

Beantown Softball League

This year the gay athletes of the Greater Boston area will be represented by the newly created "BEANTOWN SOFTBALL LEAGUE", formerly called the "Esplanade Softball League". The main purpose of the league is to show the active support and organization of gays in competitive sports. To do so, open tryouts were held throughout April by each of the bars being represented by the League, thus giving any gay athlete a chance to prove their abilities in playing softball. Most teams have been selected, and have been practicing and scrimmaging together in preparation for the opener, which is to be held on Saturday, May 10th. Team rosters will not be frozen until the third of June. Anyone still interested in playing softball should contact any of the team bars for further details.

The bars which will be represented this year are Buddies, Chaps, Elbow Room, Herbie's Ramrod Room, Paradise Cafe, and the 1270. Their 1980 season will consist of approximately 25 league games over the next three months. All games will be held at the Roberto Clemente Field on the Fenway, on Saturday and Sunday at 2:00, 3:40 and 5:10 p.m. and on Thursday nights at 7:00 and 8:45 p.m.

The playoffs this year will be held on Thursday, July 30th, and during the season scores and statistics will be published to keep everyone aware of all the team standings. A game of special interest includes one played against the South End's Police Station No. 4 on Thursday, June 26th.

We wish the best of luck to all our teams and hope that people will come out and support their efforts in making this year a successful one. The new BEANTOWN SOFTBALL LEAGUE T-SHIRTS are now available to the public. They come in yellow or blue and have been printed with a unique logo created by Jeff Pike from the 1270. All proceeds from the t-shirts will go to support the league. They can be purchased at all the team bars for the moderate price of only \$5.00.

This season's opener will be held on Saturday, May 10th, starting at 2:00 p.m. with last year's winning teams being up to bat first; they are the Paradise Cafe and Herbie's Ramrod Room. Then at 3:30, we will have Buddies against the Elbow Room and at 5:00 Chaps will challenge the 1270. A special note of appreciation goes out to our field caretaker, David Creighton. A note to all players involved this season; individual membership dues are to be submitted not later than June 3rd, they are \$10.00 and are given to your team manager. These dues go for all league expenses, such as equipment, umpires and field costs.

May Boston's Best Softball Team bring home the World Series Trophy from L.A.

Softball column by
DON HOMER