

Solomon Schechter Day School



Coby Maeir (SSDS '16)

University: The Ohio State University

High School: RZJHS

Current City: Columbus, OH

Hometown: Deerfield, IL

Camp: Ramah Wisconsin

As a child, Coby was fascinated by the world of sports. Growing up, he could be found playing, watching, or talking about sports with his Schechter classmates. When Coby was in 3rd grade, he broke his leg rollerblading. A week later, he received an inspiring get-well letter from Chicago Blackhawks star Jonathan Towes. Towes' message really struck a chord with Coby, and, at the age of eight, he realized that there is so much more to athletes than their latest stats and number of wins; they also have fascinating stories to share. This revelation, combined with Coby's natural curiosity and love of connecting with people, inspired him to pursue a career in sports. Coby is really excited to uncover and share stories of athletes and coaches as a play-by-play announcer, color commentator, and content producer.

Following his academic success at Schechter, Coby was able to develop many of his journalism, broadcasting, and management skills at RZJHS, where he was a sports reporter and co-sports editor of The Stripe, president of the Broadcast Media Club and Sports Discussion Club, manager of the varsity basketball and soccer teams, and member of the baseball and basketball teams.

Fast forward to today, Coby is a sophomore at The Ohio State University (OSU). In addition to a jam packed academic schedule, Coby can be found taking advantage of the many sports media and production opportunities on campus. He serves as a play-by-play announcer and color analyst for Scarlet & Gray Sports Radio Network, broadcasting OSU hockey, lacrosse & basketball games. He has also improved his camera and video editing skills with his work at Big 10 Network's Student U Productions.



Coby is also a sportswriter for the Lantern, OSU's award-winning independent student newspaper and his first assignment was covering Chicago Bears training camp last season, where he did a feature on former Buckeye star Justin Fields. Because of Covid, all of Coby's Spring 2021 classes were moved online. Therefore, he decided to do a gap semester in Israel, where he covered the NHL from Tel Aviv for U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame journalist Stan Fischler as an intern for The Fischler Report. Despite the time difference, Coby stayed up all night, watched the games live, and filed his stories. The internship extended into the summer and earned Coby a season-long spot in the Columbus Blue Jackets press box this season, where he is now an NHL contributor to Stan's columns in The Hockey News.

Coby's former Schechter teachers couldn't be more proud of how he has taken the skills that he developed at Schechter and is pursuing his passion. And Coby couldn't be more grateful to his Schechter teachers and community for always believing in him, challenging him, and empowering him.

At his 8th grade graduation ceremony, Coby said, *"I will never forget my time at Skokie Schechter, particularly Mrs. Pikelny's class. It was always fun whether we learned Frog and Toad, butterflies, or hole in the wall. The loving community at Skokie Schechter will always be with me."* Even when subjects were difficult or a task seemed daunting, Coby remembers how his teachers encouraged him to do his best work and not give up. "I am so grateful for every one of my Schechter teachers for their inspiration and guidance," he said. "They have all played such a pivotal role in my continued curiosity and lifelong love of learning."

When Coby reflects on how Schechter impacted his life, the first word that comes to mind is community. "I was too young to realize it at the time, but each year at Schechter I was building the foundation to a lifelong and nurturing community that has been with me through all of life's ups and downs. Schechter is so much more than an education; it's an exceptional, lifelong win-win for both students and their families alike," he added.

Coby sends a shoutout to his sister Noa (SSDS '18) who is a senior at Deerfield High School and just recently committed to the Nursing program at University of Vermont.