

## The Columbia Daily Tribune

# CHALKBOARD: Writings by Derby Ridge Elementary students

[Thursday, February 4, 2010](#)

### My Dad

In a second I will tell you about only some of the many traits of my dad.

My dad is 6 foot and he got that from his dad. Also my “real” grandpa Bertsch was really tall so I have three people to blame why I’m tall.

Also my dad is like SUPER COMPUTER GUY because he can make a website in two minutes (and that’s unusual.) He can also help you get rid of a virus over the phone.

If you come in from playing in the snow my dad’s the guy to have as a dad because when you’re an ice cube he’s a heater melting the ice cube.

Also if you talk to him you can tell he has deep voice and he loves to wrestle with me and he likes to watch me wrestle at practice.

If you ask my dad where he works he’ll tell you he’s a youth pastor at AIC.

Now that I have told you some traits of my dad I hope you want to meet him.

— Martin

### The Search of the Present

One box still remained, too big to fit under the tall green Christmas tree. My brother and I stared at the box as if it were to unwrap itself.

I strut over and carefully remove the paper as if I want to use it next year. Then my brother bobbed over and ripped the gleaming red paper that was in my hand and told me to hurry up. As soon as my brother and I ripped open our huge box we figured out what was inside.

“Newspaper?” my brother and I asked at once. My mom gave a funny look to dad and said, “Just keep digging.” I tore out all the shiny newspaper and looked inside, two big red strips of paper. “Read them,” my dad instructed. I read the red strip of paper. “It’s a clue!” I remarked so loudly Rhode Island could hear. I thought about what it said and I thought of the perfect place to look.

Later I poked my head in the sparkling clean dishwasher, there sat a red notecard. Exaggerating my enthusiasm I prance into the next room and fall upon my next clue. I crawl under the bed and grab the clue. As I read I realize it is telling me about my closet. I rush in my room and find a present in my closet.

My dad rushes into my room and yells “open it!” with an excited yip. Then I rip open my present and stared at the cover for a moment or two. “Ahhh!” I screamed excitedly! “Thank you! Thank you! I got a Wii! I got a Wii!” I say in a sing-song voice.

One box still remained shut, I pull open a flap and pull out the glistening Wii. The white electronic looks like so much fun! I thank my parents and slowly slide the Wii back in its box as my brother rushes in holding a new electronic guitar.

— Olivia

## Getting a Perfect Kitten

When I was 3, I went to a barn out in the country. This barn raised at least 100 cats. We were on our way to get one of them. I was so excited!

When we got there we saw a LOT of cats and kittens. We wanted a kitten. First I saw this orange one and I tried to catch it but it kept prancing away from me. (We didn't get that one.)

Then I saw a black kitten. She was real peewee. I held her for like five seconds, but then she jumped out of my hands and then went down into my shirt and scratched up my belly with her claws. We were definitely not getting that one!

After that my sister found a boy cat. (My sister was only 2 at the time.) Anyway, she was holding him by the neck. My dad ran over and told Audrey not to hold him that way. My dad said I could hold him if I wanted to. It was the only one on the farm we could hold! We were going to get him.

Next we brought him home with us. We put him in the laundry room because we were panicking that my other cat (Cloe) would eat him. I visited him a lot in there. Then I came up with a name, Cabo! My mom said that was an amazing name. We named him Cabo!

Cabo was an awesome cat and he still is now, but he does have some bad history, but that's another story. I will remember that day for the rest of my life!

— Emma

## The Big Crane

It was a magnificent and sunny day at the Lake of the Ozarks. My cousin and I looked out the window. We watched how the lake shimmered in the sunlight and how the waves from the boats rolled into the cove up onto the rocky shore. Ducks waddled along the shore.

Then, we saw a big white figure sitting on the bridge to our dock. My cousin and I ran downstairs and onto the patio to get a better view. When we finally were able to see what it was we were amazed!! Guess what it was! A big white crane! We walked onto the bridge to see what it was doing, but then the bridge squeaked. The big crane immediately flew away. My cousin and I sighed and walked back inside.

That was one breathtaking bird! I hope that big crane comes back next time we visit the lake!

— Abby

## Making a Heart for Mother's Day

"Here, let me draw the heart for you," said my dad. Me and him were upstairs in my bedroom making a heart out of clay. He was drawing the heart so I could put clay in it and make it just right.

First, I put on pieces of clay and flattened it on the piece of paper. The clay felt sticky, and when I smoothed it still felt a little sticky but mostly smooth. The clay was white, the paper was red. It didn't look good, but my dad said that the red paper wouldn't be with the clay.

Next, I put the last piece of clay on it. My heart looked all bumpy. Even when you felt it, it felt bumpy like the Rocky Mountains. My dad said that it would look pretty after we were totally done. When I was 3, I tried to think hard about what else we could do. Think, think, think ... NOTHING!

Finally, after all that hard thinking, I got to know ... we got to do handprints with paint. It's where you dip your hand in paint and put it on something. Me and my dad dipped our hands in the paint and started to put our painty hands on the dry bumpy clay. We did different colors like: red, blue, green.

— Blake

## Meeting Tony Hawk

We pulled into the driveway of the Cosmo Park Skate Park. A man asked us:

“Are you here to see Tony Hawk?”

“Yeah.” My grandma replied. “Thank you.”

Me and my siblings screamed with joy!

We got out of the car and walked to the skateboarding area. Me and my brother tried skateboarding on the road but it was a bit too bumpy. When we got there it was crowded and a bunch of locals were skating. They would nail some awesome tricks that I couldn't identify! I just watched.

“Do you wanna see Tony Hawk?” I heard someone ask over a microphone.

“Yeah,” I heard what sounded like the whole world say.

Suddenly a man in a black helmet rode his skateboard down a ramp. It took me a while to realize this, but it was him! Tony Hawk! He would bust an even awesomer trick, then another for another add-on to my list of tricks I've seen, but do not know.

It wasn't long until it was time to go to Tony's giant half-pipe. It was mostly made out of wood (wood = fast and awesome). You needed a ladder to get up. Minutes later someone went up that ladder.

It was Tony! He could show most of the tricks he did before plus more. Then the rest of his team got to use the ramp again. You would see Tony Hawk, Lyn-Z Adams Hawkins, Kevin Staab, Jesse Stroganoff and the rest of the team skate like they owned the place! K2k flip, indy, Madonna ... a bunch of different tricks.

After what seemed like an hour (yet an awesome one) it was time to get autographs. It took a long time, but it was worth the wait! I got Tony and Lyn-Z's autographs!

Eventually, my family left for the skate shop. I didn't end up buying a skateboard due to how expensive the skateboard was, and how much money I had.

We were about to leave when...

“Hey! I think Tony Hawk is coming into the shop!”

“Yeah! He's definitely coming!”

It was awesome! I got Kevin Staab's autograph and pictures with Tony Hawk and Lyn-Z Adams Hawkins.

On the way home, I could only think one thing: This was the best day of my life.

— Joey

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