

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2016 WINTER SEASON

*Baseball and softball, they say, are games of statistics. While the **Montgomery County Senior Softball League** does not keep individual statistics, we do, however, recognize the outstanding accomplishments and notable events that keep us all brimming with pride. Here are some of the things that have occurred or that have been accomplished by players and teams that make for fond memories in the season that has passed.*

## The 2016 Winter Season

- TRIPLE PLAY EXCITEMENT... Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – The Gold-Shirt Team of Ken Moyer vs. the Gray-Shirt Team of Billy Mallozzi. It took a full month into the season, but the first triple play was finally pulled off in classic fashion. Billy's guys got the first two batters on base. The next batter hit a rocket shot grounder down the third base line. Sure-handed third baseman Vince Torno snagged the ball, tagged third, fired a strike to middle-fielder Bob McBride, who pivoted perfectly firing a strike to first baseman John McCann to complete the tailor-made triple play.
- TRIPLE PLAY EXCITEMENT, THE SEQUEL... Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – the Black-Shirt Team of Barry Bintliff was locked in a tight pitching duel with Ray Forlano's Maroon-Shirt Team. Both Jack Harte of the Maroon Shirts and Roger Rosenberger of the Black Shirts were mowing down the opposition, as the defense on both sides was superb. The Black Shirts barely held on to a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the sixth. With two runners on and two outs, a line shot ripped to the right field side wall was snagged off the post by Stan Walters for the third out, a game-saver. The score remained, as the Black Shirts failed to score in the top of the seventh. Ray's team was out for victory in the bottom of the seventh, and it looked almost certain. The first two batters ripped the ball for hits. Runners on first and second with nobody out. The next batter was poised for the game-tying hit. A rocket hot grounder down to third... Georgie Schreader snagged the ball, stepped on third, fired a perfect strike to second baseman Barry Bintliff, who pivoted

perfectly and fired a strike to first baseman Roger Rinker. The game-ending triple play preserved a 1-0 victory for Barry's guys.

- **THE HIGHEST SCORING GAME...** Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 – The Gray-Shirt Team of Billy Mallozzi whipped the dickens out of Barry Bintliff's Black-Shirt Team. Billy's guys brought along the bats, as they scored in almost every inning of the game. When the dust settled, the home team Gray-Shirts had handed Barry's guys a whopping 15 to 2 trouncing without even having to bat in the seventh inning.
- **OLD MAN WINTER...** He was a bit kinder this year, as only one game (Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>) had to be canceled due to bad weather. The ground hog was right this year, as he promised an early spring. The game was made up on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the weather that day was in the 70's. Manny London's Red-Shirt Team earned the final victory of the season, and both teams were saddened by the close of yet another great fun-filled winter season.

### ***“It ain't over 'til it's over!” – Yogi Berra***

*Here a few memorable games from our winter season that demonstrate why we have so much fun playing senior softball.*

- Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – the Mauraders Travel Team, under the ever-watchful eye of our pathfinder manager, Gordy Detweiler, with only eleven players signed up for the trip, traveled to the indoor facility at Palymra to play the dominant Harrisburg seniors tournament team. The boys never led and lost the first game 9 to 8. The second game. The boys were holding onto a solid two-run lead going into the bottom of the ninth inning. They got the first Burger out. Then things got bad. The Burgers banged out hit after hit, one a game-tying monster home run over everybody's head. Yogi got us again. Three batters later, they got the game winning hit to defeat Gordy's Mauraders 5 to 4, an impressive come from behind victory.

- Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – It was still early in the season when the Orange-Shirt Team was on the verge of winning their first game. The Pumpkins of Gordy Detweiler were one run up on the Black-Shirt Team of Barry Bintliff going into the bottom of the seventh. There were two outs and runners on second and third when the immortal words of Yogi came back once again to haunt the game. A line drive into the right field corner allowed the two winning runs to score.