

"HOPPY" HAPPENINGS

April 2003

Fifty-second edition

Mom & Lynn:

Hi Family! Less than 3 weeks to go now until we enter the MOC! To tell the truth, the time is dragging by in some ways. Probably because I started getting ready so early. We're still so excited and know without a doubt that going stateside and to an office is the right call for us right now. (Not that we ever really doubted it-but it is becoming more clear to us.) The plan now is to go to my Dr's appointment on the 15th, Christie's wedding on the 17th, David's 'farewell' on the 20th and to the MOC on the 21st. We think we're pretty blessed to be able to attend the wedding and farewell since they're "FIRSTS" in our lives as grandparents! The first week at the MOC will be proselyte training. Every missionary has as his/her first responsibility to spread the gospel, so we'll learn that first. The second week will be office training. I guess they'll teach us about the business affairs of the office and how the computer software can be used to produce the reports required each month. Or something. So by Friday, May 2nd, we'll be ready to head out to Dallas.

Family, thank you for encouraging us to serve this mission. It will be so important to us to have your *continued* support as we serve the Lord in Dallas. Your thoughts, your prayers, your letters and e-mails. I would like so much to hear from each of you GRANDCHILDREN! Please send letters and pictures you draw. Grandma is going to miss you SO much, I think that will make it easier! (Parents, please help in this.)

We're taking our family picture-the one taken at Grandma's funeral. We're also taking 8 X10 family pictures of Larry, (a little dated), Lisa, Leslie, and Lana. We have a 5 X7 of Loreen. *But no family picture of Laura or Lawson!* So, when you can- please send us one! *We really* want to continue to get 5 X7 and wallets of each grandchild. I think pictures and notes will be our lifeline. I don't want to overstate the sacrifice it is for Grandparents to leave their families, because I know the Lord will compensate. But right now it seems pretty hard to leave all of you!

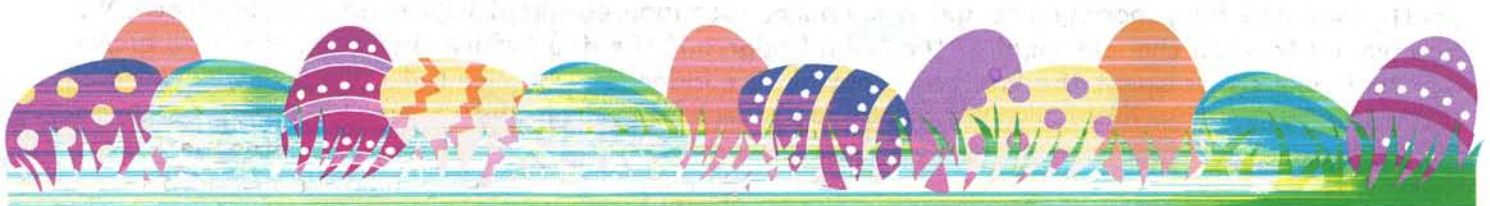
We love you all very much. You are in our thoughts and prayers constantly. Please continue to let us know of the concerns in your lives that we should pray for. **DON'T "PROTECT"** us by not letting us know of troubles and concerns! (We don't want to find out later and feel left out!)

We'll be using our cell phone and don't plan now to change the number (again). So it will be 801-362-4325 until further notice. I'll let you know when we have an e-mail address. We've asked Lisa to be the 'executor' of our family trust and contact person for our house and other business. We're ready to go!

We love you, We love you, We love you. Mom and Lynn

Our address at the MOC (April 21 May 1) will be:
Texas, Dallas Mission
Provo Senior MOC
55 East 1230 North
Provo, UT 84604-2660

Our address at the mission office will be:
13747 Montfort Drive Suite 120
Dallas, Texas 75240



Lawson & Kelly:



Cason decided we shouldn't go too long without a broken bone in our family, so he messed around and cracked his collar bone! Luckily it's not too bad. He wore a sling for a few days, but has stopped wearing it and says it doesn't really hurt much. His outdoor soccer starts this Saturday but he'll probably have to sit out a week or two. He and I went to a jazz game and he got picked to do a little competition on the floor. It was pretty funny, he and another boy each had one of those bouncy rubber balls with a handle and they had to bounce down the basketball court and back. Cason took off and bounced down and back before the other boy even got halfway! It was

pretty funny!

Tanner is having fun with basketball and will also start soccer this Saturday. He's had fun skiing this year. He tried snowboarding a couple of times and had trouble, but really like skiing.

Thayne doesn't have much new news except that he also starts soccer this Saturday. Saturdays for the next month are going to be busy with 3 soccer games and a basketball game and of course they're not all in the same place!

Landon had his birthday last week. We went to Mom and Lynn's house and some of the Dyes and Piersons came. We had hamburgers and hot dogs, swam in the pool and then had presents and cake and ice cream. Landon is starting to try to talk more. If you ask him how old he is, he says "twooooo" with the end going up in pitch, and he holds up all 5 fingers or sometimes all 10 fingers! He says "hi bubby (baby)" to Meguire, "mommy", "daddy" and few other words.

Meguire is starting to smile a lot more. She really seems like a pretty happy baby. That makes it nice. The only problem still is that she likes to eat pretty often and that really drains Kelly. Meguire still eats pretty much every 2 hours, so even though she's not up crying and all, it still makes for a long night for Kelly.

I continue to work on the bedroom downstairs to put the boys in. Dad has started his cancer treatment here in Ogden so he and Connie have stayed at our house a few times so they can get up to the treatment center without getting up so early. It's been fun to have them. The kids have really enjoyed it and Dad and Connie have commented that it's been nice to be able to spend more time with the kids.

Kelly's plugging along. Having a little difficulty with the loss of sleep, but she's really doing great with Meguire and all the other things she has to keep up with.

We're looking forward to summer coming. I've talked to a few of you about family reunion plans for this summer but we don't have anything planned yet. If you have ideas, let's talk about them and decide when and where to get together. You can talk to me if you want or just take it on yourself to organize it!

We love you all and hope things are well with you.



Happy Birthday:

Jeff - April 9

Jaxon - April 9

Jared - April 19

Todd & Coreen: March came in and went out like a lion, as seen in the picture to the right. If you look close you can see Hannah (left) and Brittney (right). We did have several very nice Spring days (even one so warm that we wondered if we might have to skip Spring altogether!), but we still have been getting a bit of snow at night. The river is a foot over flood zone with more rain in the forecast. So we are anxiously awaiting a beautiful Spring and Summer.



Our temple trip to Boston was enjoyable. It seems like it's never easy when we go (we miss sessions, take a wrong road, or something), but this time everything went so smoothly and we were grateful.

The Spanish Fiesta was fabulous. Each girl had a friend over and we had fun playing games, making a craft, eating Spanish food, and breaking the Piñata that we made (picture below).



We went to the Crayola Factory in Easton, Pennsylvania. We saw them make crayons and markers, and saw a video where they made silly putty, sidewalk chalk, paint, and other products. There were four floors and it was full of fun stuff for kids to do. They could mark on both sides of a glass wall, color with chalk on a sidewalk in a pretend park, play with Model Magic (like clay), make cards, etc., etc. They came home with a bunch of stuff and we all had fun.

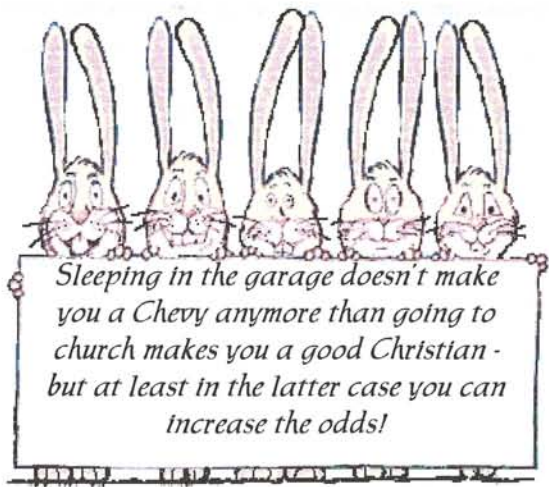
Glen C. Pace came to our Stake Conference. Todd went to four sessions Sat. and Sun., I went to two, and we felt very uplifted and inspired.

We finally bought TV after being without one for 2 1/2 months. It certainly wasn't an unpleasant experience. We also had to buy a new dishwasher because our's broke. So much for our tax return!

We are sad that Aubrey started saying, "Thank You" instead of, "Nake You." Every morning she says, "I wake the sun up!" and she loves to tell us about when she was a little girl and she went to Spain.

Caleb sits up well and is starting to wave. The other day I set him on the kitchen floor and loaded the dishwasher. I turned around and he was gone! He had rolled to his tummy and pushed himself backwards down the hall. I was very surprised because I'm not used to him going anywhere.

We sure love you all!!



Greg & Leslie:

March was very nice in Texas but every passing day brings with it the dread of what is to come this summer. The humidity is very bad, the sun is unforgiving. At least this summer we are getting gently acclimated unlike last summer stepping off the plane from Germany. We had our big Spring Break extravaganza the 17th-22nd. Last year we did spring break in the Canary Islands, the year before we went to Crete. This year we out did everything and went and set up a tent in the RV park at Corpus Christi Naval Air Station in Corpus Christi TX. It is about three hours south of here on the gulf coast. The weather was pretty nice and Amy managed to get a sunburn, everyone else kept wiping on the sunscreen. We had planed to stay the last night in the Navy Lodge but the day before that a strong wind broke our tent pole so we spent the last two nights in the lodge. It was nice but as soon as we were in there the TV went on and everyone went back to their old habits which was just what we/I had gone there to get away from. The war started while we were down there. It is strange to still be here when everything is going on over there but the job I am in deals with homeland defense so I am not going to go anywhere this time. Last month I spent time in California, Oklahoma and Arkansas. This month I will be going to California twice, and Arizona. It was good to see Mom, Eric, Jill and kids.

Leslie continues to plug away at her classes. She has 23 credits this semester so she stays very busy. She is also the relief society secretary. She will finish up the spring of 2004 just about the time we will move. Texas is nice in allot of ways but no, I definitely don't see myself trying to stay here any longer than two years, however November through March are very nice.

Amy is looking forward to getting her drivers license this summer. We let her drive around the neighborhood now, I need to take her out on the country roads and start her on the clutch. She will be 17 when she gets it and that is fine with us.

Rich called the other day with a harrowing tale. He was told to show up with his equipment one afternoon for an ROTC lab. When they got there they were told that they were going to do a 12 mile road march. They stopped after 6 miles and some medics bandaged the blisters on their feet which he had plenty. He kept going for the next six miles walking on the edges of his feet which blistered the edges of his feet as well. They had a medic van going along to pick up everyone who gave up but Rich made it in under three hours which is the air assault standard. I have been on lots of road marches but we would always start out with a three or four miler and work out way up to 12 miles. Rich's class does physical training every Monday, Wednesday and Friday but this was their first road march. I am trying to find him some work this summer when he comes home. He would like to cut grass on post or something. If that doesn't work out then he may end up working at SONIC.

Brianna and Jeff manage to have a good time no matter what is going on. Last week Jeff had his big Order of the Arrow ceremony and graduated from Cub Scouts. He has really worked hard these past few years and has more awards than you can shake a stick at. It's hard to believe I may have helped build my last pine wood derby.

Greg

