

The 1979 Dixie Pre-Majors Baseball World Series Champions

Late July 1979 - A baseball team of 15-16 year old young men from all corners of Amherst County leave Madison Heights headed for Conyers Ga. To play in the first ever Pre-Majors World Series and return a week later as World Series Champions. A feat as of today 33 years later has never been repeated by any Dixie Baseball Team from the State of VA. in any age Division.

The team opened the Series with a win over South Carolina, then on day 2 they lost a 2-1 ball game against Mississippi. Now with their backs to the wall it was a must win situation every game they played. Day 3 the team out slugged Tennessee 12-10 and day 4 they posted another close game win 4-2 over Texas. On Friday MH beat Florida 9-4 and it was on to play the undefeated team from Monroe La. Madison Heights beat La. in the first game and then the real slug fest started. With the score tied 15-15 in the ninth inning Madison Heights plated 2 runs for the National title.

During my time meeting with these guys in the last few weeks I got the pleasure to hear them reminisce about the tournament as if it were yesterday. Some of the things I heard consistently from the team was there was no MVP on this team, it was absolutely a team effort. They considered the team (A family) and they brag about coaches Carl Campbell and GR Wiley and Manager Donnie Simms and what an inspiration those guys were to them.

In one meeting I ask, what was one of the most memorable plays that you remember? Most players answered the great pitching by Roy Dix, Greg Smith, Greg Overstreet and Carl Crawley. Then Freddie Mays jumped to answer "no guys". It was near the end of the championship game when a routine double play ball was hit to David Smith @ SS and he launched the throw into right field. Freddie Mays just happened to be playing right field and Roger Mason spoke up and said I still to this day can remember the words that came out of Freddie's mouth and I really prefer not to repeat them. All the other players chimed in (Yeah I can still hear Freddie out there now. I guess that was the most memorable

Billy Cabell	Keith Campbell
Carl Crawley	Roy Dix
Howard Harvey	Randy "Bo" Hunt
Ricky Lee	Roger Mason
Freddie Mays	Neal Mays
Billy Ogden	Greg Overstreet
Steve Procopio	David Smith
Greg Smith	Anthony Warrick
Coach Carl Campbell	
Coach G R Wiley	
Manager Donnie Simms (accepting for Donnie his son Frank)	