

National DECA Presidential Campaign 2002



Civic involvement has always been a top priority for Tony Berry. From a young age his parents instilled in him the responsibility of giving back to the community that has provided so much for him. Tony took this to heart and acquired a deep commitment to working with his school, community and state to learn and contribute as much as he could. In the eighth grade Tony joined a unique community group comprised of both young people and local business leaders. Though ongoing involvement on this community board, Tony has learned the benefits of hard work and how to work within a large team to cohesively accomplish specific goals and gain consensus. Currently, he is the Co-Chairman of the Redmond Youth Partnership and spearheads the youth oriented activities in his home town.



Tony has also found a passion for being involved in his local government and was accepted to be a Page in the State Legislature. He had the opportunity to serve as a



Tony with King County Executive Ron Sims

Legislature Page in the State Legislature. He had the opportunity to serve as a Legislature Page in the state capitol two more times as he was requested to come back as a "repeat offender." Berry had developed a deep desire to become more politically involved and actively sought out positive, proactive activities to take part in. Though working with the Junior Statesman Foundation, a non-partisan political group, Tony attended the Republican National Convention in August of 2000 in Philadelphia, PA.

Though interaction with his state's United States Representative, Congresswoman Jennifer Dunn, Tony became a Page in the United State House of Representatives, one of seventy five students selected from across the country to spend three weeks in Washington D.C., in the summer of 2001 to see our nation's leaders in action.

Tony was soon to find the inspiration that would allow him to build and refine many of the traits he had worked to acquire. He joined the DECA origination in his junior year in high school. Immeantly this origination had a dramatic and positive effect on his life. Tony soon knew that he found his niche. He sought office to become a State Officer for his DECA Association, and his DECA life truly began. The DECA origination helped Tony to refine his public speaking skills by exposing him to potentially intimidating situations.

