

- SKLAR PROVES GOLF TAKES SKILL
- SARNEVESHT IS A MATH GENIUS

PEOPLE

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MCGUIRE BLAZES TRAILS

by **Abbigale Berry**
Web Editor

Sophomore **Holden McGuire** lives with a thrill-seeking fervor driven by his desire to one day make it to space. From mountain biking to diving and attending space camp, McGuire rides through life on the edge.

As a freshman, McGuire was disappointed by LGHS's lack of a mountain biking club, so he channeled his enthusiasm for raw terrain and geared bikes to create the returning Los Gatos Mountain Biking Club.

"I have a passion for biking and I wanted to share it with the school," McGuire recounts on his motivation to create the club.

Going into sophomore year, McGuire recruited 50 students, and the club currently has 20 active members. During meetings, the members discuss everything they can about mountain biking, from new parts to gear and all the trails they can ride. McGuire plans the club's weekend rides on local trails to keep his members engaged. They frequent Jones and Demo Forest during their club adventures. McGuire hopes to race alongside his members in Enduro races this coming spring.

Although his passion for mountain biking takes precedence, he also enjoys diving on the LGHS team. McGuire dives for the thrill and satisfaction of learning new tricks off the board. He states, "I love learning how to execute new tricks, especially because a graceful entrance means less pain."

Along with flipping off of high dives and racing through dangerous terrain, McGuire has a zealotry for all things space. He attended a NASA-sponsored space camp in Huntsville, Alabama, this summer. Alongside friend and LGHS sophomore **Cole Slenkovich**, he spent a week exploring the environment of NASA. They got to build rockets, simulate NASA mission controls, scuba dive to simulate zero gravity, and learn all about the history of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. McGuire acquired leadership skills through his astronaut training simulations, which included playing underwater basketball with bowling balls alongside his campmates.

With his absolute love for the thrill of life, McGuire is working toward becoming an aerospace engineer. He states, "they work on spacecrafts, and my ultimate goal is to one day embark on a space adventure." McGuire believes space travel to be the ultimate thrill he could encounter, and given his sensational pursuits, it's a goal he just might reach.



J. Evans

Berg takes pride in her love of minions

by **Lauren Sanders**
Opinion Editor

If you are not already acquainted with freshman **Alison Berg** from water polo or church, you have surely spotted her strolling through campus with her signature green Crocs and cheerful demeanor. Berg is a social butterfly with a warm disposition and instantly becomes friends with everyone she meets, whether they are classmates, parents, or even Olympic water polo players.

Berg was an integral part of this year's LGHS varsity girls' water polo starting lineup - a major accomplishment for a freshman in this competitive sport. On starting with varsity as a freshman, Berg comments, "I hold high standards for myself, but I never would've imagined being a starter. I definitely could not have done it without teammates pushing me hard." This impressive achievement, however, is only a stepping stone in her path to success. Berg's long-term goal is to be an Olympian, like her idol, Maggie Steffens. "She doesn't think she's that famous, but to me, she's everything," explains Berg. The Olympics may seem like a lofty aspiration, but with Berg's tenacity and determination, anything is possible.

Reflecting on this season with the LGHS water polo team, Berg describes the highlight as having something to play for. Although she never got to meet Tessa Davis, an LGHS water polo player who passed away last January, Berg was still motivated to play her hardest every game because she knew Tessa would too. Berg was also proud to be a part of the first CCS winning women's water polo team in LGHS history. "All the work we put in during the season paid off," Berg says, "Winning CCS was so rewarding."

Although water polo takes up a great amount of time in her life, Berg makes room to be very involved in her church. She has made several new friends through church and enjoys attending service when she can, but for Berg, Christianity is "so much more than just a religion - it's about loving people." Her faith has helped her deal with a lot of difficult times, improve her relationships with others, and live with humility - a trait Berg values greatly. She would like to see people acting with more care and respect toward one another; "the little gestures matter," she comments.

One defining characteristic of Berg is her boundless love of minions, as indicated by her excessive parapher-

alia exhibiting the controversial bean-shaped creatures. She doesn't want to offend any of the minions, but she admits that her favorite one has to be Bob. Unfortunately, Berg receives a tragic amount of hate and negative comments regarding this interest, but she doesn't let it get her down. The minion aficionado offers words of wisdom to others in similar situations - "you just gotta keep going," says Berg. "Don't let anyone stop you from being you."

The same way she approaches her love of water polo and minions, Berg approaches life with a "never back down" attitude. She sets her standards high and approaches every challenge with determination and willpower, prepared to take on any hardship that comes her way. When asked about her philosophy, Berg deliberated and replied, "Dream really big and don't stop until you get there."

Berg is a self-described "open book," but there are some traits that even her close friends are not aware of. She confesses that she consumes excessive quantities of bell pepper, a habit which she thinks could be detrimental to her health but does not want to give up. She also claims that she would "win the award for eating the most food at lunch," (if such an award existed).

Berg is a dynamic, caring, driven young woman who excels in all of her endeavors and approaches obstacles with a mature, steadfast mindset. Let her outlook on life inspire you to be more accepting of others and unapologetically pursue your passions.



L. Sanders

EDSALL IMPROVES HIS FOOTBALL GAME WITH FIERCE DETERMINATION

by **Cole Potter**
Web Editor-In-Chief

When freshman **Jeffrey Edsall** entered LGHS this year, he had experienced more than many of us can hope to in our entire lives. Edsall has lived and traveled across the world, hiked extensive mountain ranges, and learned a few things along the way.

Edsall came to LGHS from Hillbrook School, "Along with a few friends," but was a bit skeptical of the new setting in his first few weeks. "I knew some other people from sports, but none too closely," Edsall said of his initial relationships at the high school. It was through his athletics that Edsall discovered a community at LGHS, "There's this whole camaraderie that I've found in football that has made the sport so fun." After playing flag football in middle school, Edsall found a place on the Wildcats' team as a tackle, which he claims he does not have the real body size for, "But you know, we're working out now. I think I'll be ready for next season."

Even without his penchant for sports, Edsall was easily capable of finding his way at LGHS. No stranger to adapting to new environments, he had lived abroad in Italy for a year, and travelled across Europe all before entering third grade. "We lived in Florence, up on top of

the hill so you could see the Duomo. That was sort of our base camp, and we'd take trips everywhere from there." Whether it was ski vacations in Switzerland or short weekend jaunts to France, Edsall says he remembers his experience, "Really well, surprisingly, considering I was seven." He speaks of his time in Italy fondly, saying that the year taught him a good deal of Italian, "I could speak pretty close to fluently, which I of course forgot as soon as I came back here." Edsall says he could not truly appreciate the entire experience as he was so young, but it instilled within him a love for travel and exploration. "I don't know if there's any, you know, life lesson I learned while I was there. I definitely want to go back one day, and see even more."

Edsall continues to exercise this desire for travel and the outdoors back home in California. This past summer

he ventured with his sister, senior **Nicole Edsall**, and their parents to the Sierra Nevadas to hike the John Muir Trail. The trail

is actually a 220 mile stretch of the Pacific Crest Trail, which Edsall and his family completed in 18 days. Travelling from Yosemite to Mt.

Whitney, the group climbed and descended over, "Something like 11 peaks over 11,000 feet." Both of his parents had walked the John Muir Trail before him, and Edsall

said it felt fulfilling to complete the trip which has become something of a family tradition. When asked whether he would one day like to walk the entire Pacific Crest Trail, he responded,

"Definitely not. I enjoyed it, but not that much. One day I'd like to go back to walk the John Muir again though." Although Edsall

may not be the complete outdoorsman, he is an intelligent, worldly, and kind member of LGHS, that everyone should have the privilege of meeting.



courtesy J. Edsall

Golf superstar Sklar keeps WWII stories alive

by **Violet Wallerstein**
Web Editor

One of the brightest and bubbliest personalities on campus is senior **Liam Sklar**, who almost anyone can identify from her outgoing and passionate personality. This LGHS student is well-known for her love of golf as well as her love of animals.

Sklar has played golf since ninth grade and continues to improve. She had been a volleyball player, but after trying golf she "fell in love at first swing" and has been playing ever since. In her junior year, Sklar captained the LGHS girls golf team and was awarded "All League Player - Senior Of The Year" in the De Anza Division.

Sklar believes that "golf isn't just for the elderly - people of any age and all walks of life can play." She enjoys both the individual growth of each player during the season and the collective effort of the high school team. As for being team captain, Sklar loves "taking the role of the leader and it's really important for me to be engaged in group dynamic activities. It's great to help my younger teammates and watch them improve."

Not only is Sklar dedicated to the school team, but she also plays in JGANC and NCGA, youth organizations for junior golfers

in Northern California. She recently earned silver medals in the last two NCGA Junior Tournaments of the season. In the future, Sklar hopes to help at risk or vulnerable children play golf.

Her boundless love also extends to cats. "Unfortunately, I currently only have one gorgeous cat, states Sklar, "he's an exotic short-hair Persian and he rules the house." She admired cats since second grade, when her favorite animal was the leopard because "cats are just graceful, majestic animals and are really great to cuddle up with."

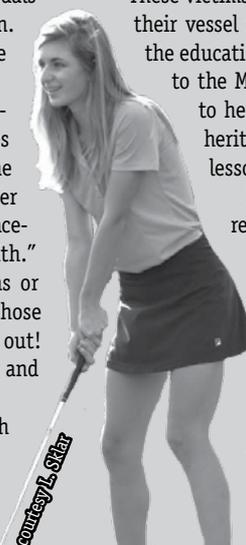
Sklar hopes to do something with communications or marketing in the future. "Public speaking is one of those fears people have but I am not afraid; I love speaking out! Sometimes when presenting in class, the time is called and I feel I still have more to say."

Sklar volunteers with Holocaust survivors every month at the local JCC. She believes "it's important for me to hear their stories as a third-generation survivor and continue educating the younger generation so this horrible genocide is not forgotten or repeated."

These victims of WWII are rapidly vanishing, and Sklar hopes to be their vessel into the future. Sklar has already had an impact on the education of those around her by helping organize a field trip to the Museum of Tolerance and having guest speakers come to her English class. Sklar feels strongly connected to her heritage and hopes to continue her work in preserving the lessons of the Holocaust.

In her free time, Sklar enjoys being artistic and crafting resin jewelry. It is made from mixing resin and hardener and putting it in a mold. She likes making this jewelry because "it's really simple and you can put in them stickers, gems, coins, keys, glitter, whatever really and make a cute pendant." Sklar considered selling it during a fundraiser, but she likes it all so much to want to part with it.

As far as the approaching graduation, Liam says that LGHS was a rewarding journey. "I know that I accomplished a lot during these years and hope to cherish all the great things I learned and earned here at school."



courtesy L. Sklar