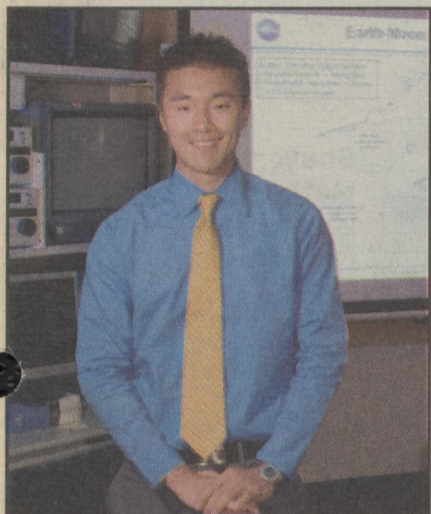


The DALLAS POST

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Lake-Lehman graduate Joshua Gregg completed an internship at NASA.

L-L grad's career is taking off

GENELLE HOBAN
Dallas Post Correspondent

DALLAS – Ever since Joshua Gregg was a little tike in elementary school, he had dreams of whizzing through outer space as an astronaut.

Gregg's dream of becoming a "moon-walker" only slightly changed as he went off to college in 2001 at Penn State University, where he earned his degree in aerospace engineering.

"My entire goal was in life to be an astronaut, and then it changed and I wanted to be the one to build the things (spaceships)," he said.

After attending a job fair at University Park in an attempt to make a few connections before graduation, Gregg found out about the co-op program at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

"I just figured I would go and talk to some recruiters (to help) when I graduated and wanted to get a job," the 2001 Lake-Lehman High School graduate said.

Gregg, 23, gave his resume to the NASA representatives on the spot and was called for an interview the very next day. He was one of 50 co-ops chosen to participate in the spring program and one of 100 chosen to participate during the summer.

"I didn't know the program existed before hand," he said.

Gregg did a series of three rotations at the Linden B. Johnson Space Center in Houston from January to August 2005 and from May to August 2006. However, he wasn't your typical intern, fetching coffee and making copies.

He had the traditional intern in mind and was unsure of the responsibility NASA would give him considering he was still earning his degree. He started out in the branch EG4, which was the integrated guidance navigation and control analysis group.

"My first job was to run the new simulator as many times as possible to make sure it did the same things as the old simulator," he said. "The second time I was there, they were building a new simulator for the next generation vehicle, Orion. I wrote a computer program for the simulation of the earth's atmosphere."

During the final phase of his co-op, Gregg helped to develop a tool that lets NASA know how much fuel a space shuttle will need depending on which area of the moon they choose to land.

The engineer said he is fascinated with space because of the vastness and the unknown about it.

"Space travel requires so much thought and knowledge," he said. "I believe that somewhere, in some galaxy there is other life."

Gregg is back home in the Back Mountain for now, at least until December when he will start his new job in the defense sector of the United States government.

"I'd rather not say exactly where I will be working," he said.

A crowning achievement



FOR THE DALLAS POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Members of the Dallas High School Homecoming Court, from left, are Mindy Yedesko (standing in for Amanda Saxon), Dave Hanadel (standing in for Brad Fagula), Brittany Rice, Alex Baltimore, Paige Kyle, Adam Singer, Kenslie Kerestes, Guy Carpenter, Brianna Cyprich, Lee Kozokas (standing in for Homecoming King Derek Crucius), Homecoming Queen Skylar Braun and Matt Duffy.

Lee Kozokas, left, and Skylar Braun are all smiles at halftime of the Dallas Homecoming football game against Nanticoke Area. Braun was crowned Homecoming Queen, while Kozokas was standing in for Homecoming King Derek Crucius.



Skylar Braun and Derek Crucius were crowned Homecoming Queen and King, respectively, as Dallas High School held its annual Homecoming last weekend. In addition to Braun and Crucius, members of the Homecoming Court were Amanda Saxon, Brittany Rice, Paige Kyle, Kenslie Kerestes, Brianna Cyprich, Matt Duffy, Guy Carpenter, Alex Baltimore, Brad Fagula and Adam Singer.

The school celebrated Homecoming with a variety of special events during the week, including Pajama Day, Twin Day, Opposite Sex Day, Decade Day, and Blue and White Day. The week culminated with the Homecoming Game against Nanticoke Area – the Mountaineers posted a 42-0 win against the Trojans – and the Homecoming Dance later that night. Braun and Crucius were named Queen and King during halftime of the football game.

The Student Council sponsored the Homecoming Dance, which was held in the school gymnasium. The theme of the dance was "Under the Sea" and approximately 600 students attended the event.

Enjoying a night of bloody good fun

Ghosts and goblins were busying giving guided tours of the Back Mountain Memorial Library last weekend during the opening of Haunted Homecoming. The fourth annual event concludes today with tours being given from 5-9 p.m. at the library on Huntsville Road in Dallas.

This year's Haunted Homecoming theme spoofs traditional fall Homecoming celebrations, with plenty of gruesome, heart-stopping frights. The event is under the direction of library board member Nadine Young and her dedicated cast of volunteers.

"You have to be a little crazy to do this

year after year, but it's still fun," she said. "The adults and young people that volunteer to run this show are amazing. We rely heavily on the efforts and donations of people from the community. It's hectic and chaotic, but so rewarding when it all comes together."

Admission to the Haunted Homecoming is \$6 per person, with proceeds going toward library operations. The event is geared for people age 5 to adult. There are also outdoor games and crafts on the library grounds for youngsters not quite ready to enter a haunted house.



Katelyn Reinert, Trucksville, appears to be shocked at the behavior of her friends Angelina Hoidra, Aubrielle Smith and Rebekah Stuart, all from Dallas.



FOR THE DALLAS POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Dan Fritsky provides plenty of frights at the Haunted Homecoming.

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Dallas, Lake-Lehman ready for the 59th annual Old Shoe Game. Special coverage.



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