

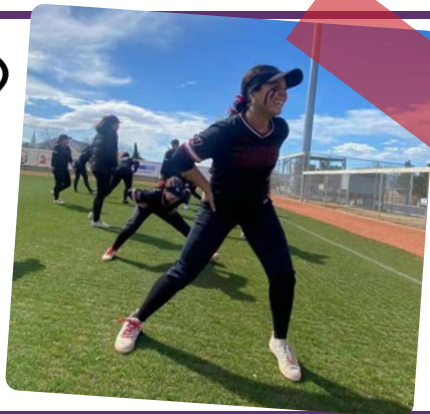
GIRLS SOFTBALL: **RUNNING THE BASES**

112
GIRLS
SOFTBALL



The team gathers in a quick strategy session before their first game of the season (on March 14 against Hurricane High School).

Girls Softball made some bright and memorable memories over the spring season. Player Annabella Ocampo said, "The thing I enjoy most is the environment, overall we just hype each other up and it feels nice to have support". The girls were super close with one another and it helped them work better as a team. Mele Langi (10) said, "We have known each other for so long so with that we were able to connect really well also, I love being a part of the team and having a strong connection with the other girls". To Jerzy Tapusoa (11), the best part of being in softball is "being surrounded by good energy which the girls definitely provide."



MILES OF SMILES



Angelys Tapusoa (9) and Jerzy Tapusoa (11) take a selfie on the bus, giddy from the joy of victory — after a game, of course.

The softball coaches held the players to a high standard. While taking their bus to some "away" softball games, the girls weren't allowed to have their phones. But this helped the team grow and bond *en route*: "we were able to lock in with each other, and me personally, I say a prayer before every game," said Josephine Gasu (12). Sometimes, teammates would even sing together on the bus!



As per tradition, the team huddles together and performs a cheer before a game.

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Golden egg winner...

Jerzy Tapusoa



Girls Softball held a fun egg hunt on March 29 on the softball field. Within five minutes, all the eggs had been found, with Jerzy Tapusoa (11) emerging as the golden egg winner!



Luisa Ofa (10)



Eden Skipps (9)

WARMING
UP TO
WIN

Warming up both enhances performance and prevents injuries. Before games and intense practices, the softball team made sure to stretch together!



CATCHING THEM OFF GUARD

There are many variations in softball, and the Girls Softball team took full advantage of each player's unique strengths. For example, some prefer to pitch the ball overhand, while other prefer underhand. The game consists of 18 players, nine on each team and there are seven innings (compared to baseball, which has nine). Softball rules state that both feet of the pitcher must be on the ground in order to throw the ball. There are many positions to play in the defensive side, such as a catcher, a shortstop, the first, second, and third base, as well as three outfielders. A shortstop stands in the middle of the second and third bases, and is responsible for the balls that land in that area. The three outfielders consist of right fielder, center fielder, and left fielder. With all of these different positions for the players, the girls in softball worked together as a team and had a successful season!



From left to right: Angelys Tapusoa (9), Annabella Ocampo(12), and Mele Langi (11) in full uniform and ready to play.

