

The girls softball season starts off strong

Lauren Kling, Staff Writer

The Middle School softball season started off with hard work and dedication. Even though the A team athletes lost their first game, they made a comeback and won the second.

Softball is similar to baseball, but has several key differences. According to american-profile.com a pitcher in softball pitches underhand ground level to the hitter, while a baseball pitcher pitches overhand on a raised platform. Also, a softball is bigger than a baseball. Lastly, the fields differ. The bases in softball are 60 feet apart, but in baseball the bases are 90 feet apart.

In 1887, softball was invented as an indoor sport. According to www.sportsdestinations.com the popularity of the sport has risen from 20 athletes, to almost 40 million people.

Many students at Faith are part of that 40 million.

"I play (softball) because I like the competition, and all of the skills you need to play," said eight grade student, Megan Correia, who plays on Faith's A team.

Newer players enjoy softball for different reasons.

"This is my first year (playing softball), and it is fun to be with my friends and learn

all the basics," said eighth grader Lauren Bates, who plays on the B team.

The softball season started with the first two games for A team on April 6, with one loss and one win against two different Pahrump teams.

Students have many ways to prepare for games so they can



Photo courtesy of photosforclass.com

Softball players working hard at a game. The girls who play softball are very dedicated, and work hard to be the best player they can be.

play their best.

"We have two hour practices, and I practice my batting at home," said Correia.

Other athletes have other methods.

"I sing 'Hit Me With Your Best Shot' and practice with my bat," said eight grade

student Megyn Bowline, who plays on the B-team.

While softball is a fun sport, there are some challenges. Athletes must manage sports and school because they need to maintain a high grade to continue playing. Also, players may seek out speciality coaching specific to their position. This

might help them improve their skills and improve technique, but it is also time consuming and expensive.

"I play for two teams, the school team and a travel team called Mojo. Sometimes it is hard because I have two practices a night, but because I enjoy the sport, it doesn't bother me. I like getting the extra practice," said eight grade student Isabelle Cottingham, who plays on the A team.

These girls are very dedicated to the sport and work very hard.

"The girls give their best effort, and they don't quit on themselves or their teammates. They keep fighting," said A team coach, Deb Rood.