

SENIOR Mustang Monitor EDITION

Volume 66

Evergreen Park Community
High School

May 2021



Grace Beyer, Valedictorian

Grace Beyer intends to go to Illinois Wesleyan to study Neuroscience. She has been honored to receive Math Student of the Year, English Student of the Year, Science Student of the Year, and is an Illinois State Scholar. She has participated in Science Olympiad, Spring Musicals, Swim, Mathletes, Student Government, Choir, and NHS. Her favorite part of EP was the whole swim season and going out to dinner

after. Her favorite class was Psychology because of how interesting it was. Grace always looked forward to the school dances because of the time she would share with all her friends. Her advice for future students is “really try to enjoy your classes and ask questions, it makes the time go by so much faster and you’ll learn so much more.”

Madeline Reynolds, Salutatorian

Madeline Reynolds is attending Saint Mary’s College of Notre Dame with the intention of majoring in Biology with a focus in Pre-medicine. She has an AP Scholar, Illinois State Scholar, IHSA All-State Academic Athlete Nominee, Cheerleading State Qualifier (sophomore and senior year), Cheerleading Captain during her senior year, and Diving Captain her senior year. She was a member of the Diving,

Cheerleading, Track, Mathletes, and NHS. Her favorite memory while participating in Cheer was qualifying for state her senior year because it made the last four years feel so worth it. Out of all of the classes she has taken, she adores science more than anything because it takes a hands-on approach. Her two favorite teachers are Mr. Knapik, for being able to help her figure out where and what she wants to do; and Mrs.

Marshall for always teaching her valuable lessons. Her favorite support staff member is Ms. Torres for being so understanding and motivational. One piece of advice she would leave for future EP students is to “take advantage of the opportunities high school provides you. High school flies by and you don’t want to leave with any regrets, so take advantage of the activities EP offers.”



Check out the rest of the Top Ten Percent Inside!

In This issue

Page 7:

**Senior
Wills**

Page 8:

**Varsity Wall
Inductees**

Page 9:

**Senior
Superlatives**

CLASS OF 2021



Emily Ryan plans to attend Moraine Valley in the fall with the intentions of going into Graphic Design. She has been honored to receive Senior Color Guard Captain, Co-head of Crew, Sound Board Operator while taking part in Color Guard and Theater Crew. Her favorite memory before a big game was getting ready with her team because it grew a better

connection. Her favorite class was photography because she loved learning the darkroom and learning photoshop to increase her skills. Her favorite memory during her four years at EPCHS was trying to find Meredith with the crew on our third floor trips, after maintenance would hide her. Her favorite teacher was Ms. Pietruszynski because she has always been

there for her and has always been willing to help even when she first took over Color Guard. Her favorite support staff is Miss DeMik because she is always kind and tries to bring a smile to everyone's face. Her one piece of advice she would give is to "Don't be afraid to try something new and put yourself out there."

Nellie O'Grady plans to attend Indiana University while majoring in biology. She has received awards and honors in the Chick Evans Scholarship Award, AP Scholar, Illinois State Scholar. She has been found to have taken apart of Volleyball, Musical, Science Olympiad, Student Government, NHS, and Student Lead-

ership. Her favorite memory in Volleyball was the team dinners/breakfasts because it was a bonding moment. Her favorite class is calculus because it reminds her of times before Covid. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Smith because he provides a fun and safe learning environment. Her favorite support staff was Mr. Eisenbraun because he was easily

approachable while doing her college applications. Her favorite memory was badminton in gym class. Nellie's advice for future students is that "nothing is guaranteed; to cherish every second of your high school careers. Don't be too eager to get out of here!"



Lori Wilson will be attending Bradley University in the fall and majoring in Nursing. While at EPCHS she was a cheerleader and active in Snowball. She really enjoyed cheerleading at every football game and basketball game because she was able to see her friends. AP Psy-

chology was her favorite class and her favorite teacher was Ms. Pietruszynski because of her encouragement and positivity, and Ms. Hyland has been supporting her since freshman year, teaching her how to make the best out of every situation. Her favorite memory of EP, it was singing Christmas songs at the winter

assembly. Some advice she would like to give to future students is: "Have fun and don't be afraid to try something new."

Catherine Schulte plans on going to either University of Miami or Louisiana State University to study marine biology. She is the award recipient for the Illinois State Scholar with other honors as an AP scholar, team captain of the volleyball team and MVP. Throughout high school she has participated in NHS, Leadership/Operation Snowball, Student Government, Athletic Leadership, Volleyball,

and Basketball. Her favorite memory in volleyball was when her and teammate Heidi Burke got stuck at a tournament for hours because the bus broke down and Coach Carrie took us across the street to get quesadillas. Her favorite class was art because of how therapeutic it was for her. Catherine's favorite faculty member was Mr. Nesler because of how kind he was and she always enjoyed receiving a good morning from

him. Her favorite support staff was Mr. Estes because of their never ending conversations and he would always attend the sporting events. Her favorite memory out of all four years were not just the games but the student pride. What she hopes for incoming students is to get involved--whether it's a sport, club, or friend-group because you can meet a lot of people and grow bonds with them.



Ernesto Mora will be attending Moraine Valley Community College with an intended major in Finance. He was a member of NHS, he was on the honor roll, and he was an AP Scholar and an Illinois State Scholar during his time at EPCHS. He was involved in Student Government and Soccer during his freshman and sophomore years. Ms. Vucsko was

his favorite teacher because she helped him get a 4 on the AP English Language exam. Mr. Eisenbraun helped him settle some of the nerves and anxiety I had when it came to preparing for his future, and that is why he was a favorite of Ernesto. Math was his favorite subject because he always felt confident and comfortable solving problems after failing to solve them a

couple of times. His favorite moment from EP came sophomore year when he hit consecutive 3-point shots in gym class, and his message to future EP students is "keep trying and never give up. Always believe in yourself because in the end, you are going to be the one making a life for yourself."

TOP TEN PERCENT

Heidi Burke is currently undecided on a major and will attend St. Mary's College. Her awards at EPCHS are Illinois State Scholar, Varsity Volleyball Captain, Most Spirited, and attending Snowball for 4 Years. Heidi was involved in multiple extracurricular activities such as: Volleyball, Track, Winter

Musical, Operation Snowball/ Small Group Leader, Student Leadership, Student Government, Athletic Leadership, FBLA, and the Principal's Advisory Council. One of her favorite sports moments at EPCHS was beating Oak Lawn for her last volleyball game during her senior year. Her favorite EPCHS staff is

Mr. Pasek, Mr. Smith, and Ms. Heenan. Her advice to new students is "Time flies. Take in every single moment you have here at EP. Before you know it, you will be a senior. Enjoy the time you still have left as a high schooler."



Joshua Gordon plans on attending Howard University in the fall and possibly majoring in criminology. He was an active member of Student Leadership and the NHS here at EP and has held many positions and won several awards and honors such as: NHS Vice President, 1st Place Science Competition, Mustang Pride Award, Homecoming Prince, SSC Leadership Conference, Illini Boys State Evergreen Park American Legion Post #854,

and Illinois State Scholar. Snowball was his favorite activity because it helped him from a stoic and antisocial person, to an absolute butterfly into an extroverted, friendly person. It gave him the space to open up to people, and gain valuable leadership skills. Woodshop was his favorite class because he always liked to work with his hands and Mr. Ride-nour, with his straightforward and unfiltered nature, made him Joshua's most influential teacher. Mr. Estes was also important to

him with his positive greetings everyday. Snowball fills up Joshua's favorite EP memories due to the positive changes the weekends helped facilitate. Joshua is filled with good advice for new students: "Listen to your teachers and counselors. Academics are important all four years, but a strong start will ensure that you're not playing the catch-up game later on. And Lastly, get involved in everything you can."

Juliet O'Connor will be studying business at the University of Iowa. Her awards at EPCHS are Illinois State Scholar, Outstanding English Student. Juliet was also involved in FBLA, NHS, Student Leadership, Snowball, and the Musicals. Her favorite club moment was opening night of The Addams Family during her sopho-

more year because it made her realize she wanted to continue performing in musicals for the rest of her high school career. Ms. Hyland is her favorite support staff member because she taught individuals what it truly means to be a leader and being a Small Group Leader at Operation Snowball. My favorite memory was the pep rally in my freshman year when my friend

and I won the "Best Friends" award. Juliet's advice to new students is "I encourage everyone to get involved in some way, either with clubs or athletics because you will meet so many great people and make some of the best memories! Don't take any day for granted because it will truly be over before you know it!"



Macy Benson plans on attending Colorado State University with an intended major in business marketing. While at EPCHS, Macy was involved with bowling, student government, student leadership, NHS, Snowball, Mathletes, Science Olympiad, and Soccer. Her awards at EPCHS were: Bowling Mustang Award, Bowling Sportsmanship Award (grades 9 and 10), Bowling Co-Captain JV and Varsity.

Macy's favorite sports moment was winning the SSC Conference Championship and then going to Chi Tung for hibachi to celebrate as a team. Her favorite class at EPCHS was Mr. Truffa's freshman English class because he was able to connect English lessons to modern day similarities through comic books and superheroes. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Smith because he really tries to make a personal

connection to every student he has while also being a great math teacher. Her favorite EP memory was when my friends and I danced to "Cruisin for a Bruisin" from Teen Beach movie at the snowball talent show. Macy's advice to her underclassmen is "Get involved in the most random clubs or sports because if you didn't think you'll be good at it, it could be something you never knew you liked."

Alyssa Purvis intends to major in Pre-Med (Neuroscience and Psychology) at Illinois Wesleyan University. Alyssa has been a straight A student all four years, an AP Scholar, and placed 1st and 3rd in the Science Competition, as well as being part of the Dance Team, Choir, Band, Student Leadership, and the Newspaper. Her favorite moment was singing a solo in

a choir concert my freshman year because it was something that she never thought she was capable of doing. Psychology was her favorite class because it helped her develop more confidence in her dream of becoming a psychiatrist. Mr. Knapik and Mrs. Montount were her favorite staff members because of their support and positive perspective. It was those mo-

ments between classes or before school where she was able to talk to her friends that will be most remembered. And the advice she would give to new EP students is "do anything and everything that may scare you because you never know what greatness may await you on the other side."



Where Will the

Alabama State University

Amaya Rucker

Eastern Illinois University

DJ Horton

Indiana University

Nellie O’Grady

Bradley University

Jack Bresnahan
Daniel Byrnes
Lori Wilson

Howard University

Joshua Gordon

Moraine Valley Community College

Javon Bynum
Emily Manso
Ximena Murillo
Lorenzo Preston
Emily Ryan
Jessalyn Torres
Christopher Palmer
Leilani Rodriguez
Yaselyn Rodriguez
Kimberly Silverstre-Ferrer
Kassnadra Silverstre-Ferrer
Emily Smith

Costal Carolina University

Natalie Gavin

Illinois State University

Christian Carvajal
Hannah Ortell
Madison Pliska
Connor Normoyle

Columbia College

Kalvin Robles
Taylor Spencer

Illinois Wesleyan University

Grace Beyer
Alyssa Purvis
Christian Rosso

Colorado State University

Macey Benson

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

Donreik Moore

Concordia University

Jamie Coffelt

Lordes University

Kiara Smith

North Central College

Davion Johnson

East-West University

Devin Green
Diana Bucio

Loyola University

Keegan Cassidy
Aliyah Polk

Northern Illinois University

Asia Stevenson

Class of 2021

\$8,124,143

Scholarship Dollars Earned

174

Students in the Senior Class

176

*Individual Awards and Scholarship
Offered*

65

*Graduates Completed Education in E.P.
Public School*

Mustangs Roam?

Roosevelt University

Kaitlyn Sanford

**Southern Illinois University
-Carbondale**

Tiana Brown

University of Illinois-Chicago

Victor Leal-Painter
Darryl Smith

St. Mary’s College

Heidi Burke
Madeline Reynolds
Emma Terri

Spring Hill College

Kylie Doherty

University of Iowa

Ailyn Esquivel
Juliet O’Connor

St. Xavier University

Nolan Bruce
Jennifer Escalera-Araujo
Daniel Farritor
Ryan Galindo
Shanice Jones
Makenzie Telstad
Mya Cooper
Colin McGrath

Texas Tech

Toni Woodall

University of Northern Iowa

Venesa Arredondo

Tinity Christian College

Taylor Hoefler

University of Tampa

Valerie Vojacek

South Carolina University

Evelina Rudzinskas

Union/Trades

Jacob Julian
Aaron Redd

**University of Wisconsin
-Platteville**

Matthew Walsh

**Southern Illinois University
-Edwardsville**

Kiara James
Maylasia Lambert

United State Marine Corps

Daniel Flores
Nicole Mutnansky

Valprasio University

Marion Isaac

University of Illinois

Connor Tyrrell

**By the
Numbers**

13

*Illinois State Scholar Commission
Certificates of Achievement*

*SSC Activites Scholastic Achievement
Awards*

5

President’s Education Awards

*SSC Athletics Scholastic Achievement
Awards*

Senior Wills

"I, Kiara Smith, do hereby leave Leland Rodriguez my amazing bowling skills to help the boys bowling team to win."

"I, Emma Terri, do hereby leave Charley Burns my attendance record."

"I, Amaya Rucker, do hereby leave the entire band my cheerful energy. Please be good when I am gone and treat your BD kindly. The knowledge you are taught will be needed in the future. I also leave my drumsticks to the percussion section, with these scarred sticks you shall always have something to remember me."

"I, Matt Walsh, do hereby leave Mike Torres to wear #4 in football."

"I, Evan Wood, do hereby leave Jason my skills in Math class."

"I, Nicholas Jacobs, do hereby leave Leland Rodriguez, the duty of annoying Mr. Kazin in all band associated matters."

"I, Lyncel Staple, do hereby leave Malik St. Clair the position of the next leader of the track team with his track skills on the track team."

"I, Luis Yapan, do hereby leave Mr. Pasek the job of saying good morning to everyone before class starts"

"I, Emilio Lopez, do hereby leave Ricardo Lopez nothing. I'm leaving you nothing."

"I, Marlon Johnson, do hereby leave my brother Markell Johnson my role as the most laid back person in school. May my legacy forever live long in evergreen park high school."

"I, MaKenzie Telstad, do hereby leave Summer Weathersby, the honor of being Mr.Codiamat's favorite senior."

"I, Kiara James, do hereby leave Destiny Silverman my locker and my wonderful positive energy towards everybody."

"I, Nicole Mutnansky, do hereby leave Maddie S. All my energy and goofiness to keep the trio alive even though we're gone, and Gabby M. All my late night after guard wisdom and love for the rest of her high school career."

"I, Emily Ryan and Nicole Mutnansky, do hereby leave the EP Colorguard with all of our love and support thank you, good job, good job!"

"I, Maddie Reynolds, do hereby leave Mary Grace Kane my ability to do a reverse dive off of the board."

I, Yaritza Rodriguez, do hereby leave (An)drea Gramajo Hernandez and jay(lynn Kampstra) my confidence.

I, Grace Sisto, do hereby leave Jessica Rojas and little grace(leonard) my love for coffee but also the endless roadtrips to practice.

Varsity Wall Inductees

Nolan Bruce



Baseball, Basketball, Football,
Soccer,

Heidi Burke



Swim, Track, Volleyball

Kylie Doherty



Swim, Track

Michael Klier



Golf, Swim

Victor Leal-Painter



Bowling, Soccer, Track

Emily Manso



Basketball, Softball

Hannah Ortell



Softball, Volleyball

Madeline Reynolds



Cheer, Swim

Jake Rickett



Baseball, Basketball, Football

Christian Rosso



Baseball, Football, Wrestling

Connor Tyrrell



Baseball, Swim

Matt Walsh



Baseball, Football

Varsity Wall inductees are student-athletes who have earned five or more varsity letters during their four years at Evergreen Park Community High School

2021 SENIOR ADVICE TO UNDERCLASSMEN

Heidi Burke- Take in every moment. It will soon be only a memory.	be scared to dye your hair, DO IT!"	they will be my last.	with all your heart.	way!
Charlie Parker- "Life is like a sandwich...The bread comes first."	Emily Mccullogh- "Your focus determines your reality." – Qui-Gon Jinn -Mccullogh	Emma Terri- These next few years are gonna fly. Do not take a minute for granted.	Emilo Lopez- Savor the fun moments because time will go by fast.	Victor Lel-Painter- "Be ashamed to die until you've won some victory for humanity" - Horace Mann
Luciano Rodriguez- Work hard and play hard, keep moving forward.	Jalen Jones- For every dark night, there's a brighter day.	Matt Walsh- Stay involved as much as impossible in any activity.	Christian Carvajal- "I'm a senior, but I stay fresh man."	Ailyn Esquivel- "PEM-DAS...who is she? All I know is YHLQMDLG"
Catherine Schulte- "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take."- Wayne Gretzky" -Michael Scott"	Aaron Redd- If you're reaching for a goal, it doesn't matter how slow or fast you're going. Just don't quit.	Darryl Smith- I'm celebrating leaving school, to go start school again?!	Marlon Johnson- The best way to predict the future is to create it.	Raziyah Adrow- The way I see it if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain ~Dolly Parton
Toni Woodall- School teaches you a lesson then gives you a test... in life you're given a test then taught a lesson...	Joshua Hollis- Remember, never let anyone tell you what to do with your life.	Evan Wood- Make sure you do well in all your classes because colleges really look at all of them.	Kiara James- The Sky Is Not The Limit, it's Only The Beginning	Joshua Gordon- Be a leader, not a follower.
Ryan Galindo- It's just a letter, not the end of the world.	Raquel Hannah- "Get yo money up not yo funny up"	Nicholas Jacobs- "Things change. And friends leave. Life doesn't stop for anybody" - Stephen Chbosky, Perks of Being a Wallflower	Donreik Moore- Just enjoy the end of high school while you got it.	Cameron Torres- The word is yours. But it's not going to meet you half way, if you want no better time to get it than the present.
Amaya Rucker- "Don't	Chris Palmer- Don't limit yourself.	Anthony Byfield- Wherever you go, go	Kiara Smith- Never give up and ask for help. Go to IDEA block to get help. Don't ever think a question is dumb because it's not.	Jessalyn Torres- "Too bad photo math couldn't give me the solution to this"
	Oyram Avitia- They never pick me first so		Christian Rosso- Feel the fear and do it any-	

Senior Memories...

The pep rallies will always be my favorite.
-Jennifer Escalera-Araujo

Graduation
-Faith Kokoska

When I found out coach Duto's wife made them brownies... I didn't care to much for the games. I always looked forward to those brownies after the game.
-Toni Young

Homecoming week 2019
-Kiara Smith

Being on the dance team
-Kiara James

The pep rallies
-Asia Stevenson

Freshman year snowball Heidi Burke and I danced at the talent show to the song Africa and ever since that we have been known as the eskimo sisters.
-Kylie Doherty

Graduating
-Raziyah Adrow

My favorite high school memory has to be when we would play powderpuff
-Yaselyn Rodriguez

My favorite high school memory would be in my English class freshman year with all my friends and my favorite teacher acting out Romeo and Juliet! We had such a blast and many laughs!
-Taylor Hoefler

My favorite high school memory would be just coming to school and having fun in school like i never had before
-Adam Gonzalez

After the SAT, me and my friends went to JJ's
-Daniel Flores

The pep rally every year
-Dariyana McThay

My favorite memory, this might sound random and unexpected but I used to love going to the auditorium. For some reason it was relaxing to me I don't know. My second favorite memory would revolve around P.E. class.
-Aaron Redd

My junior year
-Daniel Byrnes

Being able to play football and be with my friends every day
-Donreik Moore

Freshman year when we played against Tinley Park
-Javon Bynum

Dressing up for the spirit days for the football games
-Madison Pliska

My favorite memory would be Snowball 2020. It was my first year at snowball and I got to meet a lot of new people which helped me get out of my comfort zone. I learned that "The Snowball Way" is the best way
-Maylasia Lambert

One of my favorite high school memories was beating Oak Lawn my senior year for the last volleyball game of the season
-Heidi Burke

Congratulations Class of 2021! Good luck and best wishes, Mr. Codiamat and Mr. Burns

2021 SENIOR SUPERLATIVES

The senior class of 2021 was polled to determine the results in the following categories.

Best Friends



Jake Rickert



Adam Gonzalez

Best Friends



Catie Schulte



Madison Pliska

Most likely to Win an Oscar



Nicholas Jacobs



Juliet O'Connor

Most likely to Work at EP



Christian Rosso



Heidi Burke

Most likely to win a Nobel Peace Prize



Elias Francisco



Grace Beyer

Most Likely to Own an Island



Daniel Oscik



Kylie Doherty

Most Likely to be a Millionaire



Josh Gordon



Maddie Reynolds

Most Likely to be a Comedian

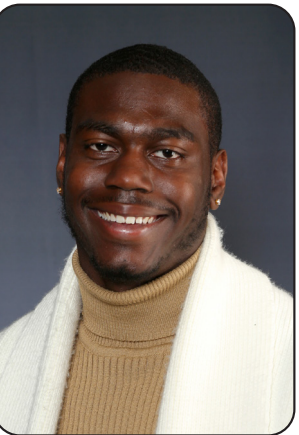


Emilio Lopez



Emma Terri

Most likely to be on a Reality TV Show



Donreik Moore

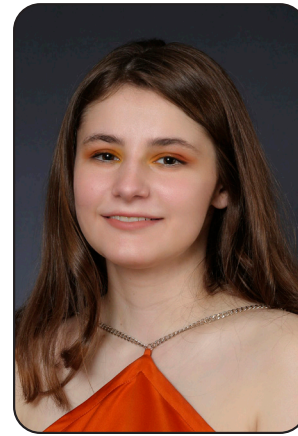


Kiara James

Most Likely to be the next Van Gogh



Daniel Osick



Victoria Templin

Most Likely to Perform at Madison Square Garden



Nicholas Jacobs



Jamie Coffelt

Most Likely to be in the Olympics



Nolan Bruce



Kiara Smith

Evergreen Park Community High School, District 231

Superintendent: Mr. Tom O'Malley

Principal/Assistant Superintendent Mr. Bill Sanderson

Assistant Principal/Director of Discipline: Mr. Robert McCarthy; Director of Curriculum: Mrs. Deborah Schillo;
Director of Student Services & Special Education: Mrs. Julie Shellberg and Ms. Janet Berry; Director of Facilities: Mr. Timothy Donohoe;
Director of Athletics: Mr. Jim Soldan; Director of Activities: Mrs. Amy Kazin

Mustang Monitor Senior Section Staff

Grace Sisto and Makenzie Telstad

Mustang Monitor Advisors

Mr. Nick Codiamat & Mr. Jason Burns