

The PRESIDENTS Club

By Laura Childers



In Chattanooga area schools, student body presidents and senior class presidents stand out by their exceptional leadership, academic achievements, engaging personalities and high-reaching ambitions. Working alongside their classmates with poise and energy, they work hard to enrich their schools through programs, projects and activities. While not all schools or positions are represented, the following students represent the character of student council representatives. Below, they share their aspirations, activities and greatest achievements.



Sam Boyette, Student Body President,
Signal Mountain High School

Sam Boyette aspires to be a television producer. At Signal Mountain High School, he is on the varsity baseball and cross-country teams and is in the Beta Club and the National Honor Society. He is also an FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) leader, a youth leader at Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church, and a member of Youth Leadership Chattanooga. Additionally, he has attended the Tennessee American Legion Boys State. His greatest achievement is creating and producing a weekly news broadcast called "Sup Signal!," leading to a new film production program at Signal.

Cody Damewood, Senior Class President,
Hixson High School

Cody Damewood aspires to go into the military as a nuclear engineer in the Navy or as a mechanical engineer or pilot in the Air Force. He is involved in varsity baseball, a pep club called the Hixson Boys, and AFJROTC, where he is 2nd in command. He has played mellophone in band for three years, two of which he was section leader. Cody's greatest achievement is graduating with honors from a military boot camp where he was appointed flight commander and squadron commander.



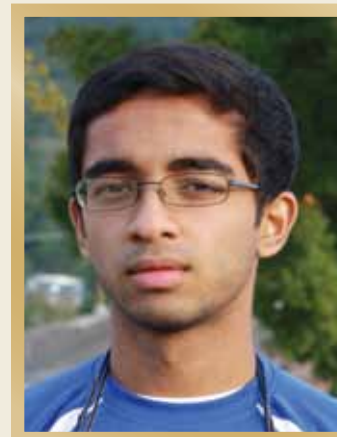
Lindsey Davis, Student Body President,
Bradley Central High School

Lindsey Davis aspires to be a elementary school teacher. She has been active in student council since 9th grade, participating in programs ranging from Helping Hands to Earth Day Clean-Up. Lindsey is the FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) president, an FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) leader, and has been involved in the Beta Club, Ruritan Club, DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) and the Bradley County Chamber of Commerce's Youth Leadership Program. She also maintains a 4.0 GPA while taking all honors classes. Lindsey's greatest accomplishment is volunteering at The Caring Place and Habitat for Humanity and witnessing lives changed.



Saagar Desai, Student Body President,
Red Bank High School

Saagar Desai aspires to run his own company or go into medicine. At Red Bank High School, he is on the varsity cross-country team and varsity tennis team and is the photographer and sports editor for the school yearbook, "The Roar." He has also helped coach the middle school soccer team as part of his senior project, and he ranks number 10 in his class. His greatest achievement is being selected to the National Honor Society.



Oran Dixon, Student Body President,
East Ridge High School

Oran Dixon aspires to own a business. He was the vice president of Future Business Leaders of America last year, and he will be running for presidency this year. Oran has attended the Tennessee School Boards Association's Speak Out conference and SCOPE (Student Congress On Policies in Education) conference, where he was elected 2010-2011 SCOPE president. He has also been the vice chairperson of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council. Oran says that his greatest achievement is being elected class president in his junior and senior years.



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Emily Featherston, Student Body President, Chattanooga Christian School (CCS)

Emily Featherston aspires to be a journalist. In addition to spending four years on student council, Emily is currently the editor of the school newspaper. She recently attended the National Youth Leadership Forum on National Security, and she regularly volunteers with an afterschool program for kids. Emily has also been involved in four musicals at CCS, having played orphan Annie at age 10. Emily says one of her greatest aspirations for this year is to organize her school into four tribes including freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors.

Dayzi Green, Student Body President, Ringgold High School

Dayzi Green aspires to be a doctor in the military. She has been in student politics since her freshman year, and she is currently in JROTC where she has been the female raider commander and the public relations spokesperson. Dayzi is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America, and she has been invited to the Law & Trial Conference held by LeadAmerica and Stanford Law School as well as the National Youth Leadership Forum on Law & CSI. Her greatest achievement is winning the Daughters of the American Revolution award twice.



Kelsey Keef, Student Council President, Girls Preparatory School (GPS)

Kelsey Keef aspires to use her love for Spanish in the international business world. At GPS, she has been on the GPS Honor Council, played varsity soccer, and participated in the joint Candlelight Chorus with McCallie. She is involved in youth group at Signal Mountain Presbyterian, and she has been a leader for both Young Life and Wyldlife. Kelsey says her greatest achievement was speaking publicly in chapel at GPS in order to amend her friendship with her sister.



Briana Keizer, Student Body President, Collegedale Academy

Briana Keizer aspires to be a nurse or pediatrician. She has been in student government since her freshman year, and is involved in vocal music including general choir, La Vie (ladies choir) and Opus (elite choir). She has also played roles in school musicals and co-led an annual Thanksgiving food drive. Outside of school, Briana has been a staff leader for an annual prayer conference in Florida and been on two mission trips to Panama. Her greatest achievement is giving her heart to God and letting Him take control of her life.



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Josh Million, Student Council President, Silverdale Baptist Academy

Josh Million aspires to be a physical therapist. In addition to participating in student council for four years, he is on the varsity soccer team and in clubs including the Beta Club, the Mu Alpha Theta math honor society and the National Honor Society. Outside of school, Josh is an active member of Bayside Baptist Church. He has also been on many trips to Atlanta as a summer sports counselor. His greatest achievement is being elected president, having set it as a goal during his freshman year.

Aimee Murray, Student Body President, Cleveland High School

Aimee Murray aspires to be a physical therapy director. She is on the varsity cheerleading team and is involved in clubs including Interact, HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America), the National Honor Society and the Beta Club. Aimee has also been a part of the Bradley County Chamber's Youth Leadership Program and was nominated by her school to attend last summer's American Legion Auxiliary Volunteer Girls State. In her free time, she volunteers at Garden Plaza retirement community. Her greatest achievement is receiving early acceptance in the doctorate of physical therapy program at the University of Missouri.



Jenison Owens, Senior Class President, Lookout Valley High School

Jenison Owens aspires to be a neurologist. In addition to being a peer mediator at school, she is a company dancer with Ballet Tennessee, where she has danced for eight years and is now a teacher-intern. Jenison has also attended the YMCA of Middle Tennessee's Model United Nations and Youth in Government conferences and is on the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council. She says her greatest achievement is keeping her grades up while having a student office and being involved in many extracurricular activities.



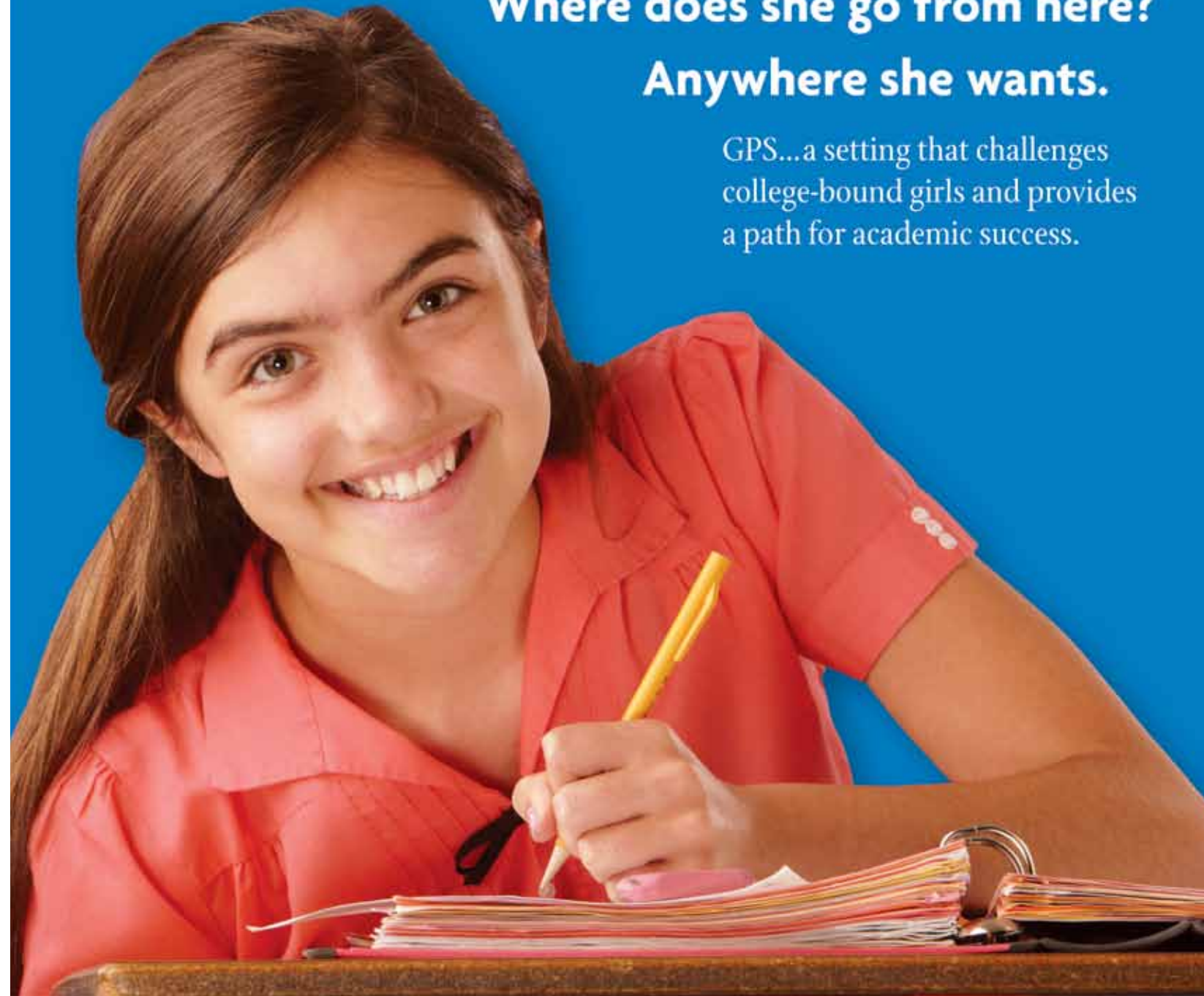
Haley Rich, Student Government President, Heritage High School

Haley aspires to pursue a degree in Environmental Studies. In addition to being in student government throughout high school, she has been a member of the school council, National Honor Society, Beta Club, Future Business Leaders of America, SkillsUSA, DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) and the Puzzle Club. She has been on the varsity cheerleading squad and the varsity tennis team. Last year, she was a state finalist for the Governor's Honors Program in fine arts. Her greatest achievement is having her artwork chosen to be displayed in the Youth Gallery in Palate 2 Palette downtown.



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Tyler Ross, Senior Captain of House of Fortis, Notre Dame High School

Tyler Ross aspires to be a chemical or genetic engineer. He is the captain of the varsity tennis team at Notre Dame and a student ambassador. Outside of school, Tyler has been a leader at SEARCH for Christian Maturity and a counselor at a summer youth camp called Reach, where he was voted "best counselor." He is an active member of St. Jude Catholic Church where he helps with the Interfaith Hospitality Network. Tyler says his greatest achievement is becoming an AP scholar after passing three AP tests in one year.

Jay Rudwall, Student Council President, Ooltewah High School

Jay Rudwall aspires to study medicine and play football in college. He is the captain of the varsity football team where he is a linebacker. He was a 2010 All-State Wrestler and has mentored the Ooltewah Middle School wrestling team. In addition to taking challenging college courses and ranking among the top 20 percent in his class, he mentors students at an elementary school and is president of the National Honor Society at his school. His greatest achievement is medaling at the state wrestling tournament in his junior year and getting his name on the wrestling wall at Ooltewah.



Trey Sartain, Student Body President, Grace Baptist Academy

Trey Sartain aspires to be a sports agent or athletic director. At Grace Baptist Academy, he has played both varsity baseball and golf and been in the Beta Club and the National Honor Society. Trey has also attended the People to People Student Leadership Summits at Harvard, and has won the Gold Eagle Horizon Award the past three years for his achievements in sports and academics. His greatest achievement is developing a service project that came in 9th place out of 200 projects at the Harvard Leadership Summits.



Derquazia Smartt, Senior Class President, The Howard School of Academics and Technology

Derquazia aspires to study criminal justice at college in hopes of going into law. At the Howard School of Academics and Technology, she is on the track team and on the volleyball team. She is also on the debate team and on the activity committee. In addition, Derquazia is the valedictorian of her class. Her greatest achievement is maintaining a 4.0 GPA.



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Nicholette Suzanne Smith,

Senior Class President, Chattanooga's Center for Creative Arts

Nicholette Smith aspires to be an accountant and a nurse specializing in Alzheimer's care. At CCA, she is involved in many clubs including the National Honor Society and the Tri-M Music Honor Society as a vocal major and piano minor. She also volunteers at a center for Alzheimer's patients and works a full-time job. Her greatest achievement is taking four AP classes and one dual enrollment class while maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

On behalf of the 2012 Senior Class, Nicholette wishes to extend her appreciation, love and respect for the contributions and friendship of former classmate and former Valedictorian and Senior Class President, Kelly Butler (1994-2011).

Bryan Starnes, Student Body President, Baylor School

Bryan Starnes aspires to be a manager of a sports team or a criminal trial lawyer. At Baylor, he is on the track and wrestling teams and is the lead commentator for the student operated Baylor Broadcasting Network (BBN). In addition to writing for the student paper, he is a writing tutor, a member of the Spirit Committee and a Red Circle admissions representative. He is also heavily involved in Young Life at Baylor. His greatest achievement is helping his wrestling team win the state championship last year.




Tim Westbrook, Student Body President, McCallie School

Tim Westbrook aspires to be an orthopedic surgeon. He is co-captain of McCallie's wrestling team and has placed in the state wrestling tournament three times. At McCallie, he is a student advisor for freshman and a member of the National Honor Society. He is also an active member of the Boy's and Girl's Club of Chattanooga, a Eucharistic Minister at St. Jude's, and has volunteered at Erlanger Health System through the VolunTEEN program. His greatest achievement is becoming a member of the McCallie Senate, one of the school's oldest and most respected student run organizations.

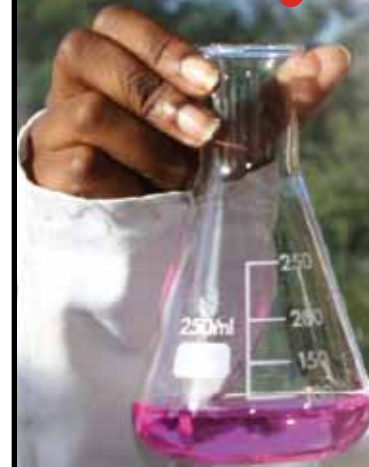


Mason Wortman, Student Body Co-President, Boyd-Buchanan School

Mason Wortman aspires to be a mechanical engineer. At Boyd-Buchanan School, he is the captain and MVP of the varsity soccer team, a mentor for middle school students and a school ambassador. Mason is also in the concert chorus and participates in school musicals. Outside of school he plays club soccer with East Ridge Express and is involved in youth group. He has been elected as a Tennessee American Legion Boys State delegate. His greatest achievement is starting as a sophomore on the varsity soccer team and winning the state title in 2010. 



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