

Swimming the 100 yard butterfly, Elena Battaglioli (8) takes a quick breath before going on her final lap. "I really liked the butterfly and I've never gone a meet without awimming it and it's really fun and it's really nice because it's not a stroke that a lot of people do. You can feel unique!" Battagloil said. She has a hearing loss that makes it difficult for her to hear, especially when she is swimming. "It's kind of tricky because I have a hearing loss and I can't wear my hearing aids in the water. My friends at practice tell me what to do," Battaglioli said. Her friends and coaches support her in explaining the practice to her when she doesn't know what to do. Although she faces challenges, her positive attitude and determination allows her to enjoy her favorite sports to the fullest!

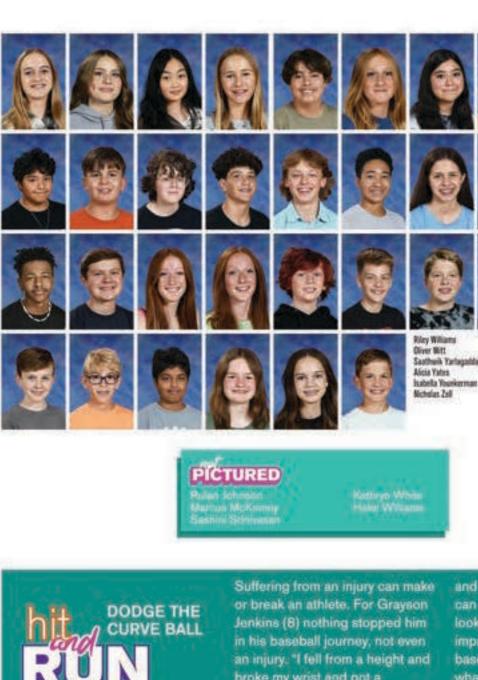


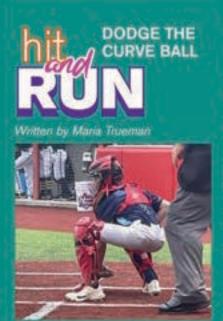
Xavier Terry

Jacob Thar Kayla Thompson

Asani Thempson Smith







Suffering from an injury can make or break an athlete. For Grayson Jenkins (8) nothing stopped him in his baseball journey, not even an injury. "I fell from a height and broke my wrist and got a concussion. The doctors said that I would not be able to play baseball for about four months. That did not stop me though I persevered and practiced with a broken wrist and a concussion." Jenkins said, "I never lost hope and I kept practicing with a broken wrist. I improved in that time when I was hurt and my friends and my family helped me to get through it I kept practicing

and then I got better." An injury can also change a way someone looks at life. 'After this setback it impacted me that everyday I play baseball I should be grateful for what I have," Jenkins said. Being able to bounce back after an injury is something extremely difficult that many athletes have to go through. In some cases, an injury could end an athletes career but not with Jenkins. He had to work even harder after his injury because of his 'setback' but that made him a better player. Athletes have to persevere through an injury and Jenkins did just that.

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