



Christmas 1997 Greelings

From Our Family to Yours at Christmas

Well once again Christmas is fast approaching — too fast really! Confusion reigns as we deck the halls with the tree, the lights, and all the trimmings. As the carols play, and the tree goes up so does the excitement level — and the noise — and as it does, we can't help but think of what the McCaugheys have to look forward to with their "Lucky Seven" instant large family!

It certainly has been a busy household this year, and the thought of doing Christmas letters and cards has been pushed to the back burner with the Postal strike. But now that they are back to work, the mail is moving, and so must we.

It is our prayer this Christmas that this card will find you happy and healthy, and ready to experience the joy of Christ's birth in a fresh new way.

Bethany Keeps Mom on Her Toes

Bethany is a very active 17-month-old. She is also a very big help to Nancy and constantly helps her by taking inventory and rearranging the shelves in the spinner and other cupboards within her reach. She struggles daily to keep up with all three of her older brothers, and loves to embrace the "kitty" (too bad it's not totally mutual!). She does not like it when she fails to get her way — and she'll let you know it, too! She has many unusual looks and expressions, and is a real tease when it comes to her Dad, as you can see below. Her favourite toy, and word, is "Baby!", and likes to surprise total strangers by exclaiming



Birthday at the cottage - June 29, 1997

Nancy's News

Nancy continues to hold down three jobs; Childbirth Educator, home-business executive, and most challenging by far, mother of four! Cozy Cuddles continues to expand so she decided to cut back on her teaching hours (it was either that or go to a 26 hour day). In addition to her involvement at the church in Praise and Worship, and Pioneer Club, she is now enjoying a monthly reading club.

Daniel Starts School in 1997

Daniel, now nearly age 5, started school this past fall, only to have it interrupted by the teachers' walkout. This really bothered him, and after a few days at home, he was overheard bemoaning that he'd never get to go to school again. Now that he's back at it again, he is definitely enjoying it, and looks forward to seeing his classmates daily. He's also taking swimming lessons with his brothers at the local rec centre. At church, he's an enthusiastic "Scooter" in mid-



I'm all set for school, Mom!



Daddy's pretty little girl??

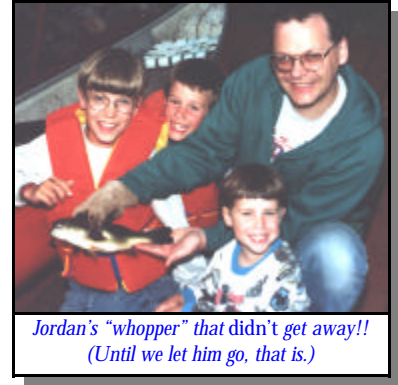




Jordan Wins Literary Award

Reading and writing consume most of Jordan's spare time. At age 10, he spends many hours reading books and writing stories for pleasure. He even won a second place award for one of his short stories ("The Beast") in a Jr. Jays writing contest. The prize was only two Crunchie bars, but it's the honour that counts! In school he's been writing reports on Harriet Tubman, Peregrine Falcons, and Farley Mowat, and following in his mother's footsteps with his speeches. His current

passion is Star Wars, and he, Tim and Daniel love to watch the movies and act out the script as often as possible. He's even invented a number of board games based on the movies. Maybe Dad can someday retire on the royalties (ha ha!).



*Jordan's "whopper" that didn't get away!!
(Until we let him go, that is.)*

Tim's Tales

Tim is still the tallest in his class, and at age seven, his social sphere is broadening all the time. His imagination and wit are his strengths. He loves to tell jokes, and his teachers love to have him in the class. His latest political joke was "Q: What sport do Postal Workers enjoy the most? A: Baseball, because of the strikes!" Even despite these jokes, his teachers love to have him in the class. Swimming, Pioneer Club and especially Star Wars keep him occupied most of the time. But, this year he found time to start piano lessons and is thoroughly enjoying it. He's now using this new-found skill to figure out the music for Darth Vader's Theme!

Dad's Digest

Murray is really enjoying his new job at InfoEdge. He's been working for a number of clients over the past year, including Price Waterhouse, Sony, AT&T, The City of Thunder Bay, Bayer, and most recently Clearnet. He spent three straight weeks in San Francisco back in April on training for SAP, which is InfoEdge's primary business. The biggest shock of the year came when Nancy and the kids threw him a surprise 39½ year birthday party! Boy, was he overwhelmed to receive such unique gifts as ½ a jar of jelly beans, ½ a pair of socks, ½ a set of Star Wars videos (I think the kids were more excited about this than he was), ½ a maple leaf, and even ½ a guitar!



Darth Vader, Luke Skywalker, an Ewok and C3PO prepare to Trick-or-Treat.

STAR OF CHRISTMAS

he star the shepherds saw that night
That lit the way for them

May Jesus, the Light of the world, illumine your hearts this Christmas
and your path for the year to come.

*Murray + Nancy Jordan,
Timmy Daniel*

