

# Faces of Today and Tomorrow

The Brockport High School senior faces of today have become the faces of tomorrow. The Class of 2017 graduated high school ready to take on college, a career or the military. Throughout their tenure with Brockport Central School District, they excelled in academics and extracurricular activities inside and outside the walls of the classroom.

We launched the Faces of Today and Tomorrow video series this year to celebrate our seniors as they embarked on their last year through high school. We hope you enjoyed the inside look at some of the amazing students that made up the Class of 2017. Archived videos featuring Alex Regna, Rachel Smith, Latoya McNish, Max Sevor, Tré Jones, Cory Albrecht, Emma Moulton, Benjamin Davis, Madelyn Nitzenberger, Samantha DelMartino, Dwight McMillion, Paige McGrath and Rapheal Odey Jr., as highlighted below, are posted on our website at [bcs1.org/faces](http://bcs1.org/faces).

Visit [bcs1.org/faces](http://bcs1.org/faces) to view the full Faces of Today and Tomorrow video series and print features.

## Introducing Rapheal Odey Jr.

BHS graduate Rapheal Odey Jr. is the epitome of a leader. From the classroom to the Diversity Club to the football field, Odey's charismatic personality and team player attitude drive everyone in his presence to reach for greater heights.

"I won't stop until I can reach heights beyond myself," said Odey. "I believe nothing is impossible; I don't believe in limitations."

Odey was born with a love for sports. He grew up playing basketball with his brother, a memory he cherishes fondly. He said basketball was an outlet for him, but it was football for which he ultimately grew a love and passion, a passion that advanced him and his team all the way to a sectional win. Odey said the emotions associated with that win far surpassed the football field.

"My favorite memory so far is winning the sectional title for the first time when I was a junior," said Odey. "The team I played with, they were not just teammates; they were brothers. A lot of people shot us down but that just brought us closer together, and that bond can't be replaced by any other memory."

*Odey said he values hard work, dedication and perseverance because it shows in results and outcomes.*

"It can separate a good person from a great person," said Odey. "That self-drive really separates a person from everyone else."

Social studies teacher and Diversity Club advisor Kerry Gant has watched Odey grow over the past four years. She said he is an extraordinary leader.

"When he sees an opportunity to take charge he does it, but he will also sit back and listen to what others have to say and lead them based on their feelings and thoughts," said Gant. "He is very open minded when he leads, so it is not about telling others what to do; it's about listening to what they want and then forging a path from there."

As the eldest of five children, Odey said it is imperative he is a leader and role model for his siblings.

"Everything I do impacts my younger siblings, whether it be good or bad. The actions I take really reflect who I am and who I want my siblings to be as well," said Odey. "So if I want them to be High Honor Roll students, I have to be a High Honor Roll student. If I want them to shoot for their dreams and go to college, I have to go to college and be the guy I want to be."

Odey will attend Edinboro University of Pennsylvania as a Class of 2021 football recruit. He plans to study political science and in addition to a successful football career, he ultimately wants to go to law school.

"In fourth grade I spoke to my mother and told her I wanted to be the president, just like President Obama, and she said, 'you have to

## Résumé

### Today

- Basketball
- Diversity Club
- Football
- Track and field

### Tomorrow

- Edinboro University
- Collegiate football
- Law school



Rapheal Odey Jr.

be a lawyer first.' So since then I've pushed to get into politics in whatever ways I can," said Odey. "I feel like I can change the world in some way and the best way I feel I can do that is by being the president, but first I have to become a lawyer."

Gant is confident Odey is on the road to success.

"His work ethic is very good. Having been a part of sports for so many years, he knows the work you put in will pay off in the end," said Gant.

Gant said the characteristic that truly defines Odey is his constant desire to better the people around him. She said he is well-liked and lightens the mood wherever he goes.

"I like to laugh; I like to be positive; I like to joke around," said Odey. "I don't like negative; I don't like hate. I believe you have to show everyone love."

As Odey heads off to college and strives to change the world, he said he will always remember the teachers and teammates that impacted his high school career.