Hi Everyone. This year I decided to do things a bit differently. Since many now have computers and email I am going to reduce the risk of spreading anthrax and email my Christmas letter instead of sending out so many cards. I hope this doesn’t cause too much trouble for anyone.

Kathleen and I began the year (I should say we ended the last year) with a night out on New Year’s Eve. I put this in because it is the first time I have been up at midnight since a very long time.

In January we went to Dallas to visit Weigang and Jenny and go to James Lee’s birthday party. I always like to go to visit James Lee so we can do some “Giant Math” together.

Some day James Lee will be a very famous mathematician.

In March we visited Stella, Fred and Auntie in southern California and were treated like royalty. We went to the beach, the Gene Autry museum of the West, Griffith Park, Santa Anita race track (where Kathleen was the only winner) and ate lots of really great food. They have a real mansion in the hills. We plan to return if invited.
In May I took trip to Rome with Chris Byrnes where we worked with Alberto Isidori. We also ate wonderful food and visited Alberto and Maria Adlaide’s villa in Fara Sabina. (All my thanks to Chris for this wonderful opportunity.) Many more pictures can be found at the following link:

http://texas.math.ttu.edu/~gilliam/personal/roma_01/roma01.htm
Little Davy on the way to work

Lunch at the villa

Shopping with Chris and Maria Adlaide in Fara Sabina
On the return to St. Louis I went to my first of two St. Louis Cardinal Baseball Games (thanks to Chris and Cathy). The game rained out in the 7th but we had a great time.

During the summer we got away for a few days to go fishing at Flaming Gorge (thanks to Cal and Claudia) Many more pictures can be found at

http://texas.math.ttu.edu/~gilliam/personal/cal_01/cal_01.html

The greatest fishing-team of this decade!! (above not below)
Our prize catch which is being mounted – just one of many

On the way we were lucky to catch Joe and Ulla in SLC (party at the Taylor’s place) (many more pictures of the party at the URL)
http://texas.math.ttu.edu/~gilliam/personal/slc_01/slc_01.html

Notice the bottle of Jack Black – later that night the bottle was empty and Joe was declared the greatest living mathematician – NO! not by Joe.
Now that’s cooking chicken – a trick learned in Lubbock

In the spring, at the annual departmental awards banquet, I was honored to be Awarded Kappa Mu Epsilon Mathematics Professor of the Year for 2001. I am very proud of this.

During July we had the opportunity to have our favorite niece Keanu visit us for a week. Mom also was here during the visit in which we explored many different things in Lubbock, including Buddy Holly Museum, Science Spectrum, Prairie Dog Town, Texas tech University, and on and on.

Here is Mom teaching Kathleen how to analyze brain images
Keanu got to be a great diver (left) and Quin doing some he-man stuff (right)

Mom at the Science Spectrum with Me, Kathleen, Quin and Keanu

Finally, during this year, and after a two year wait, Kathleen became a US Citizen at a ceremony in Lubbock with over 200 other people.
Kathleen also set a new record for both of us giving 4 talks at one conference. This year she did a lot of research in Wind Engineering and also taught several classes for the math department. Piano continues but practice has slowed a bit.

During the year we had several occasions to be with friends in Lubbock and enjoy their friendship, pools and good cooking. First we had a get together at Gary Kimball’s
Patty and Kathleen looking good and Gary showing off his new beef burner

Two pretty darn good boys (left) -- two bad boys (right) John still alive (thank God!)

Not to be outdone Bob Beam shows us some of his special cooking skills (left below)

There were lots of good looking young ladies at the party (right above)
Dave finally ran into a doctor that didn’t leave town before officially declaring him to have type II Diabetes (he is now taking better care of himself and lots of medications).

During the Fall Dave had a faculty development leave from Texas Tech and made many trips to St. Louis to work with Chris and Alberto – this all thanks to Chris. In fact I happened to be in St. Louis on the 11th of September and was supposed to return on the 12th. Needless to say I did not. Then almost every time I was to fly back to St. Louis there was a warning to be on heightened alert for more terrorist activity. This, of course, made for much more exciting plane rides.

As part of my overall self-improvement program I ran in (and finished) my first 5K race in many years – now run almost every day carrying 9 pound heavy hands and very often further than 5K.

Please note the grace on the left and the finish line on the right!
This is me before the race.

I prefer this
to how I looked after the run.

3.1 Miles in 29 minutes
Now that’s burning up the old asphalt!

In December, I attended the 40th IEEE conference on decision and control in Orlando Florida and gave 2 talks. I also got to see many good friends (dinner with HTB and Susie (thanks), time with John Burns, Giorgio Picci, many others) and attended one of the best talks I have seen (the Bode Lecture) given by Alberto Isidori.

After the conference I returned with Chris to St. Louis and together with Alberto, we worked on our forthcoming book (all this thanks to Chris). During this visit Chris also took me to my first pro football game -- St. Louis Rams and San Francisco 49ers (thanks to Cathy for giving me her ticket).

Yesterday (December 15th) Kathleen left to visit her folks and brother in China and I am tending the store at home and trying to catch up on work. Please – if you were -- Don’t feel sorry for me, I have so much to do that it will never all get done.

Well friends and family if I left anything out I am sorry. Except for a few rough spots, all in all, it was a good year for us. In fact, thanks to the stock market, now I will probably get to work until I’m 70 instead of retiring somewhere in the 60’s. Well! who knows I am sure that we will continue to buy those lottery tickets.

Merry Christmas to you all and a very Happy New Year!

My greatest hope is that the world enjoys a return to peace and harmony in 2002.

All our love

Dave and Kathleen