



SAINT MARY'S SCHOOL

I am EMPOWERED

// ashleigh HENRY '18

SAINT MARY'S // ANNUAL FUND

our LEGACY. her FUTURE.

ASHLEIGH HENRY '18

is empowered

thanks to Saint Mary's. "My time here has helped me build a foundation I can use for the rest of my life, as a young woman and in whatever I pursue in college or as a career."



“ SAINT MARY'S challenges

each of us to find our limits and helps us stretch further than we ever thought we could," Ashleigh explains. "On winter days, I like to study by the fireplace in Smedes Hall's small parlor. As I sit and reflect, I realize the years I spend here will become the building blocks for everything I'll experience in the future."

Ashleigh came to Saint Mary's not knowing many girls here, but within a few short days she began making new friends and getting involved in activities on and off campus — all which helped her become more confident and independent.

"Our school's focus is on educating and nurturing each individual girl, while working together as a community," Ashleigh says. "Teachers take time out of their day to help us develop academically and personally. Our experiences are unique, because each of us is unique, and we are supported in our individuality."

Ashleigh has always had a passion for the sciences, so she jumped into AP Biology her sophomore year at Saint Mary's. When she discovered she "wasn't quite as ready" as she thought, Ashleigh says, "I moved into Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry, so I would be sure to succeed in the AP Biology class my junior year. My teachers were very supportive. Saint Mary's helped me develop a lot of self-pride and the sense that 'I can do it' no matter the challenge."

At Saint Mary's, Ashleigh has developed the courage to try many new things, even if there's a chance she may fail.

"I just get back up and try again," she explains. "Our school has taught me terrific study habits and how to balance freedom with priorities. As I look ahead

to college, I know I've got the skills I need, while others my age might not because they don't have the Saint Mary's experience."

Active in many aspects of campus and student life, Ashleigh is not only a leader on the Judicial Board and secretary of the Science Olympiad Club, she also seeks experiences outside the gates. "I'm involved in a special program at North Carolina State University where I work with a faculty mentor. We've been investigating water quality in the Northern Outer Piedmont and Triassic basins of North Carolina. This led to my presentation of a research poster last year. I placed first regionally and fifth nationally."

Ashleigh's future interests lie in the fields of environmental and biomedical engineering. "Because of Saint Mary's, I'm aware of what's happening in the world around me and I am empowered to do anything I want. I hope to use my career to make the world a better place."

We know Saint Mary's has prepared Ashleigh for college and life by helping her build the skills she'll need to succeed. We can't wait to see what greatness she'll bring to the world.



// chem lab, 2017



// chem lab, 1950s