

NVHS SOFTBALL
2014 FEATURED
ATHLETE
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NVHS SOFTBALL 2014



JAMIE O'BRIEN
NVHS BOOSTER CLUB FEATURED ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
SOFTBALL PROGRAM

The NVHS Athletic Booster Club is proud to present the featured athlete of this week, softball player JAMIE O'BRIEN. In the words of Coach Wilson, Jamie was chosen because of the mark she left on the Neuqua Valley Softball Program. She is an extremely talented athlete and is impossible to go unnoticed. Jamie leads by example both on and off the field, and her talent has impressed players and coaches from schools around the area. She plays with poise and always works diligently to improve her skills. She will continue her softball and academic career at Loyola University next year, and the coach is confident that Jamie will continue to impress others with her talent, work ethic, and attitude. Coach Wilson says it has been a pleasure coaching Jamie over the past four years.

Booster Club Reporter: *You have a great motto. Can you share with us what it is?*

Jamie: "You can't start the next chapter if you keep re reading the last one." This is one of my favorite quotes because it shows that you need to get over the little bumps in the road in order to move on. Living in the past gets you nowhere.

Booster Club Reporter: *How do you relate this quote to your High School softball career?*

Jamie: People think softball isn't a physical sport, but they have no idea what it takes. It's also a mental game, and you have to make split-second decisions in certain situations. Every week in softball I have that one play where I decide to do something where later it makes me contemplate if I made the right decision. People make errors all the time that cost games, and they feel like they need to put the blame on themselves. What I learned from this, is that you can't blame yourself for one tiny part in a long game. You have to think to yourself that there will always be something that your team could have done to prevent it.

Booster Club Reporter: *What have these situations taught you?*

Jamie: The biggest thing that I have learned from all of the coaches is that once you make a mistake, it's done and over with. There is nothing that you can do to reverse what happened, so just forget about it and get ready for the next play. Having negative thoughts in your head will mess you up.

Booster Club Reporter: *Ok. So you don't dwell on mistakes. What else do you bring to the table in your team?*

Jamie: I try and correct the mistake I made right away. If I hit a fly ball, I will go to the side of the dugout as soon as I come in, and practice getting on top of the ball. I work so hard to be my best, and having people look up to me gives me a great feeling. Also, I learned to never give up. It's as simple as that. You will never accomplish anything if you decide to just stop. Keep going, and the results will show up when you do.

Booster Club Reporter: *What does playing in a team mean to you? How do you complement each other?*

Jamie: Players complement each other by having each other's backs through every little thing. For example, a pitcher would be nothing without his/her catcher there to help them a long the way. Everyone that works together will be successful. Being part of a team means the world to me. Knowing that I have 13 other girls to go to and get comfort from is something that I will always cherish. Starting at the beginning of the season with new girls and finishing out the season as best friends is so unforgettable.

Booster Club Reporter: *Who are you thankful for?*

Jamie: My parents. Without them, I would not be where I am today. They are the ones who pushed me to do my best and give it my all. They are the ones to help me calm down after a tough loss. They have been through everything and given up a lot in order for me to have the life that I have now, and I really can't thank them enough.