

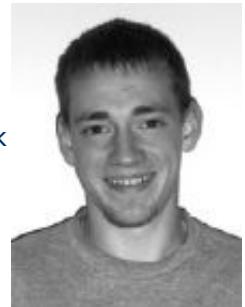
Captive Free North West 2004-05 Journal

Date: 9/28/2004

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hey everybody, this is Daniel and this is our first team journal. Sorry that it took us so long to get them started. Boy, there is a lot to talk about, so, I guess I will start with training. There were six of us, but unfortunately, one of our team members had to leave due to personal reasons. Anyway, we had never met each other until the first day of training. We all arrived at the church and that started the year off. Now, after four weeks of training, we are on the road headed to our region. Our first program was at one of my teammates' church (Audrie's) in Pell Lake, Wisconsin. That was pretty cool and it was a good way to start the year off. Then we started heading north toward the Dakotas. Last Tuesday, we were in Lemmon, South Dakota, and did a family night program. The thing with this program that made it special was the fact that we did it for six people. Though the six people happened to be our host families and the fact that we knew everyone who was there was the cool part. The pastor at this church (Pastor Ken) was an interesting fellow. When we went to leave, sitting in the front seat of the van was a three-foot purple teddy bear. Well, we didn't take the bear, but we did take the pillows that he offered, after the bear got taken out of the van. He was a cool guy. After Lemmon, we started heading into Montana. We were in Montana for two days before heading to Powell, Wyoming for a family night program and our day off. We spent our day off in Cody, Wyoming. We tried to go into Yellowstone but the gate was closed because they were doing construction. So, we went down into town to Wal-Mart; that was fun. Once we were done at Wal-Mart, we went out to dinner for Keith's birthday. We went to this BBQ place called Bubba's BBQ. It was really good food and a lot of meat!!! All of us enjoyed that part of the night. Anyway, now it is Tuesday and we are on our way to Big Timber, Montana. We are stopped for construction and there are a bunch of bees flying around the van trying to sting it. I think the construction workers hit a bee hive. Anyways, gotta go! I will talk to y'all later.



Daniel Weber

Trust in the lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding in all your ways aknowledg him and he will make you paths straight.

Proverbs 3: 5-6

God bless
Daniel
Weber

Date: 10/4/2004

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

Hey guys, it's Audrie. Man, has it been a crazy week. In Big Timber, we worked with a confirmation class and then led worship for a youth group called the Rock. There, we met some awesome college students (who may be thinking about team next year!) Anyways, that was a blast. From Big Timber, we headed up to Helena. While in Helena, we did sing-a-longs at a local grade school. I never realized how much fun kids really had with sing-a-longs and it made me happy to see a bunch of smiling kids. From Helena, we went to Superior, MT. Superior has some amazingly nice people, and Christina and I had the pleasure to stay with a very kind lady named Marge, whom owns a very cute dog named Sarah. I seem to be staying with host homes that have very cute dogs. We led worship that Sunday morning, and I ended up buying a video camera, which will come in handy for the remainder of the year. We headed out for Kalispell, MT that afternoon, which is Natalija Pollack's (New Vision) hometown. And man, does everyone know Natalija. We had a family



Audrie Soble

night program, which we hadn't done in a week, and it went well. The people in Montana, I have learned, are very nice. The state is so beautiful, too. The experience, so far for me, has been a blast! God is awesome and has blessed us so much already. It's great to serve God everyday, and to know that what we are doing is making a difference in other peoples' lives. Yesterday, for our day off, we went up to Calgary, Alberta, Canada. It was my first time out of the USA. Woohoo! Now I can say I've been to two countries. We visited Christina's friends from school, stopped at a Tim Horton's coffee shop, and ate Poutines. Which, yes Christina, they were very good, but I probably gained like ten pounds from them. The overall Canadian experience was much fun. Today we are headed off to Spokane, WA. Chow for now!!

Audrie Rose

Date: 10/23/2004

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey, this is Andrew Williams. We finally had a family night program in a week in a half. I believe that was one of our biggest turn out to our family night program. We set up about 40 chairs and then had to bust out like 15 more in a small community center. Even the pastor, Kristy, was surprised on who all came out. People came from a little over an hour to see us. Along with the family night we had this retreat with confirmation kids from Big Timber. We had a blast, hanging out and playing with the kids. The purpose of us being there was to teach them how to worship. So we as a group had to sort of learn more about the traditional service and how that is run. That was cool. So, we spent 2 nights in a camp area, had mini Bible studies, devotions, learned how to cook (well the kids did), and did a hike to the top of the hill which overlooked the whole country side; it was so beautiful. Along with helping them prepare their worship service, we performed our worship service and did this really cool sermon to show the kids sort of what Jesus did for us by dying on the cross; how some people accept the gift and others don't. It was so powerful that some of the kids started to cry and wanted to help out but we couldn't let them. I believe that they learned a lot from us about worship and to find their own understanding of the Word. Well I got to go and continue being relational. I'll write to you all soon.



Andrew Williams

God's peace,
Andrew Williams

Date: 12/28/2004

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey everybody, we just finished up our Christmas break and are now back on the road. It's so exciting to get back on the road to see what God has in store for us for the rest of the year. We all flew in yesterday, and got to meet our new team member named Sean. We went out to McDonald's for dinner and talked for about an hour that just flew by. From what I understood, everybody had a wonderful time at home with family and friends, taking the time to enjoy ourselves and relax. We spent the night last night at Christ the King Lutheran Church with some of the other teams and just had a blast hearing stories of home and what all they got for Christmas. Now we are at this camp named Red Willow Bible Camp. We are getting back into the groove of things, which is really good to get back into. As well as remembering the music that we play. Oh yeah, we made our CD before our break and we have them all ready to sell. It's like we are rock stars!!!!!!! It's so cool. Well, I got to go--I'll write to you all soon.

God Bless,
Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams

Date: 12/29/2004

Submitted by: Audrie Soble
Journal Entry:

December 29th, 2004



Well, we are back on the road again and had our first family night program this evening with our new bass player, Sean. He is a perfect fit for our team. We are in Rolla, ND at Our Savior Lutheran Church. The people in this town are so wonderful. North Dakota, although very scarce and desolate, is a very awesome place. The snow covering everything is very beautiful, too. Those words coming out of my mouth are very rare, too, but for once I have to say the snow is beautiful. Our week seems to be very busy and exciting as well as the weeks to come. I am very excited to see what God has in store for us this coming year. Oh, yes, HAPPY NEW YEAR everyone!!

Audrie Soble

Audrie Rose

Date: 12/31/2004
Submitted by: Daniel Weber
Journal Entry:

Hey everybody, it's me, Daniel. Well, we had an awesome time at this church in Glasgow, MT. We did a semi acoustic program for them because Andrew (our sound tech) was at his brother's wedding. It was a lot of fun. There was also this really cool kid there named Sean who helped us out by running sound on his church's sound board for us during our program, so we had mics and could have the guitar plugged in. We stayed with a really cool host home--they had a pool table, so we got to play with our three host sisters and our host dad. Our host family had three rabbits and, if you squinted in the right way, one kinda looked like a dog. It was so hairy! I found out that it was an angora so it just had a lot of hair. They also had this puppy that was so hyper, it was jumping around all over the place. It was a cool dog. They said that they had three cats as well, but I only saw two. And the cats did not like the dog that was kinda funny. anyway There is a lot of snow here, and it is not too much fun to drive in, so I better get going. I need to get up kinda early tomorrow and drive so I gotta go. Happy New Year, and God bless you all.



Daniel Weber

Daniel Weber

Date: 1/4/2005
Submitted by: Andrew Williams
Journal Entry:

Hey to all. This weekend was a different weekend. I just got back from my brother Christian and his new wife Tonya's wedding. On the day off, I had to regroup from

the two time changes and riding on a plane for eight hours. I worked on devotions for the next day, which were really great. Today, we are in Chester, MT. It's so cold here. It's been between 29 and -15 degrees. We had a youth night with about 20 kids. We did part of our family night program and played games with the youth, like "I Have Never" and "Mafia." The kids had a blast. Our host family is really cool; we got to watch Star Wars: Return of the Jedi. I think that's about it. Just to remind everybody, simple prayer is good prayer. Talk to everybody soon. Bye.

Andrew Williams



Date: 1/7/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

We arrived in Helena, MT, and we got to stay with this awesome host family. When we arrived, our host sister played Crazy Eights with us, which was a lot of fun. The next day we were sitting around our host home and our host brother who is twenty-something started pulling out a bunch of Legos. I thought that was pretty cool, so we started to play with them. He already had a truck built and a Jeep, but the Jeep was a little low for my taste, so I had to lift it. We put a full steering system on it and full suspension. It was the first time that I had used springs and Legos together. It was a lot of fun, and I was happy that we could act like little kids again.



Andrew Williams

Daniel Weber

God bless
Daniel Weber

Date: 1/11/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

This weekend was pretty cool. We didn't have to lead worship so we could worship with the congregation and get preached to, which I missed so much. We were able to hang out in this really cool youth room at Immanuel Lutheran Church. We watched movies on the wall, so it was like we were in the theater. We also played games and got to understand more of our team and what we all think of each other. It was a blast. We were at First Lutheran Church in Washington, and Daniel managed to get the trailer stuck in the snow again. It was pretty funny because all we wanted to do was drop it close to the church so we could go out to eat with our host home. So in the midst of turning around, the trailer sank into the snow. So we just dropped it there and figured that we would unload it where it's at so it's lighter to move it. We went out to this local Bar-B-Q place, and it was so good that it reminded me of home and homecooked ribs and steaks. I am also excited for our first Construction Zone in Seattle. Being with teens is going to be really cool because it wasn't too long ago that I was one of those kids in high school. This weekend is just going to be so ridiculous. It's great!!!! Well, I'm going to hang out more with the team. Catch up with you later.



Andrew Williams

God's peace,
Andrew Williams

Date: 1/18/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey everybody it's me again. This weekend was such a blast as well as stressful. We were at the Seattle Zone, and boy, were there a lot of people here. So many people we met already on the road, so trying to come up with all their names was

hard. OK, maybe I didn't even try because there were just too many of them. They had this band called Rock 'n' Roll Worship Circus, and they just rocked my socks off. But in the midst of all the excitement, there was our teammate Christina trying to get things squared away with the laptop. All the speakers need stuff projected for their talks. While the night went on, the laptop just freaked and broke. The next day things went pretty well till that night. The projector broke, and it was really bad because it might be toast. Well, the rest of the weekend went OK; the kids seemed to have fun. And then it was Sunday, so time to say bye to all of them. So, packing up took pretty long--so much stuff to put back. On my day off, I was to go snowboarding but I couldn't because I-5 was closed from the rain, so I went with my host family to the mall and bought boarding pants and just had a really relaxing time with them. Well, it's time to go on to our next booking, so I'll talk to you all later soon.



Andrew Williams

God Bless
Andrew Williams

Date: 1/18/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hey everybody. I am going to tell you about how the Zone went for me. Well, Friday we got there and started helping Rock and Roll Worship Circus set up. That took a long time because there was still something going on in one of the ballrooms so we couldn't get in there, but we got the main stage set up. After that we had a little communion service that was led by Henry. Henry is a cool guy who really brought communion to a whole new level for me (thanks Henry). After that is when the fun began. While registration was going on, Christina, Andrew, and myself were trying to get the computer and projector to work. We got it working and the first worship time started off great. The speaker for the weekend was Tiger. He's a really cool guy; I have seen him speak a couple of times, but every time I learn something new because he always is trying something new. One thing he did this weekend was to use a clip from "Saving Private Ryan" and man, it tied in really well with what he was talking about. Another thing that was going on this weekend was the Feed My Starving Children service project. I only got the chance to go in and watch, but everyone that I talked to loved it and had a blast doing it. I would just like to thank the people from Feed My Starving Children for coming out and leading that for us. I think that it was a great opportunity for the kids who were there.

The entire weekend was a lot of fun, and I would just like to thank all of those who organized it and help us to run it.

Thank you

Daniel Weber

Prov. 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.

Date: 1/19/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

Hey everyone! It's been such an awesome month so far. We spent the New Year in Glasgow, MT. Christina and I spent our time with Billy and Louise Uphaus. We rang in the New Year watching the Left Behind series on TV and calling family and friends. That Sunday, we did two services in Hinsdale and Saco, MT. They were cute little towns with very nice people. From there, we were in places like Harlem and Chester, MT. Once we left Chester, MT to head towards Helena, MT, we were about and hour and a half into our drive when Mary from the Youth Encounter office called to tell us that we had left all our acoustic equipment back at the church! We were so shocked and could not believe



Audrie Soble

we left our equipment, and I couldn't believe I had forgotten my guitar.

We arrived in Helena late that night to revisit with former host families. Christina and I had the pleasure to once again stay with the Weikarts. From Helena, we traveled to Couer d'Alene, Idaho to stay at Camp Lutherhaven again as well. The camp is so beautiful and we took our new team photos with Sean there. We actually took them out in the snow in the freezing cold, but we survived, and it was well worth the pictures. From Couer d'Alene we traveled to Spokane, WA, and once again stayed with former host families. I had the pleasure to stay with the Kruses. They have two beautiful daughters who are four and one. The last time I saw the youngest, she was crawling; this time when I saw her, she was walking. Now, when we are back for VBS, she will be talking. It's so exciting. Also, Jeff is a really great cook. During our time in Spokane, we visited a nursing home where we sang some worship music. During "Believe," a pug named Winston walked casually into the room, and I could not help but laugh hysterically. I could not finish singing the song or make it through the next. It was a pretty interesting moment for all of us.

From Spokane, we traveled to Moses Lake, WA, where we stayed at Jeromy Dorsing's church. Jeromy was on team a couple years back. We stayed downstairs in the youth room, which was filled with about 20 different couches and a large screen to watch movies. We also played "Imagine If" together for some good laughs.

From Moses Lake, we went to Ellensburg, WA, where we had a potluck dinner and Family Night Program. I had the pleasure of staying with the Akers family, and after our program, we went back to the house, and me and their daughter Shannon did "yoga-lates." It was probably one of the only times I've gotten exercise so far this year.

Now I am staying with the Hummel family in Kent, WA. They belong to Daniel's church. We just got done with our first and only Zone. All and all, I think the weekend went very well. The Rock and Roll Worship Circus rocked the house, and the service project with Feed My Starving Children went very well. On Saturday night, a group from Eugene, OR took me to Red Robin, and we said it was my birthday. I got two balloons and a really good sundae. The following afternoon, when the Zone was over, Zone staff went out to Red Robin for lunch, and we once again said it was mine and Daniel's birthdays. I couldn't get enough of the sundae. That night, Daniel's parents took us to the Black Angus for our birthdays, which is a very good steakhouse. There, I ordered a t-bone steak! It was so good, and I got a really good brownie sundae as well. On Monday night, the Hummels had a birthday dinner for us as well. Now we are off to Coos Bay, OR. Have a great week everyone!

Audrie Rose

Date: 1/21/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Today we stayed at Trinity Lutheran Church in Vancouver, WA. While we were there, the junior high kids were having a lock-in, where they try to stay up all night and hang out in the church. Well, we started the night out with dinner, which consisted of pizza, pop, candy, and chips. After that we played a half hour of music with our guitar, bass, and djembe. That was fun, and they were pretty interested in my djembe because the youth group is going to be buying one soon. After that we played some games with them; one was called the Fruit Game (we learned this game in OR). The way you play the Fruit Game is everyone picks a fruit, such as mango, then you start the game by saying "Mango--Banana," then whoever picked banana has to say "Banana--Orange," and so on. The object is to stay in till the end. To do this you must not show your teeth at all during the game or you will be disqualified. If you say a fruit that has already been taken out, you will be disqualified. It's a lot of fun. After that we played Sardines. It was my turn to hide, so I ran around the church and found the perfect spot, but I didn't hear where was off limits. So I was sitting in this really cool spot, and no one was coming! I found out later that the spot I was in was off limits. Well, they forgave me, and we all got a little chuckle out of it. Later that night we watched "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure," which is an awesome movie. Anyways, I would say that the lock-in was a big success and that the kids had fun.



Daniel Weber

God bless
Daniel

Prov. 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.

Date: 1/25/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey everybody, it's me, Andrew. Well, this weekend was a relaxing weekend. We had a program on Saturday, at Coos Bay. That night I talked with my host mom, Diane, about my sharing and how she understood what I went through because her own daughter went through similar stuff. Worship on Sunday, we led both services. It was different but yet the same because we tried to a full set up for the 8:30 service, but that didn't really work out the way we wanted it to, so we went back to acoustic for the 11:00 service for the feel that we liked. After the services, we went home and I hung out with my host family. We went to the beach--I finally got to see the Pacific Ocean. I walked around and found out that if you turn your back to the ocean, it will get you wet. Sean came with us to the beach, and we raced to be the first to touch the ocean because it was our first time to touch it, let alone see it. We started to argue who touched it first, and in the corner of my eye I saw a wave coming. So I jumped, while Sean got all wet. Unfortunately gravity played a huge factor, so it pulled me down into the water so I made a huge splash!!!! We both got soaked; all we could do was laugh at ourselves. Phil, my host dad, started to talk about starfish, so I really wanted to see one. Of course I did, and I got to touch it. It was so cool to see and touch a starfish, anemones, and see a seal (just one, no more, no less); while I was there I picked up some rocks, shells, and drift wood so I could make a present/remembrance of going to the ocean. So Monday on my day off, I worked on my Valentine's Day present for Sarah with my host parents. Well, I'm getting a little ahead of myself. My host dad takes molding of monsters from B-movies of the 50s and the 60s and fixes them up, paints them, collects them, and sells some of them to buy more. In order to do what he does, you would need a creative mind and cool stuff to use to put them together. When I told both of my host parents about what I wanted to create out of the stuff I brought home with me from the beach, they wanted to help out by giving me suggestions on how to go about it and what it should say. I would go into more detail; however, it's a present, so I can't give it away because I know that my girlfriend Sarah checks and reads all the journals that are up.



Andrew Williams

We are at Camp Lutherwood, and you wouldn't believe the pictures that we ran across. Dude, when Jeff Rowden (the Recruitment Director) was on New Vision back in the 90s, he had a mullet, and a massive one at that. You wouldn't be able to tell that it was him without being told. It was so curly, he looked like a little school girl. :-) Well, it's getting late. Write to you again in a week.

God's Peace

Andrew Williams

Date: 1/26/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

So, it's been a pretty eventful week. From Kent, WA, we went to Lacey, WA. There we had a Family Night Program, and Christina and I had the pleasure of staying with Paul and Cheryl Davis. It was such a blessing staying with them. The FNP went real well, and the energy in the room was so amazing. God rocks! Daniel even got to play an electric drum set. From Lacey, WA, we went to Vancouver, WA. There, we stayed at Trinity Lutheran Church and had a lock-in with some really awesome junior high kids. We did an hour of music and then played several games. Knowing I had to drive the following morning, I decided to sleep for the first time in the van. It was very quiet and warm out there.



Audrie Soble

From Vancouver, WA, we hit the coast and went to Coos Bay, OR. It was so beautiful. It

was my first time to the Pacific coast, so of course, I went and touched the ocean for the first time and went and saw some sea creatures. I even saw a gray whale. There, I stayed with the Jordan family and they took me all around sight-seeing.

From Coos Bay, we went to Cheshire, OR and stayed at Camp Lutherwood. There we got to meet some Youth Encounter alumni who were on the New Vision 94-95 team with Jeff Rowdon (the Recruitment Director) and got to see some pretty interesting pictures of Jeff in his younger years. It was some good times. From Cheshire, we went to Greshem, OR, and Christina and I had the pleasure of staying with Kerry Boothby's family. Kerry is on East Lakes this year. Staying with her family was a blast, and I especially had a good time staying in her room and browsing through her baby pictures and other such stuff.

Now we are located in Forest Grove, OR and staying at Mount Olive Lutheran Church. This morning, we got up bright and early to do a chapel, and boy, did those kids ever make our day. They were so energized and so happy to join in all the sing-a-longs. Kids are such a blessing to us. Next stop is Kennewick, WA. Buh bye!

Audrie Rose

Date: 1/28/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hi again! How's it going? It is going well here. This morning we went to Forest Grove Lutheran School. The kids were awesome, and they jumped like crazy. As they were leaving I let each of them hit my djembe. It was such a cool time. Also yesterday we were able to meet up with my sister and brother-in-law for lunch. We went to this drive in place that had really good food. I think most of us got shakes--they were so good. After that we went back to the church. Later that night the church was having a family movie night (they were watching The Princess Bride), so we joined them and played couple of songs to start out the night. It was a lot of fun. Especially watching the movie with people who have not seen it before reminded me of how funny it was the first time I saw it. It was great to hang out with the kids from the morning.



Daniel Weber

God bless
Daniel

Prov. 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding
In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.

Date: 2/2/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

It's been another exciting week. On Saturday, we stayed in Kennewick, WA and on Sunday Morning we helped out with the worship service. We did some music and did our puppet show as well. For Sunday school, we also did some singalongs for the kids. From there, we went to Meridian, Idaho. I got to stay with an awesome girl, Lauren. She's a year older than me and has her own house and still manages to go to school and work. She was such an amazing and inspiring person. On Tuesday, we did a preschool chapel. The kids were so awesome and gave us an energy burst for the day. Kids rock!!

We are now in Gooding, ID and staying with the Hurd family.



Audrie Soble

Audrie Rose

Date: 2/4/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hey every body how's it going? This weekend was Quake and it was a blast. When all the kids got there the energy level in the hotel picked up a little but it really picked up during the first celebration. That was a blast to be able to worship with everyone. But I would have to say that night was one of the best times of the weekend during camp fire we had the words up on the screen and everyone was singing with us. After we sang our first couple of songs we introduced the cross activity and we told them that they were supposed to write down things that they wanted to give up to god on the black sheets of paper and nail them to the cross. During this time we were still playing and singing, the majority of the kids were singing with us it was a very worshipful experience. It was awesome. The next day on Saturday we had our treks and I was expecting to get a small to medium amount of people but my trek on music was packed; that was cool. I think that most of the kids walked away with a better understanding of the secular music world and that was what I was going for. On Sunday when every one was leaving I had a group of kids come up to me and they just said thank you for this weekend and they walked away, that was my most memorable experience from the weekend because they were sincere in there thank you. It was cool to see that in them. Talk to you later.

Daniel



Daniel Weber

Date: 2/9/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

After Meridian, we traveled to Gooding, ID and got to stay with the Hurd family. They have three awesome daughters that have so much energy and who were so excited for us to be there. We did a youth night there, and got such an amazing response from the kids. From Gooding, ID, we stopped in Livingston, MT and then made our way to Bozeman, MT for our 2nd Youth Quake.



Audrie Soble

The Quake was a blast and it was so awesome to see so many familiar faces. The kids seemed to be having such an awesome time and I never saw a dull face all weekend. Lynn Stoneking and the John Deer Posse rocked the house and Gennae Falconer shared such an awesome message. After games on Friday night, I ended up putting too much stress on my knee and paid the price later, but it's all about the ministry, eh?

From Bozeman, we traveled to good 'ol Helena, MT, where we prepared to leave for Canada. On the 8th, we crossed the border and spent the evening at Drew Bells' home in Vauxhall, AB. His parents were so kind to us and we even got to watch an episode of American Idol. Now we are located in Outlook, SK at LCBI which is a Lutheran high school. We put on an evening chapel for the kids and tomorrow we will be participating in a commissioning service for 20 kids who are leaving for Mexico. It is so exciting to see such young kids excited to do ministry.

Audrie Rose

Date: 2/11/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hey everybody its me again this week we went up to Canada and went to this school called LCBI (Lutheran collegiate bible institute) and we got to stay there for a couple of days. While we were there we got to do music for their ash Wednesday service that was pretty cool. We did a half plugged in and half acoustic program and it was great to do it acoustic because it was the first time all year that we could hear the congregation and

they were worshiping with us and it rocked. It was one of though's goose bump moments. It was awesome. That night us guys slept at Mark Kuntz (who was on NW last year) house, it was fun hanging out with a past teamer. The next day we got to hang out in the religion classes and we got to take a test on stuff that they were learning and I failed it. I guess I have to go back to school. Any way it was a lot of fun and we got to meet a lot of cool people.

God bless
Daniel Weber



Daniel Weber

Date: 2/15/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hello from Canada,

This is Andrew again and we are at Rocky Mountain College. Well this past Sunday we were at Asinaboia SK. We played a few songs and then did the hippo song for the kids, it was great. Our host family fed us so much food and just had some of the coolest conversations. That night we went and played 5 pin bowling. Dude it was so much fun and we played 3 games and one of the games was bingo and all my group need to get it was just the head pin and boy that never happened. I tried so hard I even got some help and, even then just the head pin wouldn't fall down. It was crazy. On Monday we drove to Calgary, AB and went to the college. We started off leading worship and then sat in the choir class. They were rocking. Then my roommate Josh asked me if I was willing to go and sit in on some of his classes. Of course I went, I really wanted to learn some new things and be taught. One thing that I learned is that the New Testament is the most reliable book ever written because we have 24,000 to 32,000 written copies of the book in scrolls. It's crazy. And now it's time to go to bed because we have to leave tomorrow to go back into the US. Well the adventure of being in Canada is coming to the end and I just hope that you all learned something new from what all I've told you. Goodnight and God's Peace

Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams

Date: 2/16/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

Hey all, it's been such an awesome week. We have spent this past week traveling through the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Yes, Canada!! The border crossings, thankfully, went very smoothly, and the people up in Canada are so nice. From Vauxhall, AB, we went to Outlook, SK to LCBI. It is a boarding school for high school students, and we held 2 chapels there for them. We also met up with alumni, Phil Knudtsin and Mark Kuntz.

From Outlook, SK, we went to Saskatoon, SK and did a family night program. Before the program, my teammates held a classic game of duck, duck, goose and got the kids totally wired. It was so fun. From Saskatoon, we traveled to Assiniboia, SK and did Sunday morning worship. That evening, we went out with the youth group and did 5 pin bowling. It was not that easy, but very fun.

From Assiniboia, we went to Calgary, AB to Rocky Mountain Bible College (Christina's former college). I got to stay with 3 girls in the dorms and eat the college student diet. Very good times. From Calgary, we went to Cochrane, AB to finish off our tour. We did mid-week worship and spent time with the confirmation class. That night, me and Christina had the pleasure to stay with the Knudtsin family.



Audrie Soble

Date: 2/18/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hey it's me again. So this weekend we were in Tacoma WA and at the church we were at we got to do this youth service and we were expecting like twenty kids max. But there was probably over a hundred youth. It was awesome. All of the kids were singing and worshiping with us, and since it was acoustic we could hear them and it really hit me. It was the first time in awhile that I felt like I was helping people worship. After the service we were talking to some of the youth and I found out that they were the youth worship team and that we were giving them the week off and that was a huge blessing for them. It was cool. After that we went to this really cool church in Covington WA and we got to do this program for this awesome group of people. Yes I am from Covington and yes this was my church but it was a lot of fun. Any way gotta go peace out.

**Daniel Weber**

God bless Daniel Weber

Date: 2/22/2005**Submitted by:** Andrew Williams**Journal Entry:**

Hey to all again,

Well this weekend was sort of a different unexpected weekend. We were going to have a ski retreat however that changed because there wasn't enough snow. We didn't have it so we spent that time with our host family. Well on Sunday we led the youth church service and it was really cool because we saw some kids that we met at Zone. At the end of worship is the song that I always play and the kids knew the song and they all were so in to it. Then we made our way after that to Daniel's church, we had a family night program which was different as well as really good. At this time Christina was really sick so she couldn't sing and Audrie had to sing everything and it sounded cool. And that day was also my host brother's 16th birthday. The next day my host family and I hung out around the house and then road bikes to airstrip. For dinner we flew out to dinner. It was so cool because it's been so long since I've been in a single prop airplane. While we were up in the air we went and saw The Snoqualmie falls. And then Bob was like "Take the wheel and fly the plane". While I was taking over he explained everything to me and I was so scared and excited at the same time. When I was at home a friend of my family has a plane just like his and all my brothers flew it except for me so it was just really cool. Then for a continuance of my host brother's b-day we went go-cart riding at "Sicart". It was crazy quick. I've never really had a chance to drive go-carts as fast as I did there because they just had them set up to race; unlike other go-cart places where you can only go so fast before it starts to stay at a certain speed. So this weekend was a blast. Well I'm off to spend time with God. Write to you all soon.

Andrew Williams

**Andrew Williams**

Date: 2/23/2005**Submitted by:** Audrie Soble**Journal Entry:**

So, when we got back from Canada, we went back to Helena, MT. The next day, we had a 7 hour drive to Odessa, WA. We got to stay with the Heimbigner family and played Sequence and had an excellent chicken dinner. From Odessa, we went to Tacoma, WA and me and Christina got to stay with a very nice married couple who were expecting their first child. It was very fun getting to know them. The next morning we led their youth service and got to hang out with the kids who led their worship band. From Tacoma, we went to Kent, WA to Daniel's home church. We had a family night program Sunday night, and then for the next 3 days we just got to spend time with our host families. I housed with the Hummel family, and they are just so awesome. We watched American Idol and had fun recording music on their computer. I can't wait to see them before Easter Break.

**Audrie Soble**

Date: 2/25/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

How's it going every body? Its going alright here today we were just outside of Portland OR. At the same church were we were for Halloween. We got to walk around to all of the preschool classes and sing to them. We also got to walk around the parking lot it was fun. It was pretty cool to be able to see these kids who really love God singing with us. I think the best thing about this weekend was that we were staying with a family that we know and have stayed with before. They are a really cool family. While we were there we watched "When Harry Met Sally" as a family it was pretty cool. Anyway, talk to ya later.



Daniel Weber

God bless Daniel Weber

Date: 3/1/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey to all once again, we are here outside of Portland, OR at Lake Oswego. This is like such a cool youth place. Our host brother Corry plays the guitar so we had a jam session last night and he also had to study for a test and I went and sat in his study session with his friends. I remembered how to do this; it was like last year because I was still in high school at that point in time. It was so much fun. However this weekend was really cool because we led the church service at 2 different churches. It was really great because right after the services we went bowling with the youth and went out to eat pizza with them. We haven't bowled in so long. Daniel and I were having a huge competition. Then afterwards we went back to the pastor's house and jammed and learned a new song that Daniel and I wanted to learn to play. They also had a game cube and we played "X-Man". It was such a great game, and so easy to lose so much time playing it. Sean and I were telling Matt our host brother about the hippo. We scared him by telling him the Hippo was a very scary animal and at the end of the day I broke out my puppet of a hippo. Sean showed the actions of the song and Daniel sang it right before Matt went to bed. It's was so much fun, however it's really late so I should go to bed. Write back to you all here soon.

Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams

Date: 3/2/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

From Kent, WA, we traveled to Portland, OR. We got to stay with former host families and had a team outing. We went to see the movie Hitch and went to DQ for some ice cream. From Portland, we went to Naselle, WA and that night did a program for the Naselle Youth Camp. The camp was made up of 14-20 year old kids that have had dealt with crime in the past. The kids were so amazing and I could definitely see God working through them. They were so excited to see us and ready to help us with whatever needed to be done. The following morning we did 2 worship services and went bowling with the youth shortly after, followed by pizza. Today, we are headed to Lake Oswego, OR.



Audrie Soble

Date: 3/4/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hey everybody, how's it going? This weekend we had the Newport Beach Quake, and it

was sweet. The campfires were amazing. It was crystal clear so we were able to have an actual campfire on the beach. The first night we went down to get it ready, and there was a group of teenagers down there with a fire already going pretty good. As we were trying to get ours going, they brought over a pallet and a piece of wood that was already burning so our fire would get lit faster. About five minutes later, they came over and told us that they were leaving, and that if we put out the fire, we could use theirs. So we did, and it was the most amazing campfire that I have ever been to. It rocked. Anyway, I think that this was my favorite Event this year. I am going to go for now; talk to y'all soon.

Daniel Weber



Daniel Weber

Date: 3/8/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey to everybody.

We just finished up our last Quake of the year. So sad. Well, it was a blast and so tiring. You all might not know that I'm the sound tech of the group; however Christina was sick, so I got to go up and play the electric all weekend. That was my first time ever really playing for kids in that type of a setting. I was so excited to know that we could do stuff on the beach such as worship, play games, and just relax. I met a pastor who knows my pastor at my church. I live on the other side of the continental U.S., which made it cool and a little weird at the same time because it makes the world a little smaller. We had Packer Dave as our speaker (greatest line ever—"Jesus loves you; deal with it!!!") Everybody was just going around saying it all weekend. The kids just seemed to have a blast, and by the end of the weekend I was beat. Well, that's about it for now. Talk to you all soon.

God bless,
Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams

Date: 3/9/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

The month of March has been so great so far. We started it off with our final Quake in Newport, Oregon. The hotel was on the beach, and I have never been so blessed with such an awesome place to stay. We even got to stay an extra two nights. The Quake was so awesome and went so well. Unfortunately, Christina was sick and could not participate. I had to jump into the role of lead singer, which was fun but very challenging, and much different than being behind a guitar all the time. God definitely strengthened me musically and taught me more about being flexible and humble. The kids were great. I had the pleasure of hanging out with the Junior Guides for the weekend, and they came up front during all the sing-a-longs to help me out with the actions. Thanks, you guys!

We held campfire out on the beach, and man, was it awesome. It was hard to hear, but how often do you get 250 people outside to worship on the beach? It was amazing. Jeremy was such a pleasure to work with again. He always is!! I also got to reacquaint with Beth Gearhart. I met Beth two summers ago at Youth Create, so it was awesome to see her again. She is such an awesome musician and an all around awesome person.

After the Quake, we headed back to Gresham, OR. I got to stay with Kerry's (East Lakes) family. They are so awesome, and I even left a little surprise for Kerry in her room for when she comes home for Easter. From Kerry's, we arrived at another teamer's home, Kimmi from South Central. Her family was awesome as well. They had a pet goat named Gimli; he was such a blast. We decided to take the ferry into Seattle that evening and got together with Cammy (she's an alum). We



Audrie Soble

walked around the city and got ice cream. It was such a relaxing evening.

Peace!!

Audrie Rose

Date: 3/11/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hey, how y'all doing? We were at Kim Rupp's house this week (she is on south central). It was cool; when we got there we found out that they had a goat called Gimli. Sean thought that it would be fun to wrestle with him, so he did. It was weird because the goat was taller than Sean when he stood up on his rear legs, so it was a fair fight. I think that Gimli won by default because Sean had to go inside. But anyway, it was a lot of fun to stay at a teamer's house. It was a blast.



Daniel Weber

God bless
Daniel Weber

Date: 3/15/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey once again to everybody who reads this. This weekend was a blast. We had an acoustic program on Saturday night. While we were setting up, I looked at their sound board and noticed that things were running really high, so I talked to their sound tech and found out that he didn't know much about sound. So while we were doing our little sound check, I was teaching him things about his board. It was so cool because it has been a while since I have had to teach anybody about anything. Usually I'm the one learning how to run things and make changes. Well, we led worship on Sunday, and I did the interactive Bible story. Everybody seemed to get a big kick out of the volunteers who help out because of their reactions when they are told what to do. Later that day, I went on a run with my host brother who is in really good shape. I hadn't really gotten to run in quite some time, so—you guessed it—I was huffing and puffing just to keep up with him. Then we celebrated my host mom's grandmother's birthday; she was turning 94 years old. She has seen a lot of stuff happen in her life.



Andrew Williams

On my day off, my host mom and I went to see the flower fields, some of them in full bloom. Later that day, my host dad took me to Deception Pass. It was so beautiful to see the river at dusk and just spend some time with my host dad. He reminded me of my best friend's dad at home. Later that night my host brother and sister went to a youth group thing called Young Life. I didn't really know what it was, but I went to see what it was like. So many crazy things happened there, and at the end of it all, most of the activities that were done revolved around a Bible message. I just amazed by how it was done. After Young Life we went back home and watched a movie. Well, I believe that is about it for now. I'll catch you later on.

God bless,
Andrew Williams

Date: 3/16/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

From Kimmi's place, we came out to Burlington, WA. That night we had a Family Night Program and did Sunday morning worship the following morning. The church was so

welcoming. I had the pleasure to stay with my host mom, Millie. She had a house on Samish Island, and the house was practically on the ocean. It felt as if I were on a boat. What was so great about Millie was her personality. We just hung out and laughed together, and it felt as if I were home. She also reminded me of my friend Lori Bee back home, voice and all. It was good times. We stayed in Burlington for three nights, and on my day off, I slept. It was good.

Love you all!!!

Audrie Rose



Date: 3/18/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

This week we were up in Everett, WA, and we were able to stay with this really cool guy named Chris. The house we stayed in had to be the coolest house this year. The owners were hunters and really loved nature, so the entire house was decorated with animal statues and animal heads. It was way cool. The house looked over part of the Puget Sound, which was an amazing view. Our time that we spent there was very relaxing and enjoyable—thanks Chris.



Audrie Soble

Daniel Weber

God bless
Daniel Weber

Date: 3/30/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

It's been a good first couple of days on the road again after Easter break. It was nice being home visiting with family and friends and resting up. Right now, we are in Poulsbo, WA. Today we did a chapel for the kids at a Lutheran school, and they had such a good time; so did we. It's great to be back on the road, serving God and hanging out with really cool kids again. We also spent quality time as a team cleaning out our van and trailer. Sean and I went to a local car wash to vacuum out the van, and I got my head stuck in between the seats. It was worth it, though, because our van was disgusting. We also sprayed with some strawberry fragrance to make it smell good. I gagged. It's nice having a clean and organized home, though.



Audrie Soble

Date: 4/1/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hey, sorry if this journal is random, but we just got done with an all-night lock-out. It was awesome. We started out the night in Shelton, WA, where we did a Family Night Program for the youth. After we got done with that, we had to tear down all of our sound system and load it into our trailer, but the catch was that we had to do so in twenty minutes!!!! (Ahhhh, scary). But thankfully we had the help of about ten to fifteen youth who got volunteered by their youth leaders to help, so it went really quick. After that, we went to Evergreen State Rec Center; the entire time that we were there I was in where the rock climbing was and having a blast. It was fun to see all of the youth doing something that I have a passion for. Anyway, we were there for two hours, and then we went to Sprinkler Rec Center, where we ice skated for an hour and played broom hockey for an hour. The next thing we did was bowling, and everyone knows bowling on no sleep and a bunch of caffeine is



Daniel Weber

always the funniest thing you can do at 3:30 in the morning. At 5:30, we headed back to the church and sent the kids and ourselves home to sleep. We slept till about 2:00 at Paul's house (the youth pastor). Now anything after that is kind of a blur, so if you want more details, you can read Sean's journal.

Daniel Weber

Date: 4/15/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hey everybody, how's it going? Today we were in Gresham, OR. We had a lock-in at Trinity Lutheran, which is Kerry's (from East Lakes) church. Anyway, when we were there, we played a concert for the youth and then we played games; it was a lot of fun. One of the things that we did was skits, so one of the groups did scenes from a hat where you write down something like, you are Barbie and Ken breaking up, and then you act it out. Well, we were able to do that with the youth, and it was a blast. Some of the youth came up with really good stuff. All in all, it was a fun night, and we got to hang out with some cool kids. It rocked.

God bless,
Daniel Weber



Daniel Weber

Date: 4/20/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

Kids are amazing!! Today, we had an all day event at Zion Lutheran School in Everett, WA. We started out with a chapel at 9 a.m., and from 10 until the end of school, we traveled around to every classroom to hang out with the kids, answer unusual questions, do our puppet show, teach the Hippo Song, and sign their shoes. The thing for the kids was to get their shoes signed by us and ask us what brand and size our shoes were. Very interesting, but it was so awesome to get to know the kids, and some even gave us their own autographs.



Audrie Soble

That night, we had a program, and it was so awesome. So many kids were moshing and dancing around. The energy was great, and I know that God did some amazing things there. All I have to say is that after that night, I am totally pumped up for VBS. Kids ROCK!!!!

Audrie Rose

Date: 4/22/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

How y'all doing!! We are in Kalispell, Montana right now, and we just had an awesome Family Night Program. There were about 25 people there, but it rocked all the same. The drive to Kalispell was an interesting one; I never knew that so many bugs could hit your windshield at the same time. They were just coming one after another, and it didn't take long until we had to wash the windshield. That was a lot of bugs. Anyway, once we got to our host family (the three of us guys were staying together), we met the new dog that they got. I think that if I owned a dog and a cat like theirs, I would never need a TV. The dog would chase the cat all over the house, and the cat would turn around and box the dog; it was the most amusing thing I think I have ever seen.

God bless,



Daniel Weber

Date: 4/26/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey everybody, we really had a relaxing weekend. We hung around Kalispell, MT for a little bit, and then we traveled some and ended up in New Meadows for our day off. Well, while we were there, we watched some movies and hung out with the youth group and played baseball with them inside with a beach volleyball. It was so cool because we had these obstacles in the way, so we sort of had to run around them. Then they asked us questions on how we got involved with Youth Encounter, and all the questions that come along with that. We also hung around the town and just walked all over the place; Sean and I threw the football around and just chillaxed. Daniel was sick during that time, so I was being a good teammate and making sure he ate right and rested just like a mom or dad would do with their sick kids. We left there and only went like ten minutes away and stayed at this really cool house which was right next to a smoke jumper base, and I ran by there, and I was just wow!!! It is so cool. Smoke jumpers jump out of a plane near a forest fire and put it out, which is just really cool. Well, it's late, and I'm going out to devote to God and all that good stuff that he likes. Talk to you all later.

God bless,
Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams

Date: 4/27/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

For the past couple of days, we have been traveling around Idaho. Idaho is such a great state. It's beautiful, and the people ROCK!!! *Napoleon Dynamite* was filmed here too!! Anyways...

On Sunday, we traveled to New Meadows to return to the same church where we made a hospital visit for our boys. On Tuesday morning, Andrew had an awesome devotion for us where we played fun games, like who can move the fastest with a duck between their legs, how fast you can go balancing a shampoo bottle on your head, and soap hockey with a broom. It was great and put us all in a great mood. That night, we went ten miles to McCall to stay at the Biegerts home, and their house was beautiful. We watched *Life is Beautiful*, *Stand By Me*, American Idol, and we got to rest. Now we are in Meridian, ID. Idaho is an overall amazing place, and I love being out here.

Audrie Rose



Audrie Soble

Date: 4/29/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Guess what? It's me again. This weekend we had a lock-in at Christ Lutheran Church in Meridian, ID. It was a blast. The night started off with us doing a Family Night Program for the youth, which rocked most of the youth were up out of their chairs and jumping around, just worshiping the Lord. It rocked. After the concert we started playing games; one was called lazy foosball. Lazy foosball is where you get the group split up into two groups and organized in chairs so that it looks like a foosball table. Then you take a beach ball and, only using your feet and head, you try to make goals. It's a lot of fun; unfortunately one of the youth got out of his chair during the game and got kicked in the face. But he was okay, so the game continued. Anyway, the lock-in was a blast. Talk to you later.



Daniel Weber

God bless,
Daniel Weber

Date: 5/3/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey to all, guess what? I have this really cool thing to tell you all that happened at a host home. Well, we got to the church, we got all set up for the concert the next day, and that is when we met our host families. My host mom took me to the store and told me about her family and how without her faith in God, it would have just fallen apart. So we got to her house, and her birds looked at me; one recognized me as her son. We started talking about my family and how things are there and just really got to know each other. It turns out that I reminded her of her son, just like I did for the bird. With that being said, she gave me a bunny that she made. She told me that she has cancer, and she makes them for all the doctors and nurses for helping her during the time of need. So she gave me one which made me feel really special. I said I would send that to my mom for Mothers' Day, and she told me to thank my mom for allowing me to be out here doing this. And I did, and it was great because when I called my mom and dad to see if they got it, my dad told me that she cried hearing about why it was given to me and that I would send it home to her so she can sort of understand what it's like to do what I do. And she also cried because this is the first year that I haven't been home for Mothers' Day. Well, I guess that's all the excitement that I can say so far; until next week.

God bless
Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams

Date: 5/4/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

So, today we had a program in Pasco, WA. It was really awesome, and what was really cool was that three previous host families of mine showed up to the program, some of whom I haven't seen since last year. The night before, I got together with an old host sister and went out for ice cream and rummaged around a store. It was a good time and great to reconnect with an old friend. We've just been traveling around the Tri-cities area in Washington and having a great time. It's hard to believe how much we have traveled around and how many people we have met in these past nine months, and hard to believe that there are only three months left. It has gone by so fast. Before we know it, we'll be running around with kids at VBS. Happy Mother's Day, Mom—I love you!!!

Audrie Rose



Audrie Soble

Date: 5/6/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hey everybody, how's it going? It is pretty cool here. We had a program tonight in Yakama, WA, which was a lot of fun because we had known a lot of the people there from a concert we did in Ellensburg, WA. It was a blast to see them again. Anyway, I thought that the program went well. The people who were there really got into it and rocked.

God bless
Daniel Weber



Daniel Weber

Date: 5/10/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey again. Well, we had this really nice weekend. We were at a church where the pastor was from Cuba, and he was telling us all about his home in Cuba and the home he has now. He showed us and told us all about the churches that he leads. I really can't describe how passionate he is about doing God's work. Unfortunately we had to leave there and go to Odessa, WA, to a place where we've been to a few times before. Well, on our day off, I was like, "Nobody come and talk to me; just stay away so I'm not distracted from reading and resting." Of course that never happened. While I was reading, we had a huge storm that brought a lot of rain for most of the day, so the basement flooded. Daniel, Sean, and Jessica (our host sis) came and got me, and it just seemed like, "What do you want me to do with the water?" I took control of what was going on, which was a bunch of staring at the water and blank looks on the faces. So I was like, "Let's clear the room and get it all cleaned up." It was a lot of water, so it reminded of home last summer when our basement flooded a few times. It got cleaned up, and most of the things were able to be salvaged. So next time it happens, we know what to do besides just looking at the water. I guess when it rains, you can just hope the basement floods so you and your team can have some special bonding time cleaning it up. Well, I guess that's about it.

God bless,
Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams

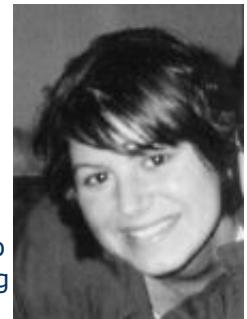
Date: 5/11/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

This past weekend we stayed with our good friends, the Heimbigners, in Odessa, WA. We've stayed with them many times before, but this time was our last. They are such an awesome family, and their food is really good too! On Monday, it stormed, and their basement flooded. We gutted their entire basement, and even brought the couch out to the garage. It was awesome!! It was a very eventful day off!! Tomorrow, we are making our way back into Montana!!

Audrie Rose



Audrie Soble

Date: 5/13/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hey, everybody how's it going? This week we had a little incident in Odessa, WA. What happened was that they hadn't really gotten a lot of rain over the last couple of months, and then they got hit by a ton of rain, which flooded our host home's basement. The entire floor was covered with water, except for three feet of floor right in front of our host sister's room. It was a big mess, and we decided to clean it up before our host mom got home because it was Mothers' Day weekend. Well, we got it cleaned up about two hours after we noticed it. The best part of this story was that Sean was asleep on the couch the entire time it was flooding, and he didn't wake up until we started to clean it up. It was an awesome day off.

God bless,
Daniel Weber



Daniel Weber

Date: 5/17/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey to all. Well, this weekend was pretty cool. We spend the weekend at a camp that we have been at before for a confirmation retreat. So we were able to hike up the mountain and just bask in the glow and the beauty that was there right in front of us. Later that weekend, we led worship outside on a Saturday, which was just phenomenal to do because it was new. We are just counting the days till we have break.

God bless,
Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams

Date: 5/18/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

We are in Big Timber, MT right now. We were here last October, and it's good to see some familiar faces. Especially some familiar faces that are interested in team for next year. On Wednesday, we got together with the kids, played games, ate pizza and put on a program for them. We learned a new game from the kids called the Trash Can game and loved it so much that we had to play it again after the program. It was good times. Next, we are off to the Canyon Haven Retreat Center. We were also there in October for a retreat. It is so beautiful out there and is surrounded by mountains. Adios!!

Audrie Rose



Audrie Soble

Date: 5/20/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

How are all of you? It's going well here; we were at Canyon Haven this weekend. They had this hill that I wanted to climb, so Sean, these three kids, and I went up together. Well, I left my glasses on a rock at the bottom and had to go a different way to get down. On the way down I hit a rock that I didn't think would move but did, and I went sliding down the hill a little ways and scraped up my leg. But I am okay, and I went back up the hill the next day to do some more exploring.

God bless,
Daniel Weber



Daniel Weber

Date: 6/7/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey all. Today is my birthday, and it's really cool. I'm now 19, and I'm enjoying today because all the kids sang the birthday song to me. It was really cool. VBS went on as normal, and later in the night my host family had organized a birthday party for me, which was really cool because it's never happened like that before. So, all kids were friends of my host brother Bret. What a wonderful host brother. He got me to learn more about riding bikes and just having fun without really doing too much. It was just a blast because we stayed up till eleven or twelve at night talking about life and work and how things are before. I also told my dad that I'm going to apply for team for next year. So I talked to my host mom about it, and she thought it was cool. Well that's about it for now. I'll write again soon.



Andrew Williams

God bless,
Andrew Williams

Date: 6/8/2005
Submitted by: Audrie Soble
Journal Entry:

This week we have been doing a VBS in Baker, MT. Baker is a small little town with such awesome people. Megan and I had the pleasure of staying with our host mom Sharon Nordahl. She taught us the addicting game of Canasta, and we have not even been able to stop playing. We have even started our own championship. The kids were wonderful. Megan and I worked with the kids with music and each day did two hours of sing-alongs straight!! It rocked and was well worth feeling exhausted at the end of the day. VBS so far has been going so great!!



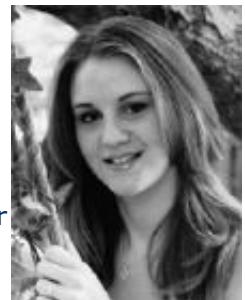
Audrie Soble

Date: 6/10/2005
Submitted by: Megan Johnson
Journal Entry:

Hello from Baker, MT! I am so excited to be on the road with three amazing people; Audrie, Andrew, and Daniel. God has truly blessed me in my calling to join them for the summer. Being that this is my first time in the Northwest, I have been amazed with our drive to arrive here from South Dakota. My teammates tell me that this is nothing, but it is so beautiful! They agree that it is of course beautiful but say that the western part of the state has the most incredible mountains...I can't wait.

Boy, has God been speaking to me in many ways. It has been quite a journey the last couple of months for me—exciting, scary and wonderful all at the same time. The great thing is that I have peace. This year's theme of "Calm the Storm" has really hit home with me. I just have felt pulled in so many directions that it seemed like I was right in the middle of a storm, but just like Christ calmed the storm for His disciples, He has calmed the storm inside of me and given me peace. It is wonderful to know that I can call on Him anytime and He will always be there. I am so thankful for the ways that He reveals Himself to me each day, and I encourage anyone who is reading this to seek out His beauty in everything around you. Whether it be a mountain, the ocean, a crowded city or an empty field. He loves you, and He shows it in amazing ways. God bless!

<>< Meg



Megan Johnson

Date: 6/14/2005
Submitted by: Andrew Williams
Journal Entry:

Hey everybody. This is another week of VBS but in a different place—Helena, MT. This is one of my favorite places to be because we have like a second family here. Well, we are doing a different VBS program that Youth Encounter didn't have, and it was fun because we had to do different music; this time Daniel and I taught all the music to the kids and the girls played games with them. We ended up finding out that for their programs, they each would have two songs. When we were told, it was Wednesday, so we ended up teaching most of the kids the songs on Thursday for the program on Friday. The whole week went pretty smooth. We got to get really close to my host family because they had us for a week and they just opened up their house to us and made us part of their own. My host mom made me a coon-skin hat, which is the coolest thing in the world. When we left, it was very touching because nobody really wanted us to, and we really didn't want to leave, but we had to. So that is where the story ends for now. Tune in next week for the next thing that happens to the North West team.

God bless
Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams

Date: 6/15/2005
Submitted by: Audrie Soble
Journal Entry:

This past week we have been doing a VBS in Helena, MT. Helena, so far, has been my favorite place to stay. The people are so awesome, and the kids rock!! I am once again staying with the Weikert family, and they are so amazing. Megan and I realized that we needed to start exercising, so we dragged our host sister Jacki into doing some Tae-bo with us. I think we got more exercise laughing than anything else. The VBS went so well, and the kids were so great. On Thursday night after our program, we played games with some junior high kids and introduced them to the Trash Can game. It was very fun but very painful.



Audrie Soble

Date: 6/17/2005
Submitted by: Megan Johnson
Journal Entry:

Well, we just spent one incredible week in Helena, MT. The rest of the team has been here several times over the year, and they informed me it was a great place with awesome people, but I had no idea it would be so amazing. First of all, it's beautiful here...I am one to love the outdoors, and this place is absolutely gorgeous! My host family has been so gracious and welcoming, and they really made me feel like part of the family; it was wonderful.



Megan Johnson

Each morning, my teammate Andrew and I got up at 6:30 to go running on this trail that went up the mountain, and it was by far one of the most beautiful runs ever! Also, my teammate Daniel is teaching me how to skateboard, and that has been pretty cool.

The high school youth at the church took us out and made sure we had a great time at night. It was super fun to meet them and just hang out with their friends around the city. I watched a pretty intense basket ball game on Thursday night. It was a close match, but Andrew eventually won.

I'd have to say the best part about the week has been the kids in VBS. Seriously, I had such a great time hanging out with them every day and playing games and singing music and getting to know each one individually a little bit over the course of the week. It was all around a really great week and one that I will never forget. It's still just so amazing to me that I am here and doing team again with three of the greatest people I have met. God is still continually teaching me new things each day, and He continues to reveal Himself to me in new ways each day. This week I praise God for sunrises, kids, and beautiful thunderstorms. Check out Psalm 121:1-2.

Date: 6/21/2005
Submitted by: Andrew Williams
Journal Entry:

Hey we are in Dillon, and we met Scott who is an alumnus from two years ago. Well, this is a unique VBS because instead of it being one church holding it, it was six churches in the community. So each church would feed us. And it was so different and cool because they were acting like true Christians. My host mom is a part of this bread baking company which makes some of the greatest breads in the world—Great Harvest. Well, here all we had to do is lead the music and not really do anything else except to float around and take pictures. This week was a blast because I played volleyball, badminton, and croquet with my host family. It was great. But that's about it for now.
God bless



Andrew Williams

Andrew Williams

Date: 6/22/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

Hey! We are currently in Dillon, MT!!! It is so beautiful out here, and the people are so nice. A former alumnus, Scott Schaffer and his wife, Angie, work at the church we are at, so it is such a blessing to spend time with them. The VBS has been going great so far and there are so many kids. One of the great things about this VBS is that most of the churches in town (all different denominations) have joined together to put the VBS together. It's so great to see all the churches working together in such a small community. My host home is great! Our host mom, Jeanette, is home alone for the week, since her sons and husband left to run some errands, so we have just spent time alone as girls. We even spent a night watching A Walk To Remember and cried (or at least I know I did). Over all, Dillon ROCKS!!!!



Audrie Soble

Date: 6/28/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey to all. Right now we are on Flathead Lake for camp, which is awesome because we haven't been in that kind of a setting. While I was there I got sick, and all the kids found out and made me some stuff and said that they were praying for me. We all went to the water park, and then I took a nap right after because I was so tired and still sick. Then Daniel came in and woke me up; I couldn't get to sleep again, so I went and worshiped with the kids. Afterwards they said that I looked really sick, but there wasn't a thing that would have kept me from hanging with the kids. I really don't want to leave this place because all the kids are so cool and I'll miss every single one of them. Well that's about it.

Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams

Date: 6/29/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

We have spent the last couple days at Trinity Lutheran Camp in Big Fork, MT. We have been helping out at their Junior High Camp and doing morning chapels and evening campfires. It's so nice to be able to hang out with people closer to our age and just relax at a camp. Last night, we had our program, and our dear friend Natalija showed up. I have not seen her since Midwinter training, so it was a huge blessing to just sit and chat for a couple of hours after our program. Today, we went out to a water park in Columbia Falls, MT. On our way out there, it was raining hardcore. We thought we were nuts even coming out, but as soon as we hit the waterslides, the sky opened up and the sun began to shine. It was such an awesome time. We even played Marco Polo in the hot tub. Right as we left, it began to rain again. It was such an awesome gift to spend time at the water park in the sunshine.



Audrie Soble

Date: 7/3/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

Hey, it's me again, and it's the week of the Fourth of July. This week we were at

Lutherhaven in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho. It was a blast; we were just helping out with the camp for the week , which rocked. The other place that we went to was Troy, Idaho, and our host family that we stayed with was awesome. They had these two quads, and we rode them a lot while we were there. At one point during the week Audrie drove it off the road, and we had to go and pull her back on to it. It was pretty cool. Anyway, talk to you later. Peace out.



Date: 7/6/2005

Submitted by: Audrie Soble

Journal Entry:

So, this past week, we have been spending our time in Coeur d'Alene, ID at Camp Lutherhaven. It is my favorite place ever. On Sunday night, we did a concert on the beach for over 300 people, and when I say the beach, I literally mean the beach. We even set up on a dock. It was awesome. The last couple of days we have basically just been involving ourselves at the camp. On Monday, I got to be a lifeguard and facilitate the BLOB. It was great. There are so many YE alumni here as well, like Dave Hougland, Janet Linden and Bjorn and Elise Peterson. It's been good times.



Audrie Soble

Date: 7/6/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey once again. Well here we are in Camp Lutherhaven, just to hang here for a week. We had our first outdoor concert on the third of July, and it was so much fun because we had about 300 people there. And right after our concert we had fireworks, which was really good to watch, but they came really close to hitting some of the people setting them off. Well, while we were here there are some team alumni from last year. It was cool to see them. The camp staff also invited us to join them in devotions, which were cool because we didn't have to lead them ourselves. Besides we got to see how other people do devotions. Well that's about it for now. Talk to you all later.

God bless,
Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams

Date: 7/13/2005

Submitted by: Andrew Williams

Journal Entry:

Hey again. Well, here is what has gone down this week. We are in Spokane, WA and in the middle of the VBS. We got to do another outdoor concert; however we did it acoustic, and it was so much fun because it was like a carnival. The kids were such a blast because they were so pumped to do have VBS. We got free cotton candy and the kids were all over the place. We led music, grace and games and were just all over the place. Well, while the VBS was going on, Megan and I were running on a bike path which was running along the river. We are getting ready for a ten-mile run at the end of the month. And one night Daniel's and my host siblings and us all went bowling, and I crushed everybody. It was just good times because we all laughed at how bad our scores were. Well, that's about it for now.

God bless,
Andrew Williams



Andrew Williams

Date: 7/14/2005

Submitted by: Daniel Weber

Journal Entry:

This week we are out in Spokane, WA. It was a blast here; there is this guy here named Tim, and his faith is amazing. He is slightly disabled, but he doesn't let that slow him down. People tell him that he can't do something, but he just goes out and does it. This year is his last year as an athlete; next year he will be a coach and can't be a participant when he coaches. His faith has really gave me the boost of energy that I needed.

God bless,
Daniel Weber



Daniel Weber
