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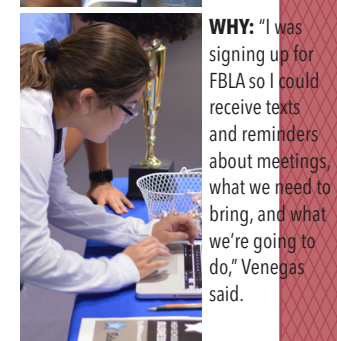
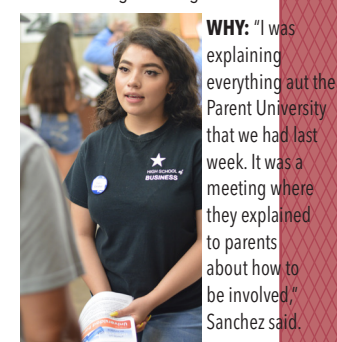


1. CLOSE CALL. Attempting to steal a base, **Angeline Mitchell (11)** slides into second. A big part of Mitchell's game is being able to make plays away from pitching. "You have to take into consideration the way the ball is being thrown, and what kind of different slides to do, in that case I did a slide by," Mitchell said. **2. GET LOUD.** **Kayla Gumeson (10)** and others cheer on their teammate who was up to bat. For the softball team, cheering and encouraging plays a big role in their team's success. "I think we've come together as a team more. We've started building more team bonding and are learning how each other plays on the field," Gumeson said. **3. SKRT SKRT.** After hitting the ball, **Ashley Dillow (12)** sprints to reach first base. Before each game, Dillow makes sure that she properly prepares so she makes as little mistakes as possible. "All of us really care about this sport and we want to go far this season, so I think just knowing that we all continue to push each other so we can accomplish this goal as a team," Dillow said. **4. BATTER UP.** **Ayahna Bustamante (11)** prepares her form as she is up to bat. Each practice Bustamante finds an area that she thinks she needs to work on. "For games I just make sure that I know what I need to work on, so if I hit bad one game I make sure to focus more on my hitting for the next game," Bustamante said. **5. TWO DOWN.** Signaling to her teammates, **Grace Morrow (12)** confirms the number of outs in the inning. Morrow and other catchers practice everyday on communication to get the best outcome for the team. "We had two outs and I was trying to communicate to my team so we were all on the same page," Morrow said. photos by bergen ingvaldsen



JUST KNOW WE'RE BACK

Students came back after school to participate in Back to School Night
WHO: Alexia Meza Venegas (10) and Marisol Sanchez (12)
WHEN: Back to School Night
WHERE: Wednesday, August 29
WHERE: Longmont High School



WHY: "I was explaining everything about the Parent University that we had last week. It was a meeting where they explained to parents about how to be involved," Sanchez said.
WHY: "I was signing up for FBLA so I could receive texts and reminders about meetings, what we need to bring, and what we're going to do," Venegas said.

NOT SO SOFT

story by katie larsen & bergen ingvaldsen

With white jerseys covered in red dirt, the Varsity Softball team put up a tough fight against Northridge in their seventh home game of the season

CATCHING: The key part about playing catcher in softball is being involved in each play of the game. "I get to interact with so many different aspects in the game when I catch and it makes it important because [the catcher] is so involved with the team, batters, and runners," **Alexa Nielsen (11)** said. Catchers are in charge of calling pitches, which set up the following play. "What makes for the best catcher is focus, being smooth with framing, and being smart about calling pitches," Nielsen said.

BATTING: Batting is one of the biggest components that goes into softball, it's where all the points come from. "I think confidence makes a really good batter," **Katie Alaniz (11)** said. When the players go up to bat, it is important to stay focused. "I start with a routine every time at bat. It's about 10 seconds long. I'm not always really stable, I'm always a little bit jittery, but I'm ready. And when I see the ball, I try to hit it," Alaniz said.

OUTFIELDING: The outfield in softball serves as the last line of defense. Playing outfield also means seeing the entire field. "You need to know when to get the ball infield, especially when you know there are runners on base," **Sherena**

Simmons (12) said. Successful outfielders make quick decisions, judging where the ball is going. "It all depends on judging the ball, if it's closer to you then you need to call the other person off so you don't collide with each other," Simmons said.

SLIDING: Sliding between bases could determine whether you're out or safe. "On the field if a play is about to happen, you know you pretty much have to slide," **Katrina Sabol (12)** said. When you are running to a base, you have to think quickly about what to do for the team in all situations, "when you're on the field you just have to go with your gut instinct: if you're going to dive or not. You can have only a matter of feet to decide if you're sliding in the infield," Sabol said.

ENCOURAGING: Encouraging your team helps build a strong bond between teammates. "Cheering is important to support our team," **Maya Kierstein (12)** said. Every year the team does a cheering drill where every member of the team will jump and try to reach the highest point on a wall. The whole team cheers them on, boosting encouragement and better results. "That just shows that cheering helps your team do better," Kierstein said.

BEHIND THE CHALK

AP Human Geography students describe the chalk drawing assignment that they did in class on August 27



"The chalk activity was about placing different maps into different densities and comparing those to each other," **Kale Derksen (9)** said.



"We were learning about how different geographers portray different map projections on a 3-D globe and a 2-D map," **Zaynah Khan (9)** said.



"We were trying to get a better understanding of all of the different maps so we were taking notes on each different map from each different group," **Curtis Conwin (9)** said.

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Special Instructions

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