



”A couple of players I would not want to face in 2004 are Brian Sipich and Quinn Huber. They are both outstanding young talents that haven't even reached their potential yet. I predict high numbers for them.”

Peter Gammons, ESPN

“I am a huge fan of veterans, not young rookies. That’s why I am looking for Matt Warnes or Matt Endsley to team up with some solid talent and BAM, take the SLW Tournament Title this year. Rookies could learn a lot from veterans like these two.”



John Madden, ABC Sports

“Holy shit baby, is it wiffleball time already? Wow! All I can say is what an All-Star line up for 2004. I look for Brian Shoemaker to step out from his brother’s shadow and make a name for himself. Jason “Dude” Morgan, what a diaper dandy, he will have a great second season, and don’t forget about ole Porkchop Pope, a two-time all-star. What about Chris Meneley, I can’t wait!”



Dick Vitale, ESPN



Dave "Grizzle" Cain
6'3", 235 lbs
Sadorus, Illinois

2003 SLW Hall of Fame Inductee
2003 SLW All-Star
2002 SLW All-Star
2001 United Way Good Citizen Award
Two-Time Gold Glove Winner

SCOUTING REPORT

The pride of Sadorus was inducted into the SLW Hall of Fame in 2003 after a career of consistent power and winning. Cain made a run at the 2003 SLW 4th of July Championship only to come up just short. An everyday deep threat at the plate, he strikes fear into the hearts of his opponents. Speed and heart are his only downfalls. If his team falls behind opposing players know that he may lose interest.

WEAKNESSES

On the basepaths, the man is no threat, a constant magnet for double plays. While opposing teams try to burry Cain deep in the lineup to take advantage of his power, if he fails to hit a longball and settles for a single, quality pitchers will take advantage of having him on first and pitch the following batter into a double play. While Cain's wiffleball skills thrive in cool weather, trainers are always present and prepared in the summer time for the onset of a heat stroke while Cain is on the field of play.

STRENGTHS

A repeat All-Star performer in 2003, Cain has earned all of the recognition of his career with the power of his bat. This man strikes fear into heart of opposing pitchers when they see him warming up in the on deck circle. The big man takes a big swing at the ball and is able to drive the ball deep constantly once he makes contact. Hits runners in and is always tops in Runs Batted In. Looks to be a top draft pick in 2004.



Jeff "Tank" Cain
5'10", 195 lbs
Philo, Illinois

2002 SLW 4th of July Champion
2002 Labor Day Champion
2002 Most Valuable Player
1999 Rookie of the Year

SCOUTING REPORT

Cain's 5 year campaign in SLW has been a roller coaster ride. Struggling early in his career to be a consistent everyday threat, Cain visited many hitting coaches and changed his swing. A breakthrough season in 2002 was the result. While putting up big numbers in 2003 he failed to carry his team to a single victory. He has now proven that he can play, but can he carry a team? That's the only question this potential all-star has to answer.

STRENGTHS

Power towards right field
Fielding
Intensity
Competitive

WEAKNESSES

Conditioning
Ability to carry a team



C.J. "Rueben" Decker
5'9", 158 lbs
Philo, Illinois

2001 SLW Friendly Farmer Award
Former Rookie of the Year

SCOUTING REPORT

Decker has broke the mold of being a role player in Shangri La, to become a potential everyday threat at the plate and in the field. A strict diet and training regiment have produced this athlete to influx the type of speed into his game that is only rivaled by Ichiro. While on the bases this athlete is a danger if the ball makes it past the infield. At the plate "Rueben" tends to go opposite field, as a batter, his tendencies are difficult to anticipate.

STRENGTHS

Speed
Agility
Yard Work

WEAKNESSES

Conditioning
Hitting the Breaking Ball



John “Finkle is” Einhorn
6’1”, 190
Bement, Illinois

Former “Rookie of the Year”
Muscle Fitness “Man of the Year Award”
SLW Posterboy

SCOUTING REPORT

Einhorn is a lock for a first round pick. In 2002, this prodigy came through with an unexpected performance that looked like at the time would set the tone for his entire career. In 2003 his performance was not consistent, but still managed to put up some great numbers. His outlook for 2004 is promising and will put up great numbers. Einhorn is a fan favorite among the ladies of Vermillion County due to his abdominal muscles. Another breakout season is in store for '04.

STRENGTHS

Power
Speed
Fielding
Agility

WEAKNESSES

Consistency



Matt Endsley
6'4", 250 lbs
Champaign, Illinois

5-Time Playboy All-American
2001 Sports Illustrated Athlete of the Year
8-Times Voted Most Popular Wiffler of the year
Potential All-Star

SCOUTING REPORT

Matt Endsley is cut from a different mold. His athletic prowess on the field is second to none, while his off the field antics leave many shaking his or her head. If he focused on his game he would be one of the most powerful hitters at the stadium. He has the build to deliver a powerful shot with every swing. Scouts are scared off by his lack of conditioning and heart. Has a tendency to weaken when in extreme heat. Strives in cool weather.

STRENGTHS

Power
Pitching against right handers
Cannonballs into the lake

WEAKNESSES

Speed



Spence Hasler
5'10" 180lbs
Philo, Illinois

SLW Hall of Fame
SLW Number Retired
All Time Home Run Leader
All Time RBI Leader
Most SLW Championships

SCOUTING REPORT

It's almost impossible to pitch to this man. His big time left handed bat, is not matched by anyone who has ever stepped out onto the field at Lakefront Stadium. A big roundhouse swing is almost a guarantee that the ball will leave the park. Hit's every pitch location. In the field he makes every play that comes his way, seldom does he play down to his competition.

STRENGTHS

Power towards left field
Ability to hit to the opposite field
Pitching

WEAKNESSES

Not many



Geoff Hixson
5'10", 190 lbs
Colorado Springs, Colorado

2001 SLW Hall of Fame Inductee
2003 SLW All-Star
2002 SLW All-Star
2001 SLW All-Star
SLW Founder

SCOUTING REPORT

Still one of the top players in the league even though his age has cost him a step. Always a long ball threat, the Home Run Derby Champ can end any game with one swing. Has recently developed into a force on the mound with the addition of his deadly hesitation pitching motion. Changes speeds well. Can lull a hitter with his deliberate motion. Big overhand curveball still one of the tops in the league. Becoming a strikeout pitcher late in his career.

STRENGTHS

Power
Hitting
Pitching

WEAKNESSES

Conditioning



Jaime Hixson
5'10" 175 lbs
Ivesdale, Illinois

2002 SLW Hall of Fame Inductee
Consistent All-Star Leading Vote Getter
Ten-Time Gold Glove Winner
SLW Commissioner

SCOUTING REPORT

This 10 year legend bounced back from a dismal 2002 performance by his stature with a fabulous 2003 display of wiffleball ability. A strong right hand bat with decent left hand power have made this man an everyday threat at the plate. Speed is also an attribute that has solidified this mans place in the history books of SLW. If things aren't going the way Hixson likes it, he could get down and frustration could set in and affect his game.

STRENGTHS

Switch Hitter
Power towards left field
Speed and Agility
Pitching

WEAKNESSES

Conditioning



Seph Lietz
5'8" 178 lbs
Champaign, Illinois

2003 Gold Glover Winner
2003 Cousin Tom Hustle Award
Parade All-American

SCOUTING REPORT

He teases pitchers by taking them deep into the count and then burns them with some power towards the opposite field. His fielding is second to none and it is wise for the defense to play his bat towards the opposite field. He can wait on a pitch with the best of them and at times shows the crowd what talent it takes to be a contender.

STRENGTHS

Power to the opposite field
Hustle
Speed

WEAKNESSES

Conditioning
Consistency



Pat Loftus
6'1" 200 lbs
Ivesdale, Illinois

2003 Ivesdale Athlete of the Year
SLW Rookie of the Year Finalist
1999 Farm League Player of the Year

SCOUTING REPORT

Never shy at the plate, Loftus swings a big stick that is rivaled only by the best in the game. He can take a pitcher out over right field or left and can beat out a slow rolling grounded if need be. Likes to shower his competition with ducksnorts to the cusp of the outfield. Should be a high pick in the 2004 SLW draft.

STRENGTHS

Speed
Agility
Fielding
Waits for the right pitch

WEAKNESSES

Conditioning
Consistency
Pitch selection



Chris Meneley
5'11" 200
Denver, Colorado

2003 Comeback Player of the Year
2003 ESPY Award Winner for being clutch
2002 Colorado Regional Prospect of the Year

SCOUTING REPORT

Meneley showed the competition that he can deliver at the plate in 2003 with some crushing blows off quality pitching in late innings. His on the field talent is unrefined but deadly. This sensation that arrived from the Rocky Mountains was no bust, and is a top-notch prospect in the 2004 draft. He is scared of no pitcher and takes on all comers when he is on the mound.

STRENGTHS

Power
Agility
Drinking Games

WEAKNESSES

Conditioning
Speed



Jason "Dude" Morgan
5'11", 185 lbs
Chicago, Illinois

2003 SLW Rookie of the Year
2003 Playboy All-American

SCOUTING REPORT

2003 was an introductory year for Morgan at SLW. His first showing at Lake Front Stadium earned him Rookie of the Year. Perhaps the fastest man in SLW, he is a monster in the base path and on the field. During the off season it is rumored that he is working on his swing and preparing for the 2004 season. Speed, agility, and developing power at the plate are making Morgan a projected lottery pick in the 2004 SLW Draft. The only wrap on Morgan is that he is not as knowledgeable as some of the veterans, but that will change with time.

STRENGTHS

Speed
Agility
Good footwork
Hustle
Developing power

WEAKNESSES

Conditioning



Jed Pope
6'0" 190 lbs
Champaign, Illinois

SLW Perennial All-Star
SLW Top 5 Home Run List
SLW Home Run Derby Finalist

SCOUTING REPORT

Pope has consistent power at the plate, he is scared of no pitcher and has burnt the best pitchers many times with his opposite field power. His long bombs clear the fence by more than a few feet. His work ethic scares a few of the scouts off, some may be swayed by his ability at the plate though.

STRENGTHS

Big Time Power
Great Pitch Location
Pressure Hitter

WEAKNESSES

Work Ethic
Consistency
Conditioning



Greg Presson
6'1" 220 lbs
Homer, Illinois

2003 Marlboro Man of the Year
2003 leader in outfield assists
2002 ESPY Finalist for Athletic Achievement
2002 SLW Fan Favorite

SCOUTING REPORT

This perennial fan favorite has the ability to put the crowd in a state of shock and awe with his ability to punish the ball towards the fence. His ability in the field is up there with the very best. The scouts are really positive about his upstart defense and consistent offense. Looks to be a middle of the first round choice, but could move up the draft board.

STRENGTHS

Power toward left and right
Consistency
Heart
Work Ethic

WEAKNESSES

Lung Capacity
Conditioning



Josh Reifsteck
5'10" 185 lbs
Philo, Illinois

SLW Top Ten Home Run List
SLW Highest Fielding Percentage
Consistent SLW Golden Glove Winner

SCOUTING REPORT

Riefsteck has been a mainstay at Lakefront since his rookie year. He delivers a consistent performance at the plate and has a tendency to get hot and hit multiple home runs at a string of at-bats. His fielding is consistent as well and is a major defensive stopper. Few try to test his arm by advancing home on a deep pop fly.

STRENGTHS

Consistency
Home Run Power
Great Arm in the Outfield
Pitch Location
Speed

WEAKNESSES

Conditioning
Opposite field power



Brian Shoemaker
6'2" 195 lbs
Chicago, Illinois

2002 SLW Man of the Year
2003 United Way Good Citizen Award

SCOUTING REPORT

This veteran of wiffleballs glory days, shows no signs of slowing down in his continues Shangri La success. Shoemaker has had to play in the shadows of his brothers Hall of Fame career, but is showing signs of a breakout season in 2004. There were concerns that Brian's wiffleball skills would tail off as he continues his "off the field" relationship with stripper/girlfriend Katie. No problems have surfaced to date, but the 2004 season is unpredictable. Potential for big numbers is out there with this veteran.

STRENGTHS

Pitch Location
Heart
Big Time Power towards Left
Hustle

WEAKNESSES

Heat
Conditioning



Chris Shoemaker
6'2", 190 lbs
Philo, Illinois

2003 SLW All-Star
2002 SLW All-Star

SCOUTING REPORT

Big time power towards left field sums up this consistent All-Star. Shoemaker is maybe the toughest man to pitch to, if the pitcher makes one error, then Shoe is quick to capitalize on it. A great fielder and decent pitching make this man a first ballot future inductee into the SLW Hall of Fame. If Shoemaker does have a weakness that can be exposed, it's a knee injury. Some scouts may be scared off by the knee problems, not knowing if and when it could go out again.

STRENGTHS

Intensity
Power
Heart

WEAKNESSES

Conditioning
Speed



Brian Sipich
6'0", 190 lbs
Chicago, Illinois

2002 SLW Rookie of the Year
2003 United Way Good Citizen Award

SCOUTING REPORT

A surprise performance by this rookie in 2002 took him to the Championship game and earned him Rookie of the Year honors. Speed, agility and power have become trademarks of this prodigy. A nasty pitcher with a strong to moderately strong curve ball makes the knees of opposing batters buckle at the site of this man on the mound. A strong performance in 2003 wasn't enough to take his team past the first round of the playoffs. The only wrap on this guy is that he has let wins slip out of his fingertips. Once that is cured, he will be a year in, year out all star selection.

STRENGTHS

Power towards right field
Ability to hit opposite field
Speed

WEAKNESSES

Saturdays



Matt Warnes
5'9" 180 lbs
Tolono, Illinois

2000 Possum Trot Player of the Year
All-Times Steals Leader
All-Time Runs Leader
Perennial Fan Favorite of Vermillion County

SCOUTING REPORT

One of the most consistent players in SLW history and a lock for the first round. This athlete is one of those rare finds that can actually do it all, pitch, bat and field. He has power and his game is not being slowed down by father time at all. He demonstrates good sportsmanship while embarrassing his competition on the scoreboard. One of the first to make it to the alcohol after each and every victory.

STRENGTHS

Consistency
Fielding
Power towards left and right
Winning Attitude
High Tolerance for alcohol consumption

WEAKNESSES

Conditioning



ROOKIE PROSPECTS

James Morton
6'1" 240 lbs
Champaign, Illinois

James has proven that he deserves getting the call up to the big leagues with his display in Spring Wiffleball Training. He has learned to get the bat on the ball, and will be a big contributor. Lots of power is his strong point.

Travis Steiner
5'10" 175 lbs
Champaign, Illinois

Travis has shown more power towards the opposite field than any everyday veteran at Lakefront in 2004. He is on pace to be a first ballot All-Star and a possible first round pick. It looks like he is the front runner for Rookie of the Year. His fielding is just as good as his bat.

Kevin Walsh
6'5" 248 lbs
Savoy, Illinois

Walsh's wiffleball talent remains a mystery wrapped in an enigma. He hasn't shown the scouts what he is capable of so far in 2004, so it's unsure of which Walsh we will get, the one that we all thought would be dominant, or the one that is just an average everyday player.