

Foreword—Dale Hill

Yes, despite rumbling, threatening skies, there was a game at the Field of Dreams this evening. How do I know? Because **Johnny Blecher** just reported on it ... as he adds that "special sauce" to the story that only Johnny B can create. Enjoy:

Rodney Landscaping (Baby Blue) 15 - Eagle Eye Care (Red) 10

Everybody seemed to be worried about the weather. Home plate ump, Steve Pratt, had his umbrella. The wind was blowing in from left field and Craig Bishop was knocking 'em out over right field. But, the storm slipped by us and we got the game in.

I don't always do well remembering team names, but when I got to the field I could see that Rocky's Red Team (Eagle Eye Care) was playing the Hinson's Baby Blue Team (Rodney Landscaping). The Visiting Baby Blue's started out "house a fire" and Rocky's Eagle Eye Care (Dr.'s Elaine and Eric wear red at the clinic) answered big time.

Baby Blue Rodney's opened the scoring with 4 runs behind Schwertner's double and "Duke" Snider's (3/3, Trip) RBI triple. Red Eyes answered big with HRs from Hupp (3/3, HR, 2Dbls, lots of RBIs) and Craig Bishop's Jack.

Hitters calmed down after the first inning and defense took center stage. I know, hard to believe this being Robson Ranch and all, but it's true. Jerry Hinson almost barehanded a double play then completed one the very next batter. On the other side, Jim Hupp was Golden Glove and so it went.

Rodney's Baby Blues picked up the scoring pace in the middle innings with Deb Hinson (2/3) and Scooter Wilson (3/3, 2 Dbls) doing some heavy damage making that softball even softer.

Sub Jim Reese (2/3, turning a single into a triple), shortstop extraordinaire Jim Hupp, and Coach Rocky (2/3) tried to light a fire with three runs in the 5th for the Red Eyes, but it was too little, too late.

The game ended 15-10 in favor of Rodney's Baby Blues but, as usual, there is so much more to the story. Press Box Captain, Peter Day, almost got fired as Scoreboard operator and definitely did not earn his scoreboard "wings" on the day. He was magnificently complimented by scorekeeper Gary Warrick and Announcer Dave Riddle.

Both pitchers, Tom Doty for Red Eyes and Steve Bentley in the Blue were excellent, even if Bentley did say so himself.

The Ladies all had a great night. Nancy Rogus went 3/3 with a double and some defensive gems. Newcomer, Linda Cawley, stepped up for a hit. All the Baby Blue ladies (Deb Hinson,

Tracey Kurcharski and Cheryl McCally) got a hit and you gotta love Cheryl sporting her pinstripe softball pants.

There were several other impressive newcomers: David Carl making a couple running catches in left field; Jose Raices going 2 for 3, Daniel Patrick picking up a hit and John Coffman showing some deceptive speed and power at the plate.

Umpires Bob Kuhfuss and Bob Laderach did fine jobs at 3rd and 1st, they just didn't look as sharp as Cheryl.

I had a lot of fun and if you were there, so did you.

See you next time. Johnny B