

# family moment



Alyssa Adams, mother: "My son, August, and I were on our way to get his hair cut. It was my idea for him to grow it out a bit when he was seven—I thought longer hair would look good. But it was always his choice to keep growing it.

"I've overheard kids say that I'm a pretty cool mom. But I think his hair is just a form of self-expression. He should be able to do whatever he wants with it.

"Now, at ten, he was starting to look like one of the Hansons, so August decided he wanted something drastically

different. One day, he just said, 'Let's do it.' I was probably more anxious than he was. What if he didn't like it?"

August Adams, son: "I had thought a lot about making a change. I was nervous because I thought I'd miss my hair, but I was excited, too. I decided to get it cut very short and bleach it blond. When it was over, I really liked my short hair. Now I keep my ponytail in a wood-and-glass box in my room."

—as told to Jacqueline L. Ross