



February 18, 1971

SUBJECT: Your NHS Softball Team

It's Spring Training time again. And since Rocky has room on his desk for another trophy, he's decided to get the sparkling NHS Softball Team together for another fantastic season. And whatever Rocky wants. . .

In case you have a short attention span or just weren't around for the campaign, here's an instant replay. Last spring we organized NHS's first softball team and entered the Advertising League of the Center Recreation Association. There were nine seven-inning games scheduled from May 19 through July 2. We played Tuesdays and Thursdays (Friday was make-up night) at either 5:30 or 7:30 p.m. in Central Park. When the dust settled, we had won five and lost four. Since CBS had an identical record, we had to pay off for fourth place. We blanked them for our only shutout of the season. (Not too difficult considering they didn't show up and we won by forfeit.) So we got a trophy. (See Rocky's desk.)

Because of this tremendous success, Rocky's figuring on entering us in a tougher league. One that involves bunting and faster pitching. But that all depends upon who tries out.

It makes no difference whether you were with us last year. The team is not set. All positions are open. So if you're interested in playing some ball (and being Rocky's friend), fill in the blanks below and return to Rocky Boyd as soon as possible.

Name _____ Department _____

Positions _____

Equipment you can provide _____

Remarks _____



April 20, 1971

Memorandum to New York Division

Subject: Your NHS Softball Team

Rocky says that anyone who wishes to revel in the kind of glory which surrounded last year's stirring NHS Softball Team had best show up for practice tomorrow evening. You can't make the team without making practice.

This year, we'll try to provide transportation to every practice session and game. So if you need a ride tomorrow, be at the mailroom properly attired and equipped (we provide uniforms, balls and bats – even a screaming purple one) around quitting time.

If you have any questions, call Rocky, ext. 331.



May 28, 1971

TO: New York Division
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: Our First Win

We played our first game last night and it was what you might call a promising start. Behind the steady pitching of our unflappable mound ace, Joe Pash, we squeaked by WNEW-Radio, 33-11.

Without including defensive lapses by Julius LaRosa and his fellow radio celebrities, we managed to rack up 33 hits – 20 singles, eight doubles and five home runs (three by Rick Sella, one by Gary Graf and a grand slam by Jerry Mansfield).

Since this game tended to be pretty much a display of our offensive prowess, the big kudos must go to our big sticks: Bill Thomson, who went five for six; Gary Graf, who garnered four hits; and Rick Sella, Jerry Mansfield, George Pappas, Pete Stassi, Russ Cornelius and Joe Pash with three hits each.

Trite as it might sound, this win was a team effort, and if you see any of the players listed below in the next few days, you might offer them your congratulations.

Ken Adams	right field
Russ Cornelius	right field
Gary Graf	first base
Bill Henry	catcher
Marty Lupow	catcher
Jerry Mansfield	second base
Joe Pash	pitcher
Jim Ranieri	second base
Rick Sella	left field
Pete Stassi	shortstop
Bill Thomson	center field

and, of course, our team manager, Rocky Boyd.

Now, if you would like to do more than offer congratulations, why not come out and cheer us on next Thursday, June 3, when we take on Highlander, Ltd., at 5:30 pm (Diamond #5 at 64th Street). You might even have as much fun as we all did last night.



June 4, 1971

TO: New York Division
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: Our second straight

Last night's win was a particularly satisfying one. Not only did we whip previously undefeated Highlander, Ltd., and move into first place, but we shut them out over the first six innings.

Unfortunately, after a sterling performance through six, our unflappable mound ace, Joe Pash, tired. But star firemen Marty Lupow and George Pappas combined to put the damper on Highlander's last inning rally. The final score was 14-9.

Where our first game was highlighted by NHS's booming bats, last night's contest was marked by good, solid fielding. Most baseball men agree that the shortstop is the key to a team's defense. And the job turned in by Frank DeFilippo was a case in point. He showed a sure glove, great range and a rifle arm. The whole team played well, but Frank was a standout.

The hitting stars were Bill Thomson and Jerry Mansfield. Both went four for five. Gary Graf and the multi-talented Fran DeFillippo each collected three hits.

We have a good team, an exciting one to watch. See for yourself tonight when we play Columbia Pictures. Same time - 5:30 pm; same place - Diamond #5 at W. 64th Street. If we win, we remain in first place . . . all by ourselves.

June 7, 1971

TO: New York Division

FROM: Your NHS Softball Team

SUBJECT: Our third in a row

Well, we won our first game with a tremendous offensive barrage and our second with tight defensive play. But Friday night's game was pretty much a question of luck . . . some good, most bad.

Our opponents were Columbia Pictures and they scored 13 runs. Mainly as a result of just a few solid hits, some weird flukes and a raft of NHS errors. The bad luck. Still, we came from behind in the fifth and final inning to win 14-13. The good luck.

Every once in a while you have one of those games where nothing goes right. Or almost nothing. While all about him were collapsing, our unflappable mound ace, Joe Pash, was at his unflappable best. Fresh off a hard-pitched game the night before, Joe hung in there, staying ahead of almost every batter. At least he was right.

The game went something like this: Columbia scored seven runs in the first. We came back with six and added two in the second inning. But in the third they pushed across five runs to go ahead 12-8. An inning later the score was unchanged and time was running out. (No inning may be started after 6:50; so that a second game can be played before it becomes too dark.) So with two out, one run in and two men on, Rick Sella stepped to the plate. He found a pitch to his liking and belted it over the right fielder's head. The game was tied. And we all felt a little better.

In the top half of the last inning, Columbia took the lead with one run. But we weren't finished. George Pappas opened by ripping a double down the third baseline. Then Frank DeFilippo bunted safely, moving George to third. Marty Lupow followed with a single to drive in the tying run. The next batter was Ken Adams and he laid down a gorgeous bunt to load the bases. That left it up to free-swinging Joe Pash. Joe wasted no time and won his own game with a line single to right. We won't hear the last of that for a while.

Our next game is Thursday at 5:30 pm against Dictaphone. Diamond #5 at W.64th St. Come on out and squirm with us.



June 11, 1971

TO: New York Division
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: Four and still counting

Last night the team sitting high atop the Columbian Softball League met the team dwelling deep in the cellar and proved things were as they should be. Quite simply, the stalwart lads of NHS out-classed the guys over at Dictaphone Corp., 25-7.

In the parlance of sports mavens everywhere, it was a “laugher.” But then, we’ve had a few. This one featured some good hits (Bill Thomson and Gary Graf each collected five safeties), a couple of homers (Frank DeFilippo and George Pappas) and eight walks. To say nothing of the many errors Dictaphone committed. And, of course, another steady pitching performance from our unflappable mound ace, Joe Pash.

The only truly exciting moment came when Russ Cornelius lined a foul at Norval Stephens in the stands. Norval soon retreated to the safety of the third base coaching box.

Last night was particularly encouraging because we drew our largest crowd of the season. And it certainly makes a difference playing for a lot of people lustily cheering their team on . . . instead of a couple of guys who figure if they clap real hard, maybe we’ll buy some of the Italian ices.

Next Tuesday at 5:30pm (Diamond #5 at W. 64th Street) we take on a team whose record indicates they’ll be one of the toughest we’ll meet: SSC&B. So if you’re in the mood to do some lusty cheering, please feel free to join us and the Italian Icemen in Central Park next week.



June 25, 1971

TO: New York Division
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: Another one

Last night's 9-6 win over Ross Roy revealed yet one more strength of your NHS Softball Team: depth. Even though one-third of our starting line-up was otherwise occupied, our bench rose to the occasion with tight defense and timely hitting.

Probably the most enjoyable play of the evening was a squeeze bunt by Jim Ranieri. Pete Stassi was at third after tripling home Bill Henry and Norm Vergara. Jim laid a beauty down the first baseline. Ross Roy's pitcher, catcher, third baseman and first baseman all rushed it yelling, "Throw it, throw it." But by the time any of them got around to picking it up, Pete had scored and Jim was standing on first. Super strategy.

Another choice hit came in the first inning. After Frank DeFilippo had opened with a single and Gary Graf followed with a double, our home run hitter, Rick Sella, did his thing. And collected three big RBIs.

It was win No. 5 for our unflappable mound ace, Joe Pash.

We'll be going after No. 6 next Thursday, July 1 at 5:30pm (Diamond #5 at W. 64th Street). Our opponents will be Eastern Airlines. C'mon out and watch us clip the Wings of Man.



July 12, 1971

TO: New York Division
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: A new dynasty

Your NHS Softball Team made it six in a row Friday night with a 21-8 romp over rival agency SSC&B. The game was marked by some heavy hitting and an unusual defensive gem.

After scoring 10 times in the first inning, we opened the second with back-to-back-to-back homers by Frank DeFilippo, Pete Stassi and George Pappas. And before the game was over, Jerry Mansfield and Rick Sella each contributed a round-tripper. Frank also added a triple and three more hits for a perfect 5-for-5 night at the plate. And Jerry and Marty Lupow collected four safeties apiece.

But the event that triggered the most ebullient eruption from the stands featured slick-fielding Joe Pash. Our unflappable mound ace actually got off his sacred hill in time to stick a glove under a short pop. The din was deafening.

Now, as you might well imagine, the hushed whispers all around the league are about whether this Needham, Harper & Steers team might be the beginning of a dynasty. But Rocky says that it's a long season and we just gotta play them one at a time.

And the next one is tomorrow night at 5:30pm (Diamond #5 at W. 64th Street) against another rival agency, Ross Roy. If you've never seen a dynasty in the making, here's your chance.

Incidentally, rumor has it that a certain visitor from foreign shores is desirous of pitting his considerable cricket-bred throwing talents against our best arm. And this could possibly transpire tomorrow evening. Another happening in Central Park.

SECOND-HALF SCHEDULE

Tues	7/6	7:00pm	Eastern Air Lines (to be made up)
Tues	7/13	5:30pm	Ross Roy of N.Y.
Thur	7/22	7:00pm	SSC&B
Fri	7/23	5:30pm	Eastern Air Lines (make-up)
Tues	7/27	5:30pm	Dictaphone Corp.
Tues	8/3	7:00pm	Highlander, Ltd.
Tues	8/10	5:30pm	WNEW Radio
Thur	8/19	5:30pm	Columbia Pictures



July 21, 1971

TO: New York Division
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: Protest Upheld

Last week your NHS Softball Team played Ross Roy of New York. Some of you may have been wondering why this game didn't receive the same immediate and wide coverage others have.

It wasn't because we lost. (Which we did, 10-8.) Because if you'll remember back, last year several memos duly reported losses. Actually, we were awaiting the results of a formal protest. And now the results are in. The protest was upheld and we continue undefeated with seven wins.

The rules of the Central Recreation Association, the organization running these games, state that every player must be an employee of the company his team represents. Furthermore, each player must sign a roster which is submitted to the Association at the beginning of each season. Additions to the roster must be sent in a week before new players become eligible. And no more than one player can be without a uniform.

When we first played Ross Roy several weeks ago, we were told that one of their players was not an employee of the agency. We decided one guy couldn't make that much difference and didn't protest. However, we felt that they should play according to the rules with everyone else. (Like SSC&B two weeks ago. They were minus one man and since the rules allow for eight-man teams, they elected to play short until their ninth man showed up . . . rather than try to round up a ringer.)

This past week Ross Roy had added two players who were highly suspect. And out of uniform. We felt Ross Roy was flaunting the rules a bit too much and notified the umpire and their manager of our decision to protest . . . before the game began. As it turned out, the players in question were not on the Ross Roy roster.

Ironically, the game was an exciting one, featuring a last-inning NHS rally which fell just short. The one play that left them gasping involved left fielder Norm Vegara. After catching up with a line drive, Norm let go one helluva long strike to first base to double up an incredulous Ross Roy baserunner.

Norm says he still has a few spectacular plays left and he may throw in one or two during tomorrow night's game with SSC&B (7:00pm) and Friday's make-up with Eastern Airlines (5:30). So if you want to see Norm Vegara make Center Recreation Association history, come on out to Diamond #5 at West 64th Street, Thursday and/or Friday.



memorandum to the organization

July 23, 1971

TO: New York Division
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: Straight 8

Well, last night we did it again. This time with a well-played, well-pitched win over second place SSC&B.

Three fielding plays in particular high-lighted the defensive side of the game. Rick Sella sprinted a long way in right to one-hand a well-hit foul. Second baseman Jerry Mansfield streaked to his left to spear a sinking liner. And Marty Lupow got out from behind the plate in a hurry to snare a short pop.

Marty also gunned a perfect peg to Norm Vegara at first to pick off an unsuspecting SSC&B baserunner.

Although Norm didn't come up with a spectacular fielding play to match last week's gem, he did manage a two-run homer. Which was okay. The other hitting stars were Jerry Mansfield and Frank DeFilippo, who each went three for four.

And our unflappable mound ace, Joe Pash, seems to get better with age. He even struck out a couple of batters last night.

Hopefully, a day's aging will help condition him for tonight's 5:30pm make-up game with Eastern Airlines. Eastern is probably the only other team with a chance to catch us. It should be a good game. And if you want a chance to catch it, c'mon out to Diamond #5 at West 64th Street.



July 26, 1971

TO: New York Division
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: Same old thing

Last Friday we played Eastern Airlines and just managed to squeak by 18-0.

Since our unflappable mound ace was over in New Jersey peddling noodles or something, we had to pitch George Pappas. The Groovy Greek responded with a brilliant effort, shutting out Eastern over the full seven innings and giving up just one walk. He even collected four hits, including a double and a triple. It's hard to imagine anyone dumb enough to take off from his vacation doing so well.

A few other heroes:

Jerry Mansfield, who went five-for-five (to atone for his fielding)
Rick Sella, who had two homers, one a behemoth blast that reached the backstop of another diamond
Frank DeFilippo, who added a single, double and home run
Bill Henry and Russ Cornelius (part of the 17th floor contingent), who combined for five hits and a slew of RBIs
And Gary Graf, who sacrificed yet another pair of dungarees for the cause.

A few statistics:

On our way to compiling a 9-0 record we've outscored our opponents 152-69. Our hits total is 183, including 36 doubles, six triples and 19 home runs. The team batting average is .553 – thanks in large part to Jerry Mansfield's astounding individual .828 average.

In order to wrap up first place we must win two more of our remaining five games. Naturally, if the teams right behind us cooperate by losing two, we wouldn't have to win any more. But we have no intention of losing. "Undefeated" sounds so nice.

We'll be trying to keep our streak alive tomorrow night when we go against Dictaphone Corp. 5:30 at Diamond #5, West 64th Street. We have a good team. An exciting team. Ask anyone who's seen us play. So if you can't make it tomorrow, check the remaining games below for a more convenient night.

Tues 8/3	7:00pm	Highlander, Ltd
Fri 8/6	7:00pm	Eastern Air Lines (make up)
Tues 8/10	5:30pm	WNEW-Radio
Thur 8/19	5:30pm	Columbia Pictures



July 28, 1971

TO: New York Division
 FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
 SUBJECT: No. 10

	ab	r	h	bi
DeFilippo ss	4	2	2	0
Graf 1b-3b	3	2	3	1
Mansfield 2b	4	2	3	4
Sella rf-1f	3	2	3	3
Adams lf	0	0	0	0
Vegara lf-1b	4	2	2	1
Stassi cf	3	3	2	2
Pappas 3b-1b	2	0	2	1
Cornelius rf	2	1	1	0
Henry c	4	2	2	4
Pash p	3	0	0	0
Totals	33	16	21	16

Dictaphone 2 0 0 0 0 0 - 2
 NHS 5 0 3 8 0 x - 16
 DP - 1. LOB - 4. 2B - Mansfield 2.
 3B - Sella, Pappas. HR - Stassi (2),
 Sella (8), Henry (1).
 IP H R ER BB SO
 Pash (W, 9-0) 6 4 2 1 14
 T - 1:23. A - 18

What you see above is the box score of last night's 16-2 win over Dictaphone Corp. What you don't see is Bill Henry's grand slam home run; a long running catch by Russ Cornelius, which he, Norm Vegara and Gary Graf turned into a double play; Joe Pash galloping after a slow roller and throwing out the runner; and Frank DeFilippo's phenomenal barehanded grab of a short pop in shallow left.

To see all this and more, simply join our loyal following next Tuesday, August 3, at 7:00 PM, Diamond #5 at West 64th Street when we take on Highlander, Ltd.

Since a win over Highlander would wrap up the league championship, our faithful fans have decided to make next Tuesday "Banner Day." That in itself should be worth the price of admission.



August 11, 1971

TO: New York Division
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: The Faithful

Back in the old days at Ebbets Field, through winning or losing seasons, the Brooklyn Dodgers had a flock of fans affectionately known as "The Faithful". Your NH&S Softball Team has its own flock of faithful fans, and last night was Banner Day (or Night), and of course The Faithful were there...with big banners, little banners or even no banners....but they were out there as usual, yelling, cheering razzing the opposition, keeping up the morale of the team, and generally having a bubbly time.

Among the "regulars" in attendance last night were the unflappable Pash kids, the Lupow brood, Linda Levy, Phyllis DeLuise, Gerry Weiss, Nancy Hoover, Cate McFeeley, Barbara Kovalcik, Tom Zunker and many, many more. The prize for the best banner went to Phyllis DeLuise for a banner that stretched the full length of the grandstand.

There's still time for you to become a regular member of The Faithful. Our final game is on Thursday, August 19, at 5:30 PM, Diamond #5, Central park West and 63rd Street.

By the way, final score last night: NH&S 11 – WNEW 6.

Note: Marty Lupow wrote this; I was diving in the Caymans. (Phyllis was his mistress.)



August 16, 1971

TO: The Faithful

FROM: Your NH&S Softball Team

SUBJECT: A Previously Unscheduled Game

Your NH&S Softball Team was surprised to learn that a previously rained-out game against Highlander has been re-scheduled for Tuesday, August 17th, at 6:50 PM.

The reason we were surprised is that the outcome of this game has no bearing on the final standings in the league. Apparently, Highlander is out to spoil the NH&S unblemished record. We ain't about to let 'em.....with your help. Come on out, and root.

Note: This isn't mine either, still diving.



August 18, 1971

TO: New York Division
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: Musings

Last night there was a very respectable demonstration of your NH&S Softball Team's balance of hitting and defense. We played Highlander, Ltd., and the final score was 20 - 2. We won.

A new mound ace emerged from our ranks in Pete Stassi, filling in for vacationing Joe Pash. By contrast, Pete is definitely flappable, grinning at good plays, and generally showing emotions. We enjoyed his good control and the fact that he had a no-hitter going through three innings. Hamstrung George Pappas pitched the final inning in relief, to rest his aching leg.

The ranks of the faithful were swelled last night by the Sulcer family. Sandy, Dorothy, David and Tom all seemed to enjoy the win tremendously. Welcome to the club, Sandy and family, and do come back again. [Brown-noser.]

To illustrate the kind of power at the plate we can generate, every member of the team was on base at least twice, last night.

Our final game of the regular season is Thursday, at 5:30 pm against Columbia Pictures, and it should be a good one. The team is tough and rated X. The last time we played them, we had to score two runs in the last inning to come from behind to win.

After the season ends tomorrow night, we will be scheduled to play the top teams in the other leagues around the park. Watch for details...come to a game...try it, you'll like it.

P. S. For you fans on the 19th floor, Jim Raniere hit a home run in the game against WNEW. OK, Jim?

Note: I was still diving in the Caymans. Marty again, kissing a VP's ass.



August 25, 1971

TO: New York Division
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: 14-0, No. 1

Your NH&S Softball Team is proud to announce an undefeated season and a first place finish in the Columbian League.

Our game with Columbia Pictures scheduled for last Thursday was rained out. And since there's no time left for make-ups, the League Director has awarded each of the teams playing that night a win, so we end up with a 14-0 record. The final standings and a recap of how we did it are below:

<u>FINAL STANDINGS</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>OUR SEASON</u>			
1. Needham, Harper & Steers	14	0	5/27	NHS 33	WNEW	11
2. Ross Roy of New York	9	5	6/3	NHS 14	Highlander	9
3. Columbia Pictures	9	5	6/4	NHS 14	Columbia	13
4. Sullivan, Stauffer, Colwell & Bayles	8	6	6/11	NHS 25	Dictaphone	7
			6/11	NHS 9	Ross Roy	6
5. Highlander, Ltd.	6	8	7/9	NHS 21	SSC&B	8
6. WNEW-Radio	5	9	7/13	NHS 7	Ross Roy	0
7. Eastern Airlines	4	10	7/22	NHS 10	SSC&B	5
8. Dictaphone	3	11	7/23	NHS 18	Eastern	0
			7/27	NHS 16	Dictaphone	2
			8/6	NHS 7	Eastern	0
			8/10	NHS 11	WNEW	6
			8/17	NHS 20	Highlander	2
			8/19	NHS 7	Columbia	7

But that's not all. As league champions we now enter the Inter-League Tournaments to determine who will become 1971 City Champs. Our first play-off game is scheduled for next Monday, Aug. 30, at 5:30pm on good ol' Diamond #5 (West 64th Street). Our opponents will be the first-place team from the Commercial league. More than that we don't know.



September 1, 1971

TO: New York Division
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: 14-1

Well, you can't win them all. Last night your previously undefeated NHS Softball Team enter the Inter-League Tournament and promptly got the shaft from Otis Elevator, 12-9.

But we went down fighting. Twice we battled back to tie the score, but eventually the absence of two starting players proved too much of a handicap.

It's too bad. Pete Stassi pitched a strong game. Unfortunately, some of our guys were forced to play positions unfamiliar to them, which threw off our usual clockwork precision.

So that's it. On the whole, our second season was a most successful one. We won a lot of ballgames and had a lot of fun. (There may well be a direct relationship there.) And we hope our fans had as much fun as we did. Because it is doubtful we would have enjoyed the success we did without their encouragement and support. To our faithful following, we'd like to say thanks.



TO: Our Loyal Fans
FROM: Your NHS Softball Team
SUBJECT: Trophy presentations

In case you didn't realize it, the Center Recreation Association does things in a big way. For instance, this year they're going to pass out their gaudy goodies while plowing through the pollution-packed waterways that surround this majestic isle.

The boat ride around Manhattan is Wednesday, Sept. 15 (or Thursday if rain) from 7:00-10:00 p.m. and costs \$3.00 per celebrant. There should be food served but I wouldn't go passing up any free lunches that day.

We have to reply by Monday, so let Rocky know as soon as possible whether this floating fete appeals to you.

My decision: Yes _____ No _____

Name _____