

Belleview High Has Signed 50 Girls To Play Softball On Scholarships

By Bryce Abshier
 With head coach Gary Greer leading the way, Belleview High School has become no stranger to sending talented softball players off to college. After the latest round of scholarship signings, Belleview has now sent over 50 young ladies to play softball at the next level.

Just as COVID-19 ruined so many good things, it upended a promising softball season last year for many Belleview athletes. The Rattlers were

undefeated and highly ranked nationally when their season was forced to halt. Fortunately, that won't stop a pair of girls from playing on a collegiate softball diamond.

Just a few short weeks prior to the holidays, a proud evening of celebration was held in the Belleview High School Cafeteria. On this night, Kylah Gardner and Jaela Haynes officially inked their commitments to different colleges in front of dozens of friends and family mem-

bers. Gardner, who Greer described as a special talent, was a rarity during her Rattler career. After she first arrived on campus, Gardner was one of the few freshmen in the school's history to earn an immediate spot on the varsity roster. Coach Greer estimates this has only happened around 10 or fewer times. She will now make her way to Edward Waters College of Jacksonville, Florida, where she has earned a scholar-

ship to become a collegiate student-athlete.

Next up during the signing celebration was Rattler sensation Jaela Haynes. While she had not been with the Bel-

levue program for very long as a Forest transfer, that did not stop Haynes from setting an early impression with her coaches and teammates. For Jaela, the Haynes family motto

propelled her forward as a student-athlete: "Failure is not an option". During the ceremony, she committed to play ball for Stetson University of Deland.



Stetson Bound

Family looks on as Jaela Haynes makes her commitment official with Stetson University.



Making It Official

Kylah Gardner, deck out in the Edward Waters College school colors, signs her scholarship. (Photos by Bryce Abshier)



A Proud Family

Failure is not an option for the Haynes family, as Jaela (center) proved by earning a softball scholarship.



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