

The Helfinstine Junior Journal

Volume 1, 2006 – David & Sarah Helfinstine – 8680 Summer Wind Bay – Woodbury, MN 55125

Dear Friends and Family,

Welcome to the first edition of the Helfinstine Junior Journal, our annual Christmas letter. This letter is a recap of the last year and all of the events that have taken place. It has been a busy year for Sarah and I. I've moved around at work, and both of us are in school now. Let's begin at the beginning...

Wedding:

On December 28, 2005, Sarah and I were married in Fargo, North Dakota. Thank you to all who came that made it such a wonderful time! After the wedding, we traveled to California and went to Disneyland for three days. We were able to spend New Year's Eve at Disneyland...a once in a lifetime opportunity for sure! Then we travelled to San Francisco. We did a lot of sightseeing and had a lot of fun there too.



Work:

In February, I became acting head-of-store at the American Eagle store that I worked at in Woodbury. That lasted about a month until the new manager started. It was a trying time, but the overtime was very nice! Since I decided to go back to school full-time (see "School" heading), I quit AE and went back to Gap. I am now a sales associate at the Woodbury store in the same mall where I worked for AE, so no real change of location there. Sarah was a nanny for a family for the beginning of the summer, but as with last year, they decided they didn't need her anymore about a month in for no apparent reason. She continues to work at American Eagle in Roseville under her now fifth store manager (third this year alone!!!).

Church:

In April, Sarah and I became members at the church we were going to here in the Cities, Community of Joy Lutheran Brethren Church. Sarah is involved in Confirmation there and has been for several years now. We enjoy church and the people there. We have a new pastor, who was Sarah's pastor when she was in Fargo about 18 years ago.

Fun:

We went on vacation to Weslake Resort near Fergus Falls, MN at the end of July. We had a great week with the Bjerkaas Clan, Sarah's mom's family, and did some swimming and just kind of hung out for the week. We helped my parents move to Farmington. It's great to have them close by now. We see them as often as we can, since it's just a 30 minute trip, instead of the 90 minutes to



Rochester. We have also made it to Fargo to visit Sarah's family several times this year. Sarah was able to move her things out of her room there so that her brother, Philip, could move into it. We also spent a wonderful Thanksgiving there, or as my sister would call it, her birthday. At the end of December this year, we are going to Florida with my mom's family for her parents' (my grandparents') anniversary.

School:

In the spring, Sarah continued her second semester at the University of Minnesota studying Psychometrics and Quantitative Methods (Psychology). At the end of the semester, Sarah decided that the program at the U was not for her. She applied for the Masters of Education program at the University of Wisconsin – River Falls and is attending classes there now. She was able to do some observation at an elementary school this fall for class and she really enjoys it! When she finishes, she would like to be a teacher in a 6th grade classroom. During the summer, I started taking classes at Argosy University in Eagan, MN for Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT). I am enjoying the program so far. I think my favorite part is learning Phlebotomy, how to draw blood. I am now a certified Phlebotomist and could technically get a job drawing blood for a hospital. When I am done, I will work for a hospital in a lab performing microbiology tests on specimens, I won't go into further detail. Both of us should be done with our programs at the end of summer 2007. Sarah will then go on to Student Teaching for a semester, and I will have clinical training for about the same length of time.

All in all, we have had a great year! I can't wait for the next year to come. Please pray for us that we will be able to finish our programs in a timely manner and get into our future careers, also that we will be able to find time to spend with each other. Thank you for your prayers this past year and hope to hear from all of you soon!

Love,

David & Sarah Helfinstine

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*Merry Christmas
from
David & Sarah*

Print this and cut this out for your very own Christmas Card from us!