Oh, baby! Seinfeld can still deliver

Daughter named Sascha for Jerry and Jessica

By GEORGE RUSH and MITCHELL FINK DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITERS

ada, yada, yada, itchy, gitchy, goo-goo-goo. It's all baby talk now for funnyman Jerry Seinfeld and his 29-year-old wife, Jessica, who became proud firsttime parents yesterday.

Sascha Seinfeld was born early yesterday at a New York hospital and is "a healthy baby girl," according to the couple's spokeswoman, Elizabeth Clark.

As for Sascha's parents, "They're doing great, too. They're thrilled," Clark said.

"She's beautiful," gushed Jessica's grandmother Ellen Furman, who went to see Sascha yesterday. "It's wonderful to be a great-grandmother."

It wasn't immediately clear when the new mistress of the Seinfeld domain would leave the hospital with her mom and dad, who had opted not to know the gender of the baby before she was born.

For a man who became an international superstar with a TV sitcom about "nothing," yesterday certainly was something.

The 46-year-old comedian wasn't available for comment as he spent the special day with his wife and their new arrival. But last month, Seinfeld told the Daily News, "I'm not nervous so much as excited.'

Asked whether he'd be mining fatherhood for new standup material, he replied, "I don't see how I'm going to avoid it."

Former "Seinfeld" co-star Jason Alexander predicted his

Expectant parents Jerry Seinfeld and his wife, Jessica, arriving at the Lucille Lortel Theatre in July. The couple's newborn daughter arrived yesterday.

pal would be a good dad. "Think of his storytelling," said Alexander. "Think of the presents! Baby's first Porsche."

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Seinfeld and the former Jessica Sklar tied the knot on Christmas after a month-long engagement that began with him popping the question at the SoHo restaurant Balthazar.

The couple's courtship has become the stuff of gossip legend - and easily could have been a plot line for the comic's show.

When they met at the Reebok Sports Club in July 1998, Sklar was a public relations executive who had married theater scion Eric Nederlander a month earlier. As her marriage unraveled,

Sklar's romance with Seinfeld took off, and they started hitting the show-business party circuit.

Then, after returning from a summer vacation in Italy, they suddenly broke up. He remained solo, but she started dating other men, including "Today" show assistant producer David Friedman.

That reportedly helped spark a reconciliation.

After their wedding last year, the Seinfelds bought singer Billy Joel's oceanfront estate in East Hampton, L.I., for a reported \$32 million. They also have digs in an exclusive building on Central Park West.

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By MATTHEW CREAMER

Forget Social Security, health care and budget surpluses.

CORKERY DAILY NEWS

In fact, forget candidates. What throngs of New Yorkers were concerned with vesterday was — cheesecake. Not just any cheesecake, but the ricn, creamy wedges that Junior's, the downtown Brooklyn restaurant, has been serving up for

half a century. To celebrate its 50th anniversary, the restaurant's owners charged 35 cents a slice - the price when Junior's opened on Election Day 1950.

Turnout for the celebration was high, as Junior's devotees and neophytes alike stood behind police barricades on a line that stretched for a block down DeKalb Ave.

"It's the best cheesecake in New York," said Vincent Rocco of Brooklyn. He wouldn't give his age but admitted he's been frequenting Junior's for 45 secre he added. "God knows what it is, but it's worth every penny."

Junior's was founded by Harry Rosen, whose name graces a street sign on the post that officially identifies the intersection of DeKalb and Flatbush Aves. outside the restaurant as Cheesecake Corner.

Co-owner Alan Rosen, Harry's grandson, said the line began to form before the restaurant opened at 6:30 a.m. Junior's ran out of cheesecake by 2 p.m., having sold more than 10,000 slices, all discounted from the usual \$4.50.

"My grandfather is probably rolling in his grave," said a laughing Rosen. "He'd think I ive mv hea ined."

To Mae Paradiso, 80, yesterday's celebration was a trip down memory lane. She came to snap a picture of Junior's, but didn't wait in line for a slice.

"When I lived in Brooklyn Heights, I used to bring my daughter and her children here," she said. "I hope to bring great-grandchildren here my one day.



DIGGING IN Zora Nelson of Clinton Hill tries some of Junior's famed cheesecake yesterday. To celebrate its 50th anniversary, restaurant cut price of a slice from \$4.50 to 35 cents.