## LOOKING ON THE BRIGHT SIDE

"Because when you stop and look around, this life is pretty amazing." - Dr. Seuss

2020-2021 won't go down as the brightest school year in recent times, and it's easy to allow the many letdowns the pandemic brought with it to overshadow any goodness that came from this time. But each month in the Valley had its bright spots. We hope you'll take a look back at the school year and realize there are always good things happening around you if you're willing to look for them.



"Going to football games and especially state was very exciting for me, it felt like an event that brought everyone in the school together."

- Alex Melvin '21



Platinum dancers (from left to right) Kylie Crome, Emma Richards, Louie Conn, Maci Quam, Reagan Glaus and Josie Kaffenberger compete at the 2021 ISDTA state solo competition hosted at HyVee Hall on Nov. 19.





Track this season was fun and it was nice being able to practice and go to meets with friends."

- Pranav Suresh '23



**AUGUST** 



SEPTEMBER



**OCTOBER** 



**NOVEMBER** 



**DECEMBER** 



"I loved being able to continue cheerleading this year. Most of my cheerleading friends are seniors so it was nice to have one last year with them."

Cecelia Fierce '22



"The prospect of schools reopening full time with no mask mandates is honestly a scary one. However, I fully trust that the administration made responsible choices.

- Nora Zimmerman '23 114



"Improve night was as good as ever, even in a pandemic we make good jokes."

- Taze Wilson '21



"Quote from student about the topic in this photo."

- Kora Ruff (9)



"Holiday carols are a Chamber tradition and have built a sense of warm community in the choir for years."

- Caroline Sierk '22

"We worked really hard for this preparation as it was the first we we all got to perform together."

- Anna Thorne '21



"The team worked really well together both in singles and in doubles this season.

- Brady Adams '22



JUST WEEKS LATER, STUDENTS 16+ WOULD **BEGIN RECEIVING** THEIR VACCINATIONS, AND BY MAY, STUDENTS AGES 12-17 WERE APPROVED TO **BEGIN RECEIVING** THEIR VACCINES.

"This prom was super fun, I was with all of my best friends and not getting one last year made this one so special "

- Anna Carius '21





The spirit of these Spartans is

UNbreakable. Here's how they

showed their resilience amidst the COVID-19 global pandemic.

"This year was when I started to prioritize my

personal goals and

Sami Alsheikha, 22

working out."

being able to see my family and friends that Lauren Anderson, 22



"i became closer with my family because they were the only people I saw in person for two months." Olivia Syverud, 22

"Covid effects were

effected my focus."

Blake Anderson, 22

horrible and really











**JANUARY** 

**FEBRUARY** 

**MARCH** 

**APRIL** 

Spartan drama performs Our Town with a live audience.

MAY



"I was not excited to go back to school full time but I eventually got used to it and was happy to see my friends who were on B day.'

- Sami Alsheikha '22



- Leah Mendelin (9)



03/30/2021 Leading Tones receives 5th place in the Iowa Vocal Jazz . Championships



"Being a lead in Our Town was an incredible experience for my freshman year and it allowed me to make amazing connections.'

- Kylie Brees '24

"Those two games were very exciting, especially since they allowed us to achieve our goal of going to state."

- Ryan Dolphin '22

Despite canceled events, limited spectators/photography, short staff, hybrid scheduling and multiple

WE FINISHED