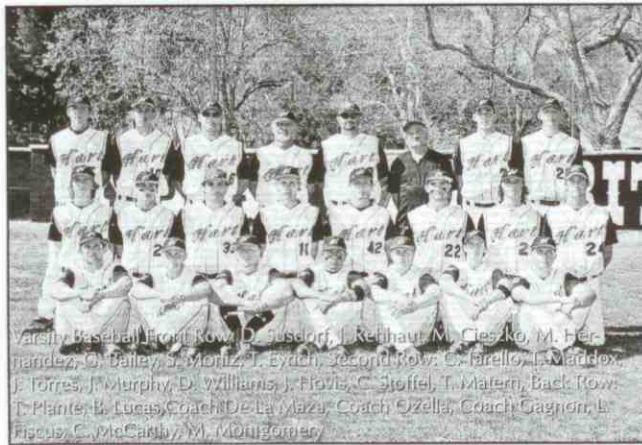
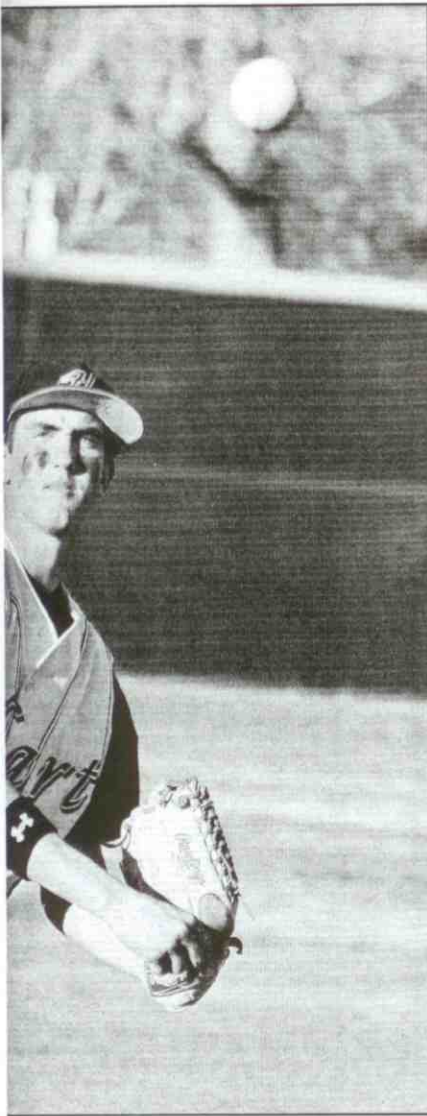


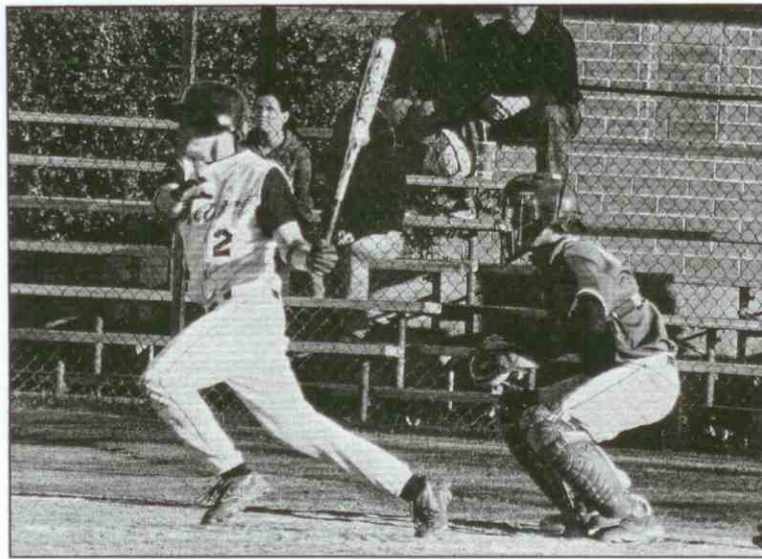
2007 HART VARSITY BASEBALL



Varsity Baseball: Front Row: D. Jusdorf, J. Reinhart, M. Ciesko, M. Hernandez, G. Bailey, J. Moritz, T. Eych, Second Row: L. Parello, L. Maddox, J. Torres, J. Murphy, D. Williams, J. Flavel, C. Stoffel, T. Matern, Back Row: T. Plante, B. Lucas, Coach De la Maza, Coach Ozella, Coach Gagnon, L. Ficus, C. McCarthy, M. Montgomery

CENTER: Senior Jake Hovis focuses intently on the ball. His great catch resulted in an automatic out.

BELOW: Ready to sprint to first base, senior Taylor Maddox hits the ball down the field. Making it on the base, Maddox was a threat to the other team.



mike cieszko *he's a catch*

Why and when did you start baseball?

I have been playing ever since I was able to hold a bat. I really started getting into it after my grandpa brought me to my first Yankee game.

What is your favorite team and why?

The New York Yankees because I was born in New Jersey and lived only fifteen minutes away from Yankee Stadium. I would go to a game almost every weekend until I moved away. They are the greatest team ever to play sports and they are my ONE TRUE LOVE!

Do you have any special routines you go through before games or practices?

I always put my right cleat on first, tape my wrists, wear a white sweatband on my left arm, the last thing I do is take off my cross necklace and kiss it ten times, then say a quick prayer.

If you could play with any group of professional baseball players, who would you choose and why?

There is no group of professional players that I would want to play with more than my current Varsity team. They are the ultimate team. They have talent and character. We are friends and teammates and there is nobody I would rather play with!

"Wolfpack in da house!"

Compiled By: Danielle Butterfield Photo By: Danielle Butterfield



sports *varsity baseball*

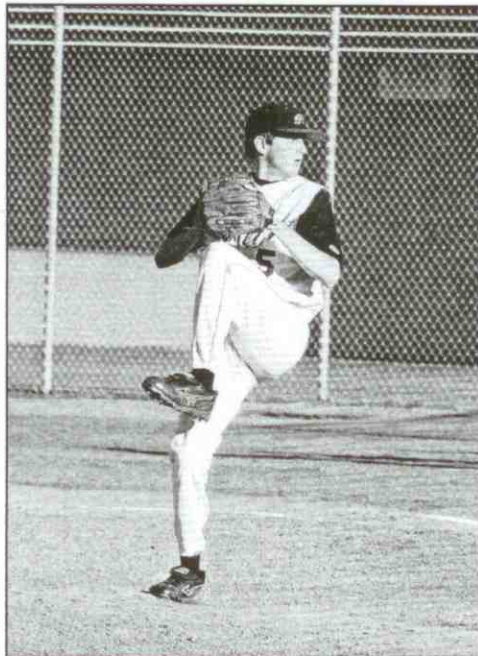
(continued from page 151) itself. All the players lived, breathed, and sometimes ate baseball throughout the year, as baseball is a four-season sport. Obviously, the competitiveness of junior varsity players was much more intense than that of freshmen, but that factor was not the only obstacle players had to move around. Sophomore Kyle Henningfield, who was skilled enough as a freshman to play on the junior varsity team, stated, "This year, I have all new teammates and new coaches. Although I know all the other sophomores, I've never had a chance to play with some of them and it's a different experience." While baseball provided hindrances, it also helped in non-athletic areas. Sophomore Jeremy Villalovos shared, "baseball has made me more responsible, especially in school, with studying more, turning work in, and over all getting better grades."

As one would imagine, varsity baseball was intense. Competition was vastly greater, opponents were faster,

balls flew faster - everything aspect was increasingly intense. For the seniors, varsity baseball was their last chance to play with their high school friends, and their last shot to give it their all. This attitude was displayed by all members of the team; it was spread by the seniors and permeated into the junior's minds. After two or three years of playing in high school, bonds made by teammates did more than just motivate, they propelled the team into victory. Junior Spencer Moniz expressed, "My team has affected me because we all stick behind each other and work hard for the team." Baseball was more than just proving one's skills to one's self; it was about being a living part of an active team, no matter how bleak times were. All the players contributed and all the players reaped the benefits. It is in this way, through teamwork, friendship, practice, and victory, that baseball has been forever labeled what we know it as today, as America's favorite pastime.



RIGHT: Ready to pitch the ball, senior Tim Plante intimidates his opponents on the pitcher's mound. His intense throw led to a third strike.



FAR RIGHT: Frantically diving back to first, junior Jason Rehhaut, escapes an out. Toying with the paranoid pitcher, Rehhaut eventually stole second.

