

The Taylor Gazette

Volume 4

The Taylors have a better year!

1998

Notes from Debbie . . .

Hello again! I am glad to report that this year has been a great year on most fronts (OK, so it can't be perfect). I started this year in my new (as of the end of December, 1997) job as School-to-Career Coordinator for the Bridgeport Regional Business Council. In this grant-funded position, I put together an externship program, which placed 24 educators into 3-day internships. I also produced a resource directory of local employers for school guidance counselors and teachers. This project involved mailing to almost 500 organizations, information about business/education partnerships. The program was quite successful and the grant (hence my employment) was extended through June of 1999. I was fortunate to work in a very visible community program, which offered great professional network-

ing opportunities. As of January 1st, I will become the Executive Director for the Trumbull Chamber of Commerce, a part-time post added to my current P/T responsibilities. The Trumbull Chamber is an affiliate of the Business Council, so I will continue to work with the same folks, which makes me very happy.

We enjoyed our first non-Maine family holiday in January – our first trip to Disney. It was so much fun, albeit exhausting. We met up with my parents for half the trip, which was an added bonus. More in Jared's column.

This summer I resumed my education at Fairfield University in their Applied Psychology Masters Program. I endured two grueling summer semesters, but managed to earn 12

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JIM'S NEWS

After 2 previous years with 3 major operations, Debbie has had a 100% healthy year...other than the stress of living with me, Jared and David.

We started off by taking our first vacation to Disney World in January. We pulled the kids out of school to go in off-peak season. We had cool weather, but short or no lines for even the best rides. Debbie's parent's joined us for the last half of the trip, which was great

fun for all of us, but especially for Jared and David.

Although Debbie completed her undergraduate degree in December '97, she threw herself a graduation party last March. Little did I know that it was a combination party for her and a 50th for me. I was totally surprised not just by the party, but by seeing some good friends that I had not seen for quite some time. The best surprise of all was that my friend Ralph Haliday traveled all the way from Newcastle, Australia especially to be there. Ralph and I met back in the summer of '67 during my first of two summers down under. We have been friends ever since. What better friend could one have?

Debbie did not skip a beat with school and is one third through her master's program al-

ready. I am so proud of her! One of these courses overlapped with our annual trip to our family cabin at Tunk Lake in Maine. I drove up with the boys and the dog to spend the first 10 days of our 15-day vacation without her. Much to her surprise (and relief), no one drowned. I brought my computer to do some work in the evenings, but I was absolutely dead by the end of the day since I was "on duty" from dawn to dusk. Debbie's mom came from Florida to visit Debbie's sister in Mass. and us. Debbie picked her mom up on her way to the cabin and they spent the last 5 days with us. By that time, I was so glad to see them.

Other events included taking the family to see the Lion King on Broadway in September.

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*A faithful friend
is the medicine of life.*

The Apocrypha

News from Jared

In fourth grade I've discovered music! I began playing the alto saxophone this school year. I also study with a teenager named John, who has helped me learn way more than I do at school. I make very good sounds with my sax and mom and dad tell me I am doing great! I am learning to read music, about rhythm and timing. I love it! I am also into jazz music and mom introduced me to David Sanborn, a great saxophonist.

I can play Jingle Bells, Hot Cross Buns, Twinkle Twinkle, Claire de Lune, Aura Lee, Lightly Row, Mary Had a Little Lamb and Yankee Doodle.

We visited Disney for the first time in January and had a GREAT time!! Even my parents thought it was cool. We visited the Magic Kingdom, MGM, Epcot, Sea World and Universal Studios. What an exhausting trip! I also saw the Lion King on Broadway and was amazed at the costumes and scenery. The music was great too.



School is going well. I like my teacher a lot. Religious school is not as much fun but I have to go. I am actually getting pretty good at the Hebrew prayers. See you next year!

Jared



After a great soccer season this year, I discovered basketball too. I am a good athlete, run very fast and am growing so, so tall. I have a great coach

What's new with David?

who does both sports.

In first grade, my teacher's name is Mrs. Fensore. I am learning to read and my writing is getting better. I am an artist and draw lots and lots of pictures. I like to play my mom's piano (keyboard) and my guitar. I am thinking about getting trumpet lessons when I am nine. My dog Vita runs fast. I like to chase her.

I am 6 years old now, and my favorite food is pizza!

Love,

David

Debbie's Corner, Cont.

(Continued from page 1)

credits by this year's end. As I increase my responsibilities at work, I will slow the pace to one course per semester. As much as I continue to love school, I am really missing contact with my friends who remain steadfastly supportive of my goals and tolerant of my schedule.

On my family front, my mom is having serious medical problems and we don't know yet what she will be doing about it. We remain at the ready to assist in any way possible, but are concerned that the distance (they are in Ft. Lauderdale) will make it difficult to balance the needs of all. We hope to have better news next year at this time.

My sister Rhonda (in MA) was laid off from her

long-term job and after some soul-searching has decided to go for her dream. She has always had an interest in working in the food business, catering and/or cooking and has found an avenue that will allow her to do that. She is a "Personal Chef" and goes to people's homes, cooking for them for a specific event or fills their freezer with 2 weeks worth of meals. She is beginning to build a clientele, and I feel confident she will do well. Her service caters to busy working people who want to eat "real" food, and will pay for someone to provide it.

My brother just renovated his condo and continues



Jared (l), David (r) & Vita

his job with the transit district in Ft. Lauderdale.

I hope this finds you all healthy, happy and hopeful for the coming year. With love,

*Have a wonderful holiday
and a Happy New Year*

JIM'S NEWS

(Continued from page 1)

We had second row center seats, which we got in June '97, a full four months before the show opened...and we still had to wait for over a year to see it! The Lion King has the most creative staging we have ever seen. It was a pure joy watching the wonder on Jared's and David's (and Debbie's) faces. Over this holiday season, I am taking Debbie to NYC for a night to see "The Blue Room" starring Nicole Kidman.

The market in the display industry is rapidly changing. There used to be a handful of players manufacturing and selling "high-end" video projectors, and only two of those (including Hughes-JVC) sold the high-bright models. There are now more than twice as many players as just a year ago, with at least five that directly compete with us. The change is in what used to be considered the low-end

which now have improved LCD products that have virtually replaced CRT projectors which were the standard in board and conference rooms. The bottom line is that glory days are over for the prestige manufacturers including Hughes-JVC. As projectors become more and more of a commodity, we must change to survive. 1999 is going to be challenging for all of us in the industry.

I also am in my 6th year at producing the computer software for the InfoComm Projection Shoot-Out, which is the premier display event in the display industry.

We made it though '98 in flying colors. I hope that 1999 will be happy, healthy and prosperous for all of you. Give us a call or if you are on e-mail, drop us a note.