

Herbie's Takes Playoffs

The softball season is finally over, to the relief of many tired players. The regular season ended with Herbie's overhauling Barrimac on Sept. 16, 6-3, thereby allowing Esplanade into the playoffs as the 4th place finisher. Espy then proceeded to lose two straight to Chaps to put that club into the final round.

The first game was a rout, with the Chappies leaving with a 9-2 win. Shaky fielding, especially by your esteemed columnist from his first-base spot, led to most of the runs. When Espy was at bat, nothing seemed to be right; home runs turned into doubles as runners tripped over baselines, line drives were snagged by phantom short-fielders. In sum, it was a disaster.

Then, on Monday night, Sept. 18, it was thankfully all over. Only six players showed up for Espy, and extra recruits had to be mustered. (Chaps, of course, insisted on playing with their full ten-man team on the field, despite the generosity shown by Espy in the previous encounter when Chaps was allowed to recruit a short-fielder when only nine men showed. . . .) Despite the mismatch, though, it was a close game.

Even with Joe Leo at short-stop, no second baseman, and the regular infielders roaming the outfield, Espy hung tough, closing an initial gap of nine runs to an 11-9 score after six.

But Chaps proved too much for the Effalunts, scoring five times in the 7th to salt away a 16-9 victory. It was a gallant try by a team utterly outmatched, one which really meant more than a possible win. (Note: After all that, we were notified that the "official" result was just an ignominious forfeit!)

In the other semi-final matchup, Herbie's and Green Leaf paired off in a thrilling



photos by Joe Leo

SETH slides home with the insurance run in the 4th game of the playoff finals. Chaps won the game to tie the best-of-five series at 2-all.

series. The first game went to Herbie's, 7-6, thanks to a 4-run first on COLEY's grand-slam homer. Although the Flowermen matched that with 4 in the 5th, it would not be enough. The second game was almost a carbon copy, although this time Green Leaf got the early lead, on a 3-run homer in the first by BILL. But Herbie's countered with 5 in the 2nd, and held on again, 7-6, to move into the finals with Chaps.

The finals went right down to the wire. First Chaps, then Herbie's took leads in the tightly-contested series. The Chappies scored 6 in the 1st and held on for a 10-8 win in the opener, as Herbie's committed an unforgivable EIGHT errors. Then Herbie's came back to take the next two games, 12-11 and 16-12. In the 12-11 showdown a 6-run 3rd and some late-inning hits built a 12-5 lead; Chaps scored 6 in the top of the 7th but Herbie's pitcher ALAN left the tying run on second as his opposing number, MARC, fled to left to end the game. Then a 7-run 6th by the Ramrodders broke up a close ballgame to give Herbie's a 2-1 lead in the series. COLEY smashed two more big homers with men on base, driving in 6 runs in all.

Chaps had their backs to the wall for Game 4, and came through to tie the series, with a 15-13 win. This time it was 8 runs in the 2nd which did it, as Herbie's defense collapsed like a spent cock. EIGHT errors,

plus two doubles by FRANK, scored the runs. (In all Herbie's committed 15 miscues in the game. . . .) Even so, the 'Rodders roared back, with 5 in the 2nd and 6 in the 6th (including MARIO's second homer of the playoffs), to make it 14-12. But Chaps countered with an insurance run on clutch singles by

SETH and JOHN G. Then MARC held the Ramrodders to one run in the 7th to end it.

Fifth and final game. Both teams sensed the pressure this time, and after 5 innings it was still a low-scoring, 6-5 battle, with Herbie's in front on the strength of a 4-run 5th (with 4 Chaps errors helping the way). But then Herbie's finished fast, scoring one in the 6th on a homer by GEORGE, and 4 more in the 7th (a 3-run homer by RON buried the Chappies for good). ALAN set Chaps down in the last of the 7th without a score, and Herbie's had won the trophy.

GAME THREE Herbie's 16-12

HERBIE'S		CHAPS	
ab	r h bi	ab	r h bi
Kenny, lf	4 3 0 0	Jason, cf	5 2 1 1
Ralph, 3b	4 2 3 1	Giggs, ss	5 2 1 2
Ron, cf	5 1 1 2	Seth, lb	5 2 0 2
Coley, rf	5 3 2 1	John G., 3b	3 0 0 1
Mario, ss	5 1 2 1	Frank, lf	4 0 1 1
Lenny, lb	5 1 2 0	Martin, rf	3 1 1 0
George, sf-c	4 1 2 2	Jerry, rf	0 0 0 0
Jack, 2b	4 1 2 1	Marc, p	4 1 2 0
Alan, p	4 1 2 0	Bob, sf	4 1 2 2
Marshall, c	2 1 0 0	John R., 2b	4 2 1 1
Donny, sf	1 1 0 0	John R., 2b	4 1 2 0
Totals	43 16 17 13	Totals	41 12 10
Herbie's	3 1 0 1 4 7 0 - 16	Chaps	3 0 0 5 1 2 3 - 12
E — Herbie's: Ralph (3), Ron (2), Coley, Mario (4), George (2), Jack, Chaps: Jason, Giggs (2), Frank (2), Martin, John R. (2), L.O.B. — Herbie's 9, Chaps 10. 2B — Ralph, Frank, Bob. HR — Coley (2), George, SF — John G.			
Alan (W 4-1) IP H R ER BB SO			
Marc (L 3-2) 7 11 12 5 1 0			

GAME FOUR Chaps, 15-13

CHAPS		HERBIE'S	
ab	r h bi	ab	r h bi
Jason, cf	5 0 2 0	Lenny, lb	4 2 1 3
Giggs, ss	5 0 3 2	Ralph, 3b	4 1 1 1
Seth, lb	5 3 2 0	Ron, cf	4 1 1 1
John G., 3b	5 2 2 1	Coley, rf	4 1 1 1
Frank, lf	5 1 2 0	Donny, lf	4 0 0 0
Martin, rf	3 0 0 0	Mario, ss	3 2 1 1
Marc, p	3 0 0 0	Jack, 2b	3 0 1 0
Bob, 2b	5 3 0 1	George, sf	3 3 1 0
John H., c	4 1 2 2	Marshall, c	3 2 2 2
Doug, sf	3 1 2 0	Alan, p	4 1 1 2
Totals	47 15 6 6	Totals	37 13 10
Chaps	0 8 2 3 10 - 15	Herbie's	0 5 1 0 0 6 - 13
E — Chaps: Jason (2), Seth, John G., Martin, Marc, Bob; Herbie's: Ralph, Coley, Danny (4), Mario (7), George (2), L.O.B. — Chaps 12, Herbie's 6. 2B — Giggs, Seth, Frank (2), Ralph, Coley, Marshall. 3B — Giggs, George, HR — Mario.			
Alan (W 4-2) IP H R ER BB SO			
Marc (W 4-2) 7 10 13 3 3 0			

GAME FIVE Herbie's, 11-5

HERBIE'S		CHAPS	
ab	r h bi	ab	r h bi
Kenny, lf	3 2 1 0	Jason, cf	4 0 0 0
Ralph, ss	4 2 1 0	Giggs, ss	4 0 2 0
Ron, cf	4 2 2 5	Seth, lb	3 1 2 0
Mario, 3b	4 2 3 0	Frank, lf	3 1 0 1
Lenny, lb	4 1 0 0	John G., 3b	3 0 1 1
George, rf	4 1 2 3	Martin, rf	3 0 0 0
Donny, sf	4 0 1 0	Martin, rf	3 1 1 0
Jack, 2b	4 0 0 0	Jerry, 2b	3 1 1 0
Marshall, c	3 0 1 0	John R., 2b	0 0 0 0
Alan, p	3 1 2 0	Doug, sf	2 1 1 2
		Bob, sf	1 0 0 0
		John H., c	2 0 0 1
Totals	37 11 13 8	Totals	31 5 5 5
Herbie's	0 0 0 2 4 1 4 - 11	Chaps	0 3 0 0 2 0 - 5
E — Herbie's: Kenny, Ralph, Mario, Marshall, Alan; Chaps: Giggs, Seth, Frank (2), Marc, Martin. L.O.B. — Herbie's 6, Chaps 7. 2B — Giggs, 3B — Martin, Doug, HR — Ron, George, SF — John H.			
Alan (W 5-2) IP H R ER BB SO			
Marc (L 4-3) 7 9 13 5 3 1 0			



Rusty and Rodney Bartenders from 1270



HERBIE's Carver Street neighbor, Roland LaChance, offers support to the Ramrod owner as his team does battle in the playoff final.

Chaps, 9-2

ESPLANADE		CHAPS	
ab	r h bi	ab	r h bi
Rod, 2b	4 0 1 0	Jason, cf	4 2 1 1
Tim, ss	3 0 0 0	Giggs, ss	3 1 1 0
Jim, cf	4 1 1 0	Seth, lb	4 1 3 2
Pete, 3b	1 1 1 0	Frank, lf	3 0 0 0
Sil, rf	2 0 0 0	John, 3b	3 0 0 0
Steve, b	3 0 2 2	Bob, rf	3 1 1 0
Joe, c	2 0 0 0	Marc, p	3 1 1 0
Cliff, h	3 0 2 0	Jerry, c	3 0 0 0
John, sf	1 0 0 0	John, 2b	3 1 1 0
Ron, p	2 0 0 0	Bruce, sf	2 1 1 0
John, p	1 0 0 0	Martin, sf	1 0 1 1
Totals	26 2 7 2	Totals	32 9 4
Esplanade	0 0 0 0 2 0 - 2	Chaps	2 0 0 2 5 x - 9
E — Chaps: Jason; Esplanade: Rod, Tim (2), Jim, Pete (2), Steve (2). L.O.B. — Chaps 7, Esplanade 10. 2B — Cliff.			
Marc (W 1-0) IP H R ER BB SO			
John (L 0-1) 7 9 7 2 1 7 1			

Herbie's, 7-6

HERBIE'S		GREEN LEAF	
ab	r h bi	ab	r h bi
Donny, sf	3 0 1 0	Chip, lf	4 2 2 0
Kenny, lf	4 0 1 0	Tom, lb	4 1 0 1
Ralph, 3b	4 1 1 0	Bill, sf	3 0 2 0
Mario, ss	1 1 0 0	Steve, 3b	4 2 3 1
Ron, cf	4 3 1 0	Terry, cf	4 0 1 2
Coley, rf	3 2 3 4	Rich, rf	4 0 0 0
Lenny, lb	3 0 1 1	Jim, p	2 0 0 0
Jack, 2b	3 0 1 0	Hank, ss	3 0 0 0
Alan, p	3 0 0 0	Marc, 2b	3 0 0 0
George, c	3 0 0 0	Joe, c	2 1 1 0
Totals	31 7 9 5	Totals	33 6 9 4
Herbie's	4 0 0 1 0 2 0 - 7	Green Leaf	0 0 1 0 4 0 - 6
E — Green Leaf: Terry, Richard, Joe; Herbie's: Danny, Mario (2), Coley, Jack. L.O.B. — Green Leaf 10, Herbie's 7. Grand Slam — Coley.			
Alan (W 1-0) IP H R ER BB SO			
Jim (L 1-0) 7 9 7 5 4 0			

Herbie's 7-6

GREEN LEAF		HERBIE'S	
ab	r h bi	ab	r h bi
Chip, lf	3 0 0 0	Ralph, 3b	3 1 2 0
Tom, lb	4 2 0 0	Kenny, lf	3 2 2 0
Billy, sf	4 1 3 3	Coley, rf	4 2 2 0
Steve, 3b	4 0 1 0	Mario, ss	1 1 1 0
Terry, cf	3 1 1 0	Ron, cf	3 0 1 2
Richard, rf	3 2 1 0	Lenny, lb	3 0 1 2
Jim, p	3 0 1 1	Bobby, 2b	3 0 0 0
Hank, ss	3 0 0 0	Donny, sf	3 1 2 0
Marc, 2b	1 0 0 0	George, c	2 0 0 0
Joe, c	3 0 0 0	Jack, c	1 0 0 0
		Alan, p	3 0 1 0
Totals	31 6 5 4	Totals	29 7 12 4
Green Leaf	4 0 0 0 1 1 0 - 6	Herbie's	2 5 0 0 0 0 x - 7
E — Green Leaf: Billy, Hank, Marc, Joe; Herbie's: Ralph, Coley, Mario (4), Ron, Danny. L.O.B. — Green Leaf 7, Herbie's 9. HR — Billy.			
Alan (W 2-0) IP H R ER BB SO			
Jim (L 0-2) 6 12 7 5 4 1			
Alan (W 2-0) 7 5 6 1 3 0			