

Soccer Stories by Rupantar

A footnote to the soccer match in South Africa.

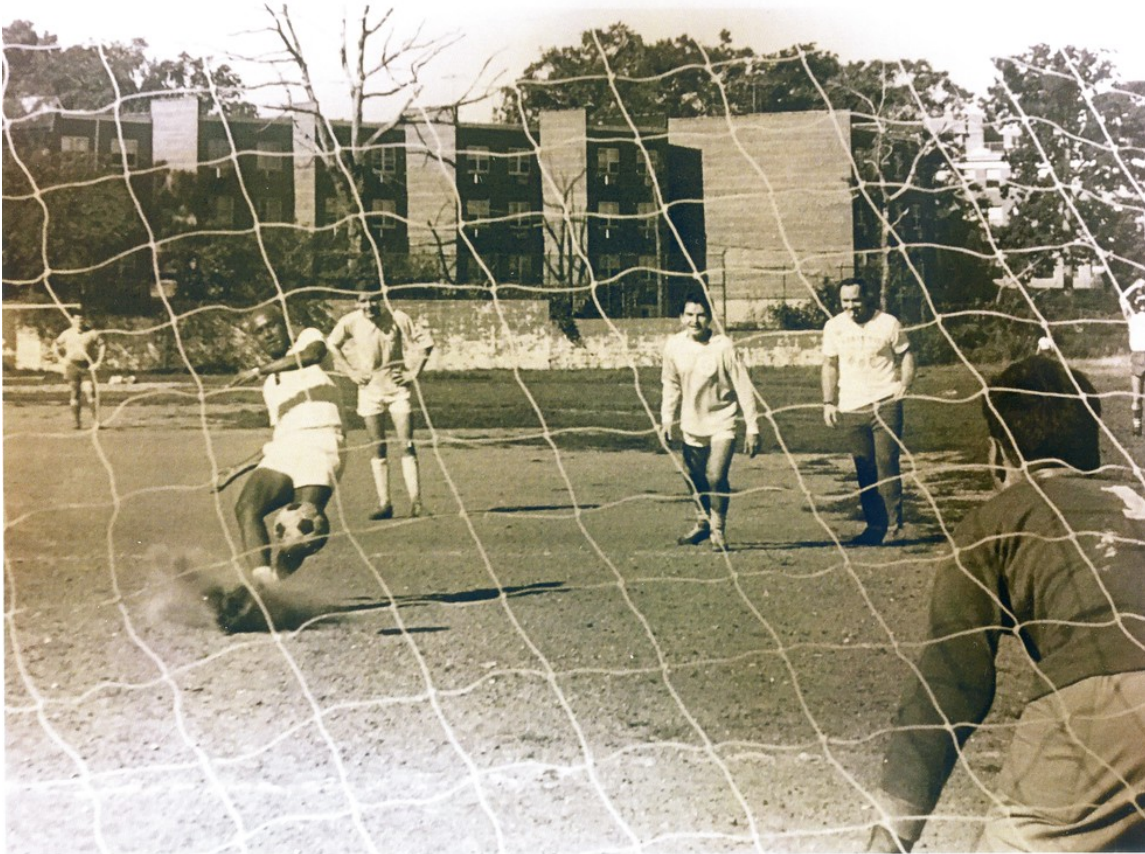
After the match, which Guru watched, he scolded the disciple soccer player for the rough behavior towards the other team made up of hotel worker. A transcript was made of Guru's talk scolding the players and I was required to have each member of the team read Guru's talk and to sign my copy to ensure that they had read the talk. I still have the original talk with the signatures.

UN Meditation Flames.

Although I had no soccer experience, I ended up as the first goalie for the UN Meditation Flames. We had very few real players so we were not very good. However, I think it was our second year (1977) and we were playing very well. Each team at the UN was made up of

generally a specific ethnic group, the Russian, Spanish, Irish. We beat the Russians in the semifinal match and were in the finals against the Spanish team. The Russian played very hard, but fair, and even though they lost to us they were very friendly after the match. In the final match against the Spanish team, which during the season was just mediocre, was quite a different team. Although some were a little older and quite overweight, their superior skills were apparent, and we got killed. I recollect that Guru was so happy that we beat the Russians, that he did not care that we lost in the finals.

Jamaica Track and Guru



We often practiced at the then dirt field at Jamaica High. Guru would often watch and occasionally join in. You could see that in his prime Guru and a superior player, with great speed and an awesome right foot. Sometimes I would play in the field with Guru, but

eventually ended up in goal, often facing Guru's shot. We loved it. In the above photo I am in goal.

