

COMMENDATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS
AUGUST, 2016

High School

Jack O'Leary, senior at Upper St. Clair High School, was recently named one of 28 Positive Athlete Award winners from throughout Western Pennsylvania. Jack was honored as the 2015-16 Most Positive Athlete for boys golf. Former Pittsburgh Steeler Hines Ward presented Jack with his award along with a \$500 scholarship at the fifth annual C. Harper Positive Athlete Awards on June 14, 2016, at the Sen. John Heinz History Center and Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum.

Members of the Upper St. Clair High School speech and debate team finished among the top performers at the 2016 National Speech & Debate Tournament that was held June 12-17, 2016, in Salt Lake City.

Chase Miller finished his high school career placing in the national quarterfinals in the Domestic Extemporaneous event. He finished 16th overall among approximately 300 competitors.

Public Forum Debaters Macey Kaplan and Arushi Kewalramani advanced to the eighth round of competition with a 9-3 record. Additionally, they competed in International Public Forum Debate against teams from all over the world and achieved a seventh place finish – the team's highest placing ever at the National Speech & Debate Tournament.

Anthony Abinanti, a member of the Upper St. Clair High School class of 2016, was recently awarded a National Security Language Initiative for Youth scholarship for 2016-17. Anthony will study Chinese in Taiwan for the year.

Anthony is one of approximately 600 competitively selected students from across the United States who will receive a scholarship to study Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Persian, Russian, or Turkish overseas this year. While in Taiwan, Anthony will receive formal instruction and informal language practice in an immersion environment.

Graduating senior, Emma Hasco has been named one of two Pittsburgh Tribune-Review Athletes of the Year. Emma scored two goals to lead Upper St. Clair to its first PIAA Class AAA girls soccer title with a 2-1 win over Central Bucks East.

The Upper St. Clair High School girls' volleyball team has earned the 2015-16 American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award. This marks the second consecutive year that USC girls' volleyball team has received this honor. The award honors collegiate and high school volleyball teams that displayed excellence in the classroom during the school year by maintaining at least a 3.30 cumulative team grade-point average on a 4.0 scale or a 4.10 cumulative team GPA on a 5.0 scale.

During the 2015-16 season, the USC girls' volleyball team was the undefeated section champion. The Panthers finished third in the WPIAL and advanced to the PIAA quarterfinals.

Elementary

Rylee Kalocay, a fourth grader at Streams Elementary headed to San Diego to compete in the Scotts Major League Baseball Pitch Hit & Run competition during the 2016 All Star Week. Rylee is one of only three National Finalists in the 7-8 year old girls softball division and qualified as a finalist by placing first in the youngest division of competitors during Scotts Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit & Run program at PNC Park on June 25, 2016.