Belligerent life of Olivia Henderson

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Constant crying, whining and screaming is what seems like a nightmare, but this girl has what it takes to smooth out the edges and put everything back in order.

The caring sweetheart, Olivia Henderson, enjoys spending time with kids… well, most of the time. Having to juggle her life between school, outside activities, family and babysitting, this SPCHS hardworking student enjoys taking care of children and has a brilliant position for her future in the medical field.

 After a long and an exhausting day at school, Olivia Henderson tries to complete a portion of her never ending homework before she goes off to her swim practice. The young lady enjoys participating in physical activities and is considered one on the best team swimmers. Coaches say, “She has flawless technique in long distance freestyle,” and most often receives first and second places at regional meets. “I’m only really good at long distances and freestyle… I constantly drown on butterfly,” laughs Olivia when asked if she’s good at other styles of swimming.

Whenever Henderson is not swimming, she fills in her free time working a part time job as a babysitter. As she started to babysit at the age of nine, Olivia has enough experience of taking proper care of children. She enjoys doing what she does; however, she has gone through the best and the worst of times while attending her job. Henderson says, “Some of these children never stop screaming and crying; however, they always tend to put a smile on my face.” One of her worst experience that she’s gone through was the time she babysat for a family of three children, two girls and a boy. As Olivia called for a cleanup, the two young sisters kept on complaining on who played with what toys. The argument went out of hands, Henderson remembers, “The older girl threw a Barbie doll at the nearby mirror and it shattered to little pieces.” She recalls, hating to carefully pick up little pieces of the broken mirror in order to not cut herself. There was also a time when she had to clean up the bottom of the little boy’s shoe on their way from the park because he has stepped in dog waste. “I will never forget that day and the terrible foul smell of fresh dog poop,” Olivia says. She’s used to it now; keeping in mind she has two other siblings of her own.

Olivia Henderson takes part of a big family. Growing up being the oldest of three, the responsible teenager knows what it’s like to be put in charge and fulfil her duties. Olivia would relate her siblings as, sister being the most talented, her brother the most athletic, and herself being the brains. Henderson says, “My younger sister, Gabby, knows how to push my buttons, but she also brings out the best in me.” As of her brother, “Phil is very hard working and spends most of his time training for his next lacrosse tournament.” Overall, her family enjoys spending time with each other, and they often go on trips around America. Her favorite memory consists of them traveling to North Carolina and white water rafting. The funniest moment was when the guide fell off the boat, and as her father tried to help out the poor guy, he ended up flying off the boat and going head first into the freezing water. “My stomach hurt so much from laughing so hard! That was epic, everyone had a great time,” reflects Olivia of what happened.

Later on in the future, with the help of her family, young Ms. Henderson has decided of becoming a nurse practitioner. Having the advantage of finishing school early with college credits, Olivia plans on attending University of Florida after graduating from SPCHS and getting a nursing degree. Her passion for taking care of children and giving them a second chance will allow her to be the best nurse practitioner in the field. Struggling from a speech impediment in her childhood, she remembers how terrible it felt when people looked down on her in school calling her stupid.

Olivia Henderson has a bright future ahead of her and all of her recent life experiences will benefit her in the long run. Her passion for children and taking care of her family will make up a good, hardworking adult in her upcoming life.