

# STUDENT OF INTEGRITY

STORY BY MARISA LYTLE // PHOTOGRAPHY BY DANIEL YEAGER

FOR BENTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR **LATHAN GREGG**, integrity means “having the strength and discipline to do the things that need to be done to the best of my ability.” Nominated by school staff to be featured as *Celebrate Arkansas’* Student of Integrity this month, Gregg strives to do what’s right, even in the face of adversity or inconvenience. “[I try] to be conscientious about how my actions could both positively and negatively affect others and choose to generally act on the positive side,” he says. “I try to do my best to do things the right way, and, when I mess up, to own the mistake and work to fix it.”

Gregg’s teachers attest to his commitment to hard work and ethics. Matthew Skrocki, AP Language and Composition teacher, says “Lathan’s combination of pointed curiosity, tireless effort, mental acuity, industriousness, and diligent work ethic make him an ideal student. He is a young person with a limitless future,” while AP Biology teacher Amanda Teece adds, “Lathan is a highly intelligent student. He knows what he is capable of and works to exceed that in all that he does.”

As a scholar, athlete, and good citizen, Gregg has accomplished a great deal already in his 18 years of life. With a weighted GPA above 4.0, a class rank of 11 out of 642 students, and an ACT composite score of 35, Gregg has also received the Burlsworth Character Award, been named Student of the Month, received a Distinguished Citizen Award, and placed first at the DECA State Conference integrated marketing campaign event. Gregg plays for BHS’s championship-winning football team, is a member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes and National Honors Society, and has served as junior class secretary and senior class representative on the Student Council. His

service and volunteer work are considerable, as he has helped with Sunday school, Cancer Challenge, school blood drives, Pack Shack, and various activities with his football team. Additionally, Gregg raised close to \$2,000 between September 2017 and September 2018 to donate to pediatric cancer causes, a cause that hits close to home for him, as he himself is a leukemia survivor.

Born in Little Rock, Gregg has lived in Virginia; Okinawa, Japan; San Diego, Calif.; Searcy, Ark.; Sierra Madre, Calif.; and now Rogers, Ark. His father, Rance, is a former Marine who works for Boston Scientific, and his mother, Heather, is a NICU nurse. He has two brothers — Hadley, a sophomore at the UofA, and Brooks, a 6<sup>th</sup> grader at Arkansas Arts Academy. Gregg credits his parents with mentoring him and giving him every opportunity to pursue scholastic and extracurricular activities. “They encourage me to be the best version of myself and to never sell myself short,” he says. “They push me to improve myself, but are always there when I need help and support.”

Naming his faith and relationship with God as his No. 1 priority in life, Gregg also focuses on fulfilling his potential academically now and professionally in the future, as well as benefiting other people on both an individual and widescale basis. Gregg’s plans for the future involve studying biology in college, attending medical school, and possibly becoming an oncologist. “I hope to be able to one day have a healthy and happy family, work a fulfilling career that I am passionate about and enjoy doing, and be able to give back in whatever ways I can. When I look back on life, I hope that I will be able to say that I made the most out of my life.” ■



**LATHAN GREGG**

BENTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

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