

Faces of Today and Tomorrow

Every one of our high school seniors is unique. Many of our students are involved in extracurricular activities inside and outside the walls of the classroom. The Faces of Today and Tomorrow video series celebrates the different strengths and interests of our students as they prepare for college, a career or the military.

New video interviews are typically posted on our website and social media every other Friday. Visit bcs1.org/faces to view the archived videos, featuring Alex Regna, Rachel Smith, Latoya McNish, Max Sevor, Tré Jones, Cory Albrecht, Emma Moulton, Benjamin Davis and Madelyn Nitzenberger, as highlighted below. We hope you enjoy this inside look at some of the amazing students that make up the Class of 2017.

If you know a high school senior deserving of recognition, encourage him/her to fill out the questionnaire at bcs1.org/seniorvideoform.

Introducing Madelyn Nitzenberger

BHS senior Madelyn Nitzenberger is the true definition of hard work and dedication. Her dream of a military career has always driven her to excel in everything she does. Her determination has paid off as she enlisted for the U.S. Navy this past October and is scheduled to ship out Aug. 15.

BHS social studies teacher Scott Hopsicker has taught Nitzenberger in multiple classes. He says Nitzenberger is kind, caring, considerate, responsible and talented.

“What makes Maddie stand out is the intensity of her work ethic,” said Hopsicker. “Kids have work ethic but Maddie knows how to take it to another level. She’s always striving for perfection.”

Leading up to where she is today, Nitzenberger has tried a little bit of everything Brockport has to offer, from orchestra to technology to athletics. Of all the school activities she has been involved in, Nitzenberger says softball was her favorite. She began playing on a recreational league in fifth grade, then joined the school team in seventh grade. Nitzenberger used softball as far more than an extracurricular activity though; she viewed it through the lens of a career training opportunity.

“Softball and team sports give you a lot of teamwork and leadership skills, which are skills the military looks for because you have to be able to work well with others,” said Nitzenberger. “If you have good leadership skills, you’re likely to be put in charge and advance faster in rank.”

Despite her passion for softball, Nitzenberger opted not to join the team this year to focus on her priority: the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps. The Naval Sea Cadet Corps is a program designed to teach young people ages 13 through graduation the rigors of a military training program and career opportunities with our nation’s armed services.

“When I first joined, I was a very introverted person, but through the program I learned better communication skills and how to motivate and inspire others,” said Nitzenberger.

Nitzenberger is now the leading petty officer of her division, meaning she is in charge of more than 40 cadets. She loves watching her cadets grow and succeed.

“Being a leader is my favorite part,” said Nitzenberger. “It’s great to see them come out of their shell and grow not only as a cadet in the program, but also as a leader in their natural lives.”

Nitzenberger’s leadership skills have expanded into the classroom as well.

“To me a leader is one that is going to serve and lead by example and Maddie fits both of those perfectly,” said Hopsicker.

Nitzenberger comes from a long line of military families and says joining the military is something she’s always wanted to do. She is in the intelligence field of the Navy, which means she will have two years of schooling and then begin traveling.

Résumé

Today

- Athletics
- Lifeguard
- United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps

Tomorrow

- Navy
- Degree in Economics
- Traveling



Madelyn Nitzenberger

“Being in nature is something that I enjoy a lot, so being able to travel and getting to experience different countries and cultures is something that I am really looking forward to,” said Nitzenberger.

Outside of school and the cadet program, Nitzenberger loves adventure. She frequently visits her aunt in California, who takes her on excursions such as hiking and rock climbing in local national parks. When home, Nitzenberger works as a lifeguard at the school and relieves stress through working out. She enjoys reading, as well as volunteering at a local animal shelter.

Nitzenberger cherishes all of her various life experiences thus far and credits them for making her into the person she is today.

“I’m kind of shaped by everything around me in a way and all the things I’ve done throughout my life,” said Nitzenberger. “I’ve experienced so many things. I absorb the good in things and that’s what makes me a happier, more positive person.”

Though she has loved her time in Brockport and will carry memories with her forever, Nitzenberger is excited to turn the page and enter the next chapter of her life.