

## every Blood Donor SAVES A LIVE

Student Government hosts annual blood drive with over 50 participants  
story by b. brandsma  
designed by a. sianis

### WHO

Mr. Joshua Sharp, student teacher

### WHY HE DONATED BLOOD

"I wish more schools gave students the opportunity to give blood and help the people who need it or will need it. I felt great after the blood drive knowing that my blood will help someone who needs it in any situation," Sharp said. photo by a. perez

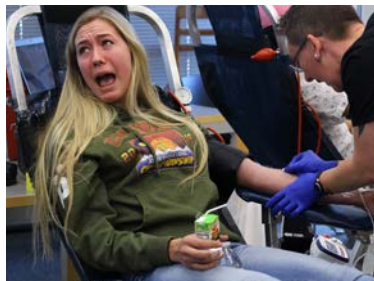


### WHO

Deni Jackson '21

### WHY SHE DONATED BLOOD

"I think that the blood drive is a great way to help other people that are in need. I was excited to donate and give blood to three other people that needed it. The only thing that hurt was the adjustments that I had to get on each arm. I had to look away from the needle," Jackson said. photo by s. rolfs



## it's been My Dream TO BE HERE

Mohamed Aziz Hadj Hassen '20 leaves North Africa to study abroad in Colorado

**SINCE HE WAS FIVE YEARS OLD, Mohamed Aziz Hadj Hassen '20 dreamed of living in the United States.** When he watched movies that took place in America, it only sparked his desire more to study abroad as a teenager.

"It has always been my dream to come to America. I am the type of person that always wants to find a way to achieve my dreams," Hassen said. "I have always admired the English language and that is why I wanted to learn more about it and get as fluent as I can."

Hassen was from Tunisia, a small country in North Africa. When he arrived in Colorado, he began to experience the life he had only seen in movies.

"It's even better than the movies. I love the scenery, the weather, the fast food, and especially the mountains. I hope to be able to visit Grand Junction while here to see the view," Hassen said.

After he got home from school or a day hanging out with his new friends, Hassen's daily routine was to text or call his family back home to tell them what he had done or what he was going to do.

"It is all too surreal to even believe that I got the chance to be able to come and live here. When it is time to go back home, if someone were to ask me where I would go if I had the chance to come back to America, I would say Colorado. It truly has become a second home for me," Hassen said.



photos courtesy of m. hassen  
story by b. brandsma & designed by a. sianis



### LET ME INTERVIEW YOU.

At the end of the first round of the Softball State competition, Head Coach Marty Stricklett shares his thoughts regarding the game with "Brighton Blade" reporter, Steve Smith. The girls lost to Loveland with a score of 1-7. "That was a tough day for me as a coach as it was my last game coaching at BHS. I've coached for 23 years. I wished that the game would have turned out differently," Stricklett said. photo by j. bishop

**WE WILL CHEER YOU ON.** Waiting at home base, Madelaine Strait '20, Chloe Doyle '20 and Alison Martinez '22 cheer on Sarah Tiffany '20 after she gets a walk-off homer against Prairie View on Sept. 19. "I was one of the first ones out there on the field. The energy in that game was crazy and it couldn't have ended in a better way," Strait said. photo by a. sianis

**HERE'S THE PITCH.** Tori Haug '20 throws a pitch toward home plate to catcher Chloe Doyle '20 at the State competition. photo by j. bishop  
**STEAL A BASE.** Standing on first, Angel Mollel '20 prepares to run to second. "Softball provided a challenge for me. I enjoy overcoming all of those. Making it to State was something all our seniors wanted," Mollel said. photo by a. sianis  
**UP TO BAT.** Sarah Tiffany '20 swings at the ball during the third inning at the State competition on Oct. 25. "The only thing going through my mind when I am at bat is to get on a base to help move runners, no matter what it takes," Tiffany said. photo by s. rolfs



"PITCHING IS MY FAVORITE PART OF THE GAME BECAUSE I'M IN EVERY SINGLE PLAY. I'M THE ONE THAT GETS TO CONTROL HOW FAST PAGED THE GAME WILL GO."

TORI HAUG '20

## We Defied THE ODDS

story by b. brandsma and t. frazier  
design by a. sianis

Softball team ends season with rivalry win and as the regional champs

After not making it to the CHSAA 5A State Tournament last fall, the softball team **HAD SOME THINGS TO PROVE**, according to Head Coach Marty Stricklett.

"Despite what happened last year, I was very confident in our team this year and believed we could win it all because of our team," Chloe Doyle '20 said.

After beating opponents like Prairie View and Fossil Ridge, the team traveled to the Regional Championship on Oct. 19. They defeated Windsor 9-2 and then Ralston Valley 12-2, becoming regional champs.

"Making it to State as regional champs was a great feeling because I know that all the girls on the team, including me, all worked so hard in order to have that opportunity," Sydney Rodriguez '22 said.

On Oct. 25, the team faced Loveland in the first round at the CHSAA Softball State Tournament. They fell to the team 7-1.

"It was rewarding to be at State since a lot of the girls are seniors, including me, and we weren't able to make it last year," Delaney Trevino '20 said. "A loss is always tough, but making it to state showed that all of our hard work did pay off."



story by b. brandsma

## Look Closely

and get to know  
LANEE KEYES

"When I was five years old I broke my arm. After it became healed I decided to go into swimming as a first-grader. When I started middle school I decided to start swimming competitively. Now that I am a freshman, I am swimming for the high school with new friends and plan to have a successful season," Lanee Keyes '23 said.