CLASS OF 2021 ★ THE UNFINISHED TIMELINE

2009 HAWAII TRIP

Kindergarten teachers planned an imaginary trip to Hawaii, complete with music. The students packed their luggage, passed security, and boarded a plane to the tropical destination. Karla Garcia (below) made a leis with her fellow kindergartners out of native Hawaiian flowers. (PHOTO: Karla Garcia)







2016 WIDJI

The class of 2021 went on a five-day trip to camp Widjiwagan during their 7th grade year. Some of the most memorable moments from Widji were navigating through the forest alone, otter sliding, and saunaing.

Pictured left: Milo Waltenbaugh, Lyle Menard, Liam Lynch
Pictured below: Mina Mandic, Katherine Goodman, Ilana Baum, Gabriella Thompson (PHOTOS: SPA Smugmug)

2012-2013

All the students loved being out on the blacktop and the playground playing squish the lemon on the iconic orange rolly slide that always ended in pinched fingers. Ivan Starchook could be spotted on top of the monkey bars playing with his friends and taking in the sun. Recess ended a little too soon when Starchook took a fall and his tooth fell out.



2017 FIRST DAY OF UPPER SCHOOL

Lizzie Kristal and Julia Baron take notes in class.
(PHOTO: SPA Smugmug)

2012 Mystery Bus

The Mystery Bus Ride is tradition during third grade. Students show up to school like any regular day but are surprised by a coach bus that takes them on a memorable ride filled with fun.

AMAN RAHMAN
"Live in the moment because time will fly by in the blink of an eye."

Rashmi Raveendran
"Playing to your strengths is the best thing you can do for yourself."



2016 COURAGE RETREAT

As 8th graders, the class of 2021 participated in the courage retreat, a day spent getting to know each other on a deeper level. The day ended with a very memorable pebble ceremony.
(PHOTO: SPA Smugmug)



2012-2013 Medieval Fest

Medieval Fest was a day of celebration where students dressed up in costumes like bakers and queens. To say the very least, it was a day of feasting. Performing on recorders: Jane Christakos, Rafael Barocas, Lizzie Kristal, Pilar Saavedra-Weis (PHOTO: SPA Smugmug)

2017-2018 HANGOUT SPOT

Transitioning into the Upper School, the class of 2021 found a hangout spot in the upper library. You could find students from all friend groups hanging out in the upper library after lunch. When construction began, the hangout spot of the class of 2021 was no longer convenient and the class hangout spot disintegrated.

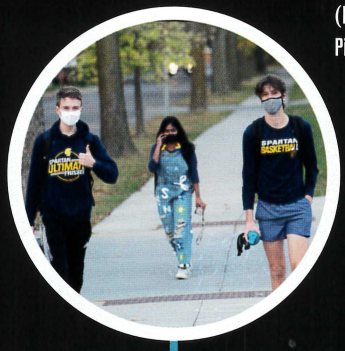
JONAS BRAY
"Relax, you don't always have to be ahead of things."

PATRICK HOOLEY
"You have to struggle to prosper."

2020 RETURN TO CAMPUS

The class of 2021 had an unexpected first day of senior year with distance learning, so when students were finally allowed back on campus for hybrid classes, the class of 2021 showed up for class color day wearing their favorite blue outfits.
(PHOTO: SPA Smugmug)
Pictured left to right: John Hall, Rashmi Raveendran, Levi Mellin

SARA BROWN
"It is important to surround yourself with people that share common values rather than common interests."



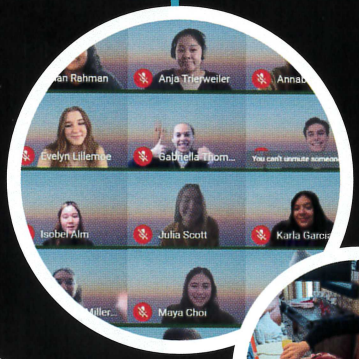


SENIOR SPARTANS. Even with all the unexpected changes to tradition throughout the sports seasons, senior nights were still a celebratory event full of fun.(PHOTO: Emily Small)

TO BE CONTINUE

2021 SENIOR RETREAT AND BRUNCH

The 3-day junior retreat never happened for the class of 2021 because of the pandemic. Senior year brought virtual events, including a retreat during January. During the lunch period in Google Meets, the students had fun changing their backgrounds to match each others' and doing fun go arounds. (PHOTO: Lizzie Kristal)

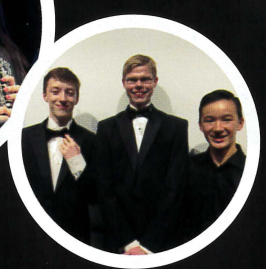


Senior Brunch also went virtual. Mimi Long shares a special meal with her family. (PHOTO: Mary Long)



ADRIENNE GAYLORD
"Sometimes you need to slow down. [...] Life won't pass you by, in fact, if you don't slow down you'll pass life by."





2019 LAST POPS

Unbeknownst to them, the senior musicians had their last Pops concert junior year. Seniors hosted a virtual Winter Showcase (pp. 152-153) pre-recorded concert that was streamed. (PHOTO: SPA Smugmug) Lizzie Kristal, Aman Rahman play in the 2019 concert. THROWBACK to early school concerts: Evan Reynolds, Isaac Carlson, Nikolas Liepins ready for their first US spring concert in 2018. (PHOTO: Nikolas Liepins)

Dec. 11 2020: The Pfizer vaccine was approved for emergency use in the U.S.

CLASS OF 2021



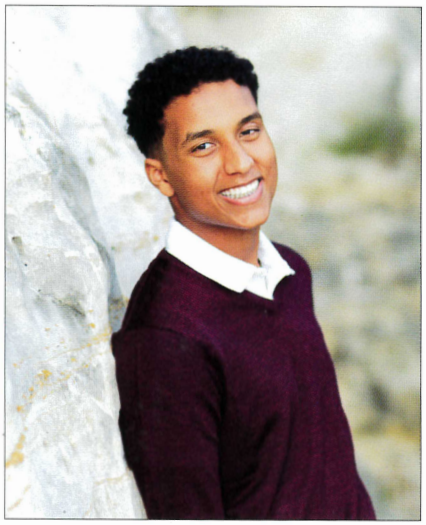
Noel Abraham



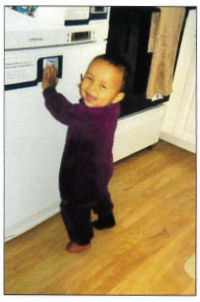


Leo Adams





Senai Assefa





Allison Audette





Miranda Bance





Rafael Barocas



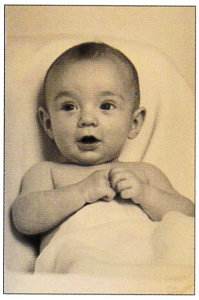


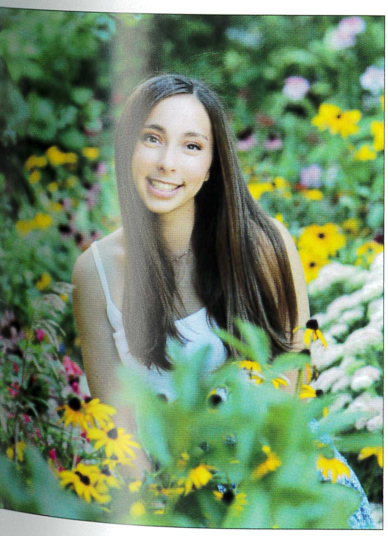
Isobel Alm



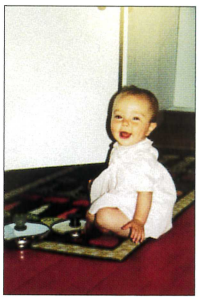


Michael Bagnoli





Julia Baron





MANY COLORS, ONE CAUSE. Adeline DeHarpporte (far right) celebrates PRIDE with friends. While she belongs to many groups at SPA, including Peer Helpers, orchestra, and the swim and dive co-op SPARKS, her time with Rainbow Connection has been significant. For DeHarpporte, the affinity group "is really important because it's so cool to see so many people show up and just be able to talk about their experiences," she said. (SUBMITTED PHOTO: Adeline DeHarpporte)

DeHarpporte finds strength while building community

BY CLAIRE KIM, STAFF WRITER

Adeline DeHarpporte is highly committed to the communities present in her life, including those that she has found in clubs, affinity groups, and through swimming. She values the connections she has created with others during her four years at SPA.

DeHarpporte is a member of Rainbow Connection, an affinity group for LGBTQ+ students, and Peer Helpers, a group focused on connecting students to develop a sense of health and belonging. Peer Helpers has organized community events like May Madness, a tournament for school spirit, and the Relaxation Room, which started as a rejuvenation space for students during exam week.

Rainbow Connection is a particularly meaningful community for DeHarpporte. "[Rainbow Connection is really important because it's so cool to see so many people show up and just be able to talk about their experiences," she said. "It's a really cool experience to be able to have."

She said it's helpful for students to have a common space to share about their lives.

DeHarpporte recounts the group's efforts to install single-stall bathrooms during the Schilling Center construction planing, talking to the tech department about how students can change their names on their computers, and engaging discussions about pronoun usage. She joined Rainbow Connection her freshman year and said it helped her become more accepting of herself. The group has worked to create a safe space for students to connect with people who share similar identities.

She is also part of SPARKS, a co-op swim and dive team with Highland Park Senior High. "Our SPARKS team is a really powerful community [with] all the traditions we have, like Halloween swimming, cards we write each other before meets, swim buddies.," DeHarpporte said. "I think it's a really connected team. Even though we go to two different schools, it's very important to the whole team to make sure that everyone's really supportive."

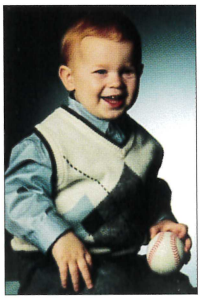
Although the two schools were almost split in 2018 due to a large number of swimmers, the students advocated to stay together.

DeHarpporte has enjoyed being a part of and helping to develop communities within SPA. As it became increasingly important to stay connected with others during the pandemic, she helped students find spaces to find and receive support from others.

CLASS OF 2021



John Becker



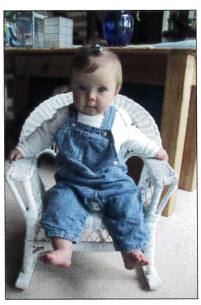


Lucy Benson





Annabelle Bond





Jonas Bray



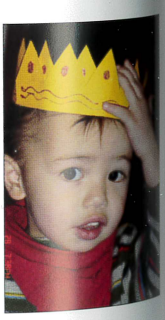


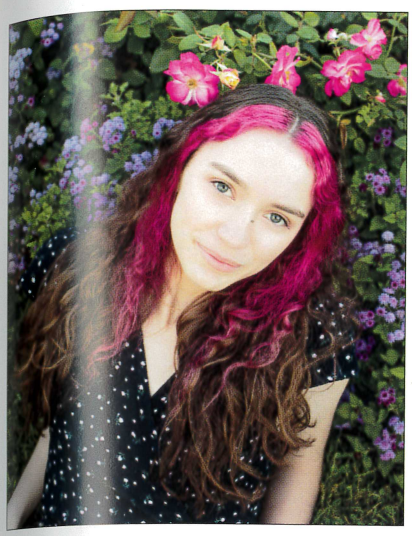
Lara Cayci





Anthony Chen



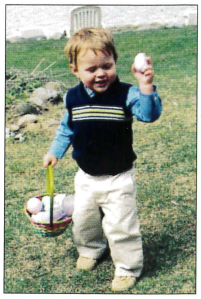


Margot Bergner





Jackson Biggs





Sara Browne





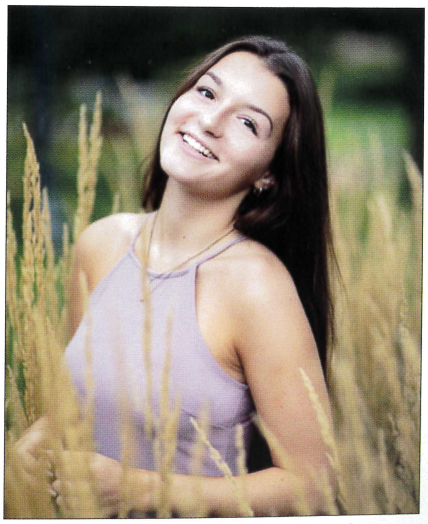
Isaac Carlson



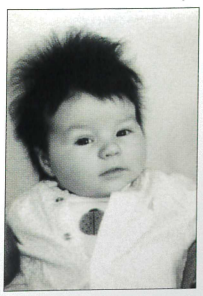


Maya Choi





Jane Christakos



CLASS OF 2021

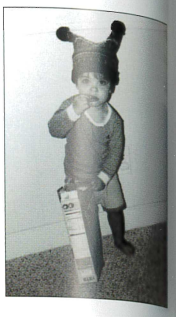


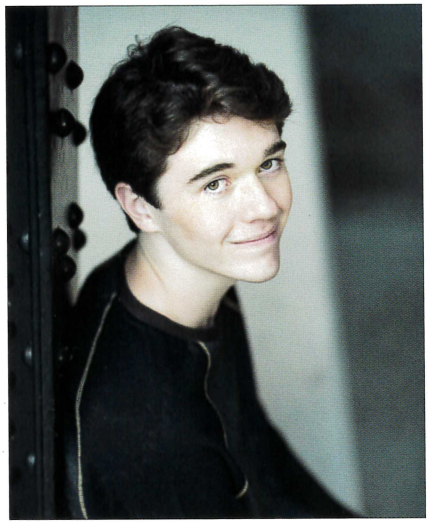
Noor Christava



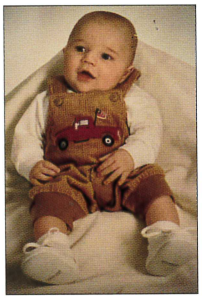


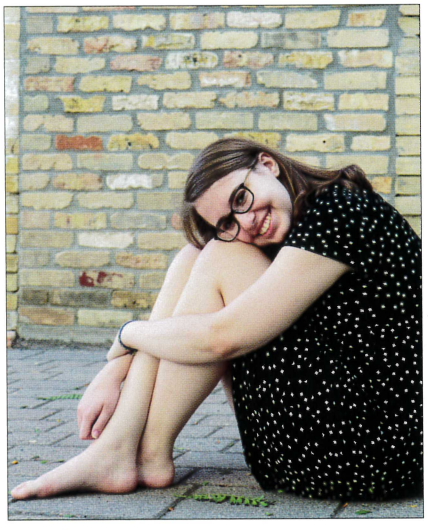
Elianah Cohen



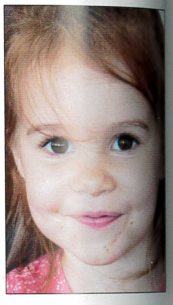


Matthew Degnan



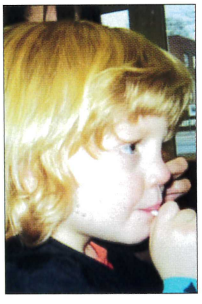


Adeline DeHarpporte





Eddie Gamble





Karla Garcia





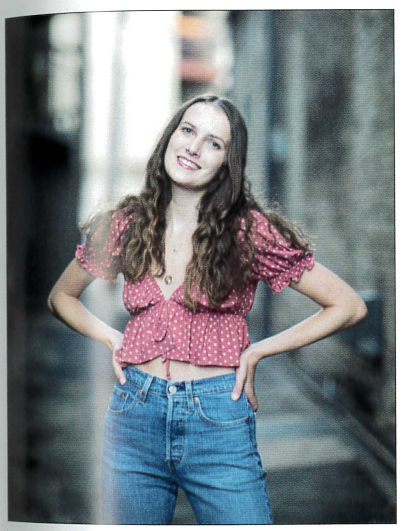
Eli Conrod-Wovcha





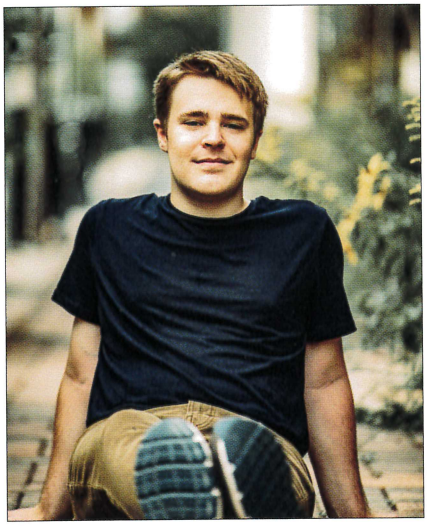
Hannah Davis-Jacobs





Eloise Duncan



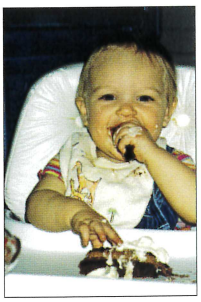


Nathan Forsberg



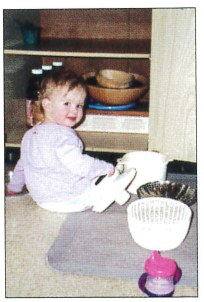


Adrienne Gaylord





Katherine Goodman





THEY WEATHER IT ALL TOGETHER. The McCoy family snaps a group shot in the snow: Dad, Clara, Stella, Nora, Mom, Violet, and Max find ways to stay close. "It's challenging to find a movie that is interesting to both an 18-year-old and a 7-year-old because we all like different things," McKoy said, "but we always make it work." (SUBMITTED PHOTO: Stella McCoy)

No matter the age, McKoy knows family means everything

BY ALI BROWNE, STAFF WRITER

Some people would accept the chaos of a big family and let sharing attention, rooms, and almost everything get to their heads. Not Stella McKoy. For her, family is everything, and she has learned that, while compromising with younger siblings can be difficult at times, she values her strong relationship with her siblings Max, Clara, Nora, and Violet.

Despite the stress of schoolwork, athletics, and work trips, the McKoy family never fails to attend weekly dinners at their grandparents' house. When Stella's mother and five siblings were little, these gatherings began and since then, have come to resemble the movie Cheaper By the Dozen with 12-13 family members around the table. While the pandemic presents challenges, they have found ways to get together safely in smaller groups: "We have a pretty big backyard, so for our dinners, we have a bonfire, and my grandpa brings his so that we can still get together and be safe," said McKoy.

While most people got sick of their families during the stay-at-home order, the McKoy family bonded over walks and got crafty making friendship bracelets and doing puzzles. Although it was forced, the extra time together was valuable.

Stella and her older brother Max have maintained the closest relationship because they are only a year and a half apart. They have learned that being there for each other makes life and its issues, no matter how small, a little less scary.

"After Clara was born, I had my own room, and I would usually go to Max's room when I got scared during the night. If either of us had to get up and go get water, we would go together because we were scared of the dark, and that made it easier," she said.

Stella and her three sisters, Clara, Nora, and Violet, are further apart in their ages, but they always have a great time together playing tennis, watching TV, or just talking. The obvious age difference between the eldest and youngest siblings can make the decision of what to watch or do more complicated. Still, Stella keeps an open mind because she has learned how to be empathetic, selfless, and a good problem solver in a house with six other people.

"It's challenging to find a movie that is interesting to both an 18-year-old and a 7-year-old because we all like different things," McKoy said, "but we always make it work."



Hayden Graff





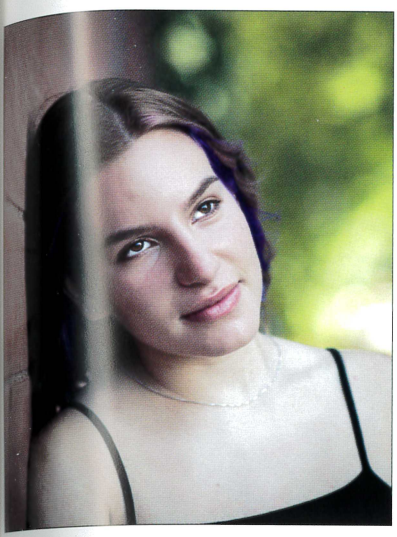
John Hall



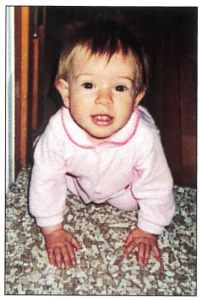


Ethan Hla





Lucia Granja





Isle Graupman





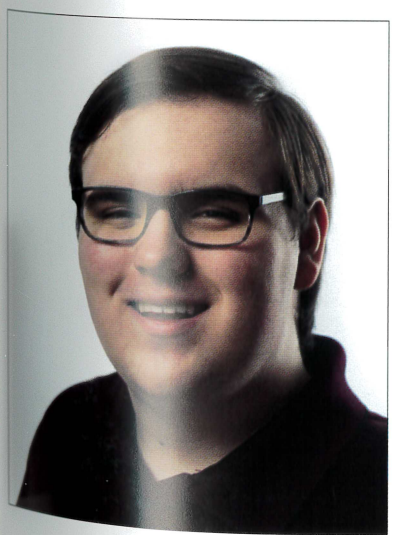
Rylan Hefner



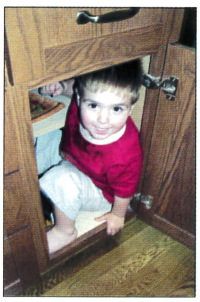


Kate Hick





Henry Hoeglund



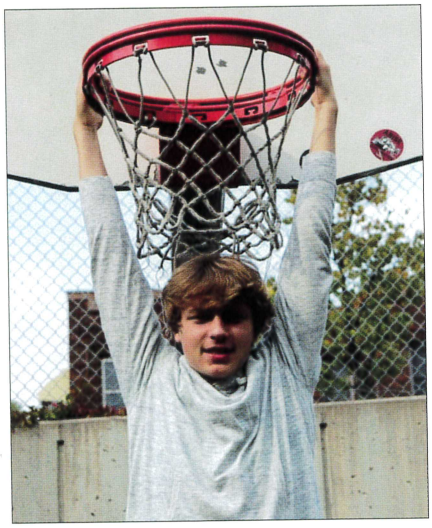


Ruby Hoeschen

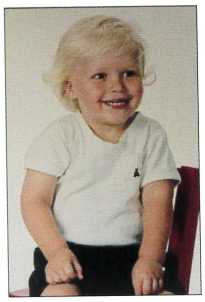


CLASS OF 2021

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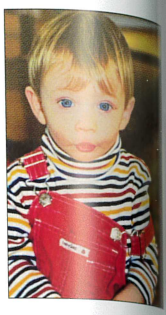


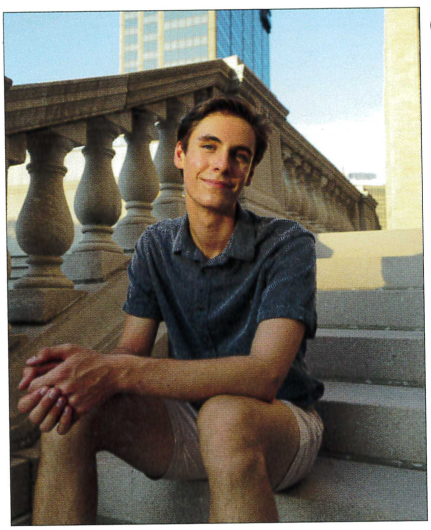
Adam Holod





Patrick Hooley





Gavin Kimmel





Sam Konstan





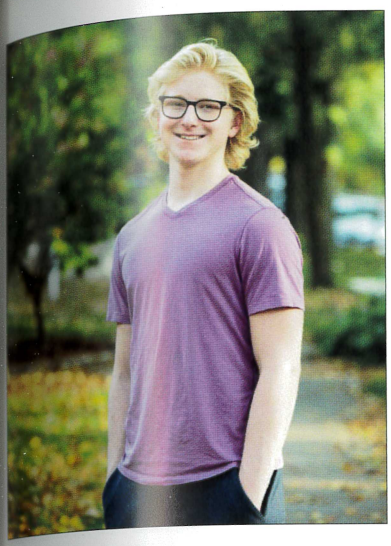
Olivia Lagos



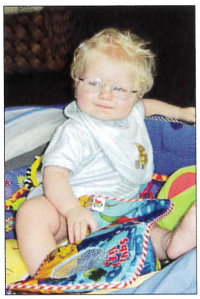


Liv Larsen



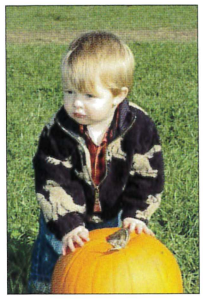


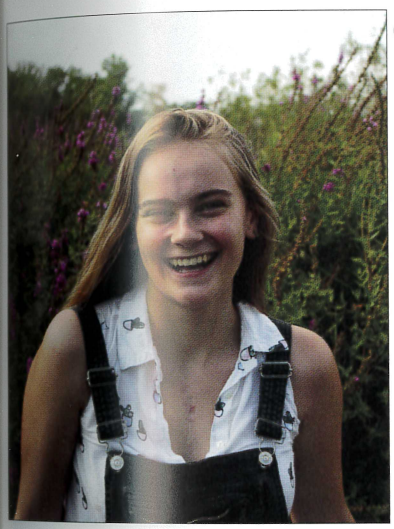
TJ Isberg





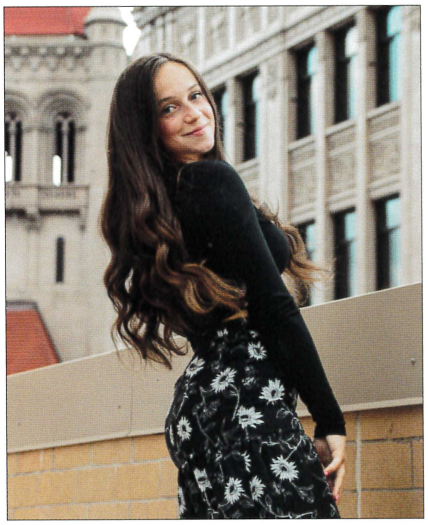
Harrison Jones





Grace Krasny





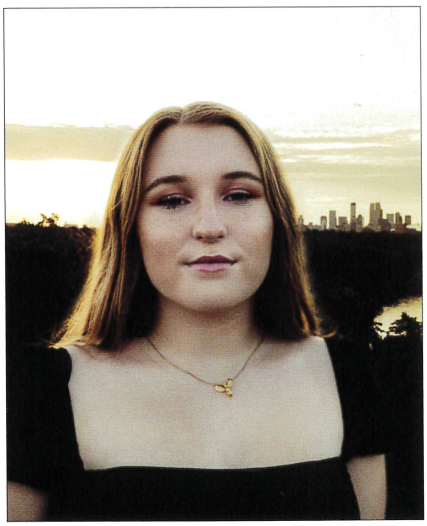
Lizzie Kristal





Nikolas Liepins





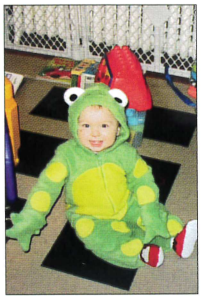
Evelyn Lillemoe

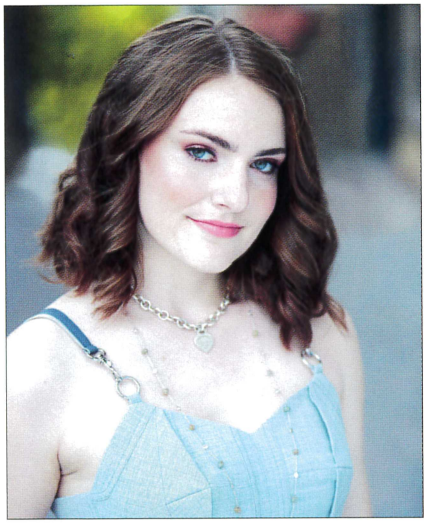


CLASS OF 2021

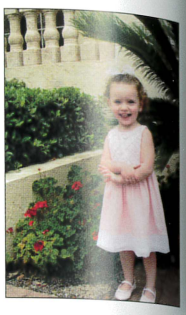


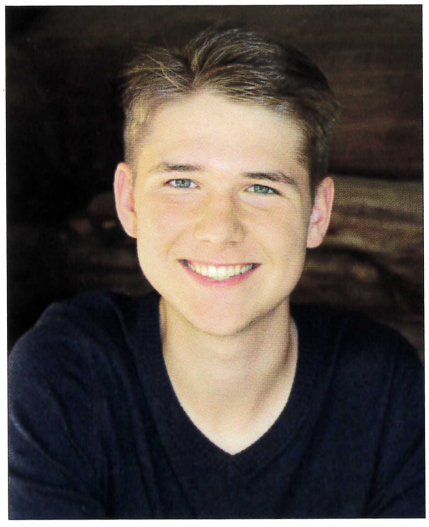
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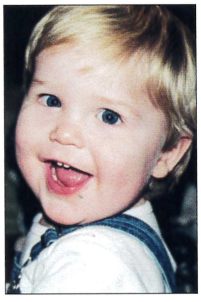


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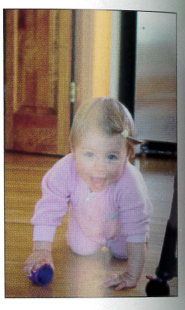


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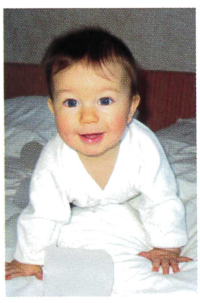


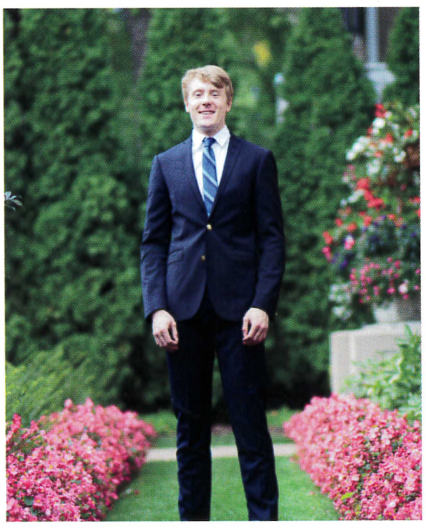
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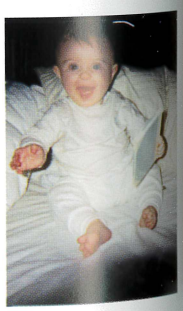


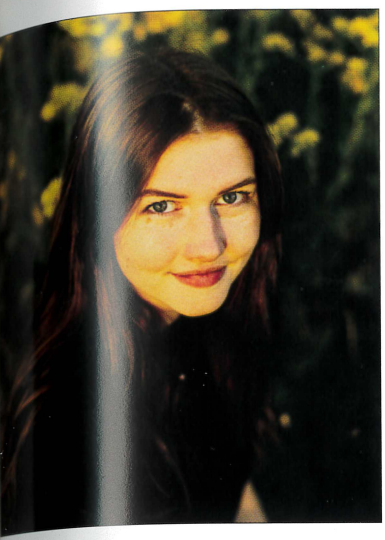
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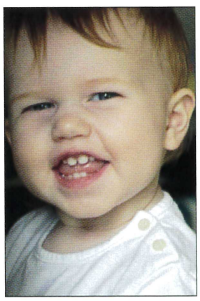


Christian McGlynn





Hannah Lorenz-Meyer





Mina Mandic





Stella McKoy





ACES DOWN THE LINE. Luka Shaker-Check has learned to take the approach he has learned playing tennis to every aspect of his life: "I'm not going to focus on trying to win, I am going to focus on doing everything right." Luka said. (SUBMITTED PHOTO: Luka Shaker-Check)

Giving 100% every day: Luka Shaker-Check

BY ANNA KREBSBACH, STAFF WRITER

Sixth grade is a year of many beginnings. For Luka Shaker-Check, that means finding love for a new sport that favors commitment, energy, and hard work. Luka began playing tennis in sixth grade from persuasion from one of his classmates and since then, the sport has provided him with many opportunities and advantages in his life.

Besides daily activities like school, homework, and cross-country, Luka finds time in his day to play the sport he loves, tennis. It has given him so many skills like critical thinking, mental and physical toughness, problem-solving, and more. He never fails to give it his all and is inspired by famous player, Raphael Nadal. Nadal displays many qualities that Luka takes to heart.

"He is an incredibly hard worker, and he never gives up. That has been very inspiring to me, and I try to take that attitude and put it into my own games and everything I do" said Luka.

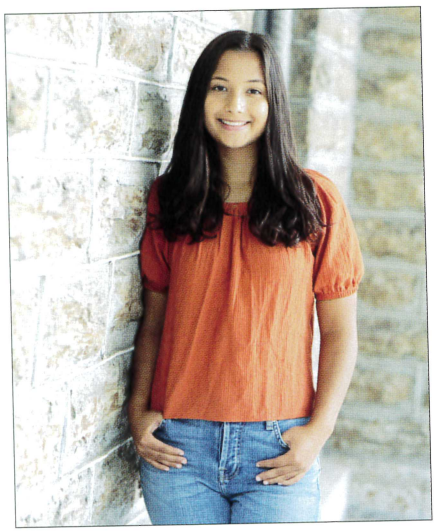
Luka's friends and teammates create stability in his life. One being his friend, Liam Lynch. They maintain a great relationship: picking up and motivating each other, and their attitudes and skills highly influence one another. The sport is a huge commitment both mentally and physically, but Luka keeps it all under control throughout the day. Going from school to cross country, then to tennis for multiple hours takes a lot of pledge, toughness, and vitality.

One of the best moments that he has had on the court was when he and Liam were playing doubles at state sophomore year. The beginning of the match was tough, and they felt they hadn't been playing the strongest or hardest. If they lose, they lose. If they win, they move forward in an attempt to win state. Positive thoughts began to flow through his mind, changing his attitude.

"I'm not going to focus on trying to win, I am going to focus on doing everything right." said Luka.

Energy and recuperation set into mind, and they ended up winning the match showing that mental strength has such an impact on how you perform physically. Luka is currently contacting coaches in preparation to play in college and hopes to make tennis a lifelong sport that he can carry with him for a long time. The things you can control on the court are your attitude and effort, and Luka gives 100 percent of that every day of his life.

CLASS OF 2021



Isabel Medrano



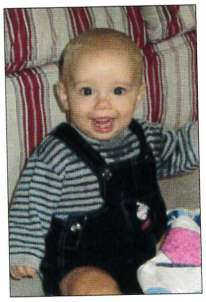


Levi Mellin





Theo Moen



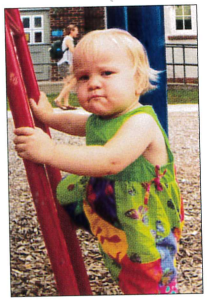


Michael Moran





Maren Ostrem



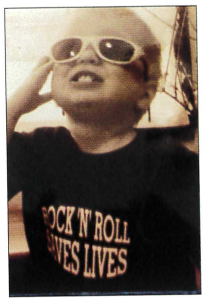


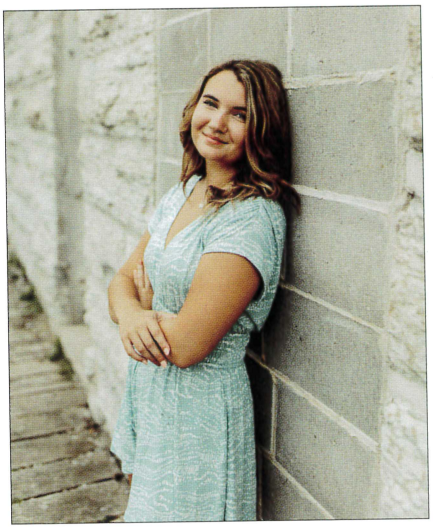
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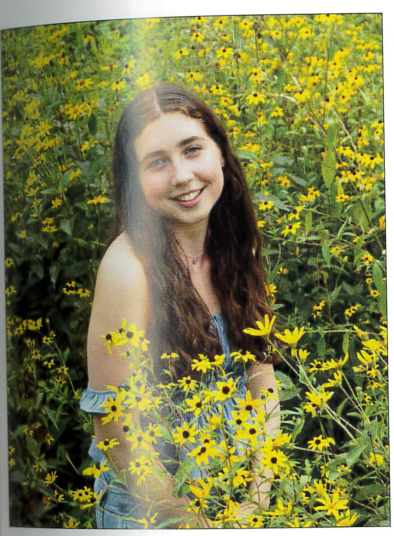
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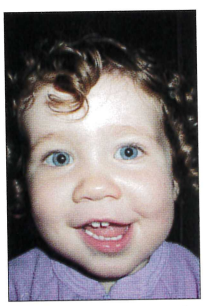


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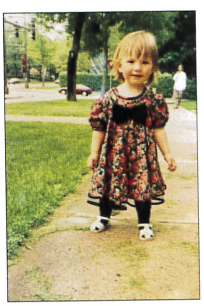


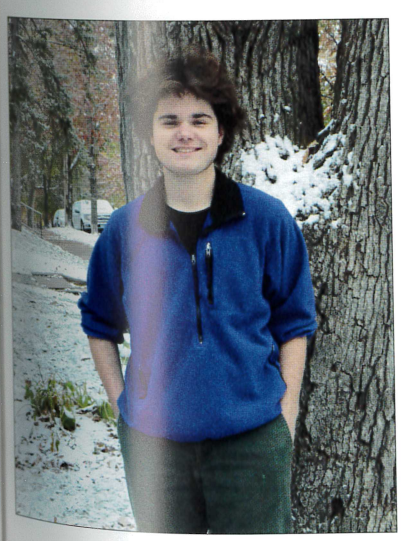
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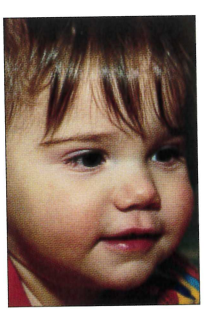


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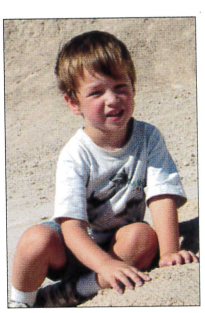


Garrett
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Tobi Polley

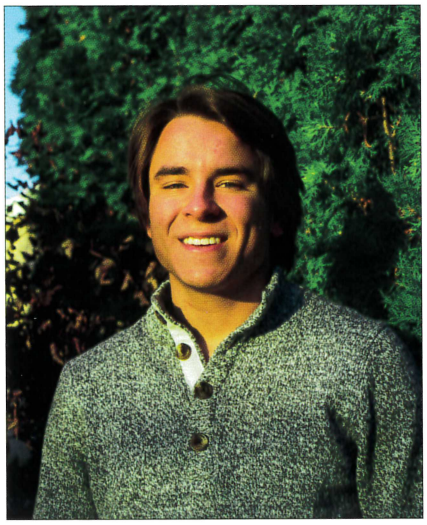


CLASS OF 2021

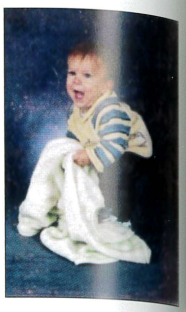


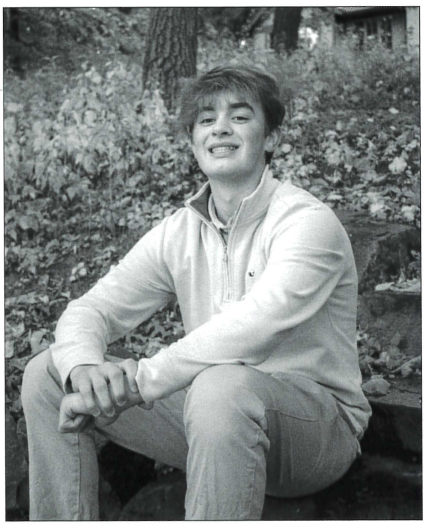
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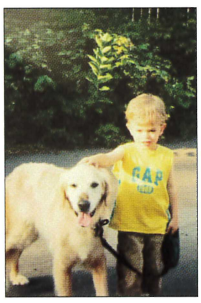


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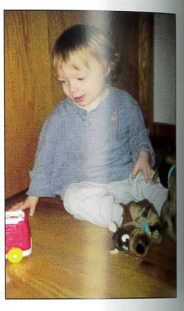


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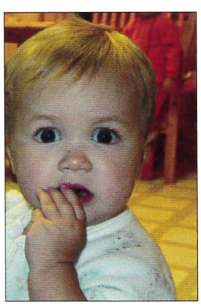


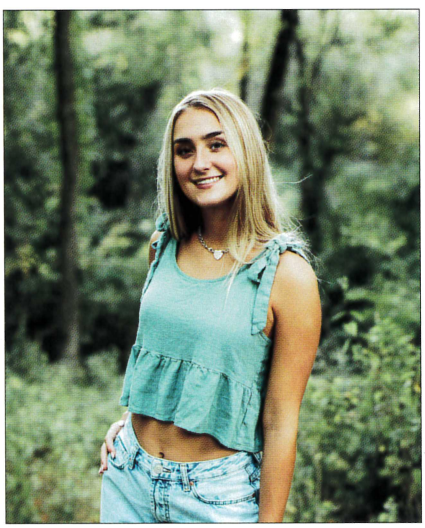
Evan Reynolds





Jennifer Ries





Saffy Rindelaub





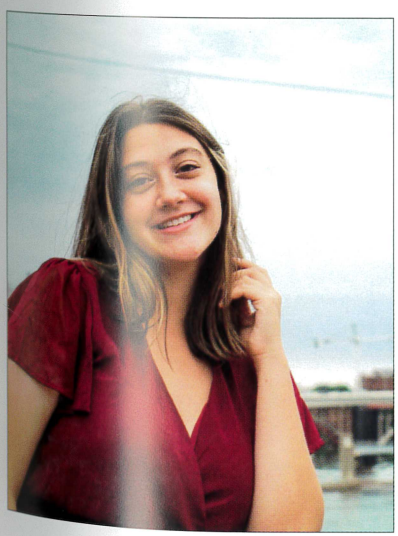
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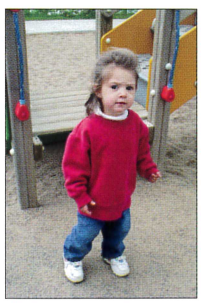


Lynn Reynolds





Annika Rock





MEET THE COACH. While Katya Sjaastad has long been known for her talent as a gymnast, she's been a coach for most of high school. "I ran my own classes, so I got to come up with lesson plans and organize classes," she said.
(SUBMITTED PHOTO: Katya Sjaastad)

On the mat or the board, Sjaastad masters awareness in the air

BY MILKII TIGRO, STAFF WRITER

Katya Sjaastad: Senior. Gymnast. Coach? Sjaastad started coaching gymnastics in 9th grade until senior year at Saint Paul Community Education Gymnastics at Central High School from 8-noon on Saturdays. It's been a big part of her weekly life and she enjoys coaching gymnastics because she likes working with younger kids.

As a coach she helps the kids out with techniques, expand their skills, and most importantly make sure they enjoy gymnastics and have fun.

Sjaastad has been practicing gymnastics since fourth grade and she started expressing interest in coaching when her coach encouraged her to. During practices, Katya started to assist her coach and inherit some skills. "She made it easy for me to want to coach," Sjaastad said.

One of Sjaastad's achievements was being promoted a head coach during sophomore year: "I ran my own classes, so I got to come up with lesson plans and organize classes," said Sjaastad.

Coaching also helped her develop communication skills with the kids and their parents: "It's always been easy to talk and connect with the little kids, but when I have to talk to the parents about rules, dates, and what's happening with classes it's a lot more intimidating, so for me that's been a huge accomplishment, is getting better at talking to adults" Sjaastad added.

Unfortunately, Sjaastad hasn't been able to coach senior year due to the pandemic so she joined SPARKS Girls Swim and Dive and started diving. "I really needed a place to be active and mentally challenged" Sjasstad said. "There's a lot of similarities and differences to gymnastics: the awareness in the air, but the approach is very different" Sjaastad added.

Sjaastad plans to return to coaching in the future and wants to help assist a gymnastics team in college.

CLASS OF 2021



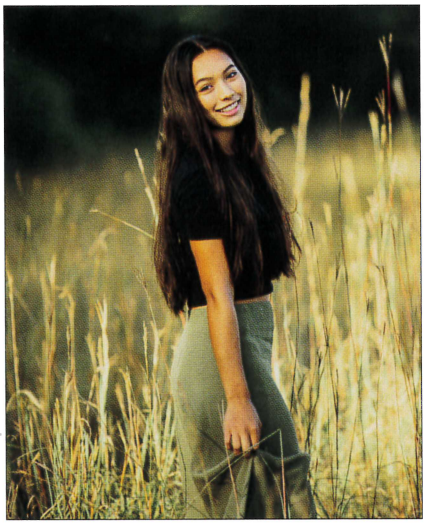
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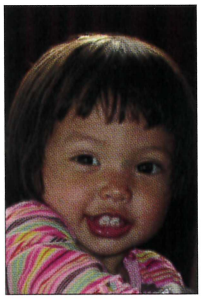


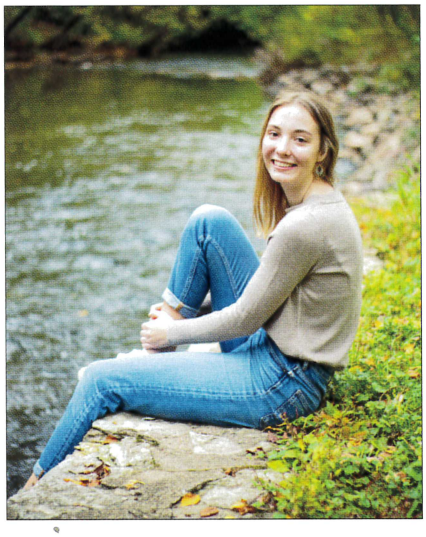
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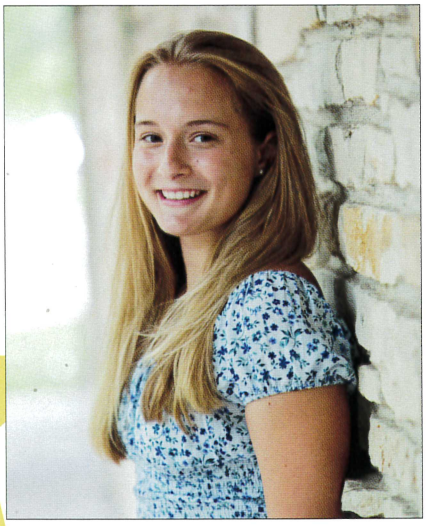
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Julia Scott



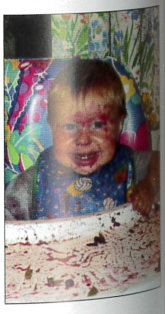


Katya Sjaastad





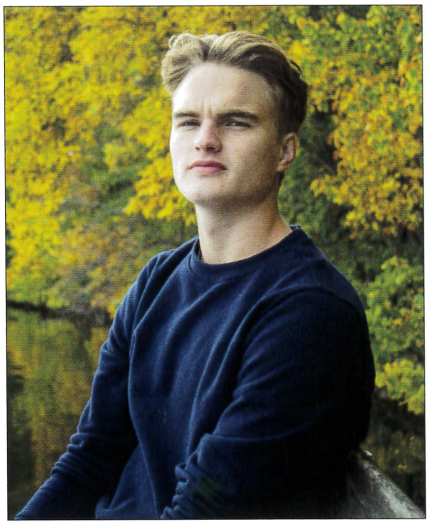
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Pilar Saavedra-Weis





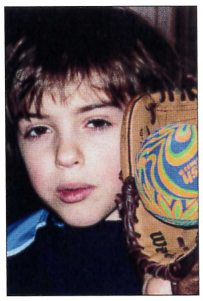
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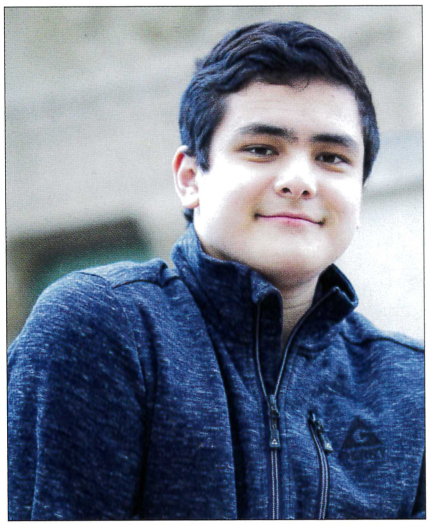


Will Schavee

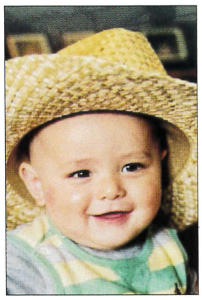


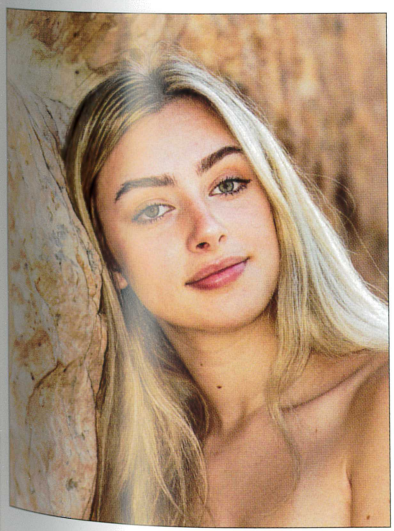
Luka Shaker-Check



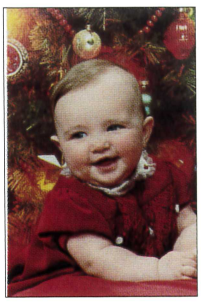


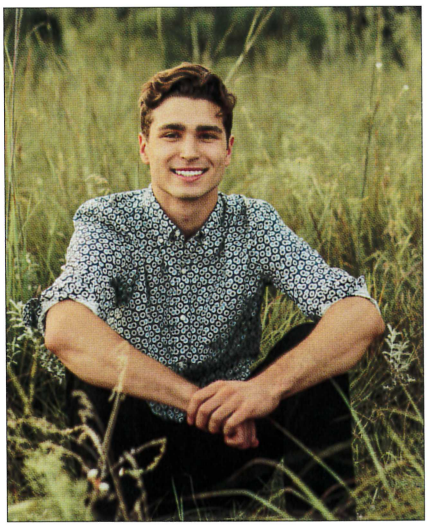
Will Shrestha





Madelyn St. Marie





Ivan Starchook





WIN. LOSE. DRAW. Frank Tsiouvaras and his siblings - Niko, Laura, Elizabeth, and Samantha (pictured with Frank, far right) - are spread across the U.S. but when they are home, they love to play cards. "We play Hearts, 21, Down The River, and all the classics," he said. (SUBMITTED PHOTO: Frank Tsiouvaras)

For Frank Tsiouvaras, Kentucky roads take him home

BY GEORGE PELTIER, STAFF WRITER

Frank Tsiouvaras joined the Class of 2021 last year after he moved here from Kentucky. For the holidays and some weekends, Tsiouvaras goes to his family's home in Kentucky to be with his family. His three older sisters, Laura, Elizabeth, and Samantha, and his older brother, Niko all travel home too.

Tsiouvaras' siblings have migrated all over the U.S. from Kentucky. His brother is in California for law school, Laura in Kentucky for dental school, Elizabeth in Philadelphia, and Samantha in Kentucky but hours from her parents home.

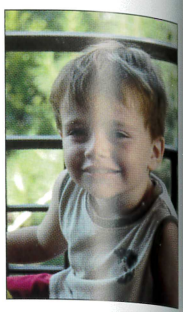
The siblings have a tradition of playing cards when they are all home: "We play Hearts, 21, Down The River, and all the other classics ones, for like, 1 to 2 hours," he said.

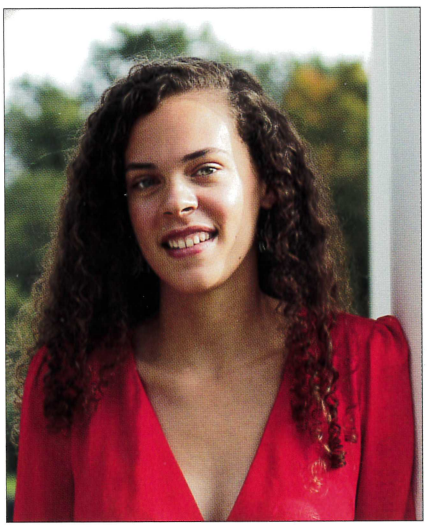
"Playing cards with my siblings is a great way to hang out and be with them because I don't get to see them as much as I like... the games can get a little heated though," Tsiouvaras said.

Tsiouvaras and his siblings also hike mountains in Kentucky and in Colorado - the stress free alternative to playing cards.



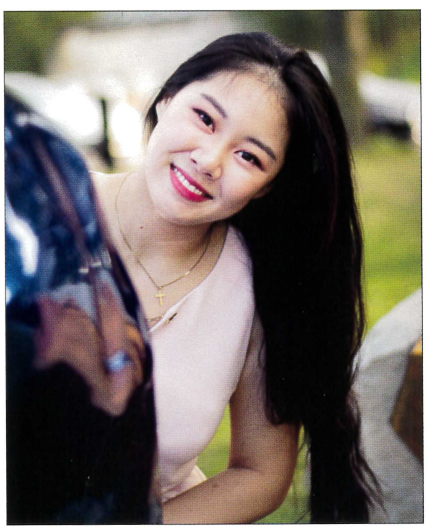
Sean Ege Stephenson





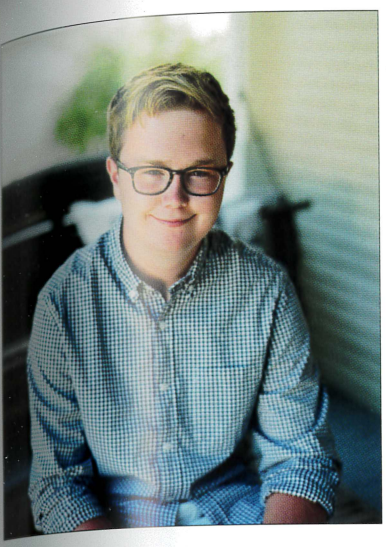
Gabriella Thompson



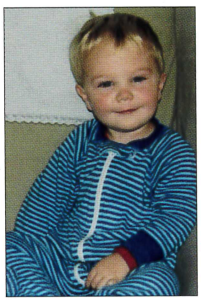


Anja Trierweiler



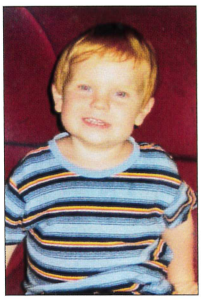


Finn Tait



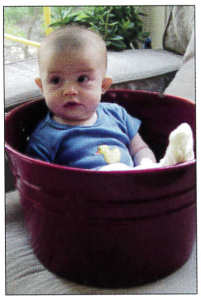


Evan Thissen





Gracie Tilney-Kaemmer



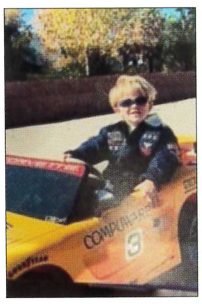


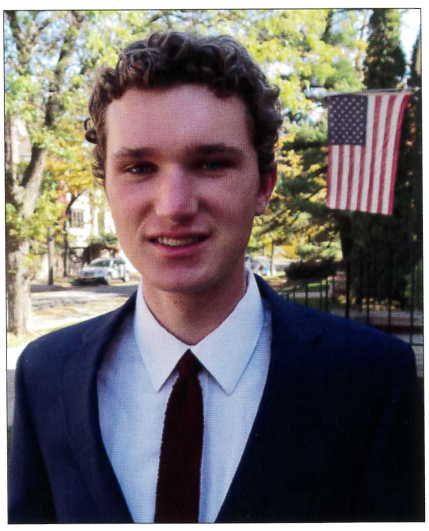
Isabel Toghramadjian





Frank Tsiouvaras





Eugene Tunney

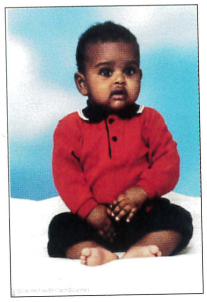


CLASS OF 2021

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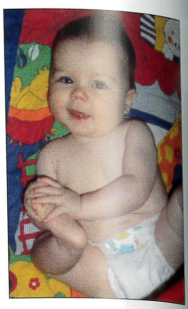


Ahmed Umer





Bobby Verhey



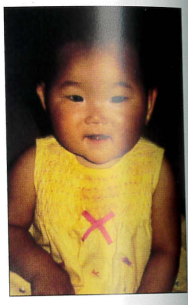


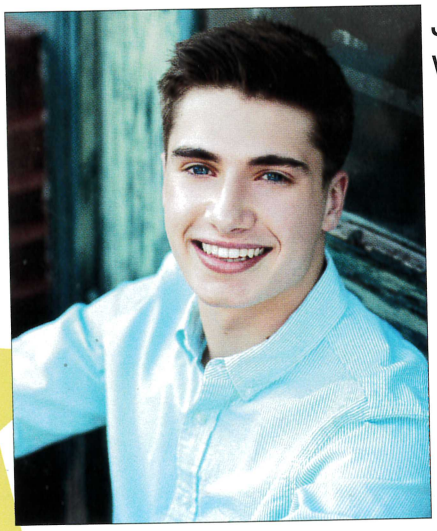
Milo Waltenbaugh



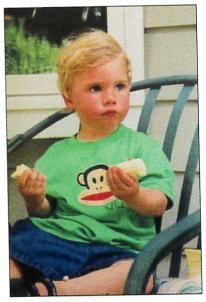


Jasmine White





Jax Wittenberg





Isabelle Wolpert

