



# DEAL SYNAGOGUE SOFTBALL LEAGUE PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

## GAMES TO BE PLAYED JULY 31, 1983

### FIELD A

MIDNIGHT RAMBLERS VS STEELERS - 10:00 A.M.  
DYNASTY VS ESQUIRES - 4:00 P.M.

### FIELD B

PSYCHOS VS FRONT-RUNNERS - 10:00 A.M.  
BRIGADES VS GEMALS PALS - 4:00 P.M.

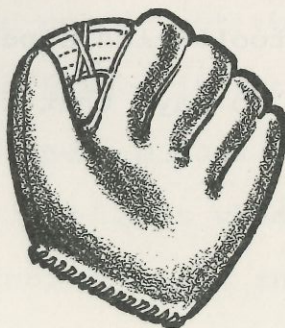
## SCORES OF GAMES PLAYED JULY 24

BRIGADES - 6  
GEMALS PALS - 3

MIDNIGHT RAMBLERS - 4  
STEELERS - 3

FRONT-RUNNERS - 4  
PSYCHOS - 1

DYNASTY - 2  
ESQUIRES - 0



# DEALINGS



The week in between games of a playoff series can be an anxious time. Those who have dropped their first game may be having doubts. Those players who find themselves ahead may be looking forward impatiently to next Sunday so they may advance. Thus some feel that this time may place added pressure on those teams that have won. This time is also an allowance for teams to correct what may have gone wrong or to reinforce what did go right. Some players will psyche themselves up in preparation, others may use this respite to forget about all that is behind them. That is precisely what is so interesting about this format of the short two-of-three game series -- distinct players and teams will respond differently.

However, all of these teams possess character and know how to win. Those of last Sunday's winners that take their opponents for granted may be in for a scare. Those of Sunday's losers cannot expect any complacency from the enemy and must take the games one at a time. Yet some of us are better at handling the playoff pressure than others. It should be an exciting day!

As for the events which transpired last week, the adjective exciting would make for a deficient description. None of the games were decided by more than three runs. There were several outstanding individual performances. These match-ups are proving to be as tough as can be found. This may help to explain the now questionable predictions (we know you were surprised too) which appeared in this very newsletter just one week ago. Needless to say, that forecast will remain unaltered.

## SALEM SAILS RAMBLERS TO VICTORY 2-RUN SHOT IN SIXTH DEFEATS STEELERS

Stevie Salem came to play on this day. A fine defensive performance was culminated by that upper-deck rocket. As the game progresses, the Steelers take a scoreless tie into the bottom of the third when Elliot Betesh reaches on an infield hit. Bobby Blanco singles him to third. Richie Gindi then singles in the first run and Moses' towering sacrifice fly makes it 2-0.

But the Ramblers answer right back in the top of the fourth. Elliot Braha turns a routine base hit into a double and is promptly waved home on an Eddie Ash single. After Salem reaches on an error, Jeffrey Elbaum bats in a run to tie it 2-2.

The action continues right into the Steeler's fourth. With two outs, the man that has been doing it all along for the Steelers, Judah Eastman, hits a deep drive into rightfield. The ball rolls into the bushes for a seeming home run with Judah steaming around the bases. But rightfielder Salem does not give up on the ball. He goes into the foliage, ferrets out the ball, and throws a strike to Mitchell Gemal who flips to Eli Tawil for the tag of Judah. Those who have watched the Ramblers know this is not the first time they have executed such a relay.

Undaunted, the Steelers chalk another one up in the fifth. Charlie Saka serves a single to leftfield. Irwin Azar Cohen follows with a single. An intent Elliot Betesh forces a single to rightfield and pinchrunner Moory Seroya scores despite a superb throw from Stevie Salem. With the score 3-2 and nobody out the Steelers were threatening to break the game open. Bobby Blanco is intentionally walked to load the bases. But Mitchell Gemal gets a foul out and Eddie Ash takes matters and the ball into his own hands when he comes up with Moses' liner and doubles runner off third to end inning.

So we go into the top of the sixth. With Eddie Ash aboard on a walk and one out Stevie Salem sends the ball into orbit--and into the treetops in rightfield, where they are still searching for the ball, although Albert Dabah has been recovered. The Ramblers go one up in the series. Other notes: fine defensive game by "Ribs" Kassin at first...In who-to-root for dept., this series matches Gindi vs Gindi, Saka vs Saka, and Azar vs Azar.

## **ERWIN BRAHA POWERS BRIGADES TO 6-3 HANDLING OF PALS** **FINE DEFENSIVE SHOWING BY IKEY "RED" DWECK**



The Brigades use the long ball to stymie Pals in this opener. Erwin Braha puts two out and Jackie P chips in one more as the Brigades score all of their runs on goners. The game would have been much closer, however, if not for Ikey "Red" Dweck's play at second base, who made several plays in the hole look easy and who made a fine catch on a blooper that had trouble written all over it.

In the bottom of the first the other Ikey Dweck (things change so fast in this league) hits a double, followed by Captain Joey's (3 for 3) infield single. And then Erwin struck for his first of the day, a three run blast to centerfield.

But the Pal's countered immediately as a Michael "Red" Fallas triple scores Freddie Harari. Stevie Beda singles in Michael to close the gap to 3-2. We go into bottom of third, and after another J.B. hit, Peaches shoots one up the gap by a sprawling Eddie Mishan in right center on fine effort. Erwin Braha's solid blast - again to center - came back to back with Peaches', showing that when he is on he is close to unstoppable. The Pals tallied another run in the

fifth to round it out at 6-3. This game saw other fine plays by Michael Red on a running catch in foul ground and Sammy Tawil with a sliding shoe-stringer.

## **MATALON SHUTS OUT ESQUIRES 2-0**

### **JOEL NASAR SINGLE IN FIFTH PROVES DECISIVE**



In the kind of game many were expecting, Dynasty used some clutch hitting and a masterful pitching effort to set back the Esquires. Jackie Matalon kept the Esquires in check as the Dynasty defense seemed to be in the right place at the right time all day to snatch Esquire drives. After a well played four innings, Jackie M climbs aboard with a single in the fifth. "Rolling Thunder" Morris Gindi laces a single into left-field. Two men are out when Joel Nasar steps up to the plate. With the count full Joel comes through with yet another clutch hit to make it 1-0, finally solving Abie Esses.

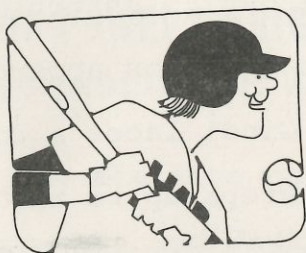
In the sixth, Ricky Franco and Garr single consecutively. A force at second moves Franco to third. Ricky scores when Mitchell Haddad sacrifices him home for an insurance run. In the bottom of that inning Dynasty survives a scare when with two out and a runner on, Michael Mishaan sends a frozen rope into left -- will it go? -- not today as Richie Braha makes a fine catch with his back against the wall. Not to be outdone fellow outfielders Gary Erani and Ricky Franco make two fine catches in seventh to preserve victory.

## **ASHKENAZI BAFFLES PSYCHOS 4-1**

### **RUNNERS JUMP IN "FRONT" WITH HELP OF COHEN TRIPLE**

The Psychos start out as if they might have a big game when they load bases in first with one out on singles by Shalom, Sammy Kassin, and Jackie Haddad. But all they could manage was a Yogi sacrifice fly for a 1-0 lead. That was to be all they would get off Ashkenazi, who looked to be in total control.

The Runners did all their scoring in the third when back to back walks to Nathan Tawil and Eddie Beda gave Sammy Cohen first and second with one out. With the rightfielder playing somewhat shallow, Cohen connects with the big blow sending the ball over and above. Sam makes it all the way to third and comes on in when Marvin Saka drills a double down the third base line. Raymond Beyda joins the fun by driving Marvin in with a base hit up the middle for a 4-1 final score.



LOST AND FOUND: A glove of the model Regent "Big Man" was lost at the field Sunday. If you know of its whereabouts, please bring it to this week's games or call 531-3917.



## EDITORIAL

### SHOULD THE LEAGUE MOVE TO FAST PITCHING?

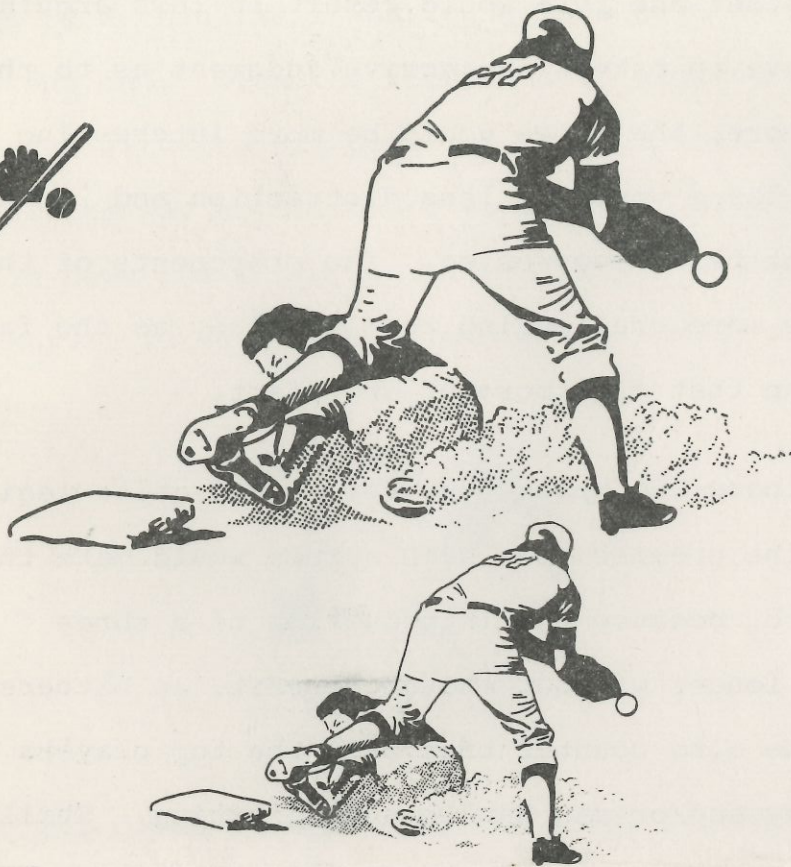
The question of how fast the league's pitchers should be allowed to throw the ball has been with us since the league's inception. The fast-pitch rule would move the pitcher's mound further back and allow the batter three strikes - as opposed to two swings - per at bat, while removing any limit to how fast the pitcher may throw. This has proved to be an issue uneasily resolved because of the validity of the case made by either side. What it essentially boils down to is the level of competition which we as a league wish to attain.

Those points favoring the fast-pitch rule usually include the following. Advocates insist that the rule would result in less arguing, as umpires no longer would have to make a subjective judgment as to the speed of the pitch. Furthermore, the games would be more interesting to watch for two reasons: 1) There would be less distraction and 2) The talents of the pitcher are not being suppressed. The proponents of the rule suggest that the game is more challenging to play also, as the fast pitch would give the change-up that much more of an effect.

The reasons offered by those who oppose the rule sound quite legitimate as well. They refute the premise that such a rule would make the league more enjoyable to watch, because the introduction of a three strike rule would make games longer without enough benefit, as batters foul off ball after ball. Some also counter that only the top players in the league may really enjoy and/or can handle such pitching. Still others feel this would do nothing to alleviate disputes - people would find other points over which to argue.

There are many league players who have played under the fast-pitch rule. Many did enjoy it. In this newsletter's opinion, the fast-pitch rule is a natural progression in the league's evolution and would enhance the game. As pitching at high speeds is more bounded by our talents than our rules, it does not seem unfair to ask any player - no matter what round he was chosen - to face such pitching. While it may do nothing to stop arguments, this is not the intention of the rule and it must surely be easier for our umpires not to have to deal with the fast-pitch. The fast-pitch rule would elevate this league's standard of play.





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