



Kayhi's top students in the graduating class of 2017

by Kinani Halvorsen, Lezille Sagrado, and Thomas Brooks
Staff Writers

After four years filled with stress, and paper deadlines, 148 students get ready to walk down the aisle and receive their high school diploma. Although all students should be proud of their accomplishments, only six stand out for their academic achievement of maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

The first to hold a 4.0 GPA is Alison Blair. Blair has always pushed herself to do the best she could in school. Working hard soon became a habit that she and her teachers expected from her. She has always had high standards for herself which stems from her being a perfectionist. Blair will be attending Willamette University next fall and plans on going to law school following her graduation from there. Her hopes are to eventually become a defense attorney.

Spencer Landis keeps a busy schedule with dance and band, but still manages to get perfect grades. She has worked very hard to develop her work ethic. Even though for the past couple years she has had free periods in her schedule, she uses that time for homework and studying. Landis knows that keeping her grades up is important not only now, but for her future. Applying for college was pretty rewarding to her because she got to show colleges her great GPA, and her AP/honor classes. This fall, she will be attending Willamette University to study English literature. As of now,



From left to right: Gerick Sherrill, Rizza Rodriguez, Sarah McClennan, Allison Blair, Spencer Landis, and Brent Taylor.

Kinani Halvorsen

she plans on going through graduate and postgraduate programs to get a PhD in the same subject and teach at a university someday.

Sarah McClennan is one of the top athletes here at Kayhi, and she is also one of the top students. McClennan knew that maintaining a 4.0 was just doing all the homework that was assigned, and then other times when she had to study, and work hard to keep it up. She without a doubt would say that anyone who is willing to work hard enough can do it. She does think that sometimes it is hard maintaining a 4.0 while balancing sports, activities, hobbies, homework, and a social life. Although it's been tough at times, it payed off when it came to applying for colleges and scholarships. Next year, McClennan will

be attending Gonzaga University to get a degree in engineering.

Rizza Rodriguez is a dedicated student who works hard for her grades. One of the main reasons that Rodriguez keeps her grades up is to open up opportunities in the future. This senior year, she didn't have to worry about whether or not she would be admitted to a school because she knew she did great in high school. Rodriguez says it's tough to keep her grades up, but she knows all her hard work will pay off when she has successfully achieved her plans for the future. This fall, Rodriguez will be attending Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon and will be pursuing a bachelor's degree in nursing. Ultimately, she hopes to go as far as getting a masters in anesthesia to

become a nurse anesthetist.

Gerik Sherrill is not only the SBA president of Kayhi, but also a 4.0 student who takes a lot of AP classes. Sherrill knows that doing his work and turning it in on time is plain and simple if you desire a 4.0. His parents were a big factor when it came to maintaining his GPA. Evidently, his and his parent's commitment paid off because he will be attending the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York to major in engineering.

Brent Taylor is not only a big competitor in sports, but also in academics. Taylor believes that school work comes first, and makes it a priority to get all his work on in on time. He even, in some cases, sacrificed sleep to keep his grades

from slipping. Brent knows that keeping his 4.0 has made applying for college and getting accepted into college easier especially as a student athlete. Taylor has big plans for the future and plans to do a two years mission for Latter-day Saints, then attending Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

Not everyone graduates with a perfect GPA, but it's a great accomplishment for these six students to achieve. It has taken hard work and dedication to their studies as well as balancing, honor classes, sports, and after school clubs. These elite students have shown a lot of grit and perseverance, and all of them have brilliant futures ahead of them. These six are among Kayhi's brightest.

Does Ketchikan need a Lyft?

by Max Collins
Staff Writer

Smartphone transportation companies are pushing for Alaska. Senate Bill 14 would allow Uber and other app-based transportation services in the state, but would it work?

Kayhi economics teacher David Mitchel said he is open to the idea. "You're basically talking about deregulating the market," said Mitchel. "The nice thing about Uber is that it's based off of supply and demand, it is not a flat rate.

Many taxi companies will be hurt." Junior Kody Malouf's family owns the Duck Boat Tours. Malouf said it might impact taxi companies, but not the Duck Boats.

"We get a lot of pre-reservations from cruise ships so it wouldn't hurt the tours," said Malouf. "We'll hopefully get our share of competition before Uber and other companies can. Just like other tour companies, ours involves narrated takes and information that tourists love," said Malouf. "I don't see tourists wanting to ride in a small Prius in Alaska sceneries, but you

never know."

All vehicles are required to be clean and inspected heavily each year. Allegra Machado, careers teacher at Kayhi, thinks taxi companies could not convert over because of their quality.

"The drivers don't own the cars because they are leased off and I don't think they could afford a car that could make Uber inspections."

Junior Largim Zhuta notices some key downfalls about these transportation.

"The seasonal tourism would be such a large profit for these com-

panies, but I don't think they could keep up in the winter," said Zhuta. "I've never heard of a seasonal Uber but if it works, then it works."

The real question is who would be driving the cars? Both Uber and Lyft require workers to be over the age of 21 and background checks. Still a company is only as good as its employees.

Kayhi history teacher Michael Cron, a current Uber and Lyft user, thinks college students that come back in the summer would rather work for these businesses.

"I could see them working for

Uber but it really depends on the wage, transportation companies use a surge pricing and the pay definitely won't be as expensive as in Seattle," said Cron.

Cron also feels like Ketchikan needs a little bit of competition and that the city would benefit from either the ride sharing companies.

"Not necessarily in Ketchikan but in other towns like Juneau and Anchorage, cab companies kind of have their own monopoly," said Cron. "I think they have a right for disruption."