

**Hey, batter, batter...!** Freshman Tony Smith gets ready to hit with his tremendous power, while waiting for the right pitch.

**Smile...!** Freshman Rachel Plascow takes time out of the game in order to give the camera her winning smile.



## Sticking Together as a Team!

**A**sk any one of the junior varsity baseball players and he will tell you that their success this year had a lot to do with teamwork and just a little bit of luck.

"We were a team," said sophomore Casey Marquette. "Once we started performing as one, instead of 20, we began to win. We were more focused."

"Our goal this year was to let everyone play, and that's what we have done," said coach Paul Melnick. "Consistent play from all of the guys helped us have a winning record."

Their determination resulted in a 15-9 record and the winning of the prestigious Lakota tournament.

The girls junior varsity softball team also had an outstanding season. They finished with a record of 13-5 overall and 10-3 in the league. "This being only our second year in fast

pitch softball, this season gave the Lady Aves a strong stand in the GMC that we lacked last year," said coach Kim Jarvis.

Sophomore Missy Webb, who played shortstop, said, "The coaches were harder than a lot of us had expected. They didn't give us much room to play around, they made us work hard... However, I think this is what led to our good season and wins."

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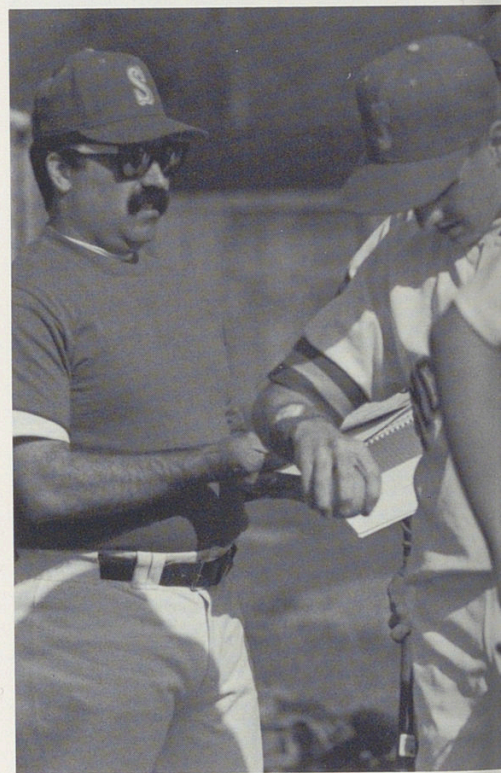
-Coach Jarvis

Wins may have been few and far between for the boys freshmen baseball team, but they didn't let it get them down. Despite a number of injuries, the team compiled a 10-14 record. At one point, they had only 11 players. High points of the season were beating Moeller 5-1 and Mike

Tauber's pitching a no-hitter against Lakota.

As Tauber said, "It's been a tough year, but we stuck with it until the end."

by **Catie Fienning & Erica Stewart & Laurie Meurer**



**Hey, listen to me...!** Ryan Blackmore listens with open ears as JV Coach Paul Melnick tells him how to play ball.