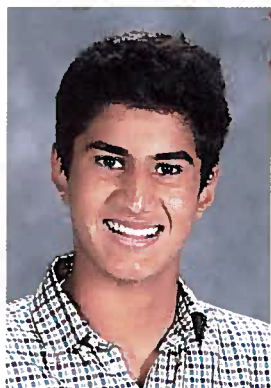


# ATHLETE HONOR ROLL



High school is a delicate balancing act — there are classes to attend, tests to prepare for and sports to play. But these Northeast Ohio school-age athletes are excelling on and off the field. Here, they share what they've learned.



## SID AHUJA

Senior, 17, Hawken School

**SPORTS:** Tennis

**LETTERS:** 3 **GPA:** 4.1

**LEAD THE WAY:** "Being captain of the Hawken tennis team has taught me that putting the team before yourself is the most effective way to not only have success, but also to have fun."

**LESSONS LEARNED:** "School has taught me about how important prioritizing is, such as balancing work, extracurricular activities and social life."



## MATT BOTEK

Senior, 17, Gilmour Academy

**SPORTS:** Baseball, basketball, football

**LETTERS:** 6 **GPA:** 3.5

**LEAD THE WAY:** "Sports have taught me how to lead my peers with my actions and efforts, and my attitude and voice, as effectively as possible."

**LESSONS LEARNED:** "Gilmour Academy educates the mind and heart, giving us the competence to see and the courage to act, and has thereby instilled in me a proper sense of responsibility and self-motivation."



## JOHN BRETT

Senior, 18, Gilmour Academy

**SPORTS:** Cross country, track

**LETTERS:** 6 **GPA:** 3.98

**LEAD THE WAY:** "Leadership is more than just telling people what to do; a leader must do the work and set an example for the entire team to follow. And the will of a group is a better tool to take on a difficult task than the will of only one."

**LESSONS LEARNED:** "High school has shown me how rare it is for one person to have all the answers. This makes collaboration essential to solve problems."



## DANIELLE BUCHINSKY

Junior, 16, Laurel School

**SPORTS:** Tennis

**LETTERS:** 2 **GPA:** 3.8

**LEAD THE WAY:** "Tennis has taught me that leadership doesn't just apply to taking responsibility for oneself, but also being a good role model for others, both mentally and physically."

**SCHOOL DAYS:** "Laurel has taught me that working with others and bouncing ideas off each other is more conducive to success than strictly working diligently alone."



## BRITTANY EHLERT

Senior, 16, Hathaway Brown School

**SPORTS:** Soccer

**LETTERS:** 3 **GPA:** 3.84

**SELF TAUGHT:** "I have learned the importance of preparation, commitment and compassion for others, while pushing my abilities beyond what I think I can achieve."

**SCHOOL DAYS:** "We learn not for school, but for life. Hathaway Brown has empowered me to lead in creative ways and inspire my classmates and teammates to achieve their utmost potential."



## NICOLE FELICE

Junior, 16, Laurel School

**SPORTS:** Basketball, soccer

**LETTERS:** 4 **GPA:** 3.6

**LEAD THE WAY:** "Sports have taught me that in order to be a leader I must push myself and my teammates by setting a positive example for everyone to follow and by always working hard and trying my best."

**LESSONS LEARNED:** "Laurel has prepared me for the future by helping me learn some of the most important qualities you should have in life, such as leadership, working together and hard work."





## ARIANA IRANPOUR

Senior, 17, Hathaway Brown School

**SPORTS:** Tennis

**LETTERS:** 4 **GPA:** 3.93

**LEAD THE WAY:** "Sports have stressed the importance of being a leader for myself. Each one of our successes is individualized to a point where ultimately only we can lead ourselves through that journey."

**LESSONS LEARNED:** "The influences of the teachers and people around me have taught me to savor the knowledge and friendship of others."



## MICHELLE KREBS

Senior, 17, Gilmour Academy

**SPORTS:** Basketball, soccer

**LETTERS:** 5 **GPA:** 3.7

**SELF TAUGHT:** "You always have to be conscious of what you're saying and doing because a lot of people are looking up to you, and you never want to negatively influence anyone."

**SCHOOL DAYS:** "School has taught me to be patient and open-minded when working with others because everyone has different, but great ideas. If you take time to include all people you'll accomplish more."



## MADDY LEDDY

Senior, 17, Laurel School

**SPORTS:** Basketball, softball, tennis

**LETTERS:** 6 **GPA:** 4.0

**LESSONS LEARNED:** "I've learned that communication is key and that the only way a team can be successful is for everyone to be on the same page."

**SCHOOL DAYS:** "I've learned at Laurel that the most effective way of leading is to lead by example through my actions and the way I carry myself, and to be confident in my skills and abilities while being open to asking questions."



## MIA MASTROIANNI

Senior, 17, Laurel School

**SPORTS:** Soccer

**LETTERS:** 4 **GPA:** 3.6

**LEAD THE WAY:** "I think leading by example is incredibly important. You can't expect everyone to give 100 percent if you don't give 100 percent yourself. And winners work together."

**SCHOOL DAYS:** "We do a lot of group projects. Dividing the work and figuring out our roles is half the battle, but the outcomes can be amazing when everyone is on board."



## HANNAH PATACCA

Sophomore, 15, Laurel School

**SPORTS:** Swimming

**LETTERS:** 1 **GPA:** N/A

**LESSONS LEARNED:** "Swimming has taught me that leaders are not just loud and involved, but there are also leaders who can lead by example."

**SCHOOL DAYS:** "Laurel has taught me that even in a classroom, a team is important to build a creative environment that can help me learn, and to believe in myself even if I see a challenge in front of me."



## MEGAN POLACK

Junior, 16, Gilmour Academy

**SPORTS:** Volleyball

**LETTERS:** 2 **GPA:** 4.1

**LEAD THE WAY:** "Sports has taught me that a leader is not always just a title — rather, it's how you carry yourself and the example you set for others."

**SCHOOL DAYS:** "School has taught me that leaders are not always the strongest or smartest but those who have earned the respect of their peers. I've also learned that my future success is up to me and how I use the resources and teaching provided to me."



## SYDNEY RIDDLE

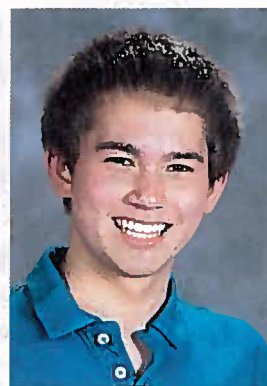
Senior, 17, Laurel School

**SPORTS:** Soccer

**LETTERS:** 4 **GPA:** 3.5

**LEAD THE WAY:** "A leader needs to encourage, to step up in difficult situations and be willing to sacrifice their body when it really counts, be able to admit they made a mistake and respect their teammates."

**SCHOOL DAYS:** "School has taught me that I really need to focus to be successful. It's very unlikely for me to do well when I do not put 100 percent of my focus on it."



## HENRY SENKFOR

Senior, 17, Hawken School

**SPORTS:** Swimming

**LETTERS:** 3 **GPA:** 4.0

**SELF TAUGHT:** "Hard work pays off and there are no shortcuts to achieving results. The only way to achieve your goals is through persistence, regular practice and great coaching."

**SCHOOL DAYS:** "Hawken has taught me that leadership is about taking risks, going beyond one's comfort zone, and that character, integrity and fair play are critical to becoming a leader."