



# LIDING

## Into an Even Season

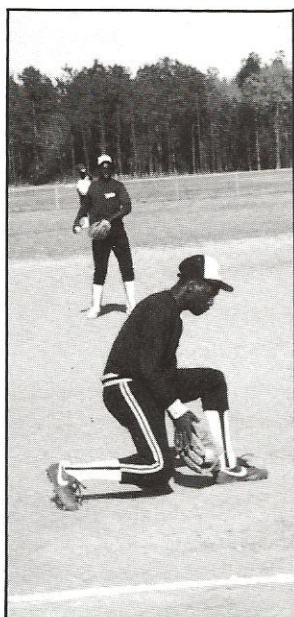
Marked by young players and inexperience, the baseball team came only two games from a .500 season. The team's record was 7-11 overall and 7-9 in the conference.

The team had only three seniors: Larry Penfield, Jerome Williams, and Stacy Fields. Penfield commented, "I thought we had a good year, considering the youth of the team. The younger players came through for us when we needed them." Penfield also broke a state record with a sixteen-game hitting streak.

The team was dominated by sophomores and freshmen; however, sophomore Marlon Cobbs had the best batting average and was voted MVP.

Eighth grader Perry Smalls was voted the best defensive player.

Most of the team's players participated in other extra-curricular activities throughout the year. Some even played American Legion Baseball during the summer. Heath Jones remarked, "American Legion baseball keeps me in shape during the summer until football season comes. It is challenging and helps me maintain baseball skills between seasons." Jerome Williams, Larry Penfield, Heath Jones and Jody McLain played football in the fall. Marlon Cobbs and Anthony Wombell were also active in basketball.

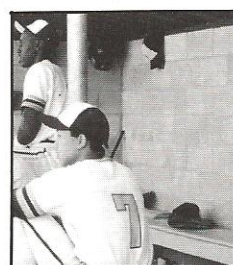


Stopping a hard hit "worm burner" is third baseman Jerome Williams. Jerome was one of only three seniors on the team.

Bunting against the Stratford Knights is Johnny Bell. Although bunting seems inferior, it is used strategically to advance players on base.



"I did what I could on the mound and in the field; but the other teams seemed to be nothing but juniors and seniors, while we were nothing but freshmen and sophomores." -Perry Smalls



"We did not have the experience it takes to have a really successful season. We have talent but it is raw and unshaped." - Hung Quach