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I was born and raised in Kealahou, Hawaii and attend Konawaena High school. Growing up in a small town such as Kealahou, there is a strong sense of family and community everywhere I go. You can really pick up on that relaxed island style mentality from all of the locals around town, and from this I have adopted a much more calm personality compared to those growing up in a city. From the time I was born, my family has always supported me in all my endeavors whether it be academic, athletic, or recreational. Given this unconditional love I was encouraged to strive for excellence, not only for myself but to show all of my family that I could rise to greatness and become someone they could be proud of. With so much of my family here on the Big Island, so close to me, it really gave me the drive to show them that I could be successful in whatever I do. Since Hawaii is so diverse in its culture, I have been exposed to many different aspects of life on the Big Island. From body boarding down at the beach, to hunting in the mountains, I have learned that no matter what you love to do, if you can put all of your heart and soul into it you will be successful in your own right. Which is why going to college in the mainland has been a dream of mine for all these years.

Ever since I was young, I have always had an affinity for mathematics. I was able to accomplish higher level computations, at a faster rate than many of my classmates. Recognizing this strength in math, the career of an engineer seemed to be perfect for me. I love solving problems and applying them to the real world, just as an engineer would do. So going off of this decision to pursue a career in engineering, I knew that I would need to get a quality education if I wanted to succeed in this profession. While UH Manoa does offer a great engineering program, I felt that it would be extremely beneficial to go out of state and be on my own for my college experience. I have been to California several times and each visit up there was both exciting and enjoyable. So when the time came for me to choose where in the mainland I wanted to go off to, California was practically a given. I have also visited many colleges in California, Santa Clara, UC Berkeley, and Cal Poly to name a few. All of these colleges had very strong engineering programs and caught my eye in their own respective ways. Shortly after getting accepted into Santa Clara, I decided that that is where I would spend the next four plus years of my education. I feel that at Santa Clara, I will be equipped with the right tools to thrive in the real world. My goals at Santa Clara are to graduate with a bachelor's of science degree in engineering, and possibly further my studies to acquire a masters. Regardless, I will search for a steady job that will enable me to use the skills I learned at Santa Clara for the betterment of the community. Whether I will remain in California to work for awhile, or immediately come back to Hawaii, my overall plan is to settle down in Hawaii and use my newfound knowledge and resources to give back to the community that

has given me so much.

I hope that attending college in the mainland will expose me to a part of the world that I know very little about. The city life, being just another person among the masses, is really something that living in Hawaii has not shown me. I feel that being on my own in a such a great state like California will prove to be a valuable experience for my personal growth. I will learn how to fend for myself when the luxury of a close family and a strong community backing is unavailable. While I do have a few relatives living in California, the feeling of not having my parents, grandparents, and all my aunties and uncles there to lend a helping hand whenever I need it will bestow upon me an independence to work out my own problems for myself. Along with all this, I intend to use these new skills to create a successful life back in Hawaii. Utilizing my education to the fullest of its potential, I will do all I can to land a good steady job and take on projects that will help to improve Hawaii in any way possible. I have a significant interest in the environmental future of Hawaii and I don't want to see the industrialization of the islands lead to the ultimate demise of our homes. I plan to use the knowledge I gain at Santa Clara and the resources available to me from my occupation to help ensure the safety of Hawaii for the future generations to come. It is our responsibility as the future leaders of the nation to do all we can now to improve the ever changing situation of our world. Going to college to receive a quality education will equip me with the necessary tools to do just that.

On a more local scale, I aim to take an active part in my community. Whether it will be from volunteer work, using the knowledge I have gained through all my years of schooling to educate the youth, or to utilize my skills and insight as an athlete to help the upcoming generation in realizing their potential through sports, I want to be involved in Big Island community. Even it is just to help out with the many local events that take place, I owe so much to the community for giving me the support and opportunities that have played such a vital role in shaping who I am today. I will return the favor and do my part to repay the people that have given me all that I have now.