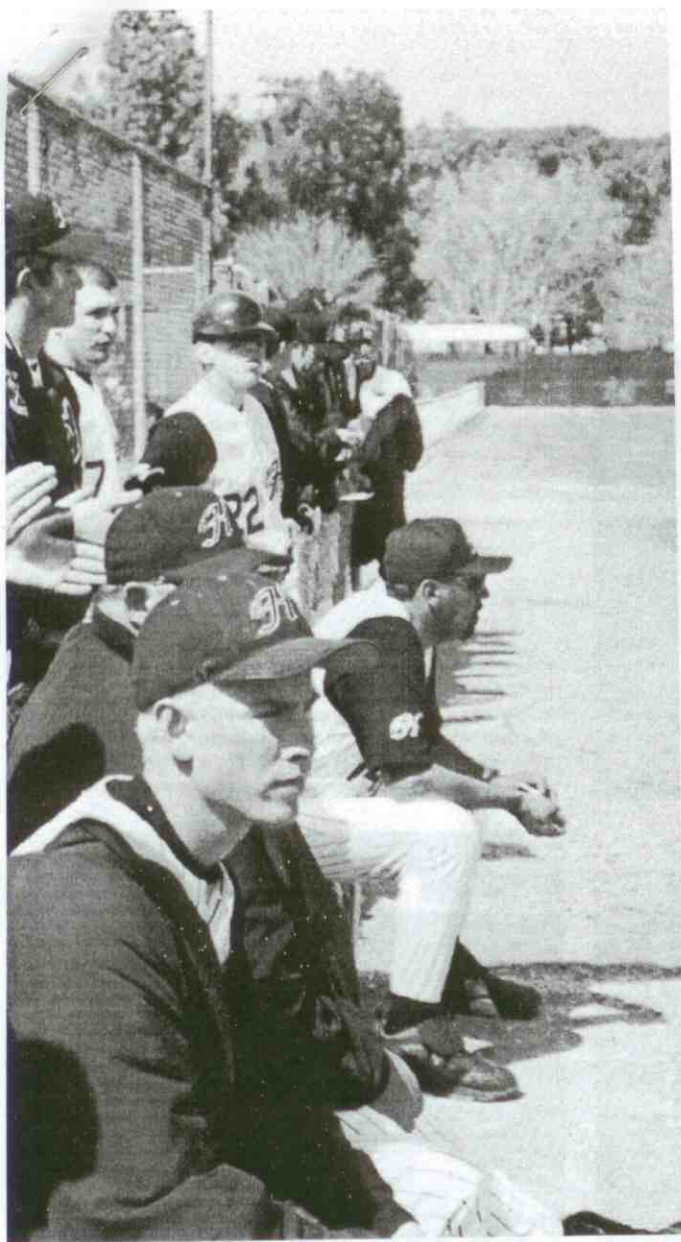
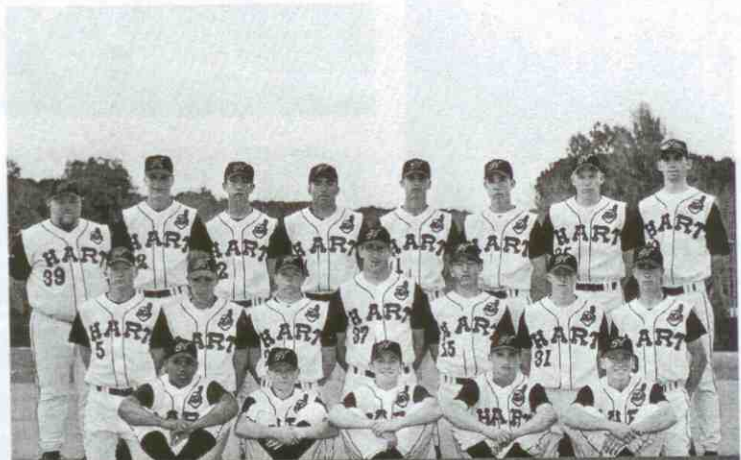


## 2004 HART BASEBALL



**Frosh Baseball:** Front Row: N. Thomas, R. Wright, C. Valancius, A. Peres, M. McConneles, B. Edwards; Row Two: J. Ortega, R. Lucas, S. Sanchez, P. Goss, G. Swailles, A. Montes, Z. Oasheim, G. Hermmosillo; Back Row: J. Alesa, T. Collier, J. Iniguez, D. Mills, S. Susdorf, S. Klein, R. Johnson, B. Pieracci, J. Davis



**J.V. Baseball:** Front Row: P. Howard, J. Tabak, S. Winter, B. Beckman, K. Newman; Row Two: K. Boggio, J. Traba, T. Wilson, C. Piliqian, I. Feldman, M. Scott, M. Huggins; Back Row: Coach Crawford, K. Boggio, R. Ozella, K. Guerrero, J. Gollahon, R. Ozella, D. Williams, J. Davis



**City Boys' Baseball:** Front Row: J. Whitcomb, N. Enciso, J. Brown, J. Baron, C. Cohen, A. Sevastian; Row Two: J. Icenogle, M. Prado, P. Tognetti, C. Giordano, C. Valaika, J. Slavenwhite, W. Susdorf, C. Steck; Back Row: E. Posthumus, C. Burrows, C. Gagnion, J. Halovich, Coach Ozella, L. Fiscus, Coach Hernandez, M. Miller, J. Curtis, M. Moore



## 2004 HART VARSITY BASEBALL

**Indian hitters.** (clockwise from immediate right) While waiting to steal third, senior Jeff Whitcomb looks anxiously at the batter. Seniors Eric Posthumus and Chris Burrows watch their team members during a close game. Junior John Curtis hits a fly ball that eventually takes him to third base. The frosh team calls a quick time out in order to plan their next move. Junior Jeff Icenogle pitches a ball to his waiting opponent. Working together as closely-knit teams, they strove for excellence.



# The Sandlot

story by KELLY GORDON  
photos by NICOLE COLLIER

After marching out of the dugout in freshly washed and ironed jerseys, the team was greeted by the roar of cheerful fans and the blinding sunlight of a warm, spring afternoon. As they proceeded, their hearts pounded faster, and the anticipation built. The game was about to begin, their white uniforms hidden behind the unrelenting stains of grass and mud. Before they knew it, the battle was over, the players had retreated from the diamond, and the baseball team had triumphed yet again.

Members of the baseball team felt pressure to live up to the high standards set before them by their predecessors. Sophomore Todd Wilson hoped to win league and knew the team "would show the pride and winning tradition they've always had," but he also admitted that "having pressure put on you" was the best part of baseball. Sophomore Paxton Howard liked to win but

found it difficult to "constantly improve his game." However, winning had a fair share of strings attached. The team practiced running, hitting, and throwing more than three hours a day, five to six days a week. "Our team is stronger than any other team out there," commented senior Chris Burrows.

Love of the game was not the only thing that motivated players to succeed. Though contrary to popular belief, negativity was a major factor in their inspiration. Freshman Alex Montes stated, "The most embarrassing thing in baseball is when you strike out." Trying to save himself from such an occurrence was what inspired Montes to strive to succeed.

After all balls had been thrown, all bats had been swung, and all fly balls had been caught, the lights of the stadium were turned off, and the players once again made that trek across the field: a place disregarded by most but considered home by the baseball team.