

According to Douglas Danforth, expansion committee chairman, six to 14 cities may apply for two franchises that will be added to the league in 1993.

The committee has sent out questionnaires to interested parties and has begun selecting leading candidates, who will make presentations in New York by the end of September. Three to five finalists will be selected before the end of the year, and committee members will visit those cities by early 1991. The committee will recommend franchise candidates to owners next June. Winners will be selected by September 30, 1991.

The new franchises will be allowed to field minor league teams in 1992 and will participate in the June 1992 amateur draft.

WATER SUPPLY PROMISING IN PALM SPRINGS AREA

Despite California's fourth consecutive year of drought, water users in the Palm Springs-Cathedral City area will not face mandatory water restrictions this year.

The Desert Water Agency (DWA), which


co-manages the area's water supply with the Coachella Valley Water District, credits good water conservation practices and a large groundwater basin for the area's adequate water supply. According to a DWA newsletter, the basin will provide an ample supply to the area for many years without adding imported water.

However, imported water from the Colorado River is allowed to percolate into the basin, substantially improving the area's supply. During wet weather cycles, large quantities of water are banked for use during dry years.

Each acre-foot of water that is reclaimed will provide the same amount of groundwater for domestic use. An acre-foot can meet the needs of an average family for a year.

Reducing water demand in the Palm Springs-Cathedral City area through landscape water conservation has been ongoing for many years. Water-use reductions at certain condominium projects have been as high as 35 percent. In addition, a joint City of Palm Springs-DWA evaluation project of moisture probes has resulted in a water savings of 56 percent at a city park. Palm Springs has recently installed similar devices in traffic islands along one of its major thoroughfares.

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