

## CHAMPIONSHIP RECAP

June 21, 2014

**Norman-** Team Maryland made history Saturday night, capturing their first Heartland Classic Championship, defeating Team Texas 4-0 at L. Dale Mitchell Park.

Team Maryland jumped out to 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning after Garret McCain brought in a run on a sacrifice fly. Andy Szamski added to the lead with a two out, RBI double.

Texas would go down in order in the bottom of the first, and that summed up the night for the 2013 champions. Texas had trouble figuring out Taylor Bloom of Team Maryland all night. Bloom pitched all seven innings, in the shutout victory while only allowing three hits on the night.

Texas threatened in the fourth inning as Cameron Salvaggio hit a double down the left field line. Michael McCann gave fans a scare after taking a fastball to the helmet, but was able to make it to first base. Braden Hayward grounded out to second base to end the Texas threat.

Errors began to mount for Team Texas as Maryland singled to leadoff the inning, and a third base error put the runner on second base. Syeed Mahdi laid a sacrifice bunt down the first base line to put Team Maryland into scoring position. A passed ball brought Brady Acker in to score making it a 3-0 game. Palanchar singled up the middle in the next at bat, and the lead was now 4-0.

Maryland threatened again in the seventh inning. Carson Lance for Team Texas started the inning, but a walk, a single from Acker, and Szamski single to left field, Lance would be pulled for Jackson Lancaster. With no outs, and the bases loaded, Lancaster got out of the inning on one strikeout, and two pop flies to third base.

Michael McCann led off the seventh inning as Texas was down its' three final outs. McCann hit a single to center field. Bloom struck out Braden Hayward, setting up the game ending double play.

Team Texas won the Round Robin portion of the tournament, finishing with a 5-1 record in pool play. Texas's final record was 5-2.

Team Maryland finished the tournament with a 5-2 record, and a championship title.

This game was a rematch of the 2008 championship.