

CONGRATULATIONS!



SS ZACK ASHKENAZI (Capt.)
 RF CARLOS ABADI
 UTIL JOE ASHKENAZI
 P NATHAN L. BETESH
 CF AHARON COHEN
 2B JACOB COHEN

C JACOB JEMAL
 3B MORRIS KASSIN
 LF SAM LAUDON
 1B MICHAEL SALOMON
 P/PR RALPH SUTTON
 SC RONNIE TAWIL

Ⓞ 2023 Y.M.S.L. Ⓞ

WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS!



244 Norwood Ave
 Oakhurst, NJ 07755

2023 Y.M.S.L.
 FALL ISSUE
 9/7/23



FINAL REGULAR SEASON STATISTICS

BEAST MODE

NAME	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	BB	RBI	SO	AVG	OBP	SLG
Joe Sefaradi	49	11	15	7	1	0	4	4	1	0.306	0.358	0.490
Aharon "Hank" Dwek	45	5	20	6	2	2	2	19	0	0.444	0.449	0.800
Sammy Esses	39	9	13	2	0	0	3	2	0	0.333	0.372	0.385
Ikey Mavorah	43	8	19	3	0	0	3	14	1	0.442	0.449	0.512
Jacob Kassin	43	3	12	2	1	0	1	5	0	0.279	0.283	0.372
Shimi Cohen	45	6	13	2	0	0	2	2	1	0.289	0.319	0.333
Albert Sitt	37	0	10	1	1	0	7	4	2	0.270	0.386	0.351
Uri Adler	43	10	15	2	3	0	5	8	3	0.349	0.408	0.535
Mike Mizrahi	28	5	6	0	1	0	2	2	0	0.214	0.267	0.286
Nadav "Nutty" Auerbach	16	6	11	4	0	2	4	6	0	0.688	0.682	1.313
Raymond Esses	11	1	3	0	0	0	2	1	0	0.273	0.385	0.273
Ralph Hanan	11	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.182	0.250	0.182
Steven Gindi	14	4	6	0	1	0	1	1	2	0.429	0.467	0.571

BLACK SOX

NAME	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	BB	RBI	SO	AVG	OBP	SLG
Joseph Greenberg	43	14	20	6	2	1	6	9	0	0.465	0.531	0.767
Eric Greenberg	41	3	8	1	0	0	3	4	0	0.195	0.250	0.220
Jake Dwek	36	13	13	2	0	1	10	7	1	0.361	0.469	0.500
Henry Shalam	39	4	17	3	0	0	7	9	0	0.436	0.522	0.513
Moe Maleh	43	1	9	3	1	0	1	4	3	0.209	0.222	0.326
Rubi Chalouh	38	8	19	5	1	1	6	18	0	0.500	0.543	0.763
Joseph Jemal	45	12	21	5	0	0	5	4	0	0.467	0.520	0.578
Saul Tawil	40	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.175	0.175	0.175
Ralph Matut	39	2	10	2	0	0	0	5	2	0.256	0.250	0.308
Ikey Betesh	23	1	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	0.130	0.130	0.174
Eddie Malakh	19	2	7	1	0	0	1	1	1	0.368	0.400	0.421
Jeffrey Saka	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000	0.000

BREW CREW

NAME	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	BB	RBI	SO	AVG	OBP	SLG
Gabe Abadi	40	14	17	4	0	0	11	8	0	0.425	0.538	0.525
Irwin Cohen	46	11	13	2	1	2	4	9	1	0.283	0.327	0.478
Jimmy Malakh	34	12	18	7	1	1	13	9	0	0.529	0.660	0.882
Abraham Haber	44	4	12	3	0	0	4	8	0	0.273	0.333	0.341
David Kassin	34	9	16	3	0	0	4	5	0	0.471	0.488	0.559
Butchie Cohen	38	7	17	1	1	0	7	5	1	0.447	0.511	0.526
Mickey Tawil	40	7	17	6	2	1	4	14	0	0.425	0.457	0.750
Nathan Zalta	35	11	19	5	1	1	2	20	0	0.543	0.553	0.800
Leon Harary	30	4	8	0	2	0	2	4	0	0.267	0.303	0.400
Leo Kassin	25	3	7	0	0	0	1	1	1	0.280	0.308	0.280
Daniel Tawil	21	0	5	1	0	0	0	1	0	0.238	0.238	0.286
Ralph Cohen	15	4	6	0	0	0	2	2	1	0.400	0.471	0.400

HIPSTERS

NAME	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	BB	RBI	SO	AVG	OBP	SLG
Abe Cohen	54	12	19	3	0	1	3	7	0	0.352	0.393	0.463
Allie Marshall	48	8	22	8	2	0	4	17	0	0.458	0.491	0.708
Leo Picciotto	46	4	16	4	2	0	5	10	0	0.348	0.412	0.522
Nathan (Steven) Betesh	38	7	11	1	0	1	4	6	0	0.289	0.349	0.395
Solomon Fallas	40	13	20	8	1	1	8	10	0	0.500	0.571	0.825
Nathan Kushner	40	10	19	2	0	0	5	11	0	0.475	0.522	0.525
Jody Laboz	40	8	17	4	1	0	3	10	1	0.425	0.465	0.575
David Farca	46	20	23	7	0	2	8	8	1	0.500	0.574	0.783
Benjamin Rishty	39	6	12	2	0	0	2	5	7	0.308	0.333	0.359
Edmond Dweck	39	6	13	3	0	0	1	10	0	0.333	0.341	0.410
Morris Gindi	10	1	2	1	0	0	1	2	0	0.200	0.273	0.300

FINAL REGULAR SEASON STATISTICS (CONT)

*IT'SGONNA
BE BIBLICAL*

NAME	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	BB	RBI	SO	AVG	OBP	SLG
Jackie Tawil	46	14	21	5	0	0	5	8	0	0.457	0.510	0.565
Abie Dwek	42	6	13	6	0	0	5	10	1	0.310	0.375	0.452
Teddy Ishak	43	3	9	1	1	0	5	5	1	0.209	0.292	0.279
Victor Dweck	47	7	22	6	3	1	2	16	0	0.468	0.480	0.787
Jake Braha	45	9	21	7	0	1	4	15	0	0.467	0.500	0.689
Edmund Beyda	39	8	11	4	0	2	2	10	2	0.282	0.317	0.538
Marty Antebi	47	13	22	4	0	2	5	8	1	0.468	0.509	0.681
David Harari	43	7	22	4	1	1	1	4	1	0.512	0.523	0.721
Alan Jemal	30	6	8	1	1	1	2	2	1	0.267	0.303	0.467
Ruby Chehebar	25	4	9	3	1	0	0	2	0	0.360	0.360	0.560
Jack Barnathan	16	4	5	2	0	0	2	3	0	0.313	0.389	0.375
Michael Deneff	7	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.286	0.286	0.286
Joey Dweck	4	2	1	1	0	0	4	0	0	0.250	0.625	0.500
David Sabbagh	7	2	3	2	0	0	1	2	0	0.429	0.500	0.714

MO'SHIACH

NAME	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	BB	RBI	SO	AVG	OBP	SLG
Max Yedid	42	5	12	2	1	1	4	11	4	0.286	0.340	0.452
David "Buca" Cohen	47	11	20	6	3	1	3	9	3	0.426	0.460	0.745
Elliot Saka	45	12	16	4	1	0	6	8	0	0.356	0.431	0.489
Joe Eshko	39	7	18	2	1	0	8	10	1	0.462	0.520	0.564
Charles Saka	39	6	18	2	0	1	4	5	0	0.462	0.500	0.590
Albert Zalta	45	4	14	2	0	0	1	10	1	0.311	0.306	0.356
Maurice Haber	37	5	13	1	1	0	4	5	0	0.351	0.415	0.432
Zeke Dwek	38	7	10	0	0	0	4	5	1	0.263	0.333	0.263
Jackie Haber	44	13	20	4	3	1	6	9	1	0.455	0.500	0.750
Avi Dwek	24	2	7	1	0	0	1	3	0	0.292	0.320	0.333
David Rishty	14	4	7	1	0	0	1	1	0	0.500	0.533	0.571
Ruby Saka	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.000	#DIV/0!	0.000
Lewis Betesh	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.333	0.333	0.333

*PORILAND
PICKLES*

NAME	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	BB	RBI	SO	AVG	OBP	SLG
Jordan Rumeld	44	7	19	6	0	0	3	4	2	0.432	0.468	0.568
Joe Chera	41	8	15	2	1	0	4	7	1	0.366	0.413	0.463
Teddy Braha	37	7	11	0	1	1	4	5	0	0.297	0.357	0.432
Solomon Dweck	38	4	17	4	2	0	0	7	3	0.447	0.447	0.658
Yaakov Seruya	45	12	21	8	0	1	1	8	1	0.467	0.478	0.711
Michael MC Cohen	46	11	17	3	1	0	3	3	2	0.370	0.408	0.478
Max Sutton	39	4	13	3	0	0	1	9	0	0.333	0.333	0.410
Edward Mishan	37	3	18	1	2	0	1	6	1	0.486	0.500	0.622
Elliot Mann	33	3	7	2	0	0	3	4	3	0.212	0.286	0.273
Mark Barsano	33	5	13	5	0	1	3	8	1	0.394	0.421	0.636
Irving Shabot	12	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0.167	0.250	0.167
Alfonse Missry	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.000	0.000	0.000

*SHAKE &
BAKE*

NAME	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	BB	RBI	SO	AVG	OBP	SLG
Zack Ashkenazi	43	14	23	6	4	2	11	16	0	0.535	0.630	1.000
Michael Salomon	47	7	18	2	1	0	4	11	0	0.383	0.415	0.468
Morris Kassin	44	10	20	4	1	1	5	9	0	0.455	0.490	0.659
Jacob Cohen	39	4	14	2	1	0	5	3	1	0.359	0.413	0.462
Jacob Jemal	46	5	20	2	2	1	2	14	0	0.435	0.458	0.630
Aharon Cohen	50	16	23	7	1	0	2	6	1	0.460	0.463	0.640
Sammy Laudon	43	5	17	4	0	0	0	5	1	0.395	0.395	0.488
Joseph Ashkenazi	37	1	5	1	0	0	2	7	3	0.135	0.167	0.162
Carlos Abadi	31	6	7	1	2	0	3	1	1	0.226	0.286	0.387
Nathan "Nay-B" Betesh	34	5	12	1	1	0	1	5	0	0.353	0.361	0.441
Ronnie Tawil	17	4	9	2	0	0	4	0	0	0.529	0.619	0.647



DR. MITCHELL V SABBAGH DMD



AESTHETIC DENTISTRY
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PARAMOUNT
REALTY

The Mona Lisa Resides in the Louvre

By: Jacob 'Jigga' Jemal
'The Great Six One'
2-time champion,
(Swimming 2020, Shake & Bake 2023)

IN THIS CURIOUS WORLD, WE FIND CERTAIN THINGS THAT STAND SINGULAR, LIKE THE EIFFEL TOWER, STANDING TALL, A LONE SENTINEL IN THE HEART OF FRANCE. VENTURE TO THE VEGAS IMITATION, AND YOU'LL SEE THE FAMILIAR SILHOUETTE, BUT IT'S A MERE PLASTIC FACADE, WHISPERING THAT REALITY CAN BE A SLIPPERY THING INDEED.

AND THEN THERE'S THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA, A HISTORICAL SERPENTINE MARVEL, THREADING THROUGH THE AGES, A TESTAMENT TO HUMAN ENDEAVOR. BUT BEWARE THE REPLICAS IN THEME PARKS, MERE ILLUSIONS OF THE MAJESTIC MILES-LONG WONDER.

AH, THE MONA LISA, THAT ENIGMATIC LADY, SHE RESIDES DEEP WITHIN THE LOUVRE, HER SMILE A RIDDLE WRAPPED IN MYSTERY. ATTEMPTS TO REPLICATE HER, WELL, THEY OFTEN FALL SHORT OF CAPTURING HER ESSENCE. IT'S CALLED A MONA LISA SMILE FOR A REASON, AFTER ALL.

BUT WHEN WE TURN OUR GAZE TO THE YMSL SOFTBALL LEAGUE, THERE'S NO SHADOW OF IMITATION OR MIMICRY. IT STANDS ALONE, THE PREMIERE SOFTBALL LEAGUE, A BASTION WHERE THE PASSIONS OF THE GAME, CAMARADERIE, AND SPORTSMANSHIP COALESCE IN A WAY THAT'S TRULY SUI GENERIS, A GEM SPARKLING UNIQUELY IN THE WORLD OF SPORTS.

I'M OFTEN ASKED TO VENTURE BEYOND THESE SACRED GROUNDS, TO EXPLORE OTHER LEAGUES. BUT MY RESPONSE REMAINS UNWAVERING, LIKE A MANTRA: "THERE'S ONLY ONE."

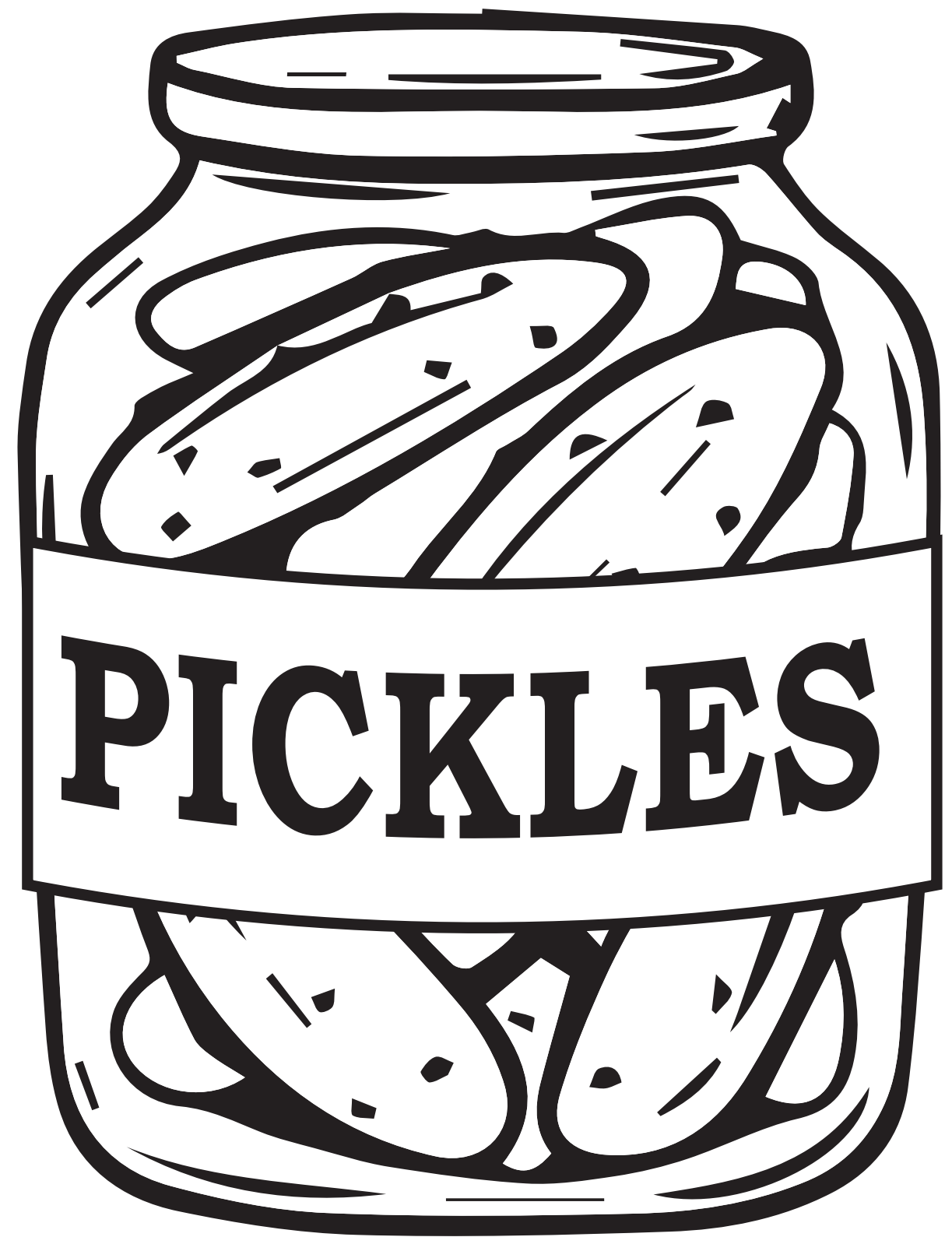
I PLAY, YOU SEE, NOT MERELY FOR THE THRILL OF THE GAME, BUT FOR THE CHANCE TO ETCH MY NAME ONTO THE ETERNAL MONUMENT OF OUR LEAGUE'S TROPHY. TO LIVE ON THAT TROPHY, THAT'S THE GRAND PRIZE I SEEK. IT'S WHY I PLAY. IT'S WHY I STEP ONTO THAT FIELD, TO WIN THE GAME, AND IN WINNING, TO BE IMMORTALIZED ON THE CHERISHED RELIC OF THE ONE AND ONLY SOFTBALL LEAGUE THAT TRULY EXISTS.



Quote of the Day

"I batted over .500 this year and nobody even gave me any credit... oh wait... that was my ERA."

*Michael Cohen
Portland Pickles*



YMSL

WWW.YMSL-SOFTBALL.COM

**Batted over
.350 for career**

**Played in Deal
& YMSL**

**Multiple
HR Season**

**10+ year
veteran**

Captain

**2+ League
Champ**

Immaculate Grid

RULES

- 1) Select a player for each cell that matches the criteria for that cell's row and column.
- 2) A player cannot be used twice.
- 3) Players may be active or inactive.
- 4) For SEASON statistics, player had to achieve feat in that season.
- 5) For CAREER statistics, player simply had to play for that team in his career at any point.
- 6) For two stat/awards cells: If both cells are SEASON statistics, the feat must have been achieved in the same season.

It Seems Like Only Yesterday...

**40 Years
Ago...**

*Front
Runners*

1983 marked the 8th year of the Deal Synagogue softball league, and the final year of the slow pitch/2 swing era. Eddie Beda, the legendary short-stop known as the “grandfather of baseball” had yet to win a championship, but he felt 1983 was his year. He combined a group of veterans and younger talent together, to form the “Front Runners”, a team named for their pitcher and main character, Sammy “Storefront” Ashkenazi. Veteran stars such as Raymond Beyda, Marvin Saka, David “Phumphy” Assoulin and Elliot Gindi were coupled with young phenoms like Nathan Tawil, Sam “Buca” Cohen, and Stevie “Bucky” Doueck.

A few weeks into the season, the management of the team was handed over by Alan Bailey, who ran the day today operations while Beda focused on playing. The team took over first place in June and never looked back. They cruised through the playoffs, only to meet a “Dynasty” team led by Eli Gindi. A thrilling five game series ensued, filled with spectacular defense, clutch hitting, and a few fist fights to boot. When they needed him most, Storefront got tough and pitched his team to victory in game five, giving the Front Runners a spot on the cup.

This was the first of five championships that Beda would win, including one in the next year, 1984.

**30 Years
Ago...**

**BIG
TIME**

The 1993 season was always viewed as the final chapter of the Deal Synagogue softball league as the community’s **only** Deal league. While this was the case, some light has recently been shed on this season that was not previously spoken of.

The Championship of 1993 went to Charles Serouya and his crew “Big Time”. While there were some familiar faces, like Joey Tobias, Jackie Sabin, and the three Isaac’s - Shomer, Danziger and Saka -, this team is clearly the weakest of any on the storied Deal Cup, lacking that huge star or stud pitcher that we are used to seeing. Thanks to our investigative work and recent interviews with Steven “Stash” Ashear, Douglas Dweck, Isaac Shomer, and Bobby Morabia, along with the discovery of draft notes from Ikey Mevorah, the YMSL investigative arm was able to uncover that the majority of the Deal league jettisoned to a league that they played in Staten Island, explaining why the season was without its huge stars.

Nevertheless, “Big Time” is the recognized champion and they did indeed win the nameless break-away league in its first season of 1993.

It Seems Like Only Yesterday...

20 Years Ago...

OLD SCHOOL

The 2003 draft employed a tactic that is sometimes used by certain captains - the strategy of picking two players for the same position, with the hopes of trading one away.

Eddie Mishan drafted pitchers Red Nesser and Ike Yedid to the same team, the two best pitchers in the league. However, the storied friendship of Mishan and Yedid made it obvious to all that Yedid would be the pitcher on this ball club, and that Red would be traded away.

'Old School,' ended up being the benefactors of this - they were the only team without a hurler, but knew Red was there for the taking and ended up with a trade of Sam 'Buca' Cohen for him, straight up. From there, Old School never looked back, posting a 10-4 record, all the way to a championship over the same Mishan and Yedid combo that they dealt with in the pre-season. Despite giving up Buca, Old School had a roster that is hard believe; Jackie Braha, David Franco, and Jackie Ashkenazi patrolled the outfield, for captains Jackie JD Dweck, David Franco and Jack Zalta's (yes this team had tri captains). Stars like Hymie Shamah, Freddie Weintraub, and David Labo Labaton filled out an unstoppable offense and defense for Red & company. The World Series did wind up going The full five games, with Old School prevailing, and etching their names on the famed trophy forever.

10 Years Ago...

expos

2013 saw Norman Jemal and Carlos Abadi team up for the rookie years as captains. For their first order of business they traded up in the first round to get the superstar Allie Marshall. They then put together a team of solid pieces around them to form the Montreal Expos.

Managed by the current league historian Sandy Shalom, the squad came together and took on the role of being an Expo, each wearing a former players' jersey and creating its own Instagram account to promote team spirit. Solid players filled the field with players like David Rishty, Lee Zekaria, Sonny Shalom, Bub Jemal to go along with the captains and aforementioned Allie Marshall.

Taking the ball week in and week out was Mikey Shalom, a champion ten years earlier with Old school and now trying to win one as a pitcher. The regular season was nothing special for the 'Spos, posting a 9-7 record and having to play every round of the post-season. However, what ensued was history in the making. The Expos got red hot at the right time, becoming the only team to ever go 7-0 in the post season. They ran through everybody, winning close games as well as blowouts. They were ultimately crowned champions when they completed a sweep of Joe Chera's first-place Pirates, beating them 10-3, 2-0, and 15-2 in the dominant three-game sweep, earning Mikey Shalom a World Series MVP . A team that looked very ordinary all year long, ended up being extraordinary and had a place in the record books forever.

The Chief Wears Violet

By: Saul R. Tawil

During my senior year of college I was required to obtain an internship. For whatever reason, the internship I had (with the Zekaria's at Paramount) didn't qualify. I was in a pickle and with my options basically zero given the fact that my time was already committed, I fired off the following email:

"Dr. Brown, good afternoon I hope you are safe and well. Regarding my summer internship, I have been in contact and offered a position as the "chief of staff" of a men's softball league relatively close to home. The job position entails the following:

Marketing for the league- running the leagues social media accounts, as well as producing weekly recap shows, player interviews and league commercials.

Last week of summer is signups week where I would keep track of admissions, including creating player cards for each new player, and process payment for each entry.

Head statistician: Oversee the 12 league statisticians and take their data and compile it all on the league website with daily updates

Oversee fieldwork and umpires: ensure the field cleaning crews are present each pre-game and confirm umpire attendance, weekly payment to field crews and umpiring staff.

Gameday: make sure the basics are set including field prep and weather-related decisions.

Overall it seems like an interesting opportunity to learn how to manage an organization within sports. Given the nature of the current times, I would need to start learning the stat systems to be prepared for the season. Please let me know if this is an approved internship. happy to answer any questions. The main leagues website is <https://www.ymsl-softball.com/>

The commissioner seems to be a really nice guy, and I can loop him in if you would like. Best,
Saul Tawil"

I waited a few days and got this response:

"Hey Saul

I think this seems like a great opportunity, and would be great for internship credit. As the time comes for internship sign-ups (you'll get an email from the department), you will be asked to gain approval from your advisor. Let this email serve as approval so that when you are able to sign up, you can start the process. Glad to not only see this opportunity come up, but glad to see it is something you have some interest in. You are good to go.

Congrats on the gig, and I hope this helps

Best!

--

Brandon Brown, PhD"

So there you have it, the YMSL has given me 2 things: A career 236 average, and an A in NYU.
Saul T.

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to express my interest in one of your students, Mr Saul Tawil, joining our team as 'Chief of Staff' for our Young Men's Softball League, in Monmouth County, New Jersey. In getting to know Saul, I have been amazed at the qualities he possesses, including leadership, organization, and problem-solving skills that our league embraces. Although young in age, Saul is respected by the players of the league as someone who will be prepared, respectful, and fair. 'Chief of Staff,' is a job that we do not fill with just anyone. As second-in-command to the commissioner, Mr Tawil is expected to take the reigns of the league should the commissioner be unavailable for any reason.

Last season, Mr Tawil stepped up by driving 300 miles in order to obtain certain necessary equipment for our league that was unavailable locally. Such commitment to the quality of play to our league is something we appreciate greatly.

Saul can learn how to be more direct with his player dispute rulings, and that is something we addressed during our meeting at the pre-season seminar in Baltimore. His willingness to learn all aspects of the job is both refreshing and rewarding.

We give Saul our full endorsement for your internship program. Should you require any further verification, feel free to call me on my league-issue cellular device, at 732-433-5700.

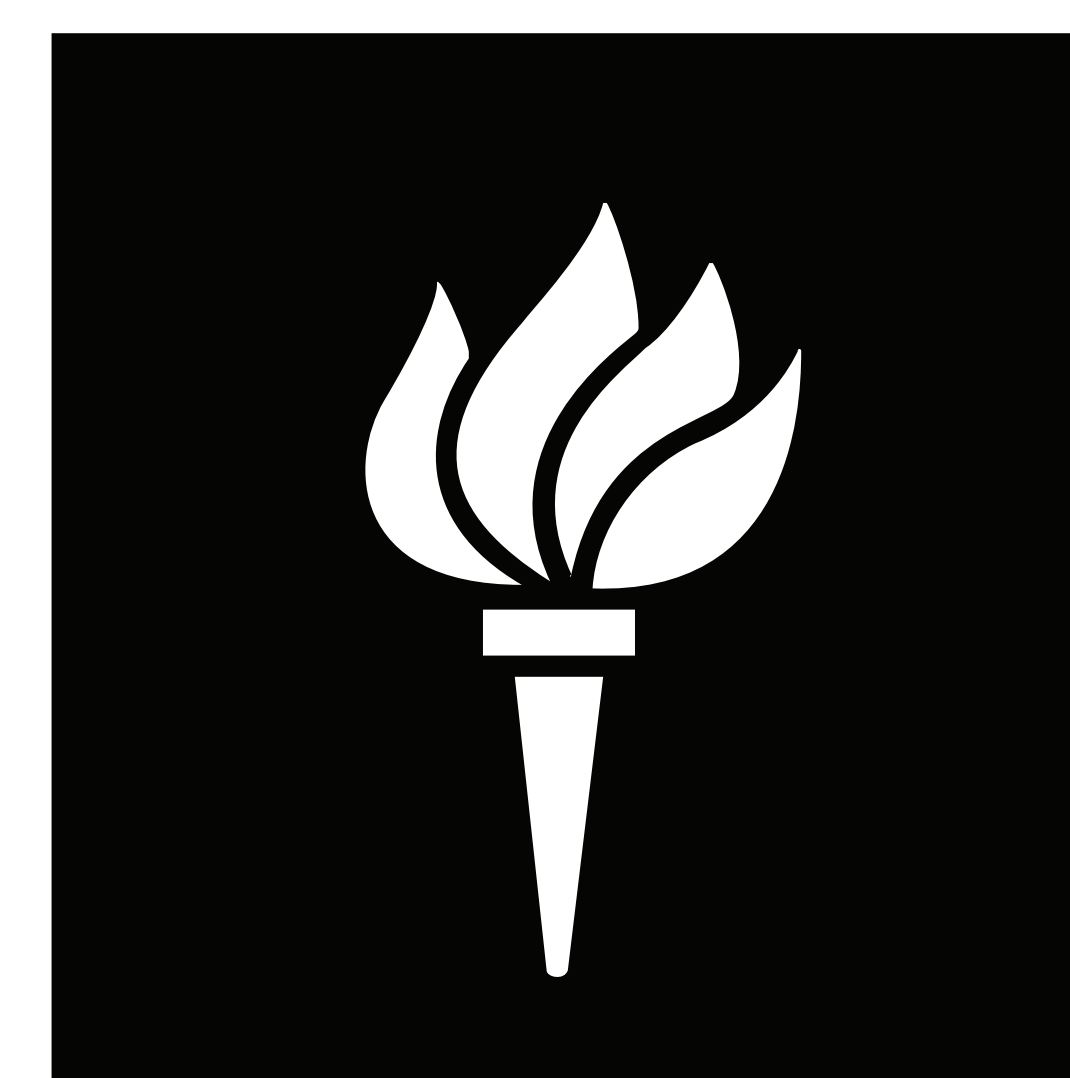
Here's to more walk-off homeruns in 2021!

Sincerely,

Norman Jemal

Commissioner

Young Men's Softball League □



NYU

Behind the Scenes View of the Draft Mayhem...

By Norman R. Jemal

2023 was one of the most unique and interesting seasons of recent memory. Just as the draft was getting started, news came into the draft room that Jack Abady was injured, and that it seemed bad. Sure enough, two days later, the prognosis was confirmed and the 3-time MVP was out for the year. With the draft two rounds in, a replacement for Abady was needed urgently.

What complicated matters was the fact that Abady was not only a captain who locked himself up as the first overall player, but he made what almost everyone thought was a bad trade for the tenth overall pick, so he could play with his childhood friend Jackie Tawil. Despite our best efforts, nobody could find an available player to take over, who would agree to fill in for Abady the way his current team was constituted - 'why would I enter to play with JT and not have another pick for a long time,' - the questionable trade was hindering the chance for a replacement more than the actual replacement.

At the commissioner's office, we had so many different ideas come in - we reached out to recently retired players like Morris Shamah, Steven Chalouh, Jon Eliezer, and Marc Braha, but none were clutch enough or available enough to bail us out. Furthermore, Jackie Tawil himself was only hurting matters, speaking publicly and stating that he would not agree to remain on a team with a subpar replacement, and would sooner quit the league altogether than play with one of those guys taking over for Abady.

I reached out to some former captains, including Elliot Saka, who seemed to be the most likely 'next guy' off the board when the draft resumed with the third round. I offered him the chance to become the captain, take JT, and then get a compensatory pick in the beginning of the third round. He was willing to step up, despite his desires not to become a captain. We officially had a back-up plan.

Maurice Haber called in with a great hard-line stance option. He stated that our draft of 96 guys and 8 teams just got reduced to 95, with Abady being out. Coupled with JT's holding us up, he said we should allow JT to walk and be reduced to 94 players, and play a 7-team league. Each team already drafted through the first two rounds, and he proposed we change the rosters to play with 13 players per team, instead of 12. Such a league would have 91 players instead of the remaining 94, and the commissioner would have to figure out a way to eliminate 3 players from the list.

This idea was better than option 1 for a few reasons - firstly, Elliot Saka was not looking to be a captain and it was unclear if we'd ever get a fair compensation for his picks. Secondly, allowing JT to make a demand for his team was bad for the league in the long term.

I decided to go to JT's office in Woodbridge where I enjoyed a revisit in the very same showroom where I had recently purchased a gorgeous slab which had been beautifully transformed into my dining room table. I bumped into current and future HOFers, Nathan and Sammy, along the way.

In meeting with JT, we came up with the idea that HE would become his team's captain, and we'd give him two picks in the third round, perhaps one immediately and one later on, and this seemed to be the most logical way forward. I felt bad that JT fell victim to the Abady injury, but was surprised at his newer more demanding stance that we should completely redraft from pick number 1. That was an idea I never liked, since there were seven other teams that made trades and moves in order to line up the way they wanted to. Zack Ashkenazi traded up to draft NayB, something that he wouldn't be able to do. Joe Greenberg drafted his buddy Jake Dwek to play infield - something nobody considered as an option. Eddie Mishan shocked everyone and drafted Michael Cohen over the expected selection of Max Yedid. If we redrafted, all the cards would be revealed, and the captains would be at a wild disadvantage to the one new face at the table, whoever that would end up being.

Sammy Esses called me early on Friday morning, with the news that he would be able to convince Brooklyn superstars Steven Gindi and Joe Sefaradi to replace Abady, but only if they played together with Sammy as the official captain. Steven and Joe seemed like a fair trade for Abady and JT in my eyes and the eyes of the committee. The problem was the trade - Abady had given up too much for JT, and Sammy Esses was not willing to pick up that tab.

We meticulously worked out a solution that would make their team whole - they received an upgrade from the last pick of the sixth round to the first pick of the sixth round. Additionally, Sammy Esses was slotted as the 96th player on his team, which is multiple rounds below where he would normally be slotted.

JT was released off this team and the draft was redone from the 10th pick onward. Teddy Ishak picked up the suddenly available JT, and put Jordy Rumeld back in the player pool. Rumeld was immediately scooped up by Eddie Mishan, which put Jimmy Malakh back in the pool. Daniel Tawil picked up Jimmy Malakh with the first pick of the resumed draft on Saturday night.

After a half-dozen team name and logo changes, Sammy Esses' team was created - Beast Mode. With their bump up in the sixth round they selected Ralph Hanan, a pitcher who was replaced mid year due to injury.

Maurice Haber had a chance to pick up Jordy Rumeld during the brief redraft - but he stuck with Buca Cohen. Looking back at his season, his biggest weakness was not having a bonafide shortstop on the squad, except for Charles Saka, who was delegated to third base.

Teddy Ishak picked up JT, but he already had David Farca for centerfield, so that only added more dysfunction to the early days of the Ishak regime. Eventually, Farca was shipped out to Allie Marshall's Hipsters where he ended up being nominated for an MVP. In return, Marty Antebi was sent to Biblical, for left field, and JT got his CF position. Antebi struggled in his first week after the trade but then had a monster year, only to skip the final game of his team's season for his engagement.

Eddie Mishan picked up Jordy Rumeld - he ended up being one of 9 victims on the Portland Pickles, held hostage to a year flushed down the toilet by Eddie Mishan, Max Sutton, and Michael MC Cohen - the triumvirate who each got a wake-up call that in the YMSL, you can't just put any talented position player on the mound and expect real results.

Joseph Greenberg stuck with Jake Dwek, a superstar center fielder who was asked to play shortstop - but two weeks into the season that plan erupted and Jake was back in the outfield as the team tried to save their season after that failed experiment.

Zack Ashkenazi stuck with NayB as his 11th overall pick - later than usual because NayB was going to miss two weeks of season for his daughter Pearl's Bat Mitzvah celebration.

Zack would never have been able to get NayB with a redraft, so he was the big winner here - he stuck with him, managed to go 3-1 while NayB was gone, and then got thru the postseason with a 5-1 record, sweeping Mo'Shiach in the World Series. Included in the sweep was a shutout performance by NayB, a ridiculous come from behind victory by Shake & Bake that saw them score 5 in the seventh inning to steal game 2, and awful sportsmanship and sore losing by Mo'Shiach in an otherwise solid game 3. In between it all, the 8 captains should be commended for their ability to band together to solve the problem that we were faced with back in February.

We never know what we're going to face up against in the YMSL. We will never avoid all the problems or challenges, but here's to hoping we will continue to always work together to come up with the proper solution best for the league.

Report from a Rookie

An outlook from a rookie from outside the "Community"

By Uri Adler

Year 1 in "the most intense, competitive league that softball has to offer" was definitely an eye-opener. The year started with a weird first impression. How can this league be as advertised if MC is taking the mound in week 1? Why in the world are people rolling around with Raw Dog ashtrays? Why are people trading their 1st round picks before the season even started? Why does everyone seem to have a nickname? What the hell is going on in the Discord? Shortly thereafter the answers were clear, welcome to Michael "Houdini" Cohen and Welcome to the YMSL.

The season was one to remember, the Jack Abady saga by the draft, the pitcher saga, subs for subs, the infamous Teddy Ishak interview, "not the father", and that thing from Chicago they called a team. These are things that just aren't seen in any league anywhere, which makes the YMSL so unique and special. The league as a whole and its family-type vibes are not something you find outside of the YMSL. This was an eye opener coming from predominantly Ashkenaz leagues. It introduced me to a whole new competitive edge I didn't know I had. Going to the cages 3 to 4 times a week and working with KJ wasn't something I would have dreamt I would be doing just a couple years ago, but, again, "Welcome to the YMSL"

Truth be told, I had never even heard of the YMSL before the summer of 2022 when I joined the night league and that's when I was first introduced to SY Softball and the likes of Sabon, Jimmy, and characters of those sorts. I was approached by JT and MoKass and they urged me to join this league called the YMSL. I quickly did a crash course on the YMSL media and immediately knew it was something I had to be a part of. But how in the world was I going to deal with all this? Who has a Podcast discussing a spring league... in DECEMBER? What's this chaos on the Discord? 500 people showing up to a Friday postseason game? Guys who play on Team USA in the Maccabee games? Guys who spend countless hours in the cages working on their game? Yup, that is the beauty of it, and in just a short period of time, I became just as crazy as the rest of them.

In the night league, there is a much bigger Ashkenaz presence, but in YMSL the presence from the European brethren hasn't been massive. League historian Sandy Shalom has confirmed that in the 1980s there were players with the last names Goldenberg and Zilberman who played in the league, but the real "Jackie Robinsteins" of the league were the Shulmans, Ira, Jared and Adam, who joined the league in 2008. In 2011, Captain Adam, his father Ira, along with 2010 Rookie of the Year Leor Freidman and Zvi Goldberg led the "Grip it N Rip It" squad to glory in the 2011 season. Some other guys on that team were today's superstars Gabe Abadi and Zack Ashkenazi. There have been a few of us since then including Former Rookie of the Year Nussi Jacobovitch, Pinny Silberstein, and others but few have lasted, and none have had their name on the cup since "Grip it N Rip it" 13 years ago (Jordy Rumeld doesn't count as Ashkenaz. In order to qualify, you couldn't grow up on kibbes and must own an illegal bat). There has also never been an Ashkenaz MVP. CHALLENGE ACCEPTED.

From making my first appearance in SY softball in the Summer of 2022 to playing SS on the biggest stage in 2023 Spring YMSL playoffs was pretty wild. I was fairly warned that YMSL was "different". Showing up in week 1 and striking out twice against B was quite the welcome. Then the roller coaster known as "No Beauty, just Beast (Mode)" had started. Jack Abady's unfortunate injury on draft night thrust Sammy Esses into the captain role and in short order created a team of "imports". By Week 2's end, the "Jack Abady sub" Steven Gindi went down with a thumb/wrist injury vs. the Hipsters, and by Week 4 starting pitcher Ralph Hanan went down to injury vs. the Brew Crew and a new influx of "imports" made their way in. There were so many imports, Teddy Ishak was ready to call I.C.E. Simcha and Nutty were great additions but ultimately "No Beauty, just Beast(Mode)" was eliminated by the well-stretched out "It's Gonna be Biblical" squad led by Teddy Ishak and Tyler the physical therapist. By years end, there were more subs replacing subs and "imports" replacing other "imports" than anyone could have imagined.

But my most enjoyable part of YMSL 2023 was the hardcore investigation that went down in search of the "father". I've heard they are crazy in YMSL, but this was whole new level. Long-time superstar and league diehard, Ike Mevorah said, "we used to hit .500 every year with a 30 oz metal pole, now we have illegal bats?" Per Sources, it is unclear if the "father" has ever been found at this time. Norman has put a task force together in both Deal and Lakewood to ensure the YMSL is not infiltrated by such bats. The El Dongo sideways game of the week was quite enjoyable as well. Year 1 in YMSL is in the books and I am grateful to have joined and I hope to have a very long



**A Cone
To Own
A Cone Of Your Own
Your Own Cone
To Use Or To Loan
You Stand Almost Alone
When You Own Your Own Cone**

CONGRATS TO OUR 2023 COWNERS

*Ashkenazi, Zack
Dweck, Edmond
Jemal, Jacob
Kassin, Jake Yogi*

*Kassin, Morris
Missry, Fonz
Tawil, Mickey
Haber/Harari families*

**** Jacob JigCone Cohen does NOT own a Cone.**



Most Popular Answers

<i>Zack Ashkenazi</i>	<i>Ike Yedid</i>	<i>Sabon</i>
<i>Eddie Mishan</i>	<i>Jackie Ashko</i>	<i>Morris Shamah</i>
<i>Allie Marshall</i>	<i>Jackie Haddad</i>	<i>Nathan Tawil</i>

**10+ year veteran
Captain
2+ League Champ**

**Batted over .350 for career
Played in Deal & YMSL
Multiple HR Season**



Superlatives!

Best new El Dongo-ism

'Stand Up Single'

New phrase that caught fire

'Brain trust'

Worst game of the year

Beast Mode vs Mo'Shiach in week 7 where a double forfeit was almost called.

Best game of the year

Shake & Bake over Biblical in week 7 that determined the bye.

Worst argument

Leo Kassin claiming that he couldn't wear a uniform because his wife had a baby the week before.

Most baffling moment

Eddie Harari's no show for game 1 in week 5.

Worst decision by a manager

Eddie Mishan letting MC pitch.

Runner up.

Joe Greenberg putting gold glove CF Jake Dwek at shortstop.

Biggest snub at awards

Paulette BooBoo Jemal not winning fan of the year

Best presenter at awards

Raw Dog

The Draftologist Jack Zalta Steals of the Draft

Ronald Roland Tawil, Jake Braha

Umpire of the year

Terry Tyndall

Prediction of the year

Teddy Ishak declaring no more rain outs once May began.

Shocking moment of the year

Without a doubt, Mo'Shiach giving up 5 runs in the 7th in game 2 of the WS.

Final Regular Season Standings

TEAM	W	L	T	PCT	GB	RF	RA
Brew Crew	10	4	0	0.714	-	86	69
Shake & Bake	9	5	0	0.643	1	77	74
Hipsters	8	6	0	0.571	2	96	63
IGB Biblical	7	7	0	0.5	3	85	75
Beast Mode	7	7	0	0.5	3	68	95
Mo' Shiach	6	8	0	0.429	4	77	70
Portland Pickles	5	9	0	0.357	5	64	84
Black Sox	4	10	0	0.286	6	62	85

Postseason Results

