AMS Student – Commencement Preview

12/11/14

VFTH

WKU will confer degrees to nearly 1300 students at Fall Commencement on Saturday.

Amy Bingham talks to one graduate who bounced back from near failure in this week’s View from the Hill.

Justin Edwards-Page is considered a standout student in the Department of Architectural and Manufacturing Sciences. But that wasn’t always the case. Little did he know he was only one floor away from success.

When Justin Edwards-Page came to WKU as an architecture major in 2008, he got in over his head.

“Academically, I was having trouble and I had to sit out for a year.”

The news didn’t sit well with his father.

“After a year you can go back to school which is what I would do or you can go try and make your way in the world but you’re not gonna sit here”

It turns out Justin was in the right building all along. His professors helped him realize he just one floor away from the program in which he truly belonged.

“They took me down to the lab, I saw all the machines and tools I’d been using in high school and more advanced versions. I was pretty sure I was in the right department.”

As an advanced manufacturing student , Justin made quite an impression and began to set himself apart.

“He was just a joy to be around in the classroom, always willing to help, willing to go the extra mile, help out other students, help any way he could.”

Arbuckle quickly offered him a job as a student worker.

“I was able to both help out in front office and when I had free time to study or do work.”

Justin has presented research for the department, he’s featured on an AMS bookmark and he even goes on recruiting trips to tell high school students about the AMS program.

“He talks about his struggle, he talks about finding the right career path, college is about finding yourself and what you really want to do.”

Justin credits the faculty and his family for making sure he stayed the course with his education.

“They were more interested in me and my success than the department’s”

and his family for making sure he stayed the course with his education.

“I was always encouraged to go back. That was always the plan.”

“He has taught me more than I ever taught him.”

Justin Edwards-Page will be among the graduates at the 9:30 ceremony Saturday morning. The other commencement begins at two.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

###