

## JACOB'S LOG:

# If you want to inspire people, become a teacher

By Jacob Brooks

**H**ello out there, Carolina Country readers. Welcome to another installment of my log. I hope everyone is doing well out there across beautiful “North Kackalacky.” Things have been going great for me. I have been incredibly busy though. I thought my senior year was going to be a breeze, but I definitely thought wrong. I’ve been completely swamped with my huge graduation project, applying to schools and applying for scholarships.

Every year, seniors have to complete a project in order to graduate. The project can be community-related or completely personal. Some students choose to do things for the school, such as remodel stadium bleachers. Some students choose to do things for organizations, such as a car wash to raise money for a great cause. Students can also do projects for themselves, such as learn how to play an instrument. For my project, I learned how to play the bagpipes.

I wanted to learn how to play the bagpipes because I possess a great interest in music and I especially love Celtic music. I found a teacher close to home who was more than willing to help out. He gave me lessons and taught me everything I needed to know about the bagpipes. Not only did he teach me everything, but he also loaned me his set of bagpipes to learn on once we found out that the bagpipes I had purchased were completely useless. Even though I hit a couple of rough spots throughout my project, everything went great. It has become my new hobby.

As I mentioned, I also have been applying to colleges and seeking scholarships these past couple of months. I have applied to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina State University, Appalachian State University, and also the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Any one of these schools would be fine with me. It doesn’t matter to me what college I attend as long as I get the classes I need to achieve my dreams. I want to go to school to become a teacher.

I have always wanted to be a teacher because I want to be able to inspire people just like my teachers have inspired me. Some think I am crazy, because the pay isn’t as good as in some other careers. But hey, you get two months off in the summer and you get an opportunity to have a great impact on children’s lives. To me, that can’t be beat.



*I am now proud to say that I can play the bagpipes.*

A great scholarship in North Carolina for future teachers is the Teaching Fellows Scholarship. Five hundred graduating seniors are awarded the scholarship every year. They each will receive \$6,500 for each year of college, and after they graduate from college they must teach for four years in North Carolina. This is one of the scholarships I have applied for. I am currently in the application process, and I pray that everything will work out for me. I have also applied for the Morehead-Cain Scholarship for Chapel Hill. This scholarship would supply me with a full ride if I were to be the recipient.

Whether or not I receive either of these scholarships, I still want to be a teacher. That is my career goal, aside from being President of the United States.

Oh, I did see my brother Josh a couple of times this past month. [See “Jacob’s Log,” October 2009.] He is doing really well at Appalachian State. I just thought I would keep ya’ll posted.

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season. God bless. 🙏

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