Student Profiles: Charley Jackson, University of Detroit Mercy

Brinn Phillips
We Were Very Poor

By Brinn Phillips

Charley Jackson
University of Detroit Mercy

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Jackson is now a senior and an economics major at the University of Detroit Mercy and still finds time to read about many of those same leaders. But now he’s meeting them, and hopes to be working with them soon.

Ever since his mother began working for the U.S. Army, he has always been fascinated with government and has had a desire to make America great. In the past few years, Jackson has interned with former U.S. Congressman David E. Bonior (D-MI), worked as a page in the U.S. House of Representatives, held a position that the tombstone of the unknown soldier in Washington D.C. and was chosen to vote in the Electoral College— all before the age of twenty-one.

Born in Germany, Jackson and his siblings were raised by his single mother, Susan Jackson, in Kaiserslautern, a suburb of Detroit. She has been a major influence on him throughout his life. “My mother always encouraged me,” said Jackson. “And to this day she has always pushed me in a positive direction. She has always believed in me and told me to go after my dreams.”

Ever since Jackson was very young, his mother always worked to make things easier for others who were less fortunate. “As I was growing up, my mother constantly brought people in for dinner or even housed them until they found a place to live,” he said. “She did this even though we were very poor. My mom always believed that God provided for us... so we should take care of others.”

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