

TRIP REPORT

by Chandler York
Grade 3
11/29/99

Revised 11/30/99
Revised 12/01/99

Start Date: 11/13/99
End Date: 11/20/99

Destination: Portland, Oregon

Purpose: Learning about Supercomputing

On Friday night 11/12/99 dad and I packed to go to Portland Oregon. We got up at 5:30 the next morning and mom drove us to Dennis' apartment and to Logan Airport. Dennis is my dad's graduate student, who came with us, and he has a Black Belt in Shodokan Karate. My dad works Dennis too

hard. We had to wait 45 minutes before the plane took off!

This pilot was excellent at the takeoff. The landing gear made a lot of noise. We flew at an altitude of 33,000 feet. We hit a small amount of turbulence so it was not so scary. The rest of the flight to Denver Colorado was boring except for the movie, *The Thomas Crown Affair*. *The Thomas Crown Affair* was about a man who steals a painting and falls in love with the woman who tracks him down. I read part of *The Boggart* on the way to Denver. The Boggart was about an invisible spirit who was accidentally brought back by a family to Toronto from Scotland. He played a lot of practical jokes. When we landed in Denver we had an hour to adjust to the Mountain time zone before we took off again.

On the way to Portland I read, *Reach Higher*, the life story of Scottie Pippen. I

missed mom. When we were about to land my ears ached so I sucked on a mint and they felt all better. After we landed we got our bags and took a taxi to downtown Portland. We picked up the rental car, we drove Dennis to his hotel, and finally we went to our hotel.

Then we called mom. We slept for two hours. Then dad and I went to an NBA basketball game. It was the Portland TrailBlazers vs. the Atlanta Hawks at the Rose Garden in Portland. Isaiah Rider was with the TrailBlazers but got traded to the Hawks. Fans booed Rider when he came on the floor. At the beginning of the season Scottie Pippen was with the Houston Rockets but got traded to the TrailBlazers for 6 players. The most exciting player in the game was Rasheed Wallace; he was extra extremely hot. In the second quarter of the game the Blazers put in the third string. At half time a blimp flew around the Rose Garden and dropped \$200,000 checks in the stands. The game

was a blowout; the final score was 131 to 95. The Blazers won! I had a good time even though I was not able to get Scottie Pippen's autograph. Since dad and I stayed up so late when we got back to the hotel we fell asleep so easily that the next morning we were adjusted to the Pacific time zone. As for Dennis, he did not adjusted the whole time we were there.

The next day Dennis, dad and I drove to Seattle Washington. It took 3 hours to drive to Seattle. Near Seattle we passed a Boeing plant. Boeing is a company that makes airplanes. When we got to Seattle we walked to the Space Needle. The Space Needle is 520 feet high. Did you know that the Space Needle sways an inch for every 10 miles per hour of wind? We got mom some gifts in the gift shop at the top of the Space Needle. Here are some examples : chocolates, a Space Needle mug, 2 magnets and a picture of the Space Needle. When

we descended from the Space Needle I sent 8 postcards to some friends and relatives: John Moscatel, Ryan Cary, Shihan (my Karate master), Matthew Whelan, Alex Marshall, Ajinkya, grandparents, and my mom. We hopped on the Seattle monorail, got off in a mall and had dinner. Dad, Dennis and I each had a Philly Cheese Steak. The drive home was boring and I slept part of the way. I wanted a Seahawks cap but we missed the exit to the Kingdome. When we got back to the hotel we watched a movie called *Big Daddy* which was about a man who adopted a kid.

On Monday morning we drove to the convention center where SC99 was being held; dad had to work. Dennis and I checked email and I sent mom an email. The day was pretty boring. At 5:00 we went back to the hotel and changed into our good clothes. I got to wear my blazer with a necktie. We returned to the convention center. I got a

tour of the exhibitor's hall by Dr. Borchers. We saw a powerwall, the booths of Sun, Cray, IBM and an SGI robot. I liked the SGI robot the best because it talked to me. When we drove back to our hotel we watched the New England Patriots vs. the New York Jets football on T.V. The Pats lost 24 to 17!

The next day we drove to the convention center. Dad had to work so I spent a lot of time with Dennis. Dennis got me a lot of stuff from the exhibitor's hall because you have to be 16 or older to be allowed in the exhibitor's hall. Examples are: ball, bank, slinky, 2 paddle balls and blinkie pins. At 5:30 I had to sit through a boring BOF session (birds of a feather). Dad kept on talking and I could not shut him up! We had dinner at the hotel and we saw another TrailBlazers game. We stayed up until 12:00 midnight Pacific time which would be 3:00 AM in Boston.

On Wednesday morning dad and I went swimming and played football in the pool. The score was 21 to 21. Then we got in the jacuzzi; the water was really hot. I did Kata 1 (a traditional Karate form) on the side of the pool. I truly believed that I actually won the football game!!! Then we drove to the convention center and had lunch at Tony Roma's. I spent a lot of time with Dennis and I sat through a few boring SC99 panels. For dinner we went to Cucina Cucina. When we got back to the hotel we watched the movie *Mighty Joe Young*. Then we fell asleep.

On Thursday morning I was with Dennis all day until lunch time. We walked to Subway. After lunch while we walked back to the hotel I threw up! For dinner we walked the hotel and ate there.

On Friday the rental car, which was a Chevy Cavalier, broke down so we returned

the rental car and we walked back to the hotel to pack. We got room service and we both had a turkey club sandwiches. Then I watched a *GhostBusters* T.V. show and we went to bed.

Saturday morning Wake Up call 5:30 AM buzz! buzz! buzz! The flight to Denver was boring except the Rocky Mountains. From Denver we flew to Boston. When we got to Boston I was so glad to see mom. When I saw mom I gave her a pin that she really liked and a hug and a kiss. On the way home I told mom what I saw in Portland. She thought the trip must have been great and it was!!!

