

## Hot enough for you?

**N**o? Well then, how's THIS for hot:

Independence Day is upon us...it's a fine time to think about how lucky we are to have our freedom. In fact, a lot of us take for granted the different ways in which we can express our independence, and all of the other things we should be grateful for. Take a moment out of your holiday to consider it. For our part, we'll share more towards the end of our letter.

Since we last spoke, our three children have brought home their final report cards for the school year. Without bragging, let's just say they all passed and are headed on to the next logical phase of their formal education. Maxx is headed to his second and final year of pre-school; Josh traverses the slippery slope of fourth grade. And Rachele? Man-o-manoschevitz, she's off to SIXTH! We don't exactly know how that happened, but she is no longer a teeny tiny critter. Now she's a medium sized critter. AND STILL UNDER HER INSANE FATHER'S WATCHFUL EYE, may we add...

Josh & Rachele are both involved in the town "rec" program for the summer, as well as various two and three day stints such as Robotics Camp (we shudder to think!) and tennis lessons; we'll also try to escape for a week or so before the summer comes to a crashing halt. And then, of course, there's the community pool - something so great about the community pool, hey? Remember? Seeing the friends from town over the summer, hanging out with families, eating the dirty hotdogs that have been sitting around in the same water for hours...and the faces of the little fat two and three year olds trying desperately to lick the ice cream off of their chins. Gee, summer time is great!

And Maxx? Well, as of now, he's still allowed at the pool, so long as we're there with him. Thus far, he has been manageable, but we still have two months of summer to go...let's just say we're anticipating an incident...

Joshua's Tae Kwan Do is progressing very nicely - he now has two stripes on is purple belt, with three more (plus a red one) to go. He knows what he's doing!

We all went on a trip to The Hamptons in late June, and stayed chez cousins. We finally had some amazingly nice weather, which helped tremendously. Lazy days by the pool, and we managed to work in an appearance at Westhampton Beach's The Open Book. If you're in the area, check them out and tell them we sent you!

So for those of you craving news of what lay on our professional horizons:

First off, not only is Kim finished with the art for [Rock A Bye Baby](#), but it has entered into design/production ! We are looking forward to the release of the finished book in about seven months. We will try to add some new shots of the art and related features and new updates to the site, and there should be some new content up there for your perusal within a few days.

We also have an extremely busy autumn planned, with no fewer than SIX conferences within the tri state area during October & November, and December shall see a return to South Carolina for us...more on these happenings in the next newsletter, we'll have plenty of details by then...

Danny is pleased to confirm he is STILL finished working on his new album (rock and roll this time!), still tentatively titled STRIKING WHILE THE IRONY IS HOT. We'll have it mastered sometime late this summer, and then of course design the liner notes and tray card. It will be available somewhere around autumn (we can't be specific, but we're thinking around November). You'll also be able to find it at [JIM BABJAK'S](#) newly revised

site, as well as at [The Grip Weeds](#) page.

And as long as we're on the subject of music: The new children's album has officially been started! Danny went to the studio and had the drums laid down (by Kurt, as usual) for his first track on the album...stay tuned for news a plenty!

Bowling: Let's just say we're glad this season is over and we're looking forward to next season. We ended up in fifth place, although we'd like to think we bowled better than our finish makes it appear....we'd like to think, anyway!

Danny has started playing guitar (big people music!) at a couple of local bars lately: monday nights at Season's in Edison, and Thursdays at The Polo Pub in Highland Park, both on Route #27. The shows start at 9:00 PM, and go until about 12:00 or so, and are hosted by [O-Face](#), a duo consisting of Eddie Trash and [Rodney Phlegm](#). You mightn't think so from what you'll see on their site, but they are just a couple of great down to earth nice guys...who let Danny "swing his axe" twice a week.

Now, about the things we have appreciation for: A beautiful, healthy family, each member of which brings strong characteristics to the table. Our own independence, not just as Americans which we certainly do NOT take for granted, but also as individual, creative beings. To that end, we have decided we will start publishing (technically, continue publishing since we already produced [SONGS FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN](#)), more of our own books, and we have two in the works (don't hold your breath though: We're looking at late 2004 or early 2005 for release dates)! We will be updating you as to these projects, too - so worry not!

Site of the month: The site is called [Guitar Tab Universe!](#) It's for every rock and roller interested in expanding their catalog by learning adequate versions of THOUSANDS of rock and roll songs! Some renditions are better than others, but the catalog is huge, and all are at least playable. They list songs in both chord format as well as tab.

Rock and roll closer: appropos of the site named above, the Byrds offered this piece of advice to the aspiring musical genius: " So you want to be a rock-n-roll star, just listen now to what I say: Just get an electric guitar and sit right down, and learn how to play." And why not?

Peace, happy summer, and we'll keep yappin' if you keep listenin'!

- the Adlermans

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To read our previous newsletters, just click this [News of The Past](#) link.

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