

## Incredible journey...we should be so lucky

By SARAH INGERSOLL

Imagine being nine or ten years old and being 3,000 miles away from home. Imagine being given the opportunity to learn your schoolwork in a mobile home while seeing your country.

Nine and ten year olds Kari and Peder Davis, Tom Miller and JeNell Johnson of Kirkland, Washington (the state) have been on the road for three weeks and will be for another seven weeks. They are learning more in these ten weeks than they would ever hope to in the schoolroom.

Trina Davis and Pat Miller, schoolteachers, obtained leaves of absence from their school board to take these children on a trip

through the United States, providing they would teach the children their lessons along the way. They (the children) do homework for about two and one-half hours each day (seeing as the student-teacher ratio is 2 to 1, the kids will learn more than the average student would in a regular classroom).

So far, the kids have been through Washington, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. Historical landmarks that they have seen are Mount Rushmore, Lincoln's Home in Illinois and the stainless steel arch in Missouri (this being 630 feet in height). On top of this arch the group met a

man from Mississippi and he was so fascinated with their story of how they were travelling around the United States, that he invited them to visit his 35,000 acre cotton plantation when they came through Mississippi on their return trip to Washington. The people they have met on their trip have all been so helpful and so eager to show them their sites.

Tuesday evening the group arrived at my family's house in Fredericton. Since we had never met before, but weren't total strangers (Trina Davis being the wife of the man whose grandfather was a brother of my great grandfather, or something like that), we took time for everyone to be introduced and then sat back and discussed their adventures.

The children brought in their "State Books" in which one page is used for each state visited. On this page is a map of the particular state in his/her own hand, a picture of themselves at a historical or geographical site and a writing of some facts of the state.

It is important at this point to weigh the importance of this excursion. To read in a History book of a landmark and to actually be there, to touch it, are such totally different experiences and so much more can be learned from the second. These children are receiving the opportunity of a lifetime and because they are combining pleasure with academics, what they learn will remain with them throughout their lives,

rather than be forgotten after the tests are over.

From Fredericton the group moved on to Grand Manan, N.B. for a day and they they began their long trek back through the States. From Maine to Boston, Mass., where they will walk the Freedom Trail, to Philadelphia to New York City to Washington, D.C. to North Carolina to Disney World Florida, the sights and sounds of their country will forever be imbedded in their minds. From Florida they will continue on to Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi (remember the Southern Plantation), Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California and back home to Washington State. They will, naturally, go through other states which I haven't mentioned. In all, 38 states will be seen and experienced, the only ones being missed will be some of the Central States.

When I said goodbye to the two teachers early Wednesday morning, I had to be very quiet as the children were still sleeping. As I watched them, I wondered if they were dreaming of places they had been or places they were yet to see. Whichever of these two thoughts were occupying their dreams, I am sure that stories of their experiences will never run out and that they will always be indebted to all those who made this unique trip possible.

### Grow some hair!

Grow a beard and win a prize! Students from UNB & STU, male and female, are being challenged to demonstrate their powers at growing beards.

October 17th, your clean shaven face will be registered. A mug shot, full face and side view, will be taken in the SUB lobby.

The contest from then on can only be described as hairy.

Mustache owners who enter are not expected to shave off their lip warmers if they are duly registered. They will not (the mustache that is) be included in the final beard judging.

Three beard categories exist: (1) length, (2) classical style and (3) fantasy. "Checker board beards are really quite attractive" said Howard Goldberg SUB Manager.

Prizes are being donated by the SUB merchants. Some lucky devil will win a free beard trim once a month for six months. The SUB's own barber shop will oblige.

Preliminary judging will occur the last week in January.

Final judging and prize awarding will take place on Sunday February 5th. Perfect timing for either UNB or STU carnivals.

Rules are posted outside the SUB office.

So go out there and grow a beard if you dare.

# TD Bank recruiting on campus October 24th.

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