



Sports

Softball Magicians look to bounce back from the Final Four heartbreaker next year. Page 10.

WAIT 'TIL NEXT YEAR

From Softball Little League all-stars to MHS champs

BY JOE MCCONNELL

It was an historical year for coach Johnny Gold's Marblehead High School softball team that led them to the Northeastern Conference Lynch Division championship, before bringing home the Division 2 Final Four state trophy after winning 21

games, a new record for the program. The team dedicated the season to its assistant coach Todd Norman, who passed away just hours before the first game of the season on April 8. They also had to play the season without one of their captains, Ila Bumagin, who tore her ACL in

a skiing accident. Coaches and players alike bonded together as a team to win for them. The definition of the word team for the players also extended beyond the diamond, when they came out to support the softball program's longtime assistant Mike Joyce at the Special Olympics recently.

And Joyce did not disappoint them, winning two gold medals. In their pursuit of their on-field championship achievements, the Magicians compiled those record-setting 21 wins. But they are certainly not unfamiliar with so much success. It all started for them in the Marblehead Softball Little

League. In 2019, as 10s, the Marblehead girls won the District 16 and EMass all-star regional championships to advance to the state tournament in Worcester, where they lost to Worcester's Jesse Burkett Little League in

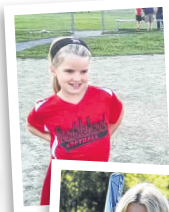
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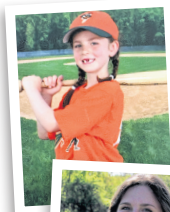
Tessa Francis



Genevieve Rogers



Eva Walton



Clara Donovan



Hailey Schmitt



Lyla McGovern



Ruby Calienes



Nora Mahan



Kate (left) and Tessa Andriano



Ashley and Isabel Mortensen



Colleen Corrigan



Anna Sokolov



Keliann Salem



Luka Bornhorst



Sophia Hallisey