

Merry Christmas to our dear Family and Friends!
Christmas 2002



What a whirlwind year we have had! It hardly seems possible that the holidays are upon us. We continue to thoroughly enjoy our two precious children, and take the occasional trip. In February we discovered a gem close to home, Leland High Sierra Snow Play — a place in the Sierra Nevadas that's strictly for

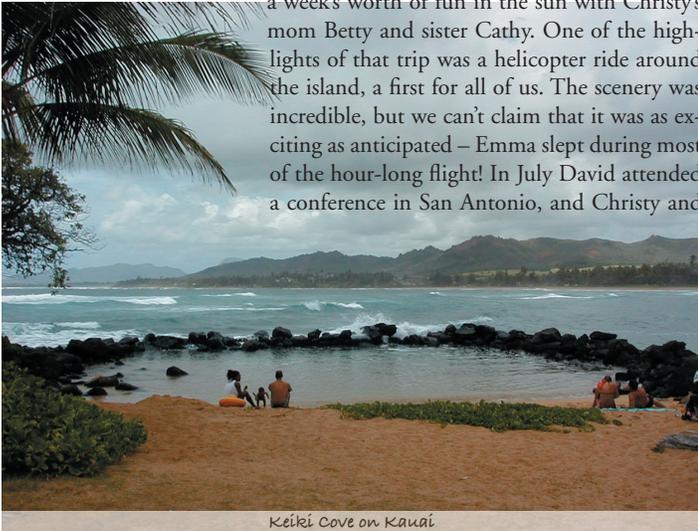


sledding and playing in the snow. We all had a ball, and we plan to make an annual trek there. We traveled to St. Louis, Missouri in May to visit Christy's dad Charles and stepmom Kay, who are finishing up their last year in semi-



Under the Arch

nary there. In June we flew to the breathtakingly beautiful island of Kauai for a week's worth of fun in the sun with Christy's mom Betty and sister Cathy. One of the highlights of that trip was a helicopter ride around the island, a first for all of us. The scenery was incredible, but we can't claim that it was as exciting as anticipated — Emma slept during most of the hour-long flight! In July David attended a conference in San Antonio, and Christy and



Kēiki Cove on Kauai

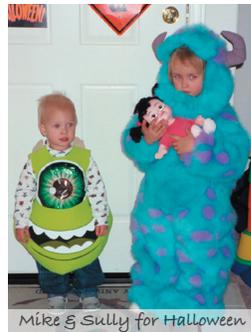


Watching the flamingos at Sea World

the kids came along to explore the Riverwalk and Sea World. Finally, we spent two and a half weeks in Oklahoma in November to celebrate numerous events, including the wedding of our friend Michael Maltz to his lovely bride Ammie, a party celebrating the 40th wedding anniversary of David's



parents, Clyde and Carol, and Thanksgiving — what a trip! It was great to get to share a long visit with our families, and to get to see lots of good friends, although a bout of the flu kept us from seeing everyone we would have liked to see. We are so blessed to have many tremendous people in our lives, both in California and back "home."



Mike & Sully for Halloween



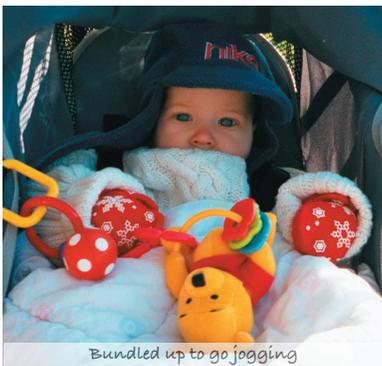
Watching Emma's swim lesson



Our little ones are getting cuter by the minute! At 17 months old, Atticus is an exceedingly happy toddler, with a fondness for singing and dancing. His latest trick is making a "frowny face" which throws us all into hysterics, especially when he breaks out into a huge smile from his scowling frown — he is quite a ham. As we did with Emma, we are teaching Atticus some sign language, and he's starting to pick up new signs very quickly now. He also communicates his desires very well by pointing, grunting, and using some of his favorite words, such as no, go, and uh-oh. At-



Atticus' first time to fly a kite — on the beach at Capitola



Bundled up to go jogging

ticus loves to throw things, mostly balls, but he doesn't discriminate. He will happily throw food, toys, whatever is near. Funny thing is, he has a pretty good arm and not a bad aim — ask anyone who has been seated across the dinner table from him! He is an adorable, mischievous little guy!

Emma started preschool this fall, where she seems to most enjoy the playground (she loves the swings) and singing time. She loves reading books, playing with her friends, and watching VeggieTales videos. We continue to be amazed by her brilliance — she delights in spelling out every word she sees, and she is constantly counting things and doing math. For



These kids love to swim!

example, if we are all sitting at a table, she'll count us, then announce that if

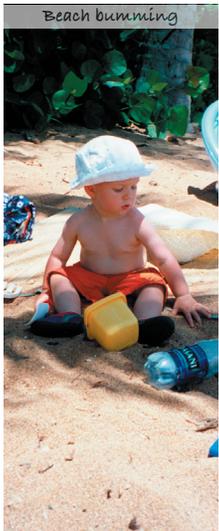


one of us leaves, there will be three left, if two of us leave, there will be two left, etc. There is absolutely nothing in our home which has not been counted. Emma memorized the Pledge of Allegiance this year, along with several Bible verses she learned at preschool. But as academically inclined as she is, she still loves a good game of tag, tickling, or standing on Daddy's shoulders! She's an articulate, fun-loving girl who brings so much joy to our home!

David's big excitement of the year was purchasing a new Toyota Highlander... then hitting some road debris ten days later and having to get the front end replaced. A few months later, courtesy of a red-light runner and a three-car accident (fortunately, no one was injured), he had the opportunity to replace that replacement front end. David's job at Adobe has been keeping him busy, but he did have the chance to attend a couple of computer conferences this year.

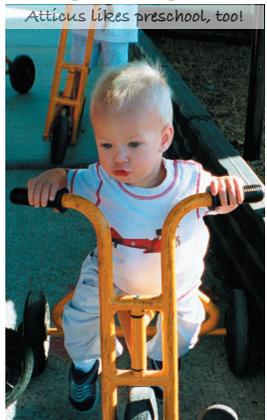


Gym girl!



Beach bumming

We have both taken on the task of trying to get a bit more fit. To that end, we have been jogging and biking regularly. David has also picked up racquetball once again, playing weekly at a local fitness center. We would just like to be able to keep up with our active children!



Atticus likes preschool, too!



On the beach at Pacific Grove waiting to observe a solar eclipse

Christy is still very involved with her Bible study group, which has grown to about 20 members in the last year and finally had to split into smaller groups. She is a volunteer on the board at Emma's preschool, and works in Emma's classroom about once a month (it's a co-operative school). Between preschool



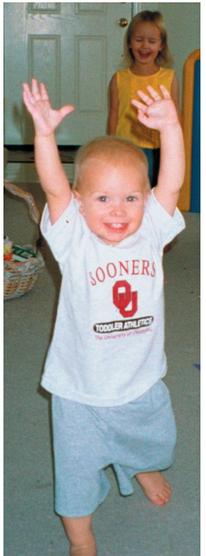
Dress-up fun



Pool play at home

and church activities, plus play dates with the kids' friends, she manages to keep pretty busy. This year motherhood has brought her the new role of defusing the occasional sibling squabble, but she still finds being a Mommy the most fun and rewarding job she's ever had.

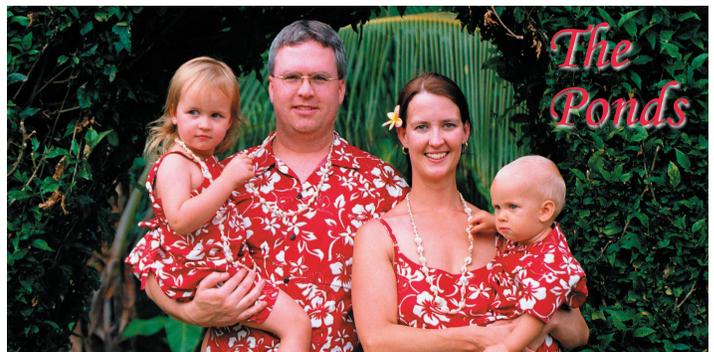
We plan to ring in the New Year by taking a trip to Pasadena with David's sister Raye to cheer the Oklahoma Sooners to victory in the Rose Bowl, and to check out the Rose Bowl Parade. (Let us know if you'll be there!)



Touchdown! Go Sooners!!!



One of our favorite things about the holiday season is hearing from our dear friends and family — we always look forward to finding out what has been going on in your lives. We hope that 2002 has been a joyous year for all of you, and we send each of you our prayers for God's peace and joy in 2003!



The Ponds