

March 1, 2008

Matt,

I am in hope that you are reading this letter because it is of particular import as an option for college and your future. Realizing that you and I have not had any relationship for many years makes such a letter difficult for you; still, I hope you will consider this offer for your education in music.

The offer is to fully fund your music education at Jacksonville State University; a college of about 9,000 students with a marching band of over 400 – the Southerner's – as well as the host location of the Spirit Drum and Bugle Corps. If you follow this summer's schedule (with Teal) you will be performing at JSU as a final stop of the tour. I have met with their staff – they are very interested in French Horns and spoke of possible scholarship support – if not in 2008/9 than possibly in the subsequent years. Please visit their Web site.

In your freshman year, you will be given a 2003 Ford Escape – see the enclosed picture. Your insurance and other transportation needs will be fully funded – as you will have a local bank account for these and other expenses. You will also be provided with a cell phone at no expense to you. You will also have full medical insurance with Blue Cross and Blue Shield with all out-of-pocket expense fully covered. In summary, you will not need to depend on anyone else for you financial needs except me and my parents.

With the college being near Anniston, you will also have the full support of your paternal family; I know your grandparents have missed you a great deal and speak of you often. They will be there for you at any time, I am sure. Additionally, you will have other family present – including myself – to assist however and whenever you need us – you will not be alone

A fully funded program waits, with the opportunity to continue your music career and the flexibility to call home as often as you like; and to drive home to Ponte Vedra as often as you can. It's a big step, but you can do it...

I have enclosed a calling card in the event you want to contact me; my number is 256-###-####. If you should need money – for reasons indicated – I will wire you cash to your local Winn Dixie (where you and Abby performed last year to raise money for the band). The Lord continue to be with you; I love you Matt,

Weighing his options with his ambitions, he chose wisely and went forth with courage and the wellness of those who knew him well and well-cared....

Kirk

March 9, 2008

Abby,

I am thankful that you are reading this letter and I hope that you will accept the computer bag and enclosed check. Also, I have enclosed an ad for a Dell notebook computer. If you would like this as a third gift, simply insert the ad in the pre-postage envelope and drop it in the mail; once received, I will order your PC to be delivered direct from Dell.

Abby, please know that you are loved and missed very much; and that I am immensely proud of you and your achievements as a developing musician. If there is anything I can do to help – as a parent – please let me know.

Always with you in the Spirit,

Kirk

My daughter had a pursuing interest for horses of all kinds; figurines, books and the actual beasts. When it came to horses, she had no bounds or limits and barely broke stride in the course.

March 9, 2008

Matt,

I have enclosed a check for you and for both Ben and Brian Wesley – for each of your most recent birthdays. In June, you will receive a new Dell Inspiron 1420 notebook for your graduation; at that time, pass your current computer on to Ben if you please.

Please accept my apology for not being at your graduation; I would like to be there – as I have for these many years as you grown up and matured to a man.

Always with you in the Spirit,

Kirk

My son had this habit of putting socks on his hands – as though he was cold and the socks were makeshift gloves. With much attention, he would fit them on and roll them to the point where each met his satisfaction. Some people mistook it as an injury – like a burn or something – but we usually were able to explain and they were usually able to laugh about it.

