



The McDonald DUO

The varsity girls softball team welcomed a familiar face into a new position this past season. Coach Wendy McDonald took to the field for the first time in a long while since last coaching RWA girls softball and began work right away with rookie senior Jenna Burroughs. Jenna says, "It was my first year playing. I knew nothing. The coaches taught me how to play and the team encouraged me. I learned a lot and wish I would have started years ago." While this team had talent and potential, they were not able to harness it fully at first. The season started off with several frustrating losses, "When the team was down, the coaches

told us that we needed to believe in ourselves as much as they did and it paid off for us in the end," said junior Grace Wilkins. The team remained close through many challenges. "This is the closest team we've ever had. The closeness of the team made it a good end to my softball career," says senior Lauren Pendergrass. Ultimately, this closeness strengthened the team. They won three out of four of their last regular season games and made playoffs. The ladies finished on a high note, which they are sure to begin on next season.



Sitting (l-r): Katharine Bankhead, Jenna Burroughs, Brooke Smith. **Kneeling** (l-r): Mary Goldin, MacKenzie Branham, Brittany Speagle, Torri Mann, Haleigh Williford, Kristen Keller, Ivy Wilkes. **Standing** (l-r): Coach Pendergrass, Lauren Pendergrass, Alex Maass, Rebecca Connor, Grace Wilkins, Coach McDonald.