J D's Points to powder

Warning – Make sure you read them all. There may be some surprises in them so read them all or you will miss them.

#1 – Your scholarship is irreplaceable. There's no way that you or I can make up $5200 a year difference. Study comes first. Before you panic, read on.
- I hear you talk about working and unless I missed something somewhere you are talking 32 hours work a week at least or was that 24 hours a week on campus?

#2. You were successful at saving a little over $1000 this summer. That's an achievement for you. We will try to do better next summer, won't we?

#3. Nutrition is important. Don't slight it. It is your body that supports your mind. If you slight your body you slight your mind. So eat your green beans.

#4. Wear clean underwear.
5. You need to play lots of video games. One of them had a rocket and you had an energy level you had to worry about. Energy was used to travel and to shoot at the enemy. Life is a big video game. In our society money is the energy. There are certain things you have to do or should do so make sure you don't shoot so many asteroids just for the fun of it that you deplete your energy level and someone has to flash on your screen—"GAME OVER"—

6. Girls can be handy. They are nice to talk to and smooth and sometimes they take pity on poor helpless males and cook them a meal or iron for them.

7. If I have two ounces of yellow metal kept among other things. A good inducement to get your father thinking the right direction would be for you to make a budget and keep track of how well you stick to it.

8. While we are on the subject let me throw out some ideas that would point to subconscious compulsive spending
   a. When you were little mom was busy in the business and would buy you a new toy almost every day. It was a way of saying "I feel so guilty—here, this toy is my love for you."
Your dad played the same game only it was in large a grand ways -Tropical fish instead of gold fish etc.

The result would be a compulsion to spend when lonely. The cure is to "look at them and sigh and know they love you." You are a big boy now and it is time to say goodbye to that part of parenting you never had. Please don't wait till you're 40 to do so. I can think of a zillion mistakes we made but I will guaranty you that we did the best we knew how. The answer is for you to identify and acknowledge the mistakes for what they are. Then you will be able to see the love that was there too and compulsion will leave.

6. Don't forget the Saint Helens tee shirts.

Sp. I can bet you tap into these feelings a dozen times a day as you walk around campus and compare your situation with that of some of the others, and collecting spending is a way of trying to prove that you have it too.

Curly

If this is the case the cure is to focus on the objective - getting through school and realizing that the "it" that they have is privilege that comes with wealthy parents. No matter what you spend you
will not create wealthy parents. Focus on the "it" that you have that no amount of money can buy. Books, brains, nice to be around, kindness, talent to name a few. Just remember, "you never saw a fish wishing he were a frog."

9. Your parents love you! We talk about you everyday. It wouldn't hurt to call sometimes and invite them down for a minute or two. They might come with bags of groceries in each arm.

10. I know the time will come when you may go on an adventure such as a move out of state a trip to Australia or whatever else crosses that mind of yours. We will probably throw out all kinds of cautions. That's just what parents do but follow your dreams anyhow. Please don't ever move out without letting us know where you are and dropping a note once in a while just to say you're OK. Parents have spent 18 years listening to your every breath and loosing sleep if you missed a breath and they just can't get out of the habit that easily. You can do most anything you want and you will have our approval as long as we know you are OK.
11. We need to get the title transferred on the car and some repairs made soon. The new guy I hired is also a mechanic so plan a Saturday out here real soon.

12. If you maintain your apartment address over the summer, it may be worth $500 in grants next fall. You can come stay with us but you need to prove you are living on your own to be considered as your own income.