

These Are The Days...

Volume 2 Edition 5

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All righty folks here we go again...

On the 1st of March we welcomed a new member to our news team. We are pleased to announce the arrival of our fancy new Canon Pixma iP4200 inkjet



printer. We look forward to getting to know our new team member and hope that its contributions are to your liking.

We ordered it on the 1st and it was at our house less than thirty-six hours later! Hooray for OfficeMax!



The other happenings of the 1st of March could wait to be reported in our Tess is Terrific column but I am just too excited to wait.

Although it is rather old news and most of you have seen it for yourselves already, we are thrilled to announce that Baby Tess is walking! Her first little consecutive steps happened on the first and within two weeks she was running circles around us with Noah. Way to go baby!

On the 2nd I had to quit watching Riley. The kids just weren't getting along like they used to. It's a bummer that it didn't work out, as it would have been nice for all of us.

On the 8th we saw an ad on TV advertising cheap DSL, with a special rebate for those of us who were willing to ditch our cable Internet. So we decided to see if it was available out here yet. Woo hoo! It was! We got all signed up and our wireless modem arrived a few days later. Now we can surf the Internet from the comfort of the couch!

On the 11th, Jared went to a ward Primary Activity since he is in the primary. He went just to help out and I stayed home with the kids since Noah is still just in Nursery. Jared was one of only a few adults who came to help and they were really glad to have him. They sent him home with some leftover Krispy Kreme's, which made me glad he went too.

The 12th was stake conference. We made the long drive, I think an hour or so, and Tess and I paced the hallways at that church house too. Noah did really well if I remember right he sat and played with the quiet toys the whole time.

On the 15th we had the guys from USDTV come out. We discovered that

for what we are paying the cable company for local channels, we could get basic cable channels from them. They don't do it with a dish or with cable but with an antenna like regular TV. Kind of interesting. It was really late by the time they got all the way out here and they couldn't get any kind of signal at all. I was so bummed...I really wanted to have HGTV again.



Sometime in March, I forget when, Megan joined the Army. We were all a little surprised at her spontaneity, but she was excited and started getting ready for basic training. She even got them to let her stay for another week or two so that she could see her favorite sister...awwww. From what I hear they have done a good job getting her used to all the "stuff" you have to deal with as a member of the military.

The weekend of the 19th we had a huge rainstorm that left many parts of Northern Texas under water. On our way home from church we had to try a couple of different routes since our usual roads were flooded and closed.

On the 21st we had our little dinner party at our house. I made Chicken a'la King and French bread and got rave reviews on both. We had a really good time and once again we were at it till the late hours of the night.

The 21st was also Nate's birthday. We sent a card for him to renew his Sam's membership-since they'll be buying diapers soon and that is one of the best

places to do that in Logan. Happy Birthday!

On the 26th, two days before we were planning on flying to Utah, I was sitting in church with Tess and she just all of a sudden started feeling really warm. She was fine when we left the house and by the time we got her back home and checked her temperature she was at 104.7. So we got to take her into Urgent Care on Sunday night. The only place open was the Children's Hospital in Dallas.



It took us forever to get there, since they were working on a bridge over the freeway so we all had to exit and go around. What a nightmare. We finally found the place and got her in. The doctor told us that her ears looked like she could be getting an ear infection but that she wanted to check her urine because her fever was so high. Poor Tess got catheterized and we got a prescription for some antibiotics and headed for home.

We had to park in a huge parking garage that they charge you money for and since it was after nine o' clock when we got to leave, there wasn't anybody in the booth at the bottom and you had to exit via the ticket machine. This would have been fine if we had had any cash, but we're young and we have kids and therefore we don't carry cash. Jared had to back up the ramp and park in a close spot and run into the hospital in search of an ATM. We finally got out of the parking garage and then had to figure out how to get home. We had printed

directions before we left but after seeing how bad the road was on the way there, we knew we wanted to take a different route home. Jared called his dad and Nate but nobody was available to get us some directions. A minute or two later Sherry called and was able to talk us through Dallas and onto a different freeway. It was awesome and Jared was sooo proud.



We stopped at CVS on our way home and they managed to fill the antibiotics in about fifteen minutes, compared to the hour and some that it took Walgreen's for the last ones we had to get. When we came back to pick it up Jared told the guy at the window that they needed to have a huge sign out in front saying that they were more than four times faster than Walgreen's. I think that we picked up some dinner on the way home too...since none of us had eaten anything since lunch.

I don't remember that night being too bad. I think that we all got some sleep but both of the kids woke up with fevers. We forced Tylenol down them all day and I continued to get stuff ready to leave on Tuesday morning. I talked to the pediatrician several times and we decided that as long as there was no puking, because we knew a good pediatrician where we were headed, and since Mom was a nurse, that it would still be okay for us to go. We got the kids down to bed and started the timer so that we could keep the Tylenol going in them. It was about 1:30 when I had all the stuff done that needed to be done that night, and we headed to bed for a

minute. Noah needed more medicine at 2:30 and Tess at 4:00 and then we had to get up at 4:30 so we only got about 2 hours of broken sleep that night but we were running on adrenaline and faith.

We were thrilled when we woke the kids up to get in the car and Tess was down to 100 and Noah didn't have a fever at all! We made it to the airport with plenty of time and through security and then headed for Utah by way of Denver, CO.



The flight to Denver was a little rough for all of us since we were all so tired, but we did enjoy being able to get off the plane for a minute. Dad was flying into Denver the same time that we were stopped there-or so we thought-and we hoped to get to see him for a minute in passing but we had no such luck.

Jared's dad came and got us at the airport and we headed for the Sowerby Motel. Mom had redone the extra bedroom as well as the bathroom downstairs between Megan's comings and goings and it was really nice. The bathroom was gorgeous! We spent the rest of Tuesday trying to get the kids rested up a little and getting settled in and get the kids feeling better. They both had high fevers by the time we got there. We got a call from our pediatrician later in the afternoon, he called to let us know that Tess had a UTI and to see how we were all feeling. The kids were both better in a couple of days by the way...

On Wednesday Mom and I went shopping-we had hoped that Megan would join us but she was playing Army all day. It was a bummer that she was busy because we had a really good time. We went shopping and had lunch, all that good mother daughter bonding stuff. Jared and the kids spent the afternoon with his mom and I heard that they had a lot of fun.



No one can remember what we did on Thursday, but I am sure it was fun. Dad came home Thursday night and Jared and Noah were at the airport to pick him up.

Friday evening was Jared's mission reunion and we were really glad that we got to go. There were a lot of missionaries from his...era, I guess. This will be the last one that they have for about five years, since people are starting to spread out and will soon have kids in school and the like. Anyways, it was nice and Jared was really happy to see so many people that he knew.

On Saturday we met our good buddy Matt Flamm at Sill's for breakfast and then he and Jared headed up to the Science Olympiad competition at Weber State. I am sure that Jared had a good time with all that stuff, but I can't



remember if or what I heard about it. Mom and Dad took the kids and I to lunch at Arctic Circle so that Noah

could go up and down the slides over and over again. He did just that and probably didn't eat anything but it was a while ago now and I can't remember.


Sunday evening we had a big family dinner at Mom and Dad's house with all of my family. It was great to get to see all of the extended family. We hadn't seen any of them since we were home for a minute for Brandon's wedding. Dinner really was good and we had a lot of fun visiting.

Monday afternoon we took the kids down to the park to watch them perform for their grandparents. It was really nice even if poor Megan managed to get sunburned in the short time we were there. We picked up some Slurpee's and stopped to see one of my young women's leaders, Maryann. The kids were a bit tired so Jared took them back to the house to see if he could get a nap in before dinner and she and I had a nice visit. It is a lot of fun to catch up on everybody back home.

Monday night we had a similar sort of get together at Jared's house and we really enjoyed getting to see everybody there, too. The kids had a great time with all the attention they were getting everywhere they went.

On one of those mornings, I can't remember which one, we had a chance to catch up with Diane. She came to Mom's house and brought some toys and stuff for the kids. Baby Tess loved the M&M's and Noah is still packing his little bughouse around the house.

We spent Tuesday in Logan with Nate and Ashley. We met them for lunch at Frederico's and then Jared joined Nate's frisbee class. I had planned on visiting my friend Janna while we were there, but due to poor planning on my part I was unable to get a hold of her until we were going home. I took the kids to Shopko and picked up a car seat for Nate and Ashley and then headed for their cute little house. I have never seen such a small house but they seem really happy there. They had a good time with the kids and we got Tess to take a little nap before it was time to head to dinner. We went to Bluebird and had a quick dinner and then ran back to Nate and Ashley's for some cake and ice cream in belated honor of Nate's birthday. Overall we had a really nice time visiting the great white north, and it was really cool to drive through the canyon again.

While we in Logan, Megan called to let us know that she ran her mile in time, and that she would be leaving for Basic Training in the next couple of minutes. So far, we hear that she is doing really well, and we wish her the best. 

Wednesday day we probably did something, but who really knows anymore. Later that evening we went out to see Rusty and Melissa and their little girl Rachel. They have a nice place in

Layton and we were glad to get to meet their cute baby.

The 6th was Ashley's (Brandon's) birthday. I made her a Kool-Aid bag that we gave her at dinner on Sunday. Happy Birthday!

On Thursday I washed everything that we brought and we got all packed and ready for home. All good things eventually come to an end and it sure seemed (still does seem) like our ten-day-vacation was waaaay too short. The weather was terrible and we were glad that we had stuffed our coats into a bag. Jared's dad gave us a ride to the airport and we again headed for Denver. This time we had to get a connection, rather than just stopping for a minute and returning to the same plane.

We got to Denver okay and with time to get a treat before it was time to get on the next plane...or so we thought. We were sitting at the gate with fifteen minutes to go and they were kind enough to inform us that they had reassigned our flight crew and our flight was cancelled. We joined the mad dash to the customer service counter where we were informed that we were SOL and would have to stay a night in Denver.

Now I had thought that if the airline cancelled your flight that they would cover all of your expenses, within reason, for the time that you were stuck. Apparently United Airlines does things a little differently-they would give us a fifteen percent discount at one of the hotels on their list and twenty-five dollars off of our next United flight. When I asked about a rental car I was

informed that they wouldn't cover a car since they were paying for my flight. Yeah, really. It's no wonder the airlines are having so much trouble, they don't even know who is really paying for the flights!!! Arrrggghh!

I had called Anthony and Wendy when I was in line earlier to see if maybe we could come and invade their house for the night, and they quickly agreed. After a bit more discussion with the nice lady at the counter we went to get our luggage and head for the rental car.



Noah got a balloon at Hertz that kept him plenty busy during the wait and the people at the counter were entertained watching it chase him through the building.

It was after eleven when we got to the Jensen's house so we called it a night and begged the kids to go to sleep. We got to visit for a minute the next morning but had to leave by ten-thirty. We got to meet their baby girl Allison, who was born right after we moved. She was adorable and we really enjoyed getting to see Anthony and Wendy again. We hope to be able to return the favor one day.

The flight home was nice, we were in the bulkhead seats so we had a lot of room for stretching. I guess this was United's attempt to make us feel better about getting stuck. The kids and I all

had a nice nap and we were home in no time. I have never been so glad to see the Civic. We made it home around dinnertime, after a brief stop at the store to get some milk and dinner, too. It was sooo nice to be home.

It has taken us forever to get back into the swing of things after this vacation; we are still dragging a bit to be honest.



Nothing really happened until Easter. We dyed eggs with the kids and the Easter Bunny came and left a bunch of stuff for the kids. Noah had a great time finding the eggs in the living room. We got everybody all



dressed up and headed for church. Tess cried in all the pictures we tried to take, like she usually does in holiday pictures. We had ham and stuff for dinner too. All in all it was a nice little holiday.

The miserable Texas weather got the better of us on the 17th and 18th. It was one hundred degrees both days! In April! Playgroup at the park was terrible. It was so miserably hot. Summer here we come...

On the 22nd Jared and I got to go to the Temple again. We found some people in our ward to watch the kids and even got to stop and have lunch on the way home.

After the Temple, Jared took the stupid car to Midas and got the bracket on the

muffler fixed so we don't make quite so much ridiculous noise anymore.



Even later that afternoon we decided what we were going to do with the bricks in the garage and the dirt in the front yard and got started. Jared did all of the work. I was useless after we decided what we were going to do with them. It looks awesome and I am so glad that it is done.

On the 28th, I got to take Baby Tess to the doctor for her fifteen-month well-baby check-up. She weighed in at a mere 17lbs. 15 oz. and was 31.5 inches long. So she'll keep riding backwards in the car. He was a little worried about her UTI, since she is really young to have one, he wanted to do another urine culture to make sure she is all clear but it didn't work out that way this time. We have decided to go ahead with a pelvic ultrasound to check and see if her kidneys are okay, we're holding off on other tests unless she gets another UTI. Noah did pretty well since he was hoping for a sticker on the way out and as soon as the nurse gave him one he stuck it on his shirt so that I couldn't take it away like I threatened to if he misbehaved. Anyways, I have to take Tess back in a couple of weeks to check her weight and try the urine test again.

Ahhh the things you get to worry about when you have kids, they're just a big bag of fun!

EXCiting NOah NEWS

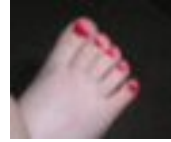
We think that Noah has been having a little growth spurt. We measured him against the wall at mom's house again and he had grown at least 6 inches since we were there for Brandon's wedding.



We went to the store to get Tess some sandals and we tried some on Noah while we were there only to discover that his feet were a size or two bigger than the shoes he was wearing. He is growing out of clothes left and right.

Noah has also been going through that little phase where he is entranced by boogers. We were driving somewhere when I caught him picking his nose in the backseat and I told him that the boogie monster would bite his finger off if he didn't quit sticking it in there. He was really shaken by my little lie and kept a good grip on his beloved finger for the rest of the trip. Tess was sticking her hands in her mouth in the car seat next to him and he just about lost it trying to keep her from losing her fingers too...it was really cute.

He has also figured out that he can open the fridge and has mastered climbing on chairs to get into things. I caught him getting into the candy several times and he has managed to make a huge mess with the stuff in the fridge once. He's a cutie and we love him!



She also got her first pedicure recently. I had so much fun painting her little tiny toenails. It was awesome!

I guess that wraps up this massive thing. We love you all and really enjoyed getting to see some of you. I wish that we had had a little more time to get to see y'all, as there were so many things that we didn't get to do while we were there. Hopefully next time...XO.

Tess is Terrific!



Like I mentioned earlier Tess has started walking, or rather she started walking a while ago and has now moved on to running. I'm sure she'll be flying in no time. It is

really cute to see her hurry around the house all busy like. She's like a hummingbird...

Tess started standing up in the middle of the floor all unassisted around the middle of March, which has made walking that much easier.

She has also started pushing the button on the stereo that turns on the radio so that she can dance. She runs up and



pushes the button and starts shaking her little butt all over the room. So cute, huh?!

Tess also started blowing kisses! She blows on her dinner too! It is just so sweet...hmmmm.

