

2021 NL WILD CARD SERIES

#4 Taxachusetts Chiefs vs #5 Maine Yaks

NL Wild Card Series - Maine at Taxachusetts, played on the CPU via Zoom.

These two teams faced each other in 2018, and Maine scored exactly one run in the entire series and that run came in game 4. However, the 2021 Yaks are a much more talented squad.

GAME 1 - The Chief offense struck early against Giolitto, and the Yaks could only muster a pair of Will Myers solo shots. TX won 5-2. TX up 1-0.

GAME 2 - Myers tweeted his displeasure about not being in the game 2 starting lineup, but with the Chiefs up 3-1, the Yaks exploded for 9 runs in the 5th inning off four Chief pitchers. MY won 10-5. Tied 1-1.

GAME 3 - Brad Keller and Sam Selman combined to blank the Chiefs on five singles. Willson Contreras blasted a 2-run homer in the 7th for the game's only runs. MY won 2-0. MY up 2-1.

GAME 4 - The Taxmen jumped all over Gibson for 5 runs in two innings, and the Yaks answered with 3 homers and 3 doubles to close the gap to 6-5 after 4 innings. But the Chiefs tacked on a couple of insurance runs and five relievers did enough to close out the win. TX won 8-6. Tied 2-2.

GAME 5 - The Yaks scored in 5 of 8 innings while Giolitto dominated the Chief lineup. The only TX runs came on a 9th inning Billy Hamilton homer. MY won 7-2. MY up 3-2.

GAME 6 - Facing elimination, Joe Carter decided to go with 40-year old Adam Wainwright, and he delivered, throwing 8 shutout innings and allowing only 3 singles. The game's turning point came in the 6th inning with the Chiefs up 2-0, when Miguel Cabrera smacked a pinch-hit, two-out grand slam that put the game away. TX won 8-2. On to game 7....

GAME 7 - Brad Keller, who blanked the Chiefs in game 3, faced off against Lance Lynn. With the score tied 1-1 in the 3rd, Travis d'Arnaud smacked a 2-run homer. And then with the score 4-2 in 5th, d'Arnaud blasted a 3-run homer. The TaxPen pitched four scoreless innings to close out the game and the series. Chief hurlers walked only 2 and struck out 13. TX won 7-2.

Series MVP - D.J. LeMahieu who hit .560 (14 for 25) with 10 runs scored. On to Allyn Street for the Divisional Series.