



If there's anything that a fan of awful sports teams has in common with a kid on Christmas morning, it's probably irrational enthusiasm. In the same way children have gone batty over assembly-line crap like Koosh balls and Furbies, Cleveland sports fans-- in their perpetual state of desperation-- will routinely get revved up about any new ballplayer who wanders into town and overachieves for a day or two. And unlike this Jeremy Lin phenomenon in New York, we've never required any mass media hysteria or eye-popping statistics to circle our wagons around a new hero. He might be an undrafted free agent, a career minor leaguer, or a Japanese pitcher better known for his "acting." No matter how much disbelief must be suspended, the dream always begins anew-- the dream of having our own Cinderella story of Tom Brady proportions unfold before our eyes. It's like expecting that Furby from 1998 to eventually net you a cool grand on eBay. It's a fool's dream, but you never learn do you? For further evidence, here are ten Cleveland rookies you stupidly got excited about over the past 20 years.

It should be noted, the following list mostly side steps highly publicized rookies that had a lot of expectations put on them, because normal people get excited about players like that. These are players that YOU got excited about, mainly because you're a Cleveland sports fan and your brain doesn't work right.







