



Christmas 2007

# Duelm Family Newsletter

*from Julie, Brian, Tony, and Brock in The Woodlands, Texas*



## Happy Holidays!

We hope this festive season finds you healthy and happy, with excitement for the year to come. We also hope you enjoy our family tradition of pictures and stories from the past twelve months.



Tony's Kindergarten graduation

## Feeling Senior

It's hard to imagine, but Tony graduates from high school on June 2. All your life people advise "The years go so quick!" And, in response, every frazzled parent screams "It's not going quick enough!" We're enjoying the year, but he's not out the door yet. Tony chose a heavy load of advanced classes and debate, and it's been tough. During registration we advised "Take a couple blow-off classes...something like floral arrangements." (Yes, the school actually offers it.) He thought our Alzheimer's had set in but now wishes he were clipping the stems off roses instead of differential equations.

## Attitude with Altitude

This spring Brock signed up to participate in Track & Field. Unfortunately, his choice of events was limited due to his phobia of physical exertion. Thankfully, his love of danger and harrowing experiences made pole vault an ideal opportunity. In return, we searched all of Houston for a uniform made of bubble wrap. It was a good first year, and he nearly placed in district competition. On his last attempt, he

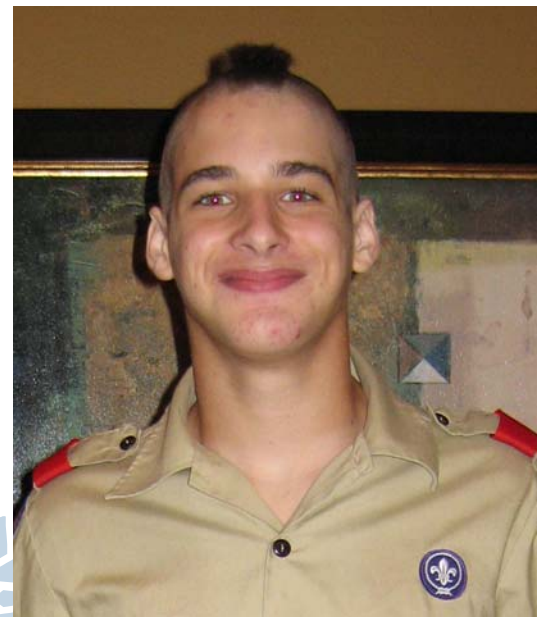


Tony's senior picture

cleared the bar, threw the pole, and bounced off the mat in victory...only to watch the pole teeter off center and fall gently against the stand, knocking off the bar.

## Hair-Raising Experience

Brock is a Freshman this year and relishing the activities, such as homecoming dances, and of course football. The season is over, but in Texas, football is a 7<sup>th</sup> period class in addition to a sport. It was also the scene of a new hairdo last month...a Mohawk courtesy of his coach. The hair lasted until the next morning when the assistant principal called to either suspend him or shave his head. (We chose the latter.) Brock wore the hair with pride, including the night before when his scout troop considered dyeing it to qualify him for the Indian Lore merit badge.



Brock's temporary hairdo



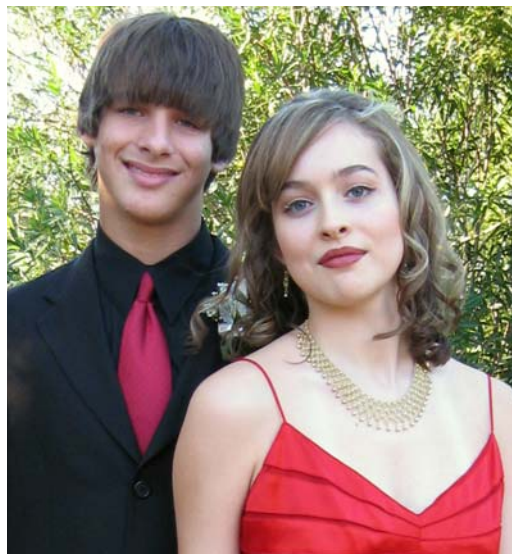


### College Bound

Tony applied for several Texas schools, including Texas Tech and the University of Texas, but has his eyes set on Texas A&M. We visited Aggieland during the summer and were impressed by the friendly atmosphere, strong engineering program, and small school feel. Aggie traditions are another story and will take some getting used to. Tony visited Purdue but decided not to apply after he changed focus from aerospace to nuclear engineering. We're ok with that, along with in-state tuition and having Tony only a couple hours away from home.

### Back on the Street!

Julie returned to work on the street corners this year, opting for a roving substitute role instead of a permanent location. She claims that the clientele is more diverse but assures us that she still practices safe intersections. Ah, the life of a school crossing guard. Brian continues his new career as a human resources manager with HP.



Brock with friend Natasha at Homecoming



Brian & Julie in Jamaica

### Who Needs a Kitchen?

After three years in this home we finally decided to remodel our kitchen. The previous owner's style must have been inspired by heaven or the KKK. It was all white...white cabinets, white countertops, white appliances, white floors, and white walls. A person could become invisible just by wearing white clothes. The remodeling job was not without some setbacks. While installing a new dishwasher, the contractor drove a screw into a water pipe. It was billed as an indoor swimming pool. We also lost one cat during construction. Either she'd had enough of the noise, or she's now part of the woodwork...so to say.

### A Closing Note of Thanks

As many of you know, the extended Duelm family experienced much loss this year. We all appreciate your many prayers, thoughts, and support during the year.

Contact us at:  
110 West Wedgemere Circle  
The Woodlands, TX 77381  
Email: [duelm@flex.net](mailto:duelm@flex.net)  
Phone: 281-292-0791