



UK Dow Jones Workshop 2009

Profile of Scott Hartsfield

By: Ashley Jones

Scott Wesley Hartsfield was born and raised in Lexington, Ky. He lives with his mother, father and his older brother, AJ. His mother, Darlene, is a social worker at Martin Luther King Jr. High School. His father, Anthony, is an assistant dean of public health at the University of Kentucky, and his brother, AJ is a senior at the University of Louisville.

Scott is an eleventh grader at Bryan Station High School. He's on the school's football team, and plays the position of defensive end. Aside from football, in his free time he enjoys hanging out with his boys, in addition to writing and listening to music. He's very "passionate" about music.

After high school, Scott plans to attend Tennessee State and hopes to gain an academic or football scholarship. There, he plans to major in business. Following that he'd like to own a barbershop chain all over New York, in hopes of coming close to monopolizing the market.

Can't take away my pieces
By: Scott Hartsfield

As a proud American this is a sensitive topic to discuss simply because what the meaning of the flag represents to most Americans. Just one flag with those 50 little stars and with its red and white stripes means so many things that some people may take advantage of, or may not realize the events that have taken place for that flag to hang in the air and blow with that summer breeze and still say "we made it and we are not going anywhere."

I hear some people say living in America is easy. Well, personally, if you think that, I think you are crazy, but by the problems that have occurred and the horrific events that have taken place in America, some people may not know this, but it has made us stronger! I know we have been through being colonized by the British, to going through slavery for 300 years, to WWII and the bombing of Pearl Harbor, to the Jim Crow South with the civil rights movement taking place so every child no matter what their skin looked like would have the same opportunity to better their lives, to the biggest day of infamy probably in America's history with September 11, 2001, to where on November 5, 2008 on a cold night in Chicago a man walked out after winning the election, and now it was no longer a regular president we regularly see, it was a man just a little tan and when I say tan I mean a black man, was it not less than 50 years ago when black men were not able to vote? Now we have one sleeping in the White House with a beautiful family and great woman by his side. And so by saying this, to all the readers whoever you may be, did you notice once where I ever said that America gave up or America did not prevail or America did not get out of their negative situation?

No, because as Americans whether you are Black, White, Latino or any other ethnicity, we have something intangible planted in our DNA that some people do not know we have, and it is to never give up.

Now you may be asking yourself why has this guy not even really talked about the burning of a flag? The reason I have not is because people need to know what type of rich history they are burning if they ever may even think of burning a flag.

So now what do I think about the burning of the flag? Well after telling you about how we did become a stronger nation going through all of those events and situations that I named, you would guess that I would say it is unconstitutional and it should not ever be allowed to ever burn a flag, but if you noticed at the beginning of this piece I said I am a proud American, and when I say that I am telling nothing but the truth, so being a patriotic person as I am I would have to say that it does not go against the First Amendment by burning a flag.

My reasoning is that whenever something gets taken away there is always still that chance that another piece will be taken and another and another. So, what if all those pieces are taken away and nothing is left? With all your pieces taken away you have nothing to build on and to build up, same with your rights if we say that is against the First Amendment, are we saying that we will take a chance of getting more rights taking away from us?

Do not get me wrong. I am an American and proud of it and I am also a realist, and in this situation even though it is the worst way you can put down a nation you also

have to say I am still an American. No matter if that person burns that flag or not, my freedom is more important than anything.