

By and for teenagers

Sidetracks

PROFILE

Making a mark

MATT BOYD TAKES IT TO THE SOCCER FIELD, THE BASKETBALL COURT AND THE CLASSROOM

Name: Matt Boyd
Age: 17
School: Christian Brothers High School
Family: Mother, Marilynne Boyd, marketing executive; father, Harold Boyd, legislative education consultant; brothers, Harold Boyd III, 37, and Jason Boyd, 35

By Michelle Miller
BEE STAFF WRITER

Matt Boyd has a two-page résumé in which he lists his achievements in academics, community service and athletics. But there's one item on the list that he's not quite content with - his 1,270 score on the SAT.

"I'm going to try and get that 1,300 mark. I'm always trying to do better," he said.

The 6-foot-3-inch senior is always striving, whether it's at sports (he was named the most valuable player on his basketball team last year) or academics (he's in the top 4 percent of his class). And through his community work, he's trying to make the



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"I come from a diverse household, and I've always been taught to embrace diversity," says senior Matt Boyd.

the classroom?


A: I make sure that I have all the bases covered. I don't want to rely on sports to get myself into college.

Q: *Does it ever get stressful having so much going on?*

A: I kind of enjoy staying busy. When we have away games, by the time I play and get back home, it's late. Sometimes I'm up until 2 a.m. doing homework, so it gets tough at times.

Q: *You went to a seminar earlier this year. What did you learn?*

A: In July, I went to the African American Catholic Leaders Development Seminar for one week. We went to different sessions on how to deal with culture - for instance, having people tell you that the only reason something happened was because you're an African American. There's a quota.



Q: What is your proudest achievement in sports?

A: In basketball in my freshman year, I was bumped up to the varsity team for the playoffs, and we won the Division IV section. In soccer last year, we were ranked number three nationally and were ranked first in the Western region by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

Q: What about in

Q: Do you have problems getting up in the morning?

A: The alarm goes off 10 times before I actually listen to it. Then Mom has to come in and turn all the lights on in my room and sometimes yank the covers off.

Q: Where do you volunteer?

A: I tutor children after school in math and reading at St. HOPE Academy.

Q: What colleges are you applying to?

A: I have it down to six: Notre Dame, Stanford, UCLA, UC Berkeley, Cal Poly and UC San Diego. I don't know if I'm going to stay in California, or just break my mom's heart and go to Indiana for Notre Dame.

Q: And you're in the World of Difference Club at Christian Brothers. What's that?

A: World of Difference is sanctioned by the Anti-Defamation League. I and other students went to a training retreat last year for two days and learned how words can be really hurtful and to speak up when certain words are used.

Q: Why is this issue so important to you?

A: Diversity is important. My dad is African American and my mom is Caucasian and from New Zealand, so that's a big deal to me. I come from a diverse household, and I've always been taught to embrace diversity.

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