

COVERING EVERY BASE

Softball is played for a lot of reasons, but because of COVID-19 one of the biggest reasons to play is to just have fun. Due to the effects and restrictions placed on schools and sports, our athletes' lives have changed drastically. Even through the troubling times, they don't let it stop them. While following guidelines set by the state, teams have found safe ways to play a fall season at Vista Ridge. For these athletes the softball season has been a way to escape reality and just enjoy a sport like life before the pandemic. The players say it's the feel of a perfect fit of your hand in a mitt, or the wind scooping the gravel into the air on a sunny day. For others it's the sweet spot sensation when the bat makes contact with the ball. Kira Blanford, 10, said, "It's probably just being able to see my team grow together. At our last practice we had a party, and we really bonded one last time for the season." Those feelings are what Vista Ridge softball is really about. The season was shorter, but the team still knocked it out of the park, leaving all of the returning girls excited for next year.



1. **Tatjana Harris, 9**, digging into the batters box, is making great contact with the ball.

2. **Nicole Garcia, 10**, is makes a stop at an infield grounder, keeping her head down and her eye on the ball. 3. **Haley Hutter, 10**, shows her speed as she tries to beat out a hit to first base.

QUOTE ME ON THAT

“The highlight for me of this season was having a team that was so supportive of each other. And obviously being able to still play!”
Jasmin Lee, 11



“The highlight of my season was the last game against Ramphart High School. We hit four home runs and everyone had so much energy that day.”
Alisha Salazar, 12



LOOKING BACK ON THIS SEASON

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My favorite memory is when me and the offensive linemen got together for dinners.

Joshua Rowe, 12 ”



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My favorite memory this year was cherishing the few times we got to practice together and being able to get some good hits in during the games.

Joshua Romain, 12 ”



PHOTO BY JON TUTTLEMAN 1

DRIVING to the ENDZONE

“Football season came and went as quick as the weather changed. With turf in our shoes and sweat running down our faces, the final play ended. This season was different from the rest due to restrictions caused by COVID-19. Although these restrictions were frustrating, we still pushed through and had a season. Many games did not have bus transportation, so all the players and coaches car pooled to the games. First we had to get our temperatures taken, then to enter the

stadium everyone had to go in at one time together. We slipped on our cleats and put on our helmets and struck the field. This season was shorter compared to others as we only had five games. Nonetheless we ended the season with a positive record going 3-2.

This season was still something to enjoy. My favorite part of the season was the practices where the offense and defense would get heated with each other. The struggles caused by COVID-19 were met by a football season that was enjoyed by all.” by **Ahmir Braxton, 12.**



PHOTO BY JON TUTTLEMAN 3



PHOTO BY JON TUTTLEMAN 4

1. **Keyon Burris, 12**, is pushing through, and running far down the field to take the ball in to score.
2. **Samuel Stowers, 12**, says his favorite part of the season was the comeback against Rampart by winning by one point.
3. **Keyshawn Bridges, 11**, slides on the field to receive the ball and complete the pass for a first down.
4. **Christopher Livingstone, 12**, has been the kicker for Vista for all four years of his high school career.