

The Emergence of a Leader

Leadership, it can be defined in many ways. It is most commonly defined as a person who influences a group of people towards the achievement of a goal. Leaders play a vital role in systematizing performance. Leaders can influence others to perform beyond their potential. There comes a time in one's life, when they stun themselves as well as others, by displaying leadership qualities; such as: charisma, commitment, courage, discernment, and self-discipline. Becoming a leader is not an easy task. It requires motivation, perseverance, and a willingness to accept the challenge. I took the challenge, and acquired the title as a leader.

I emerged as a leader in May of 2011. As an ongoing activist for Buddy Ball athletics, I became the mediator between Margret Parsons, the Buddy Ball coordinator, and the WCHS cheerleading team. I planned and organized when our squad would attend, their apparel, and coordinated what cheers needed to be taught for the occasion. I grew as a person when I assumed this responsibility. From the Buddy Ball experience, my attitude and my growing motivation did not change. At cheerleading practices, I became a motivating force. I had become a reliable, responsible, cooperative individual; and my coach, as well as other teammates began to see potential in me. Soon thereafter, I was announced as the captain of the 2011-2012 cheerleading team. As the head cheerleader, I helped my coach plan practices, games, and cheer competitions. I worked hard to model the characteristics that I wanted my peers to exhibit. I was the facilitator between my coach and my cheerleading team. From this leadership experience, I learned that I am an enthusiast, confident, tolerant of ambiguity, an analytical thinker, and am committed to excellence.

I would use the 7 Points Quest Scholarship for academic achievement at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga by majoring in nursing. As a developed leader, I will attend this university and participate in Army ROTC, where I can exhibit: my communication skills, integrity, persuasive abilities, adaptability, and decision making aptitude. The nursing field yields many challenges. However, with the 7 points of LEAP, I can surely triumph over any obstacle. I will become a successful obstetrical nurse and will provide assistance to the doctor, the mother, her family before, during and after childbirth. I will undergo rigorous nursing education and training. Upon completion, I will train in the specialty area of obstetrics and begin nursing training. I anticipate my academics will be exemplary. Passing the nursing licensure test, the NCLEX will be no problem. Lastly, I will gain invaluable hands on experience.

I will apply the principles of the 7 Points of LEAP to my everyday life by exhibiting: enlightenment, academic achievement, perseverance, outreach, responsibility, and growth. By pursuing a career in the medical field, I will demonstrate academic achievement by striving to maintain a 4.0 grade point average throughout my college career. I will demonstrate perseverance by no matter what obstacles fall before me, I will endure, learn, and develop as a person. I will give back to my community by reaching out to others and becoming actively involved in community initiatives. I will act responsibly by balancing academics, community service and my hobbies. Lastly, I desire to grow as a person by identifying attainable personal goals with the end in mind. Growth will occur as stumbling blocks, trials, and tribulations fall into my path toward success. The 7 points of LEAP are a set guide to how I plan to live my life.

Not many individuals possess the necessary qualities to become a strong leader. One leader that I admire the most is our president, Barack Obama. Despite adversity, he became the first African-American president of our country. Through his trials, he has remained my role model and leads me to strive to maintain the 7 points of LEAP. According to the writer Jack Welch, "Good leaders create a vision, articulate the vision, passionately own the vision, and relentlessly drive it to completion."