

This is America

2020-2021

Coronavirus: Latest news on the Covid-19 global pandemic

As we anxiously await the approved vaccines for COVID-19 and the life-saving potential of face coverings simply can't be overstated. I know that many of you have heard this message, and, unfortunately, mask-wearing has been tangled up in political personal divisions in our country.

Sorry
WE'RE
CLOSED

**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**

Benson High School

BLACK
LIVES
MATTER

USE YOUR
WHITE PRIVILEGE
TO

WE WON'T BE
SILENCED

STOP
KILLING
BLACK
PEOPLE

BLACK
LIVES
MATTER

Portland
Oregon

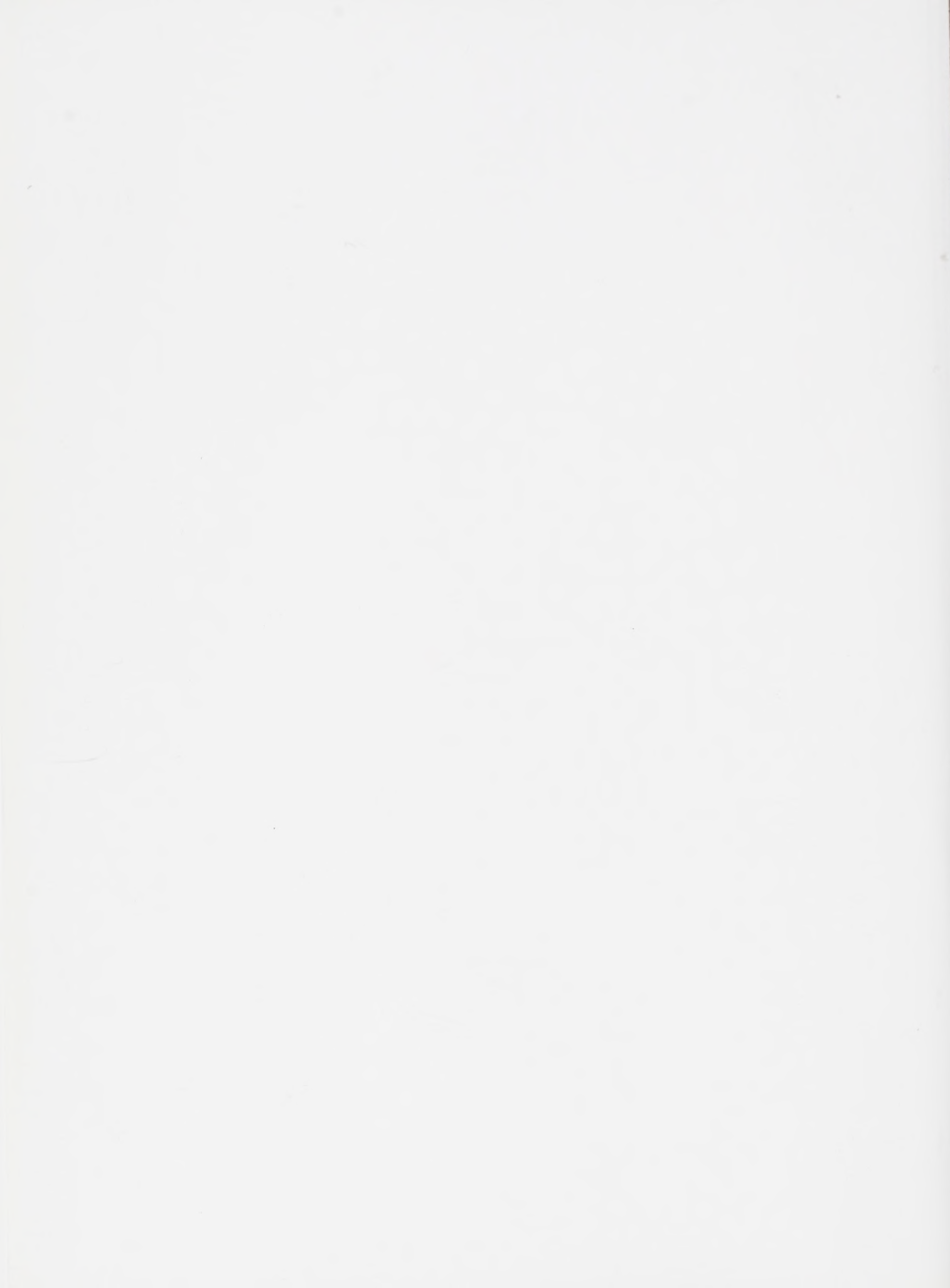
BAGDAD

THERE'S NO PLACE
LIKE HOME

BLACK

LIVES

MATTER





A year unlike any other.



germ-X

moisturizing
original
hand
sanitizer



KILLS 99.99% OF GERMS*



PHOTOS BY CALEB WASHINGTON

Face Coverings Could Save 130,000 American Lives from COVID-19 by March

Total estimated COVID-19 deaths per million people, Sep 7, 2020



SHEAS SHOTS



TOGETHER WE CAN SAVE LIVES





ART BY TATE HUDSON AND CIRRUS FULLER





PHOTOS BY CIRRUS FULLER

THIS IS AMERICA

Benson Polytechnic High School
2020/2021

By Thy Nguyen



2020 was a whirlwind of emotions that shaped all of our lives for better or for worse. It was a year none of us imagined would happen in our lifetime.

Making the headlines over and over again were the words, "Is this America?". As young people, we are uniquely situated between the past and the future, with discerning lenses onto what is going on in our community and our nation. This year, more than any other, we could not ignore the current events to focus solely on sports, friends, school, or family. We, like everyone else, had to take a long look at the state of our country.

A pandemic broke out across the globe, resorting us to a more digital way of learning and living. The Black Lives Matter Movement shook the world more than ever. While political uprisings grew rampant, so did the wildfires on the west coast. By the end of the year, over four million acres were burned, about 443 thousand people died from COVID-19 - and counting -, and a disproportionate amount of African Americans died from racial profiling.

In order to acknowledge these events, this yearbook aims to create something physical in a digital world, something that we can look back on and remember this year as it was for Benson High School students, something we can hopefully look at and think, "That was America."

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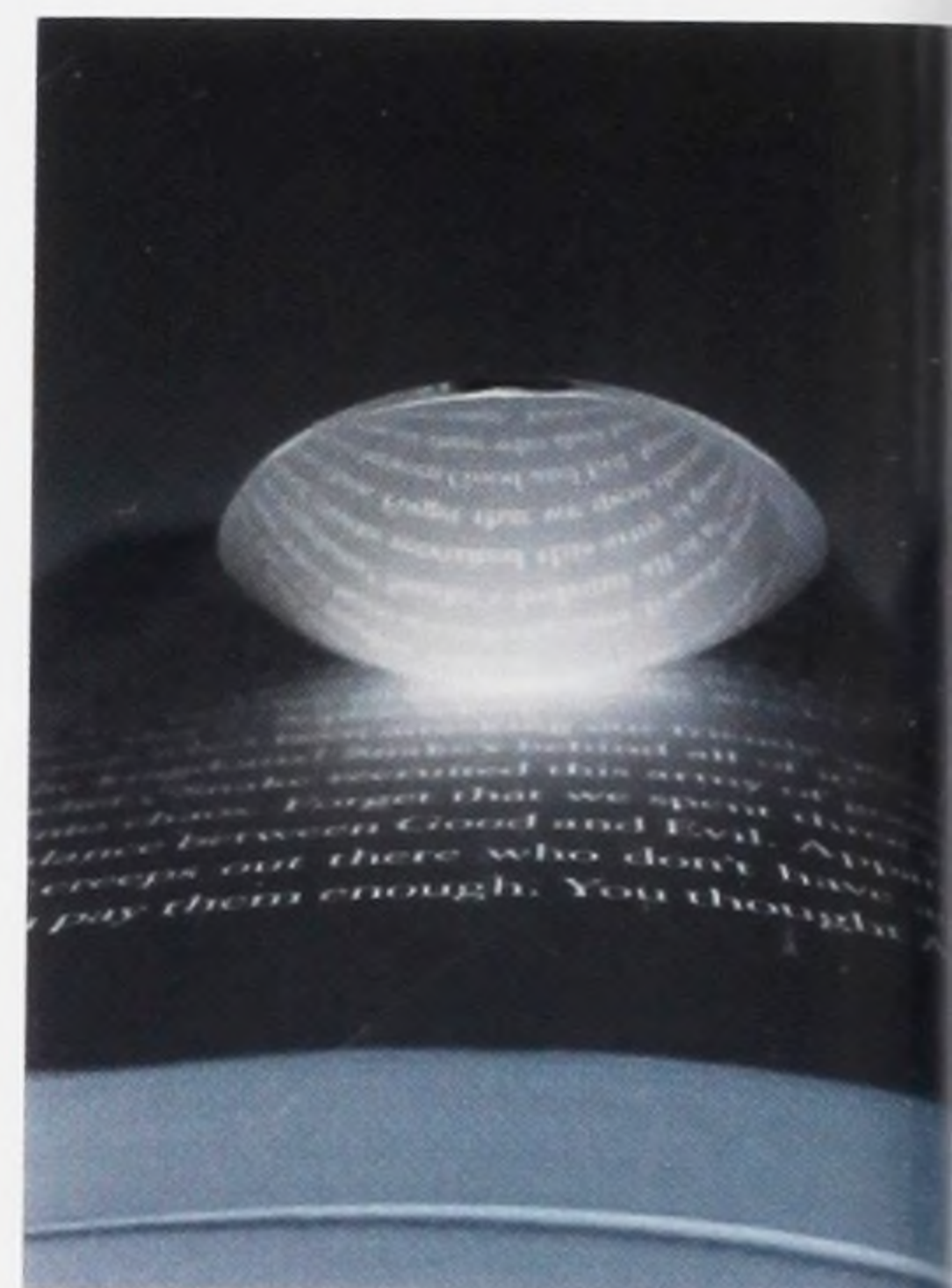
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COVER COLLAGE BY TATE HUDSON AND CIRRUS FULLER. PAINTING BY MILAN HAWK

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RETIREEES

2020-2021



**BLACK LIVES MATTER IS
A DECENTRALIZED
POLITICAL AND SOCIAL
MOVEMENT ADVOCATING
FOR NON-VIOLENT CIVIL
DISOBEDIENCE IN
PROTEST AGAINST
POLICE BRUTALITY
INCIDENTS AND RACIALLY
MOTIVATED VIOLENCE
AGAINST BLACK PEOPLE.**



Black Lives Matter (BLM) is a decentralized non-violent civil disobedience in protest against violence against black people.

TRINITY WARREN

The movement started after the killing of Trayvon Martin on February 26th, 2012. A 17-yr-old black man is walking home from 7-Eleven with his hood up in Sanford, Florida. Who was his killer? George Zimmerman, a white man, serving as a coordinator of the neighborhood watch. George Zimmerman went unarrested and walked a free man for forty-five days after Martin's death. On July 13th, 2013, Zimmerman was found not guilty. Thousands of people felt the pain and sadness of the systematic racism and the justice system's injustice.

In the year of 2020, we have lost many innocent African- Americans during this deadly Covid-19 pandemic because of the inferior medical treatment that black people get compared to white people.

The pandemic is not the only reason Black people are unnecessarily losing their lives. This year, we mourned Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, and Elijah McClain, and countless others to the hands of racism and police officers.

Fact.

Why is that so tricky for some people to understand? It is not a threat. It does not mean that the lives of white people and others do not matter. It does not mean that the lives of honorable, hardworking police officers do not matter.

Black Lives Matter is simply an effort, sometimes even a demand, that other people know, acknowledge, accept, and respect that Black lives matter.

political and social movement advocating for
police brutality incidents and racially motivated

Why do they matter?

That is the question everyone wants to
know the answer to.

**Why do you kill us? Why do you
hurt us? Why do you beat us? WHY
ARE WE A THREAT?**

M

America as a
country has
not lived up to
the fact:
"These truths
are
self-evident
that all men
and women
are created
equal." (The
U.S.
Constitution)

In an interview with CNN, George Floyd's four-year-old daughter spoke and told the press that she is scared to walk outside even with her mother just because of her father's traumatic death. Children are now afraid to go outside their own homes, praying they will get back inside their homes. This year, people worldwide in places such as France, Germany, England, UK, New Zealand, and Africa have been protesting for equality and the "Black Lives Matter Movement."

People have been on the front lines

speaking for people who cannot
be vocal and present. Even though
we are in a global pandemic, it will
not keep people from fighting for
equality.

This year in Benson, the majority of
classes, clubs, and staff have created
open and safe spaces for the
students of color to express how
they feel without judgment or
shame. In Benson, we have shown
that Black Lives Matter always.
With the diversity and the support of
our Principal and Staff, we will
never feel alone.

For this story, I had interviews with
Principal Wilson, Ms. Kennedy, Mr.
Catabay, and Ms. Irma to receive
some of their thoughts and feelings
on what BLM means to them.

Mr. Wilson was named High School Principal of the year by "the Oregon Association of Secondary School Administrators (OASSA) and the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators (COSA)." He has been the principal at Benson High School for seven years. Equality and education mean everything to him in Benson, and as a Black leader in the community, I had to ask,

"What does BLM mean to you"?

"BLM means to me that Black individuals who have been marginalized, looked past and persecuted for hundreds of years, now have a mechanism of getting our voices heard all around the world. It is telling the world that I, as a person of color, stand for something in this society and that my voice, my opinion and my race matters."

- Mr. C. Wilson.

That robust response is an example that shows why BLM is so essential. It shows that young voices like mine have the chance to show the world that BLM does reflect on most lives because they are also being offered this violence.

Ms. Kennedy: an African- American high school teacher who teaches medicine to Health Occupation students at a high school senior level. She is also a prime coordinator for the Benson Black Student Union club and a woman who believes in equality and justice. I ask,

"I believe the BLM movement encourages more awareness. It is the catalyst in a new civil rights movement. Being such, it encourages both peace and violence depending on the beliefs of the individuals. Some will stop at nothing to tear down the BLM movement, and some promote the true mission and meaning of BLM."

- Ms. K. Kennedy.

"Do you believe that the BLM movement encourages more violence or more peace? Why does it encourage violence? Why does it encourage peace?"

The 1960s Civil Rights Movement inspired the Black Lives Matter Movement, the 1980s Black Feminist movement, the Pan-African movement, the political hip-hop movement, and the 2000s LGBTQ+ movement. By working to end systematic racism, BLM continues the efforts of 19th-century organizations, including the American League of Colored Laborers, the Florence Farming and Lumber Association, and the NYS Suffrage Association.

In 2016, we elected the 45th president of the United States. President Donald Trump has been president for the last four years and has tried to "Make America Great Again" (CNN). On July 1, 2020, Donald Trump called the words "Black Lives Matter," a "symbol of hate." He has refused

Ms. Irma, an African American woman, who cares deeply about the BLM movement, has been praying that we will receive equality and justice for the lives who have been lost to this social injustice. I ask,

"Do you believe our next president will take BLM more seriously?"

to describe the Confederate emblems that would spoil the "luxury avenue" he once called home as such. In the second presidential debate, Trump said he "does not know what to say" to Americans who are concerned with some of his rhetoric that may be contributing to a climate of racism, such as retweeting a

person saying "white power." He claims he has done a lot for Black Americans, such as criminal justice reform, but many Black people have died on his watch. Trump sees BLM as a politically charged issue that he cannot support - but BLM is a social justice movement that exists for the betterment of our society.

"Yes, I do. This president (Biden) shows he cares and is willing to listen and help. He leads with leadership and takes pride in being a leader in this country. Giving us the strength and the courage to believe that there will be equality and offer justice to this problem that has been going on for four centuries."

- Ms. I. Johnson

Black people started seeking justice and fair treatment, they were not against the police, but the brutality and the excessive violence that the police used against the Black people singled them out based on their race. Other than equal treatment, they were also seeking a balance of power. According to studies, more than

twice as many unarmed Black people are killed by the police than white people. Black people are more likely to be deprived of their rights by law enforcement, compared to any white person who would probably just get away with their actions.

Mr. Catabay, a native-American, Filipino descent, is very pro-equality. Although he is not of African descent, he firmly believes in equality and putting an end to systematic racism. As the health teacher for our freshman students and mentors for others, he makes sure that his classroom is a safe environment for everyone to be welcome. I ask,

"Do you believe that abolishing or reforming the police will lean towards a solution for the BLM movement?"

"I believe there has to be some drastic reform; otherwise, we will repeat the past over and over. We had the Black Power movement in the '60s-'70s, and the L.A. Riots after the Rodney King beating in the '90s, and it still continues today. I feel that we are reminded about the injustices in our society and our communities. We fight back only to get some band-aids to fix the problems until we have another wave of violence against our communities and we are awoken to the struggles again."

- Mr. M. Catabay.

So as we ask the question, do Black lives matter?

The answer is yes.

Black Lives matter because, just like everyone else, the Black people were created free, equal, and endowed with those inalienable rights protected by the law. A Benson student, Ainsley Rayhawk once said,

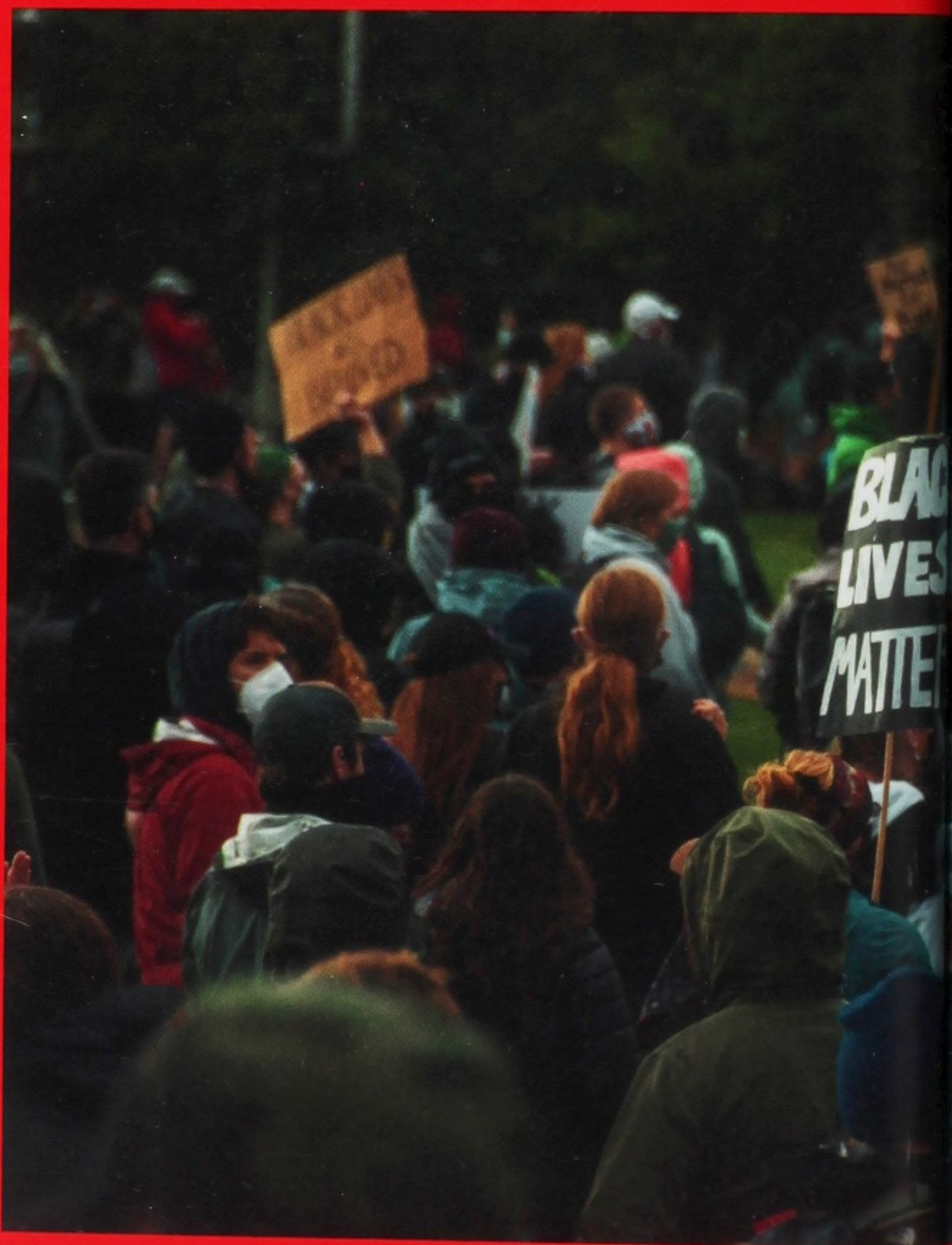
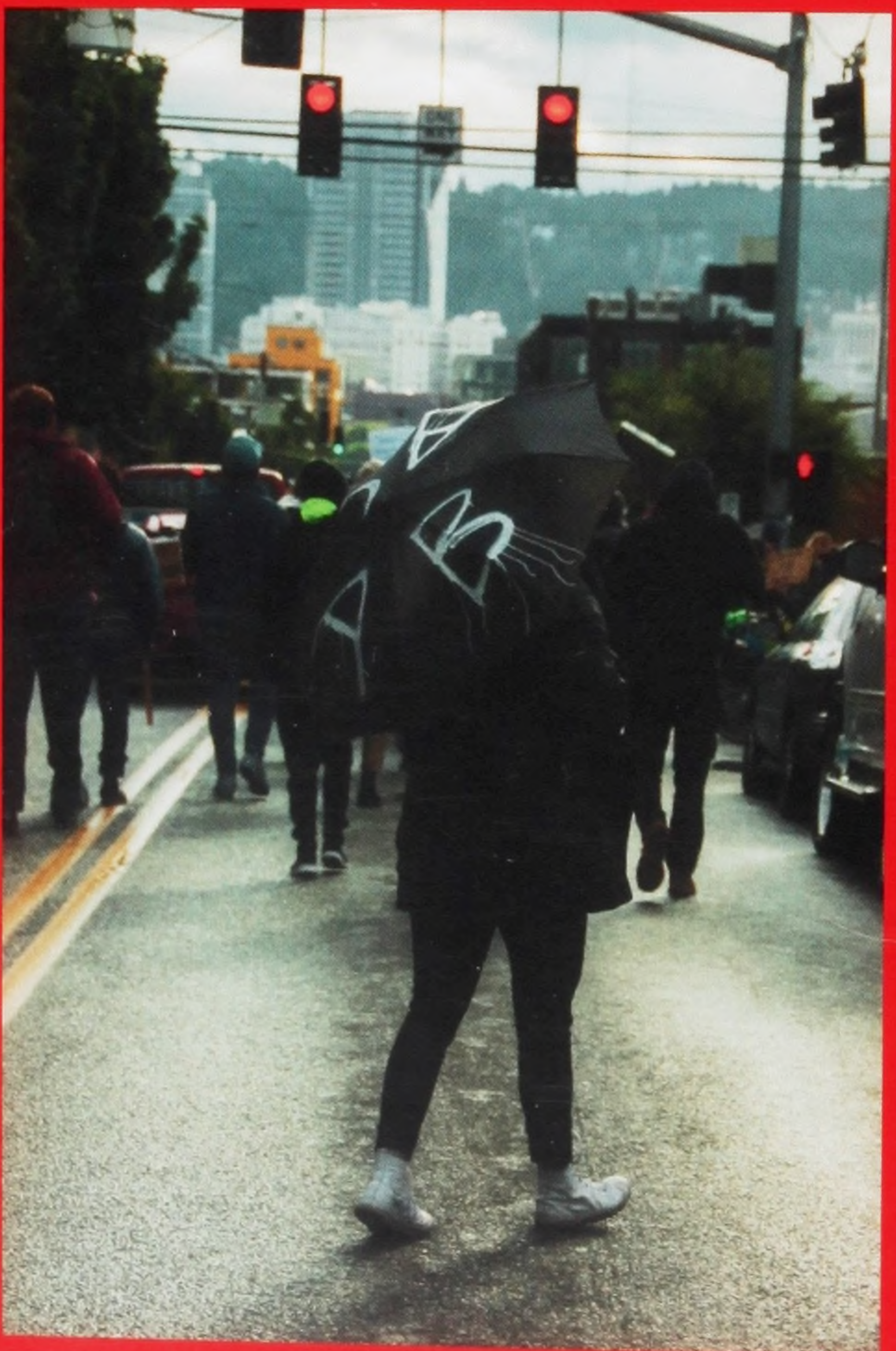
"BLM opened my eyes to an entire world of struggles, broken promises, and generational traumas I was never aware of before. Not only did the BLM movement teach me about how to better myself in my language and attitude, but it also taught me of history hidden and altered by the American education system and government. I became more aware of the micro-aggressions lived through by POC in this day and age and what I can do as a citizen living under U.S. law to help change my country and help those internationally in need.

Beyond even the struggles of Black Americans, BLM taught me about the pains and struggles of Native Americans and native peoples worldwide. BLM taught me that the average lifespan of a trans-black woman is 34 years, which is the same life expectancy as living in the U.K. in the middle ages." -
Ainsley Rayhawk

Every Black person is a child of the universe, no less than "the tree and the stars;" they have a right to be here as Dr. King noted in one of his famous speeches, "I Have a Dream." Please remember, everything you do to contribute to Black Lives Matter counts. It does not matter if you are on the front lines, protesting, reposting, etc. **Every little thing you contribute is one step closer to getting justice for the lives that we have lost and the equality we all deserve. Black is Beautiful. Do not ever be ashamed to be Black! God put us on this earth for a purpose, and every day, we fulfill it.**

Always,
Black
Lives
Matter
Forever!

By Trinity Warren





Benson students join thousands of protestors taking to Portland streets for the Black Lives Matter movement.

ALL PHOTOS BY CIRRUS FULLER



LEARNING

This year looks a little different than the previous, with screens in our faces and little face to face interaction from our peers. Teachers and students are doing what they can to make the year as normal as possible, but there are still challenges.

The year of 2020/21 for Benson High School - and most of Portland - is virtual due to COVID-19. As of March 2020, Benson shut its doors and prepared for a few weeks of no school, but as the Covid cases continued to rise, distance learning has been our reality. What has that meant for students learning from home?

So, how are Benson students doing it at home, and most importantly, how does it make them feel?

After speaking with some students, it turns out learning from home is actually more difficult than it may seem. In our survey, most students reported that having to sit in front of a computer all day is the most challenging part of online learning. Learning time management was the second most challenging and getting distracted during class was third.

Sophomore student at Benson, Lily Tsehaine, said, "I just try to take my time while doing my assignments, by giving myself little breaks." For Lily and other Benson students, being patient with the school work and allowing time for themselves is helpful in navigating a unique situation.

According to student Nathan Kurtz, finding a routine that works is a great way to stay productive and motivated. "I listen

to music and take breaks when needed. I get all my work done at once so I don't have to stress about doing it later and procrastinating."

Distractions are everywhere and especially hard to avoid on the internet, and for some students, can get in the way of school work. Distractions, lack of motivation, and being in complete control of your time can be especially difficult.

Karla Chacaj, a Sophomore at Benson, says that virtual learning makes her feel more overwhelmed due to the amount of distractions. She states "I'll be doing my school work, and then I'll put on some music on YouTube, and then I'll start watching the music video, and then I'll be like 'Oh, I have to get back and do my work.'"

Even with these challenges, Benson students are still finding ways to overcome them and find success in school.

FROM HOME

BY MILAN HAWK

Even though we
aren't physically in
school, learning
must continue.



Clio Tzetos, a Sophomore at BHS said, "I videocall a friend who's also at Benson everyday after classes are done." Having that interaction with someone, even though it's over video call, can be a helpful way to maintain school friendships and a sense of normality. It's great to see students are still finding ways to connect.

Learning from home looks a little different for all Benson students. Some students have found distance learning to be overwhelming, while others are doing their best to make learning from home the new normal.

ARTWORK BY TATE HUDSON

2020

Serena (Ren) Aulbach

I'm so tired of not having internet access and still be expected to get all of my work done. My parents have been working from home too and I'm on the verge of bursting from being in such a tiny space. Online learning is kinda flimsy, so we don't have as much of a workload as we used to. We aren't learning or retaining much either and I miss having eight classes. I do like how flexible it is with turning things in for most classes.

Cordelia Lehto

I do not want to go back to in person learning because I would be too stressed out about staying safe

Do you like learning from home or online?

Lulu Kennybrew

I like learning from home because I can just stay home and chill, but I want to go back to school because I want to have a normal high school experience and get rid of my new bad habits from being in my room all day.

Carlos Soto

I want to go back to in-person because it is easier to learn that way and to get help.

Ainsley Rahawk

I want to go back to in-person learning more than anything. It is so much more difficult to retain information or resolve miscommunications online. I miss my friends and the aspect of school where you get a break from home. Plus, learning all the content in half the time is overwhelming. Somehow, in some way, I miss waking up at 6:30 a.m.

Tiffany Trinh

I was a lot more focused at school. Since we are learning online I have a lot more distractions.

Hikima Edao

I want to go back to in-person learning mostly for the hands-on things, but online school is much easier to manage, given the fact that we only have four classes per semester.

Kimmy Trinh

I want to go back to in-person school because I miss seeing everyone's faces.

Your thoughts....

Esme Brady

I want to go back to in-person learning so I would be able to see my friends again and do school in a way that I am more productive in rather than online, which has been really hard for me.

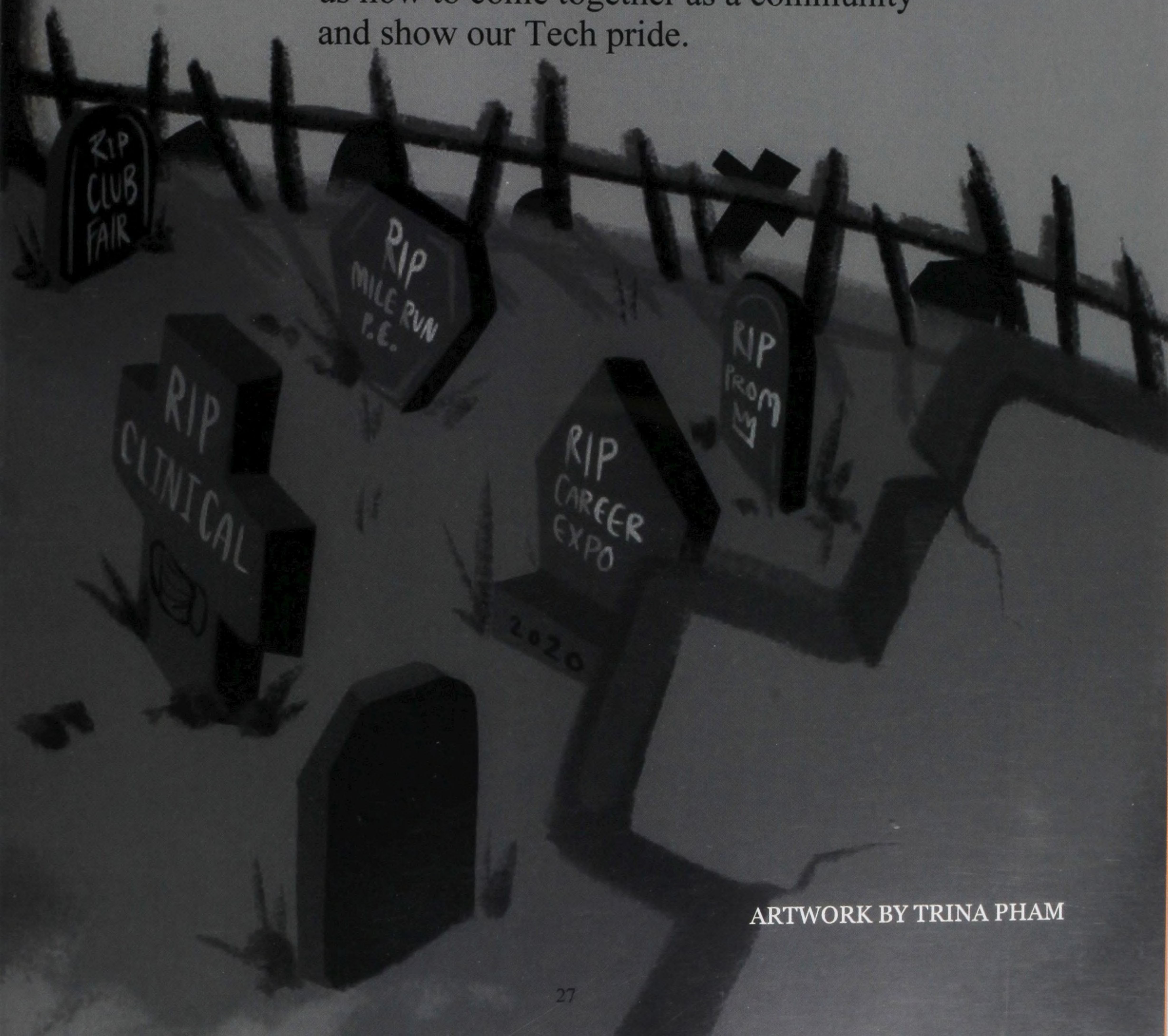
Diamili Tuz

I want to go to in-person learning because it can teach way more in-depth than online can.



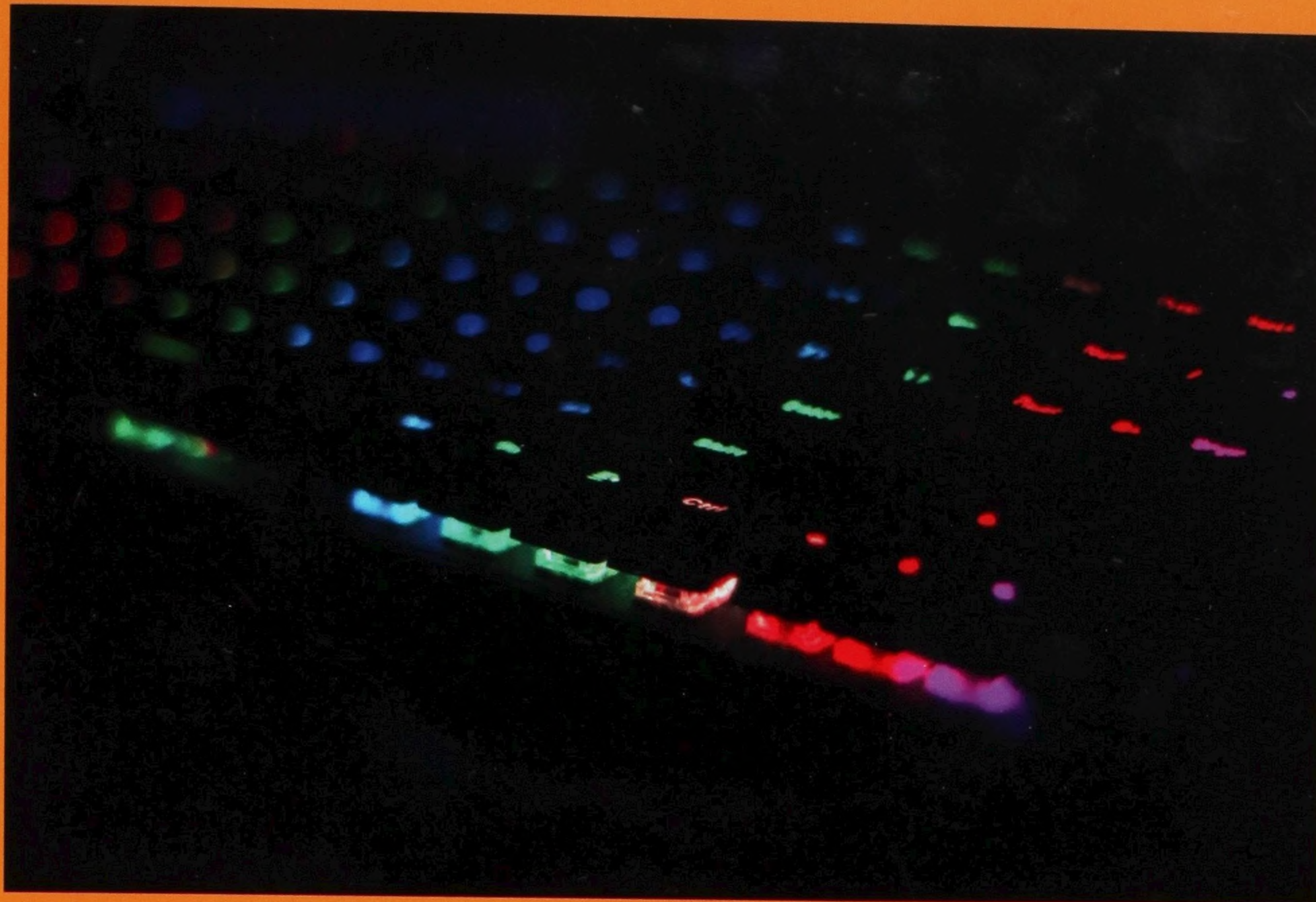
THE THINGS WE MISS

Here lies the 2020-2021 school year.
Although we didn't get sport games, prom,
homecoming, assemblies, etc., we still have
hope for next year. This year really taught
us how to come together as a community
and show our Tech pride.



ARTWORK BY TRINA PHAM

WIA.JOBS



Computer Science equipped for CDL

BY COLLEEN JOHNSTON

From
Simon to
Chrome-
books,
Techsters
know
computers

As technology continues to advance and change, so does the teaching of it. In 1997, one of Benson's first computers was the Sequest S27, a dishwasher-sized contraption that was named Simon. These days, computers can fit in your hand!

Helping Techsters stay up with the times and get ready for a career, the Benson Computer Science major offers both Computer Science and Engineering Courses. Mr. Beckler, teacher for the courses, starts freshmen off with an introduction to computers. They learn things like how to set computers up, the difference between hardware

and software, operating systems, and just what "the cloud" is. Mr. Beckler builds off this course in the sophomore Computer Science class, where students learn computer fundamentals for exploring computer engineering, programming, and writing code in Python.

By junior year, students in the major start designing and implementing projects using digital circuits, learn Programming using C++, and get an introduction to Game Programming. Many of these courses continue into the senior year at advanced levels.

Although many things were missed by not being in physical classrooms all year, one perk of being a Computer Science major during CDL was that students were on their computers all the time anyway!



Naganuma's radio program lives on

BY GIOVANNO FERROGGIARO

Mr. Naganuma is KBP's Broadcasting Program Instructor. He has been doing it for over 24 years!

"In radio, we teach kids audio content creation, how to go live on a public radio, and how to operate everything involved in it," says Naganuma.

"There is a vast history. In early 1923, students spotted a radio trans-mitter for sale in the window of Stubbs Electric in SE Portland. They somehow talked the faculty into

buying the device. Radio at Benson used to be headed by Dr. Patricia Swensen, who helped pioneer educational radio. And the rest is history!"

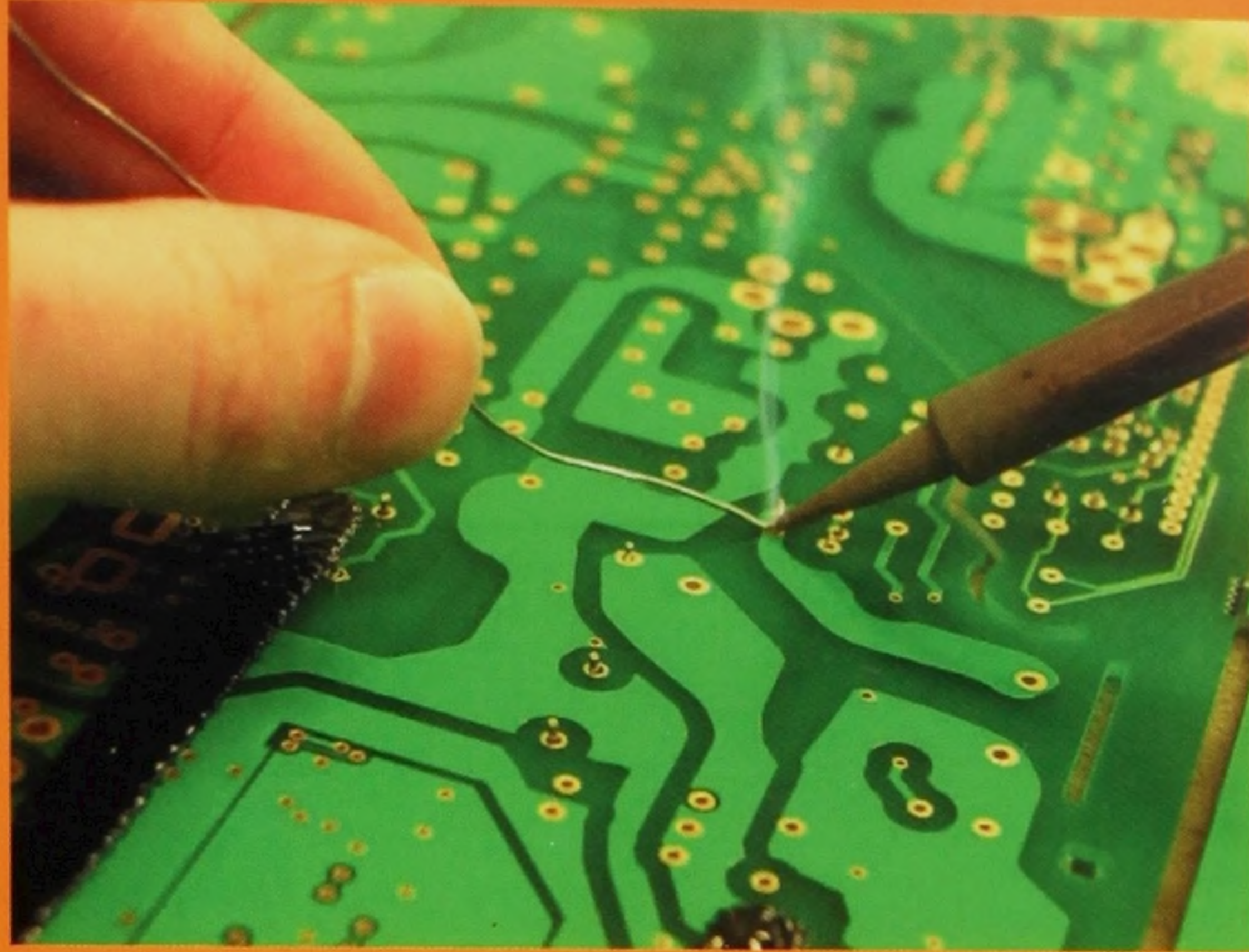
"I've been coming to tech shows ever since I was 5 years old," says senior Sydney Trojak, "and when I walked into the radio building, my mind was blown. I knew that I wanted to go to Benson because of the Radio Broadcasting program."

Students love the radio program. Estrella Martinez-Lopez says that she loves going on air, recording assignments, and hanging out with friends.

Trojak adds, "I love that I can express myself through music, which is a big part of me. Radio also takes me out of my comfort zone and makes me feel more comfortable with myself."

Down to the wire

The Electric
major focuses
on concepts



BY TRINITY WARREN

This year, the Junior and Senior classes have been moving their hands, showing that a pandemic will not stop them from wiring and cutting circuits!

Mr. Maceo has been very focused on making sure that students still get to meet on Wednesdays during ASYNC times so they can remain having hands-on time in their workshops. Mr. Maceo is a magnificent electric teacher. Not only does he work very hard to keep his students on track, he is always open to helping with new techniques and showing his students what it means to be an electrician.

The goal of the class is to teach the students how to be safe and certain in what they're doing and to remember all their steps into getting their project done. Being precise is always a key element in dealing with electricity. Mr. Maceo and Ms. Skach point out and teach students that they must be very careful and protect themselves around electrical wiring. The students take matters into their own hands by watching videos and understanding the concept of wiring and building circuits for residential housing.

Although the students are unable to interact with each other daily, the students still manage to connect via Google Meet and/or Zoom to make sure everyone is engaged together!

This class is established on community, teamwork, and hardship!



Avi Parker's work for GoLloyd, a community partnership



Digital Media students still create great work despite no access to software and equipment

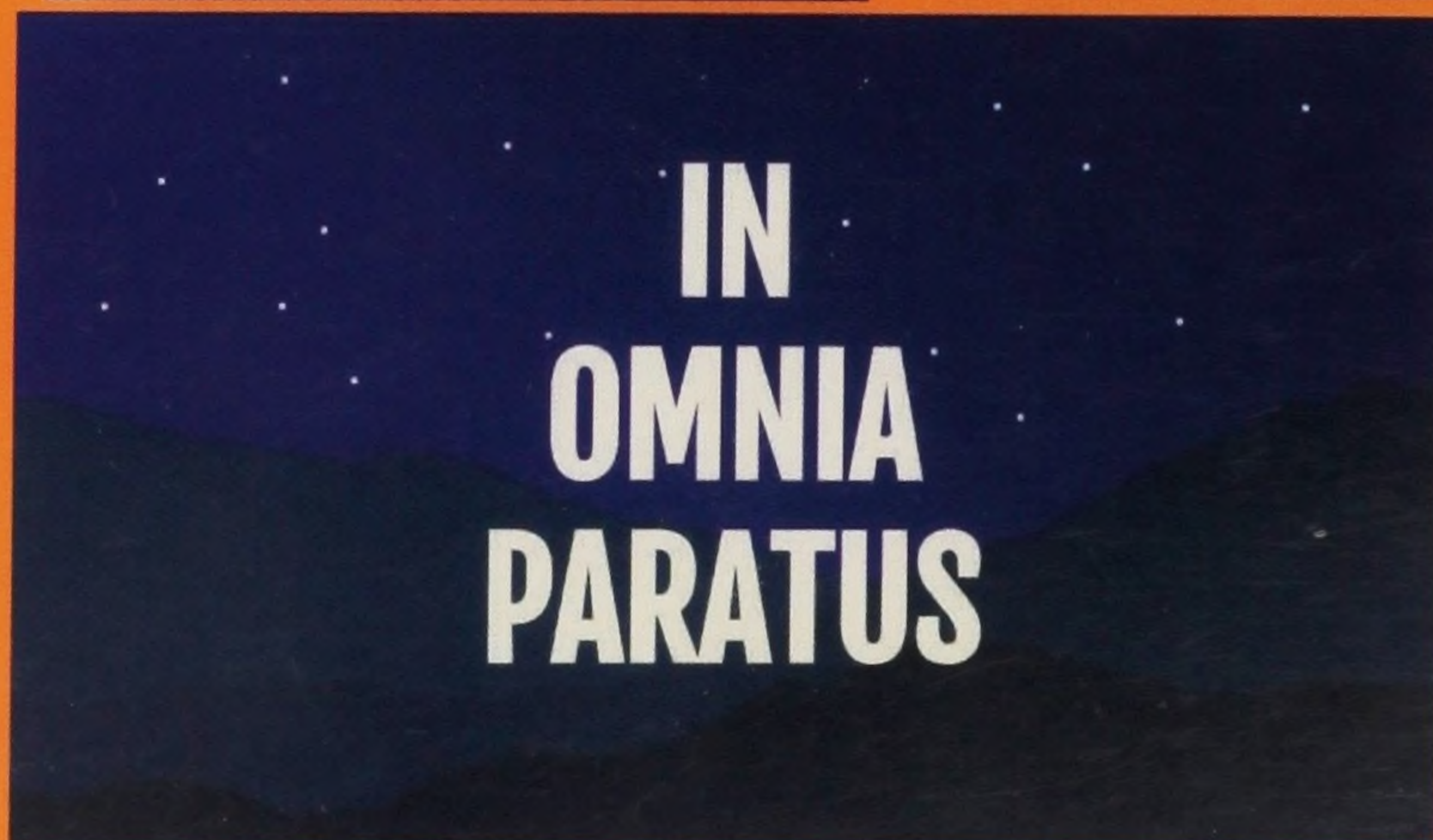
BY NORA RISHEL

Digital Media is a productive major that includes programs such as photography, video, web design, and media design. The three main teachers of it are Mr. Williams, Mr. Curley, and Ms. Mico.

The goal of this major is to provide students experience with technical skills and help them gain exposure for certain career paths, especially in the communications field. But without equitable access to professional software and commitment, the department had to rethink how to structure the curriculum for 2020-2021.

Students showed incredible creativity and ingenuity with using resources that were available to all.

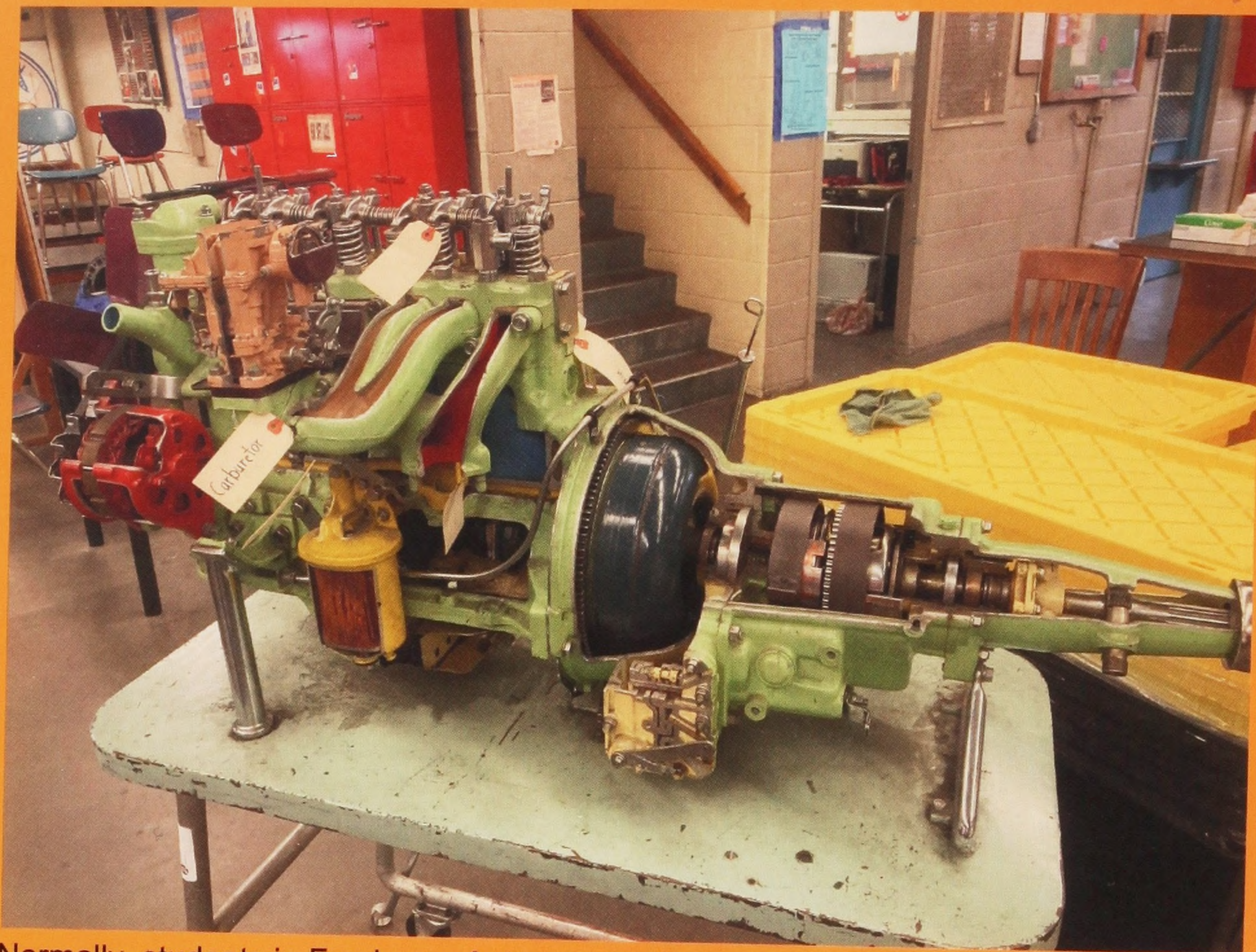
While it was hard to keep in touch with students and create the same bonds as usual, teachers still found ways to make the courses fun.



Clockwise: Jordan Tran's "Watermelon", Piper Action's "Fine Line", Tiffany Trinh's "Take Your Time"; Cordelia Lehto's "In Omnia Paratus"; Addie Stile's "Why Not"



Hands-off in the historic Auto department this year



Normally, students in Freshmen Auto must take apart small engines (not like this large one shown), learn its parts, and then reassemble it as part of the curriculum.

BY COLLEEN JOHNSTON

The Automotive shop at Benson has been around a very long time, and as long time automotive teacher Ed Railey puts it, "There's something special about this place." And indeed there is! The 29,000 square foot area is filled with all sorts of pieces and parts and vehicles. In fact, there is an aviation section of the area loaded with a small helicopter and an imitation of a drone from WWII.

From the smallest engine (a mini-bike's 60 cubic inches) to the largest engine (an 855 cubic inch diesel), the automotive program is more than just the space, it's what's in it - including the teachers. When it comes to automotive know-how, Benson students have a huge honor and privilege to be working with three men who know the industry well. In fact, with Mr. Anderson's 27 years at Benson, Mr. Ed Railey's 17, and Mr. David

Thompson's 5 years (just in automotive), that's a whopping 49 years of knowledge!

One of Mr. Anderson's passions when it comes to teaching is the Freshmen Room, where each year (outside of CDL) freshmen come to disassemble, learn all the parts of, and then reassemble small engines. This class, like most in this major, exposes students to things they would otherwise not be exposed to, keeps them engaged and interested, and then gives them options if they would like to take the next step in the field.

When working in this major, students learn about safety, passion, and respect for the industry, various vehicles and how they work, each other, and themselves.

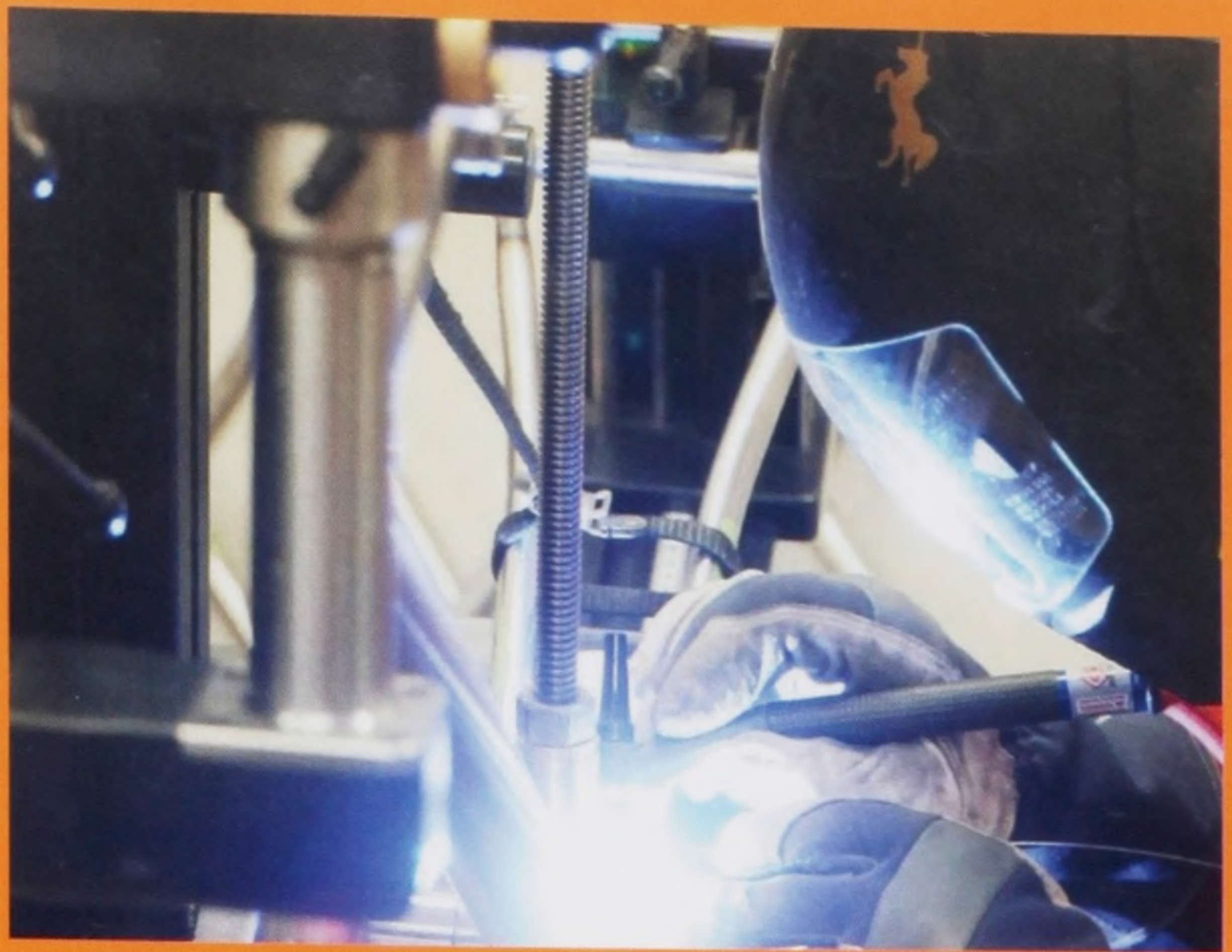
Growth mindset still relevant in Health Occupations

BY COLLEEN JOHNSTON

When it comes to hands-on learning, these Ms. Alekel, Ms. Keith, and Ms. Kennedy have created a curriculum that takes it very seriously, so CDL made it much harder this year. The teachers were able to adapt to CDL by purchasing and gifting medical equipment for students to use at home and then demonstrating the use of them over video conferencing.

The major starts freshmen out with an Intro to Health Sciences, while sophomores learn Medical Terminology and Personal Growth. As juniors, students start preparing for a job shadowing experience where they wear scrubs, white waterproof shoes, and name tags. By year's end they will have earned training and certification in First Aid, CPR, HIPAA, OSHA, and Bloodborne Pathogen Awareness. Seniors focus on a Career Pathway of their choice within the Nursing, Dental, or Emergency Medicine Pathway.

In distance learning, all three teachers and all their students know that with so many things in Portland (and the world!) closed down due to the pandemic, the one thing that was kept open as an essential need was the medical field. Keith, Alekel, and Kennedy get all their students to be confident and empathetic critical thinkers who possess a growth mindset and use their experiences and skills to improve the health and well-being of their community, as well as further the productivity of the local economy.



Manufacturing overcomes additional challenges with distance learning

BY CATE MILLER

Manufacturing went through a lot this year.

In Manufacturing class, students get the opportunity to work closely with machinery, sheet metal, welding, foundry, and CAD/Master Cam. They also are eligible to earn dual credit with PCC. But, like most classes, manufacturing struggled with distance learning. Because of the hands-on nature of the CTE, it was even more difficult for manufacturing students to participate in their major through distance learning. Mr. Clooten retired at the end of last year, so along with the change in learning environment, manufacturing also welcomed a new teacher this year.

Mr. Harrison joined the Benson family at the start of this year and has definitely had an eventful first year. Mr. Harrison and Mr. Gerber started out this year by teaching students how to use computer software like CAM. As well as teaching about manufacturing through online programs. The teachers also created kits for students to pick up and take home so they could still stay active in their major while social distancing. Students were able to create from their home using the tools and materials the kit provided. Overall, manufacturing teachers and students adapted well in a difficult time.

Right: Senior Sophia Chin keeps smiling while building from home.
Below: Junior Gabe Moreland is precise and focused.



Page right - Clockwise: A speaker box is ready for the next steps. Junior Ian Baldwin is looking like a professional on the job. Instructor Luke Hotchkiss dialed in a multiple camera set up to continue high quality instruction from his empty classroom. He even has a green screen! Baldwin, again, practicing his skills.

Hotchkiss goes above and beyond to deliver hands-on construction experience





Tech Geo students apply their geometry skills to calculate height using just a mirror and a tape measure



While we miss the beautiful chaos of fifty ninth graders at once using power tools, Tech Geometry has been able to stay true to its unique nature as a community oriented contextualized geometry class during CDL.

Along with all of the construction students in the district, Tech Geometry students received a kit of tools and lumber to be able to build from home. They have learned about wall and roof framing by framing their own scale model of a PDX Free Fridge shelter. Any Tech Geo students coming in for Hybrid will be finishing the life-size shelter that will house a fridge, microwave, and pantry to be donated to the PDX Free Fridge project at the end of the school year.



Left page and bottom right:
Safia Richley. Above:
Mahogany Chandler-Roberts

SPORTS

Benson sports hit pause with no sense of when athletes can safely resume

BY NORA RISHEL

School has been online for a while, but it is still taking some getting used to. One major difference is that there are no more sports events. No more sitting in the stands and watching your team in a stressful match against another school. For athletes, there is no more warming up with the team before a match and showing off for the audience. This has had a great impact on many high school seniors and a couple things that they might be trying to accomplish: college recruitment and getting an athletic scholarship.

As all in-person events have been cancelled or rescheduled until much, much later in the school year, students have had to find other ways to showcase their talents and keep in touch with college coaches and recruiters. On top of this, students also have to deal with the stress of doing school online and keeping up with everyday work and classes.

This year, there are no current students receiving athletic scholarships, but last year

saw some greats such as Bria Dixon and Micah Williams.

Even though coaches can't watch students at their school games, there are club teams that are still holding practices and tournaments that coaches can attend to watch athletes. At Benson, there are also some practices being held twice a week that athletes can go to, but they are not mandatory. People are also meeting virtually, but according to Wendell Raiford, "You can never simulate the in-person interaction with the coach, a student-athlete, and a family." Raiford is right. It is nice to still be able to see people online, but it still isn't the same as being able to interact in person.

Currently, there is talk of possibly having a winter season followed by a fall and spring season, but with COVID-19 cases rising in Oregon, it is best to stay inside and stay safe. Although it is hard to not be able to see each other in person, we can still reach out to one another through virtual tactics.

TRAINING

FROM



HOME

It all started in March 2020, not too long after winter sports for most schools in Oregon had finished. The week before Spring Break 2020 it was announced that schools in Oregon will be closed due to covid-19 until April 28th and that students will be doing online school until then - which also meant spring sports would be postponed. On April 9th, it was officially announced that schools would not reopen for the 2019-2020 school year and that spring sports were being canceled as well.

BY CALOS BARFIELD & KIMMY TRINH

"This point in time is a huge, unpredictable obstacle, but it doesn't mean we can't work through it and make the best out of it. But that isn't easy."

Fast-forward to the present, athletes for the fall/winter seasons are being affected by Covid, causing sports to be postponed until 2021 in hope of the spread dying down. Athletes are still unsure if there will be a season to be played, yet they're still preparing, just in a different way.

Athletes had to find ways to stay in shape, even improve their performance so they can be ready when the season comes. Most student-athletes don't have access to gyms and workout facilities or aren't even allowed to do offseason workouts with teams due to

the lockdown. Athletes have to work out in their own environments.

There are pros and cons to training at home. Training at home is free, unlike gyms. You have your privacy and you don't have to worry about anything but yourself. A challenge is that not every athlete has access to equipment to be able to work out. Some athletes had to rely on doing equipment-free exercises/workouts to be able to stay in shape or to further improve, which isn't nearly as effective as being able to use equipment with weights. But as simple as training from home may sound, maintaining that isn't easy.

(Continued on next page)



ARTWORK BY TRINA PHAM & KALYNN LAM

(continued)

"It's harder to stay motivated because there is nothing to look forward to, but at the same time, it's a milestone you don't know whether or not you can get over," says sophomore basketball player, Kyeese Hollands. This point in time is a huge, unpredictable obstacle, but it doesn't mean we can't work through it and make the best out of it. But that isn't easy either."

While training at home, it's easier to feel apathetic about many things - like your well-being. Staying indoors and social distancing is hard for athletes to do. Being with your team contributes to the quality of the workout.

"It's easier to not do it, if that makes sense, because you're in an environment where

Senior basketball player Shawntrell Carson said, "I would say one of my biggest challenges has been trying not to get distracted by my phone or PlayStation. Also, some days I might not feel motivated because it's so easy to stay in bed." Benson athletes are struggling to maintain robustness during this global pandemic.

Experiencing athleticism apathy during this period is common. It is challenging to achieve the right mindset, with a variety of distractions and excuses. One way athletes are trying to overcome this is by setting a goal and understanding their limitations in body and mind during a global pandemic.

This is very important to getting back on track.

Athletes have to adapt to online school and somehow make time for themselves. They have to manage their time very well because it is harder to make time for themselves.

"To manage my stress I try to get homework done as soon as possible, but I make at least two hours of my day to work out," says Hollands.

With online school occurring, it may be stressful, but managing time and getting the challenging tasks out of the way makes anyone - not just athletes - feel more relieved. It allows for some time to yourself to work out or rest.

Even though it might not be as fun to workout without your team or any fancy equipment, some positive ways to think about training at home is that it's free and you train in a comfortable environment with privacy. This has been an opportunity to focus on yourself and work at your own pace. You will come back to your team stronger than you were before.

Let's use our time wisely and come back twice as strong!

**"I set challenges for myself,
just small ones everyday."
-Desiree Nguyen**

you're used to sleeping or just not doing very hard workouts, so it can be demotivating," says Long Distance runner, Desiree Nguyen.

Being in a comfortable environment can cause people to slack off or have more distractions. Being unable to train is unmotivating because it's unclear if sports are still going to continue.

"I set challenges for myself, just small ones every day, like trying to improve my mile time or running farther than the previous day. I usually take it easy when I'm unmotivated or not feeling well. If I'm not in the mood to run, then I'll walk. And the same thing for working out, but I just do a lighter one," says Nguyen. "Yoga also really helps."

But the toughest challenge of them all is online school.

SCUBA



"Community struggles unite everyone"

BY VANESSA CORTEZ-TORRES

MEChA, also known as Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán, is a student organization that seeks to promote Educational Excellence, Cultural Awareness, Leadership Development, and Community Involvement so students can continue on to higher education and use the given skills to improve the needs of our schools and communities.

MEChA was first founded on March of 1969 on a mission to formulate a plan for higher education for Chicanx youth. The term Chicanx is used by some as cherishing their own history, heritage, and future. MEChA has historically included students from around the world and expanded all racial identities, since community struggles unite everyone.

Officers: Jacqueline Martinez De Jesus, Vanessa Cortez-Torres, Kayley Chan-Ayala, Camila Pacheco Chavez, Kenya Vazquez Flores, Johana Nava Marin

Members: Angel Carmona Murillo, Michael Mejia Archilla, Genesis Martinez, Zuri Azcorra Ulicab, Marelyn Poox Castillo, Axel Lozano Ortiz, Jennifer Martinez Vidal, Andrea Raguary Moscut

Key Club continues volunteering, just not as a group

BY NORA RISHEL

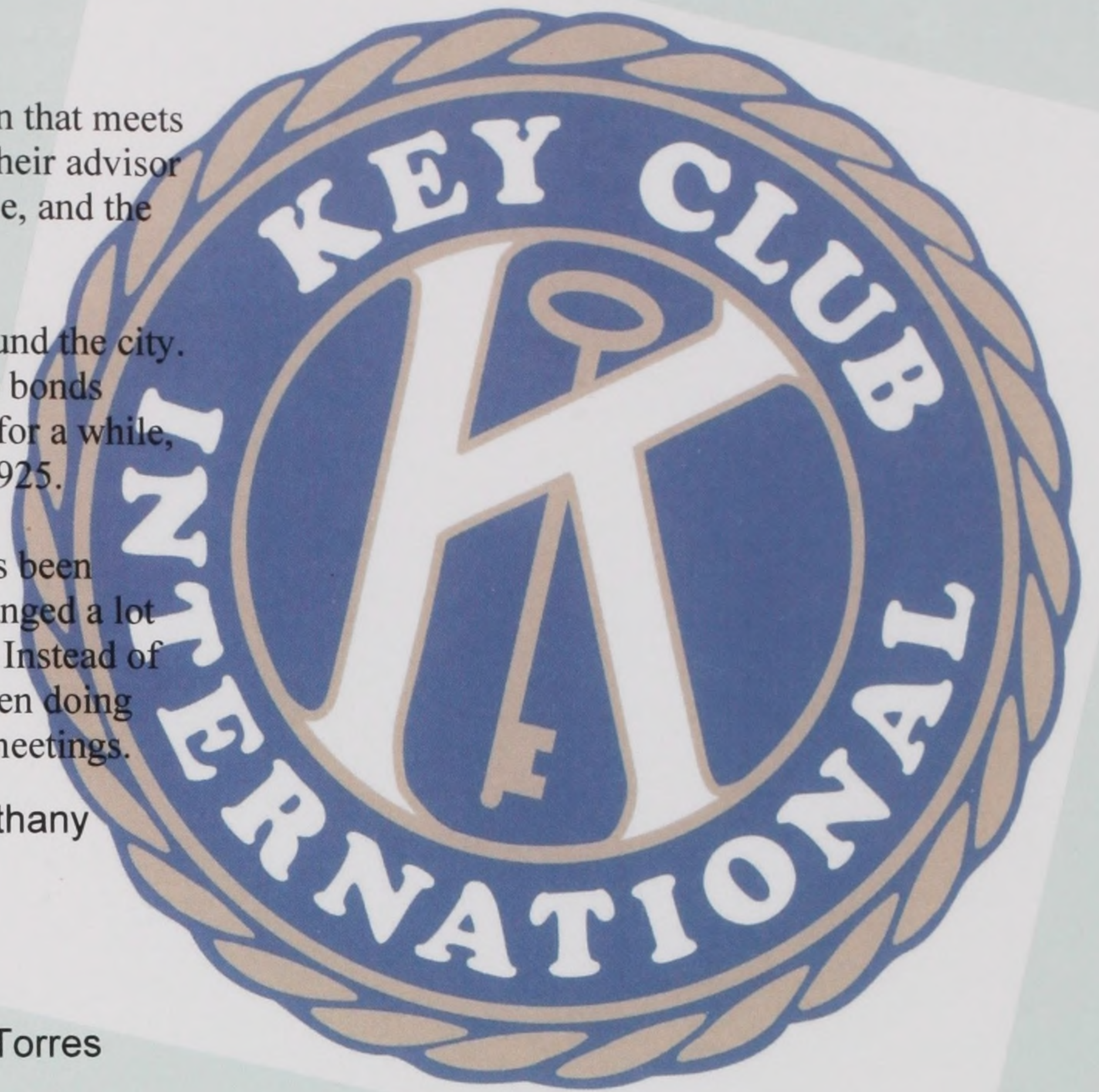
Key Club is a volunteering club or organization that meets every Wednesday during lunchtime at noon. Their advisor is Mr. Weiner, the club president is Sela Laulile, and the vice president is Natalie Deguzman.

This club does various volunteer activities around the city. Their goal is to help the community and create bonds within the school. Their club has been around for a while, the organization itself has been around since 1925.

Right now, during the pandemic, Key Club has been meeting through Google Meets. Covid has changed a lot of things, including the way the club operates. Instead of doing volunteer work as a group, they have been doing things individually and logging hours during meetings.

Officers: Vivian Pham, Shresta Anand, Bethany Brundage, Jollie Nguyen

Members: Amiya Brazzle-Morgan, Axel Lozano-Ortiz, Karissa Mendoza, Kayley Chan-Ayala, Megan Ho, Vanessa Cortez-Torres



HOSA readies students through empowerment

BY VANESSA CORTEZ-TORRES

HOSA is an international student organization that provides leadership development to promote career opportunities in the healthcare industry. First established in 1976, HOSA's mission is to empower future health professionals. HOSA does this by hosting an annual competition where high school students represent their school against other schools in the state. The winners of each state will then move on to compete with other students around the country. These competitive events are designed to motivate members to improve their knowledge and skills relating to the healthcare field.



Members: Cheyenne Thao, Shresta Anand, Vanessa Cortez-Torres, Vivian Pham, Beatriz Cardenas, Elise Kennedy, Anahi Moreno, Hikima Edao, Clio Tzetos, Regina So, Violet Meyers, Jacqueline Martinez, Kayley Chan-Ayala, Amiya Brazzle-Morgan, Diamili Tuz, Bitania Berta, Tracy Zhen, Jacqueline Martinez-De Jesus

Youth Action Council



Strengthening school-based systems one meeting at a time

BY VANESSA CORTEZ-TORRES

Oregon school based centers are centers that serve the community and provide accessible health care for students and their families. The Youth Action Council's mission is to strengthen school based services by using ideas from its members to improve the accessibility and knowledge of these centers. Youth Action Council is a club that focuses on improving these services by having weekly meetings where students come up with ideas on how to promote the health center to the student body of Benson High School.

In earlier years, YAC participated in the 2020 School Health Advocacy Day, where youth from all over Oregon were able to visit the capitol, meet legislators, and advocate for the importance of school based centers in their communities.

Members: Abigail Hernandez, Angeles Torres, Axel Lozano-Ortiz, Bethany Brundage, Cheyenne Thao, Jacqueline Martinez-De Jesus, Jennifer Martinez-Vidal, Marelyn Poox-Castillo, Shresta Anand, Vanessa Cortez-Torres



Black Student Union brings in community voices

BY MILAN HAWK & TRINITY WARREN

Even in the middle of a pandemic, Benson's Black Student Union (BSU) strives to keep their meetings alive and active virtually every Wednesday. So what are they doing?

Even through the spread of Covid, nothing can stop them from coming together to fight for equality. This year, BSU meetings were coordinated by Mrs. Kennedy, one of our CTE teachers, and BSU's president Deasia Kennedy, a senior at Benson. They focus on bringing up the conversation of active protesting, understanding politics, systematic racism, social based prejudices, and focused career paths. One of their goals set to create unity.

During one of their meetings, BSU welcomed a guest speaker to speak on some important issues based on the education system.

Their guest, started by diving into the definition of racism and closed out by asking the students why it's important to question the system. In the midst of expressing fears of being a Black person in America, they also spoke up about aspiring career paths and social change that they want to make. What is the change they want to make?

BSU has become a safe space for our Black students to express how they feel about racist issues all around and to speak on their personal experiences without judgment.

Robotics Q&A

BY GIOSVEL SOSA ALUJAS

Who is the club for?

This club is open for all students at Benson who like building and programming.

Who is the advisor and club president?

Advisor: Mr. Pellico.

There are two teams within the same club; Team 187, and Team 267; and each team has their own captain, co-captain, and coach.
Team 187: Coach John DeLacy, Captain Oscar.
Team 267: Coach Gavin Beck, Captain Ian Balwin.

What does the club do?

"We build, program, and test robots and compete with them at competitions against other robots from other schools. We also create other projects to do during off season and one of these was building a motorized cart for tools and parts to transport for the robot to competitions and outreach events. Also in the club we have a way of fundraising to get money for the club so we can buy new things and this is our outreach where we go to a place and volunteer for money."

What is their goal?

"The goal of the club is to have a fun experience for everyone of building robots, making friend's and doing the things they like to

do, like designing, building, programming and more. Also hoping they can come back one day after high school and be mentors to future members who join the club."

When did the club begin?

"This club was created by Nolan Dedrickson when he was a student at Benson Tech HS in 2006 and is now one of the mentors in the club."

When do meetings happen?

Mondays & Fridays 3:15 - 4:30 or 5. Team 267 also used to meet in person following all the precautions and in an open space, until Covid started to get worse and it had to be cancelled.

Where have they been meeting during Covid?

Team 187 has through Discord. Team 267 has met through zoom and sometimes in person on an open space.

How has covid changed how the club operates?

"It has us use our online technology to communicate for events and conversations"

Why?

"Because we can't see each other in person a lot any more until the pandemic is over and it's harder to know what we are gonna do and accomplish or what we want especially because we have a lot headed our way this year and the next.

National Honor Society

BY VANESSA CORTEZ-TORRES

National Honors Society is a club that recognizes students based on academic performance and committing to the values of scholarship, service, leadership, and character. NHS was first established in 1921 with the goal of recognizing students for their academic achievements and through active involvement in school activities and community service.

This year, NHS is being coordinated by Mrs. Bruer, President Sophia Chin, and Vice President Kim Nguyen. The NHS student council is adapting to changes and learning along the way during this difficult time. They hope that all members feel connected and passionate about the work that they do in the community they are a part of.

Members: Archie Rohden, Ariana Adams, Axel Lozano-Ortiz, Caleb Washington, Cheyenne Thao, Chris Swanson, Clio Tzetos, Cole McVay, Cole Hagedorn, Dena Leonard, Henry Senters, Hikima Edao, Jacqueline Martinez, Jennifer Martinez-Vidals, Karissa Mendoza V, Kayley Chan-Ayala, Keegan Hall, Luke Balmer, Marelyn Poox, Michelle Phan, Megan Ho, Mickayla Neal, Nora Rishel, Sammy Lobdell, Shirley Chen, Shresta Anand, Skylar Green, Sofia Renguso, Thy Nguyen, Tiffany Trinh, Trinity Warren, Vanessa Cortez-Torres, Violet Meyers, Vivian Pham, Yona Klatchko



Escalera paves the way



This year's Escalera group had to meet virtually.

Escalera is a year round college preparation program offered to Portland high school students. Normally, Escalera provides college visits, job shadowing, in person panels, volunteer opportunities, and in-person one on one assistance with Escalera instructors. Now that life has turned virtual, hands-on programs like Escalera have had to adapt in order to continue assisting students.

Any student in and out of Escalera has access to one-on-one meetings with an Escalera instructor. This year, Escalera was able to have two amazing instructors: Alberto Plata-Hurtado and Isabella McCarthy-Zelaya. At the beginning of the year, Plata-Hurtado and McCarthy-Zelaya have students create an individual goal for

themselves that can be academic, social, or emotional. Escalera believes that creating goals allows for students to be held accountable, and it allows instructors to help students achieve their chosen goals by showing them how to advocate for themselves, setting simple reminders, and even helping them adjust their goals to make them more achievable.

For most first generation students, the college process can be very pretty daunting. According to the Latino Network website, Nationally, 88% of Escalera graduates successfully earn a high school diploma and go onto college. Escalera provides help with filling out the FAFSA or ORSAA, revising college essays, filling out college applications, or just having someone to talk to. Plata-Hurtado describes what Escalera and working

Virtual meetings had a fun element to them!



with students means to him, "What Escalera means to me is having the opportunity to mentor the next generation of college students and professionals. It's also being there for them when they need us the most and to push each student to do their best to reach their goals, even when no one else believes in them. Give them support in every way possible and support their families as well! Being part of Escalera means so much to me that I will always be thankful for each student who has given me the honor to be their mentor/instructor."

Besides the support given to students and their families for life, school, and college preparation, Escalera also provides a safe space for students. For many, the elections of 2020 were extremely stressful. The unpredictability caused many to feel tense, anxious, and overwhelmed. Although not a medical diagnosis, the term Election Stress Disorder is a real disorder affecting many. According to a study conducted by the American Psychological



Plato-Hurtado, far right, with last year's group.

**"I will always be thankful for each student who has given me the honor to be their mentor/instructor."
- Instructor Alberto Plata-Hurtado**

Association, 52% of Americans said the 2016 elections were a very or somewhat significant source of stress in their lives. To combat this, during the 2020 elections, Escalera provided a platform for students that had any questions, comments, or any worries they might have had before and after the election. These discussions were considered more of an open discussion and with no bias.

Creating the safe spaces and connections were made harder this year due to everything being virtual. Plata-Hurtado explains: "There have been many challenges this past year with COVID-19, but the most difficult challenge has been encouraging students virtually. Not being able to

be there physically for them and supporting them one-on-one and not being able to see if students follow through with their action plans is the constant challenge."

Even amongst the chaos and challenges the pandemic brought, Escalera was able to help those in need this year. During the holiday season, Escalera provided 20 families with holiday gift baskets. These baskets included essentials such as toilet paper, cleaning supplies, shampoo and conditioner, and Mexican tamales for the whole family to enjoy. Escalera was able to provide these gift baskets to students of minority families because they were heavily affected by the pandemic.

GSA

Q&A with Advisor Cheyenne Montalbin

BY GIO FERROGGIARO

Q: Who is the club for?

A: "It's for everybody. We focus on LGBTQ issues, but it's a community to get more info, meet more people, it's basically a space that anyone can get into, or be a part of."

Q: What does the club do?

A: "We try to educate and create a space to create a community for people to tell their own stories, and a space for people to hang out. We've been creating info and small events for people to go to, and getting guest speakers to come in for the kids to understand LGBTQ a little more. We host the day of silence at Benson, and we've hung out with other GSA groups at other schools, and even attended the PPS GSA summit!"

Q: What is your goal?

A: "We educate students both LGBTQ and not about LGBTQ issues and events, and we are

also a safe space for people to be in. Some show up because they feel that it's nice to feel like you're making a difference at Benson, and getting to improve Benson at large, and a Freshman 4 years from now could make a difference with how scared and alone they feel. It also gives some things to do on Wednesdays because there are no classes."

Q: When do meetings happen?

A: "Meetings happen every Wednesday at 12:00pm."

Q: Where has everyone been meeting during Covid?

A: "We almost always have meetings online, in a zoom meeting."

Q: How has covid changed how the club operates?

A: "They usually only meet in person after school, but now they only meet during school."

Online or in person, this club delivers

BY THY NGUYEN

Asian and Pacific Islander Club is open to anyone. The club president is Bethany Brundage and the advisor is Ms. Padua. Their goal is to create a safe and fun environment where students are able to learn about Asian culture and make new friends, which is why club meetings are mostly dedicated to guest speakers, playing games, watching movies, and presentations and fun facts about different aspects of Asian culture. Asian Cultural Club has been a part of Benson for over five years. They used to have meetings every other Wednesday during lunch in Ms. Padua's room but due to the pandemic they've started meeting on Fridays at 3:20 through Google Meets. Restrictions from COVID-19 have put a pause to pizza parties, having lunch together, and talking in-person, but the club still operates as well as it did before.

Officers: Tyler Wynn, Bethany Brundage, Huy Dien

Members: Franjelica Dadulla, Jennifer Martinez, Kim Tran, Kimmy Trinh, Lilia Le, Tiffany Trinh



Impact Club makes due

BY VANESSA CORTEZ-TORRES

Impact Club is a club that helps promote the wellbeing of the community by educating its members about various aspects of healthcare and community building. This year Impact is coordinated by Mrs. Keith, President Vivian Pham and Vice President Shresta Anand. Impact hosts monthly meetings through Google meet. During this difficult time, Impact has adjusted by having online workshops instead of teaching skills in person.

Officers: Vivian Pham, Shresta Anand, Bethany Brundage, Jollie Nguyen

Members: Amiya Brazzle-Morgan, Axel Lozano-Ortiz, Karissa Mendoza, Kayley Chan-Ayala, Megan Ho, Vanessa Cortez-Torres



Commicare takes on the heartbreaking reality of domestic abuse

BY THY NGUYEN

It's estimated that an American is sexually assaulted every 73 seconds and every nine minutes that victim is a child, according to RAINN. Sexual violence affects millions of people across the United States each year, but most cases stay unreported because victims aren't comfortable speaking out about their experiences or don't have the resources to. The Advanced Leadership class at Benson wants to promote change, which is why they've partnered with CommuniCare to donate money to nonprofits in Multnomah county that support sexual assault victims and survivors.

CommuniCare is a program where a group of students determine a cause they want to raise money for at the beginning of the year and dedicate the rest of the year to completing the grantmaking process. This includes researching nonprofits, evaluating grant proposals, meeting with representatives from those organizations, and deciding where to donate their money to.

There are a lot of issues within the Portland community that need to be addressed, but Advanced Leadership says they chose to donate to victims of sexual assault this year because of the affects of COVID-19. Their mission statement articulates, "Due to COVID, families are required to stay at home. To many, going to school can be seen as an opportunity to escape from abuse happening at home and receive support to continue fighting. We want to continue this fight from afar and make sure everyone feels safe and knows who to rely on."

Last year Leadership and the Benson community was able to raise \$1,500 to be matched to \$15,000 for mental and environmental health organizations. Despite the challenges that online-learning presents, Leadership says that they hope they are able to surpass that number this time around and that they are able to continue working with CommuniCare in the years following.



ARTWORK BY ZELLA SILVERMAN

STUDENTS



voice
calls



we don't

How we stay connected



Socially
distant
hangs

Gaming



Texting

ARTWORK BY TRINA PHAM

ARTWORK BY MADDY BAIRD





Staying Sane While Staying Home

Attending school remotely due to the ongoing global pandemic can result in unintended hardships for students and their families. Even with these hardships students have coped with online learning from home differently, with some success.

BY MILAN HAWK

In times with little structure and state orders to stay remote, our homes have become our schools and with that come challenges. Our Benson Yearbook team sent out a mental health poll for our students to fill out. We asked about mental health issues they have faced since the beginning of the pandemic. Almost 44% percent of them had said they faced depression, with 12% feeling stress as the second highest answer. Loneliness and boredom were also mentioned repeatedly. "I am less optimistic and a bit easier to annoy," confesses Marti.

These are facts that the students can't deny. What students are doing to cope with these issues? Their responses reflected how resilient Benson students are. The survey was flooded with answers like, video games, cooking, chatting with friends, reading and the company of their pets. Despite the large amount of mental health issues being faced our students are finding ways to stay well in these circumstances. Marti also notes that they find joy in drawing and being with family. Kai Swanson says they "talk to friends, relax, play/listen to music, meditation, killing time via the internet, staying hydrated, cooking a good meal, going on a walk, etc" to keep spirits up.



PHOTO BY CIRRUS FULLER

Students at Benson are making the best of theirsituation.

Meriwether Stuart says they have been "Writing a frankly absurd amount of fanfiction."

Milo Hagardorn, a junior, is looking at things from a different point of view. "One of the few things I've had going for me is awareness...Looking at the future possibilities is something that I do very often. Not just in school, but in life in general. Or seeing things from a different point of view, what people in different parts of the world see. Remove yourself from the equation, so to speak."

From this it is clear to see that Milo is looking toward future possibilities, and changing your

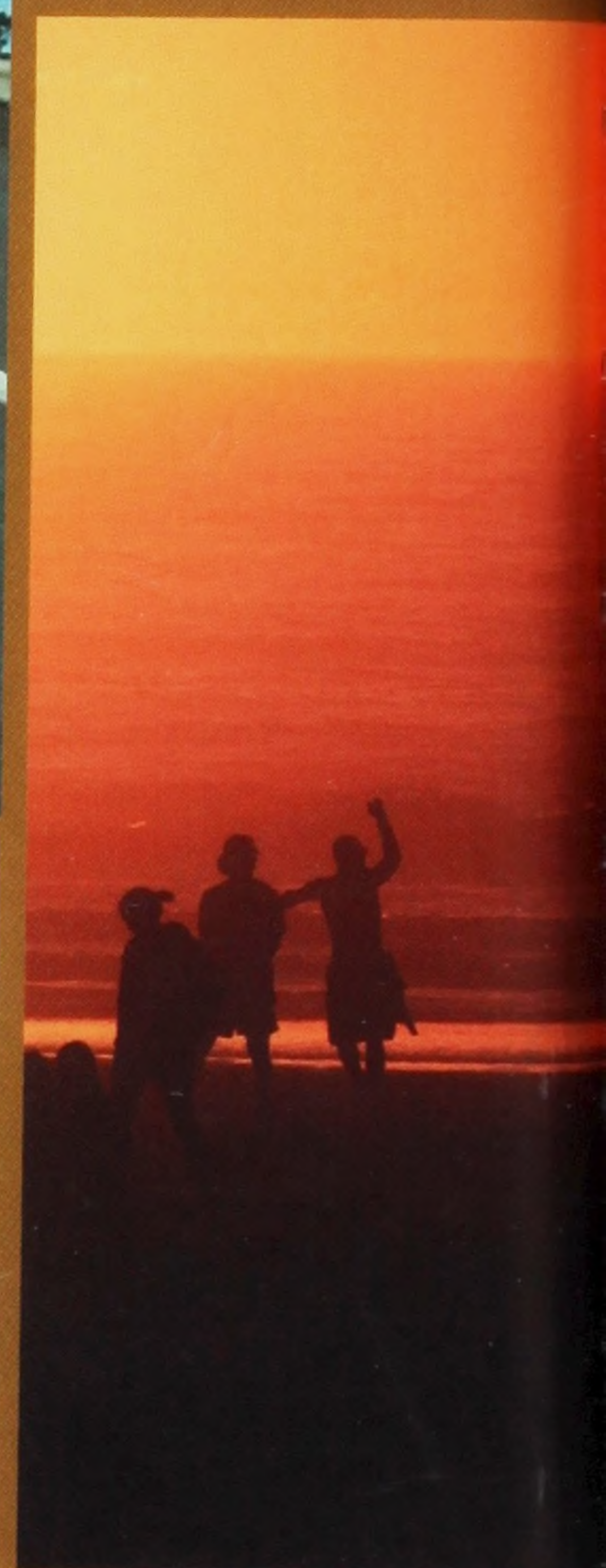
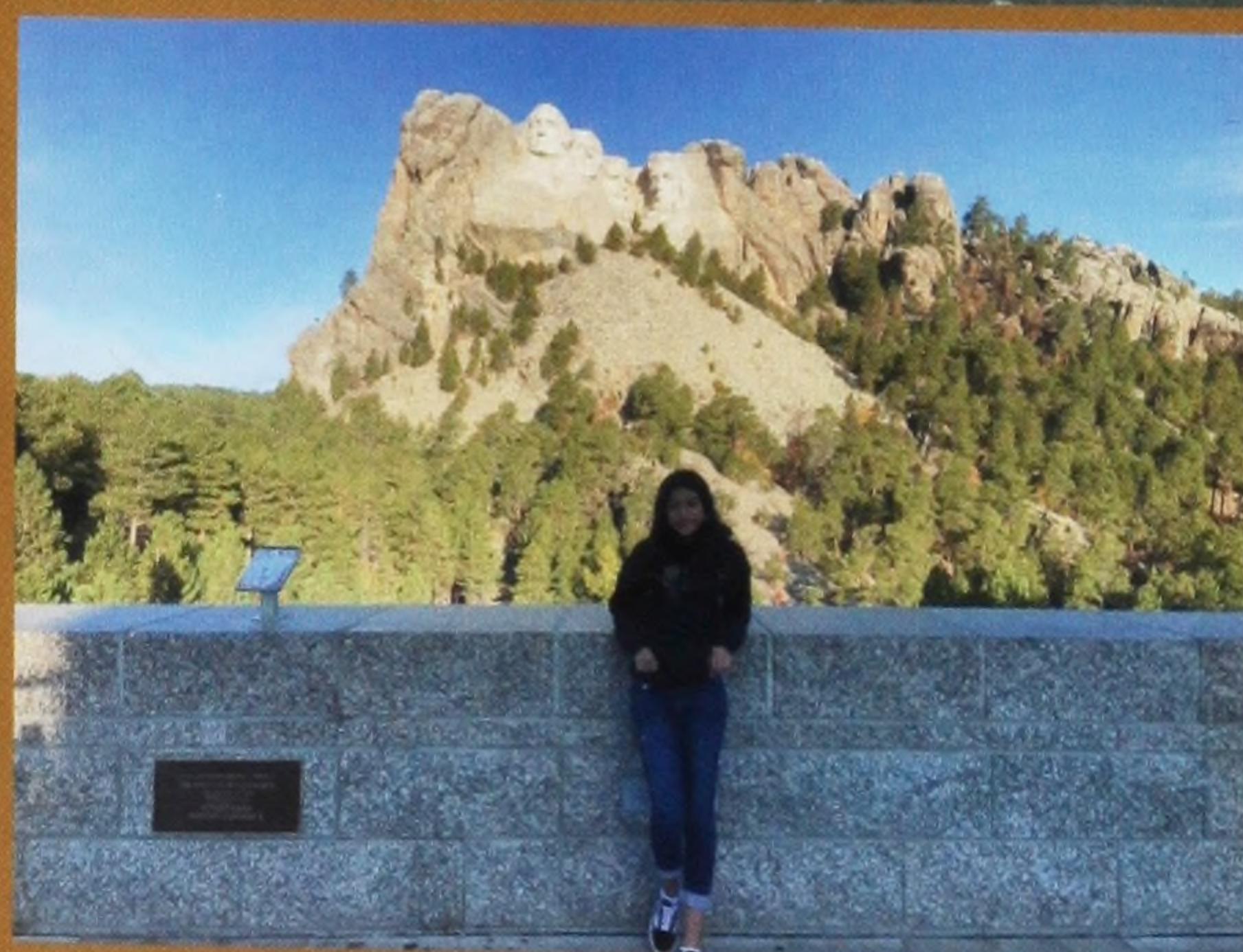
perspective can give you a different outlook on life. These kinds of perspectives are really important when looking at the bigger picture and Milo's point of view reflects that.

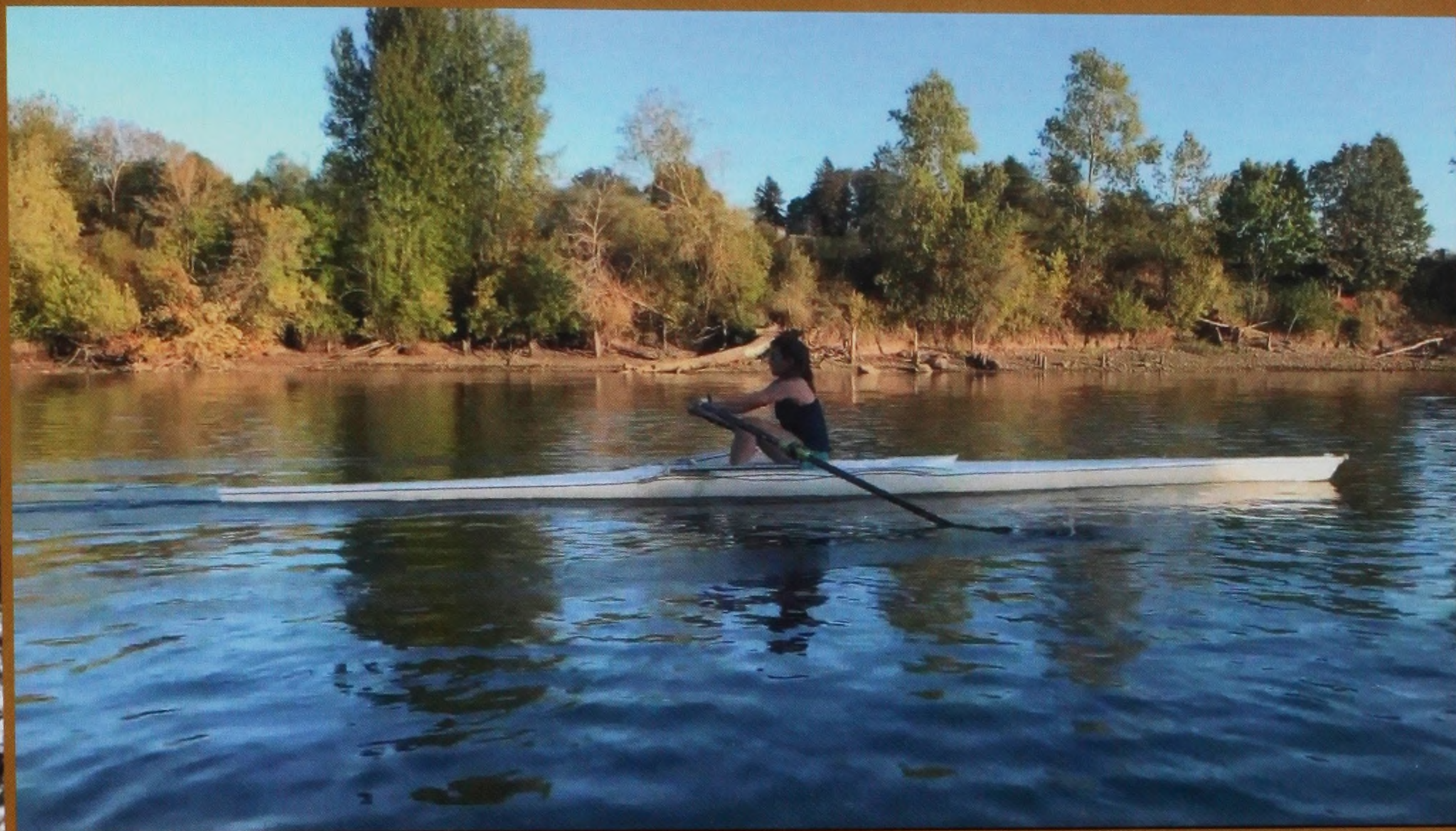
Cole Hagedorn says, "I procrastinate less and I'm more empathetic than I was."

"(It's) made me appreciate things a lot more," says Jordan Tran.

Being at home for school every day during these important years of our education is hard and has affected every single student, but how students are handling it is what's important. The way Benson students stay well at home is more important than ever.

**The only
to be out
when you
have to
stay in**



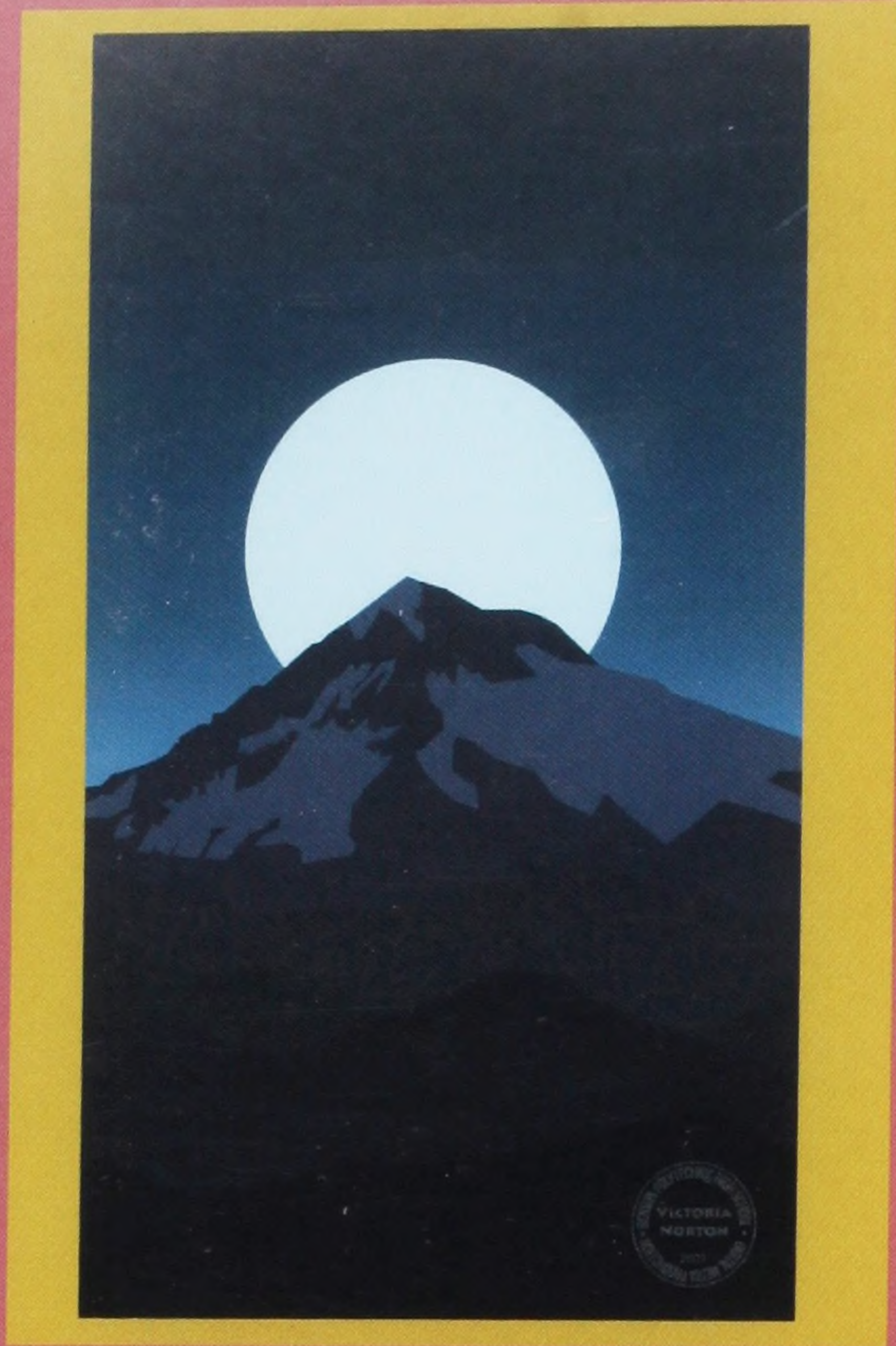


Violet Meyers gets out with a kayak. Jaimie Jahaira hits the road and sees the sights. Liam Brown gears up for a mountain bike ride. Cirrus Fuller captures an Oregon sunset. Ainsley Rayhawk paddle boards on fresh water.



QUARANTINE

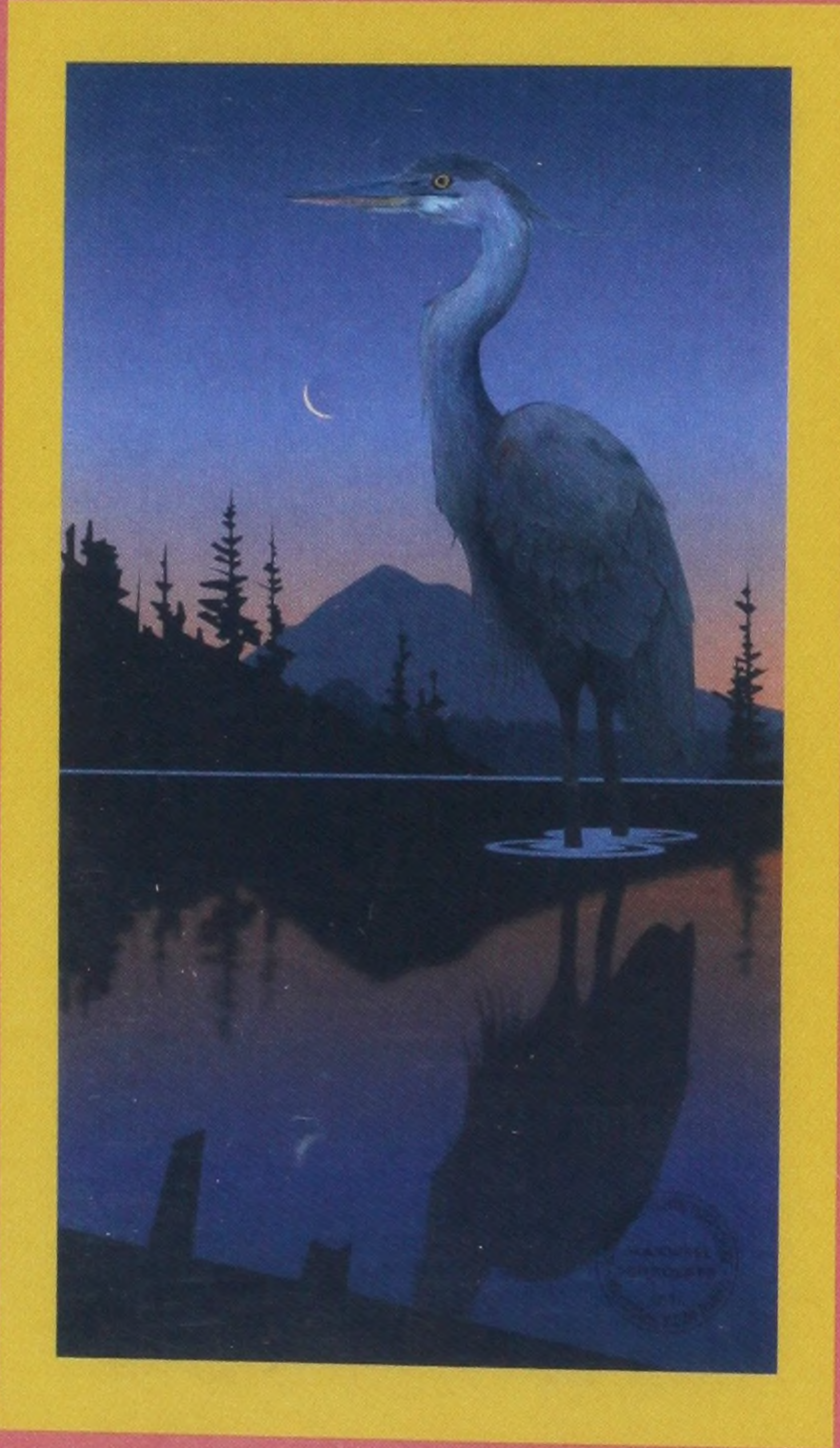




BY VICTORIA NORTON



BY MANNY SCOGGINS



BY MAX SCHROEDER



BY JETT LASCURETTES



BY MARIA MALDONATO



BY AXEL LORONZO-ORTIZ



BY TATE HUDSON



Jordan Tran stays positive in the kitchen of Cafe Yumm! in the PDX airport.

On the frontlines of a national health crisis, students mask up.

BY ESTRELLA MARTINEZ-LOPEZ

Thousands of Americans are facing having to work during a pandemic. Many of these workers are high school students. It's not easy, especially if you're working with the public. Folks who work during this crisis and interact with the public face many challenges, risking their own health, possibly touching contaminated items, enforcing mask mandates, and dealing with their own issues.

"It's messed with my mental health and it's stressful" Faith Miller, who works at Fred Meyer, a very high risk job. She got the job during the pandemic because she wanted to help out.

Student workers have been stuck in scary situations. Jordan Tran, an employee at Cafe Yumm at the Portland Airport said, "People walk past me without a mask on or are not wearing them properly."

"There would be a whole 4-5 person family or friend group with no masks and won't take one when we offer...it's really high risk and they need to realize there are other ways to shop besides coming in without a mask risking exposure to us and so many more," Miller said.

An additional obstacle that affects working teens during this crisis is balancing school and work. "It can be tricky, but I do put school first. If i get a shift while at school I'll just message them and tell them that I can work later in the day," Miller said.

"For me, it's very easy to maintain school and work. Since I don't have many classes and homework, I am available everyday," said Tran. However, during the shut down Tran does get as many hours as he would was before the pandemic.

Working during a crisis isn't easy but there is always a light at the end of the tunnel.



Was it hardest for
the ninth graders?

BY GIOSVEL SOSA ALUJAS

During covid every person has been affected, including students from all grades and schools around the world. But not every one of those students was affected in the same ways. In High School overall, it's been hard to keep it up, since every year is different and has a different purpose.

But let's focus on freshmen.

The transition from 8th to 9th grade is often a stressful one. Students have to change schools, make new friends, and adapt to a new system. With online learning the formula changes completely. And not exactly in a good manner. The transition from Middle School to High School became even more stressful.

"Everything felt like a waste of time. We were supposed to do all these things at the end of the year we all worked for and all that work just kinda went to waste," Brian Avila, a Freshman student said.

Our school offers freshmen a CTE rotation to explore all classes, like a free trial for each. All of these classes are immersive and involve

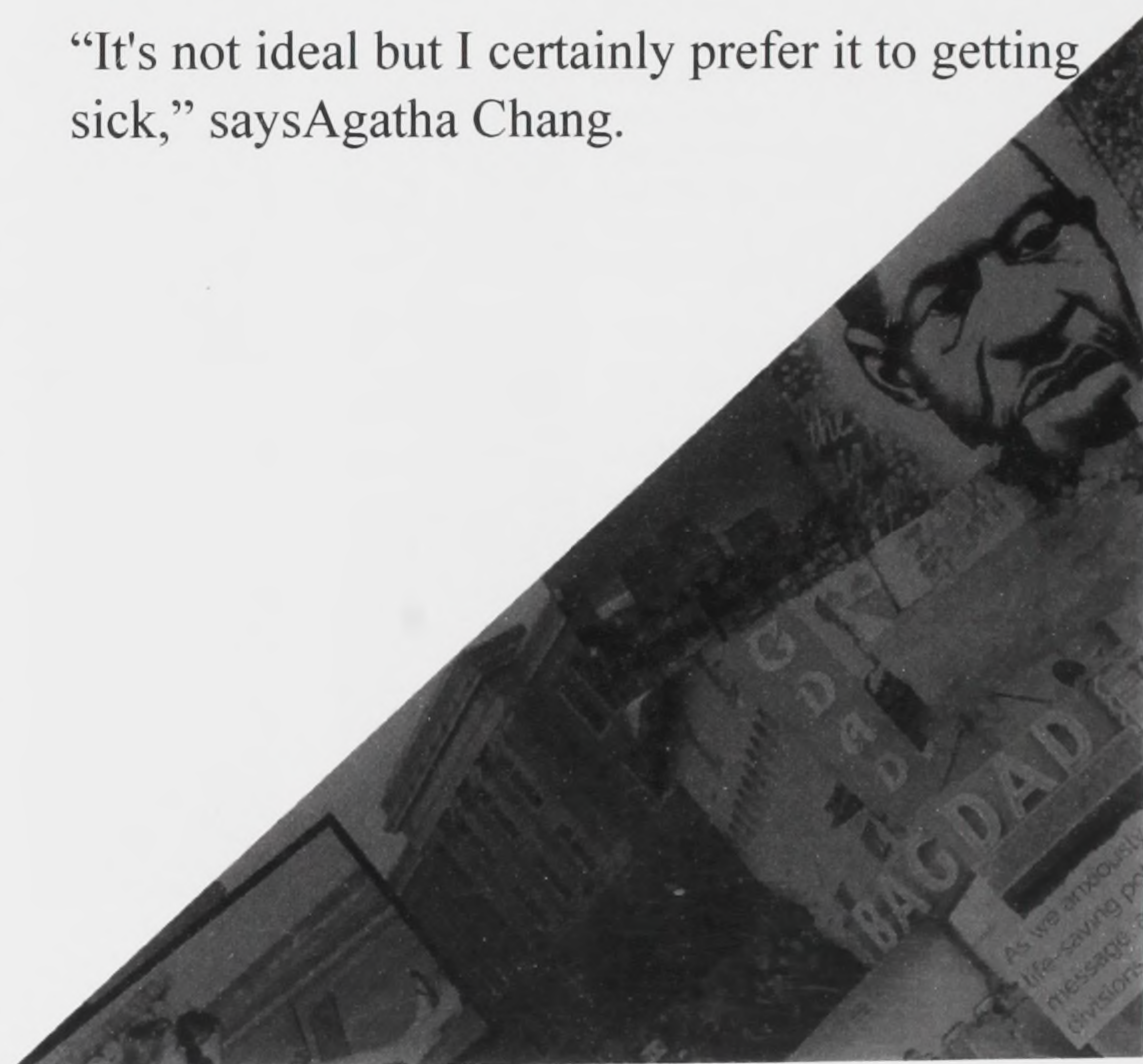
hands-on activities. Freshman year is also the only time high school students attend PE and health classes. PE, which is supposed to be active and done physically, is now done in front of a computer screen. The immersive hands-on classes are not the same experience anymore

"I came to Benson because it was hands on, now it's not hands on enough anymore and it's hard for me to ask for help if it's online." Elijah Snodgrass, Freshman student.

Making new friends becomes harder as not everyone is willing to turn their cameras and microphones on. Those are just some of the biggest issues of online learning in regards to freshman but even something as small as just raising a hand changed.

"If I ever need help in class I could just raise my hand and have a conversation with my teacher. With online school it's hard to do that." says Jaimi Marinez, Freshman student. But our community is strong, we have learned, adapted and changed to survive 2020.

"It's not ideal but I certainly prefer it to getting sick," says Agatha Chang.



Dakotah Adamson-John
Ismail Ahmed
Hana Alene
Joshua Alex
Emilie Anderson
Joseph Anderson



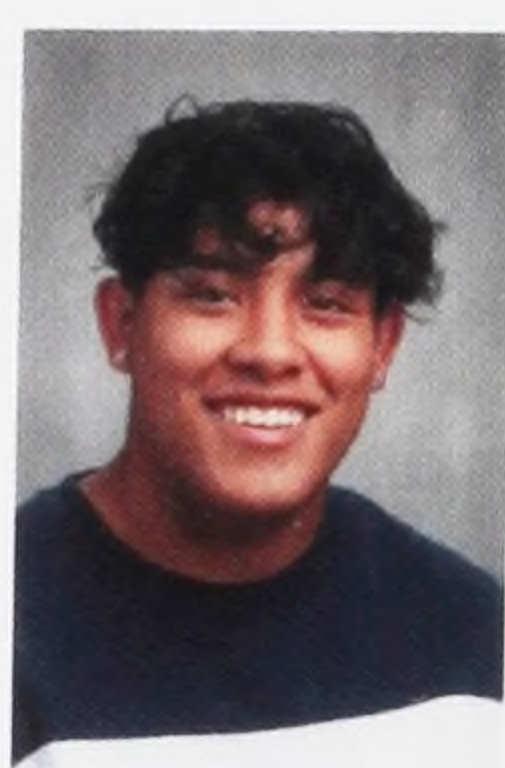
NOT
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Sebastian Angulo
Roxana Aquilar
Ines Aranguren-Ruiz
Saniya Armenta
Anna Ashbaugh
Marley Austin



Brian Avila-Cahuich
Aiden Bailey
Liliana Bautista-Chavez
Rodrigo Bautista-Hernandez
Ninel Bautista-Sanchez
Sabrina Belcher



NOT
PICTURED



NOT
PICTURED

Kadin Bergren-Dizon
Brody Bertsch
Olga Bihun
Carter Black
Vincent Bluhm
Kimisa Bolds

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Royal Bowden
Henry Boyd
Reed Boyles
Gus Bradbury
Kasch Brigham-Saunders
Eleanor Briscoe

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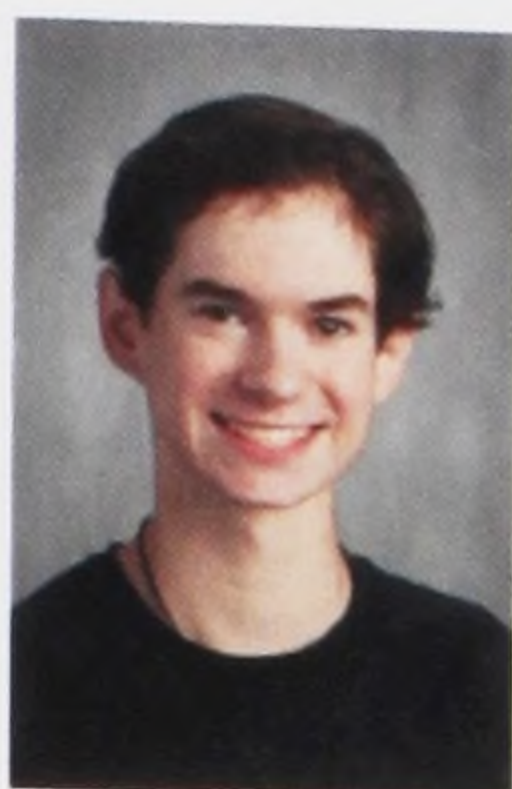


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Malcolm Bunyoli
Aidan Burger
Zackary Bywater
Gerardo Camarena-Cortes



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Alyssa Camenzind
Dyiemah Campbell-Doby
James Cantor
Karen Cao
Ezekiel Carr
Caleb Carter



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Audrey Cason
Joshua-Mizrain Castaneda-Dzul
Jesse Castaneda-Gonzalez
Shekinah Castillo
Curtis Center
Reba Chainey



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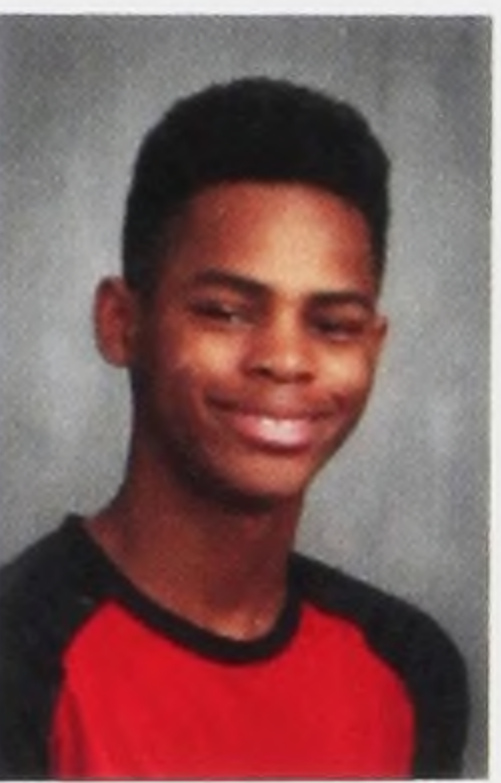
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Jeremiah Childs
James Christian
Beatrix Clark
Eliyo Clark



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Octavia Clark
Jesse Coats
Jamie Coello
Nickara Colbert
Samuel Cooper
Monserrat Corona



James Coronado-McDermott
Kelcie Cottrell
Marcus Cowing
Rachel Cowley-Garcia
Rafael Cox
Camden Crawley

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Mose Daly
William Danley
Revan De Leon
Josefina Delariva
Eduardo Diego-Juan
Olivia (jacob) Duden

Rowan Eaton
Diana Edgington
Tatianna Edwards
Tanner Eglund Gomez
Maximilian Eppley
Salazar Verdugo Evelyn

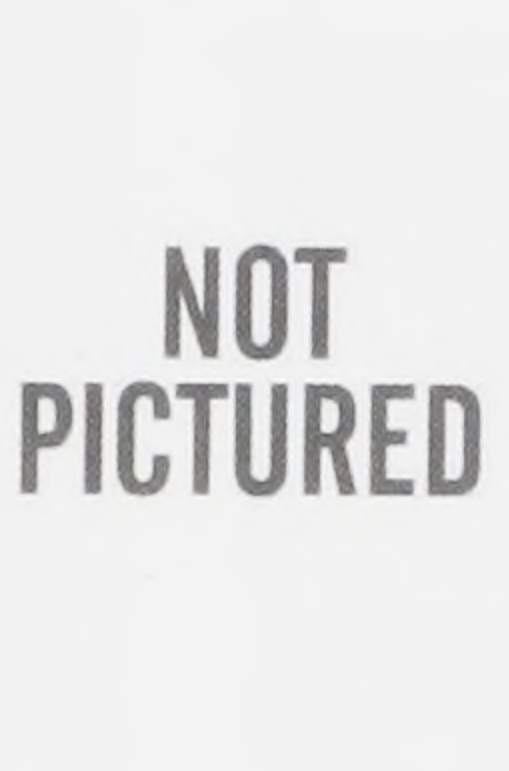
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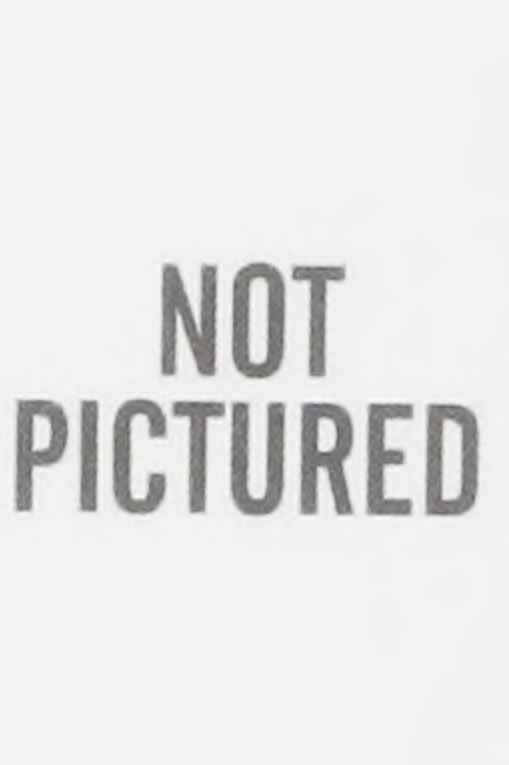
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Sean Felder
Alia Ferguson-Beam
Abram Fields
Deion Fikes
Madison Fish



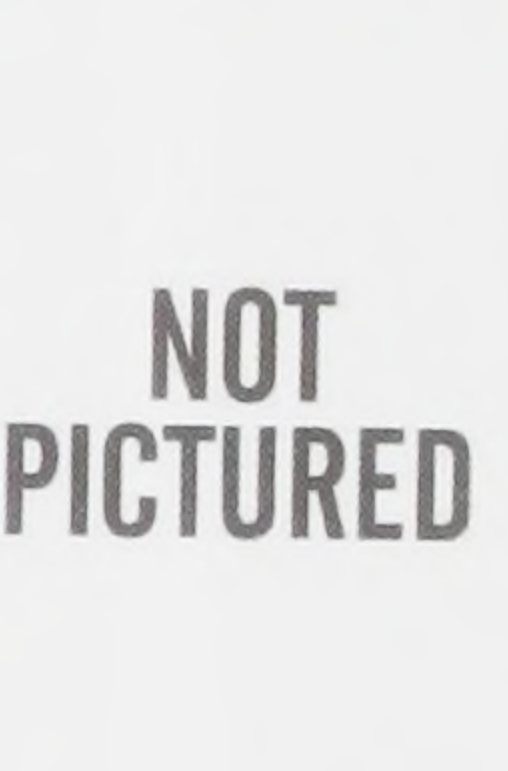
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Koi Flynn
Eddie Francisco-Juan
Cass Franken
Princess Frazier
Cil Xu Sasqet Friedlander



Jack Gallagher
Adrianna Gant
Maite Garcia-Gonzalez
Alijah Gardner
Delilah Garris
Ian Garrison



Kamari Gates
Martine Goebel
Keymora Goldsby
Sorin Gomes
Brandon Gomez Hernandez
Zethaniel Gontard-Guyot



Levi Graham
Michael Graves
Ante Grep
Evelyn Grimm
Eduardo Gudino-Villa
Jatye Hammick



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Hayden Hardy
Adam Hares
Shaleeah Harris
Halen Harrison
Mauriana Hashemian-Orr
Genevieve Hilger



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PICTURED



Miles Hille
Olivia Hinck
Kyan Hinderlie
Sydney Hiransomboon
Navia Hoang
Johnason Holland-Pratt



Rashell Holloway Jr
Virginia Houston
Alexander Hoyt
Apple-Madysyn Hudson
Mars Hulsizer
Hanifa Ibrahim



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Joanna Ixcamparij-Salvador
Jayda Jackson
Arnoldo Jimenez Portillo
Quinten Johnson
Dylan Jones
Eugene Jones



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Micah Jorgenson
Grace Joy
Temesgen Kahassay
Brooklyn Kavanagh
Travis Keller
Lucella Kennybrew

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Timothy Khaw
Alexander Kishel
Marlowe Krohn
Emilly Kurth-Lepoidevin
Nathan Kurtz
Preston Kyles

Anekah Laney
Hung Le
Joaquin Le
Matthew Le
Maddox Leaver
Lola Leckey



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NOT
PICTURED



Robert Lewis
Tatiana Lewis
Shaudi Lindsey
Christian Listro
Marshall Lockridge
Emmett Loftus



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Belinda Lopez San Juan
Anthony Lopez-Bian
James Lopez-Ericksen
Emir Lopez-Salgado
Ilyann Lopez-Vargas
Ethan Ma

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Antonio Marshall
Jennifer Martinez
Jaimi Martinez-Cardenas
Israel Mata Montes
Elijah McCoy
Gabriel McDonald



NOT
PICTURED



Jefferson Mejia-Archila
Grace Miner-Warren
Darius Montague
Jose Montes-Sanchez
Takwain Montgomery
Gabriel Montiel Flores



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PICTURED



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Wilson Aquilar Morales
Eva Moran Pineda
Mateo Moreno
Myles Morgan
Linda Morodai
Oliver Morris





Walker Morris
Eduardo Nesta-Gonzalez
Jennifer Nguyen
Josiah Nguyen
Minh Nguyen
Stuart Norton



NOT
PICTURED



Fernando Olvera
Debora Orozco-Barrios
Alondra Ortiz Fox
Andrea Ortiz-Perez
Xander Overmyer
Ohtli Pacheco-Chavez



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Ollin Pacheco-Chavez
Samuel Padilla
Matthew Padua
Miguel Pedro Francisco
Cristian Perez
Zeus Perez



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PICTURED



Arlo Perin
Tateum Peters
Jennie Pham
Ernest Pila Torres
Zachary Pollock
Ilya Prokhorov

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PICTURED



Brian Pulido-Barrita
Regan Quinn
Carlos Quizhpi
Bobbie-Skyy Ragsdale
Daisy Ramirez-CaMacHo
Amara Reach



Abigail Rebischke
James Redwine
Oscar Regis
Ian Reyes
Luis Reyes-Morales
Nazaret Reyes-Rivera

Safia Richley
 Josue Sanchez Riscajche
 Leslieann Rivera
 Maxwell Roepel
 Angel Rojas-Salazar
 Laedyn Romero



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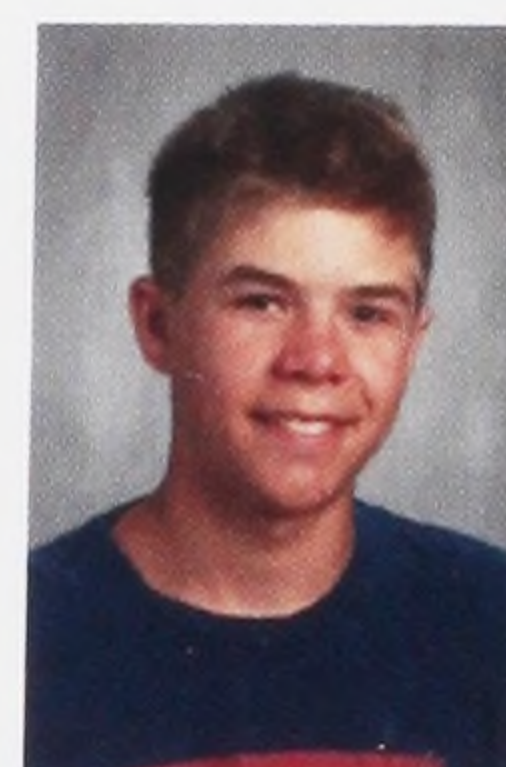
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Penelope Rush
 Gianni Sanchez
 Omar Sanchez Hernandez
 Kai Schlott
 Aaron Schreiber
 Fiona Scoggins



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Kiven Seigny
 Jhada Shamsud-Din
 Sebastian Smith
 Elijah Snodgrass
 Mario Soriano-Zamora
 Giosvel Sosa Alujas



Quetzal Starzak MacMillan
 Gabriel Steaderman
 Antonio Steward
 Colin Strike
 Griffin Strong
 Meriwether Stuart

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Kainoa Sword
 Lukyan Terdal
 Paolo Thompson
 Avaya Thorne
 Cooper Thyken
 Austin Trelstad

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Kenny Truong
 Lucia Valdez-Cadena
 Biana Valiente Robare
 Eleanor Van Der Wolf
 Lorenzo Vanoni
 Jhoan Patrick Vazquez Benitez



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Pedro Vazquez-Sanchez
Kelrith Walters
Jakob Ward
Colby Wargin
Hannah Warren
Leopold Waymire



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Ian Weikel
Angel Werner
Jesse West
Josiah Wester
Timothy Wilkinson
Jordan Williams



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Latia Williams
Quinten Wilson
Miles Wood
Evan Wright
Spencer Wright
William Wu Zhen



Tracy Zhen
Matthew Zipper

10

Choosing a major
after a year online?



BY GIO FERROGGIARO

What a crazy year for Benson High School! The Covid situation hit all of the grades hard, especially the Sophomores! Two major conflicts for sophomores while learning from home is that they may have a hard time choosing a major and may not be able to graduate on time. Students feel differently about learning online.

One major reason that the Sophomores could be in jeopardy is how the majority of Sophomores feel about learning online compared to learning in an actual school. There seem to be feelings of hatred and also of being okay with it.

For example, Jeremy Bizub, a fellow Sophomore, said that they didn't feel like they're "missing out on anything", and that they feel "ready for the next years of high school".

On the other hand, Franjelica Dadulla thinks that they aren't ready for the next few years of high school, and they miss "... actually learning things in my CTE classes". But, a bigger question might be what impact does one year of online learning have for Sophomore students.

Another potential problem for the future of our Sophomores is the difficulty of choosing a major, simply because they didn't really get to experience any CTE classes. Even if they did

though, Sophomore year is the year before Junior year, where you have to choose a major. And knowing what your preference is is very important.

Some people feel ready, like Tristan Casey, who says that "It hasn't really affected me." But, there are also people who think that they simply aren't ready, like Arthur Hefty, who says that "I wanted the CTE classes in person. It's made me rethink what major I might pick." There are many opinions between our Sophomores whether or whether not they feel ready to pick a major.

There happen to be even more reasons why Sophomores may be in jeopardy. Kaylee, who "was prepared to physically go to school where I would be more predictive and less distracted but instead I'm in bed all day not being able to even focus on school work."

There are people who feel like they are missing out on as a sophomore during distance learning, such as Samuel Kuhn, who says that "I feel like I'm missing out on a lot of social stuff and teacher help for assignments."

In conclusion, the sophomores of Benson High School are being affected by online school. Their futures may be in jeopardy and it isn't looking any better.

Still, for some, it can be a positive thing.

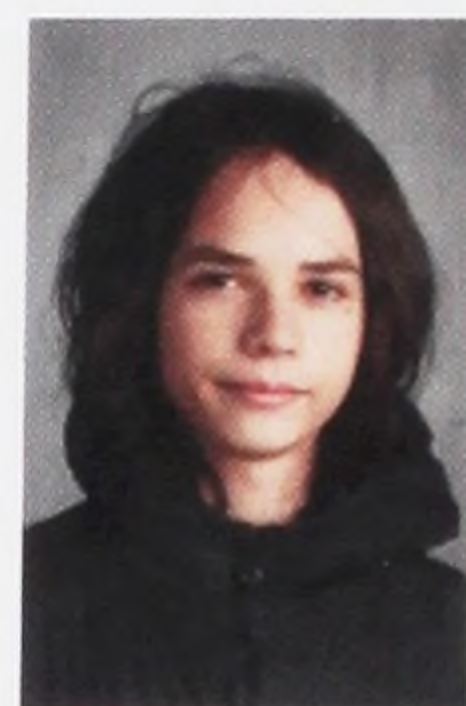
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Oscar Abelanet
Piper Acton
Ariana Adams
Adam Adan
Ian Alexander
Sidiri Allie

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Sheila Alvarado
Michelle Alvarez-Vera
Janet Alvez-Villafuerte
Samuel Anderson
Kevin Angulo-Hernandez
Ibette Apolonio-Carrasco
Melen Araya



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Serena Aulbach
Andrew Babaie
Titan Bailey
Thurston Bain
William Ballaris
Maryjane Barber
Jasmine Batres

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Oscar Bautista
Elvin Bautista-Barrios
Benita Belveal
Theodore Benson
Rhys Bevan
Olive Bierd
Jeremy Bizub Jr



Avery Bjork
Saul Blackbird
Natalia Blandon Cotoc
Noah Blender
Kali Bockman-Steinberg
Elijah Bogle
Reba Booze



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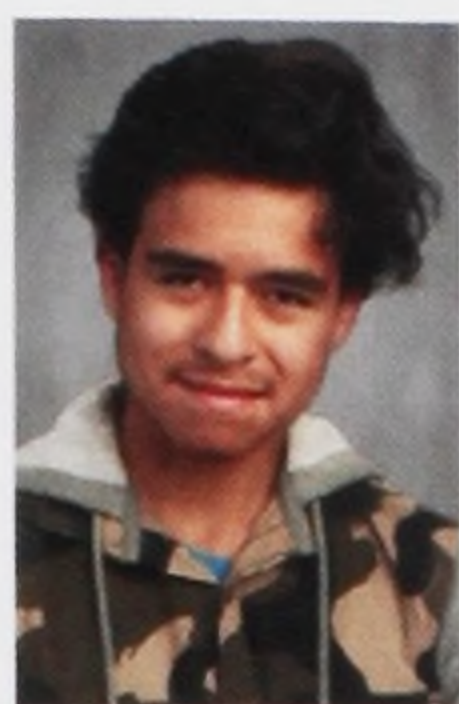
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Alexander Brasell
Alex Brenner
Charles Brown
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Moises Buckner
Ethan Burger



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Marley Burland
Edrian Caceres-Cen
Micah Campos
August Carlson
Cesar Carreto
Ethan Carter
Ella Cary



Vincent Casey
Vincenzo Castaldo
Angel Castillo-Bojorquez
Adrian Castillo-Interian
Karla Chacaj
MacKenzie Chambers
Tania Chavez

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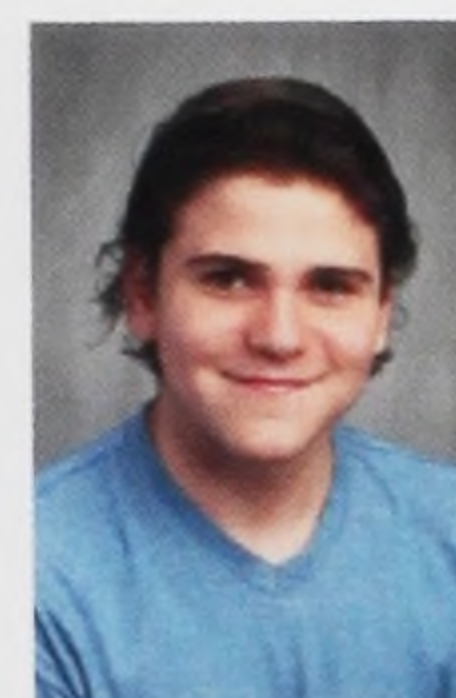


Moses Chesterfield
Hunter Chinn-Raicht
Ivan Coleman
Paige Cook
David Coot-Interian
Samantha Cotton
Emilyn Crawford

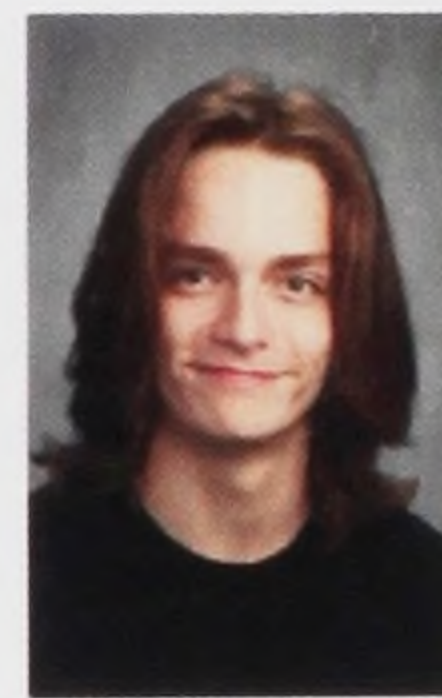
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Oscar Crimin
Daniela Cruz Martinez
Linus Cullins-Shaver
Frances Curley O'Malley
Franjelica Dadulla
Tarcicio Davila Najera
Zoe Davila



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Tariq Dawan
Tyler Decker
Eileen Demara
Yosef Demie
Jacob Dennis
David Dent
Gustavo Dewitt



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Melisa Diaz Carreno
Solomon Doettger
Graham Dopierala
Daniel Dronov
Malik Duell
Jerome Duncan
Sierra Dupuis

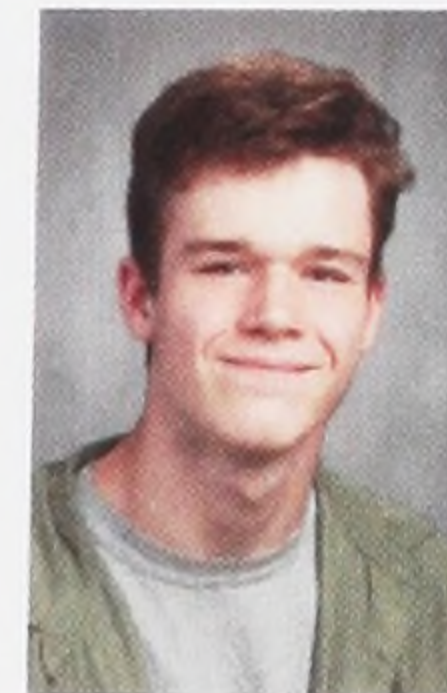
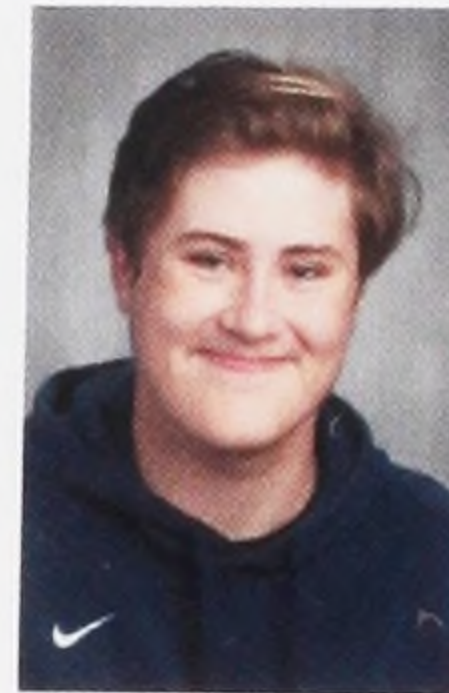
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 Jeremy Falk
 John Fernandez Torres
 Giovanni Ferroggiaro
 Jasper Fesler
 Liam Fleming
 Caroline Francisco



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Yasmine Francisco
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 Kieran Gabriel
 Spencer Gallagher Sr
 Owen Gawlik
 Eleanor Gebhardt
 Ashton Georgaras



Chaim Gerber
 Desmond Gerber
 Khaliya Graham
 Liam Gregston
 Madison Grenz
 Marissa Grochowski
 Paco Guerrero



Andrew Haas
 Milo Hagardorn
 Cole Hagedorn
 Nadia Hajenian
 Keegan Hall
 Ethan Hanus
 Daisy Hardaway



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Milan Hawk
 Tessa Hefty
 Dayanara Hernandez Navarete
 Ana Hernandez-Barrios
 Amaya Herrera
 Andrew Hoffman
 Kyeese Hollands



Noah Hollen
 Vivian Holm
 Lucas Hosek
 Omar Hunt Auld
 Marvin Iraheta-Romero
 Tomas Ixcamparij Riscajche
 Alexander Jackson

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Romeo Jackson
Claire Jennings
Paul Jennings
Imani Johnson
Jaylynn Johnson
Zachary Johnson
Mira Kagan



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Jack Keever
Elise Kennedy
Terianna Kennedy
Devan Key
James King
Jonathan Klatchko
Emily Klesch



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Henry Knapp
Priscilla Kotey
Finnian Kraus
Samuel Kuhn
Robert Lamkin
Aysha Langer
Eli Lanners



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Evelyn Larson
Kayla Le
Thinh Le
Gideon Lehn
Malaya Lesueur
Jonah Lichtenberg
Myrddyn Liles



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Cesar Lindo Garc?a
Samantha Lobdell
Azlan Logan
Adriana Lopez-Burgos
Arisleydi Lopez-CaMacHo
Kaiolohia Luka
Reid Lyden



Flor Madrigal
Isaac Magarro
Julian Mahoney
Mariaelena Maldonado-Eusebio
Jeris Malynowski
Ivan Manzo
Roland Marrach

Stephanie Martinez De Jesus
Joysie Martinez
Mar'Isha Martinez
Mark Martinez-Diaz
Brandon Martinez-Vazquez
Aurora Martos
Ariana Maya-Ortiz



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Sylvie McCord
Hannah-Le'Yon McCoy
Matthew McFarland
Cole McVay
Carlos Mejia-Chastain
Jackelyn Mercado
Elijah Merrill



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Violet Meyers
Ana Miguel
Reuben Millhauser
Ivantrae Moore
Anahi Moreno
Mateo Morgan
Daisy Morquecho



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Biniyam Mossie
Parker Myrus
Spencer Nagle
Mickayla Neal
Jeremy Nguyen
Kirin Nontavarnit
Lincoln O'Brien

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Phineas O'Hern
Matthew Ocampo Garcia
Logan Oliverio
Tara Osborne
Madison Page
Sanaa Pankey
Samuel Peters

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Eli Peterson
Dominic Pierce
John Pies
Dylan Platt
Madison Poczynek
Bryce Powell
Kai Powell



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Marjorie Prado-Madrigal
Raynal Prasad
Lindsay Raban
Ainsley Rayhawk
Rachel Rector
Joshua Reddy
Meg Reed



Brandon Rey
Kaily Reyes
Giovanna Reyes-Loera
Isaiah Ricker
Kellina Riebhoff
Dooley Riordan
Owen Robinson



Pamela Rodriguez Padilla
Cyrus Rohrbough
Devin Rounseville
Enrique Roveri White
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Teophilus Sackey
Oby Salazar Rodas

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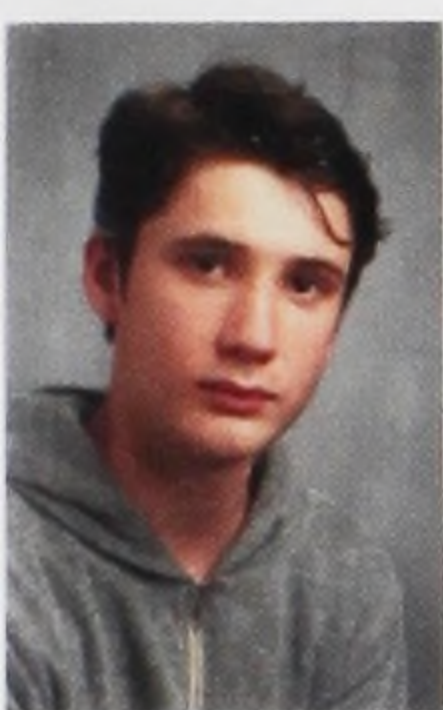
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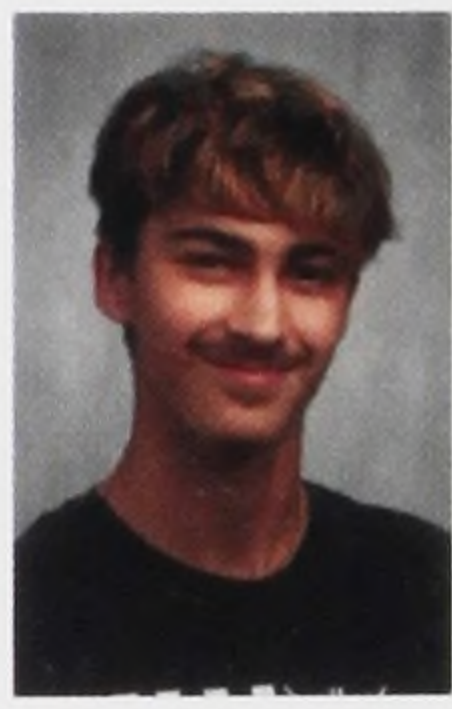
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Kymberlyn Sanchez-Lopez
Aaliyah Sanders
Isis Santos Villaca
Tatum Schaaf
Morgan Schlichten



Porter Schramm
Phoenix Schuler-Hulbert
Kainalu Shadley
Tessa Shaver
Maxwell Shulman-Peter
Kevin Simons
Kenaaz Skannal



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Regina So
Eliseo Stager-Morena
Cecelia Stewart
Addison Stiles
Finn Suchara
Christian Swanson
Kai Swanson

Nazrawi Tesfamariam
Benicio Thorne
Jashaun Tinnon
Kimmy Trinh
Lielit Tsehaine
Diamili Tuz-Bojorquez
Cindy Tuz-Uxul

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Anaiyah Two Two
Clio Tzetos
Luke Underwood
Zackary Underwood
Mariana Valbuena
Eva Valdez
Omar Valencia Garza



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Giles Vaneck
Sonia Velazquez-Anicua
Brayan Velez
Adaya Viall-Mayweather
Indu Voglfield
Joseph Wade
Elliot Walker

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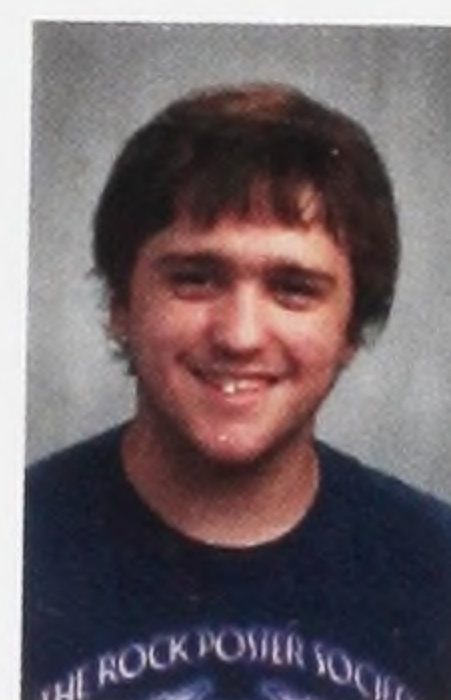


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Olivia Washington
Besa Watiyo
Asher Webb
Tanner Weber
Ja'Kyia Weeks
Levi Wendrow
Sethen Wendrow

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Leeroye Wester
Ludasia Whatley
Owen Wiley
Sela Williams
Aaliyah Wilson
Miles Wood
Ramona Yeagers

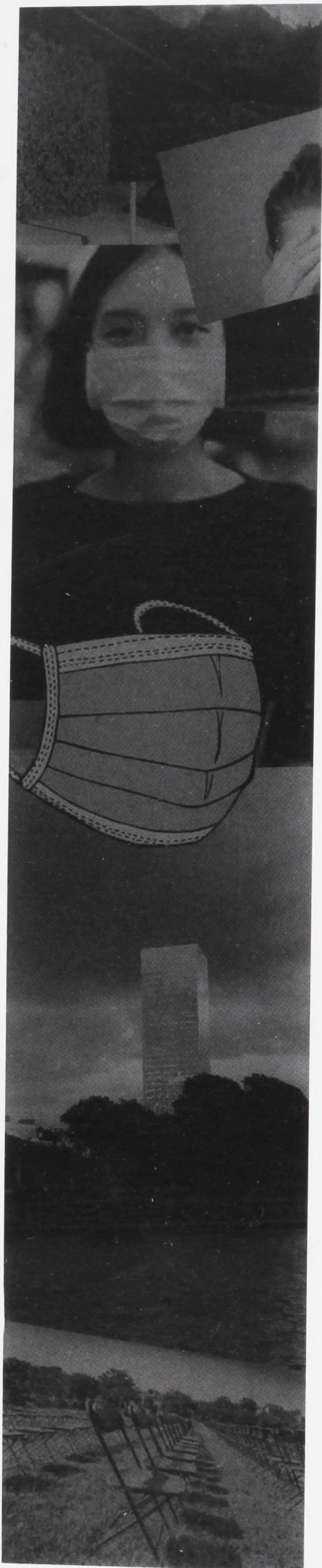


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Juan Zuniga
Dulce Zurita-Hernandez





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BY CATE MILLER

Junior year is a struggle for everyone. You will always hear it referred to as one of the most difficult years of high school, classes become more difficult and you're doing all you can to prepare for graduation the following year.

Distance learning has made the difficulties of Junior year even worse. Many students have struggled with communication and staying motivated. Myles Deverall mentions that it is much harder to communicate problems you're having with your friends and teachers.

This is something that many students have been experiencing with distance learning. Many students feel that distance learning has hindered their academic plans, because many Benson majors are very hands-on, students have felt that distance learning isn't giving them the best education. Other students are more upset about how distance learning has affected their social life.

1

Juniors had it tough

When asked what events he is disappointed to be missing this year Caleb Washington said “Homecoming, sports games, seeing friends, and tech show”. However distance learning brought a lot of good as well. Students feel like they have more free time, they’re getting more sleep and they don’t feel as stressed out by their more difficult classes.

Cordelia Lehto says that a silver lining that came with the shutdown is that she gets more sleep. Oliver Cook and Tiffany Trinh both feel the same way.

2020 and distance learning taught us a lot about our ability to adapt during a difficult time and during the most stressful year of high school. We went through a global pandemic, political changes, wildfires, and protests for human rights all while having a tough year of online school.

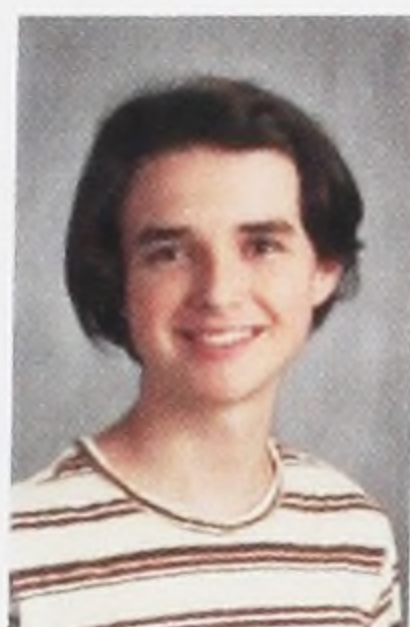
Junior year is a big year for everyone, but our junior year was a big year for history.

Jonathan Alfaro
Mateo Andres Jose
Concepcion Andres-Andres
Jacqueline Avila-Cahuich
Zurisadai Azcorra-Uicab
Madeline Baird
Ian Baldwin

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Oliver Baldwin
Luke Balmer
Nyauna Banks
Carlos Barfield Jr
Landon Barnes
Jordi Bautista-Sanchez
Alexander Beattie



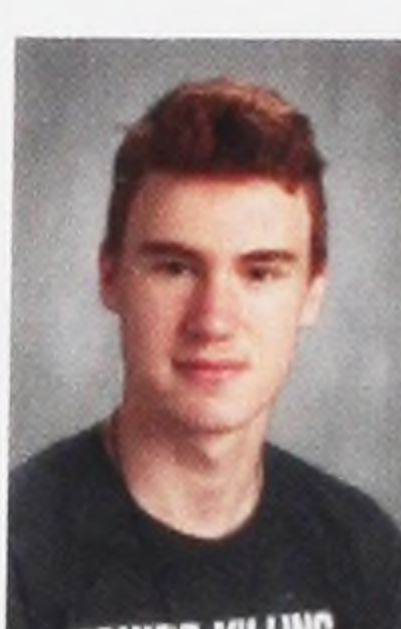
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Bitania Berta
Vincent Birchard
Gwendolyn Blanton
Alexander Bolen
Elias Bouneff
Oria Boyd
Jasper Bradley



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Esme Brady
Simeon Braun
Joshua Breedlove
Albert Briscoe
Lucas Britten
Cloie Brown
Liam Brown



Jack Brundage
Cyrus Bumpurs
Jazmin Caiceros-Ibarra
Ernie Campbell
Sharon Canales
Miguel Canizal
Beatriz Cardenas



Ethan Carman
Eleanie Carreto
Traneese Cash
Benjamin Cassidy
Joe Chan
Kayley Chan-Ayala
Henry Chapman



NOT
PICTURED



Henry Chase
Xiu Chen
Jonas Chernoff
Ana Choc
Owen Christman
Oliver Cook
Liona Coppennoll



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Carlos Cortez
Asa Cosloy
Zackary Cottrell
Cadence Crumble
Aidenisaac Curtis
Ethan Dao
Dakota De Andrade



NOT
PICTURED

Celia Deboer
Natalie Deguzman
Myles Deverell
Kamilah Dillard
Jason Distefano
Charles Dodds
Marlow Dunn



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Derek Edmondson
Elliott Embree
August Erickson
Gabriel Evans
A. Whitney Fields
Sebastian Fleschner
Eamon Folkerth



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Cody Folz
Chance Forrest
Henry Foster
Reason Franken
Cirrus Fuller
Adilene Galindo-Lopez
Sandra Garcia Castaneda



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Melanie Garcia-Gonzalez
William Gaslin
Cinthia Gaspar Miguel
Nathan Gerber
Kevin Gomez Hernandez
Felipe Gonzalez
Gabriel Gonzalez



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Lisandro Gonzalez
Stephany Gonzalez-Lesama
Joanna Gonzalez-Martell
Ofelia Granados-Becerril
Skylar Green
Gabriel Guerrero
Minhthu Ha

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Charlie Rae Hankins
Collin Harrington
Jada Harris
Paradise Hartley
Eamon Haverty
Victoria Hawes
Marae Hendrix-Brown

Peyton Hering
Seth Hess
Raymond Hileman
Hudson Hines
Samuel Hines
Long Hoang
Zanyah Holloway



Isaac Holzapfel
Miguel Hosty
Tate Hudson
Atticus Hurtley
Victor Huynh
Jafer Ibrahim
Eduardo Interian-Cano



Hadiya Jackson
Daehyeop Jang
Owen Jensen
Henry Jimenez-Cabrera
Angela Johnson
Bailey Jorgenson
Vanessa Juan



Tyson Kahnert
Shaun Kaufka
Jesse Keel
Abigail Ketah
Liam Kinnaird
Kai Krause
Clio Kroeze



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PICTURED



Devlin Kyle
Jett Lascurettes
Sela Laulile
Thai Le
Corbin Leaver
David Leckey
Coulter Leek



Cordelia Lehto
Dena Leonard
Alexander Levi
Carter Lewis
Brent Littlejohn
Indiana MacWilliamson
Jaiden Maddox



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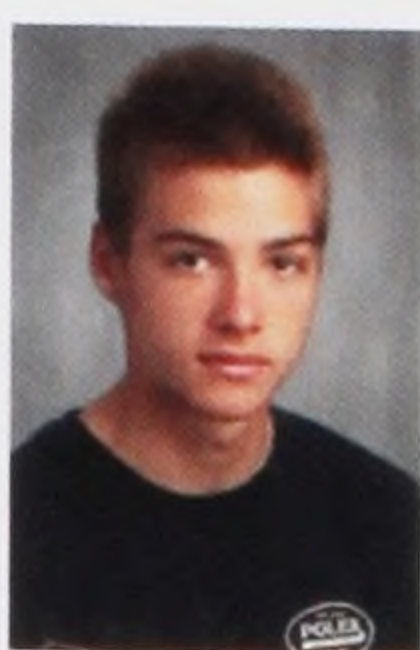
Padreic-David Maresh
Yuki Marquez-Vega
Joseph Martinez
Maralee Martinez
Alexander Martinez-Gonzalez
Esmeralda Martinez-Hernandez
Manning Martos



NOT
PICTURED



NOT
PICTURED



NOT
PICTURED

NOT
PICTURED



Mariajose Mata
Benjamin Mateer
Oliver Maxwell
Logan McEvoy
Levi McKinney-Best
Valerie McMahon
Bella McNeice



Charles Mease
Juan Mendoza-Ruiz
Liam Meredith
Catherine Miller
Donovan Miller
Faith Miller
Yahya Mohamed



NOT
PICTURED



Owen Moore
Gabriel Moreland
Uriel Morgado-Espinosa
Savannah Mullen
Lucas Murphy
Sonia Nath
Walter Nathe



Angela Nguyen
Jolie Nguyen
Logan Oates
Alan Orozco-Barrios
German Ortiz-Perez
Delaney Otteman
Isaiah Padilla



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NOT
PICTURED



Kristopher Palmer
Riley Parker
Noah Penwell
Abisua Perez-Diaz
Samuel Perkins
Jazzmin Perry
Casey Peters



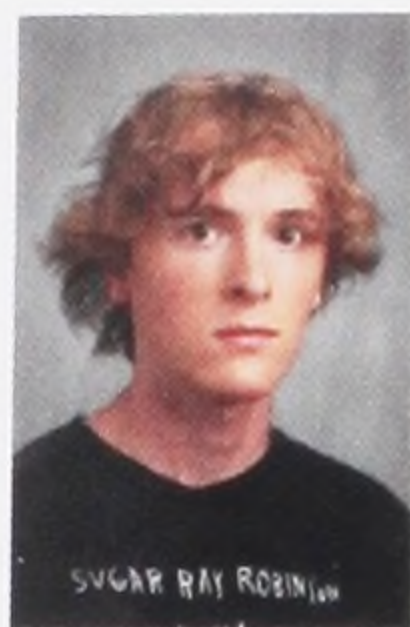
Aidan Petrarca
Reese Pfenning
Trina Pham
Askia Phillips II
Ashton Poczynek
Wyatt Pursley
Andrew Quint



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PICTURED

Telia Quiroz
De'Yonna Ragsdale
Andrea Raguay-Moscut
Jennifer Ramirez
Edgar Ramirez-CaMacHo
Avery Ramsey
Nivek Rappaport

Wix Rediske
Elliot Reid
Arianna Rice
J'Nia Richards
Amberly Riscajche
Nora Rishel
Samuel Robertson



NOT
PICTURED



NOT
PICTURED



Frida Rodriguez-Brahms
Malachite Rogers
Archie Rohden
Atticus Root
Emma Ross
Nicolas Ruiz-Acuay
Lamik Russom



NOT
PICTURED



NOT
PICTURED

NOT
PICTURED



Brynn Ryan
Zachary Salar
Gonzalo Sanchez-Ventura
Jonathan Santiago-Vasquez
Ronaldo Saquic-Sicajau
Adam Schlatter
Rhys Schreck

NOT
PICTURED



Fisher Shasserre
Alaric Shaw
Hana Shiferaw
Simon Shulevitz
Jayne Simpson
Eduardo Siquina-Siquina
Jayilee Sloan



NOT
PICTURED



NOT
PICTURED



Evan Smith
Felix Smith
Josiah Smith
Tahlulah Solis
Daisy Soto-Anicua
Carlos Soto-Salazar
Gavin Spliethof



NOT
PICTURED

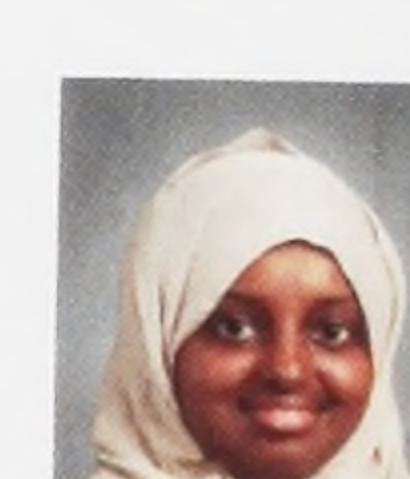


Harper Stannard
Grayson Stephens
Shea Stephens
Jalen Swift
Beza Tamra
Tyler Tang
Sena Tefera Tollera



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PICTURED

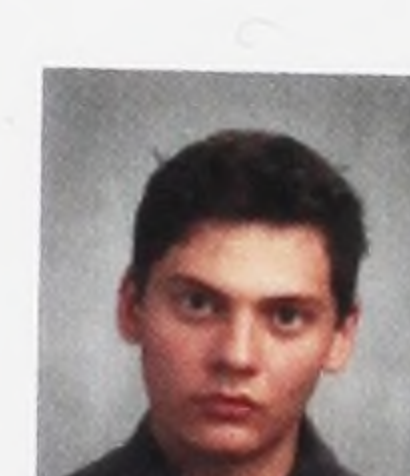
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Emma Tessandori
Vy Thai
Doney Tran
Tiffany Trinh
Luka Tsiorba
William Tucker
Andrew Two Two



NOT
PICTURED



NOT
PICTURED





NOT
PICTURED

NOT
PICTURED



Rylen Tyler
Elijah Urbaitel
Lily Urquhart
Kairi Valle-Yah
Ella Van Schoick
Nicholas Vandee
Blossom Vang



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PICTURED



Italia Velazquez
Koablue Vella
Delfina Ventura Gonzalez
Thai Vilches Le
Maksym Vlad
Phillip Vu
Miles Walsh

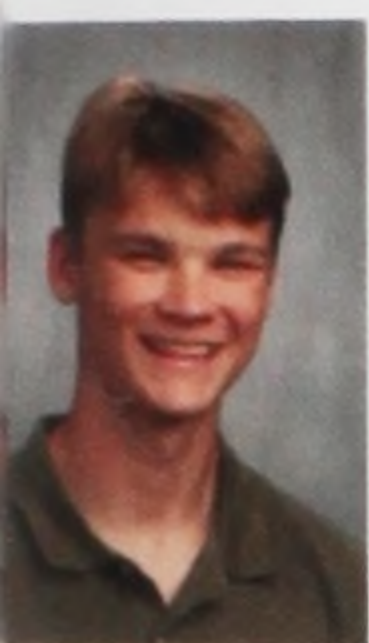


NOT
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NOT
PICTURED

Seth Walton
Kiera Wang
Trinity Warren
Caleb Washington
Mariah Watson
Jay Weil
Rye Weithman



NOT
PICTURED

NOT
PICTURED



Kordan Wesolowski Wease
Zane Wheeland
Henry Whorrall
Henry Wilken
April Williams
Benjamin Wilson
Mance Wilson



Ayden Wolf
Caleb Wood
Tyler Wynn
Bryan Yanase
Andre Young Jr
Jacob Zamora
Nicky Zhen



Maxeem Ziemin

SENI

ORS

BY NORA RISHEL

After a chaotic junior year, the class of 2021 has had to adapt to a completely new learning environment and has missed out on their senior year. Instead of going to the game on Friday night, they are stuck at home. Instead of seeing their friends in the morning, they see blank avatars on the screen of their virtual classroom. Sitting behind a screen all day has taken a toll, but it's just what they have had to adapt to.

Some of the seniors have described online learning as "...not being able to have any hands-on learning." and "...not having interactions with any friends, only family." On the flip side, there were some positive things that seniors had to say. "I can attend class from my bed." said a couple of seniors. They also stated "There is more flexibility in classes and I have more time for outside activities."

Overall, this year has taken us for a ride and the seniors have stayed strong through it all.



Halimatou Abdoulaye

“I am a woman who values herself and fights for what she believes in. I will not give up on my dreams regardless of who or what is against it.” - H.A.

Alexander Andrews

Looking
like Zach
Morris



Maddy Baird

Everything ahead of us is totally unknown... It's exciting but also pretty scary. - Jake Jr (Adventure Time)



Biff Barca

“But remember, boy, that a kind act can sometimes be as powerful as a sword.” Rick Riordan from The Battle of the Labyrinth

Ari Becker



When I'm old, I
going to look
like Mr. clean. I
don't care if I
have to take
steroids to look
the part.

Gwendi Blanton

People say
cheaters
never win,
but I'm
graduating



Gabe Bliss

Birds are
stupid,
they're just
discount
reptiles



Jonathan Bontty

You miss
100% of
the shots
you don't
take.





Amiya Brazzle-Morgan

“Nothin’...
just
chillin’.”~
Bruh man



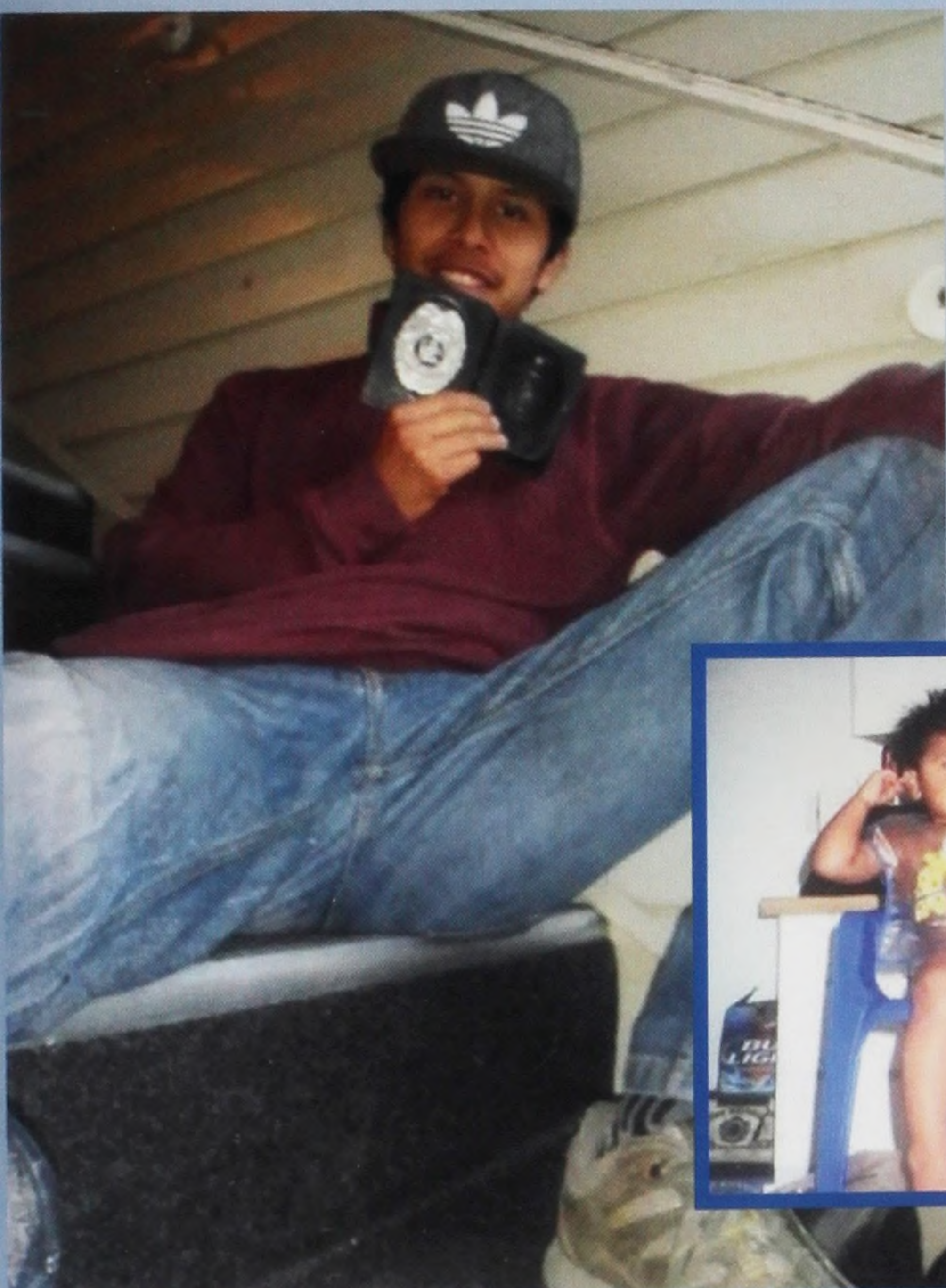
Jonte Brown

“Count your
blessings,
not
problems”
-Drake



Isabelle Camenzind

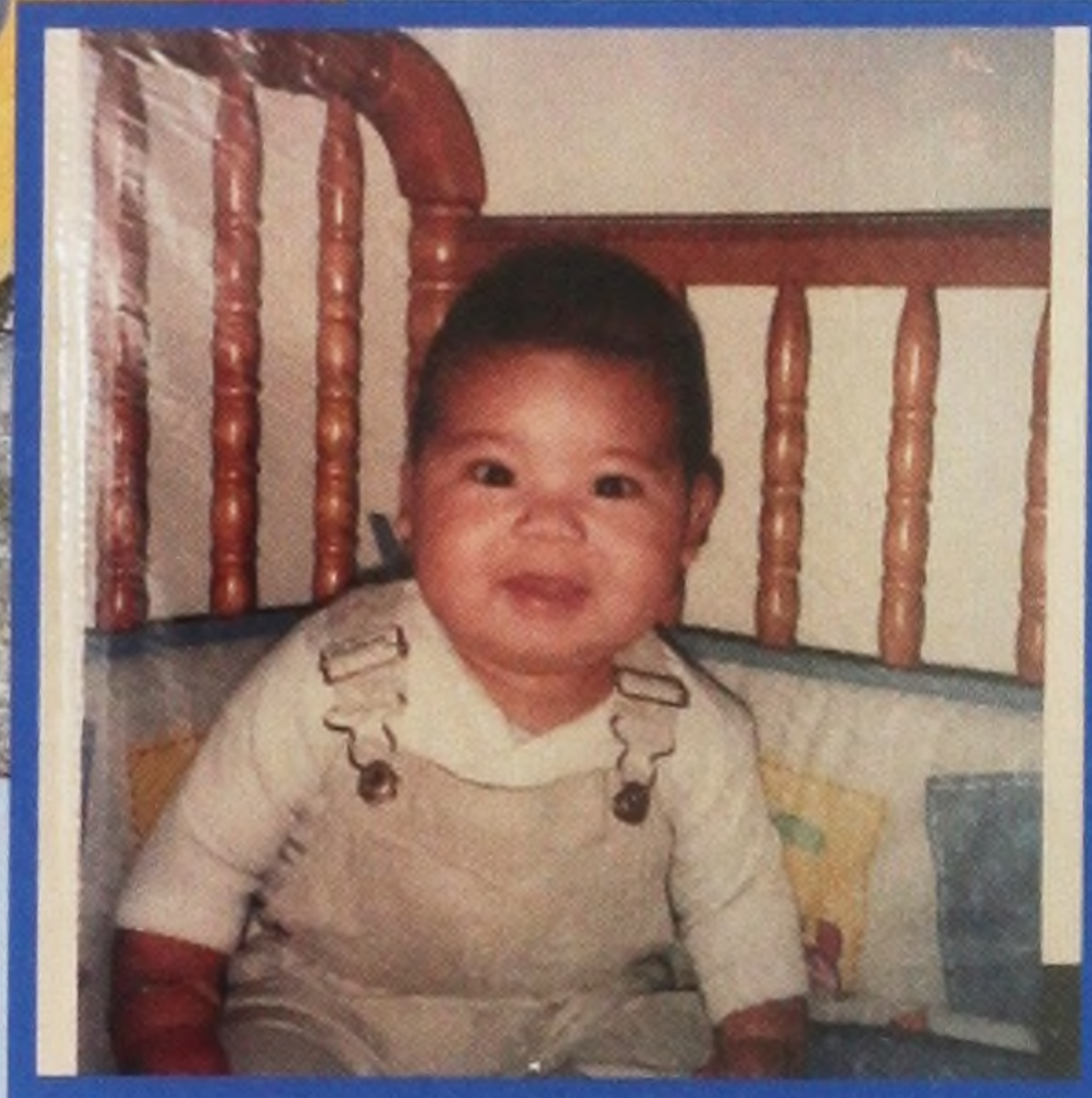
"Every ending
is a beginning,
we just don't
know it at the
time" CM
S7E24



Alan Campos

Finally... high school
is over, it was a pain
going through it but I
honestly enjoyed it,
thank you all for the
great memories and I
wish you all good
luck.

Angel Carmona-Murillo



“If you don’t like your destiny, don’t accept it. Instead have the courage to change it the way you want it to be.” —
Naruto Uzumaki

Collette Carr

Live
life to
the
fullest!



Sophia Chin

That's
a lot of
work



Veronica Cowley-Garcia

If you follow
your dreams,
you are
capable of
anything.



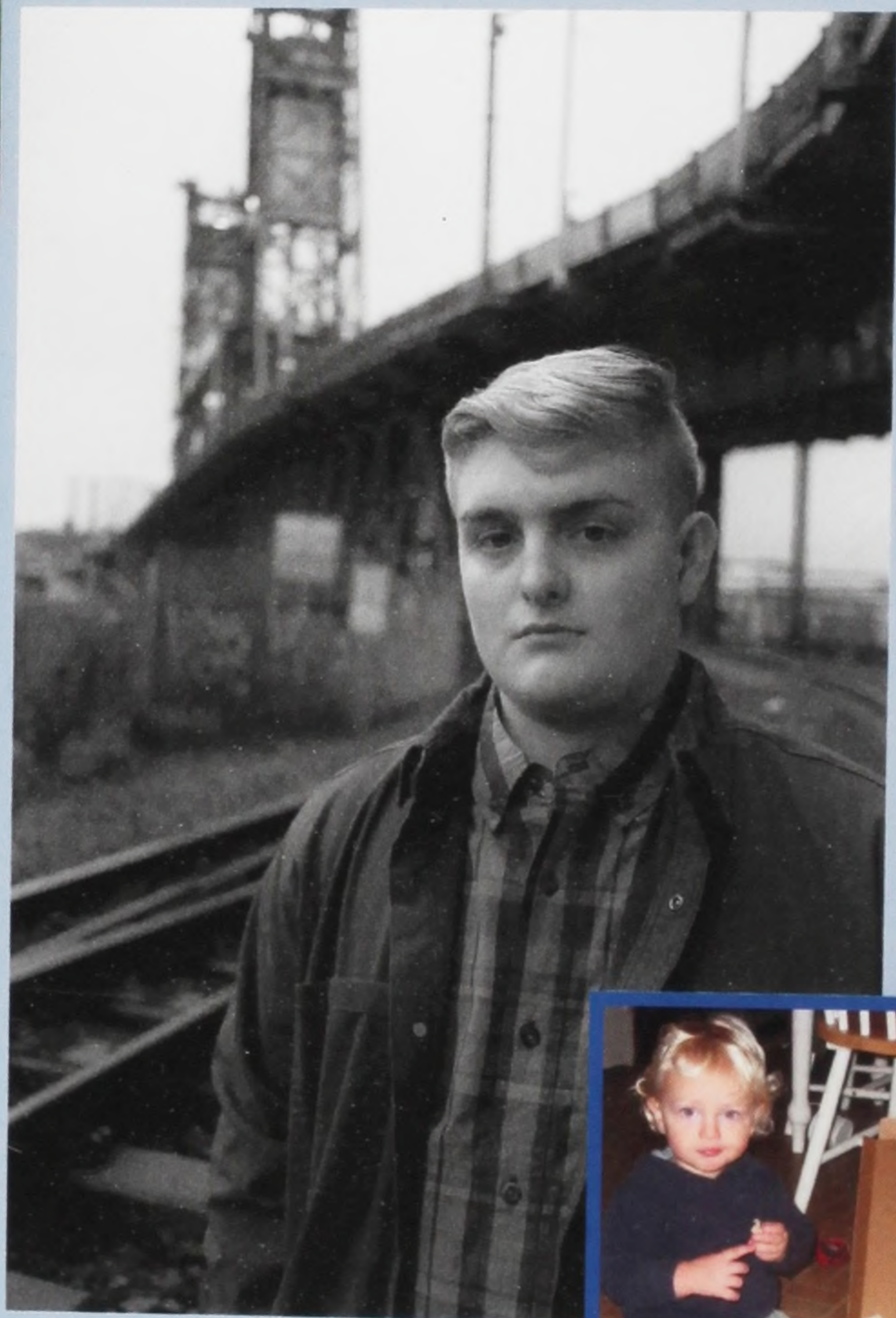
Aaron Danziger

“Freshman me
would be
proud and
disappointed ,
but mostly
disappointed”



Kieran Davidson

“Don’t pray
for easy lives.
Pray to be
stronger men.”
- John F.
Kennedy



Lynsie Davila-Najera

Peace out

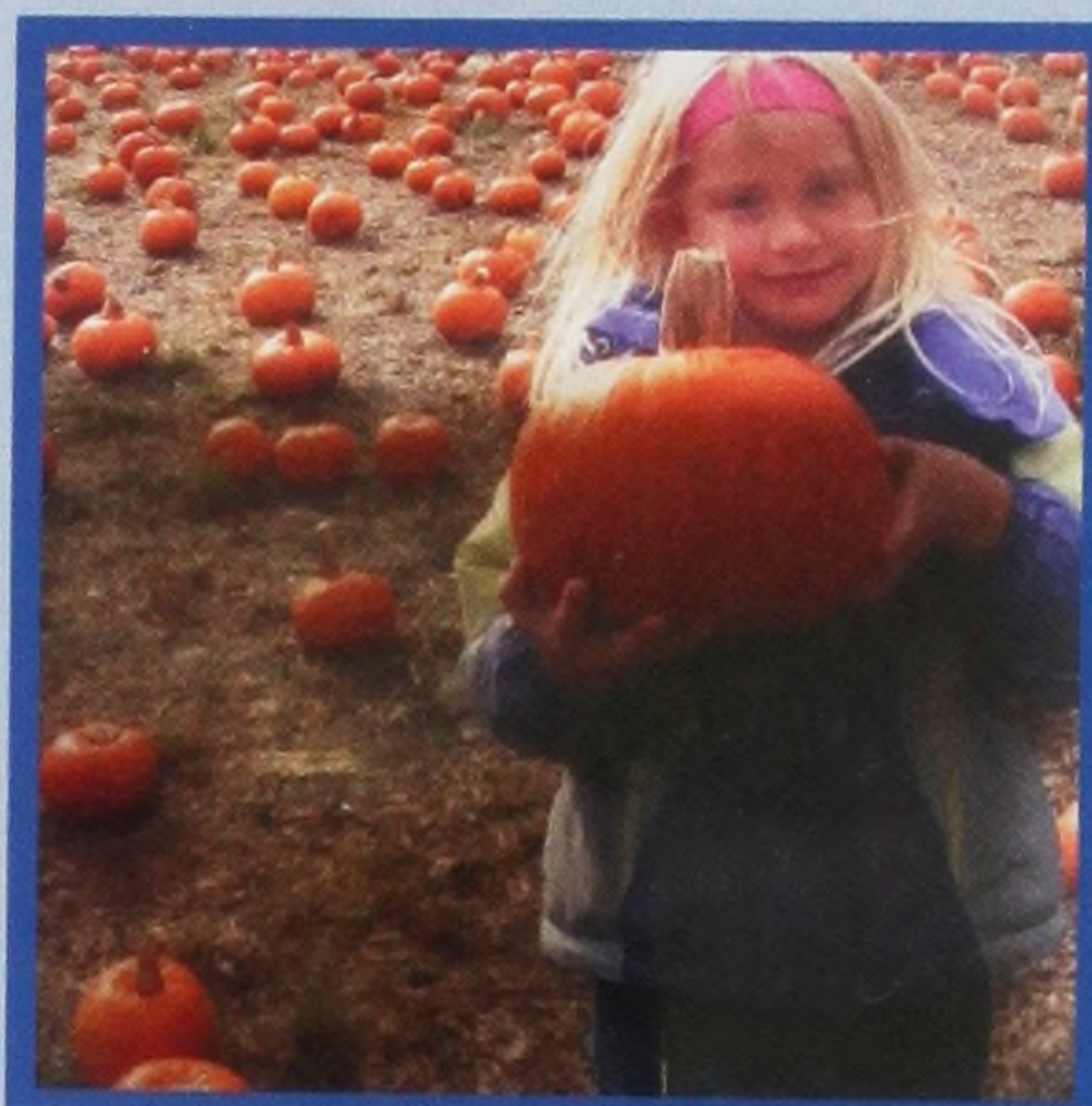


Samantha Dehen

"This is my life.
and i want you to
know that i am
both happy and
sad and im still
trying to figure
out how that could
be."



For personal reasons, I'll revert to My Melody plush and exclusively listen to 'Eight' by IU



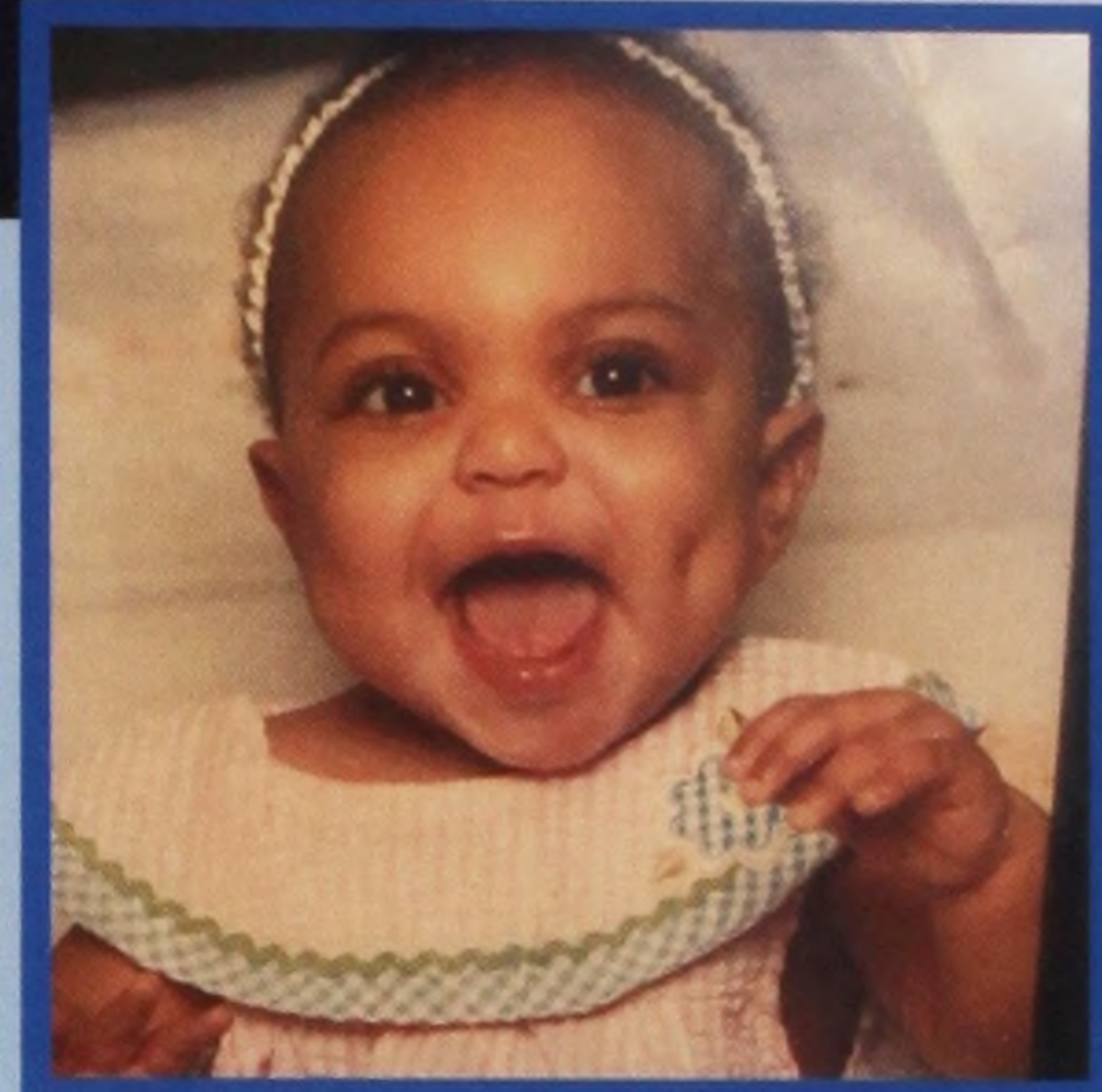
Tatyana Dronov

“Keep looking up! Learn from the past, dream about the future and look up”.

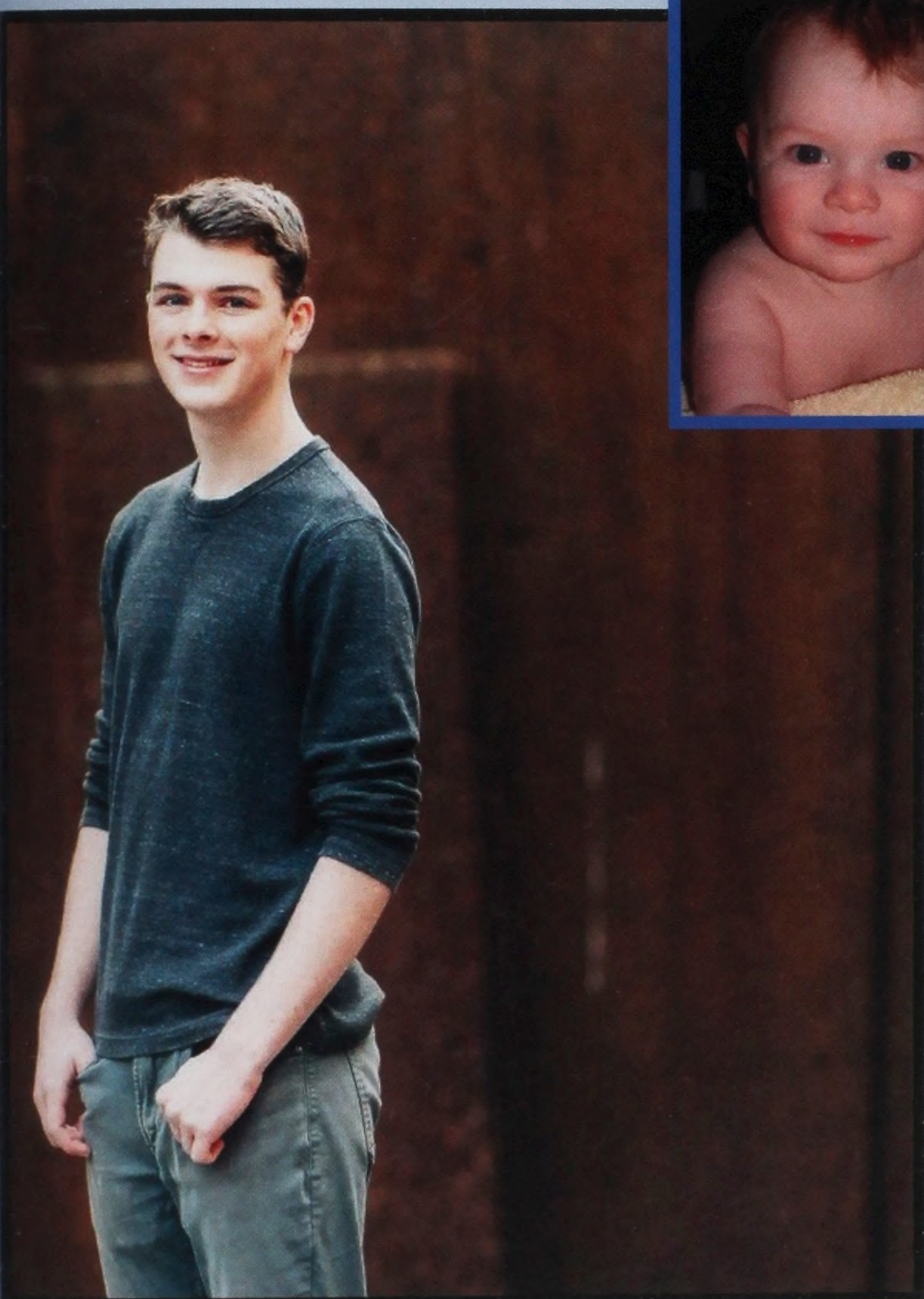


Mekyra

I would like to
thank my
teachers but
that's offensive
to quizlet and
photo math



Anders Ehnes



How can
you live if
you're
afraid of
dying?!

Cooper Farris

A bad
experience
is a good
experience



Sofia Flores-Renguso



Malaya

Oh cause I
thought
someone who
isn't graduating
this year said
something



Andrew Fox-Sellers

Freedom is
control in
your own life.
-Willie Nelson



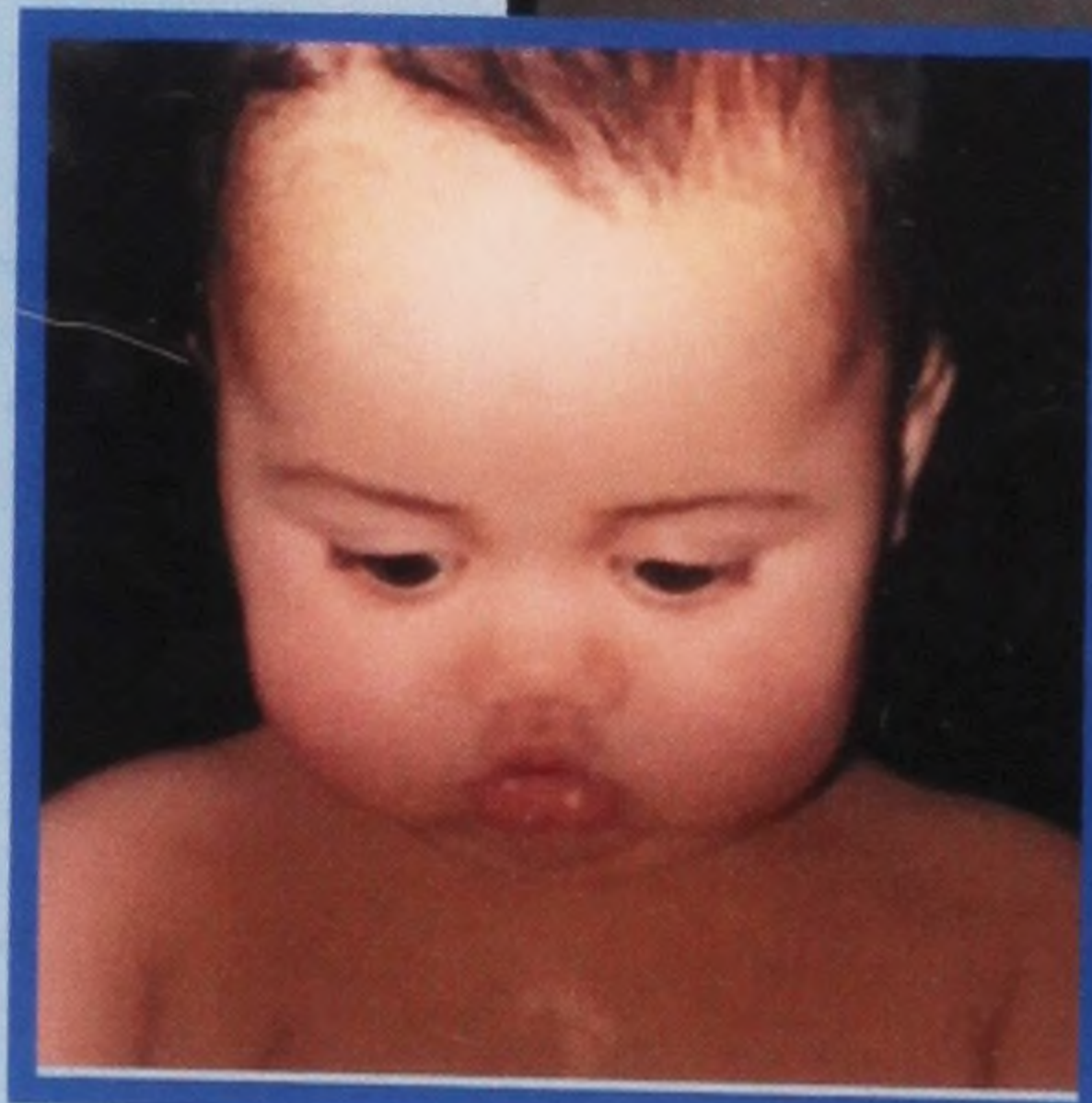
Carter

Who needs
friends
when I
have my
computer.



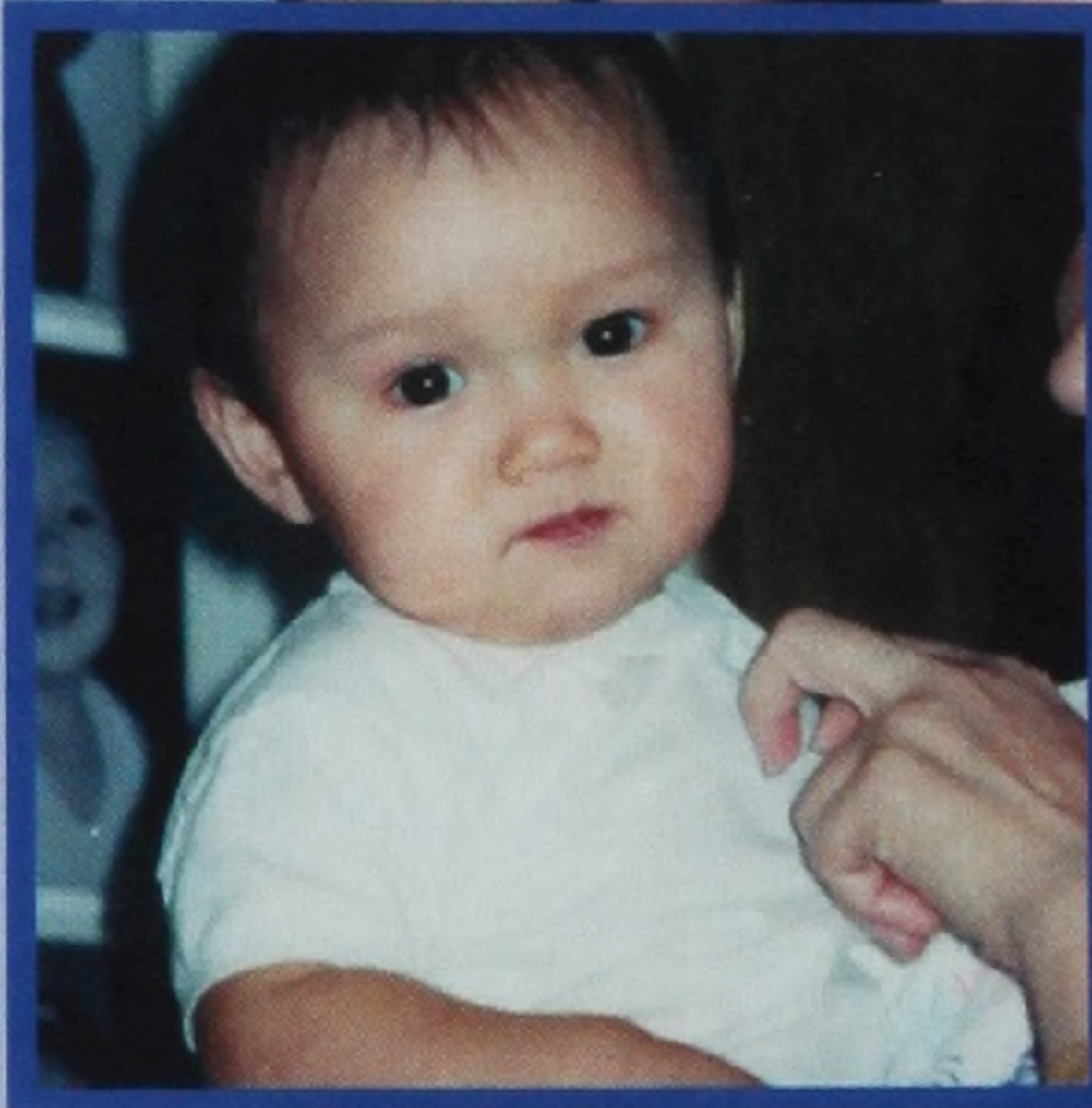
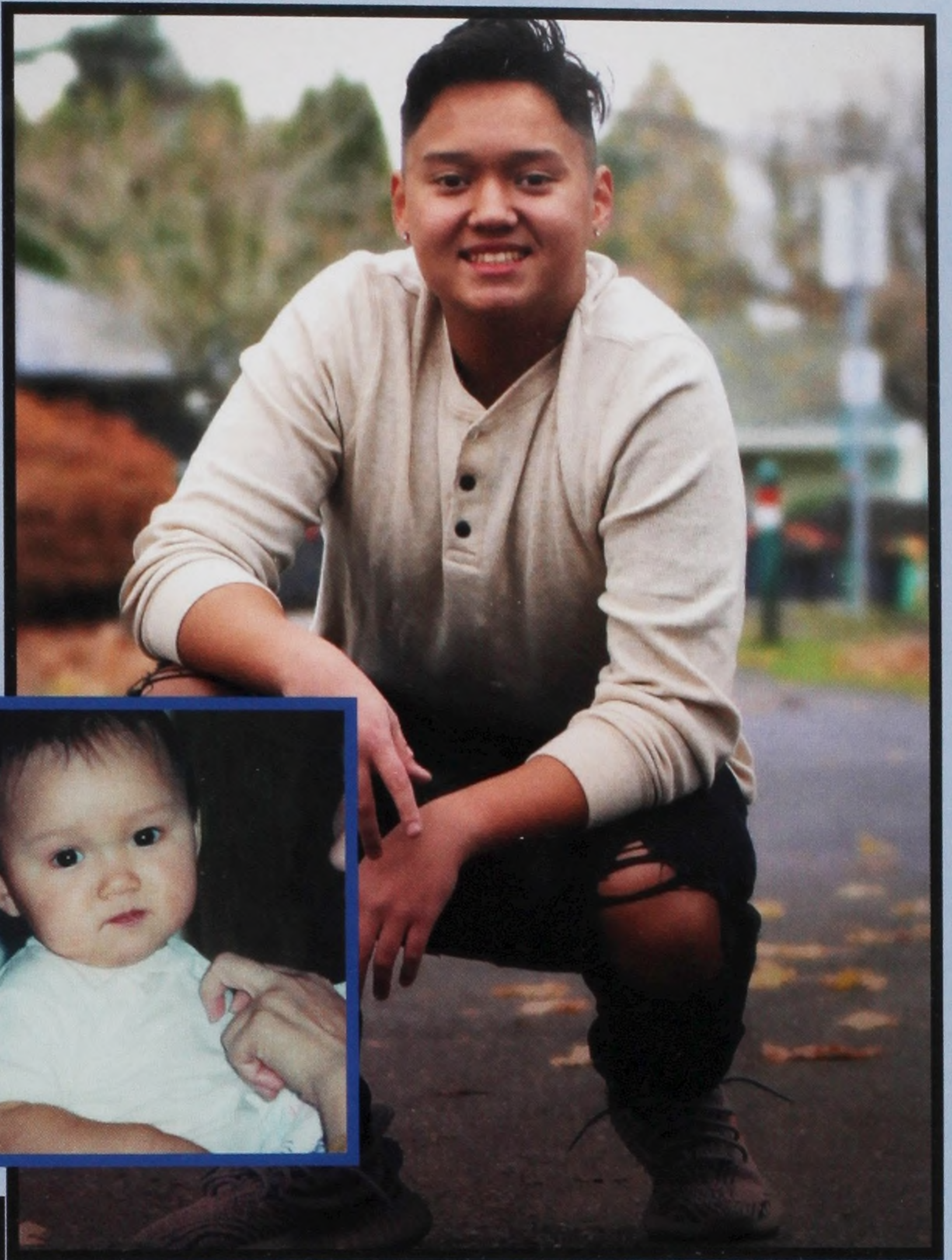
Enora Hall

Time is a
piece of wax
falling on a
termite, that's
choking on
the splinters



Evan Herrera

Failure is only
the opportunity
to begin again.
Only this time,
more wisely. -
Uncle Iroh



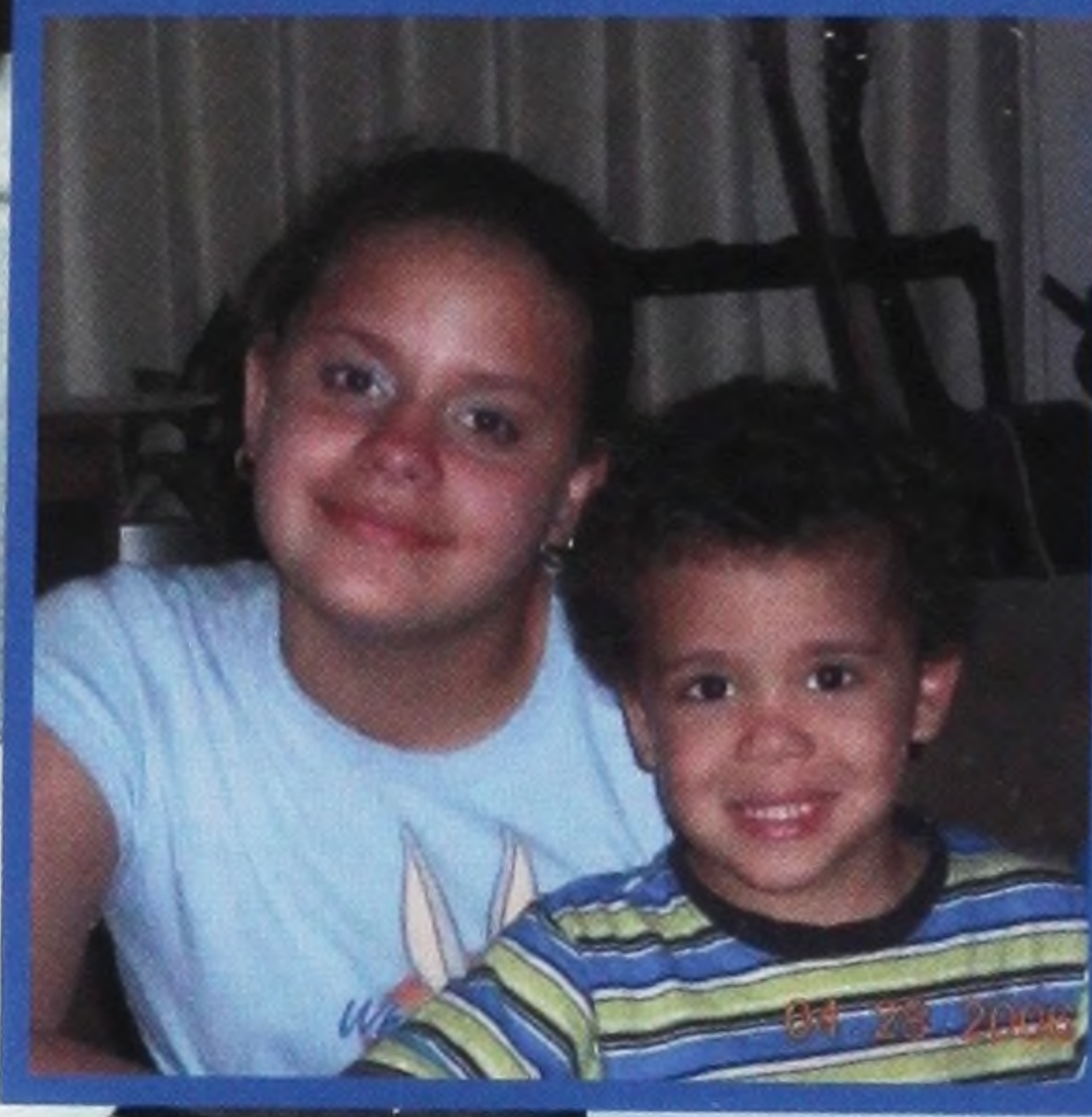
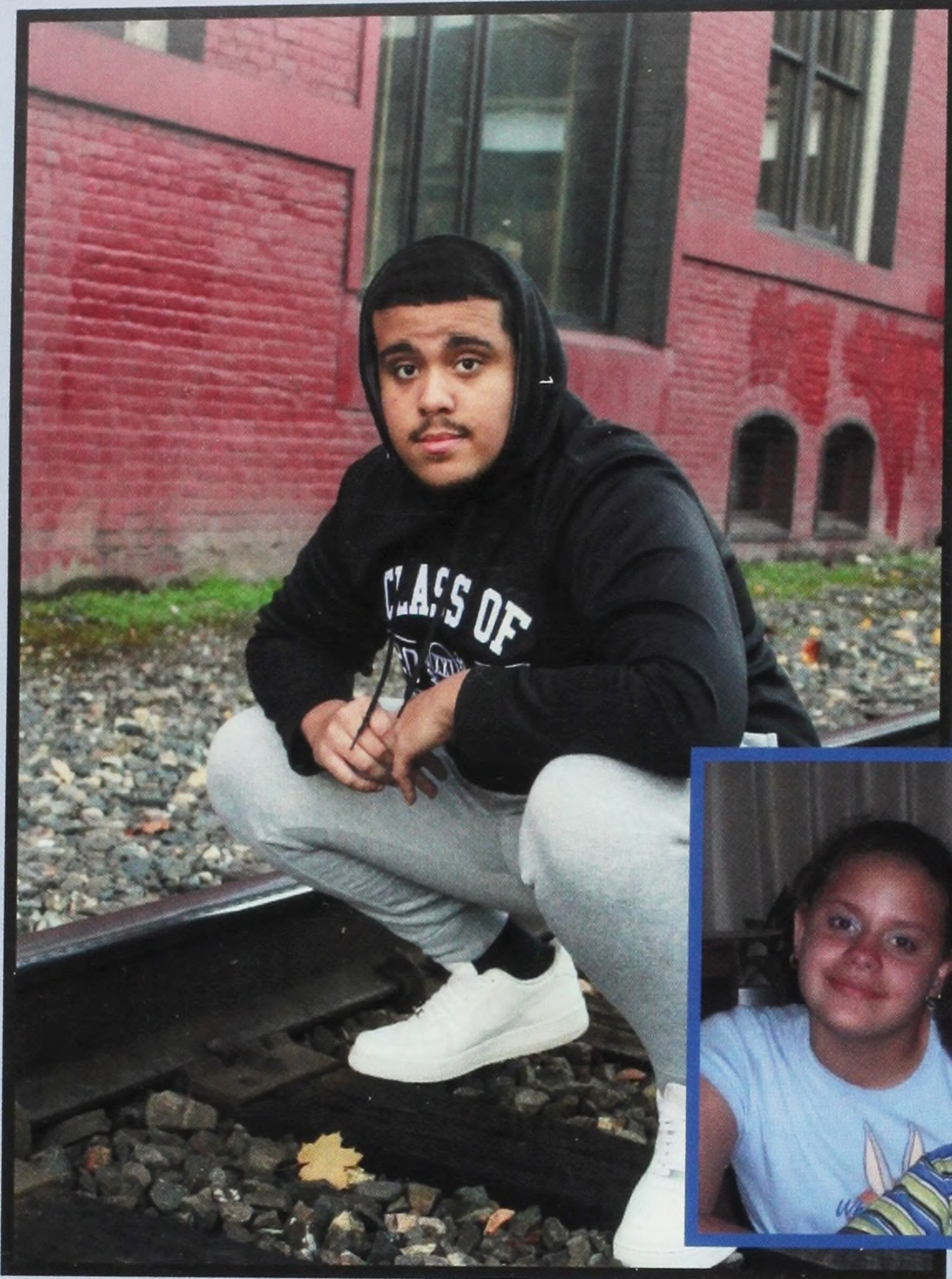
Megan Ho

Go for
what
makes you
happy!



Jayden Johnson

“I’m really tryna
make it more than
what it is, cause
everybody dies
but not everybody
lives” - Aubrey
Graham



Greyson Joseph

“It is hard to fail,
but it is worse to
never have tried
to succeed” -
Theodore
Roosevelt



Deasia Kennedy

I would like to thank
my arms, for always
being by my side.
My legs for,
supporting me, my
hips for never lying,
and my fingers
because I can count
on them.

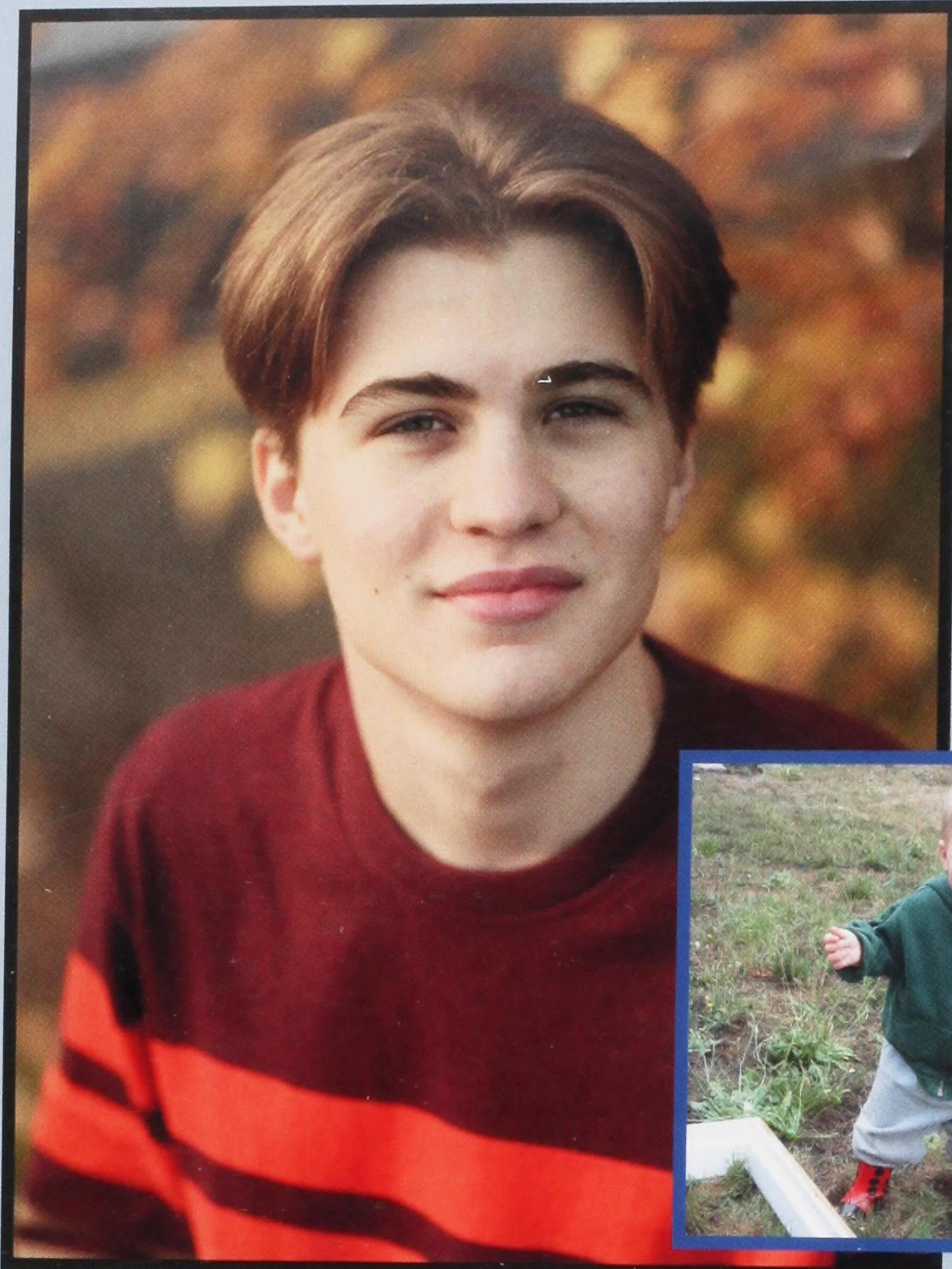


Mitchel Kenny

Never forget what
you are. The
world will not.
Wear it like
armor, and it can
never be used to
hurt you. -Tyrion
Lannister

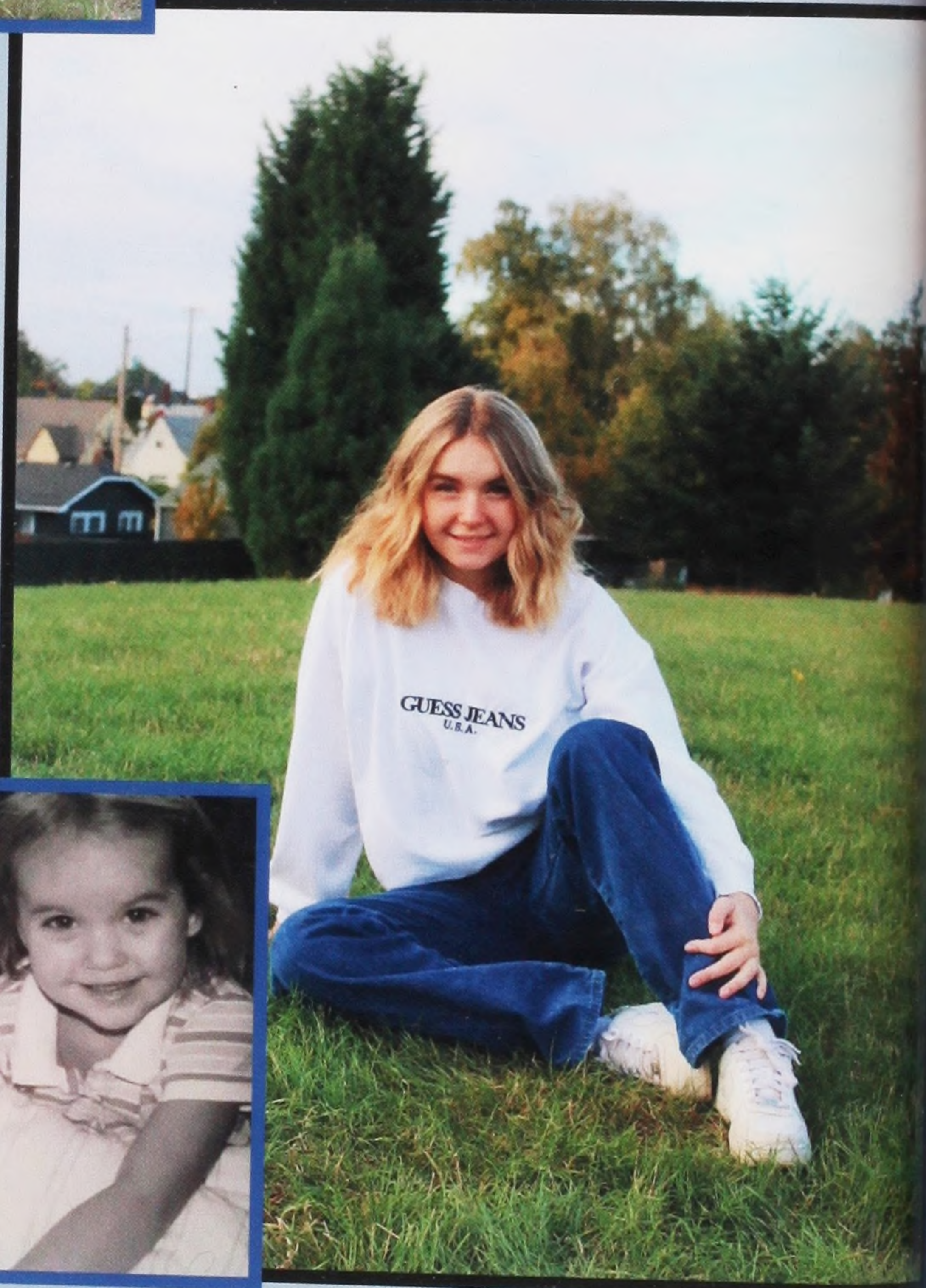
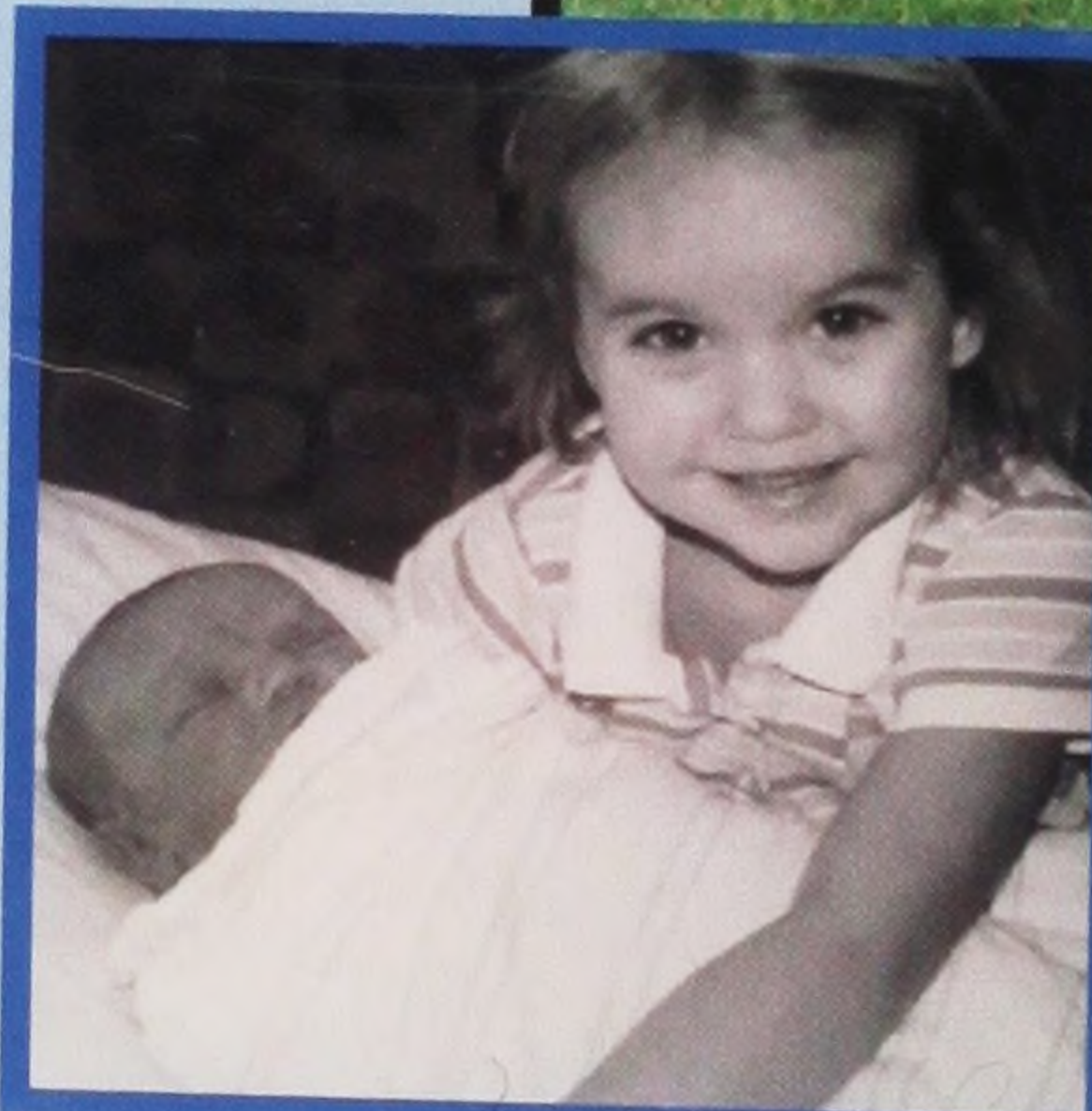
Jen Kersgaard

"Leave nothing
for tomorrow
which can be
done today" -
Abraham
Lincoln



Josephine Krohn

Life moves pretty
fast. If you don't
stop and look
around once in a
while, you could
miss it. - Ferris
Bueller



Rowan Koonce

Do not
perceive
me.



Jacob Lambert

Missing
everyone

Estrella Martinez-Lopez

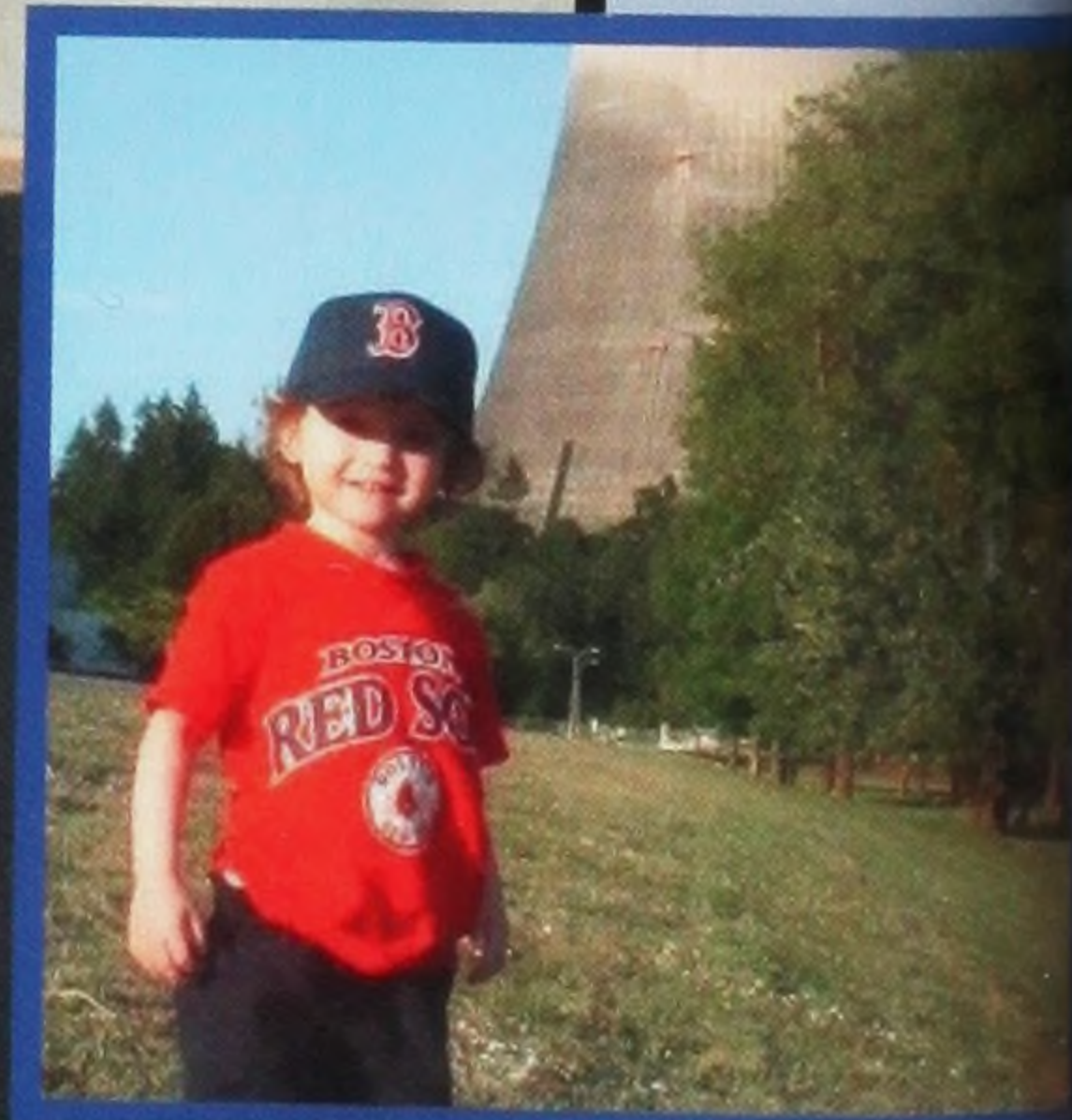


Life comes
at you fast.
Drink water.
- grandson



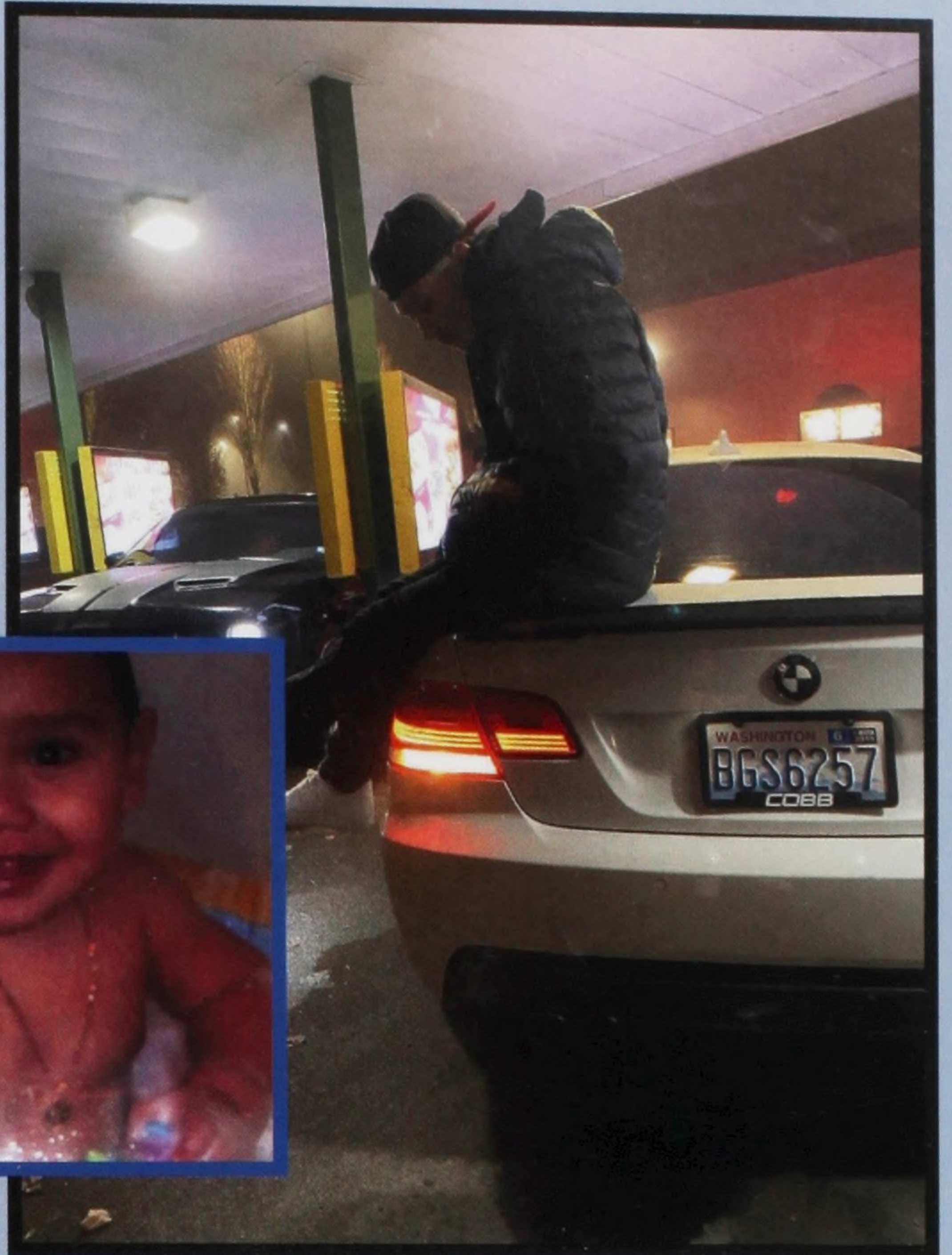
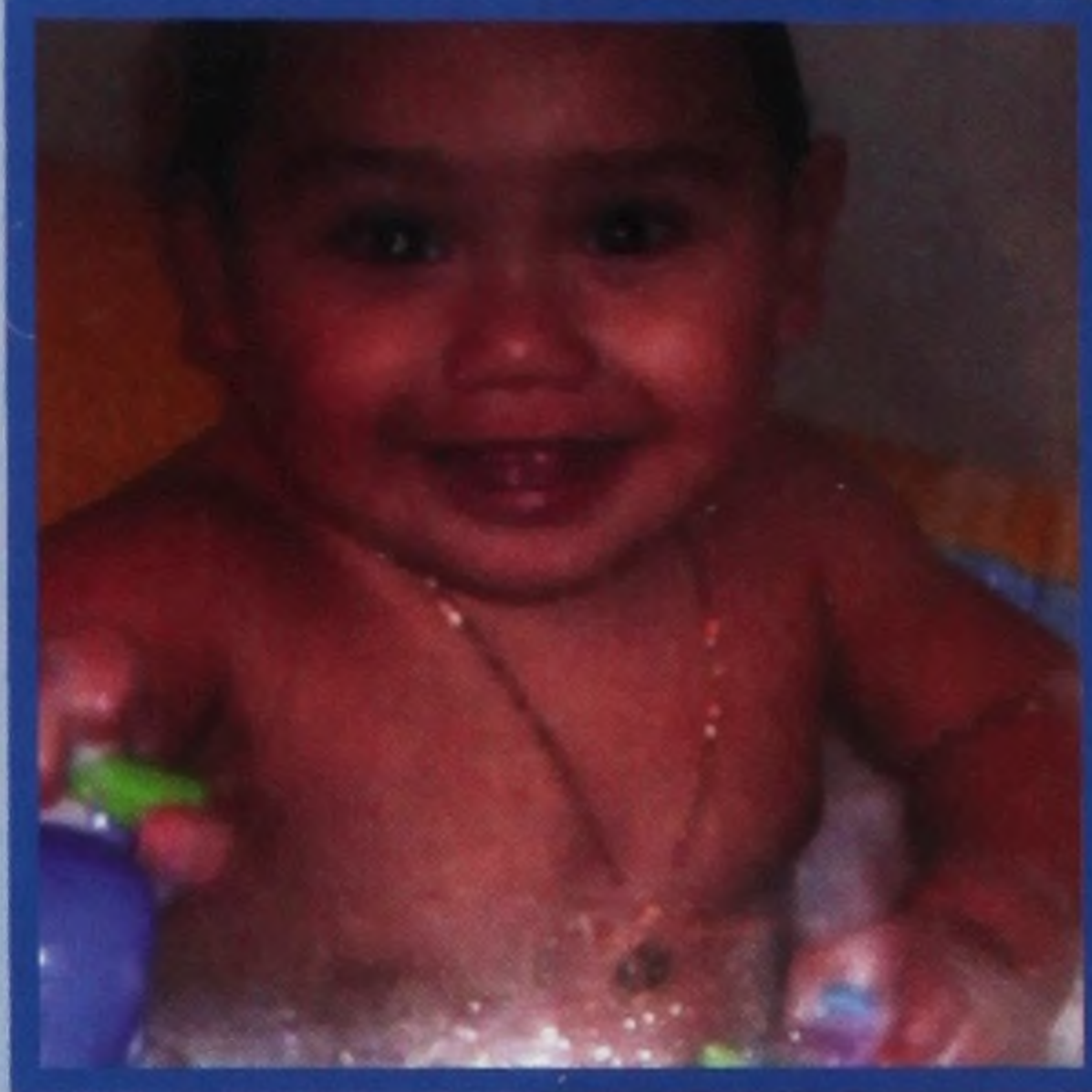
Mason Matthews

"I graduated
with really
good grades"
- Nathan
Fielder



Miguel Maya-Alvarez

No pararé
de hasta
que llegue
al cima

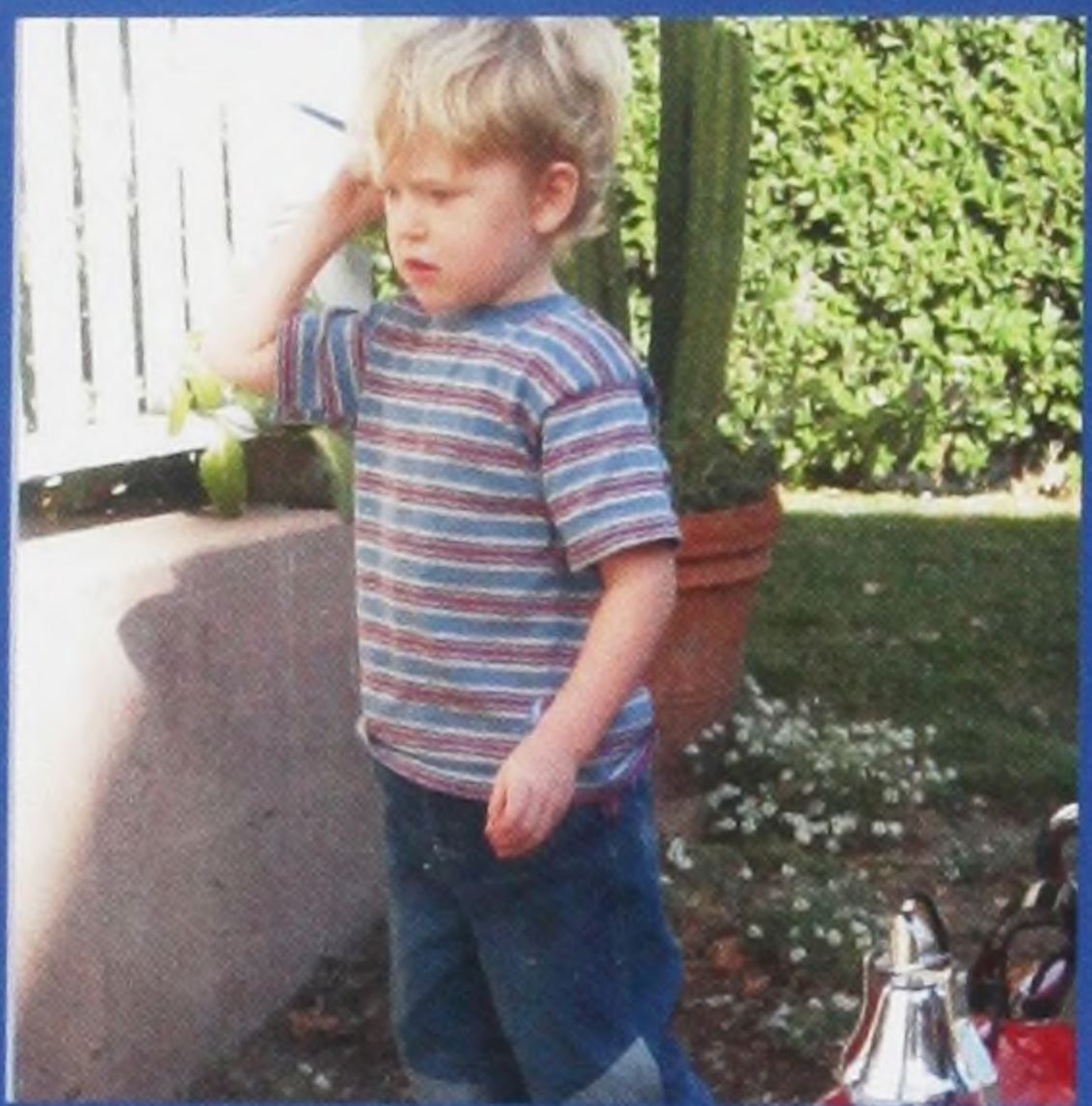
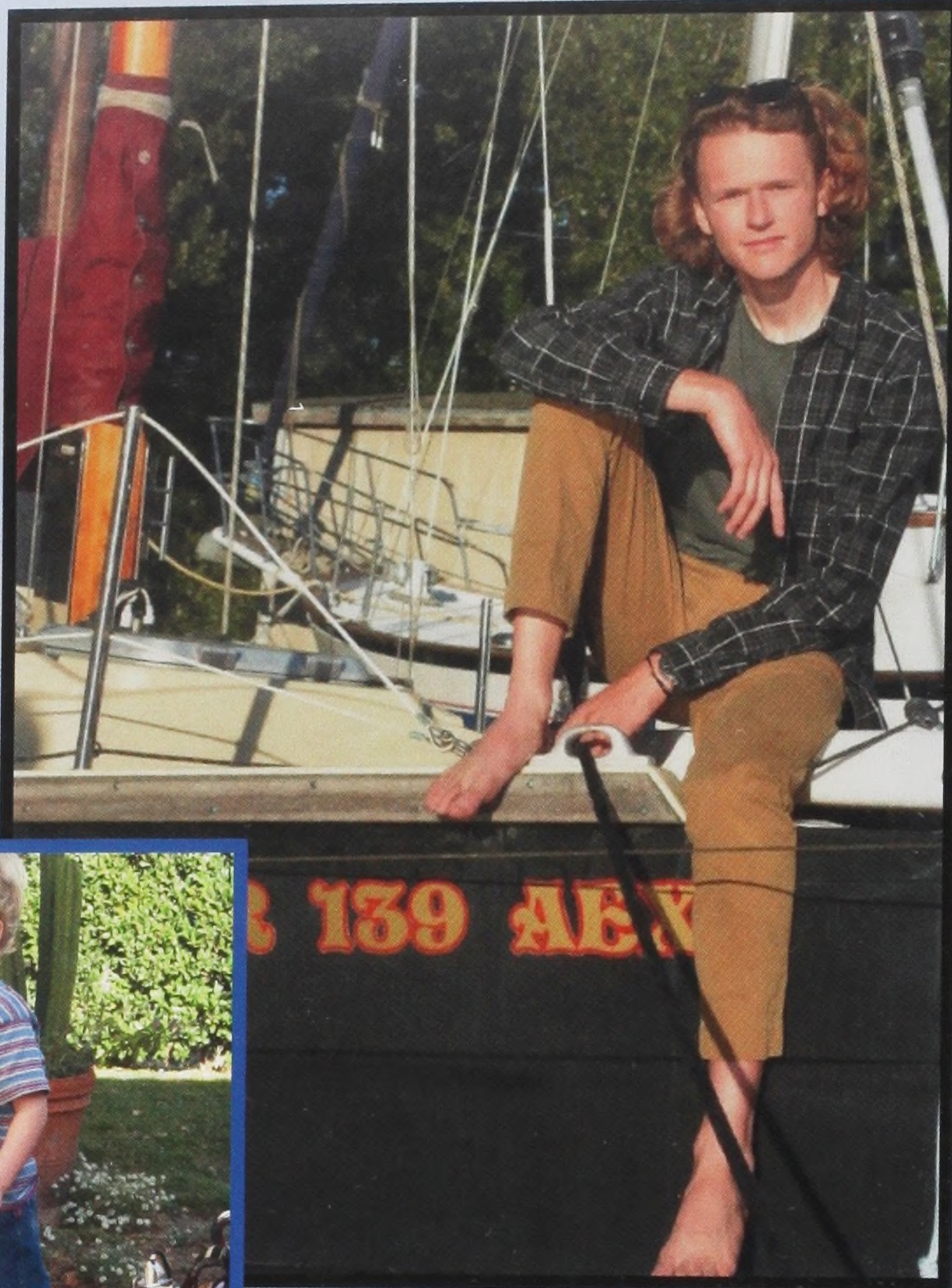


**Karissa
Mendoza-Valtierra**

“ The future
belongs to
those who
believe in the
beauty of
their dreams”

Conrad Miller

High
school was
not
frictionless



Alex Millican

“You’re only
given a little
spark of
madness. You
mustn’t lose it.”
- Robin
Williams



Anh Minh Le

“Parents can only give good advice or put them on the right paths, but the final forming of a person's character lies in their own hands.” — Anne Frank



Lasan Morton-Carter

I'm something like a legend make you feel my presence..... always in first NEVER second”

Benjamin Moyola

Este Mundo es
muy Parejo Si
Hoy estoy
perdiendo
Mañana me
Tocará ganar.
J.G



Johana Nara-Marin

I beg
your
pardon



Arzo Nasheet

I haven't a
clue what's
going on here,
but I'll act like
I do.



Kimanh Nguyen

Every day
brings new
goals to
accomplish





Thy Nguyen



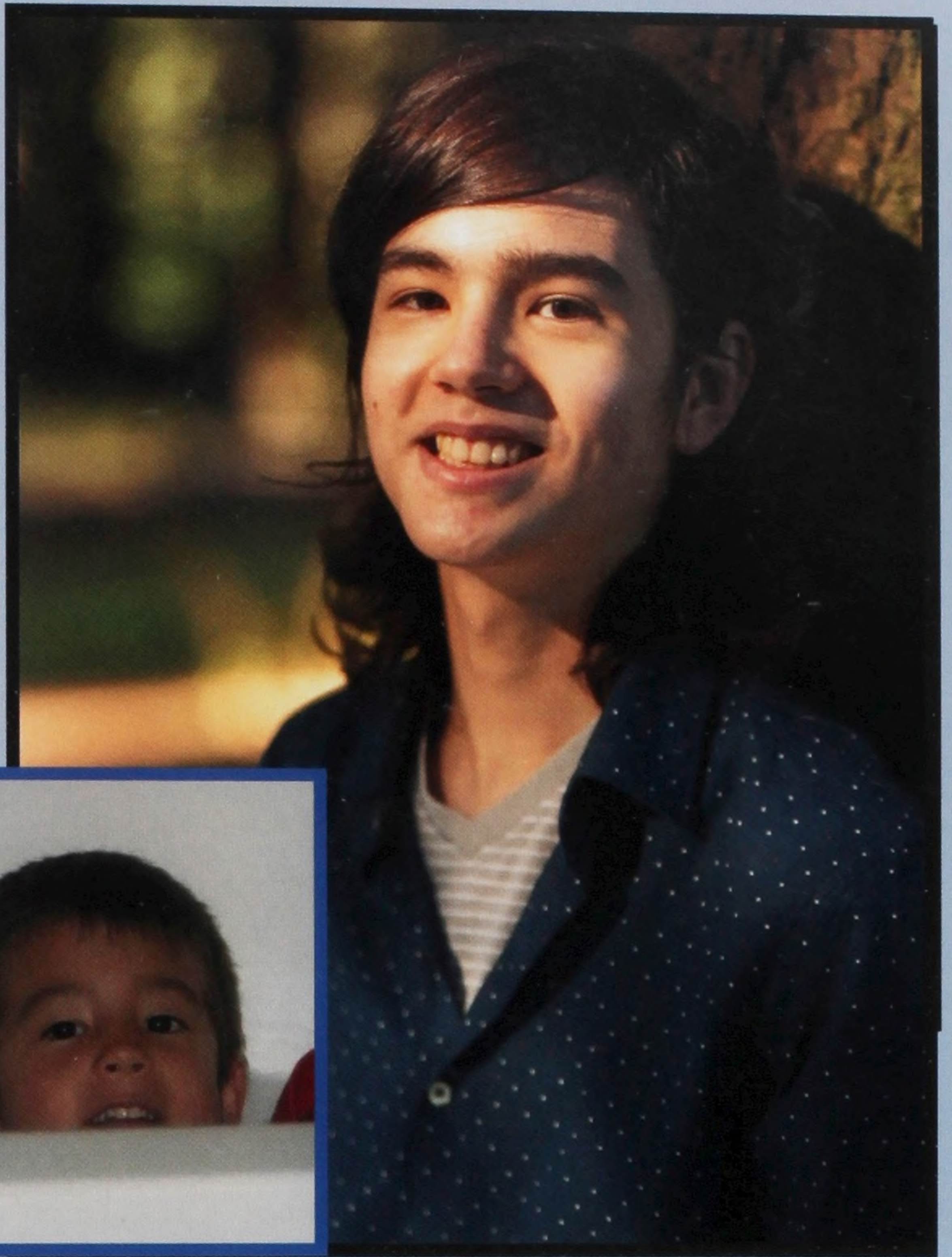
Tory Norton

“How come
Aquaman can
control whales?
They’re mammals!
Makes no sense.” -
Andy Weir, The
Martian



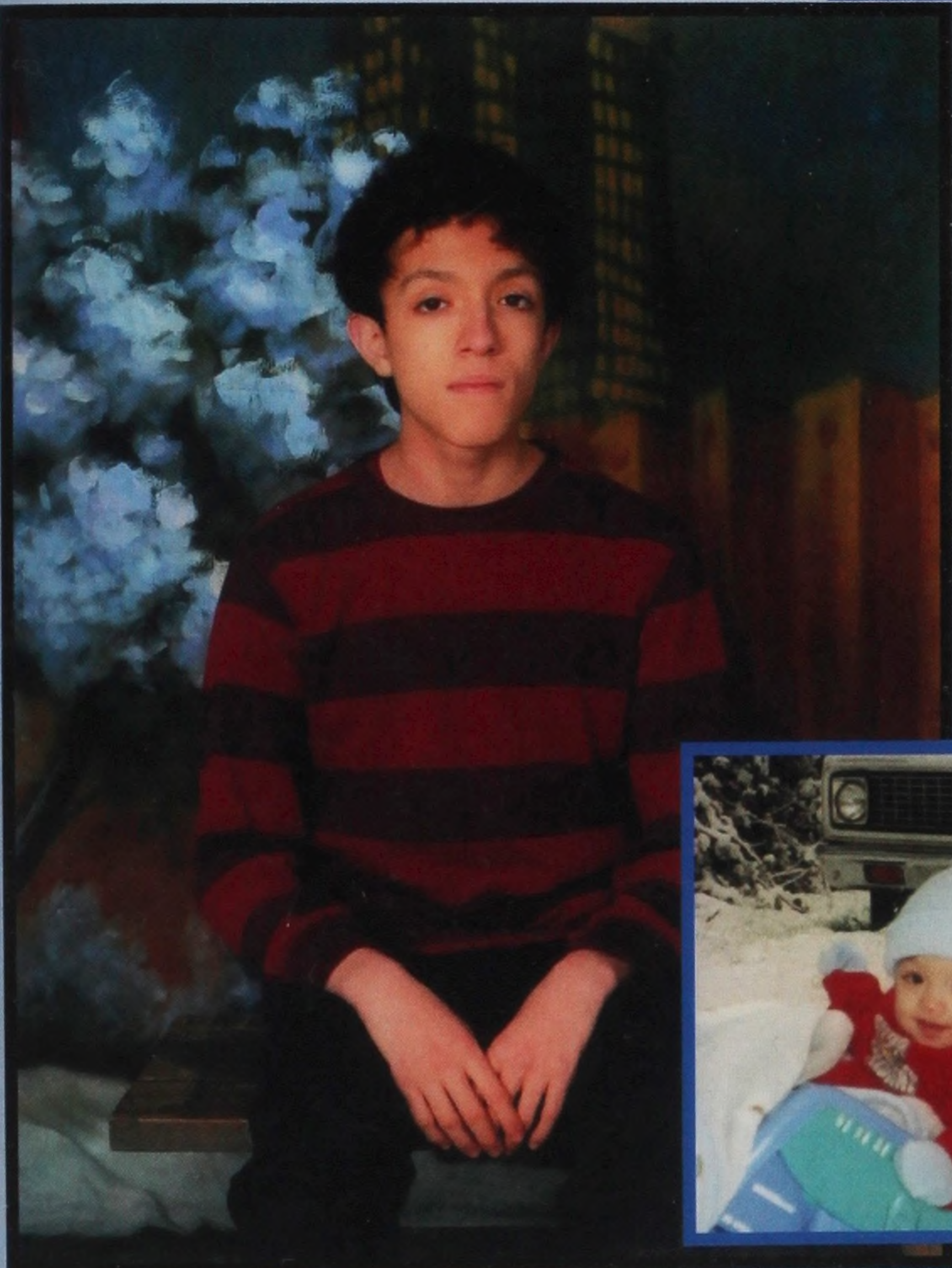
Andrea Obana

"With great
power comes
great current
squared times
resistance."



Alonzo Ortiz-Sanchez

The ones
Among
Us is who
lived 2020





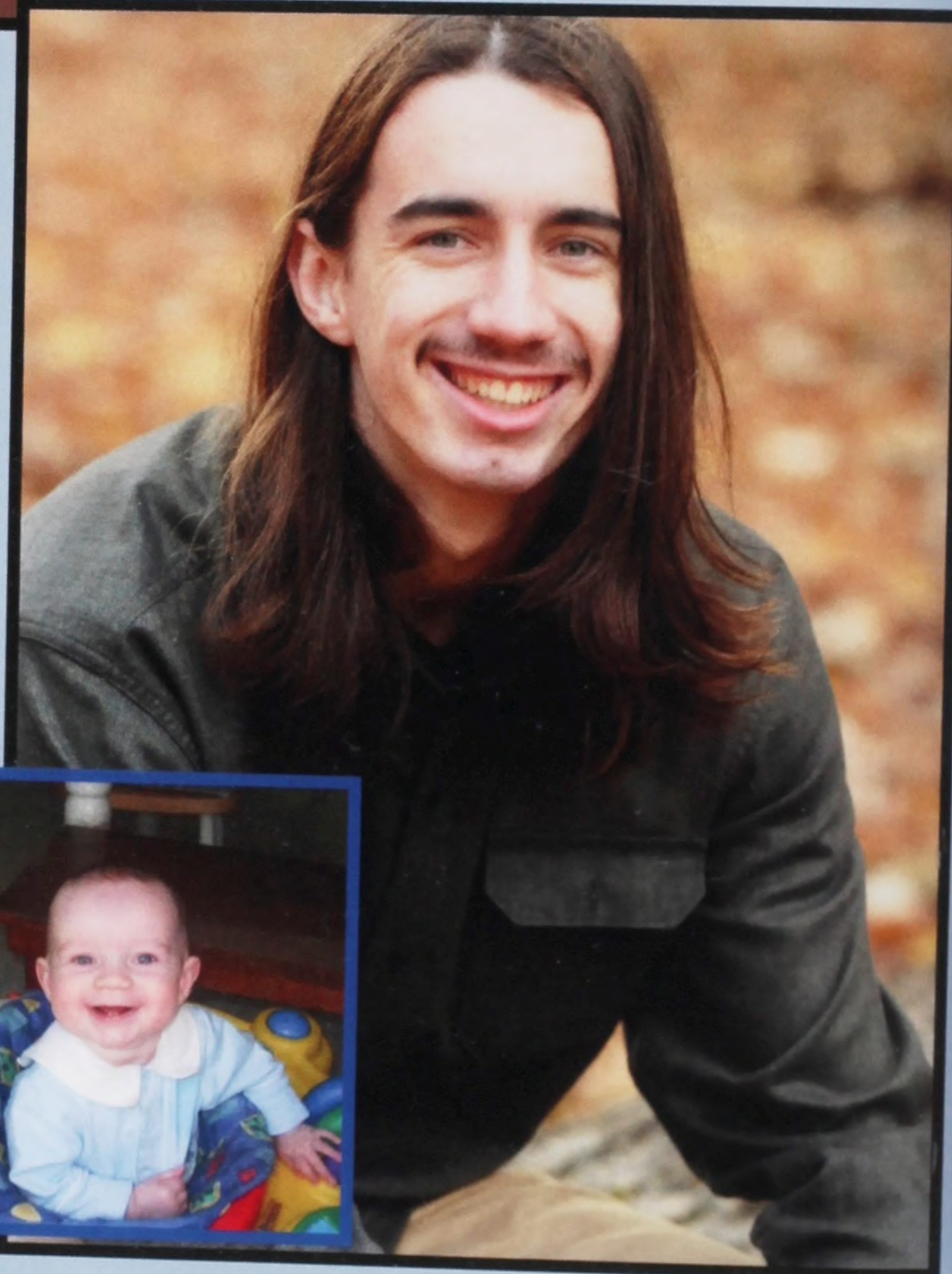
Camila Pacheco-Chavez

swagalicious



Scott Pietrok

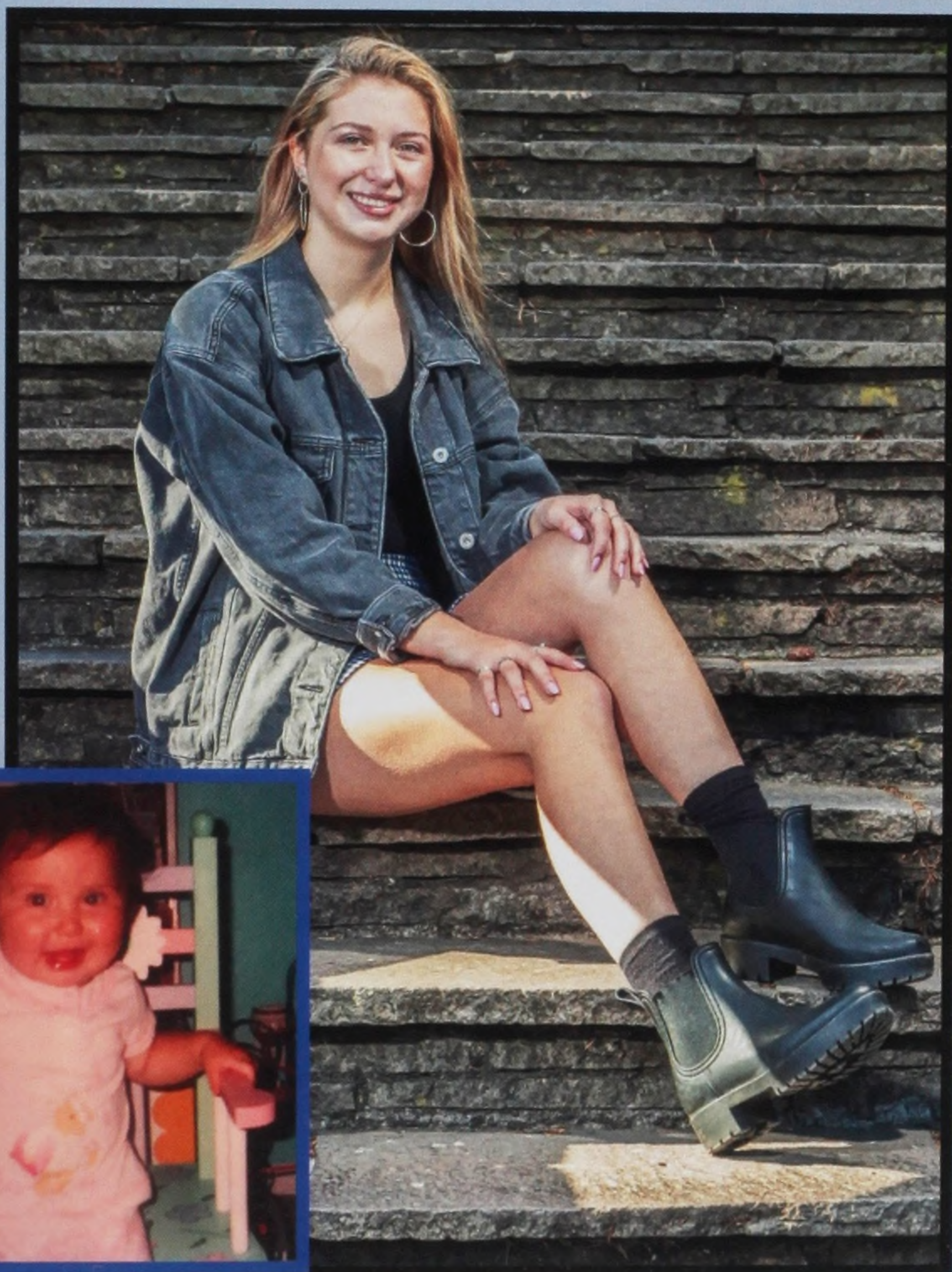
"Hi
friends!"
-Pathfinder



Vivian Pham

"Do the best you can
until you know better.
Then when you know
better, do better."

-Maya Angelou



Briana Phillips

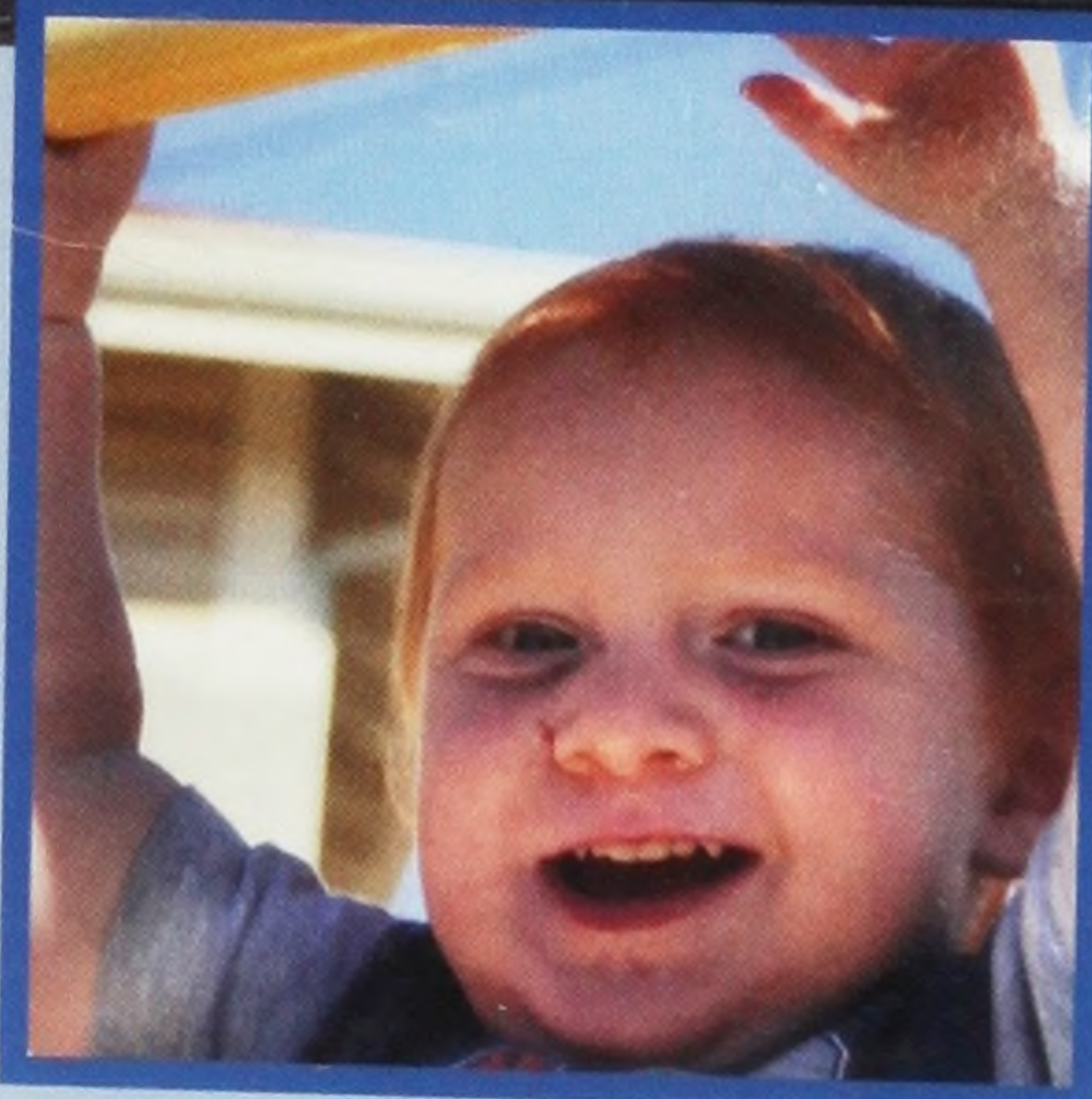
"Just Keep
Swimming"
Dory (Finding
Nemo)



In the end we are all just walking piles of flesh that are trying to survive. So don't be too hard on yourself.

Joseph Riebhoff

"Do what you do and mean every second of the day. If you don't, you're living someone else's life."
-Corey Taylor



Aries Riley

You miss 100
percent of the
shots you
never take



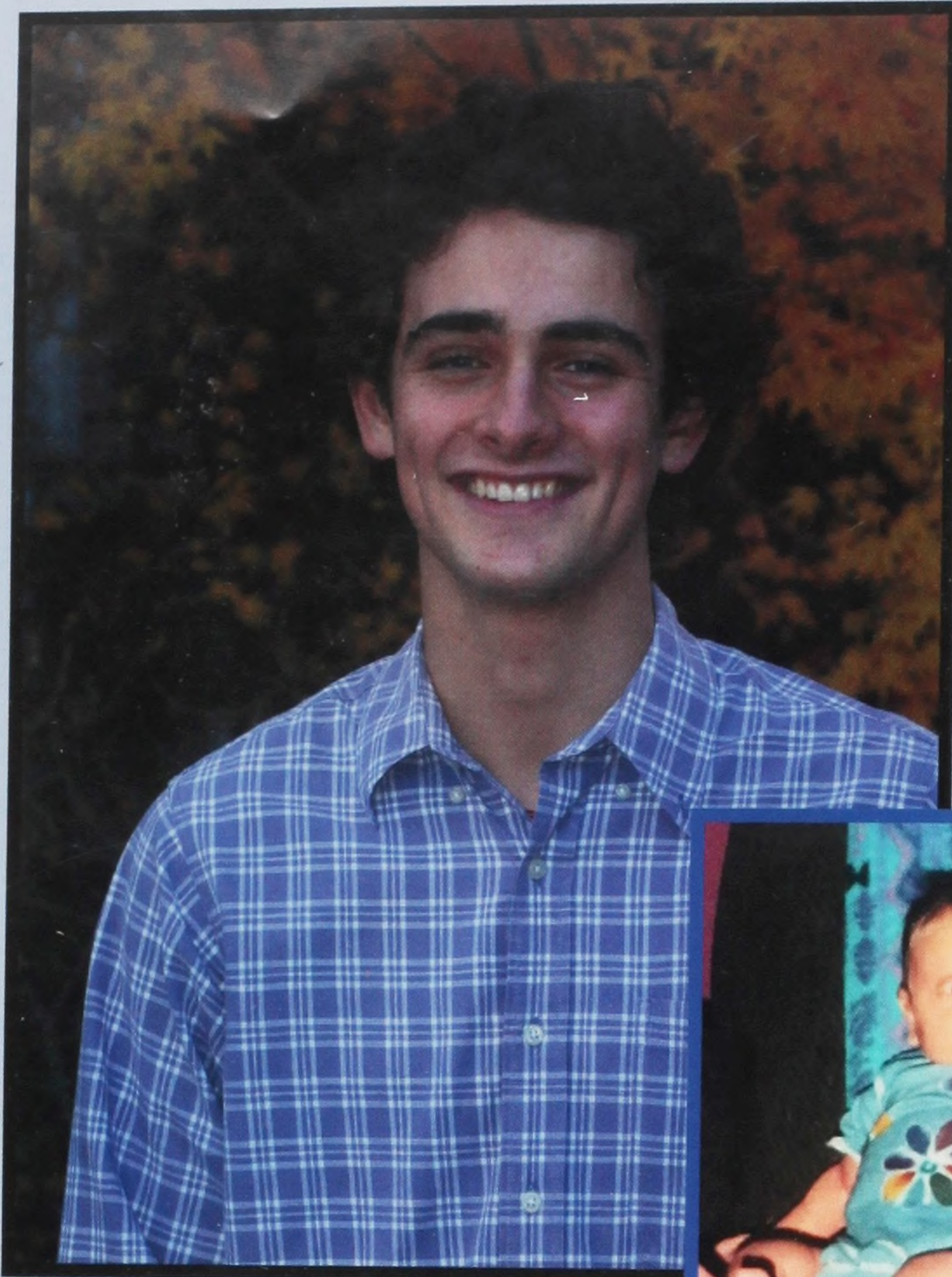
Zachary Rodrick

“Look at the
sky tonight, all
of the stars
have a reason.”
-Lil Peep



Milo Rubinger

“Any fool can criticize, complain, and condemn—and most fools do. But it takes character and self-control to be understanding and forgiving.” -Dale Carnegie



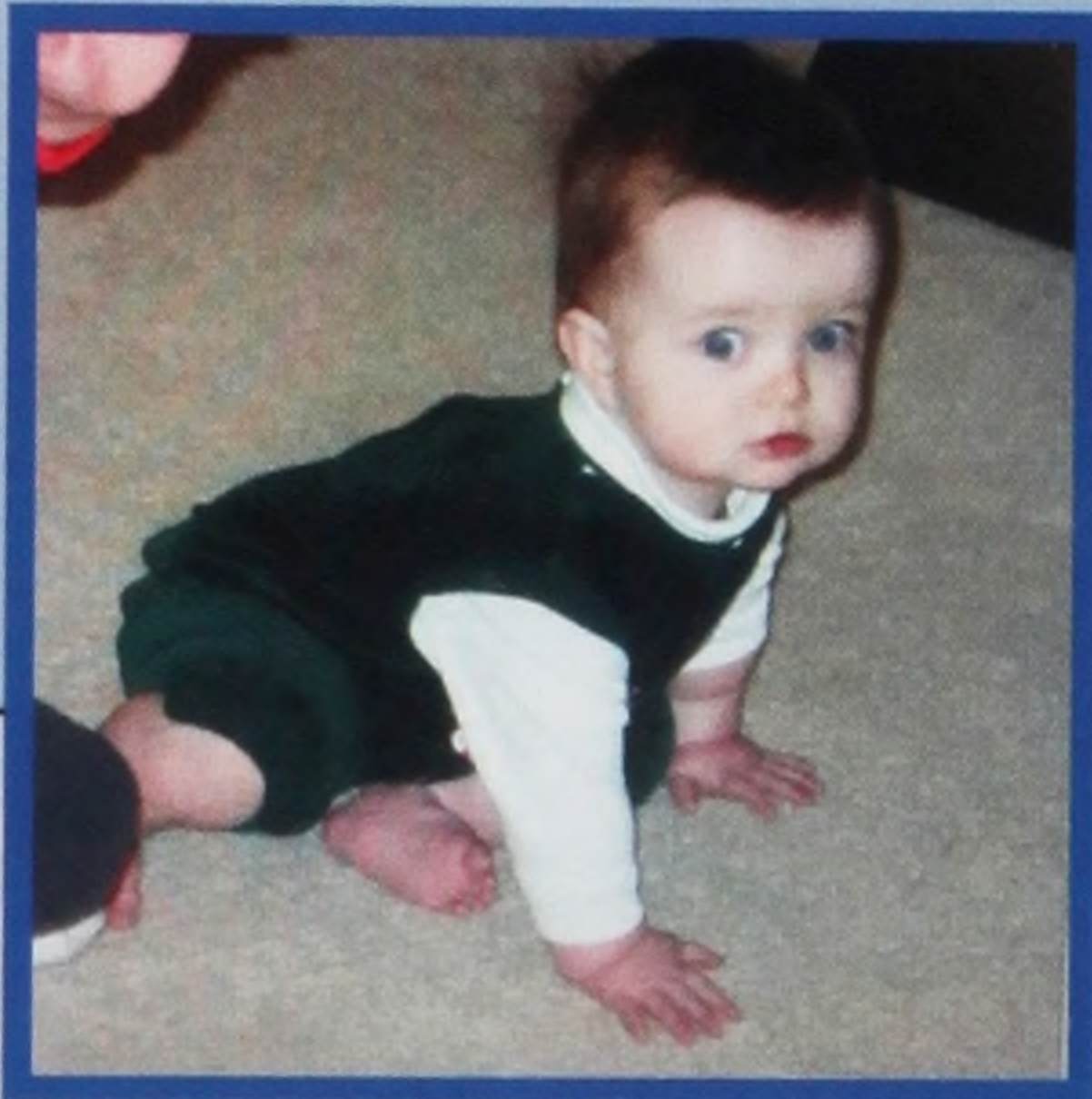
Soren Rusnak

“The most painful state of being is remembering the future, particularly the one you'll never have.” — Søren Kierkegaard



Kieran Sara-Reynolda

"It's very difficult to make predictions, especially about the future." -H. E. Westenberg



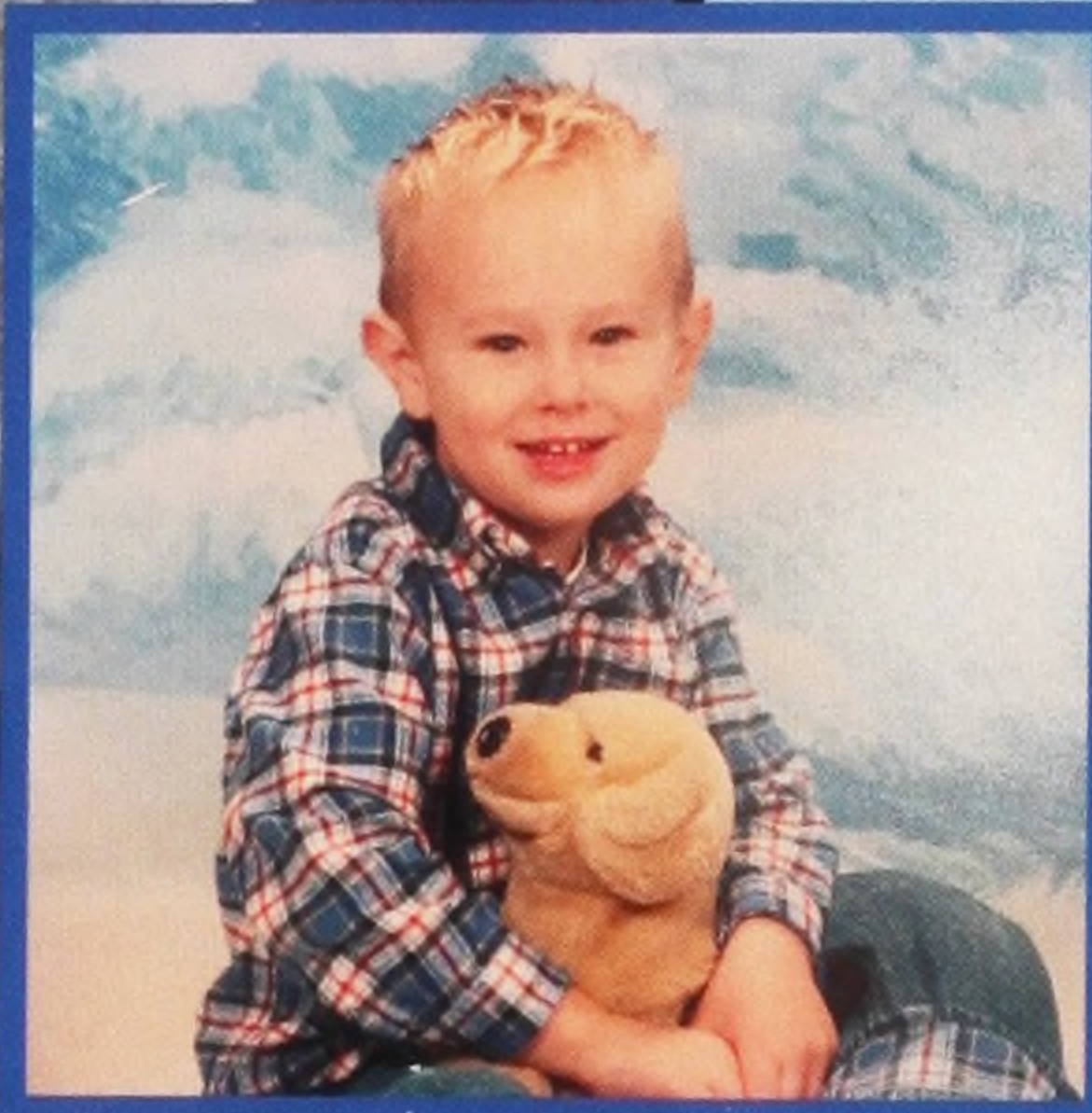
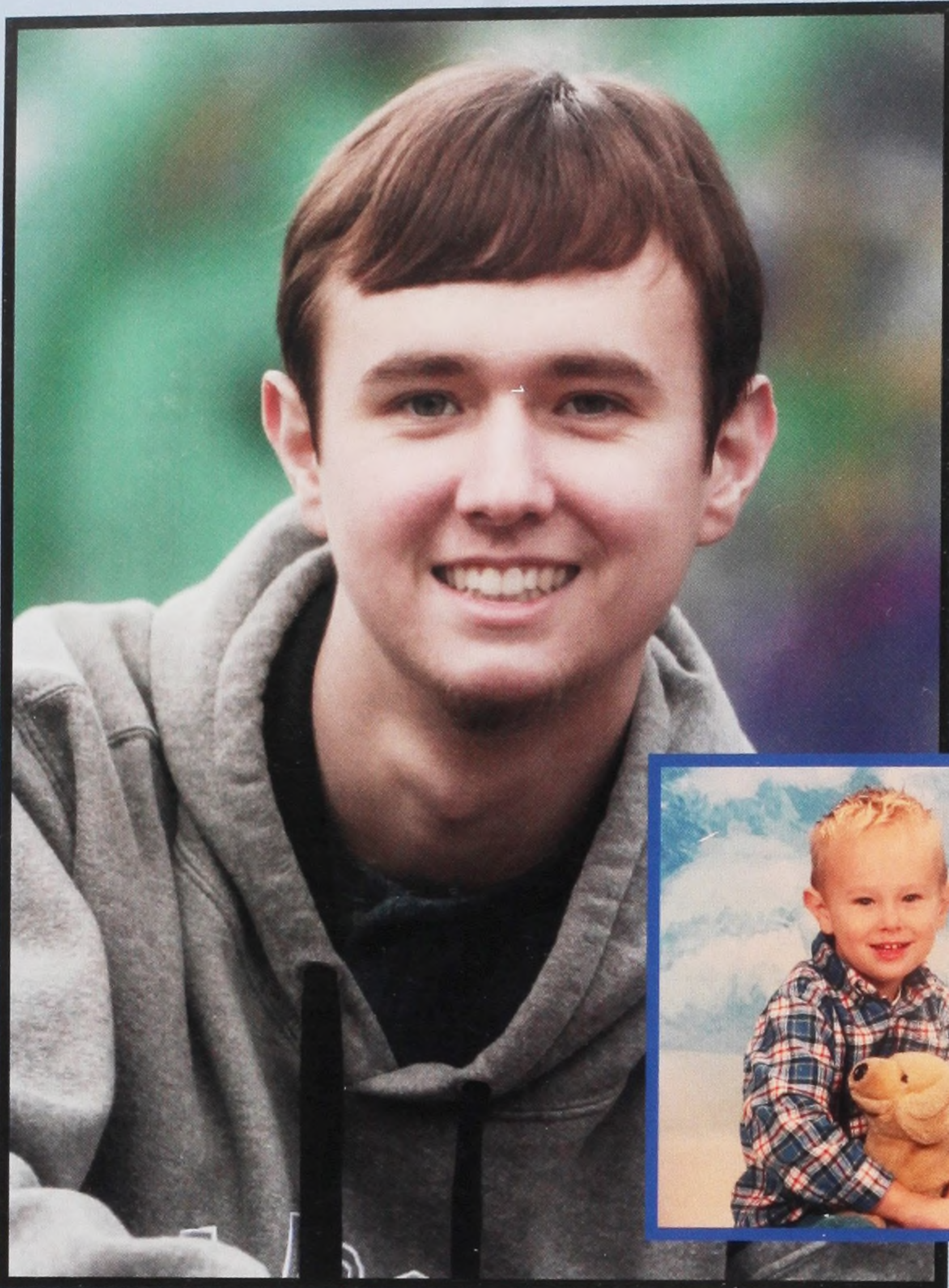
Livia Scherer

sometimes
it's good to
be your own
best friend



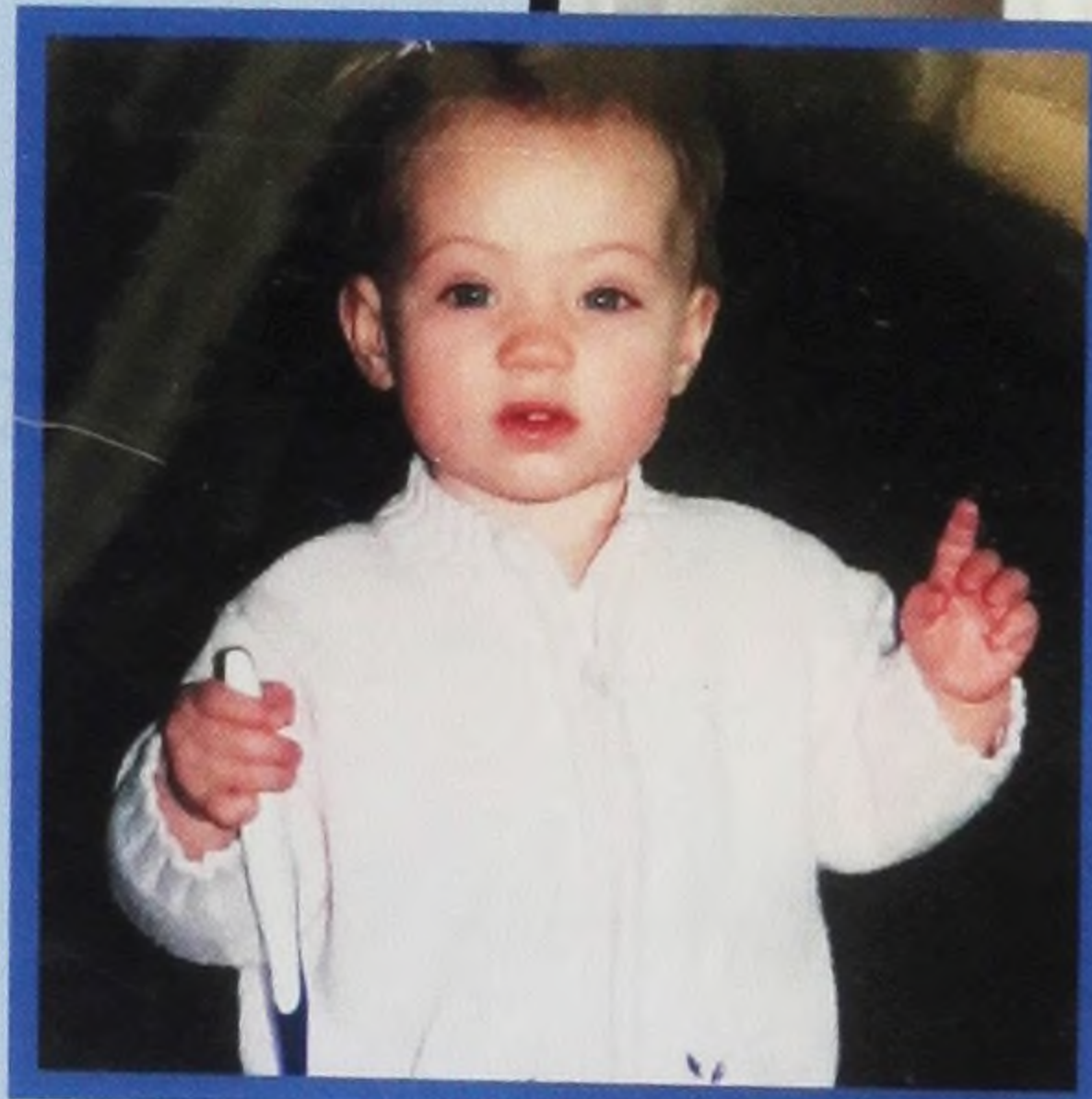
Stephanie Scholf

If you can dream it,
you can do it. Believe
in yourself and you
will do great things.
We love you! Mom &
Sister



Sydney Schommer

"When you look at me
you probably see a
guy who has it all, but
really there's a large
part of me that's
immature and
undeveloped." -
Nathan Fielder



Henry Senters

“I don't pretend to know / The challenges you're facing / The worlds you keep erasing and creating in your mind” - Phillipa Soo



Zella Silverman

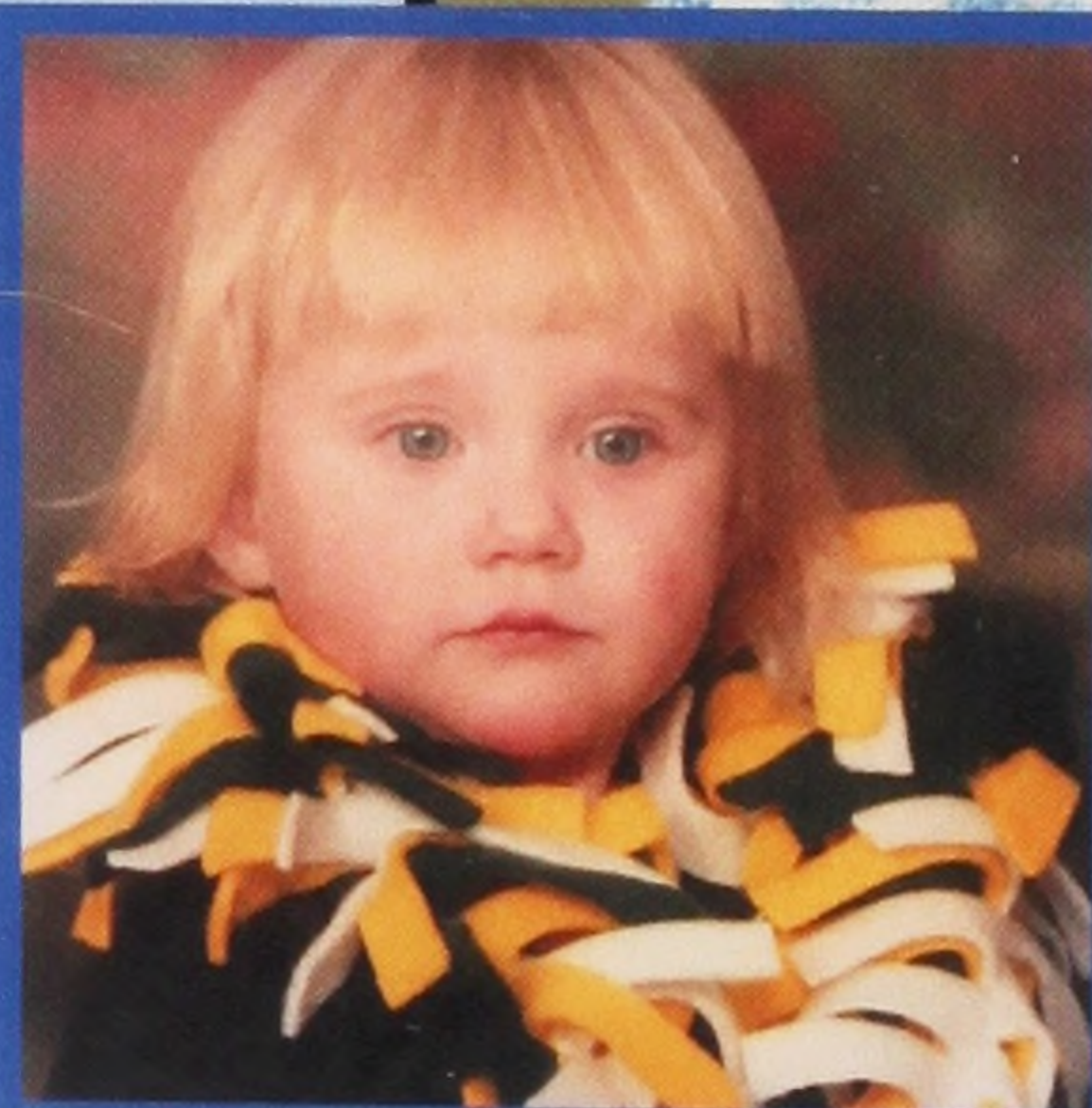
Plants are cheaper than a therapist, and they're just as effective

p.g.i.s.



Aberdeen Stuart

"There's no point in looking back, there's also no point in looking forward, that's why I close my eyes when I skateboard" -Katya Zamolodchikova



Nyah Swanson

Its actually not called a “utility knife” fun fact, they are called “box cutters” and hotchkiss appreciates it so much when they are called as such



Gillian Switalla

“I’m very small, and have no money, so you can imagine the kind of stress that I’m under.” —John Mulaney



Cheyenne Thao

If you're looking back at this years from now, I hope you're happier and you're where you've always dreamed of being.



Angeles Torres

Byyye :)



Jordan Tran

Fake it till
you make it.
How else did
you think I
graduated?



Sydney Trojak

Sharpay said
this was going
to be
fabulous.



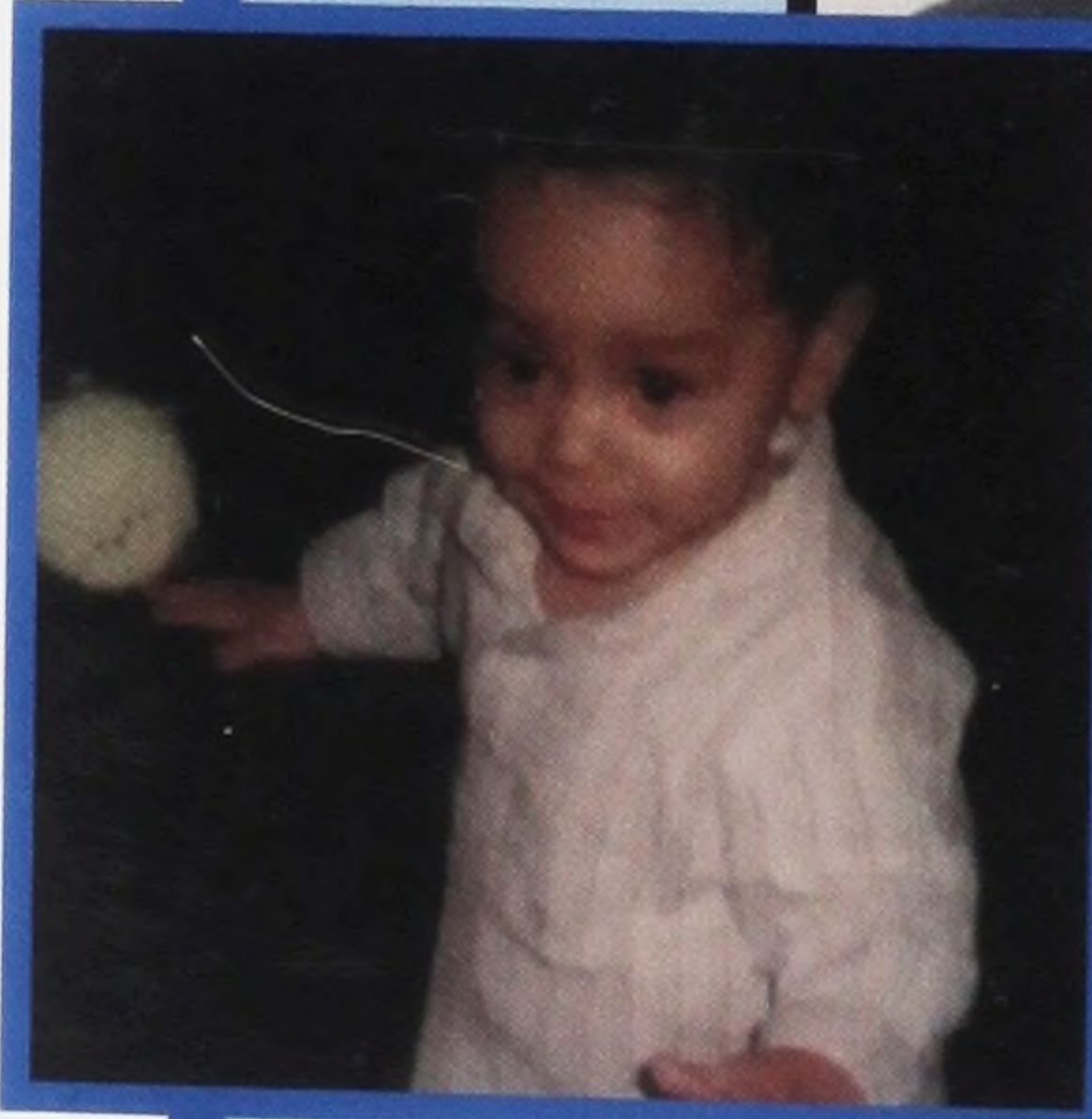
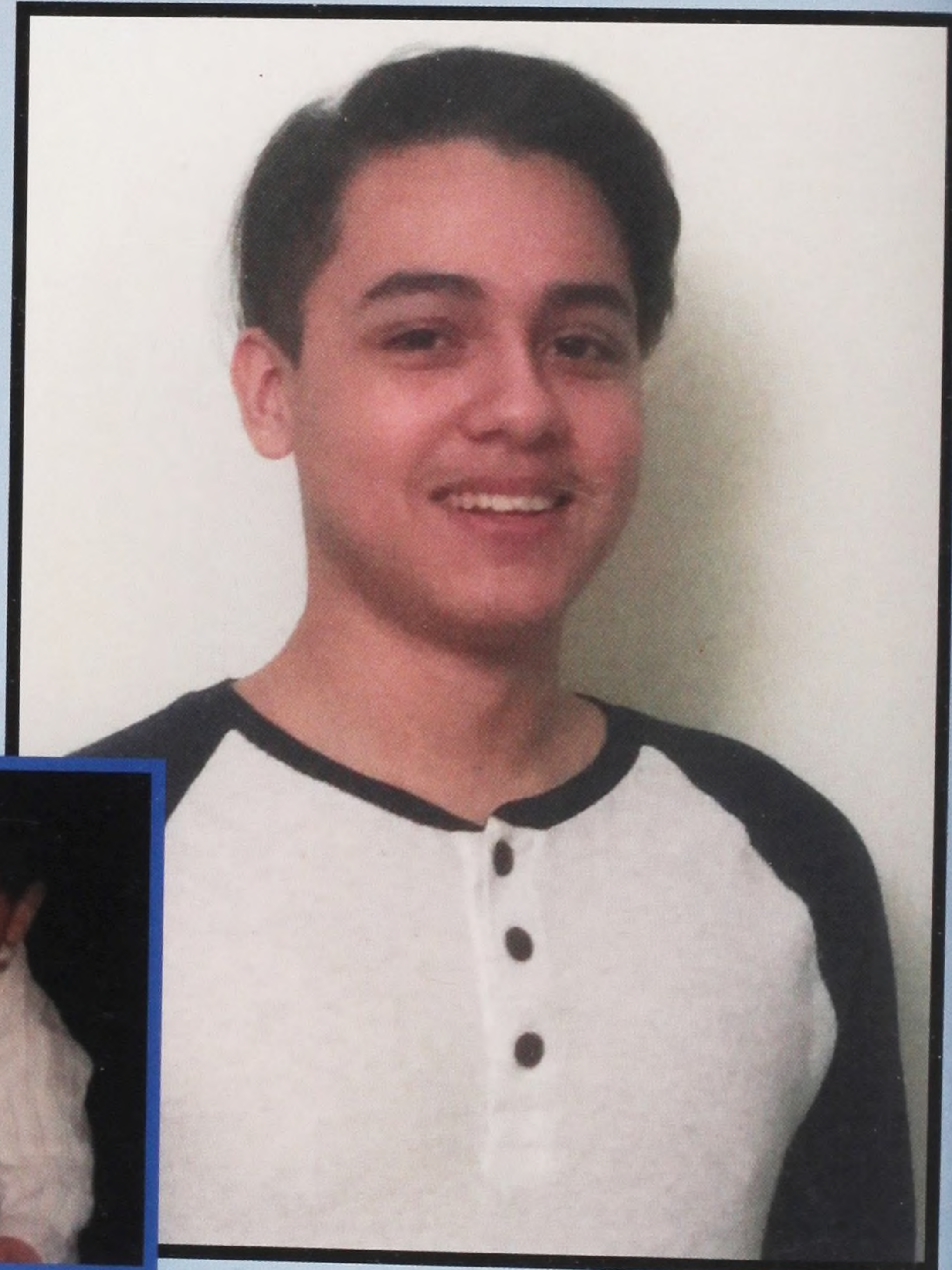
Briana Turner

I haven't a
Clue what's
going on
here, but i'll
act like I did
-Naruto



Bryan Vasquez

Spell red. "Red,
L S T E R"
-Beetlejuice



Rafiq Wall-Johnson

I just want
to hang
with the
homies



Trinity Warren

Sierra Water

smile and
wave boys
smile and
wave -
penguins from
Madagascar



Meseret Watiyo

“ To the teachers who
dismiss me class
knowing my excuses
are a lie, Thank you,
you saved me from
embarrassment “
-Meseret



Dalton Weidman

'We all have to start somewhere, so you might as well start at the top'-Coach Clark



Francis Werth

Sometimes things happen, maybe soon they'll stop happening.

Ryan Whiteside

Has been
released
from his 4
year
sentence.



Valen Wilcox

"Never
gonna give
you up"
Rick
Astley



Calvin Yeagers

Big
Pharma
Mumble
Rap



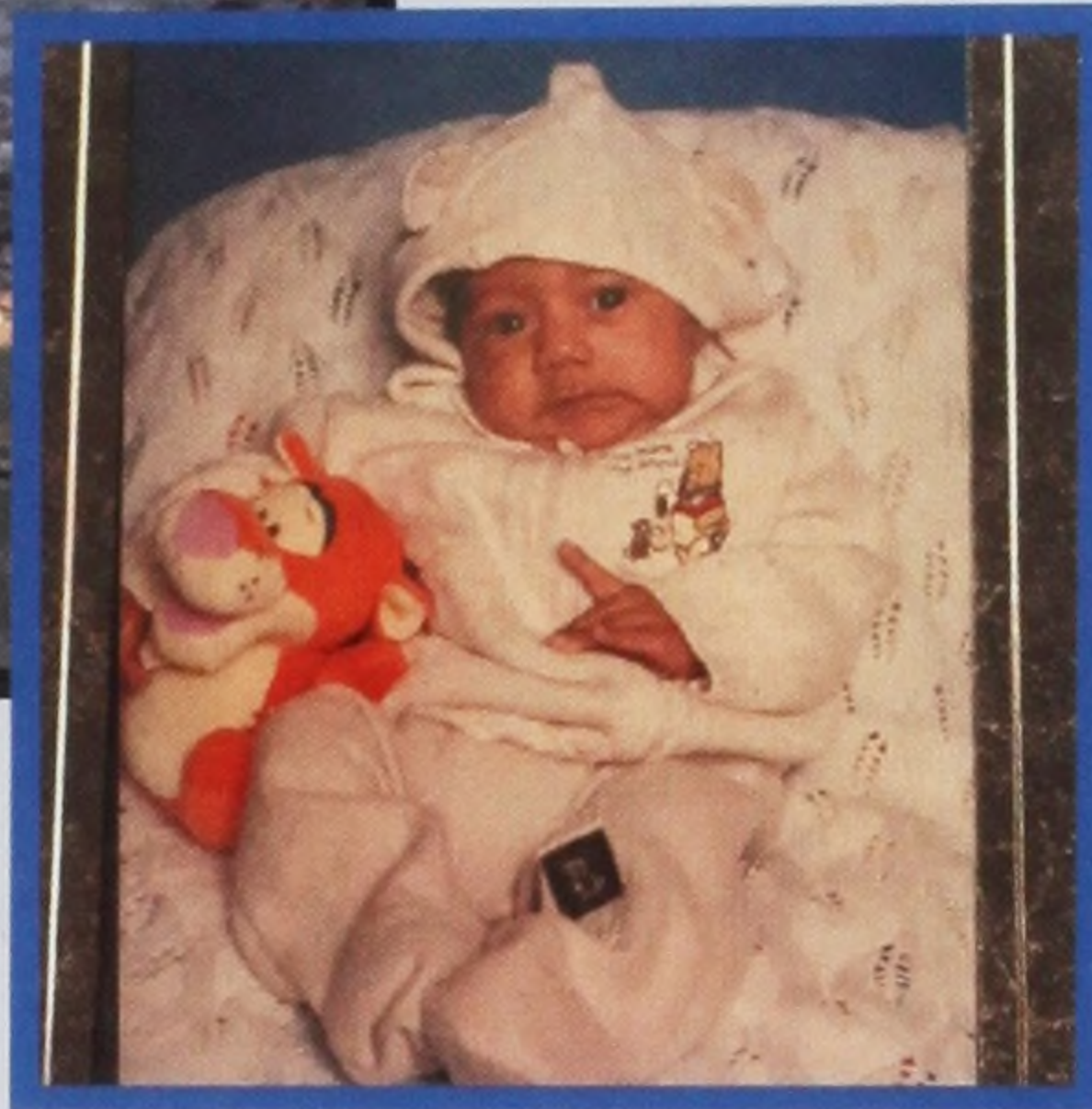
Adriana Flores-Arteaga

“I have come to
love myself for
who I was, who I
am, and who I
hope to become.”
- RM (UN
Speech)



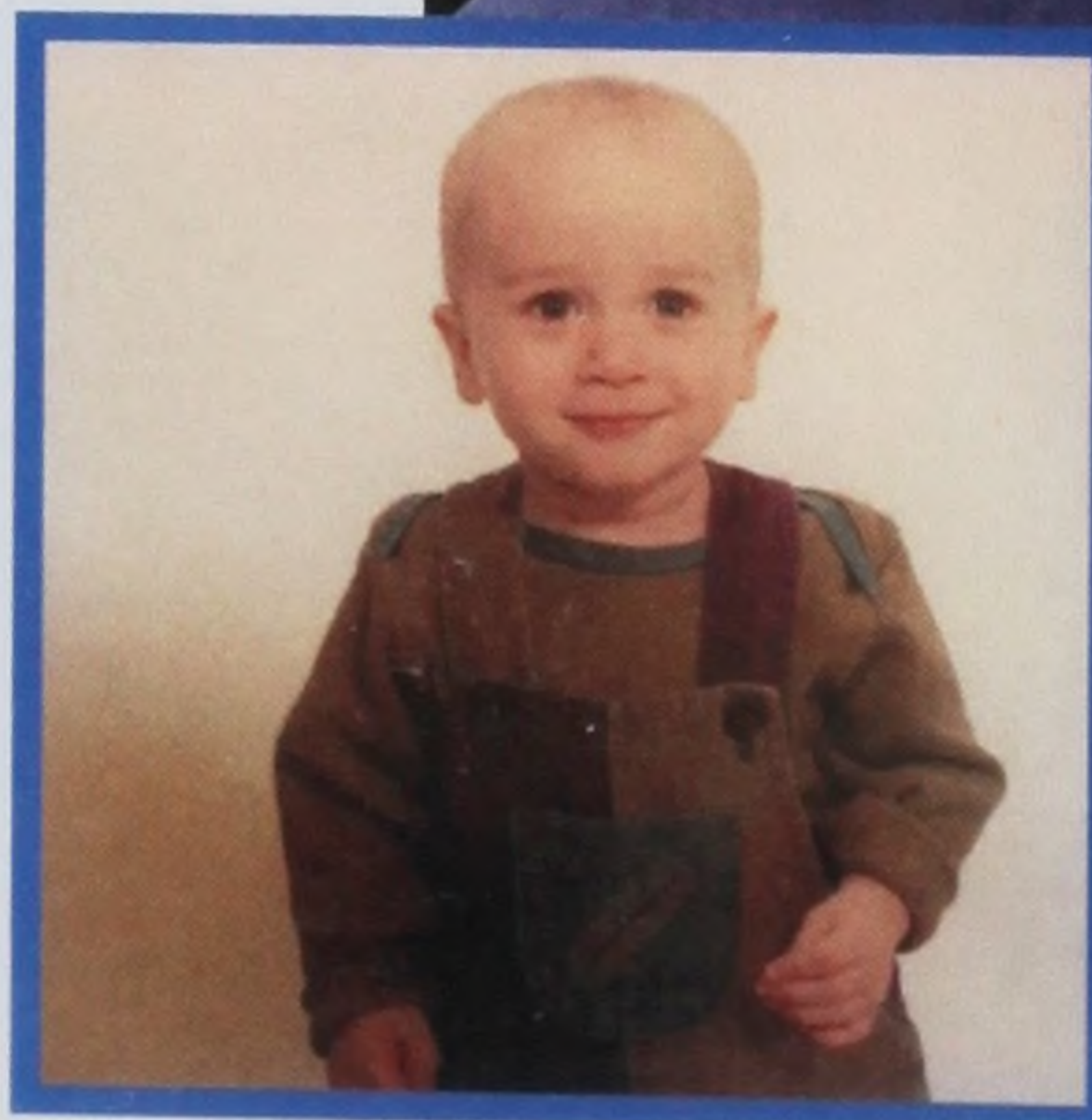
Benjamin Moyola

Este Mundo es
muy Parejo Si
Hoy estoy
perdiendo
Mañana me
Tocará ganar.
J.G



Arden Dougherty

shrug



Vanessa Cortez-Torres

"Isn't a night view
such a cruel thing
A magnificent sight
of somebodies' thorns
Someone will be
consoled by
looking at your thorns
for sure." - Mono by
RM



Abby Hernandez

If you don't love
yourself, I don't
think you can do
anything else. -
Kim Seokjin

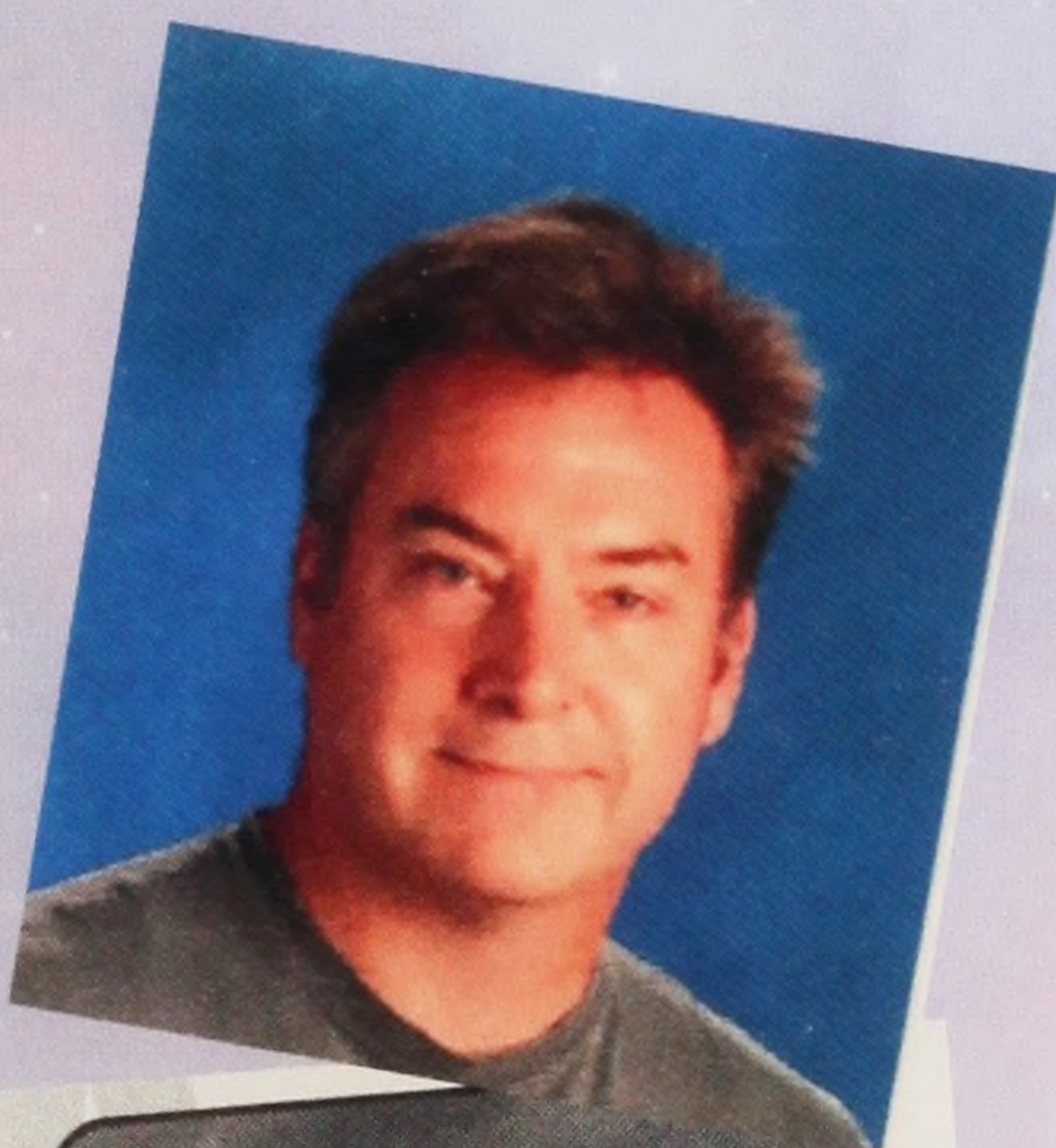




Staff Retiring from Benson at the end of this year include:

- David Thompson
- Steve Naganuma
- Markeeta Koch
- Ed Railey
- Marisel Gonzalez

**Goodbyes
are not forever,
and they are not an end,
they simply mean
"I'll miss you!"
until we meet again.
-- anonymous**

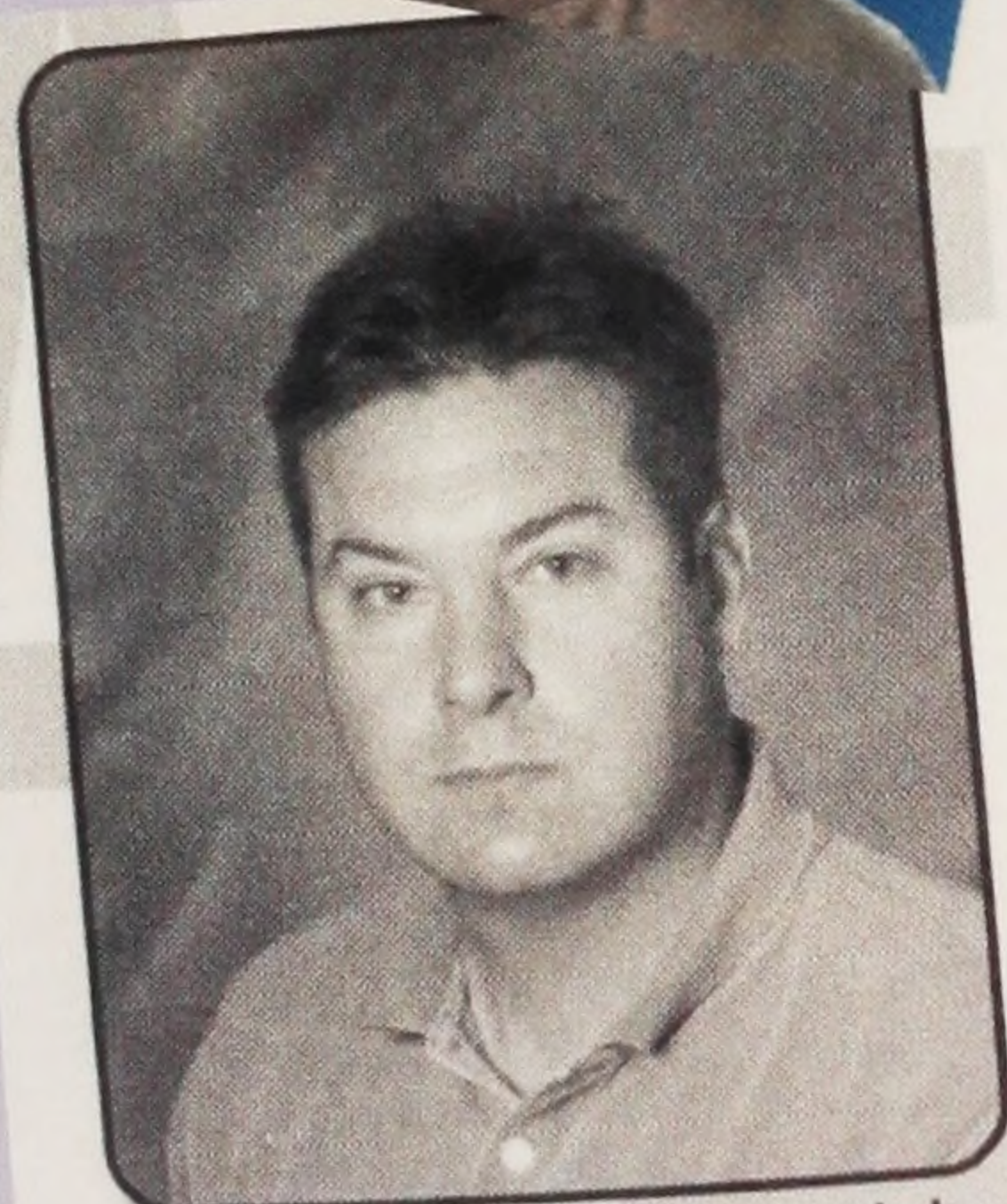


DAVID THOMPSON

Mr. David Thompson was fortunate enough to student teach at Benson in 1988. It was during his time then that he met many talented and dedicated teachers but decided teaching at Benson was what he wanted. He was hired as a math teacher in 1990, which, in his own words, "exposed me to one of the most successful math departments in Portland."

As his career at Benson continued, he was approached to teach some the introductory vocational courses. Ultimately, he taught courses in Electric, Drafting, Communications (print shop and B&W photography), building construction, computer technology, automotive, web design, and chemistry!

He says about his time as a Techster, "Working at Benson has enriched my experience like no other school and I am very thankful for an opportunity that has lasted over 30 years."

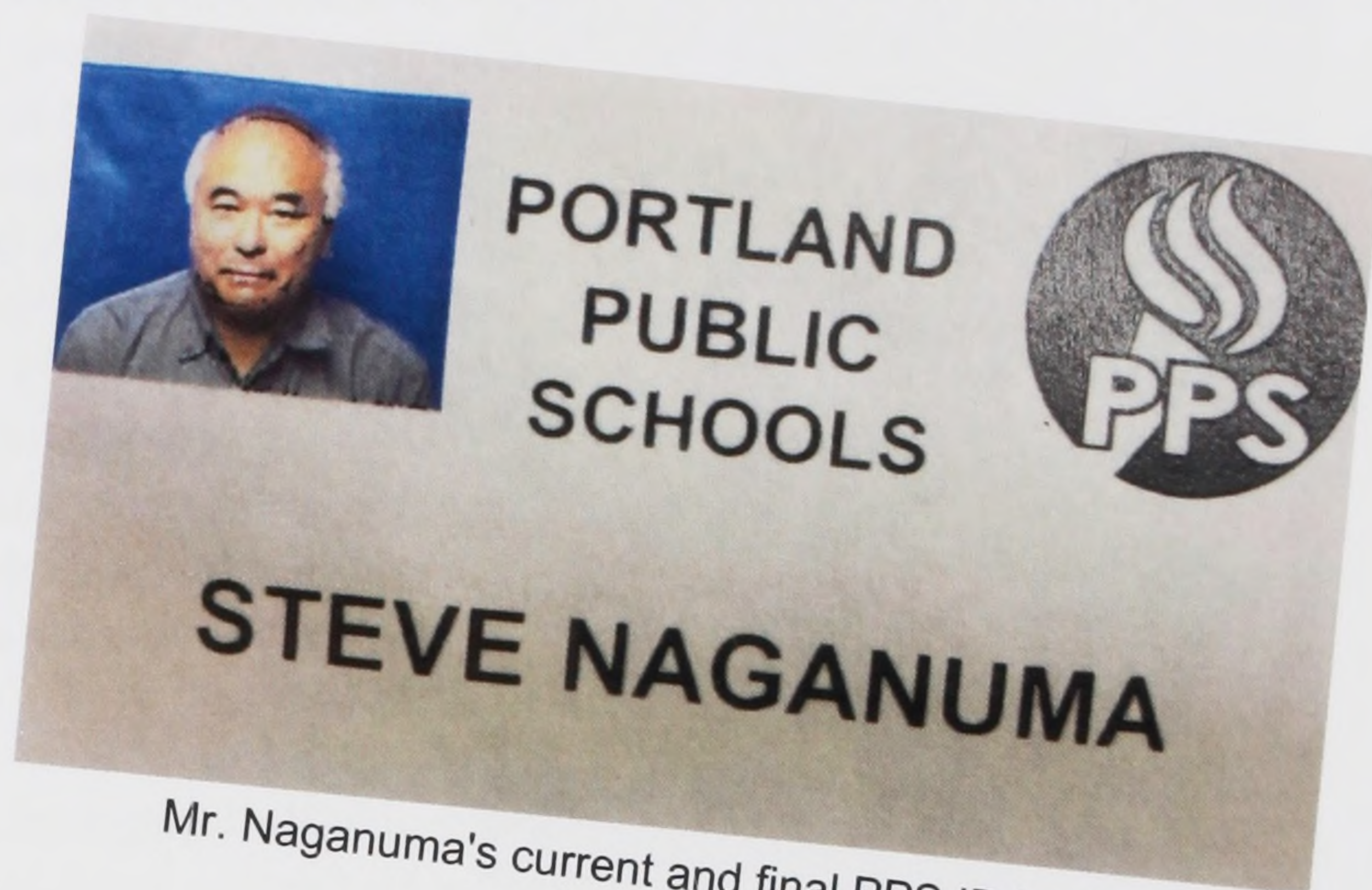


Thompson, David

STEVE NAGANUMA



Mr. Steve Naganuma is retiring from Benson High School after being a part of PPS for 45 years - 13 years as a student and 32 years as an educator! In fact, Mr. Naganuma first walked the halls of Benson when he entered as a freshman in 1971. He remembers that the first thing he did while at Benson was to purchase the Boys Basketball Championship t-shirt, as the team won the state championship the year before. He remembers, "I wore that shirt daily! Well, if it was clean, I wore it."



Mr. Naganuma's current and final PPS ID badge.

Back as a young Techster, Mr. Naganuma decided to major in Electronics Engineering. By his senior year, he took two separate classes of Radio Broadcasting and then attended Portland State University to get a degree in business with the hope of managing a radio station. By the time of his college graduation though, Mr. Naganuma was already a seasoned voice for radio, working part time at KBPS and other radio stations to help pay his way through college. One of these part time jobs was working for the Benson radio station. He has worked for some of the top Portland radio stations including K103, Z100, KUPL, Q105, Magic 107 KMJK, KYTE-AM & FM, Z-Rock 1010AM, 62 KGW, KPAM and KGAR.



Mr. Naganuma's Benson Senior Photo

It wasn't until 1997 that the opportunity of returning to work at his alma mater came to Mr. Naganuma, and he gladly accepted. He said of his time at Benson, "It's a great school. Ever since I walked these halls as a student it's been a great school. As a teacher, I wanted to continue that for my students."

Even as the radio industry has changed over the years, Mr. Naganuma made sure to keep up with the times. His curriculum of teaching Audio Content Creation (which includes elements of and skills for sales, marketing, promotions, commercial productions, writing, news, and disc jockey) includes tools that can be used in any field of work. One such student, Adam Daniel (who now goes by Animé) used his skills from Mr. Naganuma's class to record a song that made it to #11 on the Billboard Top 100 list.

Although he's had amazing students through the years, the one thing that's been most memorable have been the students who are children of past students! Whether a past or current student, all people that had the opportunity to learn from and work with Mr. Naganuma will remember him for his two things. One is that he cared for them - about them as people and their well-being, and for their learning. The other is for that smooth, golden voice of his.

In his retirement, Mr. Naganuma will tend to house projects he's never gotten around to doing and travel. His first stop? Greece!

MARKEETA KOCH



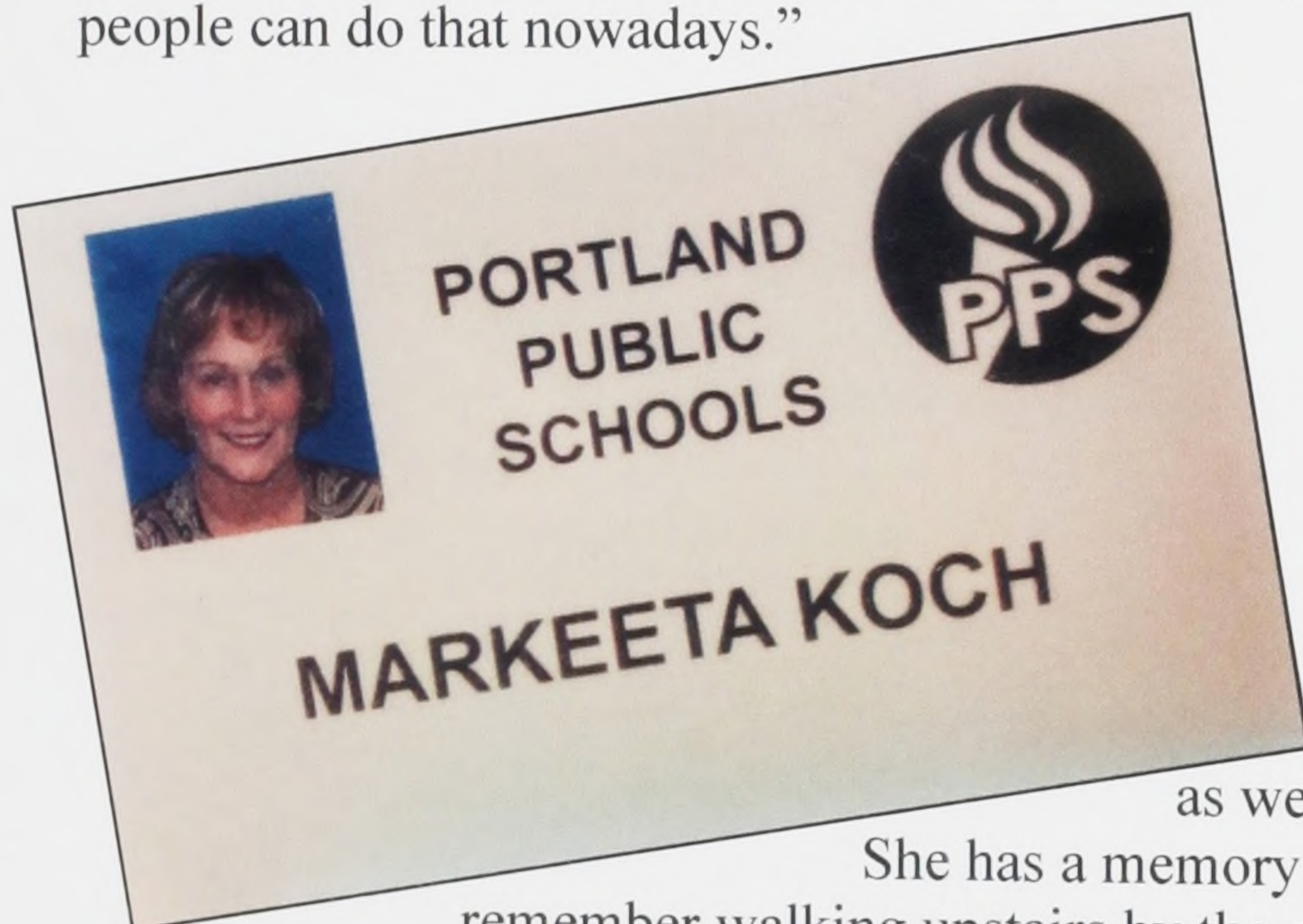
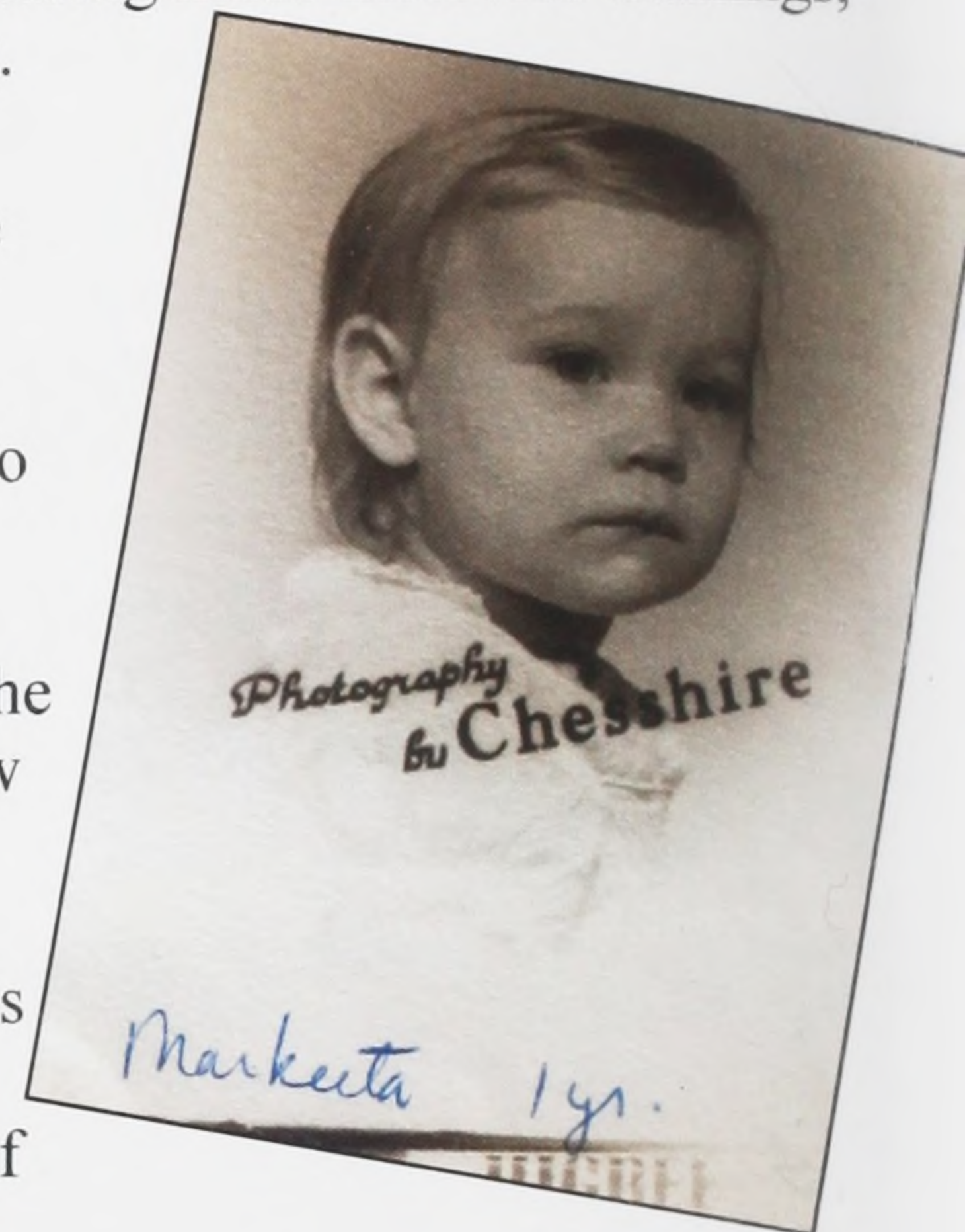
Ms. Markeeta Koch will say goodbye to Benson High School at the end of this year, retiring after serving nearly a decade at the school, where she wore many hats: Health Service Teacher, Teen Parent Counselor, and Classroom Therapist for the SES student population.

Originally from Ohio, Koch went to high school and college in Tucson, AZ, before moving to Portland in 1981. Before beginning her journey in PPS, Koch was a heli-nurse, flying in a helicopter to collect women with high risk pregnancies and get them help right away. After several years helping mothers and their babies, she moved to being an operating room nurse. She has been an RN for 44 years and says about nursing, "There's a lot you can do with nursing. You're never out of a job!". She began teaching nurses during nurse inservice trainings, and it was there that she got the bug for teaching.

Although she has worked in schools throughout PPS, Benson holds a special place for her. She says that one of the most special things about Benson is also the biggest thing she will miss in her retirement: the community. She says of this unique trait of the school: "The way people come together at Benson is special. No one isolates here. People know each other."

One memory she has of this community also shows how much love and support she gave the students here. While as the Health Service teacher, she was able to follow and loop through all four high school years with a special group of students. She remembers, "They wanted a Pharmacy Tech course. Benson never had one and I had never taught one, but we did it! We learned together, and I'm glad the students got what they wanted."

It was during this class that Koch had one of her favorite and funniest memories of being at Benson: "We used a defibrillator to blow up a watermelon. I don't think people can do that nowadays."

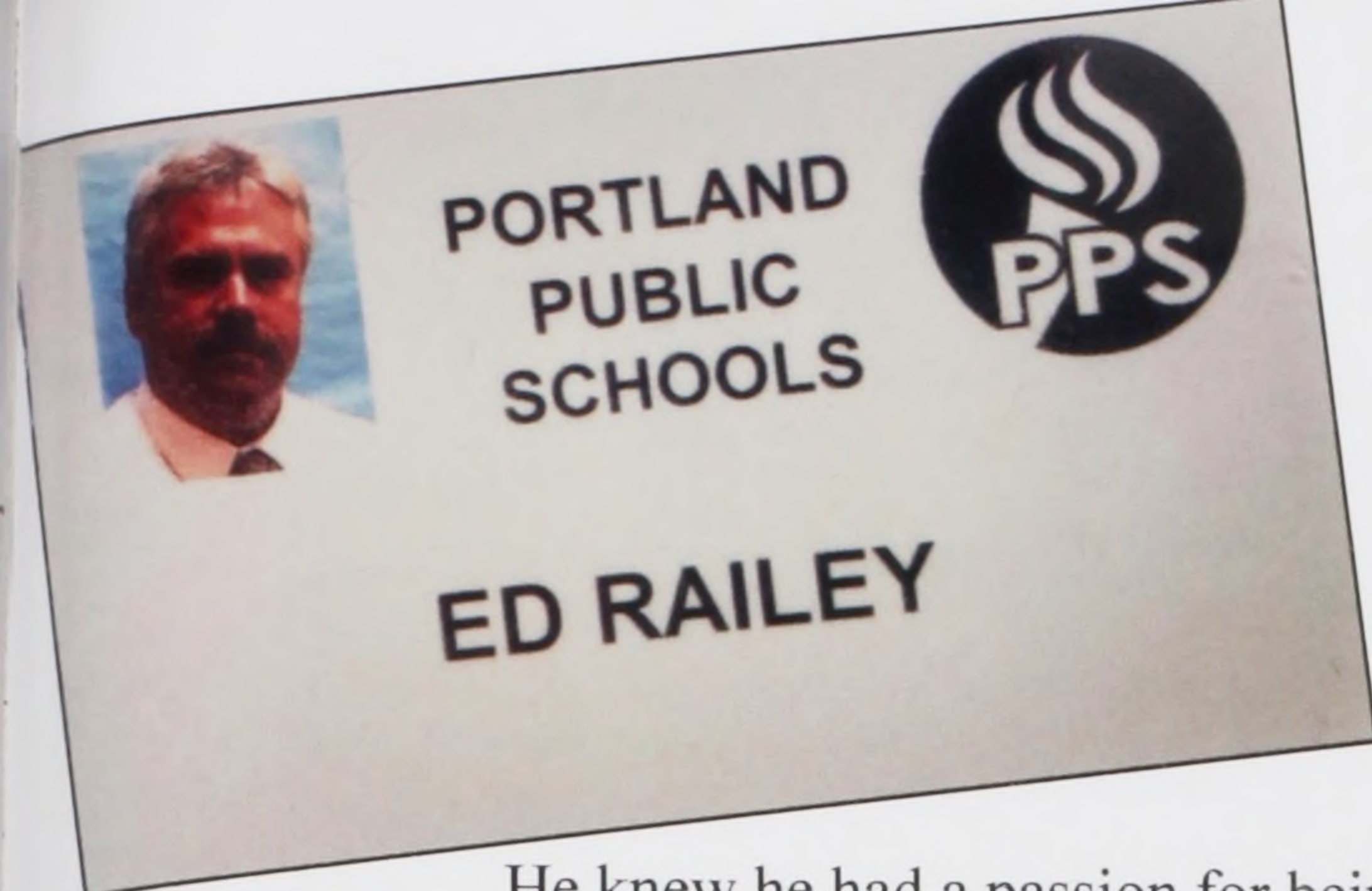


For years, Koch has had a passion for helping others, and it has served her, and the Benson community, well. She hopes that students at Benson will one day find a passion for themselves. She says, "I really hope Benson students identify a passion they have and work for that. I want them to go for what they like and are good at no matter what it is".

As Benson says goodbye to Koch, she says goodbye to it as well, as the school will go under renovations for three years.

She has a memory of her time at Benson, one of the building itself: "I remember walking upstairs by the auditorium doors, and the roof was leaking so badly that a ceiling tile got so saturated that it fell from the ceiling and landed right at my feet!"

In her retirement, Koch plans to spend more time with her 9-year-old granddaughter, volunteering at her elementary school and taking her out for ice cream after. She also hopes to volunteer at her local library and add more time to her gardening. Also, she's made it to 49 of the U.S.' 50 states and wants to take a road trip to that last one. Her last one? Alaska!



ED RAILEY

Ed Railey could say that working on cars is in his blood. His dad was an Army mechanic who let his young son work alongside him at home and at his own auto shop. Railey remembers the shock on people's faces when they saw a 14-year-old him roll out from under their cars to state that he was the one fixing them.

He knew he had a passion for being a hands-on learner and for fixing things, so it was no surprise when he went to a CTE high school in Oregon City (he really wanted to come to Benson, but it was too far) and then went on to join the Army at age 17 to work on Cobra attack helicopters. He served for six years and then moved from aviation to automobiles, working with Ford as a technician, diagnostician, foreman, and service manager. After 20 years at Ford, Railey began working at Mt. Hood Community College where they offered the Ford Asset Program, where students could get an Associates degree in automotive while also working with a Ford dealership. Railey was thinking of returning to Ford when Mr. Brett Anderson, whom he had known through the dealership, asked him if he was interested in being a teacher at Benson. Railey said, "I held high praise for Benson because of the caliber of graduates I met that came out of there. So I thought: 'I'll give it a shot.' Within two weeks, I knew it was the best decision I ever made."



Ed Railey (left) and Brett Anderson are both longtime friends and co-workers. This photo is from the 2014 Benson yearbook!

Not only was it a great decision for Railey, it was an amazing opportunity for Benson. For the past 17 years, Railey has been known as one of the nicest guys on campus, and his passion for connecting with the students is a mainstay in what he does. He says, "It's the kids. It was never about the content. The content stays if a relationship is there, and I'm leaving with a lot of really good relationships." In fact, Railey says that he can't count the

number of times past students have shown up at Benson to introduce them to their kids. Not being able to see past and current (and even future students) is one of the hardest things about the distance learning for Railey. He says, "It's breaking my heart not to see them."

As June and retirement gets closer, Mr. Railey will get another chance to see some students as hybrid instruction starts April 19. Not only will they get to reconnect with one of their favorite teachers, but they will be able to see Ruby - Railey's burnt orange, 1965 Shelby Cobra, a kit car he built himself and that he once drove through the hallways of Benson, that sits in the auto shop.

As Railey says goodbye to staff and students at Benson, he and his wife are heading to the land of warmth, sunshine, and all things cars: Vegas! When asked what he leaves Benson knowing after 17 years, Railey says, "I was loved." You were indeed, Ed Railey. You were indeed.



Ruby, Mr. Railey's 1965 Shelby Cobra kit car, in the auto shop.

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This yearbook is brought to you by an incredible, hardworking and very creative student staff. We made this during a pandemic, entirely remote, on slow Chromebooks, during the first semester of school, with a brand new teacher. Truly remarkable!!

Face Coverings Could Save 130,000 American Lives from COVID-19 by March

Total confirmed COVID-19 deaths per million people, Sep 7, 2020
Lack of testing and challenges in the attribution of the cause of death makes that the number of confirmed deaths may not be an accurate score of the true total number of deaths from COVID-19.



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