

SPORTS WEEK

1985 DEAL SYNAGOGUE SOFTBALL LEAGUE

July 13, 1985

PLAYOFFS BEGIN

Pals, Spikes & Row win opener

The first game of the 1985 playoffs began as expected, plenty of excitement and tension. It took a special tie breaking playoffs game between The Pals and Superstars to finally narrow the field and come up with the seven qualifiers.

For Marty Gemal and his Pals it'll be a day they're not likely to forget. Scheduled at 10:00 A.M. against The Naturals it didn't appear to be a very important game. This all changed dramatically when Ronnie Gindi's Superstars pulled a come from behind miracle effort from what appeared to be first place (and bye) bound Stingrays. With this turn of events the Pals were forced to play a showdown match with The Superstars, the winner would become the final entry. It went to extra innings before The Pals could push four runs across and seal the win. If these two games weren't enough they were due back on the field at 6:30 to play their first round opener against an anxious second place team, The Untouchables. Five early runs and strong defense gave the Pals the win, and a well deserved rest.

The Spikes didn't have to do much nail biting. They confidently tore apart a fine Natural team featuring league ace Abie Cohen. Instead the attention went to Alex Dweck and The Spike defense. All the Naturals could put together was a pair of hits off the third place Spikes.

With a loss to The Superstars, The Stingrays dropped from a first place team to the fourth slot, matching them up with the fifth place Murderers Row. It didn't seem to upset them, however, as they jumped on top 5 to 1. It was short lived as The Row slugged their way back and held on for a 6 to 5 win.

The opening round game sets the stage for a possible double-header in the best two out of three series.

FINAL STANDINGS

1. Angels	11-7
2. Untouchables	10-8
3. Spikes	10-8
4. Stingrays	10-8
5. Murderers	10-8
6. Naturals	9-9
7. *Gemals Pals	9-9
8. Superstars	9-9
9. Marbariff	8-10
10. Surrender	4-14

* Pals win 7th place tie-breaker

SCORES

Pals 6 Untouchables 3

Murderers 6 Stingray 5

Spikes 7 Naturals 0

THE CZAR ANALYZES THE TEAMS

The Czar knows all teams aren't equal; his computer tells him the following;

1. Spikes	3-1	25%
Murderers	3-1	25%
3. Angels	4-1	20%
4. Pals	10-1	10%
5. Untouchables	11-1	9%
6. Stingray	16-1	6%
7. Naturals	20-1	5%

these are not odds; they are the chance each team has at this point (includes 1st game) to win it all.

PLAYOFF MATCHUP

Angels.....win bye

Untouchables vs. Pals
Pals lead series 1-0

Spikes vs. Naturals
Spikes lead series 1-0

Stingray vs. Murderers
Murderers lead series 1-0

CHANCES OF GOING ALL THE WAY

If all teams were equal, here's what each teams mathematical chances of winning the cup are.

1. Angels	3-1	25%
2. Spikes	11-2	18.75%
3. Murderers	11-2	18.75%
4. Gemals Pals	11-2	18.75%
5. Untouchables	16-1	6.25%
6. Naturals	16-1	6.25%
7. Stingray	16-1	6.25%

WHO PLAYS WHOM ??

If the first round series end with the team that is leading advancing then;

Angels will play Pals

Spikes will play Murderers

THE PLAYOFFS

THE ROAD TO THE FINAL TWO

ANGELS.....	bye
1. UNTOUCHABLES.....	:	:
2. SPIKES.....	:	:
3. STINGRAY.....	:	<u>Spikes lead</u>
	:	1-0 -
4. MURDERERS.....	:	<u>Murderers lead</u>
	:	1-0
5. NATURALS.....	:	<u>Pals lead</u>
	:	1-0
6. GEMALS PALS.....	:	:

Angels play winner of series with lowest number.

PLAYOFF PREDICTIONS

Because the match-ups weren't decided until playoff day the Czar didn't have the opportunity to analyze the games as he would have liked.

You must remember, this is the Czar that selected The Superstars to make that dramatic come from behind victory, that selected all games exactly correct for three straight weeks

Untouchables vs. Gemals Pals 4:00 P.M. field A DH (if nec)

We selected The Pals in last weeks edition to win in two straight. The Untouchables are counting the minutes until Sunday. They feel if they take the first the second game will follow easily. Shalom knows he must get production from his "star" players. He feels one bad inning is not going to deprive him of the "cup" "we came up flat" doesn't make sense. The Pals were playing their third game and had enough to put these guys away. We figure the Untouchables will come up flat one more time while the great combination of Alan Haddad, Mitchell Haddad, David Shrique and Steven Nahama will again produce for Marty's warriors.

players to watch; Victor Zilberman... he can turn a series around single handedly.

Nathan Tawil.. he has had big games before, pressure games and came up smelling like a rose.

Yogi Kassin...if he can relax and have that cocky confidence one needs, he may shine.

Alan Haddad..he can do no wrong, one great play after another. He'll miss-judge a key fly ball only to make a "Willie Mays" circus catch.

Mitch Haddad...cool as an ice cube...he threw out a Superstar batter with the winning run dashing home, if he boots it The Pals would have been an eighth place club.

David Shrique...swings hard on every pitch ala Pedro Guerrero. Has a knack for delivering key hits.

Steve Shalom..has the knack in bringing out the winner in everyone. Maybe his team doesn't want to win as badly as he does however.

Marty Gemal..gives his team that quiet confidence. They'd run through a wall for him.

Gemals Pals sweep.

Murderers Row vs. Stingrays 10:00 a.m. field A

The Stingray had the first game, it was theirs. With Red pitching well, The Row seemed primed to be had. The second game will not be anything like the first. The Row should grab an early lead and hang on.

players to watch; Danny Erani..pure fastball hitter, has his best games against the leagues' fastest pitchers. Jackie Haddad..with him in center, The Row plays with four outfielders..he's two of them. Sammy Cohen...quietly has been a major reason for the Row success; hitting, fielding and playing with a fire under him.

Elliot Braha..Stingray look to him for run production. Capable of an eight r.b.i. game. His fielding is the best, carries a gun.

Red Nesser..It doesn't matter what time it is, Red will come through. As a captain his team is behind him and respect him. We can only admire the way he relates to his players.

Eddie Kassin... his on base percentage against the Row is .900. Made the mold for the "team player". If he continues to get on then he'll keep scoring.

Factors; Stingray missing two key players;
Row missing Harold Shammah (who has been exceptional).
Hitting; Murderers Row.
Defense; Murderers Row (only because of a depleted Stingray team).
Pitching; Stingray.

Series; Row..two straight.

Spikes vs. Naturals 4:00 p.m. field B

The Naturals won't concede this series. Abie Cohen is truly a top pitcher and competitor. In fact he seems to have a history of winning the "big" game. Charlie Saka has himself a real TEAM. Morris Gindi has been tearing the cover off the ball and Alex Dweck gives them another hurler.

players to watch; Abie Cohen..must pitch a perfect game(s).
Pee Wee Sasson & Abe Dweck..must continue to hit for this weak attack.
David Dweck..his confidence is contagious.
Jeff Matut..must continue to lead Spikes
Morris Gindi..batting .890 over last seven games

factors; Elliot Betesh in Orient.

The game shouldn't be as convincing as the first (Cohen was pitching his second game on the day last week). However, The Spikes will hold this weak attack to a maximum, one run. Spikes win series; two straight.

COHEN OUTDUALS PALS IN SEASON FINALE

itches in top form; Eli Haddad, Pee-wee Sasson also star

The Naturals, playing their final game of the regular season, clinched a playoff position with a convincing win over Gemal's Pals. The loss forced The Pals into an unprecedented playoff game against The Superstars for the final playoff spot.

Eli Haddad and Pee Wee Sasson powered the Naturals with extra base hits. Cohen pitched his finest game of the year as he completely overpowered the Pal hitters.

GEMALS PALS SQUEAK BY SUPERSTARS IN SPECIAL GAME

played for final spot; game goes nine innings in nail biter.

Going into the days contests Gemals Pals seemed assured of making the playoffs, win or lose. It took a miracle win by Ronnie Gindi's Superstars over Stingray to place the Pals in a special post-season showdown against The Superstars, the winner getting seventh and final playoff position. Marvin Saka got The Pals off to a fast start with a two-run homer. With the Pals leading 7 to 3 in the fourth The Stars came back tying the game at seven.

The tension grew as the game went to the bottom of the 8th with the Stars batting. Eddie Ash leads off with a solid double as their supporters smelled victory. Marvin Saka forced the next batter to fly out, setting the stage for Alan Haddad's circus catch. Haddad misjudged the ball only to make an over the head "ice-cream cone" catch. Mitch Haddad ate up a grounder to third and The Pals were out of the inning.

In the top of the ninth David Shrique's two run homer gave the Pals the lead they kept as they held for an exciting 11 to 7 victory.

SUPERSTARS SHOCK STINGRAY WITH FOUR IN SEVENTH

trailed 5-1 in suspended game; game kept season alive

Not many people gave the Superstars a chance to turn around a game in which they were down 5 to 1 in the 5th inning. The game went to the 7th when two base on balls and singles by Meno Dweck and Ronnie Gindi contributed to a four run seventh inning and 6 to 5 victory.

PALS DESTROY UNTOUCHABLES IN SERIES OPENER, 6 to 3

six runs in first decide; Marvin Saka hurls gem

Gemal's Pals playing their third game of the day, scored six runs in the opening frame with two out to coast to an easy 6-3 win.

Marty Gemal and Marvin Saka combined in a fine pitching effort. Jackie Blanco and Murray Dayan made solid defensive contributions for the Pals.

The win gives The Pals a 1-0 lead in the best two out of three series.

SPIKES OVERWHELM NATURALS 7-0 BEHIND ALEX DWECK

pitches one-hitter; Spike defense sparkles

The Spikes were apparently ready for this game. With their team leader and captain Charlie Saka out of town, David "Jaws" Dweck took over and had his team primed and ready as the Spikes rolled to an easy 7-0 win.

Alex Dweck had an easy time behind the fine defensive support of the Spikes. The Naturals managed but one hit; four base-runners, ending up with two batters over the minimum.

MURDERERS ROW SHADES STINGRAY 6-5

down 5 to 1, storm back

It looked like The Sting had what they wanted; an early lead against a quiet Row team.

Home runs by Joel Nasar and Elliot Braha staked Stingray to a 5-1 lead. However, sloppy defense and key hits by Eddie Beda and Harold Shamah highlighted a four run 5th that tied the game at five. Jackie Matalon (2 for 3) drove in the game winner. The Row had to overcome a bases-loaded, no out situation in the sixth inning. The win gives Row a 1-0 lead in the best two out of three series.

PLAYOFF SCHEDULE FOR JULY 14th 1985

Red Nesser's Stingray vs. Jackie Haddad's Murderers 10:00 A

Steve Shalom's Untouchables vs Marty Gemal's Pals 4:00 A

Charlie Saka's Spikes vs. Abie Cohen's Naturals 4:00 B

all games are possible double-headers. Should the team that is behind in the series, win, then the third and final game will be played immediately following the previous game.

correction from last week's edition;
The World Series will be played in the following sequence;
2-2-1, rather than 1-2-2 as erroneously printed.

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