

Gookin  
714 West Empire Avenue  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

Post Office will  
not deliver this  
Christmas letter  
without putting  
a stamp right  
about here.



Greetings from North Idaho-Ho-Ho, where mother nature has just slapped us in the face with 6 inches of snow and temperatures in the teens. So much for those thoughts of “walking off” Thanksgiving dinner...

It's been yet another active year for me and boys. I'm now the father of *two* teenage boys (Jordan 19, Simon 13). For one month in 2007 I'll be the father of three teenage boys (Jonah 13, Simon 14, Jordan 19). I have three boys in braces. And four boys are in private schools. This is that “middle age” thing I've read about most of my life. But life is good. I cannot complain. I'll leave that up to the kids this year. Enjoy our Holiday Epistle!

*Q Simon Jonah Jeremiah*



Computer gaming at Dad's.

## Simon. 13.



Simon is 6'2", 250 lbs.

The whole time this year was the best time of my life. One of the most important things is that I got to spend time with me my dad and get to go to a new school. The school that I am going to is the boom of my time of my school life and I am a nice guy baby.

Thanksgiving was the best part all of the food and the best really best part was the pumpkin pie. This year I meet some new people and that was the boom.

Football was a great game this year as well. But the thing that I can't get out is that we lost to the stealers. I am just so mad at that lost.

Well I hop that you have a great life and a great Christmas.

Thank you have a nice time.



In the year 2006, I turned 12 years old. In case anyone wants to know, Yes, I am in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. No, I'm not a girl. No, I don't know how to skateboard. Yes, I do love video games. And yes, this year was so-so. This year on a scale of 1-10, a four. A four because mostly of the overwhelming chores that have been kicked into place. A four, because of all the stuff I've received. There is nothing really to explain about this year, a good thing here, a bad thing there. So-so. Yes, before I end this note, I must say something about the fourth school

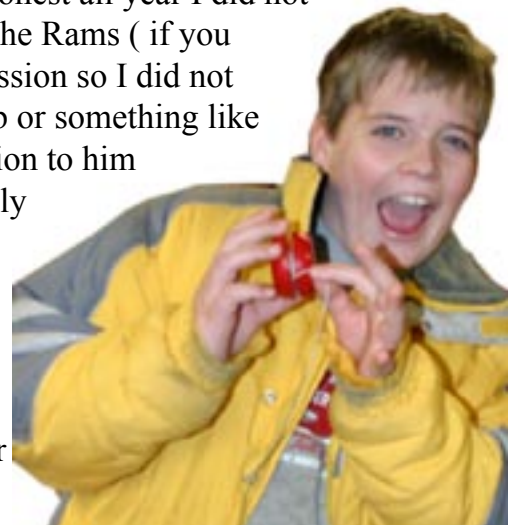
I've entered. G.P.A. (Genesis Prep Academy). Actually, there isn't much to say about it either. Other than it being at the church I went to.



Jonah. 12.

## Jeremiah. 11.

Hi I am Jeremiah Robert (if it really matters) Gookin and I am unwilling report that my dad (Dan) gave me to do (if that makes sense ok). To be honest all year I did not really do anything, I didn't join sports because well I was on the Rams ( if you remember from the letter last year) and I got the wrong impression so I did not play again. My birthday this year was ok someone named Rob or something like that came over from Japan and everyone wanted to pay attention to him because everyone hadn't seen him in a while, so in the end only one question was asked to me and it simply was. "So what was you favorite thing that happened this year?" And in the end I did not answer. And since my birthday (June 1 if that really matters) nothing has really happened other than that of thanksgiving. Thanksgiving was great, I got full really fast but the food was absolutely great. Hope you enjoyed my letter even though it was farley short. Bye, see you never.



# Jordan. 19.

Jordan is in New York for his second year at the Academy of Television and Film (or whatever it's called). This is the more difficult, time-consuming, and heavily-paced second year of the program, which probably explains why I haven't heard from Jordan that much. Either that, or it's his new girlfriend. No, I don't know her name.

Jordan and I appeared in a play together this past summer, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, along with his friend Robbie French. That was a lot of fun.

I'm hoping that Jordan does well and ends up becoming a famous actor so that he can take me out for sushi someday. And he'll pay.



Before the reality of modern orthodontia, Jeremiah and Jonah enjoy a final soda pop.



Dave, Robbie, and Jordan make the musical debut in town.

At the Mukogawa Japanese Cultural Center, the boys tried their hand at making origami. Each of them created their own t-shirts. Here's what each says: Simon, "Simon"; Jonah, "I'm with Stupid"; Jeremiah, "Bow to Hades."





On board the plane to France

I enjoyed 2006, I really did. I decided to go back to work writing computer books. I will have written four before the end of the year. Three are updates, and one is a totally new programming book that I'm really excited about.

The highpoint of my year was going to France in early September. My pal Wendy Rohm threw a writer's conference in Locoste, located in Provence in the south of France. It was a not only worthy as a writer's conference, but an excellent vacation where I saw lots of great things, met all sorts of interesting people, got to mangle the French language, and enjoyed myself more than I can possible deduct as a tax expense.

In November I had the opportunity to do a Windows Vista training DVD. It's *video training!* I flew to Chicago and worked with some wonderful people at Class On Demand. The DVD will



Sampling the grapes at *Chateau la Canorgue*

show to local groups, educating them on what the government does under the guise of "urban renewal." The good news is that no one had me killed. The better news is that the Idaho

be about 4 hours long and features me, nattering about Windows Vista and how it works. It's basic stuff and some may find it entertaining, nay useful. I hope it sells well as I enjoyed doing the video and wouldn't mind doing a few more.

This year I also decided to fight the beast and took on the local Urban Renewal Agency. My investigation uncovered some odd and humorous things. I then presented a slide



Me as "Man 2" in *Kiss Me Kate*, February, Lake City Playhouse

Legislature, the local paper, and perhaps even the FBI will be looking into Urban Renewal this winter based on things I uncovered.

Yes, I can happily say that I am not romantically involved with anyone. The only female companion I have remains my cat, Cosette. She's 12 and doing well, ensuring that the house is adequately coated with a sampling of her hair in every corner and under every bed and couch.

I wish you the best for the Christmas season and a prosperous 2007.

(See my web site, [www.wambooli.com](http://www.wambooli.com) for more info on the books and DVD when they're available.)



7:00 AM. France. On the terrace. Wireless.