

## Westhill Baseball Sends Two Seniors to College

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Logan Parra ('25) and Jorge Hitlin ('25) talked with *The Westword* about heading off to play Division 3 college ball



**NOT YOUR AVERAGE BATTERS** Seniors Logan Parra (right) and Jorge Hitlin (left) sport their Westfield State University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute respectively. “Being able to play at a school that values both academics and athletics is a dream of mine,” Hitlin said. The two are very hopeful about their future playing at the next level. Photo by Eugene Caibal ('25)

As graduation approaches, many seniors prepare to apply to colleges to start a new chapter. However, a few lucky seniors got the chance to get into their dream colleges with their passion: sports. Seniors at Westhill are already starting to get into their desired colleges because of their talent and dedication to sports. Two of these lucky seniors are Logan Parra and Jorge Hitlin.

Logan Parra, a varsity baseball player at Westhill, got into his dream school, Westfield State University, in July 2024. Parra said that the process of getting recruited was lengthy. He was an active junior, posting videos online

trying to attract recruiters.

“It was a long process; it was a lot of emailing from different schools and coaches, utilizing social media, and putting out any film I had for coaches to see. I was fortunate to receive much help from Coach Riveles, who promoted me to many of his contacts,” Parra ('25) said.

Parra obtained active recruitment from schools at the end of his junior year. He started to receive offers as early as early July. As Parra continued to look into more colleges that offer sports, specifically baseball, he was invited to tour the Westfield State University campus,

where he received his offer as an athlete.

“I was very excited and relieved. I was also relieved because I had worked hard and dreamt about it. To see it be a reality was a huge weight off my shoulders,” Parra said.

Coach Kaplan’s enthusiasm for baseball motivated Parra to play for Westfield. This interested Parra to play for Westfield State. “I liked Coach Kaplan. I liked the campus, and what sold me was how Coach Kaplan runs his program and his approach to baseball,” Parra said.