

Basil Wahal

From: GCU Scholarships <alekskwirut@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 14, 2024 7:59 PM
To: SMB-GCU-Events
Subject: Athletic Scholarship Application

Name: Alek Skwirut

Date of Birth: 09/28/2006

Last 4: 4357

Home Address: 1555 Longview Dr , Latrobe, PA 15650

Home Phone: 724-537-7818

Mobile: 412-610-5671

Email Address: alekskwirut@gmail.com

High School Attended: Greater Latrobe High School

Anticipated Graduation: 2025

First choice for Fall: University of Akron

Second choice for Fall: Wright State University

Anticipated Major: Engineering

Athletic accomplishments: Varsity Bowling - lettered Sophomore & Junior Year, WPIBL team & individual qualifier, Regional qualifier, placed 9th in WCCA individual event; JV & Varsity Baseball - Starting catcher

1/30/2025

Student Transcript

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Skwirut, Alek J
1555 Longview Dr
Latrobe, PA 15650

Greater Latrobe Senior High School
131 High School Rd
Latrobe, PA 15650

Principal: Dr. Ted Benning
(724) 539-4200
Counselor: Mrs. Rider

Guardian: Brian Skwirut
Birth Date: 9/28/2006

Phone: (724) 537-7818
Grade: 12

ID: 750025
Graduation Date:

Year: 2021-22
Building: Greater Latrobe Senior High School

Grade: 09

Year: 2022-23

Grade: 10

Building: Greater Latrobe Senior High School

Course	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FINAL	Credit	Crs Wgt	Crs Excl
Acad Geometry	A	A	A	B	A	1.00		
Academic Biology w/lab	A	A	A	A	A	1.00		
Academic English I	A	A	A	A	A	1.00		
Exploring Engineering	A	A	B	A	A	0.50		
Freshman Focus	P	P	P	P	P	0.50		
German II	A	A	A	A	A	1.00		
Health & Personal Fitness	A	A	A	A	A	1.00		
US History I	A	A	A	A	A	1.00		

GPA: 3.94

Credit: 7.00

Cumulative GPA: 3.94

Year: 2023-24
Building: Greater Latrobe Senior High School

Grade: 11

Year: 2024-25

Grade: 12

Building: Greater Latrobe Senior High School

Course	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FINAL	Credit	Crs Wgt	Crs Excl
AP Chemistry	B	B	B	C	B	1.50		
AP English (Lang & Comp)	A	A	A	A	A	1.00		Y
AP Human Geography	A	A	A	A	A	1.00		Y
German IV	A	A	A	A	A	1.00		
Physics I	A	A	B	B	A	1.50		
Pre-Calculus	A	B	B	B	B	1.00		

GPA: 4.02

Credit: 7.00

Cumulative GPA: 4.02

Course	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FINAL	Credit	Crs Wgt	Crs Excl
Acad Eng IV	A	A				0.00		
AP Calc AB	A	C				0.00		Y
AP German	A	A				0.00		Y
AP Physics	A	A				0.00		Y
Athletic Performance						0.00		
Current Issues						0.00		
Online Physical Ed (Summer)					A	0.50		Y
Personal Finance						0.00		
The Vietnam Era	A	A			A	0.50		
Young Engineers Program	A	A			A	0.50		

GPA: 4.38

Credit: 1.50

Cumulative GPA: 4.07

1/30/2025

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Grade: 12

ID: 750025
Graduation Date:

Type	Cumulative GPA	Total Credits
GPA	4.0737	22.500

Test Scores					
Keystone Algebra	5/31/2021	Adv	Keystone Biology	5/31/2022	Adv
			Keystone Lit	5/31/2023	Adv

Signature of Certifying Official:

Alexander Vukobratovic

Title: Guidance Counselor

Date:

1-30-25

Alek Skwirut (DOB 9/28/2006)

Work & Leadership Positions

2024-2025	Team Captain	Gr. Latrobe Bowling Team
2023-2024	Assisted Team Captain with practices	Gr. Latrobe Bowling Team
2023-2024	Seasonal/Summer – General cleaning	St. Vincent College
2023-2024	Front Desk, Kitchen, Cleaning, Cashier	Lincoln Lanes, part time job

Volunteer Positions

2021-2025	Volunteer at various St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church events, dinners, holidays, covid disinfection after mass
2022-2025	Greater Latrobe Bowling Tournament Fundraiser volunteer
2022-2024	Volunteer Jr. Coach/Counselor, Summer Baseball Camp
2023	German Tutor/Class assistant at the Junior High for Global Scholars

Student Achievements & Honor Activities

2021-2025	High Honor Roll or Distinguished Honor Roll almost every quarter since freshman year
2021-2025	Maintaining a 4.0 GPA while in Advanced Placement (AP) courses, Gifted Program, dual enrollment courses, student activities, various sports, and working
2023-2025	Dual enrolled courses at Westmoreland County Community College, Seton Hill University, & St. Francis University
2024-2025	National Honors Society
2023-2025	National German Honors Society

Religious Activities

2006-2025	St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church - Member since birth & have regularly attended mass and children's religious education (K-12), now attending adult religious education
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Bowling

2025	Junior Gold Bowling Member & Individual National Qualifier for upcoming Junior Gold in Green Bay, WI this coming July (10-day bowling event)
2024	Bowled first 300 game!
2023-2025	Placed in various local and regional bowling tournaments (house & sports shots)
2023-2025	Greater Latrobe Bowling Team – Varsity team Captain (2025), WPIALs Team Qualifier & Individual Qualifier, Pittsburgh Regional Qualifier
2024-2025	Youth League Regional Travel Bowling Team, representing Main Bowling Alley Club
2023-2025	United States Bowling Council Member (USBC)
2023-2025	Saturday Youth Bowling League, Main Bowling Alley (2024-2025), Lincoln Lanes (2023-2024)

Baseball

2025	Current varsity tryouts for starting Varsity Catcher position
2024	Greater Latrobe Baseball Team – JV Catcher, Varsity backup Catcher
2023-2024	LumberKings Travel Baseball Team - Catcher, placed in several regional tournaments
2021-2023	Blackout Travel Baseball Team - Catcher, placed in several regional tournaments
2000-2023	Latrobe-Derry Teener League Summer & Fall Baseball - Catcher, All-Star Honors (2023)

January 28, 2025

RECOMMENDATION FOR ALEK SKWIRUT

Dear GCU Athletic Scholarship Committee Members:

I am writing to recommend Alek Skwirut for the GCU Athletic Scholarship due to his outstanding character, dedication, and exemplary contributions to our Church, St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in Bradenville, Pennsylvania. Alek was baptized at St. Mary's in 2006 and, along with his family, has been an active member of the church. As an active lifetime member, Alek has consistently demonstrated a spirit of service and commitment that is truly commendable.

Let me give you some examples. As a member of St. Mary's, Alek has participated regularly in the Divine Liturgy and receiving the Holy Mysteries, as well as attending weekly Eastern Christian Formation (ECF) classes beginning at the age of four in the kindergarten class. Because Alek was academically advanced for his age in grade school, he was included in the older classes in middle school and high school, and attends the adult religious education lectures. Alek attends church functions such as Sunday church socials, ECF events such as attending the Pittsburgh Pirates annual outing each May, serving dinners for the seniors, reaching out to the shut-ins, and each Christmas lending a helping hand to build the Nativity set and decorate the church for the holidays. As I am an ECF instructor and coordinator of church events, presenter of adult education lectures, and attend all church events, I personally attest to his attendance and involvement described here. The number of volunteer hours and active participation are too difficult to count. I also can attest that Alek has been a role model to other ECF students, particularly the boys, who look up to him as a "big brother." In addition, the other students know that Alek is passionate about baseball and bowling, and just 'like' to be around him.

Alek attendance and involvement is a testament to his deep commitment to his faith and community. His mother and father are committed to the Church and are excellent role models to Alek shown by their own dedication and support. Alek's willingness to step up and help whenever needed is an inspiring example of his character and dedication. He consistently goes above and beyond to make a positive impact on our church community.

How do I know so much about Alek? I have been involved in the ECF program at St. Mary's for many years. Also, I have been involved with the Ss. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary for over 25 years where I have had the opportunity to observe seminarians mature in their faith. By comparison, I have watched Alek mature in his spiritual journey. I have witnessed how Alek contributions have not only improved our church community but have also fostered a sense of belongs and encouragement among the students. His compassionate nature

January 28, 2025

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RECOMMENDATION FOR ALEK SKWIRUT

and strong work ethic make him not only a valuable member of our church but also a promising candidate for your scholarship.

In closing, I have no doubt that Alek will continue to excel academically and contribute positively to any community he is a part of in the future. I sincerely believe that this scholarship will be a well-deserved recognition of his efforts and significant support in his academic endeavors.

Thank you for considering Alek. If you have any further questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me by phone (724-422-2808) or email hkennedy_782@comcast.net.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Kennedy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Helen Kennedy

Administrator, St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church

ECF Teacher, St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church

Chair, Board of Directors, Ss. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary

Director of Accreditation, Ss. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary



GREATER LATROBE HIGH SCHOOL BOWLING

Karen Hauser
Greater Latrobe Highschool Bowling
131 Highschool Rd
Latrobe, PA 15650
January 27, 2025

Dear Scholarship Committee:

Alek Skwirut has been an active member of the high school bowling team for the past three seasons. I have had the privilege of coaching him over the past two seasons. This year, he was elected as the boys' team captain by his teammates. Alek is developing in this leadership role and is learning to manage the associated challenges effectively. Furthermore, Alek participated as a volunteer during our team fundraising tournament last year and is scheduled to do so again this year.

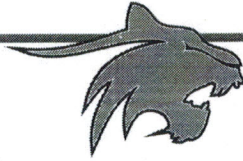
Over the past three years, Alek has shown remarkable dedication to improving his bowling skills. He has successfully managed the demands of academia alongside his commitments to both bowling and baseball. Alek has progressed from a novice bowler to achieving an impressive average of 200. He has invested numerous hours in practice and thoroughly analyzed various technical aspects of the game, including oil patterns, lane surfaces, bowling ball cover stocks and cores, and drilling layouts. Consequently, Alek has rapidly advanced to a highly skilled level in bowling. Late last year, he qualified to compete in the Junior Gold Tournament, which represents the highest level of competition in youth bowling and will take place this summer.

Alek will be advancing his bowling career at the collegiate level. I look forward to observing his progress and success in this next phase. I strongly recommend Alek Skwirut for your sports scholarship.

Sincerely,

Karen Hauser
Head Coach Greater Latrobe Highschool Bowling Team

GREATER LATROBE SCHOOL DISTRICT



To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter of recommendation for Alek Skwirut. I am currently a second grade teacher at Latrobe Elementary School and an assistant coach for the high school baseball team at Greater Latrobe. I have had the pleasure of coaching Alek for the past five years on JV and a travel baseball team and it has been an honor to witness his remarkable growth both as a baseball player and as an individual. Over the years, I have had the privilege of coaching Alek in various capacities, and during that time, he consistently demonstrated exceptional dedication, reliability, and leadership qualities that set him apart. His commitment to baseball and his character both on and off the field make him an outstanding candidate for any endeavor he chooses to pursue.

Alek began playing for my travel baseball team, the Latrobe Blackout, at the age of 13 and remained a key part of the team until he was 16. Throughout those summers, we practiced twice a week and played 3-5 games every weekend, a demanding schedule that Alek embraced wholeheartedly. As our catcher, he endured the physical and mental challenges of the position with unwavering toughness and determination. Alek's dedication to his team was evident in his consistent effort, dependability, and willingness to push through the wear and tear the role demanded.

In addition to his time with the Latrobe Blackout, Alek was a member of the Greater Latrobe JV baseball team under my coaching for three years. During this time, he exhibited remarkable growth as a player, continuously improving his skills and maintaining a positive mindset at every practice and game. Alek's commitment extended beyond his own team, as he was often pulled up to catch varsity games, showcasing his dedication to learning and supporting the program as a whole. Balancing these commitments required significant time and effort, which Alek handled with maturity and responsibility. Varsity baseball tryouts are just starting for the upcoming season, and Alek will be focusing on obtaining the starting catching position for the varsity team this year.

Beyond his athletic abilities, Alek demonstrated his character through his involvement with my youth baseball camp for elementary-aged children. Over the course of seven days, Alek volunteered his time and effort, arriving promptly each day and consistently seeking ways to contribute. He was an excellent role model, teaching the children the fundamentals of the game while embodying the values of hard work and sportsmanship. His reliability, patience, and ability to connect with the young players made a lasting impact on everyone involved.

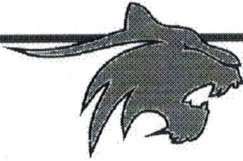
In conclusion, Alek Skwirut is an exceptional individual whose dedication, work ethic, and leadership skills have left a lasting impression on me as a coach. I am confident that his positive attitude and strong character will enable him to succeed in any future pursuit. I highly recommend Alek without hesitation and would be happy to provide further insights into his abilities and accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Brett Vallorani

Brett Vallorani
2nd Grade Teacher
brett.vallorani@glsd.us

GREATER LATROBE SCHOOL DISTRICT



RE: Recommendation for Alek Skwirut

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to recommend Alek Skwirut. I met Alek as a seventh-grade student in my Introduction to Career Pathways course and again as an eleventh-grade student in Advanced Placement English Language and Composition. I have enjoyed watching him grow, both academically and personally.

Academically, Alek stands out amongst his peers. His ability and aptitude are apparent in his SAT score and GPA but it is his drive to take advantage of educational opportunities that speaks to his success in the numbers. Alek has been involved with the district's gifted program since second grade, and throughout his high school years, he has achieved distinguished or high honor roll each quarter. He is a member of both the National Honor Society and the National German Honor Society. Since sophomore year, he has been working toward PA Global Scholars Honor recognition through course selection and activities. Moreover, he has pursued dual enrollment and college-in-the-classroom courses through Westmoreland County, Seton Hill University, and St. Francis University. As a student, Alek was engaged and actively involved in the classroom. I could count on him to make insightful contributions to class discussions that furthered the conversation, complete his work at high levels, and approach all tasks with curiosity and critical thinking. I do not doubt that Alek will continue to excel in any academic endeavor he pursues.

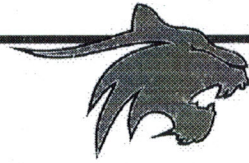
In addition to academic achievements, Alek is involved in sports, specifically baseball and bowling, and has experienced multiple successes. He has been on two travel baseball teams as a catcher and utility player. Also, he is a catcher for the school team, on the junior varsity squad, and now a backup player for the varsity squad. However, his greatest involvement in the sports realm is his impressive bowling career. He is a member of the United States Bowling Congress and has placed in several tournaments in the past three years. As a varsity member of the district team, Alek has assisted with practices and qualified for the Western PA Interscholastic Bowling League at the team and individual levels. He is a member of the local youth league and has enjoyed both individual and team wins. Alek has even beat the odds, so to speak, and accomplished a 300-game at the local alley. Clearly, Alek devotes time and effort to the activities, both of which have led to rewards.

However, Alek's involvement is not limited to academics or athletics; he is part of several academic and community service organizations, too. As a church member, he has attended religious education programs, volunteered at special events, and helped to put up and take down Christmas decorations. During the pandemic, he was part of the team who disinfected the church after masses. Yet, it is Alek's willingness to help others that stands out. He has volunteered as a German tutor and classroom helper at the Jr. High School as part of the Global Scholars program,

Greater Latrobe Senior High School

131 High School Road, Latrobe, PA 15650 | 724-539-4200 | F: 724-539-4295 | www.glsd.us

GREATER LATROBE SCHOOL DISTRICT



as well as with bowling team fundraisers, including one held at Pittsburgh Steelers Training Camp.

Despite all of his commitments, Alek held a part-time job as seasonal help at St. Vincent University, performing custodial duties and attending to the Carey Center and Steelers training camp areas. Additionally, Alek worked at the local bowling alley in various capacities from the front desk to the kitchen. Moreover, he has steadily earned an above 4.0 GPA, proof of his dedication to excellence not only in his work and activities but also in education.

In closing, Alek is a hardworking, dependable young man who will be an asset to any institution as he pursues his engineering interests. I am confident that he will gain and offer valuable skills during his post-secondary journey. He is a remarkable young man, and I am honored to have been asked for this recommendation.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bompiani-Smith

Lisa Bompiani-Smith, Ph.D. '15
NBPTS '09, MA '98, BS '93,
English teacher/Forensic coach









