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June 30, 2006

Starter Corp.
370 James Street
New Haven, CT 06513
ATTN: Baseball Cap Dept.

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a 35 year old adult balding male. You wouldn't know it from my name, but I descend from a family of Pacific Islanders. Did you know that Samson from the Bible was actually a Pacific Islander? Actually, I do not know that for certain, but everyone in my family always believed that because he got all of his powerful strength from his long hair.

When I was in my twenties, I did some crazy stuff. Between the fire and the incident with my neighbor's dog that had me literally ripping my hair out (don't ask for details, just know that humans can indeed get fleas), I ended up with a bad case of patchy bald head. It never grew all the way back. I have tried using Rogaine®/™ and Nioxin®/™ shampoo and hair treatment, I have tried different hair styles and volume enhancing hair gels. I have tried the hair in an aerosol can thing that was on TV (which was really not much more than regular spray paint) and I have tried the hair club for men. I have tried hair plugs and hair transplants. I have even resorted to telling people that some of my hair was simply flesh colored. None of these things have worked to my satisfaction. I cannot bring myself to buy a toupee because I have never seen one that looked natural on a man. I suspect that is due to the difficulty in actually matching a hairpiece exactly to natural existing hair. It just doesn't work well. I have seen wigs on women that look fabulous, but I cannot wear a hairpiece myself.

My last resort to my hair problem is to just wear baseball caps every day and every place. I figure it works for Ron Howard, and look at what a big deal he's become. I liked what he and Tom Hanks did with *Apollo 13*, and *Splash*, but I really don't care to watch *The DaVinci Code*. I think that movie is the devil's work.

I have actually been wearing baseball caps since high school. Back then, I had a full and healthy head of hair. Something to be proud of considering my hair-itage. Someone once told me that wearing baseball caps all day long can cause baldness. Since you guys are the baseball cap gurus, I decided to pose that question to you. Did baseball caps cause my hair to fall out? Did I unwittingly bring this shame upon myself? I've also heard that some forms of medication can cause baldness, but I have never taken much drugs other than tylenol and other pain killers. I have also had stints with anti-seizure medication and medication for hypertension. I don't recall

ever reading that those drugs caused hair loss.

No, the only things that has been fairly consistent in my life since high school (when I last had a mop top) are wearing baseball caps, a steady diet of fried chicken, a minimum of eight hours of sleep in any 24 hour period, and lots of sex. (Well okay, not really. I don't want you to think that I am a loser or anything, but I also don't want your corresponding diagnosis correspondence to be misdiagnosed by my spry lies).

Over the past 15 years I've collected a few hundred baseball caps. Many of them are sports caps made by Starter, but I have many other caps that are from other companies. My all time favorite baseball cap, though, was a Starter. It was a blue denim hat with an oval patch on the front that had the Boston Celtics leprechaun logo and the word "BASKETBALL" stitched just under the patch. I have been a Celtics fan ever since the days of Mark Acres, Brad Lohaus, and Greg Kite. I've always been a fan of the clumsy 7 foot white guys with marginal ability and that was a team that had them all!

Anyway, a while back I lost my favorite baseball cap while I was riding a roller coaster at the Cedar Point amusement park. I forget which ride it was because I am not very familiar with the rides there. I think it was blue. I was too embarrassed to take my hat off when I first got on the ride because of my hair problem and the shame and disgrace of being partially bald. So I just pulled my cap down really tight and I thought it was secure on my head. I was wrong. We came over a hill and my hat just flooped right off my head without any warning at all. I tried to go after it, but remembered the safety warning before I got on the ride. They told me to stay inside the train at all times.

When I got off the roller coaster, the ride operators said that I could not go and retrieve my cap for safety reasons. They could not go and get it either. It was lost forever.

I miss my favorite cap, but did it really make me go bald? If so, I say, "Good Riddance!"

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rusty Lucas". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rusty Lucas

p.s. I wonder if you have any extra Starter baseball caps that you might be able to let go for free. I am not suggesting that you send me a new Boston Celtics baseball cap for free. I will gladly pay for one of those (as long as it is the style and material that I want), but I wonder if you have any generic Starter baseball caps that you can send to me. Please send me a free Starter baseball cap. But if baseball caps make me go bald, please send me a free t-shirt instead.