

To whom it may concern,

10/29/15

In my past I have attended multiple High Schools, including Willamette Leadership Academy, Sheldon High School, and Springfield High School. While I was living with my mother we would argue about everything possible. The environment at my mom's was not healthy and I became depressed. I wanted to go to a doctor at that point to treat my depression but she refused to allow me to. At that point I was forced to move in with my father. Unfortunately the environment I moved into there was a broken home ruined with my father who was on methamphetamine at that point. So you can imagine it was not the greatest living environment either. That household consisted of my father, his girlfriend of 17 years, her daughter, and my half sister. While living there I felt as though I needed to be on guard 24/7 to protect not only myself, but also the people who meant the most to me, from the drugs, violence, and other people in our neighborhood. In August of 2014 my father got arrested for charges of possession of methamphetamine along with resisting arrest and interference with a peace officer. He did one night in jail and when he got home he claimed never to do it again. That promise did not last longer than 2 days before he was back out on the streets. A few long months of suffering later he was coming down from his high and the demons came out in the biggest outburst of them all, threatening to kill my step mom and her family members. For a while there was a warrant out for his arrest and after living on the streets and struggling to survive in the harsh weather we finally convinced him to turn himself in. He did jail time for one month January through February of 2015 and missed my birthday. I went to visit him a few times which was one of the hardest things I ever have done. One positive of living with my dad is I was able to go to the doctor. I was diagnosed as depressed and I received medication to help me out.

Going through my mind for months was a chance I could move in with my grandparents because not only did I know that there I would have a healthy home environment that would give me the chance to not only excel, but also it would push me to another level which at either of my previous homes I would have thought would be impossible. Ultimately, my grandfather had the most experience and could shape me into a man that could do anything he wanted. For years I have been close to them watching them take in people who need help and developing them for the better and pushing them to new heights. There were times in my life where I did not think I could amount to anything in my life but I have found myself here and feel myself completely changing as a person and I love it. I am currently passing all of my classes and taking several credit recovery courses. I am also feeling free of my depression and socially things are going well for me at Creswell.

I would love to have a chance to play sports this year being my last year in school. Sports help build relationships and that is something I personally have always struggled with. All of my friends have come from some sort of athletic competition it is my way of fitting in and I believe that people have noticed that as well. Please allow me to play this season I have worked so hard to get to this point coming back from an acl injury and catching up on credits it would mean so much,

Sincerely, Kobe Spencer

*Kobe Spencer*