

SENIOR Spotlight

SENIORS LEAVE WORDS FOR THEIR TEAMMATES



"Be nice; it's the key to success," **Rian Van Winkle, 12**, said.



"Stay mentally strong and have fun," **Shayna McHugh, 12**, said.



"Being too sexy leaves a great legacy," **Katrina Weiskircher, 12**, said.



"It goes by fast. Enjoy it and stay positive. I'm proud of you all," **Lily Dozier, 12**, said.

Putting in hours of practice on and off the field paid off for the softball team this season. The girls started off their season in the summer which led them strong into run-ruling their opponent in the first game.

With now a full JV and Varsity team, **Mr. Romero** has been building the program from the bottom up creating a team ready and eager for bigger competition. "He has grown this program so much, not just by helping us grow as players but as young girls. He has helped me through a lot so far and I'm grateful to have a coach like him.

He led us to making state and I wouldn't want to share that experience with anyone else," **Brooke Bornitz, 10**, said.

Going into the regional tournament mentally strong, the team took down two of their toughest competitors and qualified for the state tournament for the first time ever. "Making it to state was an amazing experience, especially for my senior year. Although we did lose, the team put up a huge fight with hardly any mistakes. I had the opportunity to make a catch that stopped a home run and that's an experience I will never forget," **Katrina Weiskircher, 12**, said. *story by lily dozier.*

Got 'em On the

SOFTBALL FIGHTS HARD THROUGHOUT THEIR SEASON TO QUALIFY FOR STATE

TAG



3. Playing shortstop, **Rian Van Winkle, 12**, stops the runner from advancing to second. Van Winkle's family has been a huge inspiration for her growing up. "I started playing softball because my aunt was a big inspiration for me and I was always super close to her growing up. She grew up playing softball so she inspired me to play throughout my life too," Van Winkle said. *photo taken by lily dozier.* **4.** Up to bat, **Shayna McHugh, 12**, hits the ball and makes it onto base commencing the team to cheer "Shayn Train." McHugh is consistently inspired by her coaches in more ways than one. "My coaches also push me and I know that they have my back in a lot of ways, more than just in the sport," McHugh said. *photo taken by lily dozier.* **5.** Very nervous, **Sofia Romero, 9**, prepared herself to bat. Romero is very appreciative of the different things she learns in softball, even off of the field. "I love the team aspect of it, I love the lessons I have learned from it and the life skills I have gained from it," Romero said. *photo taken by lily dozier.*

"This year has been a ton of fun because I've been with a lot of our players for three years now, getting to watch them grow into great players and people. The fact that we get to go compete at State is just the icing on the cake."

Signature

Mr. Falconi

Pitch Perfect

VARSITY PITCHERS AND THEIR PITCHING CAREERS



"I've been pitching since I started playing at ten and I still have the same coach. It's been amazing to have a reliable coach with so much knowledge to share. My favorite pitches are drop, change, and rise," **Gigi German, 12**, said.



"I've been pitching for five years. I like the challenge of it. My four pitches are off-speed drop, change-up, rise ball, and drop ball. My favorite pitch is my drop ball. I see a pitching coach every week which can be a lot but it really helps me," **Ashlyn Short, 9**, said.

PLAY YOUR OWN WAY



Kahlan Fuller, 11

"I am a catcher. I like that it's a good community within the sport and that this team is not mean to each other."



Katrina Weiskircher, 12

"What makes me unique in the sports that I play is I am left handed and I am one of the only people on both teams that I play."



Iris Jones, 10

"I try to keep a positive attitude through every game and practice, even if I mess up I keep my head up."



Angel Arends, 11

"I play for myself and I believe that pushing myself when I play softball makes me a better player."