardo Figueroa*, RHP Dae-Eun Rhee*

Chicago White Sox

Signed: RHP Tony Pena Jr.*, RHP Salvador Sanchez*

Removed from 40-man: RHP Simon Castro (outrighted to Triple-A)

Cleveland Indians

Signed: RHP J.C. Ramirez, 1B Jason Giambi (re-signed)

Houston Astros

Signed: RHP Jorge De Leon (re-signed)

Released: C Cristian Moronta, OF Mesac Laguna

Kansas City Royals

Signed: RHP Clayton Mortensen (re-signed), OF Paulo Orlando*

Los Angeles Angels**Signed:** RHP Jarrett Grube*, RHP Chris Volstad**Los Angeles Dodgers****Signed:** RHP Hector Nelo*, RHP Andres Santiago*, C Gorman Erickson*, 1B Chris Jacobs*, SS Ozzie Martinez***Miami Marlins****Signed:** RHP Nick Grim (Rockford (Frontier))**Milwaukee Brewers****Signed:** C Joey Paciorek***Minnesota Twins****Signed:** RHP Lester Oliveros*, OF Jermaine Mitchell***Added to 40-man roster:** LHP Edgar Ibarra

Signed out of Venezuela in 2006, **Edgar Ibarra** rebounded from a dreadful 2012 season (1.53 WHIP, 4.69 ERA in 42 appearances), his first as a pure reliever, to pitch his way onto the Twins' 40-man roster. The 24-year-old is a sinker/slider specialist who sits 89-91 mph and presents a tough look for lefthanders, who went 13-for-71 (.183) with 22 percent strikeouts and two extra-base hits in 85 plate appearances in Double-A and Triple-A. Like the other lefty relievers added to 40-man rosters this time—that's Ryan Buchter (Braves) and Chris Jones (Orioles)—Ibarra allowed a low batting average, minimal power, few hits on balls in play (.231) and too many walks (15 percent) to lefthanders.

Oakland Athletics**Signed:** SS Darwin Perez***Philadelphia Phillies****Signed:** RHP Luis Paulino*, 3B Tyler Henson*, SS Jonathan Roof*, OF Leandro Castro***Pittsburgh Pirates****Signed:** LHP Eliecer Navarro*, C Rudy Pena*, 3B Andy Vasquez*, SS Greg Picart*, OF Austin McClune*, OF Anthony Norman (re-signed)**Elected free agency:** OF Felix Pie**Removed from 40-man:** OF Felix Pie (outrighted to Triple-A)**St. Louis Cardinals****Removed from 40-man:** C Rob Johnson, 1B Brock Peterson, OF Adron Chambers (all players outrighted to Triple-A)**San Diego Padres****Signed:** RHP Luis de la Cruz*, LHP Juan Oramas***Removed from 40-man:** LHP Tommy Layne (outrighted to Triple-A)

Lefty **Juan Oramas** made a successful return from Tommy John surgery, going 3-2, 3.07 with a 4-to-1 strikeout-to-walk ratio in 12 starts for Double-A San Antonio. He also pitched 12 scoreless innings, allowing five hits and striking out 12, in the Texas League playoffs, helping push the Missions to their second league title in three years. With a lost injury year in between, Oramas also pitched for the 2011 TL champs. Though they have re-signed him to a minor league deal for now, the Padres will have to add Oramas to the 40-man prior to Nov. 20 to make him ineligible for the Rule 5 draft.

San Francisco Giants**Signed:** 3B Mark Miniccozzi***Released:** RHP Craig Westcott**Seattle Mariners****Signed:** RHP Jonathan Arias (re-signed), 3B Leury Bonilla (re-signed)**Tampa Bay Rays****Signed:** RHP Victor Mateo (re-signed)**Texas Rangers****Signed:** RHP Ross Wolf (re-signed following outright assignment)**Removed from 40-man:** RHP Ross Wolf, LHP Travis Blackley (both players outrighted to Triple-A)**Toronto Blue Jays****Signed:** RHP Austin Bibens-Dirkx*, RHP Bobby Korecky*, LHP Efrain Nieves*, C Mike Nickeas***Removed from 40-man:** LHP Juan Perez (outrighted to Triple-A)

Did you know that minor league free agent pickup **Austin Bibens-Dirkx** led all Blue Jays minor leaguers with 155 strikeouts? Well, he did. The 28-year-old also led all the system's full-season pitchers with a 2.48 ERA while racking up 12 wins at high Class A Dunedin and Double-A New Hampshire. If not for R.A. Dickey's 177 whiffs, then Bibens-Dirkx would have led the entire organization in that category.

Washington Nationals**Added to 40-man roster:** OF Steven Souza

Selected as a prep third baseman from Everett, Wash., in the third round of the 2007 draft, **Steven Souza**, now a right fielder, began tapping into his impressive raw power at two Class A stops in 2012, mashing 23 homers and slugging .572. Improved plate discipline at Double-A in 2013 put the 6-foot-3 righthanded hitter on the 40-man roster. At 24 years old, Souza is a late bloomer, but despite a high strikeout rate against righthanders (26 percent), he hit them with authority at Harrisburg, batting .298/.402/.576 with 11 homers, a .272 isolated slugging percentage and 13-percent walk rate in 229 plate appearances. He tagged Double-A lefties with an .895 OPS, but his production versus righties will dictate whether he has a chance to start in the big leagues. So far, so good. Souza continued to excel in the Arizona Fall League, where he had hit .364/.447/.424 through nine games for Mesa, with some of the highest exit velocity off the bat, according to TrackMan data.