

# These Are The Days...

Volume 2 Edition 2

Royse City, TX

November 2005

Here we go again folks...

We start off the month of September with some really great news. Our friends Anthony and Wendy from Colorado welcomed their beautiful baby girl on the 1st. From what we have heard she has been an absolute joy and we are thrilled for everybody...I wish we could be around to see her. Congratulations you guys!!! XOXO

Allison Lyn Jensen  
7 lbs. 14 oz. 21 inches



On the 8th we got to go down to Penney's again and pick up our pictures. We went to Babies R' Us while we were in the area and got Noah a booster seat for the kitchen table. Now we put Tess in the highchair and Noah in his booster and everyone gets to enjoy their dinner.

Happy Birthday to Caleb! I can't believe that he has been out for a year now...I am not sure if he knows this but we are going to be combining his birthday and

Christmas gifts into one box. Happy Birthday!



On the 14th we went out to see the house and they had set our fence posts! The cabinets were also in place and stained...they looked great from the windows. Which is where we got to look from since we were now locked out.

We gave our 30-day notice on the apartment on the 15th and then the count down began! Only 30 more days of this nasty apartment to go!



Sometime around the middle of the month we finally went to the park near our apartment, it was pretty cool. Not as nice as the one in Colorado but Noah liked it nonetheless.



On the 19th Nate told us a funny story that ended with some exciting news. He and Ashley are expecting their first baby! They are due right around graduation next spring...so we'll see how it all pans out for them. I have had a

really good time talking about all this stuff with Ashley and we look forward to the baby getting here. Congratulations to you guys too!



By the 21st our fence was done, our sod was in and the countertops and everything were done inside! It was like a real house...

On the 22nd we had Tim, Amanda and Riley come over and go swimming with us. It was the only time we ever made it to the pool at the apartment. We had to buy Tess a swimming suit but she looked really cute in it and we had a lot of fun at the pool. It was very refreshing after the miserably hot temperatures around here.

We had our first walk through on the 23rd. It was soooo awesome to see the house all put together. The place looked really good and for the most part everything was done right. They put the wrong linoleum in the bathrooms and laundry room (we wanted it to be different than the kitchen and it wasn't) so they had to redo that. And we still didn't have our upgraded front door. We pointed out that we weren't too happy with our bumpy sod but more on that later... We also measured all the windows for blinds while we were there.

Robert (our contractor) promised to get everything done and we scheduled the final walk through for the 29th. We came again and did a quick once over to make sure that all the stuff we noted on our first walk through had been fixed. Everything but our front door was done. Bree celebrated her 13th birthday on the 29th! I think that we sent her an Old Navy card...shopping is a great gift.



Sometime near the end of the month we got a package from Caleb. He

finally sent a couple of letters as well as some T-shirts for the kids. We were really glad to finally hear that he was still alive and doing well on his mission. Thank You Uncle Caleb.



On the 30th we closed! WOO HOO! Since we closed on the last day of their fiscal year there were

about a million people there it was ridiculous. The actual signing part went really fast...then we waited an hour and a half to get our copies of the paperwork. I am not sure why they didn't just mail them. On the plus side they did bring in some good sandwiches so at least we weren't starving.

So then we left to get Noah and called the guy at the sales office to tell him that we were leaving. Since he goes home at 7 PM, he hides the keys for the homes that close that evening and waits for the

call from the title company that says that he can release the keys. I can't remember what time it was, but it was after Noah was in bed that he called and told us where our keys were. Kind of dumb I know but it works...

So the next day, Saturday, we went and got our keys and let ourselves into our house. We poked around there for a little bit and then grabbed the garage door opener and were on our way. I can't remember what else we did that day...



We celebrated Jared's birthday on the 2nd this year since we were going to be moving on the 3rd. I made an orange dreamsicle cake and we had a little party after church. Noah picked out one of those race tracks with the triggers and two cars and the boys had a good time with it. I ordered him a subscription to Discover magazine and between our families we got him some new scriptures that he promised to never leave at the church. Happy Birthday honey!!!

Sunday evening after the festivities Jared took the TV, VCR, DVD player, stereo, camp chair, playpen, Noah's ball pit and some other stuff over to the house so that we would be ready for all the people that were going to be coming the next morning.

Jared had taken sometime off of work during the next week so that we had time to get all moved. He was off on Monday and Friday and worked mornings the other days. I got stuff packed up while he was at work and then he would come home and we'd get started...

So on Monday morning I dropped Jared and the kids off at the house to wait for the Orkin man as well as the cable and phone company. Then I headed to Lowe's with my little paper of window measurements and got all the blinds cut. It only took them two hours...luckily they all fit in the car and I headed home. We had a little picnic lunch on the floor and then got the kids down for naps. Jared did a great job putting up the blinds and they look really nice. I also started the process of putting vinyl tiles in the bottoms of all the cabinets and drawers...grrrr. It looks really nice now and I am glad that I did it, but what a pain in the butt. Jared even re-caulked the shelves in the pantry after I got them done so it all looks great.



The Orkin man came and sprayed the place down and we got the TV, internet and phone all working. Then after all the blinds were hung and everybody left we headed back to the stupid apartment and had some dinner.

Happy Birthday to Megan who turned the ripe old age of 18 of the 5th! I am sure that we sent a card or something...though I think that it may have been late due to the confusion that was our lives for a few days.

On Wednesday I washed everything that needed to be washed and on Thursday the people that we rented the washer and dryer from came and picked them up. They capped everything back up but there must have been a problem because at about 1:30 am while the girl upstairs was doing laundry I heard this big pop and we discovered about an inch and a half of sudsy water on the floor. Since I had no washer I refused to clean it up with my towels and we called the



maintenance guy who sent his lackey out with a shop vac to clean it up. He made the people upstairs turn off their washer and

we all went back to bed, come to find out the next morning she was doing laundry because they were leaving on a trip the next morning...I am not sure what the problem was and I only assume that they fixed it, since we weren't there except to sleep on Friday night I am not sure.

Now I can't remember what we moved on what days but suffice it to say that we moved everything that we could fit in the civic one carload at a time. I'll bet Jared made at least 15 trips back and forth during the week. He'd drive us out there unload the car seats and make a couple of trips while I worked on the tiles in the cupboards. By the time the elders quorum got there on Saturday we had moved everything down to the drawers out of the dressers. All they had to move was the furniture. I was really worried about my crib and Jared must have passed that on since they gave me a hard time about it. They were totally

done within two hours and we got started on getting everything all set up.



For the first time since we lived in Hyrum we got to put our porch swing

together and have a go. Noah loves it and Jared and I have enjoyed sitting out there when it is cool and quiet at night. There are some ducks nearby that I get a kick out of listening to...it has been really cool to have our own yard.

We went to church in our new ward on the 9th and it is huge! Not since Kaysville have I been in a ward that fills the chapel as well as the overflow, I am not looking forward to speaking here. There are a ton of young families and the nursery is good sized. It took us half an hour to get there but we hear that they are building a new stake center closer to us and then they will reorganize the stake and we'll meet in that building. So far we like it...though we miss seeing Tim and Amanda as often as we did.



I went to HFPE on the 2nd and got to visit with some people. Almost as soon as they

started I had to excuse myself to answer my phone, since I had left Jared home with both of the kids. He was calling to let me know that Tess was crawling!

On the 13th I took the kids to a playgroup in the ward that meets once a

week. For now they have it in a park in Rockwall, about 20 minutes from here. We had a good time for the most part. I forgot the stroller so I had to carry Tess the whole time and it was really hot.



Noah didn't want to go home when it was time so I got to drag him through the parking lot while he put on this huge show...it was fabulous. We have gone a couple of times since then and it has gone better than it did that time. Noah really likes to get out and play and I like to visit with the other moms.

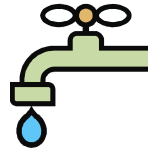


Jared even got to buy a lawnmower and weed eater. We asked the guy across the street what he did to make his lawn look so nice and flat, he told us that he complained to Brian until they came a rolled it again with the big heavy roller, so that's what we did and it looks great.

Sometime during the week the Relief Society President called to see if she could come and visit with me the following Sunday. I agreed thinking that that would give me the motivation that I needed to get stuff cleaned and put away. We got everything done and I had a nice visit with them. It's fun having people come over and tell you how cute your house is and how cute your kids are and on and on...

Since things were going to be all cleaned and organized anyway I called Amanda and invited them to come out and have dinner the same night. Noah was so excited that Riley was coming over that he refused to take a nap. We had a really good time. We gave them the nickel tour

and grilled some burgers and let Noah and Riley play together for a little bit. We will have to start doing that on a regular basis.



Sometime the next week I noticed that the construction guys that were working on the house next door were using the water off of my house, which I pay for by the gallon!!! I was severely annoyed and called and griped at Brian and amazingly enough he fixed it, and it hasn't been a problem since.

The following weekend I got to go to Super Saturday in our old ward. I volunteered to teach a class on the tile board pictures, which went really well I thought. I had a blast and came home with a lot of cool stuff. I left both of the kids with Jared for the whole morning and had a nice little break. He did a good job, though I will admit that I got a kick out of the panic in his voice when I called to say that I was coming home. Everything was fine, I turned on the candle warmer and by the end of the day the burnt grilled tuna sandwich smell was almost gone and Jared was once again amazed at what I do every day.

On the 25th I took Tess to the doctor for her 9-month well baby appointment. I can't believe that she is 9 months old already. For the most part everything checked out. The retarded doctor got me all freaked out because she only weighed 15 lbs., which puts her below the fifth percentile for weight. I mentioned several times how she had always been a small baby and he continued to tell me to try and get more calories in her and then we got some shots. Tess was seriously

unhappy about the little finger stick for the 9 month labs, which made it even harder to get a Band-Aid on her little tiny finger. As soon as the nurse let go over her hand she turned in my lap and tried to pull herself over my shoulder. By the time we were done with the other 3 shots Noah was really concerned for her and was clinging to my pant leg whimpering, after we were all sure that she was going to live we left.



The next day the Relief Society Welcome Woman came in the afternoon with a big folder full of stuff about the area...schools, attractions, even doctors and a couple of Toblerone bars. We had a nice visit and I have already finished one of the candy bars.



Then came the 28th, which could also be called the day of many explosions. Noah played the exploding diaper gag on me while he was in the toy box. It was really gross. I put him in the tub and got out the Clorox wipes and cleaned everything up. Then I called Mom and we laughed about my glamorous lifestyle. Noah apologized a lot, it was kind of funny.

Now a while back Tess had a little reaction to some sweet potatoes one day. Nothing really bad but she got a small rash and we shelved the yams for a while. That was several months ago so I figured we'd be okay to try them again. She had some for lunch and it wasn't

until Jared was home for the day and we were headed to the Trunk or Treat that she decided she didn't want them. He was holding her, looking at something on the computer and she just let loose. Luckily he was standing so none of it hit the PC. He panicked and just stood there and then she barfed on him again. Then he turned to look at me and she did it again. I told him to run to the sink and I think that she may have puked again in the sink. I frantically called the pediatrician and then mom. They both told me that she would probably be fine, just go easy on her the rest of the day (mom and I again laughed about my glamorous life) and we decided to go ahead and go to the church. I cleaned up the carpet as best as I could and we headed out. We have a small carpet-cleaning Bissell spot lifter thing, but it has to be charged-it doesn't just work when you plug it in! We plugged it in and stopped and got a can of Spot Shot on the way home. Thankfully we got it all out...Jared keeps reassuring me that the ghost spot that I keep seeing is all in my head.



Anyways...We very carefully carried Tess around the ward activity while Noah had an absolute ball. They played a bunch of games though his hands-down favorite was a musical chairs/cake walk kind of thing. He's dance his little chicken self around in circles and then run to a chair when the music stopped. He won twice and then we decided that it was probably time to play something else. They had a so-so dinner and then we all headed out

to the parking lot for the Trunk or Treating. In our frantic rush out the door I forgot the camera and Noah's Halloween bag. So he carried around the plastic cauldron and I handed candy out of it's original bag. We didn't decorate the trunk...so I think that I few people may have passed us by, but we had a good time anyways. Noah said "Trick or treat," "Thank you," and then "bye-bye" to everybody there.

When we went grocery shopping on Saturday and we got some formula and bottles and stuff and decided that I would start weaning Tess and give her formula during the day...in an effort to help her gain some weight. Then on Sunday we took the stuff to church and that's what we tried to do during Sunday School. She wasn't too happy about it and three hours later she had only had three ounces of formula.

On Sunday evening we had some people from our new ward over for dinner. Rindy (Miranda) and Jason Colby. They just got married in July and he also works at L3. We had a really good time with them and they just loved the kids. We tried again to get some formula in Tess and again she refused...



After they had gone and we had Tess in bed. Jared, Noah and I finally carved our pumpkins. Noah helped Jared clean them out, I am not sure if he liked it or not. He would stick his little arm in and make a noise, then pull out some stuff and throw it away. It was funny. Jared helped Noah with his and I did mine and Tess'. Our pumpkins turned out pretty cute...

Then on Halloween Noah spent the whole day running around saying, "trick or treat, trick or treat..." He was so excited. The only thing that he wanted to eat all day was his candy from the ward party and when he came out of his room after his nap he said, "Okay, candy please."



I spent the afternoon trying to force formula down Tess who had gotten

really fed up with the whole idea and started screaming whenever the bottle touched her. By the time I gave up we were both hysterical. I called Mom and the pediatrician again...now this is the part that gets ugly. He proceeded to tell me that she wasn't that little, and that she has always been a small baby. Then he gave me the number for a lactation consultant. I hope that he picked up that I think that he is an idiot...Mom was much more help, but I guess that's why she's the mom. What it boils down to is that I need to relax...isn't that great. She is eating a lot more food now, so she isn't totally reliant on nursing anymore. She is developmentally on track and she is a small baby. It has made a world of

difference already that I am not so worried about getting her to nurse for the full amount of time. (Thanks mom...)

Later that day I made an appointment with a different pediatrician to get flu shots for the kids and weigh Tess to see how she is doing. I wish that I had done a little more research on the other doctor since I have heard a lot of people say that they were also unhappy with the practice and have since moved on. Hopefully we'll be able to find one that we like, since we're going to be here for quite a while.



After Jared finally made it home we had some dinner and then dressed the kids up for some pictures.



I was going to take Tess and go with the boys but it was late enough when

we finished that I had to stay home and hand out candy. The kids looked really cute and Noah had a lot of fun, even though people thought that he was a girl. Jared said that he even got extra candy from some people just for being so cute! We didn't have as many trick or treaters and we thought we would so we had a lot of extra candy. I put some of it in a little box and mailed it to Riley from Noah since they had planned on going to our ward party with us as well as trick or treating with the boys, but didn't make it to either since everyone at their house has a bad cold.

## EXCiting NOah NEWS

Noah is saying a lot of things lately. He has started apologizing a lot, "I'm sorry mom. I'm sorry dad. I'm sorry baby Tess." It's kind of funny although unnerving at the same time, since we don't always know why he is apologizing.



He also says "Come here, come on and come in." (Not necessarily all in a row

like that.) Which end up sounding a lot more like "hamir, hamon and hamin," but it's still cute. He pulls on my pant leg and says, "Hamir mom, hamir."

He has started to repeat the words to the prayer when we have family prayer with him at bedtime. It is so cute to hear him pray...

He has also learned a lot of cute songs while in the nursery. He sings The Wise Man and the Foolish Man while doing all the hand motions. The kid is a genius!



Funny Noah Story: While we were moving in one day Jared whispered at me and motioned for

me to come and see what Noah was doing. We both stood there and watched him put M&M's between his toes and

then stick his foot in is mouth and eat them all. It was a little gross, but still funny.

## Tess is Terriffic!

Tess is getting so big! Of course the biggest news is that she is crawling. More often army crawling than belly-off of the floor crawling but she does get up there once and a while. She has also mastered the skill of getting herself back to a sitting up position from crawling.



She is eating everything that isn't nailed down. I put some of the Stuffed Shells that we had for dinner in the little food processor and fed them to her the other night and she

laughed every time I put a bite in her mouth. She also loves Cheerios. We are still working of figuring out the sippy cup thing but she is getting closer and closer every time.

She also says "Hi." It's so cute! You wave at her and say hi from across the



room and she waves her little hand and makes a sound that I am sure will soon

develop into a "hi" that more people than Jared and I will be able to recognize...ahhh I love it.

Well, folks I think that that does it for this issue. We are doing well in our new home and the kids are growing like weeds. Thank you for all the Halloween treats and cards that we got. We love and miss all of you and we're really looking forward to seeing some family over the upcoming holidays.

Until next time...