

Returning Just To Say Thanks

Recently, Julie Lucas, a high school and PC-2 graduate of Spring Creek Lodge Academy and her father, Mitch Lucas, revisited SCLA to say hi and thank you to everyone. Julie is presently enrolled at Texas Tech University majoring in nursing.

Julie and her father are thankful for the second chance Julie got, and the program and education she made use of while here. Julie graduated high school with a 4.22 GPA including honor courses. They both attribute her continued success from the things she learned while in the program. Part of the happiness of both father and daughter stems from, beside Julie's revitalized attitude and love of life, a five year scholarship Julie earned with her high SAT/ACT scores. This has helped finance Julie's continued education and also supported Julie's renewed self-esteem.

With her first semester at Texas Tech completed, Julie earned a top place on the dean's list with a 4.0 GPA. Her classes included psychology, sociology, chemistry, and political science. After one semester, due to courses completed and high SAT scores, Julie has sophomore status with 31 credits and will start nursing school in the Fall of 2000. Out of class time was spent volunteering at the local hospital; however, officials recognized her attitude and work ethic and hired her. Julie said that the hospital gives her a flexible schedule to make sure she has time for classes and finals.

Attributing part of her success to the self-study she did at SCLA and keeping her priorities straight, Julie recommends that others, "Stay focused on why you are going to school and what you want to get out of it." She and her father agreed that the contract she made while in the program covers her college life very well. She feels it has helped her to keep her priorities. Mr. Lucas said that he and Julie utilized Mr. Gilcrease's idea from PC-1 for college students. Parents pay what scholarships don't and also incentives for grades as long as the student is doing their part.

Julie lives in the dorm and spends any free time she has involved in church organizations; the mall, shopping, and as a college football fanatic, going to every home Red Raiders game she can. She also has become a Lady Raiders basketball fan.

Understandably Julie and her father are extremely happy with her success and goals for the future. SCLA is happy also because Julie plans on returning this summer to work for two months. She will be a great motivator and example for students here.

By Orval Hagerman (SCLA Staff)