

Mother's Day Celebrations

Sunday, May 9th was that special day dedicated to all the moms in the family, and Grandma enjoyed a breakfast outing



plus visits and phone calls. Carol, Jeff, Margaret, and Bud treated us to breakfast at the Village Garden restaurant in La Mesa. Everyone

enjoyed both the food (excellent) and the chance to exchange the latest news. We were particularly enthralled by



Margaret's and Bud's versions of how they missed connections on a planned meeting in the San Diego city area. Bud was waiting at the Santa

Fe Depot and Margaret was waiting at the Old Town Trolley Canter. After several hours of confusion they eventually found each other, and all ended well. After hearing both sides of the story everyone (except Bud) agreed that it was his fault, because he did not have his cell phone with him. Since it was Mother's Day, it was commented that in any area of confusion the husband is always the one to blame.

Richard and JJ stopped by for a late afternoon visit, and there were phone calls from all of the others. It was another nice day for the family, and grandma thanks all for the events plus the various flowers and cards she enjoyed.



The Riel Family Newsletter

Catch the News

June, 2004

UCSB Lacrosse team wins USLIA National Championship Tournament

Dustin Benesch is season freshman high scorer, gets important role in team victory

UCSB vs. Colorado State USLIA National Championship Tournament May 15, 2004

The Gauchos beat CSU by one to earn their first national title.

THEY WON!!! THEY WON!!!!THEY WON!!! 8-7 In the most exciting sporting event that I have ever been a part of!!!

Check out the trophy. If you look on the right you can see Dusty holding it up.

Jeff and Carol

Family and Friends

In case you haven't yet heard, Carol and I just returned from a few days in St. Louis, MO. Despite much sight-seeing, too much Italian food and a beer tour or two, the main purpose of our trip was to watch the UCSB Men's Lacrosse Team, of which Dusty is a member, play in the USLIA National Championship Tournament. (There are 175 major colleges in the USLIA.) We were rewarded with the UC Santa Barbara Gauchos WINNING THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP on Saturday with a thrilling and hard fought 8-7 victory over Colorado State University, the defending National Champs. UCSB lost in the championship game last year, 5-3, so this was sweet revenge, indeed. In the first game on Tuesday, UCSB made short work of the University of Texas Longhorns, 15-7. Next up, on Wednesday, UCSB beat the feathers out of the University of Oregon Ducks, 12-7. On Friday, we were present for the trouncing of the arch rival Sonoma State Sea Wolves in the semi-finals, 15-5. And then, on a brilliantly sunny day, the very tense, back and forth nail biter on Saturday, edging the much-hated CSU Rams in the final before some 3000 spectators. CSU had only one loss prior to the final (to UCSB in the Michigan Tournament) and UCSB finished the year with a very impressive 25-1 record. Dustin played a bit in the first and 3rd games of the tournament. He finished up the year as the leading scorer among all freshman on the team and looks forward to increased playing time next year. Also, he has been chosen a team officer for the coming year. Now, after a very exciting week in St. Louis for the whole team, it's back to the books! (And we had to go back to work today.)

Much love - Jeff and Carol (Pictures coming later.)

Date 5/17/04

From Peter Benesch

Is there some sort of "SB Gauchos....National Champions....Lacrosse Tee- shirt" that goes with this victory? You know, one that was printed up before the game and sold as the huge crowd exits the stadium for \$20 each.....or if they lose.....sold in a garage sale as dusting rags....

Congratulations to Dusty for his National Championship...that is super.

Pete and Tori....and Jake!!!

On May 18, 2004, at 2:35 PM, Peter Benesch wrote:

Congratulations to Dustin and the UCSB Gauchos.....and I am still waiting for my national championship Tee shirt. You would think that the parents of the players would get together and purchase such shirts so all of the associated family members could proudly wear and display their UCSB Lacrosse Team ,National Champions, 2004.

What time is the parade in Santa Barbara? Also, when does the team get to go to the White House and talk with the President? What day will they be on the Tonight Show? Did they get to say "We're going to Disneyland!" right after they won? When is the Lacrosse national draft and when do the contract negotiations start? Inquiring minds want to know.

Hugh Mehan Director, CREATEbmehan@ucsd.edu(858) 822-2271

The Innocent Bystanders applaud this stellar achievement, duly reported on Sports Central last night. We, too await our Tee-shirts.



And from all the family, a great big CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU, Dustin, for exciting wins in national competition. We all will be looking forward to next year, with more exciting wins! We have a couple more pictures, (thanks to your Mom) as shown on the next page.

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Catch the News

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Moved at last!!!

Finally, after several delays, Bruce and Birdy have moved out of the Bonnie Vista home and into the new place. The new address is 6201 Rockhurst Drive, San Diego 92120. It is much easier to find than the old home. To get there take the College north turnoff from I-8, and Rockhurst is the second street on the left. We stopped by after the Mother's Day breakfast, and toured the new place. We have some "before" pictures, since they plan on extensive remodeling, both interior and exterior.



The front yard, the back yard, and the living room fireplace all will be torn out and replaced. Also, the kitchen will be remodeled, along with numerous other changes. The rework probably will take many months, perhaps a year before everything is done. We look forward to seeing all the new changes.

Grandma and Grandpa visit Las Vegas

Once again Grandma and Grandpa took off on the 17th for another visit to the Nevada fun city. The drive there and back is somewhat of a problem due to widening of I-15 at several areas. There are several long two lane stretches, with concrete barriers in the center, and getting past the big trucks is an uncomfortable experience. However, we arrived safely, and had good luck in the casino (Arizona Charlie's Boulder Highway). Between us we won \$600.00 at bingo, so we enjoyed a cheap vacation. Also, we were pleased to enjoy lunch with our old friends from Stardust CC, Bob and Mary Peterson, as shown in the next page picture.

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Condo mirror problem

A few weeks ago Grandma told Ed, at one of his Saturday visits, that the mirror on the master bedroom wall was loose,



and needed fixing. In one of our less successful maintenance tasks, we managed to let the mirror drop to the floor, where it broke into several pieces. Grandma suggested that she would like to replace the mirror with the carpet in the bedroom. Because it



rests on the wall to wall carpet, it wrinkles when walked on. So, on the next visit Ed brought along Kevin, and they did a great job in mounting the carpet on the wall back of the bed, as you can see from the above picture. They did get some advice, however, from Grandma, which helped out a lot. We were so pleased with the results that we adjourned to the kitchen for ice cream.

Some more travel adventures from Jessica

We have some room to continue with Jessica's account of her adventures in Italy last summer.

Subj: **The 5 lands** Date: 5/13/03 6:08:03 AM Pacific Daylight Time

Hi everyone,

My latest adventure was this weekend to Cinque Terre, or the five lands. It was once again an amazing trip. I will send pictures later, but do a little reporting now. These 5 tiny cities are situated on cliffs along the Mediterranean in what is now a national park. The beaches were great and the water was warm, although we got rain the first day. There is only one hostel and one hotel total, but a lot of people rent out rooms and apartments for tourists. There are a lot of agencies to help people find a place to stay. We stayed in a nice little dorm/apartment. It came fully equipped with a kitchen, bathroom, fridge, broken tile floors, non-functioning TV, and a cat- all for only 22 euros a person a night! It was nice none the less. We bought bread and veggies and cheese and pesto. That region is where pesto comes from and it is absolutely incredible there. I had some pesto at every meal, and wine for a nice dinner that night. There were 6 of us. The next day we did the hike. It takes about 5 hours to hike though the cities. It was pretty hot when we went, but each time we came to a city, we jumped into the ocean to cool off, grabbed a gelato, and headed out again. The hikes between the first two cities were the hardest. My legs definitely felt the hundreds of stairs we clamed. Most of the time you have to walk single file because the path is literally on a cliff edge and only big enough for one at a time. The views were spectacular. The walk to the last city is an easy stroll called the Via Del'Amore. We headed back to Siena that night and went to a café called the Sala di Tè (the tea room), listened to live jazz, played Italian board games, and had some excellent tea and tiramisù. It was a great end to a great weekend. The plan for next weekend sounds like just as much fun. I am going on a sail boat to the island of Elba. For two days we sleep on the boat and they make our meals and during the day we get to tour the island of Elba. Oh! I have another exciting adventure tonight. I did a presentation in class on the clothing of the Palio (the famous horse race in Siena every summer in which hundreds of people dress up in fantastic medieval clothing representing their contrada or district) I talked to my teacher about my interests in costuming (for those who don't know I am planning on majoring in Costume design) and to make a long story short, tonight she is taking me to meet a lady who hand makes a lot of the costumes for the Palio! What a great experience! These are truly amazing costumes and this is what this lady does for a living. I have prepared questions to ask her, so I hope it will go well.

To be continued in the July issue of R