



Senior of the Year Runner-up

She feels that Wade is going excel because she displays such firm leader characteristics in the classroom.

"Donnarae' is enthusiastic and enjoys learning. She displays a leadership position." LaJoie, said. The IB teacher recalled a time when students who were in the Wades' class would ask her questions about assignments instead asking her about it.

Wade's grade point average is near a 5.8, topped with a 1,350 SAT score. Wade said that she has her closest friends to thank for her achievements. "My best friends Sarah Wise and Leigh Ann Mesit have been my inspiration because they

are always in the same classes with me. So, they knew so know what I'm going through all the time," Wade said. "They are always encouraging me so that I don't get discouraged."

Taking six college courses at one time can tough. There is not much time for after school activities but for Wade, extracurricular activities are a must. "I have six classes that are all college level," Wade said.

Unlike the AD program where students are required to take all college levels classes, the IB programs demands higher achievement in every subject. "Outside of my classes I have to complete 150 hours service in three categories," Wade said, "And they are creativity, action, and service."

Time is precious to Wade. There is always a task for the senior to perform. Applying her mother's tip, Wade uses time outside the classroom to get her service hours completed. She is a member of the Honors Society, Student Government Organization and she's actively serves on the Senior Board.

Wade also reaches out to children in the Amigos Organization, where she teaches elementary children the English language. "I also work with teachers and teach kids Spanish," Wade said. In Science Olympiad, Wade competes in

various competitions between different schools in forensics and other science related subjects.

Although Wade is a tough student and independent when it comes to accomplishing her goals, everything does not come easy for her. She still has to work extra harder in the subjects that bring her challenges.

"Maintaining a high GPA is hard in a sense as far the workload. It continues to get harder," Wade said. Motivation is hard to maintain at the end of the year, especially after receiving your first acceptance letter, the senior said. "Physics class is a tough one for me." Wade said, but she embraces challenges. She said though physics gets overwhelming, it is her favorite subject because in it she conquers difficult tasks.

The graduating senior plans to attend Harvard University and major in Communications or International Relations. Her success does not a surprise to her principle, Mark Nixon, who feels Wade has a bright individual. "Donnarae' is outgoing. It's hard to believe such a little person has that much feistiness," he said. Wade's principal believes she possesses the kind of leadership qualities that people will respond too.

Wade is proud her accomplishments. She feels that her hard work has paid off. However, there are some things that Wade wishes she would have done differently. "I'm not a very organized person. IB makes you develop organization and prioritize," she said. "I really wish that I would have slept more." Even though the overachiever feels that she couldn't have studied harder, she believes she should choose to sleep more often.

Wade goes the extra mile

By Victoria Elmore
FOR THE CHARLOTTE POST

Success can go along way for someone who is willing to go that extra mile. Donnarae' Wade, a senior at East Mecklenburg High School is one of kind. The native of Knoxville, Tenn., moved to Charlotte at nine years old.

Wade is a disciplined hard worker. She has excelled on many levels during her high school years. Her mother has taken the necessary steps to encourage and assist Wade on her path to success. "I've always told Donnarae' not do things at the last minute," Verna Wade said. "I tell her that it's alright to do extracurricular activities but make sure you've done your schoolwork first."

Wade has been taking college courses since her freshman year of high school. The IB (International Baccalaureate) Coordinator, Heather LaJoie, taught Wade's Algebra 2 honors and IB mathematics 2 classes.