

Living with Determination

My two passions in life are **running** and **writing**. As an English major at Virginia Tech, I am able to pursue my love of writing and discover my own unique style. The beautiful trails and winding paths on campus allow me to test my athleticism.

Writing requires **perseverance** in order to create a masterpiece. I strive for perfection in each and every sentence. I often spend weeks obsessing over the pages until I am satisfied with the results. My work offers a window to my soul. Readers are exposed to my insecurities, strengths, and desires as an author. This is why I take **pride** in my writing and my artistic voice.

Running involves a certain level of mental **fortitude**. I have spent the past six years running without complaint. Unfortunately, my body experiences an excruciating amount of **pain** when I run. My body begs me to stop, yet my mind urges me to endure the discomfort. The quote, "Pain is temporary, pride is forever" accentuates my resolve in the face of adversity. I cannot stop running because quitting would sacrifice my pride.

My photograph amplifies color to represent the four seasons. This **determination** only grows stronger as the year progresses. The maroon and orange quote reflects my affinity for Virginia Tech. Becoming a Hokie required more **dedication** than any other task in my life. I am honored to be a member of this community and I work hard each day to advance my education. Life has taught me to never let pain or fear dissuade me from pursuing my dreams.

