

Christmas '97



CHANGE!! – that pretty much sums up the year. This year has been a whirlwind of change for the Price family, the most visible (but not the most significant) of which is that we have a new address. See the Tired vs. Wired section for the 10,000 foot view of changes for the year.

The year started with a decision to leave the hustle and bustle of the Washington DC area and move to the City of Fountains. From there it was a maelstrom of changes that grew as the year progressed. So, grab a mug of 'nog and sit back while we recap the high points of the year!

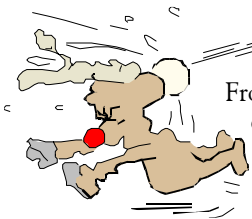
The City of

The first step in moving the family out of DC was to pick a mutually agreed upon landing spot. We had been kicking around the possibility of moving for quite a while and after the arrival of Nicholas in '95, we decided that we had better do it sooner rather than later. Various locales around the country were put on the short list. The only thing is that the list is pretty short when one of the requirements for a new home town is that it has to be equidistant from Trisch's parents in St. Louis and her sister in Wichita. So, when you separate the wheat from the chaff (you got say things like this when you move to the mid-west), the choices were:

- Gopher Hole, Iowa (motto: "It ain't a hole -- it's a GOPHER HOLE!")
- Kansas City, Kansas (motto: "The City of Fountains")
- Big Steer, Texas (motto: "STEER! Them's good eatin'")

Given the above list, our first choice was Gopher Hole, but when we found out their local phone company was based on a collection of soup cans and string, and that we would have to bring our own soup can, we decided to move to the next candidate on the list, "The City of Fountains".

From there everything stepped off smartly on the road to the mid-west.



Job Searching in the '90s

Once the location was selected, the next milestone was to figure what I could do there as the sole bread winner. Job searching in the '90s is a whole lot different than the last time I was in the job market (over 12 years ago!). Back in '85 my foray into the job market was littered with typewritten resumes, trips to Kinko's for photocopying, reviews of the Sunday paper, and cover letters and envelopes. This time around, I did the entire search through the internet. The only thing mailed via Snail Mail was the acceptance letter when I accepted a position with Andersen Consulting as a Technology Manager in the Communications Marketing Unit in the Kansas City office.

Before entering the commercial market, I tried to secure a transfer, and continue my 12 year engagement with CSC, but CSC wasn't organized enough to figure out if that was possible, or if they even had an office in KC. So, with that, I took to the information highway and began my search for a new job. It was amazing how quickly responses came in when dealing over the net. Through the net I was put in touch with a recruiter who was



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Moving the Home

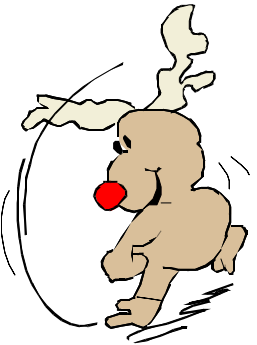
While I was sparring with the Great American Job Machine, Trisch was busy preparing for the ultimate promotion from software engineer to professional homemaker. The house in Annandale was put on the market just before Memorial Day and arrangements were made to move almost everything into storage with the remainder being caravanned (literally) to Kansas City the beginning of June. We rented a HUGE U-Haul trailer and packed it full of all the essentials to hold us over until we could sell the house and buy or build a house in Kansas City.

Once settled in a one bedroom apartment in Kansas City, the house hunting began in earnest (for obvious reasons -- one bedroom is really small!). Thankfully we were lucky enough to have the expert advice of an excellent real estate agent who knew the KC area extremely well and was quickly able to determine what we were looking for in a house.

Trisch took to the home search in earnest and canvassed the KC area with visits to neighborhoods, school district analyses, and numerous visits to model homes. In the end, we found a home being built on speculation that

had just completed the foundation. As Trisch was signing the papers to sell the house in Annandale, I was putting a deposit down on the house in Overland Park.

From then on the whirlwind just kept getting bigger as I was commuting to Denver and Trisch was busy selecting colors, lights, carpeting, and cabinets for the house. Additionally, Trisch and Nicholas were leading a nomadic life shuttling between Wichita, St. Louis, and Kansas City. Well the end is in sight, we closed on the house December 11th, now we're just waiting



(See "Moving" on page 2)

“You put Beeeeg Roks in BoeBoes” *(in case you didn't know, and hold you hands as far apart as possible*

Through all the changes this year Nicholas has been a dynamo of energy, running around and getting in to everything. He is totally fascinated by tractors, bulldozers (a.k.a. BoeBoes), choo choos, tools, and just about everything. He's stood up really well to all the changes and car trips and aside from a few nights of insomnia (for which Trisch has borne the brunt), he is doing great. He loves to visit the house with all the construction equipment, tools, nails, boards, tile, glass, dirt, and countless other “made for little boys” toys. And of course, no visit to St. Louis or Broadway is complete without numerous rides on a tractor.



For Halloween, Trisch was amazingly able to find time to make Nicholas a monkey costume. Halloween was spent at Trisch's sister's in St. Louis. We took Nicholas around to a few houses, he did pretty well -- but was just a little overwhelmed by the costumes and activity. Unfortunately, people in St. Louis haven't seen many monkeys (it is the mid-west after all) and so Nicholas was greeted with comments like “Oh what a cute mouse” and “Look dear, it's a bear”. Oh well, maybe next year he'll carry a sign.

Nicholas has also been playing his computer games and developing an amazing command of the mouse. He calls it “working” since that is what mommy and daddy do when they are on the computer. It's amazing to think that when we were kids all we had were wooden blocks and WE LIKED IT (although he likes those too)!

For the literacy challenged, the title of the story is translated as “You put big rocks in Bulldozers”.

Job Search *(Continued from page 1)*

referring people to Andersen Consulting. After a few phone interviews (with the recruiter and an Andersen recruiter), I was invited out to the Kansas City office for a visit and a day of interviews. From the start I was extremely impressed by the world class professionalism exhibited by all levels of “The Firm”. The offer was so good that I cancelled interviews with two other companies in order to accept the offer from Andersen.

I started with Andersen on 24 June in the New Executive program. After a series of training sessions held in and out of the country, meetings, and in-office training, I got my first assignment -- in Denver! Beginning around Labor Day, I began flying to Denver on Monday mornings and back to Kansas City on Friday afternoons. The flight is only an hour long, so it's not too bad. My current project is wrapping up and I'm looking to try to get an assignment in Kansas City so I can enjoy my family and the new house.

Summer in St. Louis – A

With all the moving, trips to St. Louis, and the fact that we only had a one bedroom apartment in Kansas City, a place for the dogs was not readily apparent. Thankfully, Trisch's parents were kind enough to open a temporary doggie motel and let them stay in St. Louis for the time between our move to KC and our move into a house. Kyoto and Tokka get along great with Trisch's parents. The dogs tried their hand (or paw) at escaping from the fenced in area set aside for them. After numerous successful attempts, they just got plain tired of escaping and now they are happy to hang around the house.

Moving *(Continued from page 1)*

for a yard! The rest of our “stuff” arrived from storage December 12. We will spend the rest of holiday season unpacking boxes.

Now, Trisch is busy juggling the final bits of coordination for moving into the new house; watching the human super ball (Nicholas); adjusting to being pregnant; sewing maternity clothes; doing some consulting work for Wyatt; and generally keeping order in the house. How she gets it all done I'll never know.

It Only Takes One

Now for the really big news. In amongst all the weekly commutes, and chance meetings in Wichita and St.

Louis, Trisch managed to get pregnant!! We've been planning to give Nicholas a little brother or sister for a while. Once I started commuting to Denver, the plans started to look like they would be delayed, since although the internet is a great thing, e-mail can only go so far. But as they say, “It only takes one time” and now Trisch is pregnant with an expected due date

in May.



Tired	Wired
4016 Estabrook Drive Annandale VA 22003	13110 Hadley Overland Park KS 66213
Rprice@csc.com	Raymond.j.price@ac.com Pricefmlly@aol.com
10 minute drive to work	10 minute walk to work (Okay - I had to fly to Denver to do it)
2 income, 1 child	1 income, 2 children (5/98)
CSC View of Career Management: "Does career start with a 'c' or a 'k'?"	AC View of Career Management: Sponsor/ Protege Program, Career Development Model, Experienced Hire Integration
50 year old house	Brand new house
1300 square feet, 1 bathroom	3200 square feet, 3.5 bathrooms