

**Getting dirty in the dirt.** Joe O'Toole, 9, fielded the ball with both hands and threw the ball to first for an out. Error-free fielding is a must.



**Nice catch.** These three outfielders, Brian Weber, 9, Mike Mallette, 9 and Joe O'Toole, 9, were excited after Weber made an awesome catch.

## ROUGH SEASON, BUT ALWAYS LEARNING.

The freshman boys baseball team finished their season with a final record of 4-17. Even though their record might seem like they had a bad season, they actually learned a lot and continued to improve. Many of their losses were only by one or two runs. Other times, they started out losing by a lot and came back to almost win, however they could not catchup before the end of the 7th inning came around. Even though they had a struggle winning many games they learned more about playing baseball than they ever thought they would.

"At the beginning of the season we were too worried about our statistics, but by the end of the season we played more as a team," said **Joey O'Gara, 9**.

Throughout the season they enjoyed spending time with

each other and they surely came together as a team. Many of these guys, being all one grade, were already close from school and being on teams with each other in past years.

After working hard on and off the field in preseason training and tryouts these players were ready to get down to business and accomplish their goals. These players all have one common interest, they love the sport of baseball.

"Even though we had a rough season, we still had fun and learned to work hard," said **Michael Mallette, 9**.

These players learned a lot about their sport and are sure to continue to improve. This

is their last year playing with only their grade, from here on out they can be on the junior varsity or the varsity team. They are ready for this change and ready to move to higher levels.



**Nice pitch.** Michael Askin, 9, pitcher, got his whole body into the pitch each time he threw one over the plate. The pitcher of any team is always an important part of the team.

# Working hard Ready to improve

By Liz Tracy

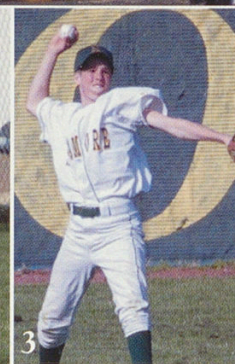
**Huddle Up.** The infielders met on the mound for a short pep-talk to help them finish the inning. The team support always was positive with this team.



**"This season we had a lot of close games and improved throughout the season,"**  
-Stuart Solomon, 9



**You're out!** This close play shows that a few seconds make a huge difference in baseball. First baseman, **Ryan Davis, 9**, was ready to get the other team out.



**1. Getting ready to run.** Joey O'Gara, 9, is watching his coach for a signal to steal. He is off the base ready to go just as the pitcher is about to pitch.

**2. Support is a must.** The team members who were not playing in that inning were continually supporting their teammates. This really helped the members that were playing.

**3. Throw it in.** Brian Weber, 9, is throwing the ball back in after an awesome catch in the outfield. Outfielders always have to be on their toes ready for long hits.

