

Roundin' third, Headin' home

Varsity Boys Baseball

By: Hope Wolfe

THE VARSITY BOYS KNEW they had to start the season off strong to keep up with last years' outstanding record of 17 wins. Sure enough, they did with a 3-1 win against Lakota East on April 1st. The team conditioned and had tryouts for six weeks before their season started.

"Conditioning was well worth it because it maintained our stamina out on the field and helped us continue to win," said **Mike Rosa, 12.**

However, some of those practices were forced to be held inside due to weather conditions. March 10th was the first time the team got to head outside to begin practice on the new field. Sod was placed down

throughout the infield to help improve grass growth.

"The field looked a lot better than last year, you get a better bounce on the infield when the sod is growing," said **Andy Johnson, 11.**

The boys feel as though they have a good team bonding because the majority of them have been playing together for a while.

"We have been together for 6 years now, so we understand each other's strengths and weaknesses," said **Jon Kattelman, 12.**

The seniors on the team had never beaten rival Milford at the varsity level in five attempts. This year the team pulled through with a huge win over the Eagles 7-3, two games in a row!

"Milford is a big game for all of us, they've beaten us pretty good the past few years and

we owe them," said **Pat Christensen, 12.**

One of the team's biggest wins was against Hamilton, Big Blue. Before playing the Aves, Hamilton was undefeated, but the team pulled through and crushed them 8-2.

The team won sectionals, which is the first time the varsity level has done this in six years. They went on to play Springboro, and at the beginning it was looking like they weren't going to make it. In the bottom of the fifth they came back from a score of 14-3 and defeated them 16-15 which sent them to play in the regionals against Dublin Scioto. The team had a huge win with a score of 7-0 against Scioto but could not compete with Reynoldsburg. Although they lost to Reynoldsburg 9-2, the team was still proud because this is the farthest they have been since 1990.

Team Photo



Row 1: Coach Heffron, John Steele, 12, Pat Christensen, 12, Mike Rosa, 12, Scott Langhorn, 12, Robby Peters, 10, Danny Frank, 12, Jon Kattelman, 12, Andy Johnson, 11, Coach Chris Shrimpton. Row 2: Nick Egloff, 12, Dan McGrath, 11, Alex Speckert, 11, Brian Dougherty, 10, Matt Hahn, 12, Branden Haunert, 11, Nick Haunert, 12, David Broxterman, 10.



"We knew the pitching would be good, the hitting has been a pleasant surprise!" Coach Shrimpton