

## THE BIG INNING

By Bob Taylor

They called it the "Game of the Ages" and I guess it was. The Great Falls Optimist Club sponsored a "young versus seasoned" slow-pitch softball game Thursday, July 10, 2008, between local Little League Coaches and The Virginia Cavaliers, a championship 65+/70+ travel team - AKA "some dirty old men."



**Westendorf**

After six innings the score was tied at four and for the Virginia Cavaliers it was due to timely hitting and good defense. **Bill Westendorf** pitched for the seniors and kept the ball over the plate with a very high arc that was probably a new experience for the Youngsters.



**Math**

Offense during those early innings was led by **Paul Math** shown here hitting one of his two doubles, and



**Holt**

**Ray Holt** shown here driving in a run during the 4<sup>th</sup> inning.



**Bailey**

On the defense side some nifty plays were turned in by **Chuck Bailey** at third base,



**Parks**

**Gary Parks** at shortstop,



**Taylor**

**Fisher**

and **Bob Taylor** at middle infielder. But the exciting part of the game is recounted in the next section when the Cavaliers came to bat in the top of the seventh.



### THE BIG INNING:

**Ben Fisher**, batting sixth in the order, led off with a sharp single to right. Paul Math pinch-ran for Ben.



**Taylor**

**Bob Taylor** singled to right chasing Paul Math to third.



**Bahnmaier**

**Bill Bahnmaier** singled in Westendorf. Paul Math hit his second double of the game scoring Hersey and Robey.



**Knox**

**Dick Knox** walked loading the bases.



**Mallery**

**Dave Mallery** got his third single of the game scoring Bahnmaier. Ray Holt walked but was forced out at second with Math scoring on the play.



**Pearson**

**Bruce Pearson** launched a double scoring Math and Taylor. Bill Westendorf singled to left-center scoring Knox.



**Ford**

**Bob Ford** singled up the middle with Mallery scoring on the play. Ben Fisher got his second hit of the inning scoring Parks from second. Bob Taylor walked loading the bases. Hawkeye Dick Knox got his second walk of the inning scoring Ford for the 12<sup>th</sup> and final

run of the inning.



**Hersey**

After one out, Cavalier Manager **George Hersey** singled and Ken Robey walked.



**Robey**

Pitcher **Ken Robey** mopped up for the Seniors in the bottom of the seventh. **Final Score: Seniors - 16, Youngsters - 6.**