

On March 19, 2020 at 6:16 PM

Ben Shapiro President of Shapiro Consulting, LLC & Ben Shapiro Enterprises wrote:

To Whom it might concern:

WayCAM was the beginning of a whole career for me, and over 20 years later, it still holds a special place in my heart. I met Jim in the fall of 1998 while he was directing a Wayland high school football game. He invited me to visit the studio to get a tour and see if I'd be interested. I immediately fell in love with all things production. Now, I wasn't particularly popular in high school, and while I had a few close friends, I wasn't very good at making new ones. At WayCAM, I got involved in a show called Sports Update - a sort of sports center for Wayland Sports. WayCAM provided a new opportunity for me to make friends, not just with the other students who were interested in production, like I was, but also with athletes who frequently came to the studio as guests on our show. I learned much more than just how to work in the studio, I developed better social skills and my confidence grew.

After high school I went to college to earn a bachelors in communications with a focus in media production, and have gone on to become an Emmy award winning audio engineer. This year, when I was asked to work the Super Bowl, I called Jim to thank him. It's the same phone call I made when I was asked to work the Olympics, or join the crew of American Ninja Warrior. WayCAM will always hold a special place in my heart for the world of opportunities it opened for me and hopefully for many more students into the future.

Thanks!

Ben

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