

## **My Trip to New York City**

From Wednesday, March 10 to Saturday, March 13, 1999, I got to go with my Dad to New York City. We had lots of fun and some adventures. Here is my story.

### **Wednesday, March 10, 1999**

On Wednesday, I got to stay home from school to help my Mom get ready for the trip. At about noon, we left to do some stuff and then pick my Dad up from the University right after he finished teaching his class. Then we went to the airport and checked in.

Our first plane to Minneapolis was fine. But the next two planes were not fine. The first plane to New York was broken so we had to change gates. The next plane took off for New York City. However, I thought it sounded loud. My Dad thought it was fine. But it wasn't fine. The pilot came on the speaker and said that there was a problem with the plane and that we were going to have to stop in Detroit. We had to make an emergency landing in Detroit and get a new plane to go to New York. I bought some Juicy Fruit gum. By the time we got to La Guardia Airport in New York, it was 3:20 in the morning New York time. In Reno time it was only 12:20 in the morning. There is three hours difference between Eastern time and Pacific time. New York is on Eastern time.

We found a taxi and took it to our hotel that was in Manhattan. Manhattan is the main business section of New York City. We went to bed after 4:00 am.

### **Thursday, March 11, 1999**

The next morning started early. We had to get up at 6:30 because my Dad had to make a speech at the 101 Club on Park Avenue. I had to get dressed up and so did my Dad. He had to wear a tie but I didn't. We started walking to the place where my Dad was going to give his speech. It was about a mile away. We found a McDonald's on the way and I got breakfast but my Dad did not want any. It was a really cold walk.

After McDonald's we got to the place where my Dad had to teach. There were a lot of people in suits there. During my Dad's speech, I fell asleep. After my Dad's speech, I woke up when the people were clapping.

After my Dad's speech, we walked back to the hotel and my Dad changed his clothes. Then we walked to FAO Schwartz, which is a gigantic toy store. It has been in some movies. Outside there was a very good drum player. He was playing drums for money. We went into the toy store and walked around inside for an hour. I bought a goofy dog hat and farting goo.

Then we went to Niketown and a Sony store and a bunch of other stores. We also went to Dunkin Donuts and got 6 jelly donuts. I ate four and my Dad ate two. They weren't very big donuts.

After that, we walked to the hotel and watched TV. My Dad took a nap and snored for about two hours. When he woke up, we walked to Smith & Wollensky's steakhouse, which is a very famous restaurant in New York. I ordered a T-bone steak and my Dad got a Cajun Ribeye steak. They gave us very sharp knives. The steaks were gigantic. I ate about a third of my Dad's steak and almost all of mine right down to the T-bone. It was an expensive meal. It cost \$103.59 without the tip.

Next we walked back to the hotel and went up to our room which was on the 24<sup>th</sup> floor. We stayed up and watched TV. Then we went to sleep.

### **Friday, March 12, 1999**

We slept in on Friday until 10. I took a bath until 11. We walked to Grand Central Station and bought subway cards. We rode the subway from Grand Central Station to Battery Park. At Battery Park we got tickets to go the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. My Dad made some business calls on his cell phone.

It was freezing at Battery Park and we knew we were going to ride on a cold, cold ferry to the Statue of Liberty. So, we bought stocking hats from some Jamaican guys that were selling a bunch of stuff. I got a Nike hat and my Dad got a New York Yankees hat. They only cost \$5 each. They were probably fake Nike and Yankees hats.

We got on the ferry and we went up on the outside top deck. My Dad wanted to ride inside but I wanted to ride outside. My Dad was very cold. When we got to the Statue of Liberty the crown was closed because we got there too late. That was very upsetting to me. We did have fun anyway. In a copy of part of the statue inside the bottom of the statue, I pretended that I got my head stuck in the Statue of Liberty's nose.

The Statue of Liberty was a gift from the people of France in honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States. Since the U.S. got started in 1776, the French people gave us the Statue in 1876. It was a pretty cool statue and very tall.

At 3 pm my Dad had to be on a conference call with a bunch of people from Pittsburgh, Arkansas, Chicago, and Reno. I had to stay with him while he talked on the phone for an hour in the Statue of Liberty cafeteria.

After that, we got back on the ferry and went to Ellis Island. Ellis Island was the place where immigrants first came when they moved to the United States. We watched a movie about when everybody came through Ellis Island. Sometimes one of the members of the family looked sick and so the U.S. sent them back to where they came from. My Mom's families came through Ellis Island from Holland, Italy, and Lebanon.

We had to leave there in a hurry because the Island was closing and the last boat back to New York was leaving.

When we got back to shore there was a bunch of Jamaican guys still selling watches, sunglasses, hats, gloves, and scarves. They begged me to buy stuff from them. It got so annoying that I decided to buy a gold Rolex watch and a pair of gray Oakley sunglasses. They were probably fakes. The guy that sold me the Oakleys tried to cheat me when he was giving change back. He wanted to sell the sunglasses for \$20 but I told him I would give him \$8. He only gave me back \$11 dollars change from a \$20. Another Jamaican guy later wanted to sell me Oakleys for \$5.

Next, we walked to the twin towers of the World Trade Center. They are the tallest buildings in the world. We bought tickets to go to the very top. The top floor was the 107<sup>th</sup> floor. We got our pictures taken. We walked around on the top floor and then I found a way to go outside on the roof. My Dad was not sure that was a good idea. A lot of people we saw were very scared of being on the roof. A lady and her daughter were crying. My Dad said he might wet his pants, but he didn't.

I bought the pictures they took of my Dad and me. Unfortunately, I left my hat at the store where they were selling the pictures on the top floor. I realized that I had left my hat when we were in the elevator on the way going down. The people let us go back and I found my hat.

Then we went back down the elevator and took the subway to Madison Square Garden. The New York Rangers were playing hockey against the Boston Bruins. We couldn't get into the Rangers game because there weren't any tickets left. Outside the Garden, we bought the best jelly donuts that I have ever had. They tasted great.

Next to Madison Square Garden was a Kmart where I bought some WCW wrestlers. We got Sting, DDP, and the Giant. I had been looking for those guys all over the place. We got back on the subway and after being a little confused about where to go, went to the Lexington Avenue stop near our hotel. We got to our hotel and got directions to the best pizza place in New York. We only had to walk about three or four blocks. While we were waiting for our pizza, I saw some guys in kilts playing bagpipes and drums outside of the restaurant. I went outside by myself

and took pictures of them. When we got the pizza, it was so big and so stuffed that I could only eat two pieces and my Dad ate three.

After we finished a weird bum asked us for our trash. We offered him the rest of the pizza but all he wanted were the crusts and the trash.

On the way back to our hotel, we bought cigars at this little shop and then smoked them up in our room. We watched TV until 1 am and then went to sleep.

### **Saturday, March 13, 1999**

The next morning we got up and took showers and packed our stuff. We left our luggage with the bellhop and checked out of the hotel. We decided to go for a walk in Central Park. We were wandering around and found a zoo. The zoo only cost four dollars for both of us.

At the zoo there were some pretty cool polar bears. One of them had an obsession with a blue plastic garbage can. He kept biting it, jumping on it, and trying to kill it. We left the polar bears and went and looked at a bunch of other animals. We went in a tropical animal and bird house and got blazing hot. Then we left the zoo part of Central Park.

I climbed on some rocks and hurt my knee. Then we went to the writers' statues in the park and my Dad lost a glove. I saw some pigeons and started to chase them. Then this weird-looking lady who was feeding the pigeons came up to me and made an ugly, scary face. And I ran up to my Dad and asked him to wait for me. That lady was creepy. It was kind of like Home Alone 2.

After that, we left the park and bought my Mom some stuff at Bloomingdale's. Bloomingdale's is a famous department store in New York. We also saw spikes on the outside windowsills so that birds could not sit on them and poop on the buildings.

We went back to our hotel and got our stuff and then rode to the airport in a non-stretched limo. The driver was from Columbia. We sat down in the airport about an hour-and-a-half early. We got on our plane and headed for home. After we took off, I started working on this report.

### **End**

It was a fun trip. I had a fun time with my Dad. I think anybody in this class would enjoy New York City.