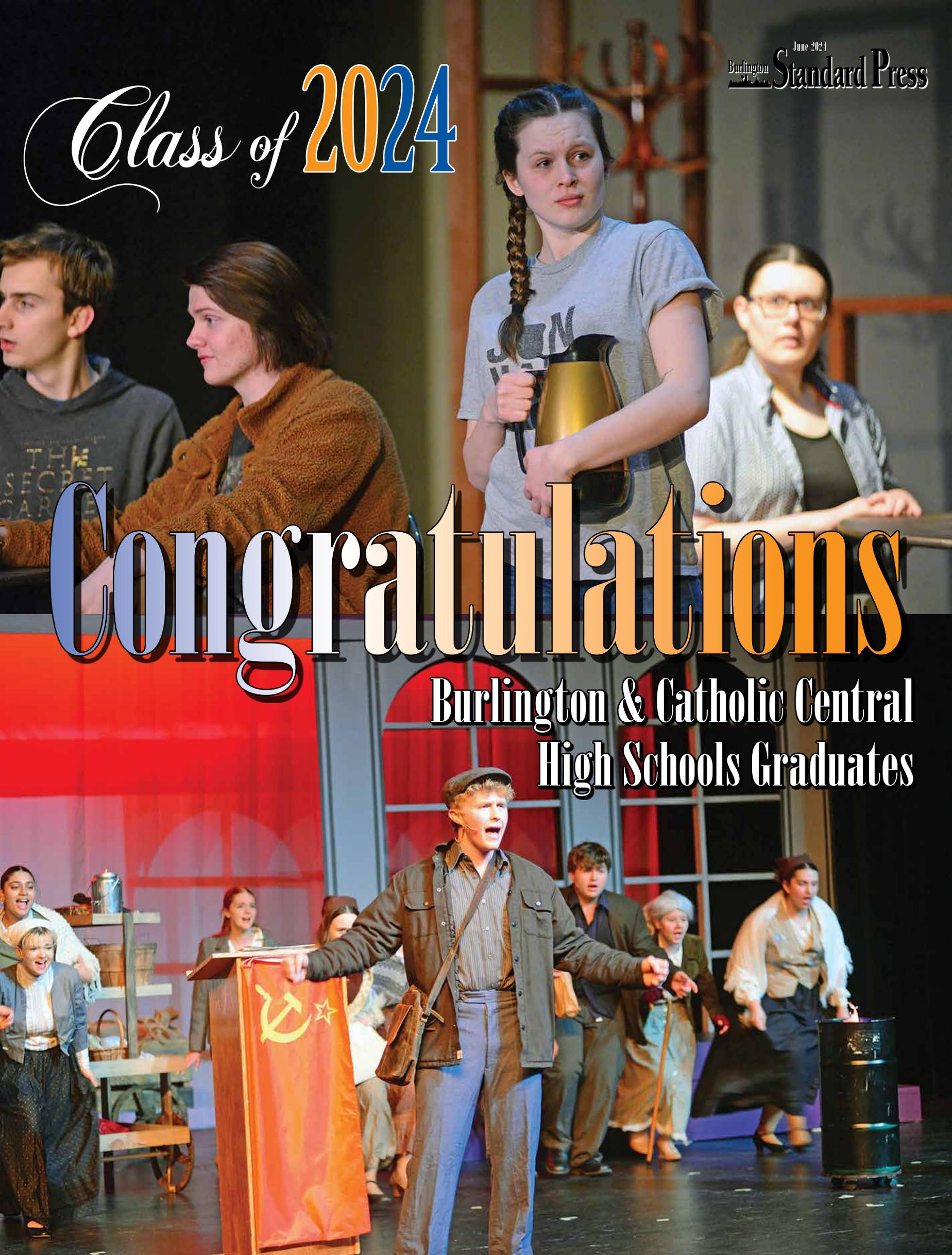


# Class of 2024

# Congratulations

Burlington & Catholic Central  
High Schools Graduates



# Class of 2024 BURLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL



Alexander W. Ament



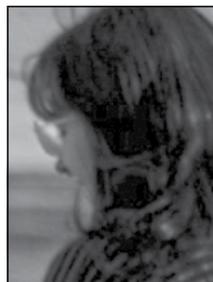
Jakob D. Andersen



Kylee Rae Andersen



Hailee Jean Dawn Andrews



Alaina Avila



Iaana V. Ballman



William Banike-Palm



Kailyn Grace Barrack



Addison M. Bartelt



Jenna BeBow



Robert E. Behnke



Aben V. Beinlich



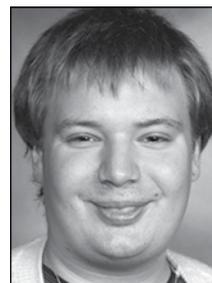
Madisen R. Block



Juliette Marie Bousquet



Bryn M. Bower



Alex Boys



Aiden Braam



Tandra Braman-Hendershot



Brian O. Bravo



Braeten James Bregenzer



Alexandra Brensinger



Skylar N. Bruesewitz



Riley Buss



Christine Cantrell



Pascual Casiano Jr.



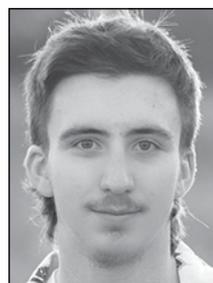
Sophie C. Chase



Autumn L. Chilcoat



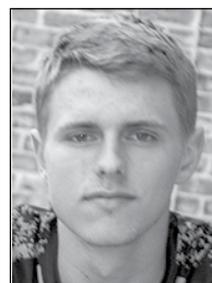
Alex B. Christie



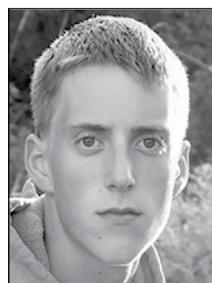
Ian Cortez



Alexander R. Costanzo



Jonathan R. Cowan



Calvin L. Crayton



Karina Nicole Cruz Gomez



Paige Emma Davis



Evan M. Deans



Jonathan David Deephouse



Katherine Grace Deisher



Garrett Ray Deskins



Michael Deutsch



Shawn Lee Devooght Jr.



Emmerson Dinatelo Lorentz



Ryan T. Dummer



Sophia Dutcher



Liam P. Eberle



Elliana C. Ehlen



Margaret Eisner



Steven J. Epperly



Emily S. Equitz



Noah Erskine



Rylie L. Fischer



Caitlyn E. Flees



Julia M. Fliss



Bradin William Forbes



Cecilia M. Freeburn



Sarah L. Frohmader



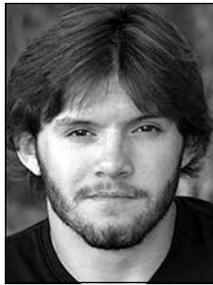
Sandra Maria Galan



Genevieve L. Galin



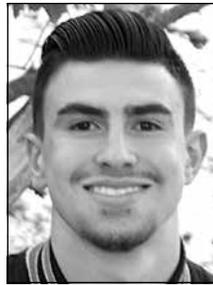
Kenny Garcia



Lee T. Gauger



Lily Elise Geysso



Jayden M. Glaviano



Jackson T. Golla



Maria I. Gomez



Benjamin D. Graham



Giovanni F. Grippe



Macey Leigh Grisham-Kimball



Natalie A. Grossert



Ariadna Guerrero



Logan Z. Harris



Sarah M. Hartlage



Genevieve M. Hauser



Anthony Joseph T. Hermann



Drake Alan Hensiak



Angelmaria Hernandez



Everardo Hernandez



Carisma Hill



Ariel A. Holle



Brendan J. Howe



Dayne M. Howell



Aidan M. Hubbard



Holden J. Huff



Savannah Angelina Hutson



Ashley Ibarra



Alexander Imhof



Katie Lynn Jacobs



Mason John



Austin L. Johnson



Cayden Johnson



Hayden S. Johnson



Dakota Scott Jung



Lillian Justice



Kendall R. Kafar



Shelby E. Kail



Danielle A. Kauth



Cheyenne Kees



Emma Ann Kendall



Avelyn G. Ketelsen



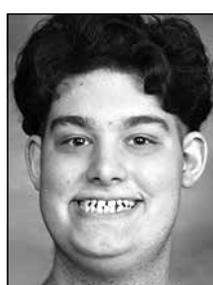
Logan W. King



Raehanna P. Klemm



Shauna Rae Kling



Wayne Knox III



Spencer Kopling



Kaylee Koski



Jameson Kostman

# Class of 2024 BURLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL



Razalyn Z. Kramer



Madison G. Kretschmer



Kailee J. Krueger



Ty D. Kuhl



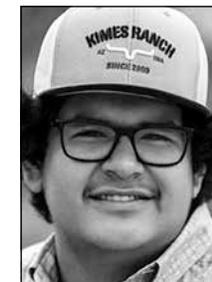
Carson Weis Kurth



Drew R. Lang



Paige Larson



Marco A. Leon Cruz



Joseph Leonard



Robert S. Libby



Jordan J. Lile



Brandon M. Lois



Jacelyn M. Lois



Jesus Uriel Lopez Vences



Dane D. Loppnow



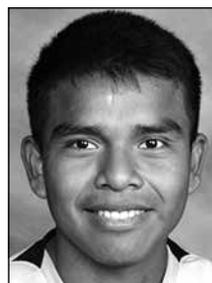
Jennifer Lorenzo



Rain Ludtke



Kaiden S. Mackinney Alvarez



Mateo Maquin Tzi



Steph Marquez Rocha



Kaiya R. McCarty



Aubrey J. McDermitt



Caroline M. McDonald



Daniel R. McFarlane



Ellie D. McGinley



Gabrielle Z. McKay



Reese J. McNamara



Drew E. Melcher



Devin M. Melchiorre



Grace Mermal



Mason T. Mielcarek



Madison M. Miles



Ava Miley



Emma Lorene Miller



Gabriella A. Miller



Makayla J. Miller



Jordan Moldenhauer



Julayne Morby



Mia S. Muschlewski



Alex Mutsch



Christopher B. Naber



Mikayla E. Nebert



Jace D. Nelson



Makenna Nendza



Jessa L. Neuendorf



Mabel J. Nichols



Ian J. Nie



Lily L. Northrop



Logan Nowak



Milton A. Olivares



Aubrey Alexis Osborne



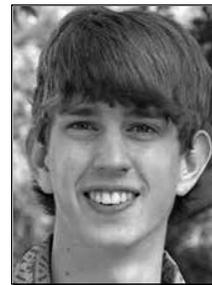
Ethan C. Pedersen



Lola Phetteplace



Adam J. Pieters



James Pirocanac



Maya H. Pletz



Ayden M. Pringle



Lily S. Pulera



Owen D. Raleigh



Brian E. Raymundo



Ella M. Reinholtz



Janelle E. Richardson



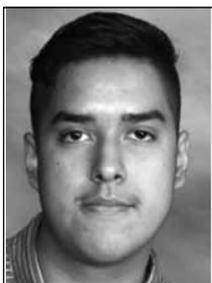
Jordan Richter



Ayden Riemer



Andrew C. Roanhouse



Bryan Rodriguez



Connor Roffers



Olivia G. Rombak



Rylan M. Rompesky



Evelyn A. Russell



Logan Jacob Rymanowicz



Ellarose E. Safar



Jennifer Salinas



Jonathan Schenning



Ava C. Schkeryantz



Ty J. Schulz



Isai Segura



Brandon M. Seibel



Rumina Sharma



Mikayla A. Shelton



Karsen S. Skiles



Katelyn S. Skiles



Vincent Bennett Spankowski



Hannah P. Spencer



Alanna R. Steele



Zach T. Stellmacher



Austyn Stevens



Camryn Janelle Stillman



Benjamin Thomas Stork



Kyle Strobel



Sophia M. Stutzman



Jack T. Sulik



Sawyer Thomas Swanson



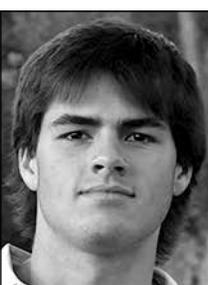
Josie Swihart



Dasha MK Taylor



Sincere Taylor



Tommy N. Teberg



Owen Tello



Madeline G. Thompson



Myles Tischer



Brody J. Toledo



Isaac Tremmel



Tristan Underwood



Kihara Valdez

# Honoring summa cum laude graduates

Burlington High School has a dozen Class of 2024 summa cum laude graduates who will receive their diplomas.

The laude system, unlike the traditional class ranking system, is designed to recognize students for the rigor of their academic program.

The laude system is point-based and factors in points for the advanced-level courses taken and cumulative grade point average to create a laude score.

Students who achieve the highest scores are recognized as summa cum laude graduates, based on a predetermined point range.

The students were asked several questions, and here are their responses, as well as brief profiles of each honoree.

They are as follows:

## Evan Deans

Parents: Jaimie Deans and Michael Deans

Post-high school plans: Studying Biochemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison on the path to becoming a dentist.

Academic achievements:

Honor Roll all eight semesters, NIAAA Scholar-Athlete Award all 8 semesters, AP Scholar With Honor Award, Summa Cum Laude, Awarded The Academic Excellence Scholarship, Awarded The Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Student Excellence Scholarship, Awarded the Educators Credit Union Scholarship

Co-curricular Activities: Football (2023 WFCFA Academic All-State, Burlington Coaches Association Sportsmanship Award, Leadership Council), basketball, track and field, golf, tennis, Prom planning committee, Student Government (class representative), DRIVEN, Acapella choir, National Honor Society (president), Best Buddies, video announcements

(lead anchor in school's biweekly video announcements), Academic Bowl, Mental Health Awareness Committee, Koral Club, WBSD, FBLA (top placements in some categories), Academic Decathlon, school musical, Burlington Brand Advisory Group, SLC Leadership Summit school representative, Desire to Lead Burlington High School representative, Badger Boys State nominee, Barbershop Honor Society, Lake Weed Harvester and Groundskeeper



for Browns Lake Sanitary District, flag football referee and referee manager for Burlington Flag Football.

Future ambitions: I have a goal of becoming a dentist and giving back to my community in any way possible. Sometime in the future I do want to take after my father and coach football at the high school level. I also do want to keep playing my guitar and singing at small venues, because no matter where life takes me, music will follow. Lastly, the most important thing to me is family, so I am going to make sure that I never lose touch with the people I care about.

Most inspirational teacher and why: The most inspirational teacher to me is Mr. Stoughton. Mr. Stoughton was my seventh and eighth grade choir teacher. He was the reason that I started singing, and he proved that you can be in athletics and still sing. Music is such a big part of my life now. I don't know what I would do without singing. So I just want to thank Mr. Stoughton for bringing music into my life.

## Emmerson DiNatale-Lorentz

Parents: Charise DiNatale and Dave Lorentz

Post-high school plans: Attend UW-Madison to study nutrition and dietetics

Academic achievements: Honor roll, Southern Lakes Conference Academic Excellence Award winner, Summa Cum Laude, College Board National Rural and Small Town Recognition Award

Co-curricular activities: Badger Girls State, NAHS, NHS, Forensics, FBLA, Creative Works Club, TableTop Gaming Club, One Act, Yearbook, Live Nation Usher, Dietary Aid at Oak Park Place.

Future ambitions: I want to be a clinical Registered Dietitian

Most inspirational teacher and why: Mr. Everson inspires students with his genuine passion for his job and his many achievements.

## Ryan Dummer

Parents: Kelly and Tom Dummer

Post-high school plans: Attend the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities with a major in finance.

Academic achievements: Honor Roll,



Summa Cum Laude, Scholar Athlete.

Co-curricular activities: Baseball, football, basketball, Forensics, FBLA, DRIVEN, WBSD, tour guide at Lake Geneva Cruise Lines.

Future ambitions: Investment Banker or Financial Manager

Most inspirational teacher and why: Mr. Savaglia. He was the teacher who always tried to connect with me and all of his students. He also helped me find my passion in Finance and Economics.



future in medicine.

## Giovanni Grippe

Parents: Frank Grippe and Gayle Kerzner

Post-high school plans: Plan to attend Syracuse University in the fall, studying Sports Analytics at the Falk College

Academic achievements: Honor Roll, Scholar Athlete, 34 ACT, National Honor Society

Co-curricular activities: Basketball, soccer, tennis, Future Business Leaders of America, Student Government, DRIVEN Leadership, Demon Update Video Announcements, Forensics, National Honor Society (vice president), Academic Bowl, Acapella Choir, 89.1 WBSD Radio.

Future ambitions: After continuing my education at Syracuse, and earning my Bachelors in Sports Analytics, I hope to one day work my way up through the ranks of an NBA organization, with the intention of earning a position in the front office

Most inspirational teacher and why: Penny Yanke is without a doubt my most inspirational teacher. She is applauded and awarded everywhere she goes for her musical achievements, and has assembled a fantastic group of choirs that I am proud to be a part of. She has the best personality that I have ever encountered, her classes have a perfect balance of fun and work, and I have even chosen to eat lunch with my friends in her classroom to converse and spend more time with her. It also doesn't hurt that I've gone to New York City, Daytona, and Hawaii for Acapella Choir performances thanks to Mrs. Yanke's hard work and dedication to her students.



## Julia Fliss

Parents: Brian Fliss and Jennifer Fliss

Post high school Plans: Following my time at Burlington High School, I plan to attend Carroll University to pursue a degree in chemistry with an emphasis of pre-medicine. After graduating from Carroll University, I will attend medical school for the following four years. Once I have my degree in medicine, I will begin my five-year residency to become a surgeon.

Academic achievements: Some of the academic achievements that I have earned include graduating Summa Cum Laude, excelling in dual credit courses, a variety of academic achievement awards, a merit based scholarship to Carroll University, and graduating amongst the honor roll.

Co-curricular activities: Some of my co-curricular activities that I have partook in include being a youth group leader, worship-team leader, a tutor, Driven, Academic Bowl, Academic Decathlon, NJHS, and NHS.

Future ambitions: My biggest ambition for the future is to explore the field of medicine and in doing so, become a surgeon, specializing specifically as either a neurosurgeon, or as a cardiothoracic surgeon.

Most inspirational teacher and why: Over the past four years, Mr. Everson has had the biggest impact on my life. His guidance, mentality, and compassion in the duration of my Anatomy and Physiology class bonded me into my passion for a



## Shelby Kail

Parents: Kristin and Shane Kail

Post-high school plans: Attend UW-Madison where I will major in Biology on a Pre-Med Track!

Academic achievements: I have been an Honor Student all four years of high school! I also challenge myself with AP classes and



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~ Robert Browning

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**on the cover. top:** Senior Ava Fait, of Catholic Central High School, rehearses a scene from "The Spitfire Grill" in February at the school.  
**bottom:** Senior Evan Deans sings during a rehearsal of Anastasia in February at Burlington High School.

JASON ARNDT PHOTOS Graduation 2024



honors classes. Graduating Summa Cum Laude.

Co-curricular activities: I have been a three-sport athlete all throughout high school. I have been a varsity dancer for eight seasons (captain for 2 of those) throughout my high school career, won the conference champion title, and placed First Team All State With my solo this year. Along with this I am a part of the Girls Varsity Soccer Team this year! I also participate in many clubs, such as DRIVEN, best buddies, Spirit Club, and forensics. I placed gold at State for the past two years that I have been in forensics!

Future ambitions: The dream is to join Doctors Without Borders so that I am able to see the big wide world and help those that truly need it.

Most inspirational teacher and why: I would say that my most inspirational teacher is Mr. Everson. His experience in the medical field, and overall charismatic attitude are only some of the things that I am inspired by.

## Christopher Naber

Parents: Al Naber and Ann-Marie Naber

Post-high school plans: Attend the UW-Madison School of Business to major in Management and Finance.

Academic achievements: Racine County Scholar Athlete, BHS Honor Roll, Summa Cum Laude.

Co-curricular activities: Badger Boys State, DRIVEN, National Honor Society, FBLA (vice president) - nationals qualifier junior and senior year, Academic Decathlon team, Academic Bowl, Forensics, Student Government, Key Club, Racine County Youth in Governance program - Economic Development and Land Use Commission, I Teen Voice, student representative for the Park Board, Planning Commission and Common Council, Menards, Earth Exchange, Rustic Roots, Second Team All Conference athlete, All Racine County Team.

Future ambitions: I want to graduate Madison and go on to a career in business, possibly operations manager. Eventually I would like to own my own business.

Most inspirational teacher and why: Mrs. Fidler has developed my English



skills way beyond what they were when I first stepped into her classroom as an AP English student. This however was not my first time in Mrs. Fidler's classroom. Mrs. Fidler stepped up to be my advisory teacher Junior year after our old advisory teacher, Mr. Leadle, left. After first being worried about a change in advisory teachers I was happily surprised to find that Mrs. Fidler was an excellent advisory teacher starting of the year with a goodie bag, filling up stocking for us during the Christmas season and most importantly always being there for questions, help with essays, and great recommendations.

## Ian Nie

Parents: Matthew and Sally Nie

Post-high school plans: Attend UW-Eau Claire

Academic Achievements: Southern Lakes Conference Academic Excellence Award Winner, Athletic Scholar for four years

Co-curricular activities: Cross Country, basketball, Tennis, Forensics, WBSD, Driven and NHS.

Future ambitions: I want to become a radiologist in my future.

Most inspirational teacher and why: The teacher who inspired me the most was Mr. Everson because he made me enjoy school and learning. He taught me about helping people, and to always have a positive attitude despite what you might be feeling. I hope that someday I can bring that same joy into my own work that he does into the classroom.



## Olivia Rombak

Parents: Jennifer Graceffa and Richard Rombak

Post-high school plans: Attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to major in Astrophysics and Computer Science.

Academic achievements: Recipient of Wisconsin Excellence Scholarship, International Amazon



Best Seller's rating on children's book I illustrated, AP Scholar with Distinction, Forensics State Champion (gold) in Extemporaneous Speaking, FBLA (four-time state competitor, State FBLA 2022 second place winner in Public Speaking), 2022 Winner of BASD Black History Month Art and Essay Contest, Judge's Choice in 2023 Kiwanis Art Banquet, Summa Cum Laude, four-year honor roll student.

Co-curricular activities: Owner and operator of successful online business/local artwork freelancing business, Third Dan Black Belt in Taekwondo/instructor, Badger Girls State, FBLA, Forensics, National Art Honor Society, National Honor Society, Cross country, track and field, Creative Works Club, opening manager for event venue, expeditor at fine dining Italian restaurant, Marathon training

Future ambitions: I intend to further pursue graduate education after I receive my undergraduate degree in physics. With this, I want to participate in research within a branch of theoretical physics. I am most interested in Astronomy and Quantum mechanics. My ultimate goal is to publish research, answering questions surrounding the unknowns of celestial bodies or developments in quantum computing.

Most inspirational teacher and why: Mr. Fay was the most inspiring teacher I encountered at BHS. He regularly encouraged us to investigate topics beyond the curriculum, which is why I chose to pursue a degree in astrophysics. If it wasn't for the impromptu astronomy unit he created after our AP Chemistry exam, I would not have chosen a STEM track after high school. I'm beyond thankful for his dedication to instilling a unique curiosity in his students.

## Rumina Sharma

Parents: Rohit Sharma and Meenakshi Bhillakar

Post-high school plans: Attending college at UW-Whitewater

Academic achievements: SLC Academic Excellence Award, Wisconsin All-Academic Tennis Team, College Board National Rural and Small Town Recognition, Scholar Athlete Recognition, Honors Student Award

Co-curricular activities: Girls varsity tennis, FBLA, National Honor Society, Key Club, Best Buddies, SHARE Club, World Languages Club, Forensics, DRIVEN Leadership, Anastasia Musical, Burlington Planning Committee Board, Equity Learning Team Committee.

Future ambitions: After completing high school, my ambitions are set on pursuing a path in International Business. I have chosen to attend the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater to delve into this field further, aiming to major in International Business. Beyond my undergraduate studies, I aspire to earn an MBA, utilizing this degree to deepen my understanding and skills in global business operations. With these qualifications and experiences, my goal is to play an integral role in international business affairs at the corporate level, contributing to the growth and success of global enterprises.

Most inspirational teacher and why: My most inspirational teacher would be Mr. Savaglia. Throughout my four years of having him as my advisor, and finally experiencing his tennis coaching last year, he will be my most memorable teacher! He has encouraged me to pursue a major in business by educating me on all



things Econ during AP Economics in my junior year and revealing the numerous capabilities present in the field I am interested in. Alongside his stellar teaching and humorous jokes during advisory, I owe my success in tennis during my senior year to him. He was the coach I didn't know I needed, giving me the confidence to continue playing doubles, even guiding my partner and I to 2nd place in sectionals. Mr. Savaglia has had an influential impact on my life, and I hope that future students will see that in him and form great relationships with him too. He is encouraging and uplifting, and he supported my ambitions, giving me the confidence to finally pursue. I owe these successes to him for all of my time. Thank you Mr. Savaglia!

## Madeline Thompson

Parents: Anneke and Robert Thompson

Post-high school plans: Attending UW-Madison to double major in Elementary Education and Education Policy.

Academic achievements: Kohl Award Scholar, Summa Cum Laude, AP Student, TA for Cooper Montessori school, category winner in Academic Bowl, bronze medal for academic decathlon essay at state level, Honor Roll.

Co-curricular activities: One Act Play (three state individual acting awards), Musical (Jerry Award for outstanding lead actress winner 2023), Spring Play, A Capella Choir, B\*JAZZed Show Choir, DRIVEN, Academic Decathlon team co-captain, NHS, YTBN Barbershop Quartet, PRISM Barbershop Chorus

Future ambitions: I hope to be a Montessori teacher one day. I also hope to study abroad, possibly in Europe or the Galapagos. I also really hope that I can stay involved in the arts throughout my adult life, as they mean so much to me.

Most inspirational teacher and why: I can't choose just one. I feel like every teacher I have had has taught me something different about what it means to be a future educator. All of my teachers inspire me.

## Cameron Vetter

Parents: Chad Vetter, Dianne Vetter

Post-high school plans: Attend UW-Madison for Mechanical Engineering

Academic achievements: Honor Roll, Scholar Athlete, STEM Certificate, Summa Cum Laude, AP Scholar with Distinction.

Co-curricular activities: Volleyball, golf, DRIVEN, Key Club, NHS, Academic Decathlon, Badger Boys State, Academic Bowl, WBSD Sports Broadcasting

Future ambitions: My future ambitions are to graduate college majoring in Mechanical Engineering. With my degree I plan to enter the automotive industry and work on the creation of engines.

Most inspirational teacher and why: The most inspirational teacher for me was Ms. Twohig as I struggled very much in her class. However, even though I struggled she was always there if I needed help and was able to help me grow in her class. I have always admired the way in which she strived to help others.



## In the community

Senior Chris Naber talks with a resident at Arbor View during a game of bingo in December when the DRIVEN Leadership Team conducted its winter service project.

# Class of 2024 Proud

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### HONORING 2024 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

*"The world we have made as a result of the level of thinking we have done thus far, creates problems we cannot solve with the same level of thinking at which we created them."*

- Albert Einstein



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~ Ralph Waldo Emerson, poet

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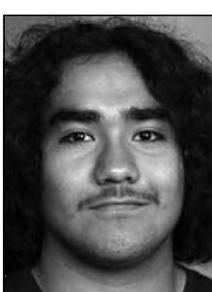
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# Class of 2024 BURLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL



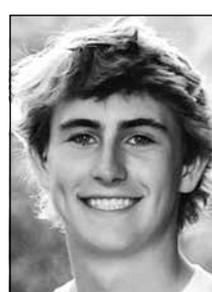
Caden J. Vargo



Luis Enrique Vera



Cameron R. Vetter



Brody Vos



Kayla L. Warner



Matthew Riley Wasik



Annabelle Leigh Weber



Autumn Rayne Weis



Kaleb Michael Whited



Amelia Wozniak



Konner L. Yambor



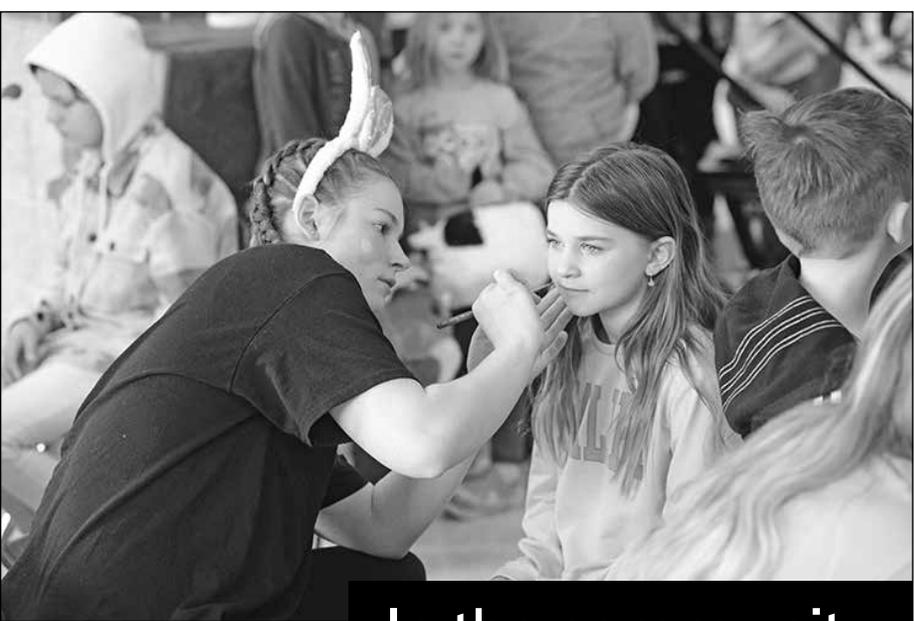
Timothy Zalenski



Kylee A. Zigler

**NOT PICTURED**

Mackenzie Brookbank	Savana Hill
Anderson Alexander	Emilia J. Hirst
Choc Rax	Mariah Keller
Ageo Cuevas-Orduno	Kalynn Linneman
Violet Egly	Carha Usher
Skylar Jean Gerber	Madeline A. Viol
Jenna Greer	

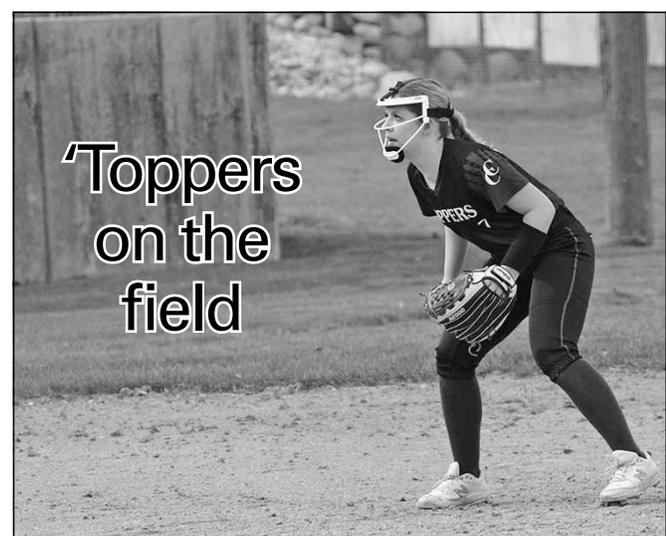


**In the community**



Burlington High School seniors have helped the community in many ways, including cleanup at a local cemetery, and participating in the annual DRIVEN Easter Egg Hunt. **top:** Hannah Spencer, a member of BHS DRIVEN, paints the face of Brynlee Calkins, 9, before Brynlee went to find eggs during a March 16 event. **above:** Senior Avelyn Ketelsen, a member of the Burlington soccer program, sweeps up leaves and brush at the Burlington Cemetery as part of a community service project.

JASON ARNDT Graduation 2024



**'Toppers on the field**



**above:** Alex Vogt muscled his way through to score a touchdown for Catholic Central last October against St. Francis. Vogt, who received honorable mention as a quarterback, also earned first team honors as a linebacker from the Midwest Classic Conference. Vogt signed a letter of intent to play baseball at Carroll University in Waukesha.

MICHAEL STEFANICH JR. Graduation 2024

**top:** Shortstop Paige Kerkhoff waits for a grounder in Catholic Central's win over visiting Dominican in April. Kerkhoff and the Hilltoppers wrapped up a Midwest Classic Conference title this spring.

JASON ARNDT Graduation 2024

# Class of 2024 CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL



Georgina Albizzati



Joseph Bellante



Nadia Bero



Nevaeha Davis



Elijah Doolittle



Brandon Fain



Ava Fait



Joshua Flores



Wendy Flores



Jayden Garratt



Drew Groell



Rosalie Hein



Alan Howell



William Kaelber



Emily Kelly



Paige Kerkhoff



Tyler Kottke-Christensen



Isabelle Kucera



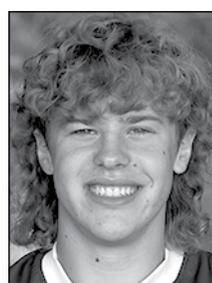
Skandar Larson



Maryella Lira



Noah McCourt



Paul Minnich



Fernanda Moreno



Victor Morrow



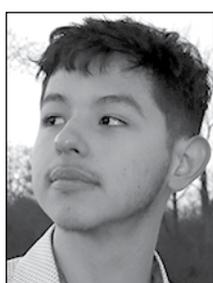
Omri Moynihan



Benjamin Nachowicz



Myah Ramsey



Sebastian Rebollar Jr.



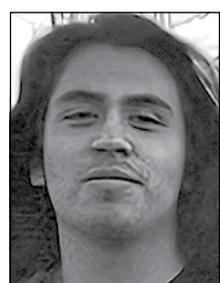
Erick Rebollar



Josephine Reesman



Wyatt Riehle



Erick Rodriguez



Matthew Schultz



Addison Schwenn



Austin Schwenn



Joshua Simia



Alex Vogt



Mason Zens



# Congrats! Class of 2024

# Catholic Central HIGH SCHOOL

# Simia seeks career in medical field

Joshua Simia has been named the Valedictorian for the Catholic Central High School Class of 2024.

He plans to attend Marquette University with hopes of pursuing a neurosurgeon career.

Simia provided the following responses regarding his high school experiences and future ambitions to Southern Lakes Newspapers.



Joshua Simia

## Which achievements are you most proud of and why?

One of my more proud accomplishments is when I spoke in front of nearly 350 students at Badger Boys State.

Public speaking has always been a challenge for me, and whenever I did speak in public, it was because of an assignment.

Badger Boys State, on the other hand, didn't require me to run for any government position or give any speeches.

Nevertheless, I pushed myself to run for Governor, the highest position available in BBS. I spoke in front of 20 students, without preparing a speech or even knowing what I was doing, on the first day, and again in front of 50 students the second day.

Almost every speech I made, there was no prior preparation since I hardly even understood what was happening. I won some government positions, and lost others, yet I kept reaching for Governor.

Around the third day, I realized that another student was running for governor in my city. Knowing that the opposing governor candidates were also very good speakers, I knew that the only way for either one of us to win governor was for one of us to drop out of the race. Had we both run, we would've split the votes

in our city and county, resulting in both of us losing. By the end of the third day, I switched the position I was running for from Governor to Lt. Governor. On the fourth day, I had prepared and memorized my speech for lieutenant governor, and I presented halfway through the day. Walking up on stage, in front of nearly 350 students, was very nerve racking, yet I remained calm during my speech. Prior to Badger Boys State, the most people I've presented in front of may have been close to 80 people, and that was because my teachers insisted I do. My Badger Boys State speech in front of 350 students, on the other hand, was completely my choice. I didn't win the nomination, yet I felt proud of myself for running for lieutenant governor and giving my speech.

## How did you manage to balance academics with your other activities?

Everyone will always find a way to be busy. Some people may keep themselves occupied with sports, while others invest their time in various hobbies. Even if a person isn't active outside of their home, they may still keep busy with doing nothing, like scrolling through social media. Therefore, knowing that I will always use up all of the time I have, I decided that the best way I could balance my academics with my other activities was simply by doing what I could when I could. Whenever I'm at home, I'll be doing homework until bedtime. If I have sports, I'll attend my practices and games, then spend the rest of my time doing homework when I get home. On weekends, I grant myself time to draw and play games, but even then, I typically spend a few hours on the weekends studying. I don't limit myself in terms of what activities and sports I can participate in based on the amount of free time I have, but based on whether I have a passion for the activity, and whether or not I am

willing to spend hours each day dedicated towards that activity.

## What are your plans beyond high school?

After high school, I plan to attend Marquette University to major in biomedical sciences and prepare the groundwork for my future career as a neurosurgeon.

## Why did you select that particular college or university?

I chose Marquette for three main reasons: Marquette offers a great pre-medical education, with the opportunity for incoming freshman to dissect human cadavers in the gross anatomy lab; there is a wide variety of clubs that will allow me to explore my interests and will help me learn more about who I am; and lastly, because Marquette has many connections to hundreds of different networks of professionals that can help me pursue a career in neurosurgery in the future.

## What do you plan to study in college and what inspired you to pursue that subject?

Biology has always been an interesting subject to me, with thousands of different facets that can be explored and used to explain how the world works.

However, since I intend to pursue a career as a neurosurgeon, I believe that a biomedical sciences major would be better suited for my career path, since that major would put an emphasis on the biology of the human body. Furthermore, I also plan to minor in neuroscience, as that would allow me to take many interesting classes to study the nervous system and would help set the groundwork for my future career.

## Beyond college, what are your ambitions for the future?

After college, I plan to attend a

medical school to get a MD degree and then begin residency training to become a neurosurgeon afterwards. Residency programs for neurosurgeons tend to last around seven years, and a neurosurgeon can then enter a two-year fellowship to subspecialize in a specific area of neurosurgery. If I do enter a fellowship, I would most likely subspecialize in spinal surgery.

## Who are the people in your life that have been instrumental in helping you become the person you are and why?

My parents have always pushed me to do my best with any task, and to never give up on my goals. They taught me that if I truly want something, then don't let anything get in the way of you and your dreams. In my journey to achieve my dreams, my friends, like Drew and Sebastian, have been instrumental in helping me develop my confidence in my abilities and helping me refine my work. Then finally, teachers like Mrs. Dean and Father Ray helped me to appreciate my own work and have a passion for learning.

## What advice would you give other students on how to have a successful high school experience?

High school can be chaotic, stressful and unpredictable; however, there are also many opportunities to make unforgettable memories with your friends and family as you grow up. Don't let stress limit your fun or let it close doors that others have opened up for you. I let multiple opportunities slip through my fingers because I thought I would be too busy with homework. But the one door I didn't let close was BBS and it became one of my favorite experiences. So learn to appreciate your friends, enjoy your high school life, and take advantage of any new opportunities you get, because it won't last forever, but the memories you can make will live on for eternity.

# Salutatorian plans to pursue engineering career

Alan Howell earned the honor of being the Salutatorian for Catholic Central High School Class of 2024.

He plans to attend the Milwaukee School of Engineering with hopes of opening his own business upon graduation.

Howell provided the following responses regarding his high school experiences and future ambitions to Southern Lakes Newspapers.



Alan Howell

## Which achievements are you most proud of and why?

The achievement that I am most proud of is receiving an academic award from the state golf association.

For me, the award showed that my hard work in school and sports had begun to pay off, and to keep working hard toward my goals.

## How did you manage to balance academics with your other activities?

I balanced my academics with my sports and activities by prioritizing my school work and making sure I always completed it with a high degree of effort, while also remembering to take part in activities that are fun, like going to games to support my classmates, or finding ease of mind in improving in sports.

## What are your plans beyond high school?

After high school, I plan to attend the Milwaukee School of Engineering to study mechanical engineering.

## Why did you select that particular college or university?

I chose MSOE because of the many opportunities it provides. There are many chances for internships and hands-on learning. The class sizes are smaller, so I will have better access to the resources I need to succeed. I also enjoy the urban

setting Milwaukee has to offer.

## What do you plan to study in college and what inspired you to pursue that subject?

I plan to study mechanical engineering because machines and science have been a lifelong interest of mine.

Ever since I was a small child, I enjoyed figuring out how things worked, and how to improve them. This has continued into high school, where I have taken math and science classes that have given me a better understanding of the world around me.

## Beyond college, what are your ambitions for the future?

After college, I want to start my own business.

The business will focus on technology and its interface with people, such as prosthetics or protection for first responders and military personnel.

## Who are the people in your life that have been instrumental in helping you

## become the person you are and why?

There are many people in my life who have made me the person I am today. I would not be where I am today without the help and support of my friends and family. One person that is especially instrumental in my life is my grandfather. He has always supported me and my interests, and taught me much of what I know about life and how to be an honorable person. My life would be very different without his guidance, and I am extremely grateful for all he has done.

## What advice would you give other students on how to have a successful high school experience?

My advice to other students to have a successful high school experience is to always give their best effort into what they do. Find enjoyment in the hard work it takes to excel in academics and sports.

Also, don't forget to find enjoyment in the fun things, like going to games and other events. High school goes by quickly, so cherish the moments while you can.



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## CONGRATULATIONS 2024 SENIORS !



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## BHS Graduation Information

Burlington High School's commencement for the Class of 2024 will be held at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 31. The school will make a decision on May 30 if it will hold the event at Don Dalton Stadium or in the gymnasium.

## CCHS Graduation Information

Catholic Central High School's Class of 2024 commencement exercises will be held on Friday, May 24 at St. Mary's Church, 108 McHenry St., Burlington with the ceremony starting at 7 p.m.

## Congratulations, graduates!



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