

## **407 BBQ and Farmers Insurance in a nail biter to wrap up first week of RR Coed Softball**

Sean Curry's Farmers Insurance and Coach Keenan Wallace's 407 BBQ couldn't have played a tighter game to end our first full week of softball at the Field of Dreams. Stan Isbell and Ron Schwertner claimed the left field "beer seats" early and "Super fan" Danny Cartwright set up his chair in his reserved spot behind home plate.

Sean Curry helped out his cause from the get-go striking out two in the top of the first. Steve Courtney (2/3, Trip, 3 RBIs) then led Farmers early onslaught with a 2 RBI triple and Jackie Fox (2/3, RBI) brought home the 4th run in the bottom of the first. The bottom of the 2nd inning was much of the same as Bill Smiley's (2/3, Dbl, 2 RBIs) double kick started a rally then Michelle Day (1/3, RBI), Bob Laderach (4/4, RBI) and Steve Courtney all singled and drove in a run to cap a 7-0 sprint for Farmers.

The visiting 407 BBQers picked up one run in the 3rd when Louis Berthold (2/3, RBI) singled, driving in Mike Braam (2/3, Dbl). John Gauthier closed out 407 BBQ by catching Greg McElyea's (2/4, Dbl, 2 RBIs) hot line drive down 3rd base. In the bottom of the 3rd, highly recruited rookie, Lois McElyea (1/3) showed some excellent glove work by fielding and throwing out the speedy Kelly Wissink (2/3) and Mike Moss (2/3, 2 HRs, 5 RBIs) ended the inning, finally corralling a hot shot off the bat of Mike Jaensch and then crawled to the bag to force Jackie at second.

Chris Walton had settled in at pitcher for 407 BBQ and held Farmers scoreless for 2 innings. Inning #4 was all BBQ. Moss started it out with his first HR, Tim Downey (1/3, Dbl, RBI) doubled in the 3rd run and Carl Caruso (2/3, RBI) wrapped up the scoring, driving in the 4th run to tighten the score to 7-5.

Farmers' Steve Tafoya (1/3, 2 RBIs) drove in the only run for either team in the 5th.

Mike Moss' 3 run HR in the 6th put 407 back in spitting distance and raised spirits, but John G closed the door handling a couple tough grounders to put his Farmers back at the plate in the bottom of the 6th. Kelly Wissink again showed her speed starting things off with a single, and six singles later Bob Laderach drove in the final run putting a '5 spot' on the board for Farmers and a 13-8 lead going into the Buffet Inning.

407 stepped up in the Buffet but defensive gems by Steve Courtney and Allen Day (2/3) had 407 on the ropes. Urged on by a little challenge from the press box, Mike Braam (2/3, Dbl) sparked a 2 out rally with a double. Singles by Lois McElyea, Louis Berthold & Linda Caron (2/4, 2 RBIs); and a double by Greg E put 4 runs on the board making it a one run game. But, it fell one short as pitcher/coach Sean Curry made the last putt out to save his **one run victory, 13-12**.

Scorekeeper, Carol Rumberger, spent half the night trying to keep scoreboard operator, Tim Trotter, on task, but even without a working microphone they were a hoot. Special thanks to home plate umpire, Bob Kuhfuss and his crew: George Wendt at 1B and Gary Warrick at 3B.

See you next week.

Johnny B