

# THE 1996 GORDON FAMILY NEWS

The **biggest** event last year at the Gordon residence was Haley's graduation from the most prestigious Rice University in Houston on May 11. Haley graduated with honors with a BA degree in English and a BA degree Art and Art History on time and within budget! Yes! During her tenure at Rice, Haley was Vice President of the Rice Student Association and Advertising Manager for the Rice newspaper, *The Thresher*. She also shared lox and bagels with former Presidents Bush, Carter and Ford plus James Baker at the same time, and interned with Justice Records.

Aldene has continued her winning ways on the bicycle by winning two California state championships in the 40 km individual time trail and 1000 m track events. At the US Masters National Championships held in the Wine Country of Northern California, Aldene won the bronze medal in the 40 km individual time trail. Barry continued as the President of the Los Gatos Bicycle Racing Club (LGBRC), an amateur cycling organization that has had nine members selected to the US Olympic cycling teams since 1960. The club had three former members race for the United States, El Salvador and Sweden in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

Barry has continued to haul his timpani and snare drum with Aldene's help all over the bay area performing with the Saratoga Symphony the obscure works of Alexander Glazunov 7th Symphony (great timpani part), Haydn, Ibert and Copeland, etc. Some of the concerts are for the Austrian Consul and the San Francisco Waltz Society in San Francisco. Barry has performed at the World Trade Center, Fairmont Hotel and Clairmont Country Club.

Barry traveled to Hitachi City, Japan last February to lead GE's technology exchange with ABB, Hitachi and Toshiba. Although Hitachi City is a company town with a very industrial sounding name, it is actually quite rural. In fact, Hitachi City is located on the coast and is very similar to Santa Cruz, surfers and all!

Aldene has continued her relentless attack on the computer word! Along with the 10 surplus 386 PCs, 2 Macs and 4 printers Aldene obtained from GE last year for her fourth grade class, she wrote a grant this year to the Bay Area's Smart School project and was granted 8 brand new Packard Bell Pentium 155 MHz machines with CD-ROMs! Aldene is ready to terrify the World Wide Web!

The Gordons made their annual spring time trip to Fort Collins, CO, to visit Barry's dad (92 years old), his sister, Mickey, and her very significant hockey-playing other, John. Because of its the beautiful scenery, Rocky Mountain National Park, excellent bicycle riding and more breweries per capita than any other city in the nation, Fort Collins is a great place to visit. Aldene and Barry also hiked in Fossil Butte National Monument, Wyoming to search for fossils. In fact, the Gordons picked up some 60 million year old ancient fish and a \$70 speeding ticket on the same day. They visited the original home of J. C. Penney and saw where he hid his loot under the floor boards. Next year will be characterized by a return to Fossil Butte to dig for additional fossils. After all, fossils make you look young.

As noted previously, last year's trip to Fort Collins was characterized by taking Mickey to the hospital for a mastectomy. Mickey has completed both chemo and radiation treatments. Although, she had lost her hair, she never lost her sense of humor. After teaching Spanish at a local school wearing her X-

Files hat, Mickey is now teaching ESL, hair intact. For whatever reason, Mickey and John have become big Denver Bronco fans and have completely ignored Joe Sakic and their Stanley Cup Champion Colorado Avalanche to date. I am concerned that they may be arrested by the dreaded Hockey Police for this irrational behavior.

Speaking of hockey, Aldene and Barry (and occasionally Haley) attend San José Shark games on a regular basis. Although it does not do either of them any good, Swedish San José Shark stars Ulf Dahlen and Marcus Ragnarsson live very close to the Gordons' home in Monte Sereno. During their thrice weekly training at the Almaden Valley Athletic Club, the Gordons often see some San José Shark wives, especially the Flying Finn, Ville Peltonen's wife going through the paces.

Finally, Aldene's dad, Henry Stoner (86), has not been doing so well this year. Henry was hospitalized twice last year and now is in a hospice program at home. Betty is constantly at Henry's side as his caretaker. As you can imagine, it is hard on her. Aldene's brother Jim, Aldene and Haley visit almost every day. It is a sad situation, but we are all thankful that he can remain at home close to his family.

After graduating, returning to California and decompressing for a while, Haley systematically attacked the job market. She obtained five job offers in just five weeks and is currently employed as the Marketing Assistant at Dancing Cat Productions in Santa Cruz, CA. Haley is truly enjoying this new and challenging opportunity. Although Haley has to drive across the Santa Cruz mountain range almost every day, the opportunity of working in Santa Cruz appears to be worth the trip.

Aldene, Barry and Haley wish you all a Happy Holiday season and prosperous New Year!

*Aldene, Barry and Haley*