

James Best

Prof deVries

English 110C

24 September 2014

Initial Writers Self Portrait

Through my life I have found a passion for writing. From elementary school I used to write short stories and poems and essays. Writing was not a chore or a task for me in education. My perspective on writing was that it was an opportunity for me to express myself as a person. I learned that I had a passion for writing in my junior year of high school. I took a public speaking class during that year, second semester because as I walked by I saw a pretty girl and said I have to join this class. I used that class to really test myself as a writer, because I wanted to succeed in the class and because I wanted to impress the girl in the class. Through this class I found my skill as a writer; I put in hours of my time in order to write speeches and used other passions to motivate me. I love the sport of football and it was what I believe led me to become so involved when I would write speeches and essays. All of them would be about football whether it was about my experience in high school or the love - hate relationship I have with my favorite team, the New York Jets. I would have no problem writing a 10 page essay if it was about football because it is my favorite thing to talk about.

I feel that reading is an important way to develop yourself as a writer. There are times when I sit and open up the newspaper and read articles from different writers from opinion editorials to columnists and news stories. I could read sports articles for days. As I sit there and read the articles I envision

myself one day as a writer. Sometimes I critique the articles and typos, grammatical errors and passages that are confusing. I feel at times that I could write a better article than most of the guys on ESPN,NFL.com, Bleacher Report, and Yahoo Sports. I wonder If the authors of the articles have he same passion,motivation, and drive as I do.

My love of writing really came to life when I was recommended to take a college research, and writing course at Westchester Community College during my senior year of high school. During my senior year I found that although I was decent writer I still needed some work. I needed to learn how to vary my sentence structure and work on organizing my thoughts. I could have decided to get college credit for the class and place out of English 110, but I decided not to in order to reflect on my experience as a writer and work at a steady pace I am more comfortable with.

I believe my experience in this class will be a positive one because I am eager to learn and am passionate about becoming the best writer I can be. Not only will this class help me academically but in life as well.