It was cold out there Monday night, but there was plenty of action going on between Benton and Manchester.

The Mavericks wound up winning 6-2, however, four of those runs were practically given to them though. There were plenty of things to like from watching just one game, but also some things that should cause some concern.

Generally, left-handed pitchers find success in high school baseball and, for the most part, Berry did find success with a game-high seven strikeouts. But it was the four wild pitches (and there were more than just four in the dirt) that allowed Manchester's base runner at third base to cross over home plate.

If those four pitches are either in the strike zone or stopped by the catcher, Benton would be leading 2-0 headed into the fifth inning.

Other than those pitches that reached the backstop, it was a great night for the pitchers. Sure, there were a couple of hits that made the "ping" sound resonate all across the campus. In all, there were 19 strikeouts and 10 hits.

There were three hits that stood out to me. The first was by Powell McCaleb in his first at bat of the second inning. McCaleb sent a blast to straightaway centerfield that needed just another foot or two to go over the fence. Later in the game, Mahone hit a shot to right centerfield that bounced off the wall a foot below going over the fence.

However, it was Bearden who had the most interesting hit of the night. Bearden, in the third inning, hit what he thought was a home run. It looked that way to him, to me and a few of the fans in the stands. But then I saw Benton's left fielder throw a laser to the cut off man. Bearden was doing the home run trot in between first and second when he noticed it wasn't a home run and dove into second base safely.

People say baseball is a game filled with boredom and sprinkled with a few high-intensity moments. That must have been what people were talking about.

Overall, it was a good game to watch to begin the 2012 season. I would've said it was a great game, but it was too cold for that.