



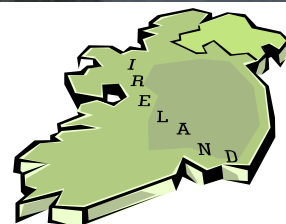
THE HERNESSE HEADLINES

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Left: Cari & Zac at Blarney Castle, Ireland

Above: Cari & Zac at the Tower Bridge in London



The Emerald Isle

In June, Zac and Cari went on a two-week vacation to the beautiful Emerald Isle – Ireland. Zac & Cari landed in Dublin on Saturday, June 7 and their first order of business was to get used to driving their rental car on the other side (left side) of the road. In Dublin, the couple saw Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin Castle, the Temple Bar area, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and the Guinness Storehouse – where Cari had her very first pint of Guinness! On Tuesday, June 10, Zac and Cari departed Dublin to see the Irish countryside. They first stopped in Trim and got a tour of Trim Castle and the keep. A few scenes from the movie *Braveheart* with Mel Gibson was filmed at Trim Castle. Then Zac & Cari took off to Northern Ireland, part of the United Kingdom, to Giant's Causeway. They instantly knew when they were in Northern Ireland by the increase in gas prices and all the Union Jacks flying. Other sites the couple saw were Grianan Ailligh (5th century BC stone structure), Slieve League (highest sea cliffs in Europe), Clonmacnoise (medieval monastery ruins), Thoor Ballylee (former home of poet W.B Yeats), Galway & Quay Street, Kylemore Abbey, Achill Island, Slievemore (ruins of a village deserted during the potato famine), The Burren, Cliffs of Moher, Bunratty Castle, Killarney Lakes & Killarney National Park, Waterford Crystal, and Powerscourt. And what trip to Ireland wouldn't be complete without kissing the Blarney Stone! Zac & Cari basically circled the entire island and put over 1400 miles on their rental car in 10 days. That's a lot of driving in Ireland!



On Wednesday, June 18, Zac & Cari departed Dublin and headed to London for 3 days of sightseeing. In London, they saw the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace, the Tower of London, the Tower Bridge, Big Ben & the Parliament House, Westminster Abbey, the British Museum, Madame Tussaud's wax museum, and shopped at Harrods. They also toured the Queen's Gallery and got to see an exhibit of Leonardo Da Vinci's work.

Fun Tidbits on Zac & Cari

- *Zac & Cari celebrated their 4-year wedding anniversary on May 1, 2003.*
- *Zac & Cari became members of Wayzata Community Church on November 16, 2003.*
- *Cari continues to volunteer as the Recruitment Advisor for the Alpha Gamma Delta Chapter at the University of Minnesota since August 2000.*

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Colorado Trip

In February, Zac & Cari took a week off of work for a little winter fun. They drove out to Boulder, CO and hung out with friends, Mike & Janel Trosvig, for a few days. Mike & Janel showed them around Boulder and then took them hiking in the foothills. Then Zac & Cari drove out to Breckenridge, CO for a few days of skiing. While they were there, the area got dumped on with snow and it kept on snowing! Zac & Cari were able to ski in fresh snow both days at Breckenridge. On the last day, they decided to ski at Vail. There was so much snow falling that the snowcats couldn't keep up!



... It's Off To Work We Go

Zac continues to work for Best Buy at the Corporate Headquarters in Richfield, MN. He is a technical consultant and works on the Retek software that controls Best Buy's entire inventory. Zac just celebrated his one-year anniversary with Best Buy in September. Best Buy moved into their new headquarters location in Richfield from Eden Prairie in March, and with that Zac had to make the move too. Zac's commute is a little longer, but the new campus makes it worth it—especially being able to see Galyan's from his desk!



Up North

In January, Zac & Cari headed up North to Tettegouche State Park near Silver Bay, MN. Zac & Cari rented a cabin at Tettegouche Camp for one night. Tettegouche Camp is only accessible by foot, mountain bike, cross-country skis, or snowshoes. Zac & Cari had planned on snowshoeing to the camp, but with limited snow, they just hiked in. Since Zac & Cari took the 3-mile hike to the camp, they just hung around camp and relaxed in the cabin by the wood stove and read. Cari got a chance to test out her new snowshoes on the 3-mile trek out since they took a different route with a bit more snow.



Then over the Labor Day weekend, Zac & Cari made their 3rd annual journey to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA). Zac & Cari went with two of Zac's friends – co-worker Jon Goodrich & a high-school classmate Tim Bengston. The group put in their canoes at Clearwater Lake and set up camp on Mountain Lake, on the Minnesota/Canadian border. The trip was pretty uneventful in that camp was not visited by a bear this year and the only wildlife the group saw was loons, fish, bald eagles, and squirrels. Hopefully one of these years they will see a moose!



Cari continues to work for Microsoft in the Business Solutions business group on the Market Research team. Cari celebrated her six-year anniversary with the company in October and just a little over 2½ years of it has been as an employee of Microsoft. This past year, Cari had the opportunity to travel a bit for work. In March, she traveled to Florida to attend *Convergence*, a company customer conference. In September, she traveled to Redmond, WA for a week of team meetings and in November, Cari traveled to Boston for a vendor conference. Cari still continues to put up with her long commute of walking downstairs to her office, but the commute is well worth it since she can work from home.

Happy Holidays!

Zac and Cari would like to wish you a very joyful holiday season and a happy New Year!



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Back to School

In September, Zac went back to school to start his master's degree in business administration. Zac is attending classes at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management in the part-time MBA program.

