

'Achiever' Has History of Leadership

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For The Sunday Challenger
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India Robinson Wins Remke's Scholarship

TAYLOR MILL - Scott High School student India Robinson attributes her success to what you can achieve with God and mom in your corner.

Robinson recently was awarded the first annual Remke's Market Student Achiever Award - a \$1,500 scholarship - from a field of 58 high school seniors. Two students from every Northern Kentucky high school were nominated for weekly recognition as Remke's student achievers, and Robinson earned the top prize.

Nan Stafford, Remke Markets' director of advertising, said Robinson won "not only because of her grades, but her other activities - involvement in sports and the community. She's a member of the track team and drama club. She's traveled to Jamaica and Grenada to help people in those countries. She's even broadcast sports reports for cable channel 22."

Community Activities

Robinson is active in her church. She attends Fellowship of Believers in Florence, and values her relationship with God.

"It's one of the things that carries me and gives me my strength," she said. "Also, my mother (Florence Robinson-Render) has always stressed that we have to excel academically, but also athletically and also serve the community.

"My mom always stressed education while growing up. She knew my education would always be compared to someone else in the workplace. She learned that when she had to stop her schooling when she was younger when she moved to Detroit to help out my aunt. She just earned her college degree last year after getting two associate degrees. She's also tried to instill the value of being a leader, not a follower."

Robinson began applying for scholarships in the ninth grade. While the counselors told her she was a bit early, she thought that the practice of applying helped her improve her application. But what would make a freshman even begin to think about college scholarship application?

"My mother has always told me I have to go to college - you have to go to college, but I'm not paying for it. I knew that coming into ninth grade."

Robinson's extracurricular activities have helped her earn the Remke's Student Achiever award, but they are not just lines on her resume. They have helped her become who she is.

"I try to be a leader and not just a member in each of the activities I'm involved in," she stated.

Leadership Role

Robinson has been active in sports and student government, but she also has formed several student activity groups when she saw a need.

After racial tensions flared up her freshman year, she helped form the Students Erasing Prejudice program to help ease those tensions.

When she realized that some students weren't comfortable talking with teachers, she formed an organization called Peer Mediators, where students can discuss their problems with other students.



Robinson

"I do these things because I like to be active. I don't do well with idle time. I'd rather help someone rather than just being bored sitting around."

At college, Robinson plans to maintain this same active lifestyle. She plans to study public relations and entrepreneurial management.

"I don't know if you can learn to be an entrepreneur, but you can at least learn from the mistakes of others before doing it yourself," she said.

She plans on attending Spelman, a historically black liberal arts woman's college, in Atlanta.

"My mother always told me that the farthest I can go away to school is Atlanta and that's how far I'm going," she joked.

But there seems little doubt that this Remke's Student Achiever will be going much farther.

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