

The Spotlight

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Goodbye

By Emma Barnard

After a long and interesting year, we have finally come to the last issue of *The Spotlight* Vol. 70. We've reported on COVID, school events, and even played April Fools Day pranks! It is my sincere hope that *The Spotlight* has brought some joy and fun into your life; I know it has for me. In a year fraught with many changes and confusion, *The Spotlight* has been a constant. It's been a blessing being the editor and I am beyond grateful for the opportunity and beyond proud of what we've produced this year. So, from the 2021 *Spotlight* staff, Goodbye.

Future College Stars

By Cathy Doherty and Katie Gareau

As the class of 2021 nears their graduation, each of them has begun to think about the next phase in their lives. Many Bulldogs from this class are going on to continue their athletic careers while also balancing academics. We interviewed three seniors who will be participating in Division One athletics and asked them a few questions before they depart on their journeys.

Casey Schmidt- Diving at New Mexico State University

When did you start playing your sport?

“I actually started the summer before junior year, so not even two years ago.”

What are you looking forward to most about playing your sport in college?

“I am looking forward to meeting my new teammates who are from all over the US (and a couple from out of the country). I’m also excited to experience a new culture and warm weather, and obviously to take my competition to the next level.”

What does your training for next year look like?

“I practice three hours every night and one hour in the morning twice a week.”

What will you miss the most about playing your sport for Olmsted Falls?

“I am going to miss the community feel that you get at every Olmsted Falls sporting event. I am going to miss knowing everyone who is in the stands and seeing all the familiar faces.”



Lindsey LaPinta- Volleyball at Bowling Green University

When did you start playing your sport?

“I started playing volleyball when I was 8 years old because I would always watch my older sister play and I wanted to be like her.”

What are you looking forward to most about playing your sport in college?

“I’m excited to meet so many new people and make new relationships while also getting to compete at a high level. I also heard the pregame meals are pretty good so I’d be lying if I said I wasn’t excited for that too.”

What does your training for next year look like?

“I leave for college on July 12, and my weeks during the summer and fall will be very full. I get to work with an individual strength coach at BGSU all summer and into the season to prepare to play my first game.”

What will you miss the most about playing your sport for Olmsted Falls?

“I think I will always miss the feeling of playing next to my best friends in front of the community. It’s something about performing in front of your hometown that is so special, and having so many people you know come out to support you is the best feeling in the world.”



Douglas Kukura- Cross Country at Jacksonville University

When did you start playing your sport?

“I started running cross country in 2015-my seventh grade year.”

What are you looking forward to most about playing your sport in college?

“I am just very grateful to have the opportunity to continue playing a sport that I love.”

What does your training for next year look like?

“Three months of lots of buildup mileage, which leads into more intense speed training in the fall.”

What will you miss the most about playing your sport for Olmsted Falls?

“I will certainly miss having the support and company of my teammates that I’ve been running alongside for the past six years.”



Academic Recognition

By Samantha Poore

As high school seniors prepare for graduation, many have earned individual recognitions and awards. Here is a brief look at just a few of those honorable mentions.

Will Distin

Will is a National Merit Semi-Finalist, meaning that he scored within the top 1% on the PSAT in the United States. He is thankful for the recognition and generous scholarship.

1)What are your future plans for after high school?

“After high school, I plan to attend Miami University and major in accounting. I guess there’s not a whole lot to it.”

2)Do you have a favorite high school memory?

“My favorite memory is breaking a beaker during a chemistry lab, and then breaking another beaker while re-doing the same lab. I thought it was hilarious for some reason but my teacher might not have felt the same way.”

3)Which school year was the best?

“I think the best year for me was my junior year, specifically during quarantine. It was the most stress-free my life has ever been and felt nice to have that much time off. I could wake up whenever I wanted and it was just very relaxing. It also gave me a chance to develop new interests and learn new things.”

4)Favorite class you’ve taken at OFHS?

“My favorite class I’ve taken here has probably been AP Euro. It’s the first class in all of high school that I’ve had the majority of my friends in. It was a really hard class though, but I think it prepared me well for classes I might take in college.”



Noah Barratt

Noah was nominated by teachers to receive the Phi Beta Kappa award. As a result, Noah will be one of the speakers at graduation and is incredibly grateful for the opportunity and honorable recognition.

1)What are your future plans for after high school?

“I’m attending Georgetown University next year to study government and economics. I hope to go on to law school after college.”

2)Do you have a favorite high school memory?

“My favorite high school memory is the eight-game win streak my lacrosse team had to start off this season.”

3)Which school year was the best?

“I would say senior year has been my favorite year, so any underclassmen reading this have something to look forward to!”

4)Favorite class you’ve taken at OFHS?

“My favorite class was probably AP US History. I learned a lot and Dr. Mercer always kept it fun.”



Manny Jauregui

Manny received an award from the National Hispanic Recognition Program in response to his exceptional performance on the PSAT.

1)What are your future plans for after high school?

“I plan to attend The Ohio State University to major in Mechanical Engineering.”

2)Do you have a favorite high school memory?

“I enjoyed talking with Mrs. Cumming about ants and other random things.”

3)Which school year was the best?

“Junior.”

4)Favorite class you’ve taken at OFHS?

“Honors Chemistry.”



Senior Superlatives

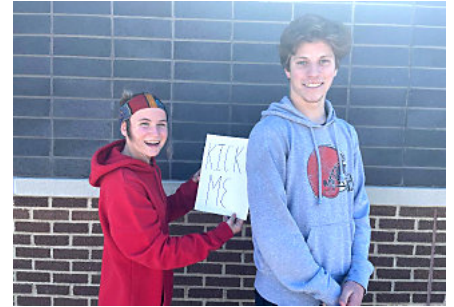
By Rachel Korba



Most Athletic:
Andrew Parkowski & Mikayla Ellis



Worst Drivers:
Thomas Vas & Anna Pesch



Class Clowns:
Chris Mills & Katie Shaw



Born in the Wrong Decade:
Stanley Stone & Daisy Watts



Most Artistic:
Raymond Oster & Fallon Murray



Most Musical:
Theo Humphrey & Claire Oliver



Best Dressed:
Connor Sweeney & Leah Kraft



Most Likely to be Late:
Alex Kerkey & Angie Abramovich



Biggest Flirts:
Jimmy Cooney & Ashley Keener



Most Spirited:
Carson Balfour & Keeley Patton



Best Hair:
Nolan Kozub & Morgan Demooy



Biggest Glow Up:
Kyle Neckar & Samantha Hendrix



Most Likely to Succeed:
Noah Barratt & Amanda Wu



Social Butterflies:
Savi Sisko & Skylar Marschall-Reid



Most Likely to Own 17 Cats:
Brain Drobnak & Alexis Wendling



Most Likely to Become a Pro Chef:
Michael Hollenbeck & Caroline Lockhart



Most Likely to Stay in Olmsted Falls:
Cody Winland & Becca Johnson

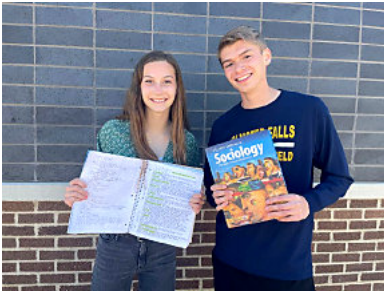


Most Likely to be ID'd at 30:
Anthony Lyons & Joy Hannah

Newspaper Staff

Emma Barnard-Editor
Hadley Allen
Katie Clearly
Cathy Doherty
Sam Gaba
Katie Gareau
Ellie Goetz
Rachel Korba
Samantha Poore
Cassey Schmidt
Claire Wiggernhorn

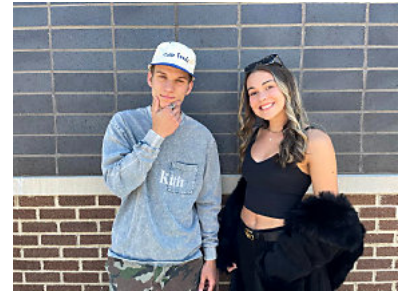
Senior Superlatives Cont.



Most Likely to Ruin the Grade Curve:
Hank Long & Jordan Fusco



Best Eyes:
Luke Gillette & Tate Blain



Most Likely to be Famous:
Alister White & Brittany Roman



Cutest Couple:
Katelyn Dooling & Abby Flynn



Best Bromance:
Simon Skoutas & Sherif Nagiub



Best Gal-Pals:
Cathy Doherty & Katie Gareau

The World like it was when the class of 2021 was born

By Claire Wiggernhorn

2002&2003

From the cost of bread being \$1.01 to the cost of gas being \$1.35, lots of things have changed since 2002 and 2003. You probably don't remember what the world around you looked like. Jennifer Aniston, Brad Pitt, and Michael Jordan ruled the media world. The New England Patriots won their first of many Super Bowls. American Idol, Survivor, and Friends could be found on everyone's TVs. The movie theaters were packed with people watching *Spider-Man*, *Ice Age*, and *Finding Nemo* for the first time. Everyone had low-rise jeans, trucker hats and tube tops. Without apps like Spotify, people had to download songs; in 2003, Apple released iTunes and sold 10 million songs in the first four months. Toys R Us making over \$11.07 billion proved to be on every kid's birthday and Christmas lists. The songs "Complicated" by Avril Lavigne, "Lose Yourself" by Eminem, and "Bring Me Back To Life" by Evanescence were on everyone's iPods. If you seem to not remember any of this... well, don't feel bad! You were just a baby!

You know you're a senior when...

By Ellie Goetz and Sam Gaba

There's a term that many seniors identify with as the final year of high school comes to an end: senioritis. It's the time when assignments start to look like "I already got into college" and getting up in the morning looks like "I'll just go back to bed." But sometimes, it's less than procrastination and stress, and more like small problems that seem just so difficult. So you know you're a senior when...

"You know you're a senior when you start to enjoy coming to school in the morning." - Rylie Ives

"You know you're a senior when you only spend four periods a day in school." - Hank Long

"You know you're a senior when you ask the teacher if you can go outside for class." - Alexis Wendling

"You know you're a senior when you can count the number of times you checked your grades on one hand." - George Kerg

"You know you're a senior when you start to realize you are doing stuff for the last time in high school." - Colin Clark

"You know you're a senior when you get to wear white instead of yellow for color wars." -Holly Keller

"You know you're a senior when you don't know any underclassmen." -Caroline Gardner

"You know you're a senior when you've spent your last week of high school watching various movies in all your classes because there's nothing left to do." - Rebecca Abbott

Senior Wills

By Katie Cleary and Hadley Allen

I, Grace Simon, will Sara Glover my car. Never crash, and always make Paige and Mia sit in the back.

I, Fallon Murray, was gonna will my ability to drive to Penny Meredyk but she didn't even show up to school my entire senior year so never mind.

I, Claire Oliver, will my awesome backstage dancing skills to Madison Podojil and Audra Kaminski.

I, Ellie Goetz, will Samantha Gaba my chronic depression.

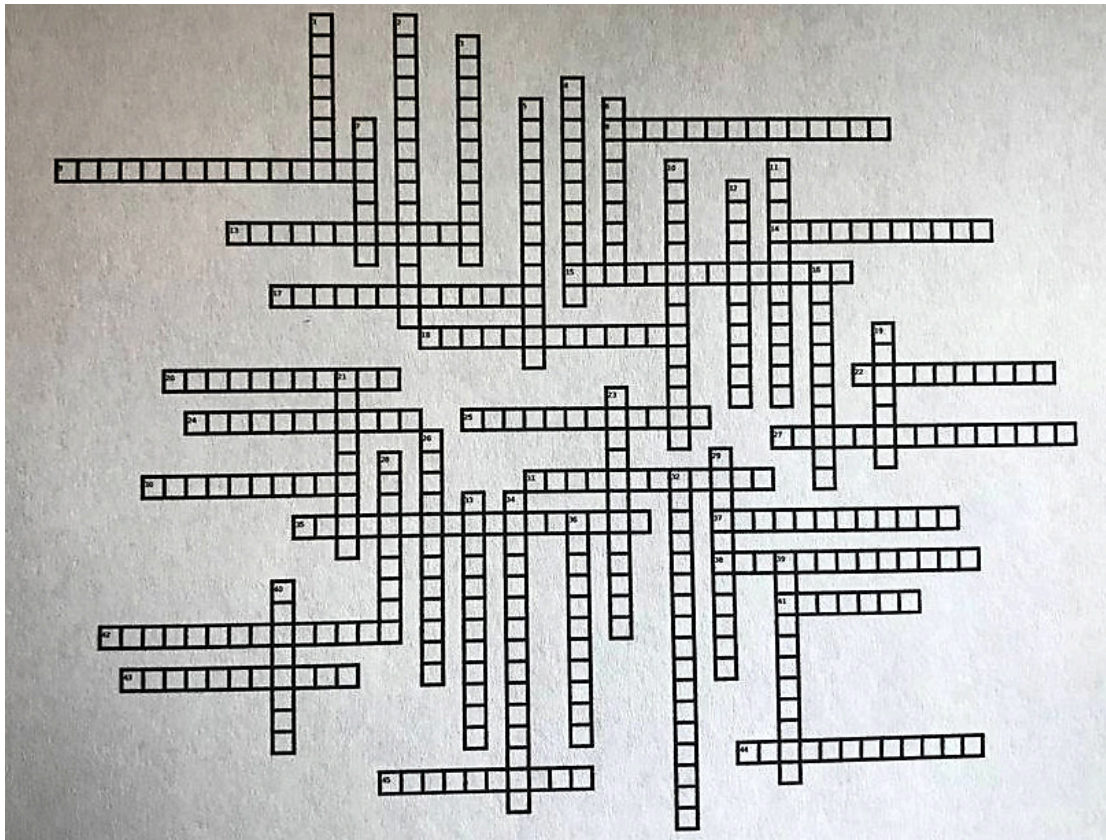
I, Casey Schmidt, will my infamous cowbell to Sam Backus... run fast and kick grass!

I, Carson Balfour, will Aaron Katitus my duty as captain of the basketball team because somebody's got to run the show.

I, Luke Gillette, will Sean Gillette my license plate WUTS UP.

Senior Crossword Puzzle

By Casey Schmidt



DOWN:

1. She is everyone's favorite high jumper
2. Her twin brother is Cainan
3. Daughter of the superintendent
4. Her twin sister's name is Brenda
5. Every substitute teacher has mixed his name up for a spice
6. She has a strange addiction to hamburgers
7. Playing football for Baldwin Wallace next year
10. Golden Bullette with golden curly hair
11. Her name is a southern state that's known for its peaches
12. Playing soccer for the University of Tennessee next year
16. His last name is a color
19. His dad is a math teacher at the high school
21. She was voted as the worst driver
23. She holds both diving school records
26. His last name is another word for a rock
28. Known for his truck and mullet
29. He is your 2021 biggest flirt
32. He is commonly known as "fern"
33. Her twin brother's name is Jason
34. Known by most as "Mil"
36. She has been first in alphabetical order for the last 12 years
39. He is known for his luscious red hair
40. His last name is the opposite of "short"

ACROSS:

8. His mom took group photos for the school a couple weeks ago
9. She ran the 1200 in the school record breaking distance medley
13. She is the Rho Kappa president
14. He goes by Grubby
15. Playing volleyball for BGSU next year
17. He is one of the band presidents who plays trumpet
18. He is a future pilot
20. Her last name is a synonym for "pointy"
22. And "GO BULLDOGS!!!!"
24. She is the head newspaper editor
25. Your senior class president
27. Known for playing his saxophone
30. He spray painted a banana on his parking spot
31. Her last name is everyone's least favorite activity in English class
35. He can whip us up a nice home cooked meal
37. She ran the 800 in the school record breaking distance medley
38. Playing baseball at John Carroll next year
41. He is everyone's favorite high jumper
42. Her mom is a history teacher at the high school
43. Attending the University of Alabama in the fall
44. Senior class secretary
45. Her first name is a white and yellow flower