

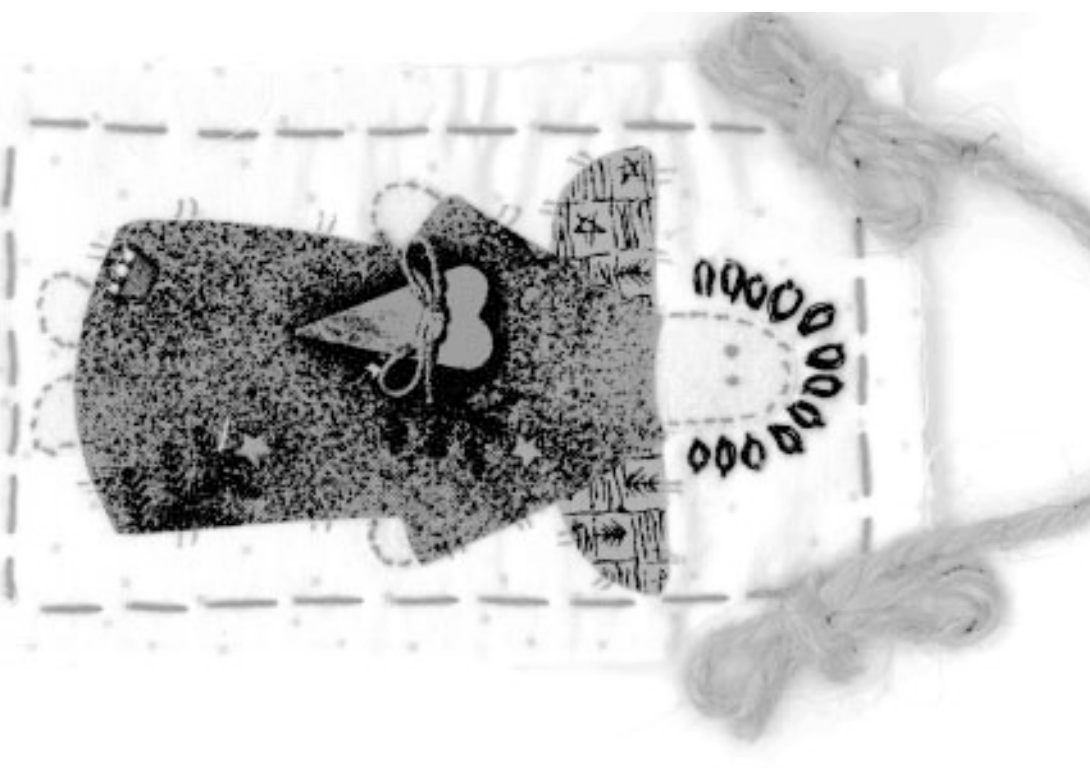
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were dead in the valley. That was the fourteen-state outage. So, there we were, no electricity, no one home because they were at the reunion, and not knowing where to go.

The reunion was really fun. (except that they locked the bathrooms because there wasn't any electricity to pump the water.) It was very hot (at least by our standards), 100+ degrees. Check out "Mr. Sandman" on page 9---it was popular attire. Lois spent time in the water just to keep cool. She would have spent more time there, but Isaac and Stacia don't swim very well.

After the reunion we traveled back to Maryjo's for the night and then went down into Utah. We got to spend several days with Pedersens. That was long awaited and wonderful. We got to go see "Legacy." Three of the children really wanted to see it again. They were able to see it the year before with Grandma and Grandpa Colton. It was a wonderful film, worth the time and effort. We went down to Provo and showed the children where Don and Lois had lived when they were single, and when they were married. We showed them where we had worked and gone to school. We showed them where Larissa lived, worked, and would live next year. We showed them where Larissa was born. Everywhere you drove memories came back. It was lots of fun. We stopped in the BYU Bookstore. Hmmm.. well, we came out carrying lots of tapes and books to entertain ourselves for the rest of the vacation. Lois is definately sold on books on cassette while driving long hours. Lois purchased two books for Don on the Dead Sea Scrolls. One has the translation of text and the other is a commentary. Don has enjoyed reading both.

Don and Lois Colton Family Newsletter Christmas 1996 Edition



And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. -

Luke 2:13-14

Happy Christmas and Happy New Year to you and yours from the Coltons

**Don and Lois Colton
Family Newsletter
Christmas 1996 Edition**

About the 1995 Edition
Some of you may have noticed that we didn't get out a 1995 edition. This was due to a mechanical failure on the part of our printer to print pictures. In October we purchased the

new part and have now completed the 1995 newsletter. If you would like a copy we will be happy to mail one to you. Just ask.

Three Years down ...

We have now finished three years of being students in Oregon. We are surviving better than we had expected. This does not mean that finances are not a daily struggle, but it does mean that we still have our heads above water.

Family Reunion

Last year we missed the reunion and hoped that this year we would be able to go to another reunion and vacation in Utah. We are pleased to announce that we were able to do both. Our van was having problems but it made it there and back. Afterwards we put it back into the shop again. (Why are vehicles such a trial?) It seems that a very large percentage of the people going to the reunion had major work done on their vehicles during or after the reunion. Anyway we had the reunion at Ririe Dam in Idaho. Lois didn't know that it had been changed from another place so she loaded up a van load and went. It took her an extra hour or two to get to the reunion. During the time of thinking that some relative would drive by and tell us where the reunion was located, all the phones except cellular **continued on page 12**

Don & Lois Colton
21143 SW Dana Ct
Aloha, OR 97006-6516
(503) 649-0449

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Isaac

I'm five. I am in kindergarten at Tobias Elementary School. I like John. I like dogs, puppies, cats, spiders, monsters, and fish. I have four goldfish in my bedroom. Their names are Butterfinger, Drive, D-Drive, and Isaac. I named them these names because I loved their names. At school I play with computers, tinkler toys, and blocks to build something. I like school, because I can make towers. You have to fill them with three blocks. Then you have to fill them back



Favorites

Friends: Gabrielle, Kevin, Chris, Matthew, Kaylene, John, Taylor, Mitch, Marissa, Robert, Anthony, and Lauren.

Foods: Macaroni and Cheese, ramen, spaghetti

Toys: Computer Games: Horde, King Quest, Mathblaster, Hocus

Pocus
Activities: Eat Food, and snacks at school

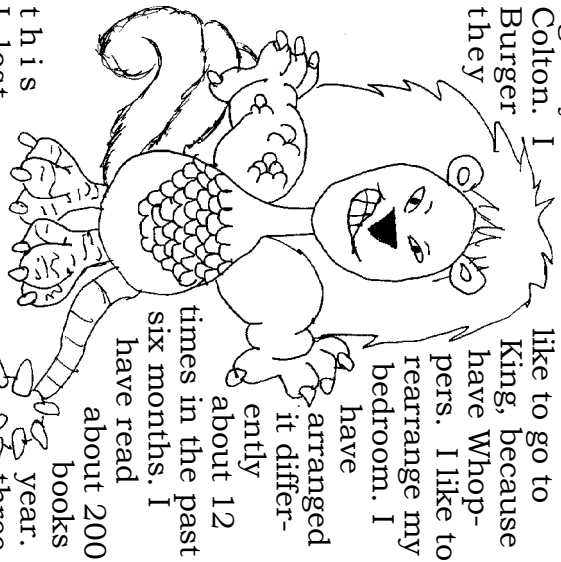
Christmas Wants: Pretzels, Two bags of chips, one bag of candy
Want to be: I want to grow a little bit bigger.



up. I like letters. I like a, b, c, d, and e. I like the other letters except z. When you say z, then when you get done with z then you get tickled. I don't like tickles, but I like to tickle other people. At school we do criss cross applesauce. I like my teacher. We have to raise our hands. Jaime said that he burps a lot. Mrs. Linnehan said, "Congratulations."

Stacia

I am 10 years old. Also I am in 5th grade. I got a perm just a while ago. My name is Stacia Marie Colton. I like to go to Burger King, because they have Whoppers. I like to rearrange my bedroom. I have arranged it differently about 12 times in the past six months. I have read about 200 books in the past year. I lost three books and had to pay some library about \$16.00 in fines. I use a lamp at night for reading. I got a 3.84 last quarter at school. I have Mrs. Iboshi for home room. For math I have Mrs. McGlouthlin. I also have another teacher that is sitting in my room all the time. Her name is Mrs. Smith. She signs what Mrs. Iboshi is saying to someone in my class that is deaf.



I am in choir at school. It's obvious what I do there. I sing. It's on Fridays. We sing for one hour after school.

In science, I made a Santa Claus that moves its arms and legs with a simple pull of the string. It is made out of cardboard from used cereal boxes. I also did other projects like a marble drop, and trying to get a tube of newspaper to move certain ways when you pull a string.



Favorites

- Relaxation: read
- Friends: Julianna Jimenez, Kayla Grandall, Abbie Davis, Shireen Guterez, Justine Bevins.
- Foods: spaghetti, pizza
- Toys: books, nail polish
- Games: Risk, Life, Twister, and Monopoly
- Movies: Toy Story, The Goofy Movie, 101 Dalmations
- Hobbies: playing wallball
- Animals: dogs, mice, cats, parakeets, and fish
- Achievement: I made a perfect circle for the world I drew.
- Books: Tennis Shoes Among the Nephites, Stacy and the Mystery Money, (BSC), (Sweet Valley Twins)
- Wanna be: Depends on if I'm single or married. If I'm single I want to be an artist. If I'm married I want to be a day-care person.
- Christmas wants: pierced ears, money, overalls, plain shirts, socks, and a



Isaac, Doris & Aubrey Clayton, Stacia

We enjoyed a lot of time this summer with both sets of our grandparents. It was a lot of fun. Grandpa and Grandpa Colton were able to visit us in Aloha several times. We really like to see our grandparents. In November we were able to have some of the Coltons together for Thanksgiving. The youth were able to go to the temple. Thank you Grandpa.

Joseph's High School Graduation: Jean, Joseph, Larry



Don

This has been a serious year of work on my PhD, and I think that finally I will graduate in 1997. In fact, I have (with the blessing of my advisor) started sending out applications for assistant professorships at various universities. This is somewhat scary because it amounts to me claiming that I am ready to do research, get published, and raise money to support my research and my graduate students. It has provoked some anxiety on my part, but I think we will be happily settled in some new location when the next Christmas newsletter rolls off the presses. We have even toyed with the idea of doing it in \$color\$.

I taught myself a bit of Corel Draw, including the photo manipulation program, and we used it to rather astonishing effect, in making the photos in this newsletter much more crisp and clear than they would have otherwise been. It was a real pleasure just to play with it.

My PhD research topic is "measurement of confidence in automatic speech recognition." What does this mean? Well, when you talk to a computer and it recognizes what you say, it is just picking the most likely response from a list of alternatives that it knows about. We want to not just say which word is the best match, but also how good that match actually is. For instance, if the recognition vocabulary is "yes" and "no" and the person coughs instead, the recognizer will be forced to say that it was a "yes" or a "no" even though both are wrong. So my research is to give a follow-on appraisal of just how solid the recognition is. This is a very important capability that is currently missing from many speech recognition systems.

I like automatic speech recognition, language translation, and such things, because they are such difficult tasks, and would be very useful if they could be done in any kind of a reliable way. I think the challenge will keep me puzzled for many years to come. Maybe that's the secret. I like being puzzled.

If any of you have email, please write. Or check out my homepage on the web and let me know what you think of it.
Love, Don

E-mail: Don.Colton@cse.ogi.edu
Web Homepage: <http://www.cse.ogi.edu/~ldcolton>



Favorites

Relaxation: sleeping
Friends: the students at CSLU and the members of the Beaver Creek Ward
Foods: Burger King
Whoppers
Movies: which ever one I just watched
TV Show: Babylon 5
Colors: Blue
Hobbies: Dead Sea Scrolls
Radio Station: PBS
Musicians: Mannheim Steamroller
Activities: programming the computer
Achievement: ordained my son Joseph an Elder
Books: Book of Mormon
Vacation: Christmas
Wanna be: Professor Colton
Christmas Wants: steady progress on my research

Daniel

For those who don't know, my name is Daniel Thomas Colton. I assume you know where I live so I won't bother you with that.

I am 13 years old and very soon will be 14 (Jan 28). I am at that time in life where parents think up strategies to get me, the rebel, to do my homework, etc. etc. I am proud to say that I am passing all my classes in school. My elective is a full year of German.

Life at home is healthy for me, at times. I get to watch tv every day at 3:30 undisputed. I have the run of the computer at most of the desirable hours, 9:00 to 12:00 midnight.

My pastimes are as follows: reading an astounding series of books by Raymond E. Feist (which the game Betrayal at Kronador is modeled after), and playing various computer games for ms-dos. I have picked up

the habit of listening to the radio and talking to PEOPLE on the phone.

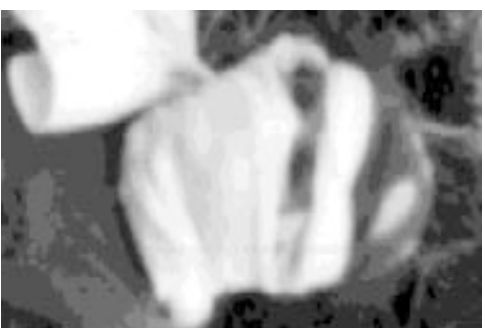
And that concludes this year's profile.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Daniel Colton



Favorites

Relaxation: Sleep
Friends: Brad, Eric, Ian, Paul
Foods: School cheese-burgers, Top Ramen
Toys: Action Figures
School: Meeting Friends
Games: Stratego, Chess
Computer games: Warcraft II, Masters of Magic
Movies: Billy Madison, Toy Story, Gettysburg
Colors: Forest Green
Hobbies: Multiple Card Collection - Non Sport
Radio Station: 107.5 the Beat
Songs: One of Us
Singer: Joan Osborne
Activities: Wednesday Night Activities at Church - Young Men & Scouts
Animals: Wolverine
Achievement Wish: Work at Taco Bell
Christmas Wants: All the Gargyle Items



Mr. Sandman

Benjamin

I am Ben. Ben is my name. My friends call me Benny.

I like to swim. It is fun to swim. I play chess too. I am good at chess.

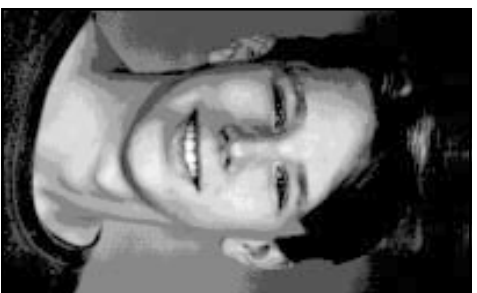
I am strong. It is fun to be strong. Calm is good, too. I like calm music. I like to be calm.

I like fun stuff. I can say poems. Poems are fun.

I can say scriptures to my friends. It is fun. I try to be strong every day. I am strong at school. I like school. My friends are there. I like science. Science has problems. I like science problems. I like math problems too. They make me think. That is why I like chess. It is fun to think every day. I am happy. I am calm.

I like my parents. They are funny. They make me think. I laugh at my parents.

I like computers. Computers are smart. I like smart stuff. I am Ben. ... Good-bye



Favorites

Relaxation: Listen to Classical Music

Foods: potatoes, spaghetti, corn

Toys: Weights Games: Chess

Computer Games, Command and Conquer

Movies: Balto, The Princess Bride

Colors: White, Black, Red

Activities: Jogging, Swimming

Christmas Wants: Travel Chess Set, Gold Covered

Book of Mormon (They don't make them anymore.)

Wanna Be: Rich

Lois

I have to admit that this year I really feel accomplished. First of all, last November I decided to quit chewing my fingernails. This habit I have engaged in, except four months, every since I was four years old. Now I can say that 13 months have passed and I have been successful. I think that habit has been broken. Whomever said that it takes six weeks to make or break a habit was certainly wrong. Next, having felt like I was on top of the first goal, I took on a second. In July we went to a family reunion and then continued with a vacation in Idaho and Utah. There I couldn't raid the fridge, and snacking was limited due to budget constraints. Hence when I got home I had discovered that I had lost weight. I decided to continue trying to loose weight. Since I have tried this before and after two weeks success was very limited, I decided that I had to make some rules in order succeed. These are the rules I made:

1. No measuring, weighing, or counting of calories.
2. Fat needed to be restricted. (As I look at labels, if I find that the serving has more than 3 grams of fat I usually just put it back.)
3. If I Have to have a piece of dessert, I can cut a one inch piece.
4. Follow the Word of Wisdom found in section 89 of the Doctrine and Covenants. This is a revelation given to Joseph Smith from Heavenly Father. It talks about eating meat sparingly, eating herbs, fruits, and grains. I decided that I could eat all the vegetables and fruits I wanted. Usually budget constraints limit the fruit.

To date I have lost 38 pounds, and do not feel like I am on a diet. I eat whenever I want. I "pig out" whenever I feel like it--I just have to be selective on what I am eating a lot of. I hope to continue until June or until I don't need to loose more weight. :-)

Who knows what goal I will work on next. I am hoping to continue my education, and graduate before Larissa.

In June I was released from Valiants Girls where I had worked 1.5 years. In December I was released as Primary Secretary where I had worked for almost two years. In December I was called as the Beehive Counselor. We recently made Gingerbread Houses. It was a lot of fun. Have a wonderful new year!



"Mona Lois"

Favorites

Activity: Meditation
Relaxation: Gardening, reading books and magazines, email, crafts, sewing, and of course, sleeping.

E-mail: LAColton@cse.ogj.edu

Lois of Love,

Larissa

This year I am a sophomore at Brigham Young University. I am majoring in Youth Leadership (just like my mommy). I live on campus once again in Heritage Halls with the best roommate anyone could have... Trenna Gardner of Idaho Falls. We live in the basement apartment of Young Hall. I enjoy it a lot.

Last summer I got a job at Oregon Graduate Institute where my dad is getting his Ph.D. I was a Multi-language Verifier/Transcriber.

Sounds technical huh? Well, I basically listened to human speech and entered all of the words said, breaths taken, and other miscellaneous noises such as background speech into a computer. It was pretty exciting (not).

I left this job four weeks prior to the start of school. I moved to Utah so that I could look for a decent job. I finally landed a job at the beginning of September at Wells Fargo bank. I am a teller and I generally work the drive-thru window. It is a pretty fun job. What more could you ask for ... working with great people, no food, lots of money and benefits! What a life for a college student, eh?

This wonderful job of mine is the reason that I was not privileged enough to go home for Thanksgiving, nor will I be able to go home for Christmas. It has definately been a different holiday season, but all is well. Last semester I spent most of my time with my good friend Scott, whom I refer to as my brother, and his roommate Chris, whom I am dating. Scott and I used to spend a lot of time walking around the local mall ... as there is nothing else to do in Provo. Scott left yesterday to go home to Seattle, so that is why this is all past tense. Chris works a lot and I attempt to see him whenever I get the chance.

This year has been a pretty good year. Nothing too spectacular, but a good growing year. Merry Christmas to all!

Larissa



Favorites

Relaxation: Listening to Music, Driving
Friends: Chris, Trenna, Scott H.

Foods: Anything but Seafood
Classes: Social Recreation Leadership
Movies: Up Close & Personal

Colors: Emerald Green and Maroon
Hobbies: Working, Listening to Music, "Hanging"

Radio stations: 102.7, 101.9, 107.5
Songs: It's all coming back to me now

Christmas carol: O Holy Night
Singers: Celine Dion

Addresses: Michelle Pfeifer, Julia Roberts, Sandra Bullock

Activities: Hanging with Chris
Sports: Basketball, NBA

Songs
Animals: Horses
Vacation: (What is Vacation?)
Wanna be: Mommy
Christmas wants: Money, Paid bills, a car.

E-mail: LColton@CougNet.byu.edu

Joseph

I have had a rather full and exciting year. I guess it all started somewhere near the beginning of the year. School was still going on then. I was learning some of the skills that will help me throughout my life. Grades were the highest that they had ever been. I ended up receiving a 3.8 GPA for last semester. But then I graduated. No longer was I protected from the world of work. I was off to get a job.

Currently I work for Intel on the Cornell Oaks campus. My job is rather simple. I build computer(s). I have spent about a month working with the server group on building and inspecting servers. Most of the time, however, I have spent working on the Teraflops project. Teraflops is the name of a giant supercomputer that currently holds the world record for speed. But I do not think I will really get into that. It is much more enjoyable to talk about in person.

As part of my many hobbies, I often date. I do not spend that much time with my female friends. Only about two to three days a week are used up on dates or other activities with them. I like to do dates a little different than the usual person. Among my many dates, here are a few notable ones: One double date, we went to Goodwill and each couple shopped for clothes for the other couple. We traded bags, changed, then went to dinner at a fancy restaurant. We have also tried things like eating with strange utensils, or none at all. I would have to say that quarter giving is up among one of the best. I guess that is all I have to say about dating.

I am now an Elder. I am looking forward to going on a mission sometime soon. I only have to wait until June before I can be shipped off. I enjoy church and what it has done for me. I look forward to having an opportunity to do a little payback. That is what a mission is really good for. I get to serve the Lord.
Have a wonderfully great Christmas! Okay, Wright.



Favorites

Relaxation: Sleeping with my blanket over the heater while writing letters and talking over the phone. (watch me)

Friends: Stephanie Blaisdell, Melayne Awood, John Rupp, Jared Holcomb

Foods: Whoppers
Toys: Phone, the MRC and CNIK chip removal tools, Power drivers

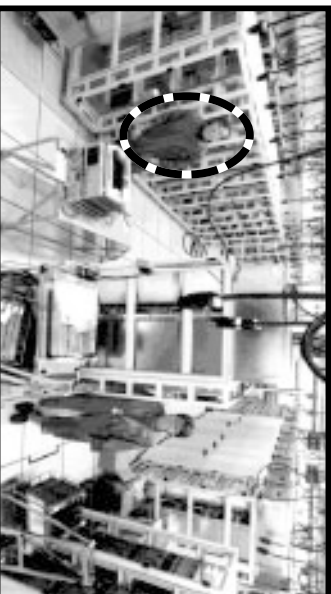
Games-Computer: Star Control II & III, Privateer
Movies: The Princess

Bride, Animal Crackers, Chariots of Fire, Far and Away

Colors: Dark Blue and Red
Hobbies: Sleeping, Working, and talking on the phone with Stephanie

Books: Scriptures
Achievements: Eagle Scout, Graduation
Christmas Wants: socks, white shirts, jeans, new shoes

Wanna Be: BIOS engineer with minor in Psychology



Joseph built the Intel Teraflops Computer
fastest computer in the world 12/4/96

E-mail: Josephx_Colton@ccm.co.intel.com