

Date: Friday, March 13, 1998 4:37:32 PM
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Howdy,

It was gruelling. 2 1/2 hrs. of questioning by my committee yesterday, on my thesis and over-all American Studies/Am. Lit. subject matter, but I PASSED! I truly feel to thank Heaven, because the night before, I was so nervous, my teeth chattered. I tried to bring up some material I had reviewed only two days before, drew an absolute blank, and panicked. Anyway, prayers were offered, miracles happened, and I have to make some revisions on my thesis and probably will have to work on it 2-4 more weeks before all is wrapped up, but I have basically completed my requirements and feel greatly relieved and immensely blessed. So thanks, those of you who knew what I was going through and sent some urgent messages toward heaven on my behalf.

We have had some sad and glad occurrences recently. John and Winnie Stobaeus are an older couple who lived near us in Basking Ridge, NJ, and seem to have decided one day they wanted us as their own, and have ever since treated us like family. In six years they have not forgotten a birthday, anniversary, holiday--you name it, they are there with surprises, love, long-distance calls (since they moved to Florida and