



Ramrod tires in final

In only two years of tournament play in Pittsburgh, the Washington D.C. and Boston representatives to the Pittsburgh Invitational Turnpike Tourney (P.I.T.T.) have built up quite a rivalry. First it was Chaps last year who beat Washington's D.C. Sports in an exciting final game of the tournament by one scant run despite Washington having the bases loaded with only one out in the last of the seventh inning. Then the Boston Ramrod team slugged it out with the D.C. Sports in three head to head contests in the Memorial Day Weekend tourney. When the dust finally settled around the two teams, Washington came out ahead as the champions while the Ramrod placed second.

The action started this year with the Ramrod playing D.C. in the opening game. To demonstrate that this year would be a turnaround for the two cities, Washington scored three times in the seventh inning to go ahead of the Ramrod (who had led up to that point) and win by one run.

The baby-blue Ramrod boys dropped to the loser's bracket of the tournament at that point but were anything but losers. The team,

which included Billy Moscella and Gary Brenner of Buddies, Peter of 40 East, and Terry Farmer of Copley Flair as well as the Ramrod regulars, won seven straight games after their initial defeat. In their march to the finals of the tournament, the Ramrod downed Philadelphia, The Hetros from Pittsburgh, the T.O. Express from Toronto, the Hillhunks from Pitt, the Spike from New York, and Charlie's West from New York before they had another shot at Washington.

Mow it would have been too easy if Washington would have won the first game of the finals—and that's not the stuff of which true rivalries are made. The Ramrod downed Washington with two runs in the last of the final inning to force a decisive winner-take-all game. Unfortunately, after playing five games in a row that day after three the previous day, the Ramrod team was smashed in that final game by Washington, who had a much lighter schedule that day.

Ah, but just as true rivalries are made of thrilling plays and fever-pitched excitiment, they also do not die. And the Boston-Washington rivalry will not have to wait for next year in Pittsburgh to resume. One of the opening games of the Minuteman Classic features the Washington D.C. Sports vs. the Boston Ramrod. The saga continues....