



The Sci 07 Chronicle

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Aug 2008 – Vol II

After Graduation I....

Climbed Mt Everest.....

Alan Mallory



The chance to climb to the top of the world has been a dream of our family's and this year we decided finally to pursue it. Of the two months spent climbing Everest, half of the time was taken up at Base-camp while we acclimatized. Above Base Camp there was constant risk of avalanches and rock falls, two huge boulders narrowly missed my father. Camp 4 is in what is known as the 'Death Zone'. There is so little oxygen that the human body cannot acclimatize and degrades rapidly. Exposure to the Death Zone for more than a few days is very dangerous – some people fall asleep in their tents and never wake up. This is exactly what happened to one of the three people who died on Everest while we were there. It was a sobering experience to hear about the people dying and was even more dramatic when we passed by a frozen dead climber by the side of our trail. From Camp 4 we started our climb to the summit at 8:30 p.m. after only a few hours in the camp and with no sleep. To get to the summit took us 12 hours of

steep, grueling climbing in the pitch black of night with the aid of small head lamps. At the 29000 ft. summit it was a relief to have finally reached our objective and to be looking down on the world. In spite of the harsh conditions, we had a panoramic view of the Himalayan range, which spanned forever in all directions. It was amazing. The way down is very dangerous and presented a huge mental challenge because our minds and bodies were completely exhausted. Not far below the summit I ran out of oxygen. I can still remember the terror I began to feel as my limbs began to shake and my core became quite cold. I was faced with the realization that I might lose my life up there as 207 unfortunate souls had before me. Luckily, one of our Sherpas gave me his oxygen bottle and I was able to continue down. Although the climbing Mt. Everest was filled with constant dangers and hardships, the experience as a whole was a positive one. Each of us pushed our bodies to their absolute limit and tested our willpower every step of the way.

Became a Parent.....

Derek Zwiep



Sometimes the best things in life are unexpected. Like most of you, I had a lot of plans following graduation, and fatherhood wasn't at the top of the list. Yet, in just two short days in June of last year I was transformed from a carefree student into the responsible father of my now one-year-old son Kiefer. What initially came as a huge and unbelievable shock to both my girlfriend and myself has become the single most amazing journey we have ever had. Over the last year I have watched as my helpless little creature has grown into the cutest little man. Sure, there are challenges along the way, not the least of which was the fact that I was returning to Queen's for both a victory lap and a second degree with two new housemates that weren't helping with the rent (thank you OSAP)! There was one piece of advice that stuck with me throughout the year, and it's really quite simple: A baby doesn't change who you are. Yes, there are things that are different, but it's not as scary as it might seem. I had to balance fatherhood with my 13 courses

(luckily being a father is usually a good excuse for late papers), and was still able to do the things I enjoyed, like playing drums in two Queen's Players shows and the band Living Planet. Life is an adventure, and if or when you find yourself facing parenthood, don't panic – if I can do it, anyone can. At the risk of being too cliché, I will close by saying fatherhood has not changed my identity, but Kiefer has become my whole life...and that's what I did after graduation!

Worked for a Volunteer Organization.....

Stephanie Kerrigan



Katimavik is Canada's leading national youth volunteer service program for Canadians aged 17 to 21 years old. The program focuses on the personal and professional development of youth through volunteer community work, training and group living. My position with Katimavik is Project Leader. I live in a house with 11 youth, and I am in charge of community relations (setting up work partners, volunteer opportunities, activities), as well as finance, facilitating workshops, mediating group dynamic issues. Katimavik focuses on 5 learning programs: Leadership, Environment, Healthy Lifestyle, Cultural Discovery and Official Languages. I was initially situated in Wawa, on beautiful Lake Superior, from November to June, and am now in Timmins until the end of August. During my time, I will have lived with three different groups of youth, as they rotate between communities in Canada. We have spread the benefit that is Katimavik to many individuals through volunteer opportunities such as ice fishing derbies, summer festivals, and hockey tournaments.



During engineering, I was involved with the creation of the Tea Room and I discovered my passion to develop new business. So when I was invited to complete my MBA at Queen's after engineering I was ecstatic. An MBA is an extremely open degree, I went to enhance my knowledge of new ventures, but there are certainly an equal number of people looking to become investment bankers, management consultants, marketers or simply to advance in their firm. I loved most of my MBA classes. Where I can honestly remember the engineering classes where I only understood 10% of what was going on, my MBA classes never posed these challenges! Classes were small, discussion was encouraged and professors cared deeply about student understanding. I also got to go to Beijing, China on a MBA exchange which was an insightful way to look at one of the major emerging economies of our time. Looking for my next new venture I teamed up with two colleagues, Anatoliy Melnichuk and Ryan Marien and traveled around North America developing a business plan for a caviar farm, Evandale Caviar. This is a highly lucrative business as the

supply of caviar has decreased by 99% in the last 30 years. We began pitching our idea to investors and won 6 international business plan competitions and generated over \$100 K in funding in two months. We are now working in New Brunswick on a commercial fishery we started to develop additional cash flow. So, in short, I never guessed after engineering that life would lead me here, but I'm enjoying the ride!

CLASS FINANCIALS

Chris Johnson

Thanks to everyone that donated to the Sci 07 account this year! We appreciate any and all donations and are obliged to those people who found the time to donate. Total donations amounted to \$245.07. We have also decided to switch bank accounts from one with a monthly \$5 fee to one with \$1.95/month. The previous account was our only option with only \$95, but we now have enough for the cheaper account. Other expenses included \$95.00 to print the newsletter before convocation and \$18.55 to purchase co-signing checks. A summary of our financial situation is located below. If you have any questions or want to see a bank statement, please contact chrisjohnson.07@gmail.com.

Sci 07 – Financial Statement

Graduation to August 2008

Revenue

Sticker Sales	\$ 95.00
EngSoc Transfer	\$ 670.94
Donations (ex PayPal fees)	\$ 245.07

Expenses

NewsLetter Printing	-\$ 95.40
Bank Fees	-\$ 64.81
Cheque Printing	-\$ 18.55

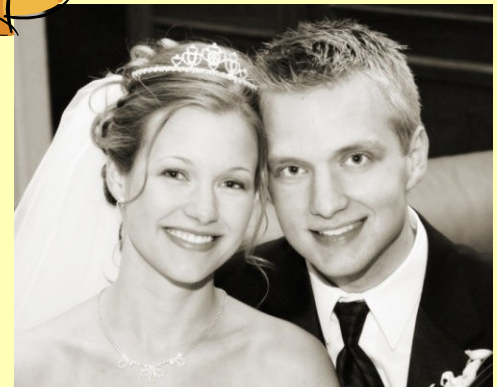
TOTAL \$ 832.25

SCI 07 STATE OF AFFAIRS

The big upcoming project is the *Sci 07 Website*, which will be developed by Dave Connolly, Alison Beaton and Marinha Capella. This site will be designed to be the central pillar of the 07 community going forward. Progress has been slow becausewell we're all busy and our first webhosting site sucked, but we've just switched and are now ramping up development. After that the new focus will be on *Homecoming 2012* and making it the epic event it deserves to be.



NUPTIALS



Jason Stapley and **Cara Walker** were wed on **May 20th 2007**. They are now living in **North Bay, Ontario**.



Brendan Smithyman and **Megan Blamire** got married **August 2007**. They are now both taking their Masters at UBC **Vancouver**.

Jeanna Roach and **Jarrold Skeete** are set to be married on **July 19th 2008** and will be settling in the **Barbados** afterwards.