

ABGN #1

Adam's Bimonthly Grad Newsletter

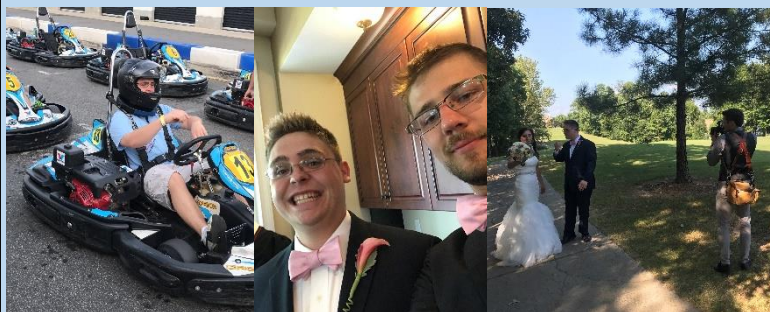
Asia/Hawaii Trip

Over the summer, my old Greene Street housemate Bobby Hazel and I took a few weeks to go home and say hello to our friends before hopping on a plane for a month in Southeast Asia. (Long video on my Facebook!) On our whirlwind tour, we spent a week in Thailand, two in Vietnam, and the last in the Philippines. We spent a lot of time “sleeping” on night buses, trying street food, and kickin’ it on the beach. After Bobby abandoned me for a job in Raleigh, I met up with my family in Hawaii!



Patrick's Wedding

After I got back from my trip, I had to quickly throw together childhood-and-current friend Patrick Moore's bachelor party. About a week later, he was married! The ceremony went off without a hitch.



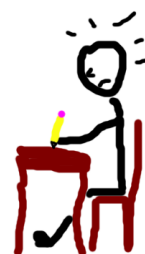
Off to California

The next three weeks were spent prepping for my big move out to Davis, California. On September 7, I left Concord, NC to start my 40 hour drive. Throughout, I listened to David Foster Wallace's *The Pale King*—I definitely recommend his books. After breezing by Nashville, I stopped in St. Louis to go up the arch before heading to Kansas City for a jazz show. The land got increasingly flat as I moved through Nebraska, until I cut up into Yellowstone to see Old Faithful. The next day, I hit the Wile-E-Coyote-esque parts of northern Nevada. Finally, I popped out over the Sierra Nevada by Lake Tahoe and into California.

I've been in Davis for 10 days now; my first impressions are that it's a great town and a cool physics department. The grad students I've encountered have been overall pretty happy and social. *Everybody* bikes here—and once you have a bike, everything you want is within a 15 minute ride. The flatness of the land makes moving around super convenient, but it's a bit of a change from NC. I haven't found any Café Driades to speak of yet, nor Cosmic Cantinas, but Davis has a ton of restaurants and bars. I'm living with one other guy, Nick, a pharmacology PhD student.



Studying For Prelims...



why is this so much harder than i remember?



I start TAing on Wednesday. Would you trust me to teach America's bio students?

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