

Bill Ardill

From: Bill Ardill [bill.ardill@sim.org]
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2010 9:24 PM
To: Bill Ardill
Subject: [ardill-news] Legs

Fast legs... On February 7 Marie completed her first marathon in the Surf City Marathon in Huntington Beach, California. Our family drove up and stayed on Saturday night so we could get up early with her and watch her run. She ran with several of her Azusa Pacific classmates and finished in 4 hours 25 minutes. She was understandably sore and tired but we were very proud of her for her hard work in preparing for the race and completing it vertical!

A broken leg...As you remember my mother fell on New Years' day and broke her left hip. She underwent surgery during which a rod and pin were placed to stabilize the fracture. She was doing well with her recovery until about 10 days ago when she noticed her pain increased dramatically. We took her to the orthopedic surgeon who immediately did x-rays. It was obvious that her previous repair had collapsed and Mom's left leg was several inches shorter with one pin poking into her hip socket. So this morning she underwent another operation and had a total hip procedure to replace the head of the broken femur. She is in a lot of pain and had some problems in the recovery room but we are praying she has a quick and smooth recovery. Thanks for praying for her and Dad in the coming days.

Four more legs stories... Heather and Anna had a great weekend at the church high school retreat up in the snow covered mountains of southern California. After the retreat they stayed an extra day and had a blast learning to snowboard. In spite of the frequent falling, learning to ride a ski lift without falling off and feeling pain in areas of their backs and bottoms they never knew even existed, they still came home with lots of great stories and laughs.

Then this week they jumped into the pool at the high school and are trying out for the high school swim team. Although they have been swimming for many years, they have never swum competitively (except for second grade) so this will be a real challenge. We hope they have fun and from our standpoint it keeps them off the streets, helps them study more efficiently and even sleep better! At least they are going out for the same sport so it cuts down our transportation time.

A smaller leg story... For several months now David has been taking trampoline classes two afternoons a week. He has progressed so fast his coach has advanced him to an older group. He can do so many different flips and twists now I can't even name them any more. He has had a lot of trouble remembering to keep his legs together during his flips so the coach tied his legs together and he did great. It didn't even faze him because he is so used to his sisters pulling stunts like that on him all the time! His coaches love having him in class. Even after a two hour workout, David comes home with some "jump" still left in him because most of the time the living room couch cushions are on the floor and he is tumbling over the couch onto the floor, doing summersaults or flying leaps across the room. Dorothy and I just wish we could have some of his energy and flexibility.

Flying legs... I have been traveling quite a bit going to Phoenix a few weeks ago for a conference on medical simulation technology and then to Portland for a conference sponsored by the VA Hospital on ways to improve our efficiency in the prehospital management of surgery patients. This weekend Dorothy and I go to Florida to visit friends in Sebring, West Hollywood, Ft. Lauderdale and Naples. Dorothy will return to San Diego on Sunday while I will stay on in Tampa for another meeting on learning to program manikins used in medical education simulations. For example, this morning in the VA Hospital simulation center we worked with a group of anesthesia residents and with a manikin and a smoke generating machine. We simulated a fire in the operating room to teach them how to react and manage a fire during an operation. Even though this is a rare event, it is obviously can be very dangerous so it helps to be prepared.

In the middle of March Dorothy and I fly to Dallas for the Grace Bible Church missions conference and the first week of April our family will go to Oregon and Washington for a

week visiting friends and family. If only we were flying on the same airline we would be racking up some serious frequent flier miles! Thanks for your prayers for our travel and various meetings and encounters that we would be an encouragement to all we meet.

Beautiful feet... We are grateful for several recent opportunities to speak about the work in Nigeria. This past weekend Dorothy and I spoke in several of our church Sunday school classes and look forward to more opportunities in the coming weeks. There is great interest and we pray for more workers to help in reaping the harvest.

In spite of the recent turmoil in Jos we are still planning to return to Nigeria this summer. Several hundred were killed in the violence and we pray for those who are grieving, those who are working on the relief efforts, those earnestly working on reconciliation between the parties involved and safety for the missionaries and believers with whom we work.

Thanks again for your faithfulness in supporting us with your prayers and gifts. We are grateful for you and God's grace in our lives.

Till next time,
Bill Ardill