

Refior News Bulletin

Paul * Pam * Nikki * Laura

Greetings from the Refior clan!!!

June 22, 1994

My father has asked me (Laura) to write my very first Refior News Bulletin about what has been happening at the end of my school year. Life around our house has been anything but normal. These past few months have been and the next few promise to be extremely hectic.

Mom, Dad, Beth Russell and I were able to get away from all of the end of the year activities over Spring Break. We made the long drive down to Florida and moved into our motel room at Vanderbilt Beach. We had a beautiful view of the ocean from our room. Beth and I had the once in a lifetime experience of parasailing 700 ft. above the ocean. It was so exciting and breathtaking. We also saw many alligators along the road and I even held a baby alligator. Most of all, it was just nice to relax (and catch a couple rays).

When we returned from Florida, I had only two months left of high school. Those two months just flew! I finished working on all of my scholarships which was a relief. I am an officer for FCA. With the help of my youth pastor we planned a True Love Waits Rally at my school. I had the privilege of being able to tell my testimony and why I am waiting. In the end almost two hundred kids went forward to pledge abstinence until marriage. It was so exciting to see God working right in front of me.

My Graduation Open House was the Sunday before I graduated. It was a great afternoon. I again thank everyone who was able to come.

I spent countless hours working on our Senior Slide Show, graduation, and our Baccalaureate Service (which is a small worship service right before graduation). During Baccalaureate I was able to lead the hymns and sing a duet with Beth. Graduation was quite an experience. My old cheerleading squad got ready at my house like old times. I sang in the choir then found my place among the graduates. It was an emotional time for me but also a very happy evening.

Our family took off on our last family fling before the big family changes coming this year (Nikki's wedding, my departure for college in Ohio and the "empty nest" at home). On June 11 we drove over to New York City. We had a hotel that was one block away from Times Square and all of the theaters. We arrived on Sunday and went to an off Broadway show. When we returned to our hotel we happened to turn on the Tony Awards then realized that they were being held just down the street from us. We happened to be in the perfect spot to see everyone coming out of the awards and then out of the hotel where their party was. We were able to be inches away, shake hands with and even talk to numerous TV, movie, and Broadway stars. These included Tony Danza, Liza Minnelli, Melanie Griffith, and Peter Faulk. I had told my family that since I hadn't seen anyone famous last summer in NYC, I really wanted to see at least one this time. I guess that I received my wish!

On Monday we went to the Broadway Beauty and the Beast. It was amazing! The set and costume design as well as the acting were spectacular. Then on Tuesday we walked over to Rockefeller Plaza, Fifth Avenue, then Central Park. Nikki took a cab back to the hotel to rest then the rest of us went to the Empire State Building and picked up tickets to our next show, Damn Yankees. Wednesday was our last day. We went to the afternoon showing of Miss Saigon. That was another amazing show with a powerful message. That evening we took a cab across town to the production, Carousel. The four days in Manhattan were amazing but extremely hot. It was usually around 95 degrees everyday. God blessed us with a fun and very

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memorable last vacation together.

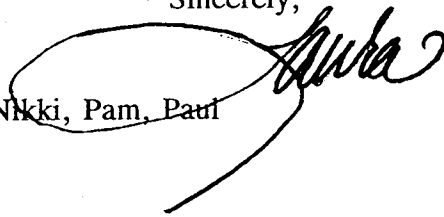
When we returned home Nikki was happy to know that her fiance, Jonathan, would be arriving soon. They had gone one whole month without seeing each other because of his vacation with his family and our vacation overlapped. They were happily reunited and now only have to wait several days between visits on the weekends.

With less than two months until the wedding, the house is bustling with activity. Nikki and I have been busy addressing envelopes while she and Mom have been working on finalizing everything. Nikki and Jonathan have also been working on the slide show and picking out music and just being in love.

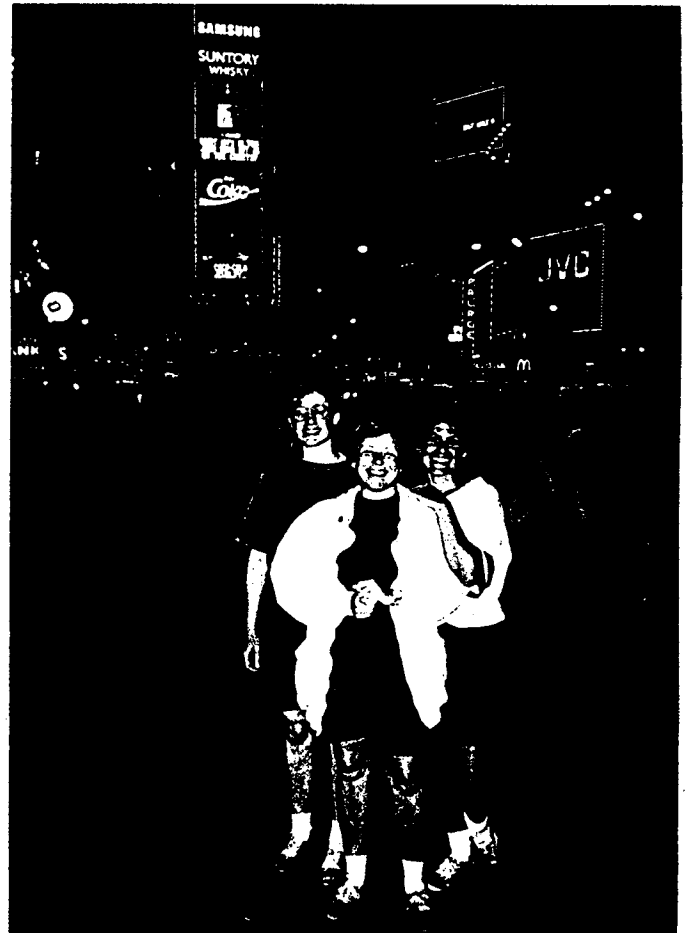
Dad is still enjoying his Monday and Thursday morning basketball with the guys at church. He is also keeping up his workouts everyday. And everyone can keep thinking of Mom after my graduation, during the preparations for Nikki's wedding, and as I get ready for college. That's a lot for a mother to handle. But she is doing wonderfully. I hope that this letter finds everyone happy and also doing wonderfully.

Sincerely,

Laura, Nikki, Pam, Paul



Laura & Beth in Florida



Pam, Nikki, and Laura in Times Square



Paul & Pam in Florida



Nikki, Paul, and Laura on Fifth Ave, NYC



Laura & Paul graduation night (June 3)



The Refor family at Beauty and the Beast