

These Are The Days...

Volume 4 Edition 1

Royse City, TX

May 2007



On March 2nd I took Tate into the pediatrician to discuss the possibility of him having reflux. He is the spittiest baby ever! I had read in my stupid baby book that doctors are fond of saying that reflux is really more of a laundry problem than a health problem but I called and they said to go ahead and bring him in. They were really behind for some reason and we had to wait almost 2 hours for our appointment, good thing I really, really like our doctor. In the end Tate was gaining weight well enough that he didn't want to medicate him, then he actually said, "it's really more of a laundry problem." Gee, how clever.

Jared and Noah went to the Primary activity on the 3rd. Jared had to go since the webelos were in charge and Noah got to go since he is in Sunbeams now. They did a missionary themed activity and from what I heard it went really well and Noah had a lot of fun.

Later that afternoon we left our kids with the Carters and Jared and I went somewhere...I can't remember where but I'm sure it was fun since we only had the baby in tow.

On the 5th we had them, the Carters, over for dinner. I made some really good macaroni and cheese and we had a nice visit. It was the first time that we had had them over since Tate was born and we really owed them.

On the 8th Sam and I went to the Relief Society birthday party. They had catered dinner and then a lady talked to us about getting organized and then she touched a little bit on coupon shopping. It was really interesting and the food wasn't too bad.



On the 10th we painted Tess' room. If I remember right we watched Sam and Cameron's kids while they painted their dining room and then we took Noah and Tess over there while we painted her

room. It looks really cute and we're glad to have it done. I ordered some wallpaper butterflies and put a bunch of them up on her walls, ha ha, and most of them are still there...



On the 13th there was no Joy School due to spring break so the kids and I were spending a relaxing day at home. While I was trying to get a few more

minutes of sleep my darling toddlers coated my entire kitchen in a glaze made of cinnamon-sugar and dish soap. I cried when I saw what they had done and called Jared who told me to call Sam or Bekah, the latter is my Visiting Teacher and she lives just around the corner. After I calmed myself down a bit I called Sam and asked her if she wanted to come and hold the baby for a couple of hours while I cleaned up the mess that Noah and Tess had made. I sent them to their rooms "until Daddy comes home to deal with you" and Sam came to my rescue and helped me get stuff cleaned up until she had to go to the dentist. The best part of the whole thing was when Cameron came to pick up Sam and the kids and after hearing about the mess we had had to clean up asked, with a look of total disgust on his face, "our kids?" Ahhh, it was priceless. I had to move out the oven and the fridge to get the slime

off of everything...but on the plus side I don't think that the kitchen has been this thoroughly scrubbed since we moved in. Jared went to scouts later that night and Sam came over to hang out with me, she knew that I shouldn't be left alone with my kids after something like that. ☺

The very next day Tess broke my glasses. Great timing too, since I have been having a lot of issues with my eyes lately. I had a bad sty a while ago and it has been an uphill battle to get my eyes okay with wearing contacts and mascara again. Lucky for me I had only had them for a couple of months and they were still covered under something, so they were replaced for free.



On the 17th, since the kids had been so good

that week, we took them to the Auto Show. We had a good time seeing all the fancy, overpriced cars and the kids were pretty good too. I got to sit in a Ford Expedition that I liked a lot but when



Noah picked out cars for everyone I got a yellow Lotus Elise. He picked a Spyker C8 Spyder for Tate, and a Ferrari red Ferrari F430 for himself and Grandpa. Daddy got a Jeep Patriot. In Jared's words "Pretty much a rebadged

Neon." Ha ha ha. I told him he could have my car and we could trade the Jeep in for down payment on my Expedition.

On the 20th Tate had his two-month well-baby exam. He weighed in at 10 lbs 6 oz and was 23 3/4 inches long. He also got four shots!!! Poor baby was soooo mad.

Nate's birthday was the 21st. We sent a card with something, though I don't think it got there in time...sorry. Happy Birthday anyways!

The 24th was Noah's friend Ben's birthday party. Joe and Bekah had a bunch of people over and had burgers and stuff. It was really good and we had a lot of fun.

On the 27th Bekah and I went, while Noah was at school, and got our hair done by a lady in the ward who does it professionally. I got highlights, lowlights and a cut. I've been really happy with it.



On the 31st we left our kids with the Carters again and went and got Jared a suit. The store was kind of funny, aimed at a

hip-hop sort of demographic, but we found one that he likes that looks really good on him.

The Crookstons, Allen, Sherry and Bree, got to come and visit us the first week in April. We were really glad that they could come and see the baby and we had a nice visit. We took them to lunch at a really good burger place that Jared found in Greenville and Jared's dad helped him fix our stolen sprinkler. (Our lawn looks so much better now that it is actually getting watered.) Anyways, we were glad to have them here and we're looking forward to seeing them in a couple of weeks for Caleb's wedding.

Brandon's Ashley had a birthday on the 6th. I went to Friday's to get a giftcard and had to wait a million years for the girl to come up with what I wanted but it all worked out in the end. Happy Birthday!



We dyed Easter eggs with the kids on the 7th. Noah and Tess just loved it! It was so funny to watch



them both throw eggs into the cups of dye. In no time at all the eggs were all done.

I also got my Mother's Day present early, on the 7th. I got it all put up and I love it!



Some genius, that would be me, decided that it would be a good idea to leave the kids Easter baskets in front of their bedroom doors. The Easter Bunny brought Noah the Lightning McQueen watch he had been asking for and Baby Tess got some really pretty earrings. We woke up to the aftermath. Candy wrappers everywhere...it was kind of funny. They had a nice day and looked really cute at church.



Later that day we had the Carters, and a lady that I visit teach named Michelle Conrad, over for Easter dinner. There

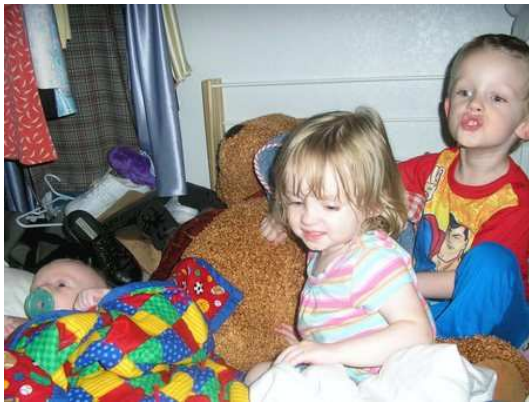
were 11 people in our little house, at our little table for dinner. It was kind of funny but still really good. Sam and Cameron found a recipe for Honey Baked Ham (like the kind that costs a million dollars) and it was SOOOO good. We all ate way too much and then Jared read the kids the Easter story in the egg carton thing. They loved it and made him do it again. All in all it was a really nice day.

On the 11th after playgroup...okay back track a little bit. The night before playgroup Noah emptied out his toy box all over his floor. Since playgroup was the next day and I was feeling tired and cranky his room didn't get thoroughly cleaned before he went to bed. So after playgroup was over and everyone had gone I told Noah to go and pick up his books while I made lunch. He stomped off complaining about how he was not going to clean up his room and I threatened to get out a garbage bag if he didn't pick up something while I was making lunch. I got lunch all done and on the table and went to go see what he had accomplished. I found Noah sitting on his butt in his doorway with his arms folded still griping about how he was "not going to clean up anything."

So I sat him down for lunch and got the box of force-flex trash bags. He ate faster than I have ever seen him eat before and stood in his doorway and screamed at me to stop taking his toys. When I was done "cleaning" he got to take a nap. I gathered three bags of toys off of the floor in his room. He earned them back over the next few days. The incident didn't quite have the results I was hoping for. He has since asked me

to "just get the bag" when I've told him to start cleaning his room.

The evening of the 13th Sam and I had decided that we were going to leave all of the children at home with their respective fathers and go grocery shopping. While I was feeding Tate and getting ready to go it started raining really hard and the sky turned a sick green color. We turned on the news to discover that there was a tornado warning in effect for our area and that we should be seeking shelter. We kept a close eye on the kids, the sky, and the news until we lost satellite signal. Then we headed to our closet.



I felt a little foolish running around gathering up shoes and documents to hide in the closet with us but I figured I'd rather be paranoid than without shoes. Anyways, we sat in the closet until we could hear the news come back on, about twenty minutes. I was a nervous wreck but Jared was singing primary songs with the kids. My visiting teacher, Bekah from around the corner, is a Texas native and called to see how we were faring-I guess she's been through this before. It got a little stuffy in the closet and Noah started asking if we could leave yet.

When we heard the TV come back on Jared went to see what was going on. The storm line was past us but there had been two tornadoes near us, one (very small one) in our little city and another just a few miles down the freeway. It was kind of creepy. But at that point it was just raining so I called Sam to see if she still wanted to go, yeah I really needed a break from the kids. We went grocery shopping and laughed about how unprepared we had been, Sam bought about eighteen flashlights while we were at Wal-Mart.



On the 14th Sam, Peyton, Bekah, Tate and I all went to the Baby Faire in Dallas. It was awesome! We had so much fun. We got there in time to be in the Worlds Largest Baby Butter Massage. We got a free bottle of lotion and a onesie! I spent way too much money but I got a lot of really cool stuff. We stopped and had dinner on the way back and have since vowed to do something fun next month too.

On the 18th, while we were having playgroup, one of the little girls who was here came out and said, sounding very concerned, "Ummm. Tess isn't wearing any pants." I had no choice but to go and investigate such a claim and sure enough I found her naked. She had shimmied out

of her diaper and was sitting on the potty. And then she peed! We really didn't want to start potty training her yet but I guess that's how kids are...

On the 20th we went to the Carter's house for Peyton's first birthday party.



Sam made some good shredded beef sandwich stuff and we had cake and the whole

deal. The older kids had a really hard time understanding that they weren't getting anything, since it was not their birthdays. Peyton got a lot of really neat toys, made a cute, huge mess with his cake and we had a good time hanging out with Sam and Cameron.

I had to teach Joy School on the 24th & 26th. It was the first time I had had to teach since last October, and I have to admit that I like Joy School better when it is someone else's turn. Tuesday went really well, probably because we were two kids short. Thursday was rough because I had been up late with Tate so I called a short day. Should have just cancelled but oh well...in the end it all worked out and I don't have to do it again for a month.

On the 27th the Davis' (Joe & Bekah from around the corner), the Carters (Sam & Cameron) and Jared and I all left our kids, there were eight of them here between the three families, here with three girls from our ward and went to dinner. We had a blast! With the exception of the ladybug in my salad

dinner was really good and we had a lot of fun hanging out without the kids...sorry kids. They had a lot of fun too. Our babysitters made playdough, brought coloring books, and took the kids outside to play. After dinner we took babysitters home and put the kids to bed and then the guys went to the Carters house and watched a movie and the girls hung out here and gabbed. We had a lot of fun and are definitely going to have to do it again.

We traded kids with the Carters the next day, since they were all cranky from having been up for too long, so we all got to go grocery shopping in peace. All three of their kids actually took naps. Tate was the only one of ours who napped. It's funny that grocery shopping without the kids qualifies as a date nowadays.

Later that night when I picked Tess up to put her back into her bed she felt a little warm to me. Sure enough she had a fever of 102. Noah soon followed suit and the kids ended up staying home from church on Sunday. Luckily it was a short-lived thing and they were over their fevers by Monday morning.

EXCiting NOah NEWS

Noah has been learning a lot at Joy School lately, and while we have yet to get him to do it on a sheet of paper he can write his name on the door of our shower...He also draws people. It's really cute. He's gotten to be such a smart little kid. Just tonight at dinner he told us all about pupa's (or Q-pa's as he called them). Seriously. "The caterpillar turns into a pupa and then he comes out

a butterfly." It was sooo funny. When we asked him where he learned that he stated, rather matter-of-factly, "on the Wonder Pets."

He's also gotten to be pretty quick with a come back lately, which isn't really a good thing but it does result in some funny conversations. A few nights ago we were trying to get ready to run to the store and Jared told Noah that if he didn't get some of his room cleaned up while I fed Tate that he wouldn't be able to go to the store with us. Noah quickly came back with "I wish when you were a



little boy you didn't clean your room so you would not go to the store with me."

We bought him these super-cute pajamas a while back and for a few days he ran around saying "Oh no! Somebody's in trouble!"

Tess is Terriffic!



Baby Tess got her first haircut on the 14th of March. I got to be really tired of her bangs being full of boogers all the time so I cut them. It made her look a lot more "big girlish."

Like I mentioned earlier Tess has decided that she wants to be potty trained. We have been going forward with that, albeit a little reluctantly. She's doing pretty well and I suppose it'll be nice to only have baby diapers to change.

Tess has also been saying some funny things lately. A while ago when Jared got her a cup of chocolate milk for breakfast she looked up at him and said, "You! Gimmie a kiss!" I have also been teaching her to stick out her lip and say



"Please Daddy." It is so cute and Jared falls for it nearly every time...I'm sure that one will come back to bite us but for now it's cute.

Talkin' Bout' Tate

Tate has been doing a lot of new things the last couple of months. Imagine that. He is really good at holding his head up, though we have yet to see him roll over. He is very chatty and started laughing a lot too. He has the cutest little honky laugh.

He also really likes to suck on his fingers.



Well, I guess that wraps this thing up. We love you all and we can't wait to see you next week when we come for Caleb's wedding.

Till next time!



I got out the Jumperoo for Tate on the 18th. Although I didn't get a decent

picture of him in it he did really like it.

He's just getting so big. He's sleeping down the hall in the crib and he's started sleeping twelve hours at night!!! Now we just need to get him to start sleeping a bit earlier than midnight or one o' clock and we'll all be feeling much better.

What's Noah Lookin' At?

On a rather sad note it would appear that someone has been tampering with Noah's camera and deleted all of his pictures...I blame the combination of Dylan and Tess. Sorry. We apologize to his fans and promise that we'll have double the pictures in our next issue.