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Batting To Be The Best

With the arrival of spring comes the inevitables; birds, hay fever, spring break and baseball. Coach Ralph Martin, with the help of tireless assistant Russell Polk and Saturday practices, began whipping this group of young men into a baseball team in early January. After a less than inspiring season last year, the team was looking forward to another shot at a championship and at beating Summerville.

The team began its season on a sour note winning only one of its first games. Seniors Robbie Carter and Jamel Bodison did what they could on the mound, but as the team was losing, its spirit suffered. Hope came

in the form of freshman Marlin Cobbs who grabbed the reins and struck back with two no-hitters and a final record of 6-2. Cobbs was chosen as Most Valuable Player by his teammates.

Shawn Brown serving as team captain, chosen by his teammates for his experience felt proud to be a leading force and inspiration to his teammates. He stressed that, "The most important thing is to play as a team; no one individual can win a game." Leading hitter Keith Green felt the same way about teamwork as his captain did. Among the many seniors on the team, including reliable catcher Keith Green who was

batting champ with a .333 average, there were a few juniors who filled out the line-up. Joey Robertson, who was voted Most Improved, and Mike Hiott alternated at third, while Jerome Williams added depth at second.

Having beaten Georgetown twice and North Charleston and Wando on several occasions, the team felt really good about their play-off chances. Senior Denney Hall who was also voted Golden Glove, noted, "This year has been better because we're winning a lot more." The team, having had several victories under its belt, felt confident enough to approach Summerville with a hunger. The team's hard work and determination paid off tremendously as Summerville was defeated, 6-4.

The large number of freshman and sophomores on the team could make Coach Polk's statement of WHS having, "an exceptional program year-in and year-out," a feasible reality.

By: Randy Beach