



Times of the Odd Family

December 2007

Julie, George, Jaden, Carson, and Pauley Tsai

The Eighth Volume

Small Start

The newest Tsai member arrived in the fall after a week of teasing Mom with false labor. Following an uncomplicated birth, a healthy Carson was immediately showered with love from family and friends. Great-Grandma Chen-Yuan, having difficulty remembering his name, used the Taiwanese term for "sore feet" (cah-sung) to trigger her memory.

Carson is now a feeding machine and has practically doubled his birth weight within two months. His daily exercise routine includes head lifts and headbutts. To everyone's delight, he also is practicing smiling and cooing.



Baby Profile

Name: **Carson Yoshio Tsai**
DOB: **September 28, 2007**
Birthplace: **Sacramento, CA**
Latest Weight: **12 lbs., 10 oz.**
Favorite Sayings: **"A-cah!"** (Feed me!) and **"A-goo!"** (I'm naked!)

Curious Principal

With its two existing middle schools bursting at the seams, the Dry Creek district hired George to be the principal of the new Creekview Ranch Middle School. George will spend the year preparing for the August 2008 opening by overseeing construction, working with the community, purchasing furniture and equipment, and developing the new school's climate.



The Last Frontier

To take advantage of the calm before the storm, the Tsais took their first cruise to Alaska in July with family and friends. The weather wasn't ideal, but the group enjoyed excursions and the luxuries of cruise life. Highlights included a lumberjack show, a train ride, zipline, and breaching whales.

Family Business

John and **Chris** have stayed active with a newfound workout regiment, Kings season tickets, and taking care of family members.

Donald and **Grace** are busy with work and attempting to find more ways to stay healthy and fit. Grandmother **Chen-Yuan** has done her part to make sure family members are fed and nourished.

Brother **Mark** and sister-in-law-to-be Nichole are gearing for an exciting year with new jobs, a new home, and a wedding.

Sister **Jenn** and fiancé Luke are also planning a wedding for Summer 2008. **Janet** completed her B.A. at SDSU.

Reflections

2007 provided the Tsais with some significant changes to their professional and family lives, and it gave them some time to prepare for even bigger things to come.

A second son, a charismatic Jaden, and the opportunity to shape school culture seem like jump starts to exciting adventures in 2008. The support from family and friends has been incredible, and we cannot wait to share in the new year's joys, celebrations, and events that keep us in touch with you.



For continual updates and pictures of Tsai friends and family, visit www.thetsais.com

Big Brother

Jaden completed his first year of preschool and transferred to another

Montessori school in July.

He transitioned smoothly,

spreading his sense of humor and friendliness to his new teachers and classmates. At 3^{1/2}, Jaden is now more independent, from potty training to conversation. He now counts to 20, and identifies letters, numbers, and a gazillion Thomas and Friends character names.

The Juggler

2007 provided Julie with many roles, including reading coach, human incubator, and now dairy farmer. Julie was able to adjust her work calendar around Carson and make sure her leave did not shortchange any of her three schools. In order to refine the juggling act of parenting two boys, she will limit her schedule to 3 days a week once she returns to work in January.

