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# LEARNING BY DOING

ALABAMA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## Get to know your House officers



House Speaker  
Matt Tindal



Speaker Pro Tem  
Noah McNelley



Floor Leader  
Jake Hemmings



Asst. Floor Leader  
Bailey Hope

## What is your spirit animal and why?

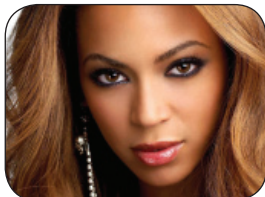
A fox, because it's both cunning and majestic.



**Eighteen-year-old Matt Tindal of Birmingham is a senior at Oak Mountain High School.**

My spirit animal is without a doubt the one and only Beyoncé Giselle Knowles Carter. Beyoncé is the most nominated Grammy Award winning singer of all time and instills the belief that everyone holds the ability to achieve their wildest dreams because we all truly wake up **FLAWLESS.**

**Noah McNelley, 17, is a junior at Trinity Presbyterian School in Montgomery.**



A dog.

**Jake Hemmings, 16, is a junior at Trinity Presbyterian School in Montgomery.**



Christina Yang is my spirit animal because she is fierce.

**Bailey Hope, 16, is a sophomore at Trinity Presbyterian School in Montgomery.**



Saturday, February 21, 2015



# TomorrowTODAY

Building Tomorrow's Leaders TODAY



PHOTO BY ELLIE COTTON / Pike Liberal Arts Troy

Youth Gov. Cassie Sadie addresses the media at Friday's news conference.

## The governor speaks out during news conference

By Anna Claire Bullard and Hannah Harless  
TomorrowTODAY writers

Asked during a Friday afternoon news conference if she achieved the goals she set out when she ran for youth governor this time last year, Youth Gov. Cassie Sadie of Montgomery said she had, but expansion of the program was difficult because some schools weren't able to attend this year. However, two new schools have joined this year: Guntersville and Cherokee County.

When asked if being youth governor helped shape the plans for her future in any way, she replied that it has because it has given her insight to government and the roles of government. She plans to run for Student Government Association at Auburn University, the college she's attending, but doesn't want to pursue a career in politics. Another question asked was whether or not being youth governor changed her as a person, she said it's helped her in a lot ways and has resulted in many new friendships.

When asked if there was any advice she wants to give to the next youth governor she said to start off in the beginning with ideas and plans, and not to wait to the last minute. She added to embrace the experience fully and have a great year. She concluded the news conference by answering what her favorite part about youth governor has been. She said watching everything come together and seeing everyone's enthusiasm was her favorite part. She also likes the opportunity to meet everyone and hear their ideas.

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PHOTO BY KENDALL MCCANN / St. James School Montgomery

Rep. Taylor Tindall of Gadsden presents his bill to the Youth Supreme Court.

# Supreme Court rules bills unconstitutional

By Kendall McCann  
TomorrowTODAY staff writer

Friday, the Youth in Government Supreme Court ruled HB71 by Rep. Taylor Tindall of Gadsden unconstitutional due to the violation of the 8th and 4th amendments. The bill supports replacing lethal injection with a firing squad for those charged with murder.

"The Supreme Court decides the constitutionality of bills," Justices Jeffery Saunders and Justin Law said. Saunders has been a part of Youth Legislature for four years and a justice for one, while Law has been a justice for all four years. They do it because they enjoy having a unique voice that cannot be possessed by anyone else.

Chief Justice Jim Schillaci has attended Youth Legislature for three years and this is his second being a part of the Supreme Court. If Schillaci could give any advice for those participating it would be "don't be nervous or scared, because it's really a lot of fun."

All together the Supreme Court ruled four bills unconstitutional.



PHOTO BY KENDALL MCCANN / Montgomery

Justices Jeffery Saunders and Justin Law are two members of the Supreme Court.



PHOTO BY KENDALL MCCANN / Montgomery

Chief Justice Jim Schillaci ponders the constitutionality of the bills brought before the Supreme Court.

## 2016 candidates make their cases for election

By Ellie Cotton  
TomorrowTODAY editor

Each candidate running for 2016 Youth Legislature offices were given five minutes to make their case Friday evening. The first position was **Secretary of State**. **Silas Clark** encouraged you to vote for him because he wants to give back to the program that "changed his life" by making him more confident about his abilities. **Divya Goel** wants you to vote for her because this program has opened up her personality and she is great working behind the scenes. **Bailey Hope** has loved this program, which got her "out of her hometown bubble" and convinced her it is important "to have your own opinion." For **House Floor Leader**, **Lisee Conwell** believes she is thick skinned and has great character. **Cameron Giordano** encourages you to vote for her because she simply loves debating. **Aubrey Grant** also "loves a good debate" and wants to give back to the program. For **Senate Floor Leader**, **James Courtney** asks you to put him in a position of leadership. **Mathilde Sharman**, a first year delegate, also asks you

to consider her. For **House Speaker Pro Temp**, **Brian Anderson**, who has served in many leadership roles in the program, says he will rule in a kind manner and do everyone justice. **John Darby** loves the action and process and promises to help the most debatable bills make it to the floor. **Jeb Millings** has been involved in Youth Legislature for two years and wants to encourage debate. **First Year Presiding Officer** candidate **Claudia Hubbard** believes great leaders "get the people to do the greatest things," while **Rawlings Chaffe** pinky promised to do a great job. As **Speaker of the House**, **Emma Taylor** wants everyone to feel comfortable. "It's ... about embracing the Youth Leg experience," she said. **Henry Hamlett** promised to serve you and expand the Junior Youth Leg program. Montgomery's **William Chandler**, who is running for **lieutenant governor** is devoted in his government club and will devote himself to the overall program. **Claire Jones** says as lieutenant governor, she will always be a team player and about building a better tomorrow now.

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