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December 25, 1999 Christmas Day

We had a beautiful Christmas! Last night we had our FHE & opened our presents from the states. Mike's parents sent us: Mike - a leather jacket so good looking! Me - a rain-coat kind of with a light quilted lining & fur collar & cuffs. Michelle - a coat & dress Matt - 2 pant outfits, long johns, underwear. Aaron - 2 pant suits. My parents sent us a pot-air popcorn popper, some new kind of garments and some books. The kids an apron, bib & books & Tupperware serving set

Date Jan 7, 1980 Page No.

Wow! 1980. I've got to write more. I got quite a bit done today plus I started a new book. Aaron is so darling - he sits from crawling & vice-versa, stands up to couches chairs & walks along them. He claps his hands & blinks - he likes to flip my lower lip - he's really a doll.

Jan 8 1980 Today was an "escape" day. I read a book "Sound of Thunder" and it was very interesting & thought-provoking. But I always get angry at myself when I do that, because I then ignore my house, husband, & children. Oh well - I finished it, so I can now get back to work! I have so much to do! We got 4 rolls of film back today from Christmas & they are so darling - we have such cute kids! Judy started work today as a bagger - I hope it works out & she's able to make a lot of money!.

Jan 9, 1980 Aaron is getting a tooth! Poor kid - he's had a fever & it's been hurting him all day. Boy, I sure get disgusted with myself! There are so many things I need to do! And the key to it all is, I know, getting up in the morning before the kids do! But the bed is so warm & comfy! Poor mike - he has to get up & going all by himself - no breakfast, no lunch, dark house, sleeping wife - yeech. Then I get up to bawling, hungry kids - they bug me all day. The house is a mess, the kids are grouchy, they bug me! But I know that if I'd spend some time with them, they wouldn't bug me so much - it seems they're always fighting, screaming, whining, bawling. Really tho, I guess - they play together really well lots of times. I feel like such a scruddy mother & wife

Jan 10, 1980 AARON'S 1ST TOOTH POKED THRU TODAY. He's been feeling so lousy lately. I got more done today, but spent too much time reading. (Reader's digest & cookbooks.) I waste so much time - especially at night. I'm trying, tho. If each day gets a little better, I'm on my way.

Jan 13 1980 Sunday Today mike spoke in church - it was really good. Last night eve went to Darmstadt for a hail & farewell & Cpt Zugunis was talking about a batallion ski trip & we decided to go!! Oh boy - it'll cost us $400! We're really excited about it, but I can't decide what to do about Aaron - whether to take him or leave him

Page No. Jan 22, 1980 Date

I got quite a bit done today - cleaning, washing etc. I tended the Roberts kids and made some tags out for the basement sale, labeled some clothes & called all over about skiis. Mike came home at 10:30 so I fixed him some dinner & we watched a Jerry Lewis show. It's 12 pm & I'm so tired.

Jan 26 - Aaron's 2nd tooth! Lower center right came in. Got ready for trip.

S Jan 27 Left at 6am for Darmstadt, where we boarded a bus & rode to Chiemsee. We read Church News & scriptures - we talked about the gospel with a couple behind us.

M Jan 28 1st day on the slopes! The weather was gorgeous - blue skies, new snow. Our Teacher is Mali Schmidt - she's really nice. I was a little bored cuz this is all so basic & elementary, but I never learned the right way so it's good to learn. It's lots of fun to be with Mike alone but I'm sure missing Aaron - my milk keeps coming & I can just relieve the pressure. I sure am sore. I called Judy & talked to the kids tonite - it was really neat to talk to them.

T Jan 29 Today we just learned more, but at least we got to use the rope tow! The weather was good but not as good as yesterday, & the snow was icy, because it melted, then froze

W Jan 30 We went on the T-bar & the top - it was gorgeous & so fun to be able to ski. I'm already better now - technique wise - than ever before. Mike's really good. It's a riot to be able to do this together. We had a sauna tonite - an interesting experience.

Th Jan 31 Today we had races - it was lots of fun & we did pretty good. We learned an uphill slip turn or something like that. We're pretty good! Mali's a really good teacher - I think we're the best beginner class - we've learned lots more than any other.

F Feb 1 Wow - today was so neat! We went to a REAL NEAT ski resort - Winklemoos Alm. It was gorgeous - we could see the alps in the morning. Unfortunately, the weather worsened & by lunch time it was snowy & icy. We skied into Austria for lunch. Dumb old me - every other nice day I've carried my goggles

and scarf & never used them. So I didn't take them today & I was miserable this afternoon. I didn't have anything around my neck & my face - they were freezing. The snow kept hitting me in the eyes & I had to rely on my feet & legs to do the right things because I couldn't see! It's too bad; after lunch we were going to go all the way to the top & there you can see the Alps in 3 countries & Mali said the view is fantastic! But we couldn't even see 5 feet in front of us for a while - it was the pits. I kept saying to myself - "this is FUN - you LOVE it" & tears streaming down my face. Once I fell & my ski hit my calf - boy that hurt! And nobody even saw me or felt sorry for me! I only fell a couple of times the whole week. I looked really snazzy - all yellow/gold - I looked professional! (Before I started to ski -) But I am pretty good, anyway. I was sad when the day ended - it had been such a neat experience. Oh, last night we went cross-country skiing - it was pretty outside - the moon was full - the stars bright. We followed a trail through the woods, over streams (by bridges) - We saw a deer - it was a fun experience. I prefer down hill skiing, though. At the awards dinner tonite we had a big discussion about the gospel with Mali & Jane Kaye, a girl in our class. She's really neat - I really like her - we hit it off quite well. She reminds me of Diane in many ways. Anyway, Jane won 1st place from the race & Robbie - also in our class, won 1st - mens. It was lots of fun. We decided to give Vere a Book of Mormon.

Feb 2 We got home about 6 pm - I was so anxious to see my kids - especially Aaron. I really missed him! When I came in I hugged Michelle, & Aaron was just

waking up, so I went in and got him. It was so awful - the way he looked at me! He started to cry - like he didn't recognize me & he was scared. Judy came in & he wanted her! It really broke me up & I was bawling, so I went in the living room. Judy came in & Aaron wanted to go to her so I said "Would you please go out of here?" Course I was all shook up & not thinking about her feelings - only my own, and it really made her feel bad. I nursed him a little - he wasn't quite sure about that. I'm glad to be home - this is where I belong.

Feb 15, 1980 Well it took about a week to get my milk back, but now we're back to normal & Aaron again loves me most of all! Today Judy, Doris Hardy & I went on a tour of the Pfaff sewing machine factory & really enjoyed it. It was really fascinating. I think Mike would really have enjoyed it. This afternoon Judy left for London for 4 days with Nan Reese, a girl in the ward. I hope she has a good time. She got a "Dear Jane" from her navy boyfriend & it's been really hard on her. She's gained a lot of weight & now weighs more - barely - than I do (14.) It's hard on her & she hates her job & she really wants to go home. Tonight we went to a 70's party & a show. DUMB. Oh Aaron is so darling - his 4 uppers are trying to pop out & he's been miserable! Anyway, he has a new pastime. He throws a green tennis ball, chases it, picks it up, throws it & chases it. He did it for about ½ hour! I couldn't believe it. He's so cute.

Feb 16 We took the kids to a Fasching Party for the Morris kids' birthdays. Brett was a little german boy with his lederhosen & hat, Michelle was a cowgirl. They were both darling. We bought Brett a cassette player for his birthday. I hope he likes it & takes care of it.

Date Feb 23, 1980 Page No.

Today we celebrated Brett's birthday. Mike & I took him to see a "Benji" show and then we went to a playground. It was really fun. I think our kids need that individual attention occassionally. He really liked the cassette player and Sesame Street Monster tape - Michelle does too.

March 1, 1980 Today we took the kids & Judy to the Frankfurt Zoo. We all really enjoyed it - even Judy. I guess she's decided to stay for a while more. She went to London a week ago and just loved it to pieces. She saw Yul Brenner in "The King and I." She went with Nan Reese, a girl in the ward.

March 2, 1980 Mom called this morning to see where Judy was. She's been expecting her to go home last week anytime. Aaron's 4th tooth came thru. He's been so miserable - I really think he might have another ear infection.

March 3, 1980 I took Aaron to the dr today. What a HASSELL! Bet he doesn't have an ear infection, fortunately. Shannon & Melinda Morriss are staying here until Saturday while their parents Diana & Marty go to the temple. I wish we could have gone. Mike is in the middle of a big exercise and there's NO WAY he could have gotten off. Oh well. March 11 - Aaron's 6th tooth

March 25, 1980 Last Sat night we saw the opera "La Boheme" and really enjoyed it! Since I'm the cultural arts specialist, I sponsored a "Night at the Opera" and I had a preview and everything. I got 30 people to go on Sat & tonight. It was really fun and I really enjoyed reading up and learning about it. We took Doris Hardy, our neighbor, and I think she enjoyed it, too. Aaron cut his 7th tooth a week ago today & he's such a doll and getting SO FIESTY (spoiled rotten!?) I'm starting to clean out closets and cupboards. I ripped down the contact paper in the kitchen and it looks awful! Like a goat kitchen! Oh! Last Friday I went out to the hospital and got soft contacts! Boy are they wierd. They're like saran-wrap! I keep putting them on inside out! It's really scarey & frustrating, but I'm getting better. Mike called his parents tonight - they're going to lend us their car! So we won't have to ship ours until right before we leave!

Page No. April 1, 1980 My 25th birthday Date

Today was a busy day! I worked all day getting ready for the movers. Judy fixed homemade noodles and chicken for dinner - & carrott cake. It was so yummy! And so good of her too, since she was exhausted from work. Then Mike & I went to the show "Going Coconuts" with Donny & Marie. Dumb. Anyway - it was a really nice birthday. Mike bought me a blow dryer & my soft lenses! Judy bought Mike & I a big stein & she bought me a nightgown thing. She's really generous. It's been a good experience for both her & us to have her stay. Mikes folks sent me $30.00 & Mom sent me some Aloe Vera & a super good book on housecleaning. It was a nice but busy birthday.

April 2, 1980 Wednesday Moving Day! I took the kids over to Roberts' & the movers came at 9:30. They were done by 2:30 We feel they did a really good job packing our stuff. Judy & I decided to go get material for dirndles, besides, she needed some electric rollers - since she plugged mine into a 220 plug in paris last weekend & burned them up. Anyway, so I took Mike to work, came back, took the kids to Roberts' again, went to get gas, it was empty. The gas coupons were not valid. Mike had the registration so I couldn't buy any gas. So I went back to Kleber to pick him up or get the registration. He finished what he was doing, so we went to Roberts', picked up the kids & went home. Got Coca on the way home. Went to Ramstein. They wouldn't let Judy in. Talked to the manager. They let her in. No rollers. Upstairs, where the fabric was, was closed. Brother! What a waste of time - gas - money - energy!! It was so frustrating.

April 8 Tuesday. Today I had the car & I ran lots of errands. I got 300 dm for 1.93 dm / Dollar! It was 1.96 over the weekend, but had gone down. Still, that's the highest it's been in a year! I took stuff to the thrift shop picked up steres, went shopping. Then Judy & I went downtown! We bought some sheers last week, today we went to Harry's. They were having a sale on oil paintings. We each bought one! We bought wine glasses for our brothers & sisters. New Schwanstein plate for Mom & Dad.

Date_____ Page No._____

We bought a goebel dentist for Steve I spent over $100! But Judy will pay me back for ½ of it- was hers.

Page No. _____ Date _____

April 15, 1980 Took car to Bremerhaven

April 18 Pick up Hold Baggage
Brett cut head open
Mike got contacts
Move to transient billets

24 left Germany → SLC!

Date 23 April, 1980 AARON'S 1ST BIRTHDAY! Page No.

Well, Aaron is 1 year old today - and what a stinker he is! But oh so cute. Tonight is our last night in Germany - we're so excited! Tomorrow is going to be a long day. Today we got Brett's stitches out & finished all sorts of stuff - Cpt & Janette Prickett took us out to Lunch today in Landstuhl and it was just delicious! It was a really nice way to spend our last day in Germany. I feel sad because we have so many happy memories, but I'm really excited about going!

29 May, 1980 Sierra Vista, Arizona "Cloud 9 Motel" (yuk)

Well, our flight was LONG but the kids were really great. We had a 4 hr layover in NY - it felt so good to be able to talk to people & read signs! We arrived in SLC at 8 pm their time, 5 am our time - we were really exhausted. We spent 3 days in Ogden - I called Mom after we arrived in Ogden - she told me Linda was in the hospital - she had an amurism - boy that was scary. So Mom & Dad stopped Friday on their way to SLC to see Linda - it was great to see them - especially Dad, since it had been such a long time. Sat we went to SLC, saw Linda, bought Mike a suit & shoes & some other stuff. Monday we went to FT & saw everybody - it was so fun. Linda was "miraculously" cured & came home - we had a good time visiting - we had a big Family Home Evening at the park & made it a birthday party for Michelle - then we gave everybody their stuff. Then we spent a week in Ogden - one day we went to Provo & stopped in SLC to see Alene Cannon - it was so fun to see her again. We drove from Ogden to Flagstaff AZ on Monday, then to Sierra Vista on Tuesday. It's nice out in the boonies. But it's pretty neat & sun shiny so we're excited about being here. We stayed in the

Page No._____ Date_____

guest house for a week @ $18 a day & having to eat out, it sure was expensive. So we moved to this "Cloud 9 Motel". At least it has a seperate bedroom & a kitchen so we don't have to eat out. Here, we don't get reimbursed for anything like we did in Germany. Anyway - Mike is super excited about his job - he'll be inspecting & testing satellite terminals all over the world so it means a LOT of TDY - about 1/3 of the time he'll be gone. And the worst part of it is we don't get any extra money! I was planning on that extra money to help us get settled. We were expecting to move right into quarters, but they told us we couldn't get in for a month or two, so we investigated buying a house & we think we'll be getting one! We found one on 61 Berridge that has 3 bedrooms, 1 3/4 bath, living room/dining room, & family room. a big back yard with grass & fruit trees. Storage shed, and covered patio - all drapes, disposal, stove, & fridge. It's fully carpeted & I really like it - it has a bar in the kitchen. We made an offer of $42,500 for it (they were asking $43,800), they accepted. So we're waiting to see what VA appraises it for & if they appraise it for less than $42,500 we won't be able to get it. Today we kind of been thinking that it might be better if we can't get the house, to live on post & save money for 6 mo for a down payment so we can take over an old loan & have cheaper monthly payments. Right now, VA is offering 11½%, but the big banks have lowered their lending rates to 12, so hopefully VA will lower theirs more. Our monthly payments at 11½% will be $454.00 + around $100 for utilities. Wow. So we won't have any extra money for anything. But we sure do want to get into the house. Sierra Vista is really growing fast, & it's a good time to be buying.

Date_____ Page No._____

We've been in the motel for a week & a half. It's only cost us about $100 or $120 to live here for 2 weeks, so I guess it's not bad. For the next 2 weeks we'll be living at Cpt Braun's house. He left right after we got to Germany - he was in D Co there. He'll be going to Korea in Nov. But they're going on vacation for a couple of weeks & they asked us if we wanted to stay there - free - & take care of it for them. Wow, what a blessing! That will save us borrow money. We're hoping to close our house deal soon after that. We ate dinner last night at Brauns. They're really nice - & their house is beautiful. 2 years ago they bought it for $4,000 brand new - & it's much bigger than ours. Oh well that's inflation for you.

Last Sunday I was called as Laurel Adviser. Boy, talk about fast work! I'm kinda excited about it. Surprised, too. We've met some really neat people in the ward & I'm really going to like it. The first people I met were Van & Bob Vandre - he's the 70's group leader - they had us over for dinner. They have 4 kids - starting a year older than Michelle & ending with one Aaron's age. We've been over there & spent the whole day a couple of times - we get along really great & I really like them. They have really nice 4 bedroom quarters. I go over & do my washing & mending & stuff. We also went to Cyrus & Kathy Welch's house for dinner - they were in our ward in Germany. It was an excellent dinner but we felt so bad because she's expecting her 3rd child in a month & her oldest is 2½. Her house is filthy - we could hardly wait to get out. But we feel so sorry for them because they don't seem to care or want to improve! So what can you do.

Page No. 8 June 1980 Sunday Date

Well, last week on May 31, we were married 6 years! We went shopping & looked at furn - especially beds - we both - yes - even Mike!! - fell in love with a flotation mattress. But it would have been about $400! Wow! And right now, we're so far in debt it's scary. Seems like we owe everybody something. Then we ate at Ricardo's - I had Mexican food & Mike had steak. It was yummy. Sat we moved to Brian's house - boy, it's so nice! It's lots of fun to live in a house - I can't wait. The appraisal went through at $43,500 so all we have to do is get our loan approved by VA. That should take about a week - so it'll close sometime around the 25th. The sooner the better. We're going to have to go back to a dumb motel for a week or so. Oh well.

Last week Mike went to New Jersey & Pennsylvania for 5 days. Today he left for LA. He has a TDY at Camp Roberts for a week (5 days). Our car is in LA so he drove his parents' car there & will leave it at Rex's, then drive ours back. And the govt will pay his expenses! So that will be a lifesaver. I'm surprised at how well I get along without him. We had a long talk about it & I just decided I was not going to let it get me down.

Today has been a good day - for no particular reason. I just feel good. Only I girl should up today, so instead of giving her a lesson, we just talked. I had Aaron so it worked out better that way. I think, although she might have felt it was a waste.

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I've made up my mind that I'm going to get myself organized and keep my house clean. So I've organized a routine that I think will work. I'm going to do it this week while Mike's gone so I can prove to myself I can do it! I know it & my family will be happier if I do these things - I know I should.

19 June 1980

Lots has happened! Yesterday our loan was approved - so the house is ours! We could close tomorrow but our realtor said he thinks VA will lower the interest rate (OR I HOPE!!) So we'll close escrow on Wednesday, June 25. They'll move out Wed & Thurs & we'll move in on Friday. Meanwhile, the Harper's in our ward are letting us stay in their house until we get into our house. Brauns came home on Saturday about noon & we were still packing and cleaning. We moved back here to Cloud 9. I'll be glad to get out of this place, altho the kids love to go swimming - & so do I! I swam all over the other night - every time I went under Aaron started crying or getting concerned. I can still get around all right! But when I got out, I was so dizzy I could hardly stand up. I don't know if it was the altitude & exertion or if it was my ears. It was really fun though.

* AARON IS WALKING & I weaned him to a bottle - he's been walking across the room & standing up (from kneeling) all alone. He still crawls if he wants to get somewhere

Page No. June 29, 1980 Date

We moved into our house on Thursday, 26th We really like it, but it has a very distinctive odor & if - it stinks! It has a definite oriental smell - it makes me kinda sick. I'm planning on cleaning carpets, washing drapes & walls in hopes it will alleviate the problem. The fridge even stinks! I hope I can get rid of it. We got our HHG on Friday - everything was in really good shape. We sure don't have enough storage, tho! We went to sears & ordered a book case, clothesline, & some lamps. We bought 2 used sewing lockers ($40) a bunkbed ($40) a double used bed for us ($90). Our stateside furniture came & it is beautiful - except we can't figure out how to hang up the mirror. Got some endtables ($30)

I haven't been doing too well with my YW class - I usually only have 1 girl, sometimes 2 there. I need to be better prepared & contact the girls thru the week, I guess. I called home to see if Judy could come stay for a couple of weeks while Mike's TDY July 7 - Aug 15 to Pennsylvania. She's taking classes & helping in the shop so I doubt she can come. They said maybe Carol could, but I think that'd be weird - I just don't know Carol that well.

Date July 6, 1980 Page No. _____

I think I must be pregnant. I've been feeling lousy today & off & on - usually after eating and at night. Never really bad tho. It's been 9 weeks since my last period. Mike's going to take a urine sample to the hospital for me this week. I just don't know if I'm ready to be pregnant again & have another baby! I guess I must be! Aaron walks all over - he even dances & is so cute. He still loves that bottle! He "talks" all the time - it sounds like he really knows what he's saying. He loves dogs, & says "woof woof" whenever he hears one. He also loves cars & trucks & makes noises for them when he plays with them - just like Brett does. Plus he loves balls. He's really growing up, but I was hoping for a breather of a little more space this time. Oh well I knew it could happen & expected it - any time. The baby should be due Feb 18 - Right in there with all our other birthdays!

Today in Y.W. I had 4 girls! The 3 regs & an investigator. It was on femininity & I felt pretty good about it. That's only the second time since I started teaching that all the girls have been there - I prayed they would, so I guess that's an answer to prayer!

We painted Michelle & Brett's bunk beds on the 4th of July - & the 5th. They really took a lot of work. They look so much better! I wish we would've spent $85 more & bought a new set, though. These are old (1942) Army bunk beds & the mattresses are awful. They cost us $40 + $10 paint + 20 hrs of work! I'm glad they're up tho. We called Dad & wished him happy Father's Day. We called Rex & Carrie (1/2 hr) & his parents. Then Sat, Mike's folks called & asked how we felt about them going

the subaru to Rex & Carrie & letting them take over payments. (Only $2800 left - it's about 2 yrs old.) ale said fine. Then they said "we'd like to help you, too, so you don't have to pay back the $800 you give us" Wow! That will help us a lot. So that was exciting.

Thursday, July 10th, 1980

Well, I went to the hospital today to check on the pregnancy test & she said "you are Pregnant!" "I am?" She said, "Is it what you wanted?" & smiled & said, "Ya, I guess." The man at the pharmacy said "It's real fun to be pregnant" and I felt like everyone was looking at me & I smiled & felt happy but I really wasn't sure whether to cry or be happy. Last night I cried an awful lot and I guess I got it out of my system - for a while. I sure hope it's a girl. I still find it hard to believe that I'm really pregnant! We really prayed that we'd have a break between kids & I wasn't expecting to be expecting so soon!! So it's kind of a shock to me. Usually I want to get pregnant & if my period is a week late I get excited and suspect I'm pregnant! This time, though, I just thought my periods were messed up due to just finishing nursing Aaron. I only had the 1 period since Aaron was born - it was on May 4. And we tried to avoid causing pregnancy during my fertile period (or what I thought was my fertile period!) It goes along with the old joke - "What do they call people that use the rhythm method?" "Parents."

Date Sunday Aug 17, 1980 Page No.

Well, I haven't written for too long again. Mike went to Pennsylvania for a class on July 13 & returned Aug 9. It was an awful long 4 weeks & I really missed him. I had some really hard days - & nights. I really was lonely & didn't like it at all. I didn't get much accomplished while he was gone - I was lazy and tired & discouraged a lot. But he wasn't supposed to come home till the 16th (yesterday), so it was really neat he came home early. One good thing about him being gone - I realized again how much I need him and love him to bits. He's just the perfect husband for me & I'm so grateful he's mine! I've been very happy with my life these days. The kids are just doing great on their schedules - they get up, get dressed, make beds, wash face, comb hair, pick up toys, put pjs away & say prayer - before breakfast!! and sometimes they have it done by 6:45! If they want, they can do it in 5 or 10 minutes. A few weeks ago, when Mike was gone, I let them eat then do their schedules & it'd take till 10 or 11 or noon - with mad mom, sad kids. But this is working well & I'm very encouraged about kids rooms. They're getting so good about picking up one thing before playing with another. It helps, I know, that most of the toys are in bags on hangers & only I can get them down!

I'm starting to get a little fatter - Mike can really tell my tummy is poking out. I've reached the awkward stage where my regular clothes really don't fit, but my maternity clothes are still too baggy. So - I'm starting & get a little more excited about having another baby. It should be fun.

Last Friday we went to a CEI Btn. picnic - there were lots of people & good food - we had a good lunch. Then we took Aaron to the nursery (I hated to leave him!) & went to the stables & rode horses. Brett & Mike on one & Michelle & I on one. We walked around for about 45 minutes. The kids loved it but I got saddle sore!

Page No. Tues Aug 19, 1980 Date

Today was Michelle's first day at Kindergarten. I took her to school she was so excited; she couldn't wait. She's really a cutie. She rode the bus home & was so proud! I can't believe she's old enough to go to school. She goes from 8:30-11:00.

Aaron is cutting teeth. His bottom front far right incisor and all 4 ~~of them~~ molars! He's had a high fever & has been miserable. I was up for a couple of hours last night with him and so today he's been feeling lousy. I haven't done a blasted thing. I took Michelle to a primary party, then took our lawn mower to Jackson's - he sharpened it for free for me. He had to do it by hand. I talked to Mrs while he sharpened it. Mike fixed dinner tonite - it was nice of him.

Sunday August 24, 1980 Friday night about 4pm we left here & arrived in Phoenix at 7:30. Rochelle Wenger had called Thursday night - she's in Phoenix visiting his family. So they met us & we drove around looking for a place to eat. Every place was crowded, so we ended up at Taco Bell. Then we got to our motel & conked out. Sat. am we went to the temple & were so impressed - it is beautiful. We went thru a 9:00 session, & there was a couple from our ward being sealed, so then we went to their sealing. It was really special - & we were all touched & could really feel the Spirit there. & felt the need to get going on getting out of debt getting food storage, studying scriptures & praying & continuing to improve our eternal relationship. It was really neat. Then we ate in the cafeteria Yummy & lots for $3 for both of us! Then we walked around the grounds & saw a movie in the visitors center - Homefront Series & so

Date_____ Page No._____

cute & I was still teary & it really got to me & Dave made me want to improve my relationship with my kids. We bought some beautiful pictures of the temple, then called Rod & Carolyn Rasmussen - & went & see them. Stayed nearly 'till 2'. They have a beautiful home & we enjoyed visiting. Then we went to a food storage place - we'd been planning on buying stuff for a long time, but we were hot & tired & didn't feel like waiting around & Mike felt lousy, so we left without buying anything - unfortunately. I felt really bad. I wanted to get some janitorial supplies too, but it was too late. So we bought some junk to eat at safeway & came home. We discussed my YW lesson & it really helped me. Today I had 2 new girls & we had a good discussion. Last week I left my Scriptures in the hall at the church & nobody's seen anything like 'em. I'd feel so bad! Nobody would steal a set of scriptures, would they? Mike's parents & Sheri are going to come visit wednesday - that'll be nice.

Mon Aug 25 1980 I got quite a bit done around the house today - I weeded the front & trimmed the rose bushes & spackled in all the holes in the family room floor (we ripped up the carpet last week) & cleaned the tile in the bathrooms with hydrochloric acid. They look much better. Aaron went to sleep twice today without a bottle! Yea.

 1 Sept 1980 Monday, Labor Day Date

We've had a really fun week. Wednesday Mike's parents & Sheri came - Thursday we went up on post & they (Mike Dad Sheri) played tennis & rode horses. We barbecued out & made ice cream. Friday we went to Nogales Mex & left the kids in the nursery. It was interesting, but I doubt I'll go much. So dirty! We got a frame for our painting & one for Judy for Christmas. Mike's folks bought a lot of onix. I got really hot & sick feeling cuz we missed lunch. Sat we did a lot of fix up around the house - they pruned all our trees - looks so much better! We hung pictures & fixed curtain rods. The house is looking better. After church they left. We were sorry to see 'em go. They were lotsa help & we had a good time together. When we went to the PX they bought Mike a hat & me material for 3 blouses ($18) & a yogurt maker $6. Then they left us a check for $100! Sure will help. Our goal is to get out of debt!

3 Sept 1980 Boy, my husband sure knows how to get me to do stuff. I was in bed & he sat down & started writing, so what else could I do? I sure do love him! Today I had my eyes & contacts checked & everything fine. Then I went to a coffee - wow what a house! Tonite was "New Beginnings" & it was really nice. The girls did an excellent job. I'm pooped. We had some weird abdominal pains tonite.

6 Sept 1980 Sat. Today we slept late cuz Mike had duty last nite & I didn't get home from the R.S Luau till 11 pm. Mike took the kids with him to buy some stuff & then he put deadbolt locks on the doors. I'll feel better about safety when Mike's gone.

Date 7 Sept 1980 Sun Page No.

3 weeks ago I lost my scriptures at the church - I felt so bad because they didn't turn up. I couldn't believe anyone would steal scriptures! I really prayed about getting them back - and I told the Lord if I got them, I'd use them every day! Well, I got them back! They turned up today! So I will use them now! We had a change in bishopric today - Bro. Warnick is now the bishop. Sounds really good. We go to church at 1130 now instead of 800 & it's great - I love it. I wrote to Mom Sandy Alene & Weierman's.

8 Sept 1980 Mon. Boy, today I did more than I've done for ages! After cleaning the house, Brett & I made treats for FHE. After lunch I bottled 17 qts of peaches & 4 pints of peach butter. They look beautiful. I also did 3 batches of laundry & made 2 trays of fruit leather. I am Pooped. Mike & the kids dug weeds after dinner, then we had a nice FHE on making our home a bit of heaven on earth. I am exhausted.

9 Sept Mostly I cleaned house - trying to recover from yesterday. I tended Cory & Jeremy for a few hours today. The house is in pretty good shape. Mike & I discussed our plans for food storage tonight.

11 Sept 1980 Thursday Yesterday I took the kids to the dentist - Michelle's are great - but too close together & Brett has 1 cavity & some staining & his are too close. Then I had my OB physical from Dr Hemmer - he was real nice & said everything's fine & I'm due Feb 9, but oh! I hate those! They're so revealing! I had to pick Mike up, & I went 34 in a 25 mph zone, & got picked up! When I saw Mike I started bawling & I couldn't talk & he imagining all sorts of things! Then I had a YW dance. I'm dead

[☆ Aaron has 2 new molars - lower R & upper L. tonite too, because today I tended Cory, then Mike came home for lunch & I took him back, then took

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the kids for shots. Aaron & Michelle had appointments but I didn't want to get a babysitter for Brett, so I took him too, and so I asked the nurse to check his record. He had missed his #4 DPT shot, so she gave him that. He was happy. Cuz he wanted a shot, too. Then the nurse gave them all a sucker & that made them sooo happy. Then I had my blood taken so they could do more tests on my immunity to rubella. Then we picked Mike up at the Ed. Center (he's taking a class) and took him to work. Then we came home & crashed. Jim excavated again.

12 Sept Fri Another busy day - a dental appt and the PX & Commissary. I was gone 9-1. Nickie Wyatt tended the kids. Then we went visiting teaching till 3:30. Had dinner, went to a drive-in with the kids (what a hassle) & saw "Empire Strikes Back" & "Buck Rogers" The kids were excited but it only lasted half an hour & they were bored. It was 10:00 12 & Jim bored too. I was resting today & Aaron came in & laid on me, bounced on me, then patted my back & then gave me a big juicy (!) kiss. When I looked at him, he just grinned! He's so darn cute!

13 Sept Sat We just got back from St David where we attended a stake meeting. It was about genealogy & family history & Bro John Carey spoke & it was good. I was so tired I just laid around & didn't accomplish a thing today.

14 Sept Sun - Stk Conf was very good, but Mike sat in the choir seats & so I got to try to keep them (kids) happy & they were all grouchy & tired cuz they've been up late, & we were late & I was tired & grumpy. Anyway, I had a nap & lunch, then we had a PM meeting all afternoon then dinner, then we started looking thru memorbila stuff. I feel like our family is really doing well in scripture reading, prayer & FHE. I know its because we're planning & evaluating. It's a good feeling.

Date 15 Sept 1980 Mon

Page No.

Exhausted-again. I woke up at 5am & couldn't go to sleep. Finally got up at 5:30. I worked hard all day, but the house's a mess again tonite, cuz I didn't do dishes. I booked 2 parties today! Sounds good.

16 Sept 1980 Tue. Booked 3 more parties, so I can send my application. Hope it works out ok. I tended Cory 10-1:45 today. I guess he's getting used to me. I'm not sure me about him, tho. He's ok. I scrubbed on hands & knees hall & family room & waxed it it looks much better. Tonite we watched Shogun II & it's really good. I did mending & cut a dress & a blouse out.

Wed Sept 17 I spent all day cleaning & cutting a suit & shirt out for Brett. I cut the suit out of an old skirt & some extra material - dark green. I want to finish it tomorrow so he can have his picture taken in it Friday, but after all the interruptions I had today, I doubt I'll be able to do it. Mike & I are both feeling physically like we're getting sick. We watched Shogun again.

Thur Sept 18 I had a stake meeting tonight - it was really good. I made Brett a little green suit tonight and it looks so cute - & it only cost me $1.15 for the pattern. I'm exhausted

Sunday 21 Sept Friday we stayed up late watching tv - Sat we slept in - went to lunch at Long John Silvers ($11.00)!? I went to a dance at the church - got home late stayed up doing my class stuff

Monday 22 Sept My class went really well yesterday - I feel like the girls are excited about this year. Aaron didn't get to nap till 3:30 & he woke up an hour later & screamed & screamed & we tried everything - he finally went to sleep again. He sure was grouchy. He has another molar - bottom right. He's such a sweetheart tho - I love him so much & hate to see him grow up. Yesterday I was reading the Bible & read "Suffer the Little Children, & forbid them not" and I started to think about how that might relate to birth control - "for of such is the kingdom of heaven." (Matt 19:14) Even though we may suffer because of our children, we should not forbid, or prevent, them - because through them we may obtain the kingdom of heaven. I'm sure there's no better way to learn patience, self-control, unselfishness & so on than through these little ones. Also, we've been pretty worried

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about finances lately - we're paying $455/mo house payment, plus utilities & it's really hurting. Plus we have about $1,400 in debts to credit cards, plus car payments ETC - so we've really been trying to economize. Anyway, I was thinking about paying our tithing, & how we always do it, no matter what, & I thought, "what extra blessings have we received?" Then I started thinking: Mike's parents gave us $100 when they were here - then we got a check for $80 from our car insurance that we'd overpaid for the year, then Mike's folks sent us another $200!! Also, I've been wanting to get a bed for Aaron, but everything is so expensive & we just don't have any money! Then I saw a notice in the R.S. paper that someone had a twin mattress & springs they were giving away - so I asked her & she said we could have it! So anyhow, I feel like we really have been blessed financially & we'll make it out of this mess! Someday!

23 Sept Tues Tonite we had a farewell party for Gen Lassen it was pretty good. Got to talk to Bob Klepzig & Bill Green whom Mike works with - Both really nice - I talked 100 mpmm!! We also sat by a girl Linda Volpe(3) & her hubby. I sat by her at the last coffee & we got along really well. She might have a big party. Its almost 11 again & I'm pooped.

25 Sept Thurs - We had Bill Green over for dinner tonite - he's really nice. He brought me a book - The Source - by Michner. Anyway - I had told him the other night about how I love to read - he reads a lot, too. We had pizza & salad - it was pretty good. I had to take Michelle & Brett to the dentist. They both had their teeth cleaned & Brett had 3 fillings right in his front 2 teeth. He looked so funny & I felt sorry for the little cutie - with his numbed lip. He said it felt like a balloon. Dr. Harper said they're both great & Brett didn't move or make a fuss he's a good trooper! That Brett really is tough

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but he can sure be sensitive, too. I really love him. I got my demo instructions from Hoyle (Toy Company I'm going to sell for) Boy, it sure is a lot to remember! I'm excited, too. Carrie is going to have a party for me - they called last night. We're excited about going to visit them. I went to the dr yesterday & he couldn't hear the heartbeat yet, so I'm supposed to go back again next week! Yuk. To wait 1¾ hrs to see a dr for 2 min & have him tell you come back! But he listened with an electronic device & heard it, and I got to hear it too - I almost cried - it was so exciting!

26 Sept. I got ½ my toys today - I've got a lot cut out for me! I hope I can sell enough to earn the kit. It was a busy day today again, but it seems like I never accomplish anything.

27 Sept Sat I'm exhausted! Mike got all the wheat in buckets & treated with dry ice. He had some of our wheat ground into flour at Vandris & I made bread - looks excellent but I haven't tasted it. I made 20 cups granola, "whirts" boiled, dried, fried wheat snacks, 2 loaves of french bread, too. Seems like I was in the kitchen & doing dishes ALL day! We had Dan Carol & Jody Braun over for dinner. It was nice. They left about 8:30 Mike helped me do dishes & it only took 15 min! I'm so tired & I hurt all over.

28 Sept Sun Today was such a good day - I had such a good feeling! I felt lately that I'm happy - & even tho I seem to have problems & trials, they're nothing. I know I'm doing what's right & that I wouldn't be any happier doing anything else! I really love my husband & children - Today Brett wore his new suit and white shirt & tie - boy, he looked so handsome & proud! He's really a cutie.

Page No._____ Date_____

[October 1, 1980 Wednesday] To catch up - Sept 29 Mon - I spent the day cleaning sewing & packing. We left S.V. about 5 pm & arrived in Phoenix 8:30. We stayed in a Quality Inn Motel. It was hot & the kids thought it unbearably long.

Sept 30 Tues. Left Phoenix at 7 but after we got breakfast at McDonalds we had a hard time getting back on the freeway - it took us about an hour. It was REALLY hot & we thought we would melt. But the kids, although miserable, were amazingly good. It would have been so nice with air conditioning. We arrived at Rex & Carries about 3:30 & collapsed.

Oct 1 ~~[illegible]~~ Wed Mike left at 6 am so all the kids woke up too. I was pooped. Carries had her toy party - it was $99.81 which amazed me. There were 10 people and about 25 kids & Michelle was the oldest. Wow! It was wild. I felt like nobody really listened to me, but I did a lousy job anyway & forgot a lot. Oh well. They just looked at the book & bought what they wanted anyway. 1/1 more & I will have earned my kit! It was extremely hot today & I was miserable. It was the humidity that really got to me. Mike called at 5:30 & said everything was ok.

Oct 6 1980 Mon - Friday we went to the beach - we had a fun time watching the waves come in up over our legs, playing in the sand, & gathering shells. We got a babysitter and went to see Rex's store & then out to dinner. It was fun.

Sat we spent the day at Disneyland & really had a good time. The kids were really good & they enjoyed it. I was bushed

Sun we traveled home 12½ hrs & nearly died of heat. Not really. But it was hot - The kids were really good.

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Today I cleaned house, washed, tried to restore the house - its still a mess, tho. I'm not all unparked. While I was gone, they delivered my 2nd box of toys to the neighbors & they brought it over last night. I spent a few hours unparking & testing & organizing my toys. I decided to have a party tomorrow so I called & called today but didn't get too many. I took some invitations to some neighbors today. Not and I think 3 or 4 will come. I'm so tired I can't believe it, but I still have lots to do. I'm glad we went to California - I really enjoyed it. I had a good time & got along really good with Carrie - it was good to get to know her.

Oct 7, 1980 I had a party today - & one tonight. 7 people came this afternoon, 1 tonight. All in all, I sold $115, so it wasn't bad. 3 bookings! Altho it was a hassel today with all the kids, it was worth it. Also, 2 of the orders (the biggest ones) - can't pay till the end of the month, so they might fall thru. I sure hope they don't! I'm exhausted.

Oct 8 1980 I'm so tired. I took Mike to the airport this morning - he's in Ft. Wayne, Indiana now. He'll be back late tomorrow nite tho. I had Brett's stitches out, got a cashier's check for $1000 (cash - I was nervous), it was advance TDY. I took pants to cleaners got gas etc. I got my hair cut this afternoon & had a YW meeting & nite. I took the kids & they were awful. Its 15 to 10 & I'm bushed.

Oct 9 I had a party today - 8 people - $39! But she has some other orders, hopefully. I just laid around all day, plus figured out some of my orders. Mike will be home about 11:30. I left the car at the airport - Brenda Parson went with & brought me home. I'm not feeling too swift today - I've been running too much.

Oct 10 I had a dental appointment today - he filed down one overhang, there's one more but it's above the crown & they'd have to take the crown off but they're not authorized to do crowns for dependents, so we don't know what to do. Then I went to the comm. home to get the kids for lunch, then back to an OB appt. Everything's fine & he heard the heartbeat 1st try. Mike found 4 black widow spiders outside our house tonite. I'm bushed!

Oct 11 Sat I mainly tried to get caught up today. The Clark's, in our ward, gave us a twin springs & mattress & we put that in Brett & Aaron's room for Aaron. He thinks it's pretty neat. He stayed in bed for 15 or 20 minutes, then came walking out with his blanket - so cute - & proud! But then he went to sleep after that. This morning I was still in bed & I told Michelle to give Aaron something to play with she hugged him & he climbed out of his crib. They both came into my room so proud & cute. Love em

Oct 12 Sun. Today was good. Aaron slept thru most of sac meeting & that was nice. My lesson in YW was ok, but I feel a wall of apathy or something, plus a personal unworthiness or whatever. I've decided I'm going thru a "contented time" where I'm feeling good about my life, kids, pregnancy, etc.

Oct 13 Mon - We got a truckload of river dirt today, & Mike spent the day raking it & hauling it. I just cleaned up & worked on toy party orders. Mike went to bed at 7:30 & I stayed up reading till 11.

Oct 14 Tues. I got quite a bit done - the house mostly cleaned up, that is. Read quite a bit. I'm reading "The Source" by Mitchner.

Oct 15 Wed Went to a wives club luncheon. It was pretty good. Had a ski trip meeting at church & interviewed Pam & Susan. Was good to talk to em. Boy it was COLD last night & is COLD tonite - lower 30's to low 40's

Date 16 Oct Thur Page No.

I was pretty lazy today, but ended up getting quite a bit done anyway. Mike didn't get home till almost 8:30, then we went out to "The Landmark" for dinner. We both had sirloin steak - it was good - & it all cost 14.35. I had Crystal Hesselink - a neighbor about 16 babysit - she's really nice & I think she'll work out fine. Still be nice to have her close by when mike's gone.

17 Oct 1980 Friday I took Mike to the airport at 6:30 this morning - he just called about 8:30 & he's stuck in Boston because of plane problems. I guess with all his traveling he'll have to get used to it. I had a party at Jackie Wyatt's today - $82, but she has 3 or 4 more orders & 2 bookings. So I have 5 parties next week. Things are looking pretty good - it wears me out though, so I didn't do much else.

18 Oct 1980 Sat I was lazy lazy lazy today & didn't get anything but my lesson & the dishes done. I had a long talk with my neighbor, Helga Boone, today. Poor lady was in tears over her 13 year old daughter - she told me some of the bad things she does, & Helga wants to put her in a detention home. I felt so sorry for her I didn't know what to say - I've never been close to problems like that - fortunately! I had to reflect on why: it's the gospel & the covenants I've made. My lesson tomorrow is on covenants - & I was really overcome with their importance in my life - I feel that I really am happy with my life - although of course, I know I have much room for improvement. Anyway, it's neat. I'm so grateful for the gospel & its guidance & teachings. Tonkite Aaron cried when I put him to bed, but he didn't get out! Bob Vandre came over today & turned on our furnace. Today was really warm tho. My luck - tomorrow I'll wish I had the air conditioner!

Page No 19 Oct 1980 Sunday Date

I sure miss Mike - it's worse on Sundays. The kids were just kind of awful in sac meeting - but it's really hard for me. I'm so short tempered with them after all, they're only kids! But I'm especially lonely on Sunday. Mike's mom called to see how I was tonight - it was so fun to talk to just her & me. I thought it was sweet of her to call. It was almost hot today!

20 Oct 1980 Monday. I had a party tonite $105 & 1 booking. It was a really fun party, & I enjoyed it. I really like Linda - she's a strong Baptist & met at a coffee & we get along really well. I was so busy & I worked so hard today! I got up & dressed & dishes done, etc. I had errands to run on foot & a lady to see around - I thought I had a 1230 party, then the lady cancelled because she was mad about having to pay shipping. I think she's one who was planning on doing nothing & getting everything. That's why she was mad. So I got a lot done this morning, then instead of resting, I worked all afternoon & got everything cleaned up & vacuumed - I even cleaned the patio off. Then I had the party - made $77 in 3½ hrs - pd babysitter $4. Tomorrow I have one, but I'm not sure how it'll turn out. I have one Friday night too. I'm going to earn my keep!!

21 Oct 1980 Brenda's party was $76 with 2 bookings - maybe 3. She has some outside orders, too, & she'll get it up to $100, I'm sure. I got a letter from Mike - he spent Fri nite at the Hilton - but he said it wasn't all that crazy. His boss called yesterday & said Mike was stuck in Boston 15 hrs, then had problems getting a rental car cuz it was closed. I miss him, but this party business is really keeping me busy. I figure I've made over $100 so far. Not bad.

$176.00 + 3 bookings!

$4

28 Oct - Aaron's well baby check 21 lbs 4 oz 31" long - Everything's fine. Booked 2 more parties - paid, dozed - went to RS tonite but since I took the kids, couldn't stay. I was so impatient with them. Its 9:00 - Brett & Aaron went to sleep almost immediately, too - Mike's boss called & said Mike might be home Sat! But I bet he goes to SLC for the weekend.

Date 23 October 1980 (Thur Sandy's Birthday) Page No.

Today Mike's office called & said Mike's coming home tomorrow night! I sure am glad. I went to this morning, then cleaned & made bread & read. I finished "Tai-pan" it was really good.

24 Oct I messed around a lot today, but did get the house fairly clean & made out 2 orders from parties. Cheney's, Mike's HT companion, came over & leveled the rest of the dirt tonite-wow! They worked 1½ hours, & I'll bet it'll save Mike a half day of work. That was so nice of them - & I enjoyed visiting with Marsha. I'll be leaving soon to pick Mike up from the airport. I'm so glad he's coming home! I love him so much, & am so grateful to have him for my husband.

25 Oct. Mike made it home just fine - it was good to see him. We didn't accomplish much today - I did a lot of calling about parties & stuff. Tonite we had a building fund dinner. It was nice but I'm so full I could pop!

26 Oct Church was pretty good today - most of the girls were there. I wrote to Alene, Diane & Sheri - it's after 10 & I'm tired.

27 Oct I had a $75.00 party with 1 booking; we got pumpkins & made jack-o-lanterns for HC. It was really fun. Mike's on leave - he worked on the yard & is brushed. Me, too.

28 Oct I had a ? at least $70 party, no bookings - Kathy Welch. I worked on cleaning house all day & am tired.

29 Oct Another $70 party - hopefully larger. She's going to get some outside orders. I got so hot & sick feeling - smoke & all. I was so tired & having bad stomach pains & a severe pain in my shoulder neck & head - just had to get out of there!

30 Oct I tried to restore order to the house today - Mike cleaned out closets yesterday & there was a lot to do. The kids' rooms are still a mess, but getting more organized. The kids & I made owl cookies & bread - it was fun. I read abook about good nutrition & I really want to do it but where do I begin?

Page No. 31 Oct 1980 Halloween Date

The kids were so cute tonight - Michelle was a ghost, Brett a car, & Aaron a little witch. We only had about 10 trick or treaters - Mike took the kids & they had a good time. It's midnight & I'm not very tired - wierd. Shows how much work I did today. Judy called - fun to talk to her.

1 Nov 1980 Sat - Had a $119.00 booking party. We got to get more bookings! I mainly cleaned house & I got the ba. apples - they're really good.

2 Nov 1980 Sunday Today I fasted - for the first time in ages. I felt really good, tho. I sure love my little family. They're so special. Had a class pres. meeting & it was pretty good.

3 Nov 1980 Mon Had 1 20 app part - 0 bookings. I woke up around 5 or 5:30 & couldn't get to sleep - got up at 6:30 & didn't stop all day - to 11 pm & I have a 9:30 party tomorrow morning & one tomorrow nite. I'm tushed.

4 Nov 1980 ELECTION DAY REAGAN WOW! Yea! I went to vote today & I just felt so good & thankful! It was neat! I had 2 parties today - $12 & $38! Wow. They better get better. Mike told me tonight to not book any more cuz I'm too grouchy & the house is a mess. I'm really not feeling well, so I'm going to cool it & not push parties. It was neat to vote for the winner!

5 Nov Dr app - gained 4 lbs. He wants to do a glucose test. Everything is ok. I had a party to-nite - Pat Stickler - $119 so far, 1 booking, at least $20 more, so it sounds good. I really got a lot done today.

6 Nov. I was tired today so didn't get a lot done - I had a party with Carol Braun $128 + 1 booking - Mike leaves for Hawaii in the morning.

7 Nov Fri. Mike is in Hawaii. I ran errands all day & took the kids - so it really wore me out! I found a whole bunch of wheat to-nite with a borrowed magic mill II ($250) really nice! I bought me some new shoes ($24.00) today to-nite. I love em.

Date Nov 8 Sat

Page No.

Today, the Laurels & I went to Coronado Nat'l park & hiked up to a cave. It took me a long time, but I made it! But when we got there, we had to go down in a little, steep, slippery hole & I didn't feel it would be wise, so I waited outside. Then we had a picnic - it was pretty fun. Sis. Urkoo went with us. I'm exhausted & my house is a mess.

Nov 9 Sun. Today was pretty good - I didn't have to leave sac. meeting! Aaron's got a cough & runny nose & I've got a cold. Hope we soon get over it. I dreamed about Roxanne last night - so I called her today and talked about 1/2 hour - she is expecting a baby in 3 weeks! I still can't believe it. She's been disfellowshipped, but she hasn't missed any meetings & has a super good attitude. She's going to put the baby up for adoption. I can't imagine going through all this, then giving my baby away - but then, I have a loving, supportive husband and an eternal family unit to work for. I think she's doing the right thing. It was good to talk to her - I wish I'd gotten a hold of her before (as I felt I should many many times)

Nov 10 Mon. I tried to clean the house & do laundry - I got quite a bit done, but it seems I'm never on top of it all. My bedroom is still a mess! Tomorrow - - -. I went to the Health Hut today & bought $16.00 worth of liver tablets, brewer's yeast, Vit C, & a vegetarian cookbook. The kids were pretty bad - especially Aaron, but we made it. I've noticed my back & left leg hurt more after I've carried kids around - always usually on my left hip. Mike's mom called tonite to see how I was, & we started talking nutrition. It was neat. It made me feel good. I got a postcard from Mike - from Wakiki Beach - what a tuff life. I also got the toys from my party - I was glad to get them.

Nov 11 1980 Tues - I had a party tonite - good one - over $150, I think, + 1 booking. Cleaned etc & spent a couple of hours at Carol Braun's, where the kids played & had a good talk with her. Her hubbys in Korea. I'd hate it & hope we never have to go thru with it.

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Nov 12 Wed I had a glucose tolerance test this am - hope it's ok. Went to a luncheon at the church, worked on orders & cleaned house. Tonite I went to a tupperware party & ordered a few replacements and some salad dressing servers for my honey. The kids got to bed at 9 - they were all exhausted. They all have full-fledged colds now. Mike called tonite & it was good to talk to him. Says Hawaii is lonely -

Nov 13 Thurs Mike called again tonite - he's coming home tomorrow nite! Yea. I went visiting teaching today to Sis Edwards - she's so nice. All the kids have colds - so do I. Aaron is turning in to a little stinker! He sure can be mean. Michelle says she doesn't like to sleep alone & won't get to sleep at night - then I can't wake her in the morning. Mike said we're going home for Christmas! Yea! I had a party tonite. I have 4 more booked, but I'm sure not pushing for any more. I'm feeling pretty good since I've been taking B vits & liver every day.

Nov 14 Friday I was just going to get the kids up & go get Mike - he called from L.A. There are no more flights out tonite - so he's staying there tonite. I called the air service that was picking him up & the lady was mad - I don't blame her - the pilot & plane are sitting up in Tucson - waiting for him. She said they'd be fuming. I bought a bushel of apples for $6.00 and made 4 pints applesauce - it is so yummy - I just cubed the apples, cooked 'em with a little lemon juice & water, blended them in the blender - & poured it in the bottle - they sealed! We got a table & 6 chairs today for $100 from some friends who are moving. It looks nice in the family room, but I think I'd rather have a dishwasher.

Later - they molded! Don't do it again!

Nov 15 Sat Mike came in about 10:15 a.m. - so good to see him. I got us in a situation where we (MIKE) ended up cleaning our carpets at 4:30 pm Nite - I had a party - over $200, I think. Poor Mike - he's so tired. Me too - it's after 12 but I'm feeling pretty good.

Party later fell thru.

Date Nov 16 Mon

Page No.

I went to church today - Mike stayed home with the boys as they have had coughs & colds. Aaron's has been hanging on for a long time - Buck sounds pretty bad too. One of my girls was supposed to give the lesson & she forgot, so we had a class meeting. Michelle & I sat on the front row in church - & I just felt an overwhelming LOVE for her - & need to feel & express that more often to my kids. It was really neat & I really enjoyed being with her - so we've got to do things together more.

Nov 17 Mon - I worked really hard - just cleaning, mainly. I redid 2 orders - made one more & people cancelling & I had to refigure everything. Anyway. Got a check - finally - for $61.00 Mike gave a good FHE - the kids to bed & we watched the diary of Ann Frank. It was so good & sad I just bawled at the end.

Nov 18 Tues Had a $100 party tonite I worked all day & did some apples - Donna & Diana from down the street came over & we talked a long time (1½ hrs) about the church, motherhood, kids, canning etc. They were so impressed with all the stuff I do, I couldn't believe it. Mike's sick now!

Nov 19 Wed Another $100 party - I'm glad I only have 1 left - & I wouldn't really care if she cancelled. I worked hard all day but still seem I don't get much done.

Nov 20 Thurs Stake meeting tonite - good. I'm glad I got to go but I got car sick & I don't feel too good. PLUS I'm extremely tired.

Nov 21 Boy I ran all day! I got up, got kids ready, & took them to the school to have pictures taken. By 8:20 they had it started, so I asked a lady to take the kids for me, then I ran up to the hospital for my dental appt. They worked on me for 2 hrs 45 min! I took off my shoes & put my knees up because my back was killing me & I felt nauseous. They took care of the problem, but found a cracked, chipped filling so I have to go back. I came home, picked up Michelle, went to the babysitter's house - she fed us lunch, went to the commissary, bought groceries, came home - & had 1½ hrs to get ready to go. The house was a double disaster area & I hadn't started packing, plus it

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seemed like everyone called me. Then I went to get Sis. Serventi, & she'd lost her son, so we searched for him. Finally I picked Mike up & he decided we needed to go to the bank, so we spent 40 min. there. Then we got money & socks from the PX I was so exhausted. We both were. I had the brilliant idea of stopping in Tucson, shopping there (Christmas), eating, sleeping, then going to Phoenix early enough to shop, then go to the temple at 11:30. So we come to Tucson, but spent 1½ hrs driving around looking for a place to stay! We ate, watched TV (dumb) the finally, got to bed. Im feeling nauseated & exhausted.

Sat Nov 22, 1980 We finally got out of Tucson at 9:30, & arrived at the temple barely in time. That place was PACKED. They worked all night last night. I sat right up in FRONT - 2 rows in front of the normal front row! and my dress was so tight on me that when I got it zipped, I could hardly breathe, so I had to vent one. After the session we went to a bookstore & looked around, bought some things, then went to Grovers & bought yd. milk & yeast. Then we drove all over Phoenix looking for a mall. We drove past the Ramada Inn where we stayed with Drill Team! That was neat. Finally, we found a mall & walked all over, but only bought some cheap little horses for the kids. We looked at kids clothes, but they're so expensive it makes me sick. Poor Mike was as exhausted as I was, but he knew how bad I wanted to go shopping, so he went. I wish money wasn't so tight! We finally left at 5:45, & when we reached Tucson, we decided to eat at the Sizzler - I had steak & lobster! It was good. We got home around 10:00 & paid her $10 because she said she spent 3 hrs on dishes & vacuuming. The house is a MESS tho & it stinks.

Date Sunday Nov 23, 1980 Page No.

I didn't feel good all day & the boys are still coughing so I stayed home with them & Mike took Michelle to church. Brett & I had our own church, using some flannel board stories I got yesterday. Our home teachers came over tonight - & brought the bible stories & ordered - with the tapes. We listened to about 6 stories & they are really neat. It cost $12.25 for 2 books & 5 tapes. Not bad. The Vandres invited us over for Thanksgiving dinner. I have 3 million things to do tomorrow - the most important of which is to clean up this house! I can't stand it.

Monday 24 November 1980

Boy, did I work my tail off today. I did about 7 loads of washing, cleaned up the house - a big mess!! - and worked on orders. Boy, I sure can't wait until this is over with - I'm tired of selling for them. I got a check for $93, this. That's nice. My back really hurts & I'm extremely tired. The reason I got so much done is because I got up at 6 & got dressed & got busy! I have a party tomorrow nite & one Wednesday, then I'm done.

Tues 25 Nov My party was $122 - I went visiting teaching & no one was home - one had moved - one had a ferocious dog - scared me to death! I made bread, granola, & carob cake today, but the cake was awful. Poor Mike was expecting chocolate & nearly threw up. I'm very tired.

Wed 26 Nov Today was really busy. I had a $52 party - MY LAST YEA!! I've made out all my orders except 1 - I wouldn't be surprised if it fell thru completely. Anyway. Today I made 3 pumpkin pies, jello salad & refill dough - Beef & Broccoli AND Mike bought my Christmas present - a dishwasher! Yea! I'll get it Friday or Monday. I can't wait. It seems like I'm always doing dishes & the kitchen is always a mess.

Page No. 27 Nov 1980 Thanksgiving Date

We had a sunrise service at the church - it was nice - then we had dinner & spent the day at Vardes. It was good. But I'm so tired! Mike's folks called tonite & it was good to hear from them - & don't think we'll go home for Christmas - they were worried about us. & I think we ought to stay here. Anyway - I'm THANKFUL for my country, family & church - & kids - even tho they're brats sometimes!

28 Nov Friday - Today I cleaned the kitchen - & that's about it! The guy delivered my dishwasher - it's really nice, but didn't have time to install it, so it's sitting there & I'm still washing dishes! But they are going to come do it on Monday. (They better!) Mike put Michelle's bed in Brett's room, took the crib down, & put Aaron in Michelle's room. I think it will work out fine.

29 Nov Sat We got quite a lot - I guess we really didn't, tho. We talked about finances for 3 or 4 hours. There are so many things we need to buy! But things are getting better. I'm tired & not feeling too good and I haven't prepared my lesson for tomorrow.

30 Nov 1980 Sun. Today was pretty good, but I didn't feel so swift. I keep having contractions! Not really often - but about every hour or so. Also, my abdomen is quite tender. I've felt kind of nauseated & yukky off & on. Mike called his folks tonite & told 'em "Happy Anniversary" (yesterday) & told 'em a gift idea for us - a wheat grinder! Sounds like they might do it. That'd really be neat.

1 Dec 1980 I got my dishwasher installed today! Yea! Another $60! It's going to be just super - now I can keep my kitchen clean & uncluttered. I cleaned house & cut out 3 shirts for Brett. Mike's folks called & they checked around on wheat grinders, & they think the magic mill is the best - $340. So that's what they're giving us for Christmas! That'll be neat.

Date 2 Dec 1980 Page No. _____

I walked to the bank to get a check for my last order. It exhausted me. I made 2 shirts for Brett - we went to Kmart for a while but their toy selection wasn't that great - but of course the kids loved everything. Mom sent a box of stuff - Vit C, liver, & super-ease. Was fun to get.

3 Dec 1980 Boy did I have a lousy night last night - coughing & sputtering! I'd cough & it hurt my throat & I'd wake up & then couldn't sleep. I woke up at 5:30 & couldn't get back to sleep - I had about 20-30 min naps today. We were just getting ready for bed - before 9 - & Judy called. She wants to know if we want to go in $25 for Mom & Dad an electric garage opener. I had just checked on Aaron & he woke up sweating & feverish - so I was holding him & he threw up. Well we finally got him to bed & it's almost 10. Mike took a PT. test today, so he is feeling lousy tonite too. Aaron has 3 new teeth -

4 Dec 1980 Thurs - Aaron was feverish all night & this morning, so I took him & Brett to the Dr. Aaron has ear infections in both ears - poor baby was miserable. Brett's ok, but the dr. thinks he's got allergies, so he had some blood work & x-rays, & I have an appointment for allergy testing in January. Mike's going tdy on Monday to New Jersey till Thursday, then stop in Salt Lake for 3 days. I'm not really excited about it - I guess a little jealous that he gets to go home & the kids & I don't. Also, I hate to be alone, especially on Sunday. Oh well, he really wants to go, plus - he'll miss the grand ball next Sat. Friday night - I was really excited about going to it.

5 Dec Last night was terrible - I woke up about every hour - then Claude called at 12:30 to tell us he was engaged - getting married end of Jan - Brother. Then I couldn't go to sleep till after 3 - then I slept off & on until 5:15. I was exhausted today - I had an OB appt. Weigh 162 - 32cm 30 weeks along. I'm just supposed to rest & take it easy - ha. Went shopping & ran errands all over - had to go get Mike at 7:30 - I'm so tired. I took the kids to the nursery today - boy what a lousy place. Michelle & Brett had to lay on a cot for the whole 2 hours! Aaron was standing in a playpen with no toys. I hate to leave my kids there.

Today I had a day of rest. (½ day, anyway.) I slept in until noon - after having had a good sleep - I didn't wake up all night! Aaron came in at 5:45 asking for a drink - he was still feverish. Poor baby. His face, which has been red & rough for over a month is getting worse. I took Michelle & Brett & the show "Benji" & it was so cute. Then we went to the PX & I bought them some much needed clothing. Shoes & jackets, mainly. They're such cuties & I love them - I feel bad that I'm such a lousy mother. Sometimes when I hear the way I talk to them - even yell at them & say "Shutup!" & things like that, it makes me sad - & scared. What kind of mother am I? Am I raising healthy, happy kids? We've got to have a break in child-bearing so I can be more successful in child rearing. I think I need the energy & strength for that alone for a few years. I hope the Lord feels the same. I'm just not the kind of mother I need & want to be. I'm just too tired & worn out & uncomfortable!!

7 Dec 1980 Sunday - Since Aaron is still sick, Mike went to Priesthood & I went to Fast Meeting - It was really good. I'm feeling better, but I skipped a nap & fixed a really good dinner for Mike - baked chicken, fresh squash (yummy - even Mike liked it - & he's a squash hater!) Salad, rice & cake. Oh well, I blew it as far as nutrition on the cake, but Mike liked it. Anyway, so I'm really tired. We had a good little talk about being better parents - we're both going to try not to yell & to spend more time with each kid.

8 Dec 1980 Mon - Mike left for New Jersey this morning. I got some stuff done - mostly just cleaned up kit/dining room & put some Christmas stuff up. I started reading Shogun & write - it's 11:30.

Date 9 Dec 1980 Tues

Page No.

I got the car today - Pat Stickler took me to the airport & got it. I went shopping this afternoon - spent $120. Got Michelle a bike, Brett a hot wheels, and a few other things. DeAnn Moss babysat - the kids loved her, she cleaned up the house - & charged 75¢/hr! Mike called & he had a good day. I'm tired too.

10 Dec Where does all the time go every day? Michelle came in at 4am - 20 min later, Aaron came in & wanted to eat. Then, after 1 hr of wrestling him, I fed them both (& me) hot choc & toast. Finally, he went back to sleep at 6:30, so did we. We slept an hour, Aaron slept 2. Then my v.t. came, so did my Magic Mill! Mike's parents gave it to us for Christmas. It sure is neat. Then, after lunch, I put Aaron to bed & the kids & I decorated the gingerbread house. I slept about an hour, took care of some clothes, had dinner (orange waffles - yum!) then took the kids to Sears to see Santa. Ole Aaron just jabbered away & looked at him! It was cute. Then I went to Smittal, then bought a perm. Ruth Dunnigan is going to give it to me - tomorrow night. Yea. I called Mike tonight. He had a very successful day & he was happy. I'm happy for him. He's really a neat guy.

11 Dec I called Judy tonite & talked for an hour! It sure was neat to talk to her. I got a perm tonite - so far I love it. Mike called - he's in Ogden. Jealous! I went visiting teaching and really got a lot done today. I got the packages ready to mail.

12 Dec Friday. Boy, I got a lot done today - I guess cuz I didn't take a nap. Mike called tonite & said he could come home tomorrow night - but I told him he may as well stay until Monday & get his money's worth. (I don't believe I said that!) It really confused him - he thought I'd be so anxious to have him home! I decided it must be love in action - he, concerned about me, offered to come home early. I realized I could do without him (I'm already psyched into it), & I didn't want him to cut his visit short just 'cuz of me - he's there, he may as well enjoy it!

Page No._____ Date_____

Then Brenda Parson called me from Georgia & we talked for an hour. I couldn't believe it. So it's 11:00 & I'm really tired. I love my perm. I ran errands this afternoon & it was raining, yet it still have some body & shape to my hair! It's neat!

Dec 13 1980 Sat What a wasted day! I spent all morning running to the bake sale - Laurels were in charge of it. I contributed almost 1/3 of the $60 they made! Then I took a short nap, & went back from 2-4:30. We watched the parade - it was a long one! Then had dinner, watched muppets, got kids to bed. Mike called - I wish he was home, but I guess it's best he stayed there. Prepared lesson, then looked thru catalog to try & decide on horses for Brett. Mike looked all over Ogden & Salt Lake & couldn't find any, so we'll have to order them. Boy, I wish we'd have done it weeks ago. This is getting pretty tight. I'm tired - I love my dishwasher & my permanent!

Dec 14, 1980 The kids were real good today - Aaron slept from the beginning 'till after the sacrament & that was really a blessing. I wrote in Brett's new journal - we bought nice ones like this for the kids, & I wrote from birth on, then recopied what he's written. I'm almost done with his - & I have writers' cramp! I doubt they'll appreciate them now, but I hope they will when they get older. Mike called & he really misses us! He'll be home tomorrow & we're all glad.

Dec 15, 1980 Monday Mike came home today - it's so good to have him here. We went out & looked at trees - he really wanted to buy an artificial tree - the only one we could find was $50 & I wasn't really impressed. So we bought a real one for $26. It's really pretty & I just LOVE real trees & I think it's worth it. I'm really tired

Date Dec 16 1980 Mike made a CAPTAIN! Page No.

Mike was promoted to Captain today - I'm so proud of him - he's really great & a good provider. I sure do love him. We got new ID cards - mine's awful - I took a bunch of stuff to the Thrift Shop & bought Mike some shoulder boards for $3. Then Aaron had a check for his ears - they're fine - went to Coma, then got Mike. We almost finished the tree & it looks really nice. I'm exhausted.

Dec 17 1980 I really was going to get a lot done, & I did, but not much really. Oh well. I sure am fat. Did some more shopping - some books for the kids & a teddy bear for Aaron.

Dec 18 1980 Thur I worked hard today & the house looks pretty decent. We got a big pkg from Mom & Dad. I finished most the cards to write. I'm tired

Dec 19 We went to Michelle's school for their program this morning - she's a cutie. I got the kids' pictures - they're pretty cute. Then we had a party for work & a church party. Michelle was feeling really sick - fever, chills, nausea. I'm afraid she has the flu that's going around. Mike feels sick too.

Dec 20 Sat I didn't do much today - just layed around, made 20 little loaves of pumkin bread & cranberry-orange bread, cleaned a little, got my lesson ready a little. I feel so tired & my stomach's not too great either. I got a final check from House of Lloyd for $171. All in all, I made $350 + my $300 kit, so it worked out pretty good. I'm glad it's over tho. Sandy called today & we talked a half hour or so - it was good to talk to her.

Dec 21 Sun - Michelle's still sick, so the kids stayed home - I went to YW, then Mike went to Sacrament Meeting. I slept some, then wrote in Brett's journal - we got some nice journals like this only smaller for the kids, & took things out of our journals from the day they were born, then copied their journals from the past year. I just finished Brett's - now Michelle's & Aaron's. I can't believe I've only got 3 more days to get ready! I still have lots to do. I sure love Mike. Linda called & it was fun to talk to her. We're giving Mum & Dad an automatic garage door opener for Christmas.

Page No. 22 Dec 1980 Mon Date

I did cleaning, washing etc - & almost finished Shogun today. I get tired so easy - I can't believe it. Mike took the kids shopping for me, we ate, then took the bread around to people. I picked up Betts shoes from Wards they're really nice looking, but not as large as the ones he wants. We figured we've spent over $180 on the kids, & when we got it all out, it just didn't look like much. I think they'll be happy tho.

23 Dec 1980 I cleaned the house, got a babysitter & went shopping - At the commissary it came to $93.00 & I about died, so I had it re-checked in the office, & they found out I'd been UNDERCHARGED $9.00 Brother. Then Mike & I went to toyland & bought him a bike! Tonight I made Michelle some pj's - it took me 4 hours! Aaron is really sick - temp 102.5° after Tylenol! Poor baby - I don't know what to do for him.

24 Dec Poor Aron was up for a couple of hours - & so was I! Boy, I sure was tired today & didn't really get much done - I delivered presents to all my mutual girls We opened presents tonight Mikes parents gave Mike a shirt, me a long, light robe - love it! Michelle a darling dress, Brett a new jogging suit, & Aaron 2 jogging suits - he loves em! Started putting them on over his clothes. They also gave us our wheat grinder & cook book. Plus choc Santa's for the kids. My parents gave us a beautiful pieced wool quilt & the kids a scripture book. Steve & Linda gave us honey - Travis gave Brett a gum machine (Michelle & Aaron didn't get one from cousins yet.) Sheri gave Mike a BYU shirt, me a book about Sis. Kimball, Brett, Mich & Aaron shirts. Rex & Carrie gave us a family journal & the kids Candy Land game. We gave the kids new PJ's. They enacted the nativity - it was cute. Mike & I played our new game till 10:30 (dumb) but it was fun. It's after 12:30 & after having had 2 3 hrs sleep last night I'm BEAT ED!

Date 25 December 1980 Christmas Page No.

Today was really a nice day - the kids didn't wake up all night! Until 8 am, so we got some much needed sleep. The kids were delighted with their stuff - Michelle got a 2 wheel bike, doll, underwear, books, paper slippers, ; Brett got a HOT WHEELS trike - he's so cute on it, & underwear slippers, books socks & HORSES. Those were definitely his favorite. Aaron got a Fisher Price farm, driver set, stuffed bear, slippers socks & truck. He just loved Bretts hot wheels & Michelle's bike - I guess we should have gotten him a bike too. Maybe for his birthday or something. We had a fun time exchanging presents - Michelle gave Mike a phone finder, Brett a ball game Aaron a stuffed monkey - me some new pants. Gabardine navy & they're beautiful! Brett gave me a pretty light blue blouse to match Dad a game, Michelle a doll, Aaron a story doll. Aaron gave Mike a belt, Michelle a necklace, & Brett (?) iron gave me some socks. I gave Mike a BIKE aftershave 3 church books, & he gave me a DISHWASHER & a nightgown. Santa really brought him the bike - I rode it & it was so fun - we want to get one for me - maybe next year. Mike tried to teach Michelle how to ride her bike today - it was hard for her & so they'll try again tomorrow. We had a really nice roast beef dinner with potatoes & gravy, jello salad & vegetables & pumkin pie. We called our parents & talked a long time! But it was fun. Mike & I played another game - I won! It was fun.

26 Dec Fri - We slept in until 8:30 - the kids have been so good to leave us alone & get dressed & get their schedules done. They're such cuties & we really love em. Brett loves his underoos - he acts like Superman & runs around the house, asking if anyone is in danger. Aaron acted better this morning, but after his nap was feverish & grouchy. His diaper rash is finally cleared up - after 3 weeks it's about time! It was so warm - we sat out in front watching the kids play & reading scriptures this morning. It got too hot, this,

and we had to come in. It's unseasonably warm for this area - I love it! I read the book Sheri gave me - "Camelia" & it was very good, but I didn't do anything else all day. Tonight I had a spurt of energy (or guilt?) and I cleaned kitchen - with the help of my wonderful dishwasher; I just love it! I vacuumed, put a whole bunch of miscellany away in the bedroom & cleaned out the top of the closet & put stuff away - it looks so much better. It's 11 pm again & I'm pooped. At least I've got a headstart on tomorrow.

27 December 1980 Saturday - I was lazy again today - I don't know why, but it seems I never accomplish much when Mike's home. We had tithing settlement today, we've paid over $2,000 to the church this year! Wow! And they want us to pay $1,000 for building fund alone next year $300 per family member. Then we went up on post & bought a few things, came home & had a picnic lunch on the patio. It was such a beautiful day. Aaron still is feverish & grouchy - he wants me to hold him all the time. And he cries. Poor baby, I know he doesn't feel good, but it sure gets on my nerves after a while - especially when Michelle & Brett are also bawling and whining. I just feel like walking out! I get so impatient too, & it makes me mad at myself & even more impatient. I got a letter from Roxanne today - she had a baby boy on the 19th. She sure has a good attitude, but it makes me sad.

28 Dec 1980 Sunday. I left Mike home with Aaron today; I still didn't feel good about taking him to church. He seems to be doing better - at least he plays instead of just laying around bawling. He's so funny - he falls asleep on the floor most of the time - last night he went to sleep in the hall! We have a twin springs & mattress on the floor & the crib mattress next to that - & he gets his blanket & lays on the floor & goes to sleep! He's such a cutie. Diane Wheeler Freed called me tonight - Scott's looking for a job & she wants me to check out wages & stuff down here. It was so fun to talk to her.

Date Dec 29, 1980 Monday

Page No.

(Baby's head getting into position)

I had a dr. appt. this morning. I weigh 166, 35-36 cm, 33½ weeks along. Everything's doing fine. We'll betcha I have this baby the end of Jan or 1st week in Feb. It'd be best if it was after Mom got here. Still - it'd be great to have it early. I didn't accomplish much today - I did clean out our clothes closet - got rid of some clothes & reorganized. Boy, I sure do like to have things organized! Hard to believe, I know, since everything is so unorganized. Watched slides of 1980 for THE - it was fun. Brett is starting to cough & feel sick - Michelle's pretty much all better, & Aaron is getting better. Mike's getting sick now tho. Bronchs!

Dec 30 1980 Tues I sewed most of the day - got my dress almost done except sleeves & hem - the sleeves I cut out just don't look right - too masculine or tailored - anyway, I don't have any material for more - so don't know what to do. Still be nice to have a new dress. Brett woke up last night with a fever - I'm tired of everybody being sick!!! Mike has a bad sore throat, too.

Dec 31 1980 Last day of 1980! I got up with Aaron at 6:30, then went back to bed 9-10. I finished my dress, got Mike's uniform ready for tomorrow. I made salmon patties for dinner & Mike really liked em! We watched t.v. tonite - I fell asleep for about an hour, till 11:30, then watched a show until 12 - kissed Mike, said Happy New Year honey - boy I'm tired! What a ridiculous thing to do. Oh well.

JANUARY 1, 1981

Today we went to a reception for 2 generals & a Col. Whoopie do. Mike looked handsome in his dress blues - as a Captain! We took the tree & Christmas decorations down. We grilled a steak outside - Yummy - it was so delicious! After getting dishes done & kids to bed, Mike & I played "Acquire" I watched T.V. I sure do LOVE him a lot - he really is neat & I'm so thankful for him.

Boy, I had a spurt of energy this morning! I ground wheat, made bread & chili, did 3 batches of washing, cleaned the freezer & collapsed. Boy, I was so tired! I sure do love my dishwasher - it saves me so much time! Mike & I played Acquire again - & he won again. It's fun tho Brett seems to be getting worse.

Jan 3, 1981 Sat. Boy, I don't know what got into me today - all the liver & yeast I've been taking, I guess. Anyway, I woke up at 6 - Mike was up getting ready - & got busy. I really cleaned today - the oven, stove (it looks SO good & only took 1 hour!) the cupboards in the kitchen, some drawers. I napped for ½ hour this a.m. & an hour this afternoon. Mike has duty all day & night today. He came home for lunch & dinner, tho. I did dishes love that dishwasher! Got kids to bed (finally) mopped kitchen, vacuumed house, cleaned & dusted living room, cleaned bathrooms - Oh washed my sheets today. I was so dirty tonite I couldn't stand getting in clean sheets, so I showered & shaved, did nails - it's after 11 & I'm tired, but not as pooped as I usually am.

Jan 4, 1980 Sunday I stayed home with the boys today because Brett is still a little sick. I slept for a while this morning and afternoon - I wrote in Michelle's journal, fixed a good meal, & Mike & I went to a Ward fireside - Sis. Staples spoke on goals. It was really good. I've made it a goal this week to organize myself & make a schedule every day.

Jan 5, 1980 Monday. I woke up at 4am & couldn't get back to sleep. So I finally got up at 6:30. I can tell my hip joints are getting ready for delivery because they really hurt after much inactivity - like laying down. But boy, I made a schedule this morning and altho I didn't get everything on it done, I sure got a lot done. I cleaned out the fridge & Aaron's room & closet, which had been a bunch of junk! I slept for only ½ hr this afternoon - I felt so good all day! About 6:30 or 7 I just conked out on the couch for 45 minutes - now I'm really tired again. I studied a lot on nutrition and vitamins etc. I've got a lot to learn, but I want to have a healthy family!

Date Jan 6, 1981 Tuesday Page No.

I was tired & lazy today, so I didn't get a lot done. I had contractions tonight for about 3 hours - 3 min - 5 min - 7 min apart. Boy, started scaring me! Mike's going TDY next week & I'm a little worried, but that'd be 3½ weeks early, so it SHOULD be no problem.

Jan 7 1981 Wed This afternoon Mike & I went on a tour of the OB ward - it was really neat & made me excited about having a cute little baby again. I did some errands & shopping, then had the sister missionaries over for dinner. I sure am pooped!

Jan 8, 1981 Thurs I went visiting teaching this morning, cleaned the washroom (yea! it looks 1000 x better!) I made split pea soup, oatmeal muffins, fruit salad & date bars for dinner - it was really good. I made up a menu & stopped by it - it's so nice & just look at the menu & make the stuff. Usually I say at 4:30 "What can I fix for dinner?" So our dinners have never been the best. This way, I look at it in the morning & I know exactly what to do - it's great. Boy, after dinner I felt really lousy - but I'm feeling better now.

Jan 9 - I didn't accomplish much today except cleaning the kids room & doing the washing - I'm tired tho.

Jan 10 - We had a Laurel breakfast here today - it was fun. Then Mike went to work for a couple of hours & I made bread. When he came home, we went to Pizza Hut for lunch, then drove around & just "look" at some vans & see what's available & how much. We looked at a Chevy - 1980 - & I said "no firm decisions - we're just looking" but guess what we drove home? It has 2 front bucket seats, 2 full back seats - 6 seat belts - plus lots of room. It's blue & white - has AC & Cruise Control & lots of options. $7995! Wow! It's HUGE but it rides really nice & we have lots of room to grow!

Today I decided to scrap my prepared lesson & read the girls the booklet "Summer of Decision." Then I bore my testimony of the gospel & the importance of temple - & celestial - marriage. It was pretty good, I felt. After, I talked to Pam, one of my girls, & she said she's just going to have to tell her non-member steady boyfriend [illegible] to get off. She's going to stay with her brother this summer in Cal where there's lots of good LDS boys. So that was neat. Also - Brett gave his first talk today in Primary opening exercises - & he did such a good job! He told the story of Noah. Mike stood behind him & encouraged him by saying "what next?" & "and then?" a couple of times he had to tell him what to say, but he did an excellent job & he looked so cute! We were & are so proud of him - he's a darling little boy. He was playing like Superman tonight & he came in & said, "Mommy, why aren't you in danger?" He's sweet (sometimes) & I know I need to give him more personal attention & loving.

12 Jan 1981 - I had an OB appt today - 168 lbs, 38cm, 36 weeks, the baby's head is engaged! I asked the doctor if I'd have the baby within a week & he said no. I asked him to put it in writing! He told me to stay off my feet just to make sure tho. I sure am exhausted & have had contractions all evening.

13 Jan 1981 Well, I sure took it easy today. I was all ready to go visiting teaching, but Pat's car was being obstinate, so we didn't go. I straightened the kitchen & that's about it for all day. I slept a little, but Aaron & Michelle wouldn't go to sleep & Michelle kept coming in & waking me up. Made me so mad! We had a really yummy dinner tonight - roast, fresh spuds & gravy, fresh, steamed carrots. Mike said I could start feeding them pink food if all this nutritous stuff is too much work. It's really not, it just takes more planning & doing stuff earlier. Sonite I got some baby clothes out - they're so cute! Aaron was acting much better today - no fever - just a runny nose.

Date 14 Jan 1981 Wed Page No.

Last night Mike gave me a really special blessing. In it he told me what a good mother I am & what special children I have. He also blessed me that the baby would be born at the appointed time at the hospital & that he would be there. It was really neat. I feel much better about him going. I took him to the airport at 6:30 this morning, & he's in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, now, for 2 more days. All I did all day was read - & had a pres. meeting tonite & it went well. The kids & I made cookies today - yummy! But why can't I be more patient & loving with them? Boy, I find myself not even liking them sometimes! I've got to try tomorrow to be nicer & more fun to live with. Maybe then they'll be nicer & more fun to live with.

15 Jan 1981 Thurs I took Brett to the allergy specialist today. She said he's allergic to dust, weeds, trees. Brother. They'll make up a serum for him & start him 2/week on shots. Oh yuk. It won't start for 3 weeks. (Good timing) I have a bad attitude about this. I need to talk to someone who is convinced it's really worth it. Come to think of it, this, maybe that's why Brett's such a grump. Maybe he never feels real good. I can't imagine dragging 4 kids to the hospital every monday & friday. Oh well. We'll try it. Mike called today & he's coming home at 2 instead of 9! Yea. I got some books from the library - one is saying "Health food" is a big quackery - & I'm all confused. I'm too gullible I guess, in believing the written word, & when it conflicts, I don't really know what to do. Boy, Michelle sure has been a BRAT the last few days. I don't understand what's wrong with her.

16 Jan Mike came home this afternoon. It sure is good to have him here.

Page No._____ Date_____

17 Jan 1981 Sat - Mike & I really did a lot of cleaning, washing, etc. He really cleaned out the van & it looks great. We went to the show "Grease" tonite & it was fun to just be together but I'm tired.

18 Jan 1981 Sunday Today was busy - I didn't even take a nap! But I felt pretty lousy all day. I had diarrhea "attack" this morning & I got a muscle ache in my neck which hurt all day. My lesson in YW was "Motherhood - a Divine Calling." I felt pretty good about it, but I can sure see how I should have done a better job - letting the girls give more of their ideas, etc. There was a non-member there & I wonder what she thought.

19 January 1981 Monday I took Mike to the airport this morning at 6:30. I can't wait till he gets back. I don't like it when he's gone. I woke up at around 3am & couldn't get to sleep - this lousy cold my neck & back hurting, the baby doing calisthenics & contractions. Plus my mind is SO wide awake. I can't believe it! Anyway, I got back to sleep sometime after 5 am. Mike woke me at 6. Around 8:30 I laid down - Brett & Aaron just played till 10, then I put Aaron to bed & slept again for an hour. Then I went to a dr. appt. Waited 2 hrs - saw the dr for 2 min. He said my uterus is full term - big baby, I'm healthy, doin' fine. Sounds good! Came home & slept another hour. We had FHE on prayer - Michelle conducted - it's so cute to have her know just what to say! We made some doughnuts - they weren't too good. I've really got to get some stuff done in the next few weeks!

20 Jan 1981 What a day! The hostages were released today after 444 days of captivity in Iran. Nov 4, 1979, some Iranians took over the American embassy & they've held these 52 people ever since. Anyway, they were released today & we're all thankful. Also, President Ronald Reagan was sworn in today - he makes me feel good & hopeful that our country will be stabilized & put back in order.

Date 21 Jan 1981 Page No.

Tonite my PW class came over & we made Rubber Candy. It was fun. We visit taught Sis Staples today & finally made an appointment to see Delberta Burris next week. I really did a lot of cleaning today & fixed an excellent dinner!

23 Jan 1981 I couldn't find my journal so couldn't write last night. We've been busy cleaning & washing. Tonight we went to the Warwicks & heard an Amway sales pitch. We're thinking of doing it! We had lots of contractions tonite.

24 Jan 1981 Sat Today was normal but I had quite a few contractions. Tonite they were 7 min apart from about 7 pm - 10:30 (now) but 5 min apart when I was walking around. Some of them have been real doozies. I've felt hot & nervous. Mike packed my bag for me - but I'm tired & so we're going to go to bed now. It's probably false labor - but it's definitely different than any of the Braxton-hicks we've had before. It's exciting BUT I'd rather wait a week till Mom comes. I called Jane Gladowski to forewarn her & she said she'd come. (I took 2000 mg. calcium in some warm milk - it's supposed to make labor easier - & it seemed did!)

MATTHEW GEORGE WILLIAMS

was born this morning at 8:48 am, Mountain Standard Time. Boy, it was really neat. I slept last night until about 1:30; I woke up with a couple of hard contractions & diarrhea, slept till 2:30 & was up again, then up at 3:30. The contractions were 5 min apart for 45 min, then I walked & they went to 2 minutes, but they were only about 30 sec long, & not all that hard. Then I called the OB ward & she said she didn't think I needed to come in, but it was up to me. So I went back to bed & they slowed down to 8 minutes apart, but they lasted 60 seconds & were hard, & I had to really practice my relaxation breathing. Finally at 6:45 I called the ward again, & she said to go ahead & come in. Mike called Bro Moss & asked him to bring DeAnn over - he did, & he & Mike gave me a blessing, which was very calming. We left about 7:30 & got here about 7:45. Walking really made them closer & harder. Still, I didn't really believe I was ready! The nurse checked me & said, "You're 7-8 cm - no wonder you're sweating!" I was so excited - then, after a few contractions, he broke my water; then, about 3 or 4 contractions later, they took me into delivery. After a few pushes, out came the head! Then he told me not to push because the cord was really tight around his neck, & the Dr. had to cut the cord off. If I had've pushed, it would have strangled him, I'm afraid. It was kind of scary. Then, they took him over to his bed & he wasn't making any noise - it scared me! Finally, he started crying. What a beautiful sound! Boy, I had a hard time pushing because altho I was ready, I didn't feel the urge to PUSH like I did with Aaron. But once I started pushing, it was hard to stop,

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even though the uterus wasn't pushing. It was weird. But so fast! I was only there for an hour & that was nice. Matthew's apgar score was 6-7 for the 1 min. & 9 for the 5 min. He only weighs 7 lbs 6 oz 19 3/4" long! Not very big! And he looks so much like Brett, I can't believe it. He's so quiet - ever since that first cry, he's as quiet as a little kitten mewing. When he came out Mike said "It's a Boy!", & I said "A Boy!? Another boy? I can't believe it!" But he's an angel & already has a special place in my heart. We held him & loved him & rocked him - & tried to nurse him, but he's just not too interested. I'm sitting here, looking at him in his little bed, & my heart is just overflowing with love for him, & gratitude for the opportunity to nourish him & help him grow. My little kids came to see him today & they just love him & want to take him home. And they wanted me to go home with them! That made me feel good. They're all so cute. Mike's going to have to take leave this week - oh well; it'll be good for him & the kids. I got to feed him - or try, again in a few minutes. I hope he's a good nurser! They announced (Capp) Matthew's ~~Capps~~ birth in RS and Sac Meeting - Sunday AM is a good day to have a baby! Boy, the after pains were really bad today - my 1st had stayed in it, & I couldn't even sleep, because they were almost as bad as labor! I hope I make it thru nursing the next few days. The OB nurses & doctor Hansen were really great.

I'm really tired now & I'm going to wake Matthew up & feed him! I'm so thankful everything went so well & things are just great!

Page No. 16 January 1981 Date

I just layed around today, even though I was busy feeding Matthew & taking showers & sitz baths. Mike came twice & it was nice to see him. I sure do love him! Matthew is nursing so much better - I just nursed him about 15 min each side. It's hard for him to get ahold of the nipple, but once he does, he sucks really well. I was up almost every hour last night with after-pains, & having to go to the bathroom & get a drink. They woke us up at 4:40 & I only slept about ½ hour all day, so I'm tired. The after pains were pretty bad while nursing.

27 January 1981 Boy, the afterpains were worse today - Plus I've had an almost constant pain on my right side - I asked Dr Heaner about it & he said it might be where the placenta had been, & it'll be sore for a while. But boy, I thought it was supposed to get better, not worse! Matthew is a good little nurser - they woke me up at 2 am to feed him & he was wide awake & really went to town! Then up at 5 again today - I rested 2 or 3 times thru out the day, but so many interruptions!! I'm really tired.

28 Jan 1981 Wednesday I brought Matthew home from the hospital today. He is really an angel. It was nice to see the kids again, altho they sure are noisy and it's hard to relax with all of them around! I love em, tho. Mike thought our visiting teachers would bring dinner over, but they didn't, so we didn't eat till late & the kids didn't get to bed until late. I'm tired.

Wanda got married today.

29 Jan 1981. I was up with Matthew a lot last night, so Mike took Mark Brett & Aaron to Pat Stickler's house for the morning while he had to go to work. He had to go this afternoon for a while, too. Deb Nikon brought an excellent dinner over.

30 Jan 1981 I'm feeling better, but tired still. Mike went to work all day today - it wasn't as bad as I expected. But whenever I started to chase kids etc, it really wore me out. Also, whenever I eat I feel sick. The afterpains are almost gone, yea! I've been really full of milk, but never engorged. Matthew nurses really well, & usually goes 4-4½ hrs between feedings. Val Cavanaugh brought us a good stew and cobbler over tonite.

Date 31 Jan 1981 Page No.

I can't believe January is over. Today I actually got dressed! The sun was shining really nice today, but it was COLD. I rearranged Aaron & Matthew's clothes & did quite a bit today, incl. making dinner & doing dishes. Matthew is such a cutie. He goes 3-5 hours between feedings & is starting to stay awake a little longer. Mom & Dad are in Las Vegas & should be here tomorrow or Monday. I'm looking forward to it.

1 Feb 1981 Mom & Dad got here at 9:30 - They got lost in Sierra Vista! Oh well, so much for my failproof map. Mom brought me a baby bed - it's so neat! Also a receiving blanket. Vicki & Kenda sent some darling bumper pads, too. So Matthew finally got some gifts! It's neat to see them again - and Grandpa Nielsen & Ellen, too. I sure hope the weather's nice so they can relax & enjoy the sun.

2 February 1981 - It was so fun to visit today. Tonite we watched slides for FHE. I'm really tired. It's so fun to talk & visit with Mom & Dad.

3 February 1981 I didn't do much - this afternoon I went to the thrift shop & saw our car! And I started crying! I talked to the guy & they paid $3,500 for it - $900 more than what we paid! I really like that car a lot & I feel kinda bad we don't have it any more. Mom did lots of work today, but I only got a 1 hr nap this am & I'm bushed!

4 Feb Today we had a CEEA "Sweetheart Luncheon" with husbands. It was pot luck & pretty nice - General Lang (presented) gave me with a baby spoon. Groovy. I wore my dirndle & felt pretty good today. We took a ride up around the post & up in the canyon - it was pretty.

5 Feb Boy tonight I passed a big clot & it sure scared me! But my flow is not heavy - I called the hospital & they said not to worry. Mike's on duty tonite so he's not home.

6 Feb Friday - Mom & Dad went to Mexico today & got some frames & vanilla. Mom suggested Mike & I go out so we did - it was so nice - we just talked & talked & it was neat. Matthew's had gas & been irregular feeding - wet all day. He took a bottle from Mom really well.

Page No. 7 Feb Sat Date

I made bread & yogurt today - this afternoon we went for a ride - we went out the west gate of Ft. Huachuca & ended up in Sonoita, then came home. Poor Dad is getting so bored, he's ready to climb the walls. My right breast is really sore - feels like it could turn into a breast infection. I've been wearing my little hot water bottle & nursing Matthew on that side, so it's feeling better tonite.

8 February 1981 Today we blessed Matthew. It was so special - Grandpa Nielsen, my dad, Bishop Warnick & Brother Rickert were in the circle. It was so neat. In the blessing, Matthew was told that: Heavenly Father has looked with favor upon you. You'll be blessed with health & strength. Your family loves you, & will care for you. your parents will be blessed & raise you properly. You'll be quick of mind and intellect, & able to discern the spirit. You'll have a special closeness to the Lord, & be able to act upon inspiration. You'll have the opportunity to attend school and learn. You'll have friends, and influence on those around you. You'll serve a special mission for the Church and the Lord. You'll date and meet special young ladies. Heavenly Father will guide you to choose a young lady to marry in the temple for time and eternity...

It was neat, & I was so impressed that he is such a special little spirit. I was so proud of my little family - my husband, father, & grandfather. I had to brush the tears away for quite a while as I looked at my wonderful husband as he cradled our new little son in his arms. After he sat down, he just held him & looked at him - I could tell he was really affected, too. I'm so grateful that Mike is worthy to bless our children. It was such a happy, fulfilled feeling.

Date 9 Feb 1981 Monday. Page No.

Today I put on some zip-up levis! (mikes). Made me feel skinny, tho. Grandpa came over & her Dad fixed my treadle sewing machine! Also the part of cupboard Mike pulled apart. Then Dad, Grandpa & I went to the PX for some thing We watched slides again for FHE

10 Feb 1981 Tues

Poor Dad is getting so bored! Mom spent most of the day scrubbing & waxing my Family room & kitchen. In fact, she got a blister on her knee! It sure looks good. (The floor - not her knee!)

11 Feb 1981 Wed. Mom & Dad left today. Dad & Grandpa were anxious to get back on the road. They dropped me off at the hospital for Matthew's 2 week check. It was fun to see Marty and the other girls I was in the hospital with. The babies are all so cute. Matthew weighs 8lbs 8oz - that's a good gain! She said he's 21½" long, but I doubt that. Everything looks ok.

13 Feb Friday

Michelle's been running a fever & looking yuckky today. I got a lot done on the bedroom, but it's still a mess.

14 Feb Sat Valentines Day We slept in, then spent the rest of the day moving furniture. We put the bunk beds together & moved Aaron back in that room. Then we put the desk & file cabinet in the little bedroom, & will put the crib in there in a few weeks. The kids room is still a mess, but I've got to go thru all their stuff & box some away. Jonita our realtor - Aytan & Lyla Dove - came over to talk about selling our house. They think we could sell it for $46,500 but Mike's sure we can get $48,800. I agree with them, but Mike really feels we can get that. We're going to have to paint & clean up a lot tho. We called Mom & Dad & they got home ok today. Mike took Michelle to the dr - she has an ear infection & possible strep throat.

I really rested today & didn't do a thing - I didn't even take a shower! Michelle, Matthew & I stayed home while the boys went to church. Matthew's 3 weeks old today!!

16 Feb 1981 Monday: Mike & I really cleaned the house & yard today. I cleaned up the kids room, & packed 3 large boxes with toys, so there won't be so many to make a mess. I cleaned our room at - finally.

17 Feb 1981 This morning we had an open house for a bunch of realtors, & this afternoon, one of the realtors brought a client by. I was so tired today, every time I laid down to rest, someone came or called. It's 9:30 & I'm hitting the sack. The hospital called today & said Michelle's strep culture was positive. She's been on ampicillian since Sat, fortunately, so she's feeling much better. I hope no one else gets it.

18 Feb 1981 I didn't do much today - my neighbor came over today and told me her ex-boyfriend kidnapped their son yesterday. She was really upset - I don't blame her - but I sure didn't know what to do. Mike came home late last night & said he decided to buy an Amway distributorship - so I guess we're dealers now. I've been reading the stuff today & I'm not real sold on it yet - I feel upset about it, & I don't know why - I guess because he didn't consult me.

19 Feb 1981 Whew. Boy, having the house up for sale is great because I have to keep it clean! A couple came by tonite & looked at it, but didn't seem overly impressed. I made bread and granola today - sure is good. I'm really tired. Altho Matthew only wakes me up once or twice in the night, I don't get a nap in the day & it's wearing me out. Mike has 7 or 8 interviews lined up in Salt Lake next week. He called his mom tonite and she said she'd pay for a new suit for him for his birthday. So! That'll sure be nice.

23 Feb 1981 Sat we celebrated Britt's 4th birthday. Aaron was running a fever - last evening it was 105° - it fluctuates. Poor Baby. Mike took him to dr. Sat - no ear infection - but maybe strep. We've been giving Michelle's penicillin since last night. This a.m. Mike left for SLC. I was upset last night because he went home teaching at 5, &

Date_____ Page No._____

didn't get home until 10 pm! Aaron was so sick - he wouldn't eat or drink anything, & he just wanted to be held. And I had to take care of Matthew, & I was mad at Mike - it was real neat. Today I just tried to catch up on the house, but it's still a mess. I guess I need to have someone come look at the house so I'll clean it up! Boy, I sure love this Arizona weather. Our grass is coming up so good, and our fruit trees are all blossoming - they look so pretty!

24 Feb Tues I feel really good today - I'm not sure why, exactly. Part of it is the book I'm reading - The miracle of the Bells - so good & heartwarming. The home teachers came tonite & then took me out to the airport to get the van. Matthew's been crying a lot - like colic - tonite. Hope he's ok. Aaron seems to be feeling better. Mike called tonight & it was nice to talk to him.

25 Feb Wed Brett's 4th Birthday - Matthew's 1st month birthday! Time flies. I talked to my neighbor, Helga Boone, this morning. Her ex-boyfriend kidnapped their child & she doesn't have any legal custody, so nothing can be done. She talked about there's no such thing as love, except between mother & child, & how she trusts no man. Poor lady. How grateful I am for my blessings thru my life! Mike called twice; from Ogden then from S.F. Wish I could be with him! I wrote him a 6 pg letter - I sure love him!

26 Feb - I just cleaned house today - not extensive, just surface. No washing - I guess I read a lot. I read the whole Reader's Digest that came today. We all took a nap today - it was really nice. Mike interviewed with Westinghouse & E&G in S.F. today! Westinghouse told him if he took the job, they'd fly both of us up to look for a house. It doesn't sound like the greatest job - long hours, shift work etc. He liked the sound of E&G, but they don't really have anything for him right now.

27 Feb Boy I'm so lazy! I keep the house looking pretty clean - but that's it. Matthew's been up most of the morning & crying. Das, Oguss. He has such a pathetic little cry that it makes me cry too. I've been feeling sorry for myself tonite, I guess. Dec only 2 more weeks!

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28 Feb 1981 I sure felt depressed today - I was tired and Michelle was being a brat about taking a nap - she's been grouchy all day 'cuz I let her stay up last nite to see "Wizard of Oz. Anyway, the baby woke up too, so I slept for about 10 min. I tried to find a babysitter for a couple of hours, but couldn't. So - I vacuumed & cleaned up & washed & hung out; then I decided to clean up the backyard, & the kids helped. I raked & shoveled & fixed up & weeded & put away & even planted some new grass seed. Our yard looks really nice. Wish we could be here to enjoy it. I felt lonely to nite, so I called Vicki & talked to her for 2 hrs! Yulp! Really enjoyed it, tho. Bed 11:40 Jim peeped

1 March 1981 Last night at 12:15 Judy called (I had called her before I called Vicki, but she was at a dance, so she returned the call.) We talked for 20 min - it was fun to talk to her, but it scared me to death when the phone rang. She's really "in love" with this guy - John Morgan. He's my age (6 mo older) Anyway it sounds like the real thing. I hope everything turns out ok for her. She says John reminds her of Mike. Today Matthew's cold was really bad - it started yesterday. But his cough sounds like a bark & he sneezes & he's so congested he can hardly breath through his nose, so it's really frustrating for him to nurse. I gave him some Dimetapp today, & tonight he didn't sound so bad. It really makes me sad when he coughs - it wracks his whole body! And makes me cry - I don't know what to do! I've got the vaporizer going & I think it helps. So anyway, we didn't go to church, but we had our own. I did some flannel board stories & the kids loved em, & had to take turns telling them, too. I was going to write some letters, but it seems like I'm always taking care of one kid or another. I talked to Michelle about sucking her thumb, & tried to talk her out of it - she went to sleep without her blanket & I think without her thumb! I sure do miss Michael.

Date 2 March 1981 Monday

Page No. _____

Aaron was pulling her ears & saying "hurts" this morning, & Matthew was really stuffed up, so I took them to the doctor. He seemed to think I was pretty dumb to bring them in for colds, but Aaron sure had the classic ear infection symptoms! When will I ever learn? I asked him How do you know? And he said I really can't tell you! I'm glad-they're both OK. Then when I got in the van, it wouldn't even turn over. So I jumped out & grabbed this guy who was just getting in his cadillac & asked him for a jump. He was really nice- came over & opened the hood & I was getting the cables out, & he got in to try it- it started right up! I was embarrassed! It wasn't all the way in "park." Duh. He was really nice tho. I made bread & cleaned up most of the house. I sure need to have someone come look so I'd get it all cleaned up & shining. I sure don't have any motivation. Mom called this morning to see how I was doing - Vicki told her I was lonely. She said she wouldn't want Mike to take the job at the site in D.F. cuz shift work is so lousy. I don't want him to, either. So I'll call the guy & say no. Then tonight Mike's mom called & talked to me - it was nice to talk to her. AND Mike called today to give me his phone #. Everything's ok but he still misses me. I sure miss him, too! I forgot to get his address, so I can't even write to him. Michelle went to bed w/o her blanket, but it took forever for her to go to sleep! Sgt Cisneros from CEEIA called today, too, to see how I was. See, I didn't know so many people cared! Boy, it's been yukky weather & it's POURING out there now.

M# Matthew weighs 10 lbs 8 oz! Wow! He is getting to be a fatty - a cute fatty!

3 March Tues Today Jane Vandre watched all my kids while I went to the Thrift Shop, the PX, & commissary. I bought me a new curling iron! Can't wait to use it $5.50 - It rained all night & half the day - it's raining again tonight. No mail today - & I'm so anxious to get those job offers!

4 Mar Wed Boy, Matthew just threw up - a lot - and that's the 2nd time today! Hope he's OK. I went to Standards Night tonight it was good - the last thing I do as Scout Leader. Today Sperry Univac called to make Mike an offer, but they wouldn't tell me how much! That's what I'm interested in... Michelle & Brett came in & woke me up at 7 am & they both had their schedules DONE. They looked cute. Mike

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called at 5 am. He might come home in a week - I sure hope so. He's not going skiing - he's probably going to go to Kaiserslautern. We decided to take him to the wives' club dinner-dance on the 14th, if he's home, that is.

5 March 1981 Thursday Mike called again this morning at 5:30 am; it was good to talk to him. I just cleaned house & tended kids - tonight Matthew was really fussy from 6:30-9:30. The kids had their underoos & capes on tonight - Michelle was Bat-girl, Brett was Bat-man, a pretend Robin, & Aaron was Bat-mite. They were all playing together so cute. Aaron was running around and jabbering, just like the rest. He "said" the dinner prayer tonight - it was really cute. I'm tired.

6 Mar Fri Matthew threw up again tonite. I think it's cuz I feed & feed him, when he's really not hungry, then he just sits there calm as anything, & up it comes! I talked to the Sperry-Univac people - they're offering $24,440/yr - a little less than we're making now. That's the only offer we've had all week - I expected more. Maybe they're waiting for him to call next week. I talked to Mike today - he REALLY misses me, I miss him too, but I think he's having a harder time. He said he bought me some crystal! He shouldn't have, but I'm excited. It's my birthday present. It snowed for 2-3 hrs today, but didn't stay.

7 March 1981 Sat. Some people looked at the house today. I thought they looked promising - but who knows? They opened the storage closet & should have warned them! I sure wish people would say what they think instead of "Thanks" or "Are all these kids yours?" The lady that looked at it last week drove by twice, slowly. (I'm pretty sure it was her -) We've been playing for a buyer to come - I'm hoping it'll all work out. At least the house got clean today!

Note - the ones who looked at it this day are the ones who bought it.

Date 8 March 1981 Sunday

Page No.

Today was a pretty good day - Mike called at 9 am. Poor guy is so lonely. Our phone bill this month is going to be a whopper! It was good to talk to him. I can't wait till he's home again. Church wasn't too bad, but Matthew woke up & wanted to eat 1/2 way thru - the kids didn't want to stay alone, so I sent Michelle out, then pushed Brett & pulled Aaron - Aaron went back to find Michelle, I grabbed him - he protested (Matthew crying all the time & we were on the far side of the chapel.) I pulled Aaron, then 1/2 way across, he saw Michelle in the foyer & started yelling "Shell! Shell! Shell!" Oh, it was neat. I'm sure I was bright red. I felt good that so many people talked to me & said "I heard you're moving!" I hadn't been to church for so long, I kinda felt no one cared. I wrote 6 letters tonight, & copied 9 recipes for Carrie, so I've got writers cramp!

9 March 1981 Monday Today I had my 6 week check-up. Everything is ok, except I can't use a diaphram because my bladder is in the way. I forgot what he called it. cystocel Oh well. I hate those checks; I'm glad it's over - hopefully for a LONG time. Mike told me to go buy me a new outfit and jeans. I found a 4 piece suit for $55 & I would have bought it, but the skirt was split too high. And I tried some jeans on - & size 16 were snug. NO WAY am I going to buy a size 16 pant! So I went to the sewing center & bought a blouse pattern and a pattern for Michelle - & the lady said, "buy 2, get 1 free!" So I ~~bought~~ got a $2.50 pattern free! I got $5 worth of patterns for $1.85. Not bad! It was fun to see a couple of the girls I was in the hospital with. Matthew was awake 3:30 - 8:30, with a couple of 15 min naps! Hope he sleeps all night.

10 Mar I was up & down all night last night - Matthew never went more than 3 hrs, & Aaron was up twice! I sure was tired, but I went out & jumped rope - it was a beautiful day. I went VT, visited with Jane Gladowski for an hour, made bread & cleaned house - I had just started vacuuming when a lady came to see the house - 20 min earlier than I expected! Then went VT again, then fixed dinner. Such an exciting day.

Page No. 11 Mar 1981 Date

Mike's home - I'm so glad! It is so great to have him home

12 Nov - Didn't get much sleep - Mike & I wanted to talk & talk, so we talked till 12, then I was up at 5:30 to feed the baby - he woke up & we talked till 4:30, the Matthew was up again at 6, & the kids at 7. I went shopping & bought material & food, so I didn't get a nap. I'm freshed

13 Nov - cleaned house & cut out a dress. We went to a R.S. Spaghetti supper. Went to K Mart bought 4 tapes for the van. We're both feeling lousy & tired - should have stayed home!

14 Nov Sat Cleaned & sewed all day, but still didn't finish dress. We went to the Officers Wives Club dinner/dance. It was pretty good & enjoy going out with Mike, but I feel we could have enjoyed ourselves as much or more by staying home - & saved $30!

15 Nov - I just noticed the dates on the last 3 days - duh. I guess I'm tired! Our kids are growing so big & cute - I fixed Michelles hair with a ribbon & 2 little braids. She looked so darling! I've got to concentrate on making her more feminine. She needs new clothes, so I'm going to concentrate on sewing for her after I finish some sewing for me! It's 8pm & we're going to bed! TIRED

16 Nov Monday - I got up at 5:30 - I'm sore & didn't even take a nap! My big deal for the day was to clean our drawer - I scrubbed the hard water deposits & mildew off with hydrochloric acid - what a mess! It looks lots better, but it sure wore me out. My avon lady came today, & she said she'd buy some anway! So I guess we're off & running! I sure am pooped - Matthew is stuffed up and gassy, poor baby.

17 Nov Tues I felt really lousy today - all day I've been thinking - "oh no, what if I'm pregnant?" (It's possible) It's really got me down, besides feeling physically yukky. Now it's 10:15 & Matthews been up over 2 hours & won't get to sleep.

Date 18 March 1981 Mike's 29th Birthday! Page No.

What a hassel I went through this morning! I had a dental appt, but the dentist got sick, so dentist B was going to squeeze me in - Jane Hunt called & I told her & she called her hubby - Dentist C, & he said he had a cancellation & he'd do me. So he did - it was really a deep cavity. Then I had lunch with Mike, did a little shopping, then came home, cleaned a little, made Mike's cake & dinner. Steak - barbecued, baked spuds - it was good. I'm tired

19 March Thurs - I felt pretty good today - I did a lot of cleaning & washing, & I made bread, granola & yogurt - which really messed up the kitchen again. And we've got tons of clothes to fold & put away tomorrow.

20 March Friday - just cleaned, cooked & cooked today. Ah well - I did get ½ hr of sewing in. Matthews been eating a lot & very gassy today (course, the whole family has been that way for a week - I can't figure it out.) I've been nauseous off & on all day

21 Mar Sat Cleaned - sewed & finished a dress it's ok - but I sure am FAT. Mom called this am. & it was nice to talk to her.

22 Sun Church - it was good to all be together. I'm proud of my beautiful family. Watched "Gone With the Wind" on TV. So good.

23 Mar Mon - Well, we got an offer on our house tonight - $46,400. We'd clear about $1,000. We still are not sure if we're going to be moving tho & it's $2,400 below our asking price. If we sell & then decide to stay, where are we? In trouble! Course, if we'd stay in this house another year, we'd make a lot more money. Oh, I don't know! My gut feeling is we ought to keep the house, & stay here another year or so & work for Kenyon. Well, it's almost 11:30 & Matthews still wide awake & I'm ½ dead (tired)

24 March 1981 - Well, we decided we want to move, so we made a counter offer of $47,000. We hope they take it. Then, like I told Mike, I won't have to keep the house clean! We won't have to paint, either! And we can move May 15. So it should be good. I cut out Michelle's Easter Dress today. I'm going to sew & sew while Mike's gone - he's going to Salt Lake Thurs to interview & hunt for a job. Brett fell off his bed tonight - he seems ok tho. It's 11:15 again!

Well, they accepted the offer on our house! So we're feeling pretty good - course, we wonder if they'd have spent more. Oh well. I took Matthew to the dr for his well-baby check. He's doing just great. He weighs 11lbs 13oz, is 24" long. He had his 1st shot & really cried. Tonite we went to a seminar on insurance & investments & it sounds really good. We're going to talk to a guy about analyzing what we have & what we need. They served a free prime rib dinner - it was delicious!

26 March 1981 Thurs Mike left at 430am & called at 600 from Tucson - he couldn't find his ticket! Fortunately, he did find it in his suitcase. He interviewed with Mountain Bell today & said they were doing cartwheels over him & he told them if they'd offer him $20,000, he'd take it! And he told them he wants the offer before Apr 6 so he won't have to take that expensive trip to California. Sounds like a really good job - & the promotions are based entirely on his performance & ability, plus 100% tuition for advanced schooling. He's still going & try for the other jobs while he's up there, tho. I decided I'd spend the day cleaning the whole house, then from now on, I'd sew. Well, I cleaned & did washing all day, & it's STILL a MESS!! Oh brother. And tomorrow I have to make bread & granola! It's been so windy - it scares me! It sounds like our house is going to blow away. The curtains are blowing, but the windows are closed!

27 Mar 1981 Friday - I mopped & waxed kitchen/hall & it looks much better. The house is basically clean - & I even sewed for about 1½ hrs! I'm making Michelle's Easter dress - it's going to be really pretty (I hope.) Mike called & said he had a good talk with Kenton up there, & he's going to interview with TCW on Monday. He's really excited - he feels pretty confident that he'll get a job from this trip. I hope so. I really don't want him to go to California.

28 March 1981 Sat Today was a string of minor disasters. I called Mike, & while I was talking, Aaron turned on the bathroom sink & left it - when I noticed, the bathroom was flooded & soaking the hall carpet. Brett wet Michelle's bed, Matthew pooped all over himself & me - last night Aaron scribbled on the LR wall with pencil - the kids cleaned it off for me, tho. Matthew's been up all day, almost. He sure is a cutie tho. "Camelot" is on tv at 1030 tonite so I'm going to be dumb & stay up to see it. Mike called me this afternoon

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and he asked if I loved him. I said, sure, but I don't like you." I was just joking - mostly - I guess I was a little frustrated - he's up there on vacation & I'm stuck here with screaming, bawling, fighting kids. Boy, every time I asked or told Brett something, he bawled or screamed or something! Drove me crazy! And he trips, hits, makes faces at Aaron, & that makes Aaron cry & then Michelle yells at Brett - Meanwhile, I'm trying to take care of Matthew & he's bawling! What a riot! Anyway, I guess I was upset that Mike's gone over the weekend - I wish he could've arranged to have his interviews next week. But, he was trying to fix it so he's home on my birthday - so the poor guy can't win, I guess. Anyway, Mike felt really bad, & he called me up tonight to see if I really was mad at him - he said he was almost ready to fly home to-nite. Then I probably would have been mad at him for wasting the money! I sure am a grouch. I don't know how I got a neat hubby like him & I'm a creep.

Sun 29 Mar Boy, I've felt crappy today - & wallowing in self-pity, too. Such a baby! I didn't want to talk to Mike 'cuz I knew he'd worry about me & feel bad, but I called him anyway - I guess I can't stand him to be happy when I'm miserable.

So I bawled over the phone & he "preached" but it sure made me feel a lot better. He's so neat, & he understands me more than anybody in the world & he loves me anyway. I don't honestly know why, but I'm so glad. I wish I was worthy of his love. I feel that altho I have many problems, my basic, bottom line problem is lack of spirituality or sense of purpose. I've been resentful about this baby - altho I love him to bits - and, altho I've READ the scriptures every day since about October, it's a ritual (like prayer,) and I haven't gained anything from it, or gotten closer to the Lord. I've found myself rebelling - mentally about budget, meetings, visiting teaching, all sorts of things. I wonder if I still have a testimony - & where has it gone? Out the drain with the diaper water? I feel I've been so caught up in my mundane & unfortunately

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repetitive daily life & routine, that I've lost sight of any higher purposes - I feel like I go to church & pray from habit - I guess I shouldn't be writing this in my journal, but I think I have to honestly face my feelings. I feel like my prayers all get stuck on the ceiling. However, I know we sold our house only through prayer & because Heavenly Father helped, & I've been overwhelmed with the thought that we're really blessed in that manner - even though I don't deserve it. Well I'm really tired & rambling on - one final thought, though - I feel like I should hang in there & keep trying, because it seems like I go through these feelings almost every time after I have a baby - Why, I don't know - but it seems to be that way.

30 Mar Today was a much better day for me. I got most my work done, did diapers & 2 other loads & hung them out, & I almost finished Michelle's Easter dress! It's so gorgeous - White sheer & opaque tricot with ruffles, lace, & pink ribbon. I love it. Now I'm going to make her a matching, 3 tier slip. She stayed up & watched Heidi with me tonite. Today around 1, Mike called & told me to turn on the news - Pres. Reagan had been shot - plus 3 other guys. Really sad. Pres Reagan has surgery & remove the bullet, but is fine - The others are serious or critical. Matthew sure was fussy today. My Avon lady came & brought some lip gloss, powder & perfume I ordered for Michelle's birthday. It's so cute. And she brought $16 worth of Amway! Neat. I've decided I'm really not that sold on Amway - I think most of the stuff is too expensive..

31 Mar 1981 Mike came home about 5:30 tonight - it's so good to have him home again. Brett fell out of his bed last night & scared me to death, but he seemed ok - I had him sleep with me. Don't Cheron on the toilet this morning to see if I could catch his BM - I didn't, but he did urinate & that was exciting. The people who are buying our home are willing to close whenever we want to! So it's great.

Date 1 April 1981 Wed My 26th Birthday! Page No.

I had a nice day today - actually, I didn't do a darn thing. I read a good RD Condensed book, rested for an hour this morning, a hell matthew a lot. Mike did some shopping at the commissary & charcoaled a good steak for us. We had fresh strawberry shortcake & it was yummy. Baron peed in the toilet again - it surprised him + me! I talked to a lot of people today on the phone - including the girl who's buying the house. She's really nice, & she expressed the feeling that "someone above" helped them get this house. Neat. Mike's folks gave me $40.

2 April 1981 Thurs - I made up for yesterday's laziness. I did washing, & general straightening, but I really cleaned the kitchen fan (it was FILTHY - I don't think it had been cleaned its whole life! And no filter, so it was worse) Then I cleaned the stove & oven - then put a silicone glaze on it & wow! It looks like new! Matthew cried for about an hour & a half. Poor Baby - I didn't know what to do! I cut out Michelle's slip - I'd like to get it done tomorrow.

3 April 1981 Fri - I got a "stack perm" today - sure is different! Looks like I have a ton of hair. Mike doesn't like it - I'm not sure I like it either, but it's fun to have something different. Then I took Michelle & Brett to the dentist - Dr Vandre (our home teacher) did it for us. Michelle was fine, but Brett had 5 fillings in 3 teeth! Dr Vandre worked on him for about 2 hrs - & Brett fell asleep for most the time! Then we went to a correlation dinner - it was good. It's 12 & I'm dead!

4 Apr Boy - I'm so tired. It's 11:15 & I've been busy all day. We got to hear conf on the radio - it was great & I'll get it again. Between the 2 sessions, I went to visit a lady in the R.S. I'd never met her, but she's been sick & depressed. I did get my house straightened up & mostly vacuumed. I set my hair on the rollers & it looks better. Still weird, but better.

5 April ~~Monday~~ Sunday Conf. Today we listened to conf & it was so neat. We just took it easy all day. Boy, do we have a lot to do to get ready. Still no word from Mountain Bell & Mike's worried. I don't think he should be.

6 April Monday - I ran errands all afternoon - I went to the dentist & I'm all filled now. I bought me some glasses & Mike some contacts & a bunch of junk at the PX. Mountain Bell called Mike & made an offer $1,500 less than they said before! So now we don't know what to do. I'm tired

Page No. 7 April 1981 Date

Today I cleaned, made bread, caught up on the washing, did a little sewing & fixed dinner for Vandres & us. It was good - chicken, rice, jello vegs, apple crisp w/ ice cream. Then I cleaned out some cupboards & decided what to take with us. It's 10:30 & I'm tired!

8 Apr Wed - I worked all day getting the kitchen ready. It's after 11 & we're still packing. I'm tired

10 Apr We got ready for the movers 'till midnight last night - so tired. Mike's office gave him a farewell dinner - & he got the Army Commendation Medal. I'm so proud of him - everyone thinks he's neat - especially me! The movers came all day & packed up everything - we've got boxes all over, but we still have our furniture. We went to Vandres for dinner - it was so good. I'm pooped.

12 Apr - We went to old Tucson yesterday - it was really interesting but hot & tiring. Poor Matthew. Today was a nice day, but hardly anyone knew we were leaving, & I felt no one cared. My own fault, I guess. Still, it makes me sad that no one will miss us or even notice we left.

14 Apr - Yesterday (13 - Mon) the movers took all our stuff, & I cleaned 'till 10. We slept on the floor. Today we closed at 8:30, then I cleaned all day 'till 2:30 - I was pooped! We checked into the Holman house (same place we stayed when we got here.) A whole year - it sure has gone fast. Then I picked up our closing check - $1,327, & turned in our phones, got dinner at Wendys. My throat is really sore tonite

22 April 1981 Well, we're in Salt Lake, staying at my Aunt Ramonas. We stopped in Provo & saw Sheri & Judy, then got to Ogden on Thurs. Friday we looked at houses all day, & Sat, too. I got sicker & sicker, but I'm feeling better now. Sat we found a house we really liked & we made an offer on it yesterday (Tues 21), but now we're kind of hoping he won't accept, 'cuz we've found some others that look promising. Vicki & Ron came today - & we went to dinner at a health food place - it was so good & fun to see her.

Date 23 April 1981 Aaron's 2nd Birthday Page No.

Today Aaron was 2. The kids gave him some little toys this morning, & Mike & I gave him a little hot wheels trike to ride. I made him a doggie cake - it turned out cute -

24 April 1981 Friday. This afternoon Mike's parents came out & we looked at houses. We went in one that I just LOVE but it costs $69,500. It has 4 big bedrooms & is totally finished, with a big yard & double garage. If our offer falls through, we might try for an offer on this one.

26 April Sun We went to sac. meeting, then came home. Brett's been really coughing since Friday - Fri his temp was 103.6° orally. He seems to be doing better though. This evening we went over to see Aunt LaRee - she seems pretty much in the dumps, & I felt like we didn't help. I met Nancy - haven't seen her for ages. She's really had a hard time of it.

5 May 1981 Michelle's 6th Birthday

I can't believe my little baby daughter is 6 years old. She's getting to be such a big girl, & I love her so much! Today we made her a swan cake - it turned out pretty cute. I took her to see Alice in Wonderland. Grandma & Grandpa W sent her $10 & she spent $6 tonite on some Barbie pets & clothes. We gave her a new Barbie - she love it, an etch a sketch & some sandals. She's beginning to act so much older. She can really be helpful. I sure love her. I haven't written 'cuz I can't even find a pen! Sunday we went to church at our own ward - Hunter 2nd Ward. I was really impressed & everyone - at least some of em - were very friendly.

7 May - didn't do much today. Matthew rolled over front-back. He's doing better with his cold - yesterday & the day before he was pretty bad. Something went wrong with the car. It'll cost $175. or 6 to get it fixed. We just spent $60 last week or so.

Today we went to Ogden & got a TV and chest of drawers from Mike's parents. Then we went to an air show at HAFB and the BX & Comm. Our last time! At the air show, one of the planes crashed & killed the pilot. We didn't see it, but it was pretty sad.

10 May 1981 Sunday Mother's Day Today was a neat day - Mike gave me a beautiful card, then after church we went to Ogden for a delicious roast beef dinner. We watched slides & Mike & Sheri played & the kids danced - they were so darling; I love them so much! I had a headache all day.

11 May 1981 Mon - today I tried to clean the house - it's so frustrating - it's always a mess! And it's the kids toys - mostly. I get discouraged.

12 May 1981 Tues I did more today - I got the house all cleaned up - basically. We called Ft Huachuca today again about my glasses - they'll send them tomorrow. They better. I called twice yesterday & they said they'd ~~[illegible]~~ call me today, & they didn't. It upsets me but I'll live

19 May 1981 Tuesday - Wow, lots has happened. I was going to come to Idaho with John (Judy's fiancee) but Thurs he called & said he couldn't go - So Mike said he'd take me. I felt bad, cuz it'd cost so much, but he brought me Fri nite & left Sat am. He had to swear into the reserves Sat - he'll be a cantonese C.O.(?) for military intelligence! He's excited about it. Sat I went to some garage sales, then to a lady's house. We bought some t-shirts & material. Then I went to Vicki's, helped her clean house talked & talked till 10. Sunday after church we went to Steve & Kendas. it was fun to reminisce. I called Mike, & was really grouchy to him for some dumb reason. Monday I visited Diane, talked to Kenda on the phone all afternoon, talked to Roxanne for a while, then went to FAE. Mike called me over there & told me his parents are giving us their piano! And those nice chairs that match! I can't believe it. They do so much for us, & I appreciate it, but somehow I resent it, for I feel that gives them that much more control.

Date_____ Page No._____

Today I went to the fabric store with Mom & got bridesmaids blouses & her dress material & pattern. Then I went to Linda's & helped her out a little & visited. Brett & Michelle rode a horse bareback! I am so exhausted, & so are the kids. We really enjoyed being here - its fun, but I do wish Mike could be here & enjoy it with me. (I bet he'd be bored stiff tho.)

24 May 1981 Mike - John (Judy's fiancé) came up Friday night. Yesterday we spent the morning at the temple - it was so special because it doesn't seem like 7 years since we were married - it was great. Mike sang in church today. He was so good, I was so proud, & everyone was impressed. We went to Kenda & Steve's to watch Pollyanna - it was good. We enjoyed visiting with them.

25 May 1981 Monday Memorial Day This morning I packed, & Mike checked out Mom's Dryer - it's broken. We finally left about 3 & got home at Aunt Ramona's 9 - had some detours, kinda. Its good - kinda - to be back - but I wish we were in our own home! I'm so glad I got to go spend the week there - it was so fun.

31 May 1981 Sunday 7th Wedding Anniversary Boy, I can't believe we've been married for 7 years! It's gone by so fast, yet I also feel like it's been a long time. Tonight we reminisced about what we've done & where we've been the past 7 years - & we wonder where we'll be & what we'll do for the next 7. I wonder if we'll still be in Salt Lake? I guess it's possible - but I can't really imagine settling down. I think Salt Lake is a neat place to be. We went to our ward in Hunter again - everyone is so nice. I can't wait to get settled in & start doing things with the ward. We drove up to Mike's folks house today & wish his Dad "Happy Birthday" - tomorrow is his birthday. We came home - tired - but it's neat to be able to run up & see them, & come home again, all in an afternoon. I love Mike - I'm sure glad I married him.

Monday night Mike & I went to the movie "Jazz Singer" with Neil Diamond. It was really good. Aunt Ramona kept the kids, & Matthew bawled for 1½ hrs. Poor kid. Poor Aunt Ramona. Last night, Mike took Michelle & Brett to see the Lone Ranger. They loved it. I got Matthew's second DPT/Polio shot - he's been real grumpy. Today we slept in till 9. I cleaned all day & did some mending - & the house is a MESS again. I get so tired of it. My flowerbeds are all long & beautiful & don't think they've ever looked like this. It's fun.

Saturday 6 June 1981 I called Alene Cannon - friend from Germany - talked for ½ hour - it was fun to talk to her. Then I called Mom - she ordered some pictures - I had taken from Alice Mills - she said they were really good $20 for an 8x10 & 4 5x7's & all the proofs. Mike worked today, then about 5 we got some Kentucky Fried Chicken & had a picnic at the park. There were seagulls & the kids loved em, a lake, & a stream. We all waded in the freezing water! It was so fun & we all enjoyed it. I think we need to have happy family experiences like that more often. I feel that we're usually grumpy too much! Mike's bills told us tonight they'll pay the rest of the fridge! Yea! Cuz we're really low on money! I don't know where it's all gone.

Sunday 7 June 1981 Today I fasted & felt really good. Church was enjoyable - we had temple recommend interviews. Bishop Batt is a neat guy. We had a family council outside. Then Mike & I discussed budget tonite. I think we got some good ideas - now we have to implement them. We can!

Wed 10 June I went to Ed Week last night & tonight - it's been pretty good. Today we CLOSED on the house! Yea! Then we went over to the house & looked at it. We're so excited to move - they were packing up & getting ready to go. Can't wait! We've got a good babysitter - Sister Bergstrom R.S. Pres - & her daughter - & she wouldn't let us pay. Mike got a call from the stake to go talk to the Stk President tomorrow night - & I'm spposed to go too.

Thurs 11 June Thurs - Mike was called as Ward Mission Leader. We got our temple recommends. I cleaned the oven really good & sewed on my blouse - I keep making mistakes. I took a sleeve out, then put the other one in the other side, so now I have to take it out (to change armholes). I guess that's what I don't enjoy sewing so much - cuz I have too many interuptions, & I forget where I am!

Date Friday June 12, 1981 Page No. _____

I finished my blouse today; Aunt Ramona did the button holes for me - so now I just have to do the buttons, & I'll be done! I cleaned out some cupboards today & tonight I cleaned the LR rug - it looks better. I'm tired & can't WAIT to get into our house!!

Sunday June 14, 1981 Tomorrow! We stopped by our house today after church - they were all cleared out, so we looked all over & I looked at the fridge - it's neat. We're so excited.

Monday June 22, 1981 Well, we moved in last Monday, & got the piano & chairs from Mike's folks. Tues 23, the movers came. Everything seems to be in good shape. Wednesday Mike's folks & Rex came & helped, & brought a big Boston Fern, plants & hangs. Thurs. Rex & Carrie came for dinner. I've been trying to unpack, but it's a mess, & I have a Million interruptions! Sat we went to Lagoon with all Mike's family - it was fun, but so exhausting. Sheri left her purse in our car, & so we went to take it back to her - & they had car trouble! So we saved 'em. It was neat. Sun we went to Ogden & had a very nice meal. This is the 1st time since Rex & Carrie got married that their whole family has been together. Today I concentrated on cleaning a VERY messy house - tonite we went to Superman II for AE. It was pretty good, but it's 12:30 & I'm Pooped!!!

Tuesday June 23, 1981 I cleaned all day - mostly. The house looks much better. I called Kenda to make sure it's ok for us to stay there - she was on her way to a shower for Judy - I wish I could be there. Apparently John is really having 2nd thoughts & is worried about "tying the knot." I hope everything works out ok for them.

Friday June 26th - JUDY'S WEDDING This has been a very beautiful, but tiring day! This morning was so special to see all our family in the Temple. The ceremony was beautiful, & so were John & Judy - Mr & Mrs Morgan! It was so neat - just like heaven. Busy Busy Day - the reception was nice - so tiring! It's after 12 & I'm sorry am I tired! Michelle said "My feet feel like they have bruises on them!" The kids were just darling - & even looked good!

Page No Monday June 29, 1981 Date

I got up at 10 to 6 this morning, fed Matthew, then jumped rope & walked around the yard- it was a beautiful morning. I really got quite a bit done today. I went grocery shopping after Mike got home- spent $109 - I thought it'd be $50 more! I was so excited! I guess it won't be so bad- not having a commissary. For FHE tonight, we talked about patriotism- it was pretty good. Its 11pm tired

Tues June 30 1981 Had RS Homemaking Day- I went to a Designer Jeans class- it was very interesting- I'd like to take a full class & cleaned house, & it looks better all the time. The kids keep the downstairs in chaos, tho. I thought Judy & John would come to nite- but no word. Its 11:30 & I'm very tired & I feel like I'm getting sick- sore throat, mainly.

Wed July 1, 1981 I sure feel rotten all day - & so I accomplished nothing- which makes me dislike myself, feel sorry for myself, & I feel worse. My body's been aching, my head & throat hurts. Mike came home, & told me to just fix whatever would be easiest for me. Nice, huh. Then I had a ton of dishes (all day) & he came in several times to tell me he loves me. He checked out the budget- & we're $500 overdrawn, & the $900 we already owe the bank- so it looks like it'll be a long time before we get a dishwasher. Well, everything kinda all piled up- I was hot & feeling sorry for myself, then he came in to tell me he loved me & goodnight- & he pointed out a piece of rice on a dish- so I threw it in the sink & started bawling- then I went outside to cool off- it's so cool & beautiful & peaceful out there. I laid in the grass for about 15-20 min, & felt much better. I'm really tired- sure hope I have a good sleep. Tomorrow will be better

Friday July 3 Thurs, last night, Judy & John came for dinner & slides- it was fun. They didn't leave until about 12. Yesterday I really organized the basement & packed stuff away- it looks so much better. Today I did yesterdays dishes & I was so tired, I didn't do much else. We barbequed hamburgers & made homemade icecream, & Cat sparklers. It was fun. Judy brought the pictures of the kids down from Clan Mills- they're darling I just love em.

Date Sunday, 5 July 1981

Page No.

Last night we went to Provo to see an Osmond show + patriotic show - it was really neat - but we didn't get home 'till 1:00. We left Aaron + Matthew with a babysitter - when we got home, Aaron was up + coughing + feverish. It sure seems like an ear infection to me. If it doesn't get better, we'll take him to a dr. tomorrow. Also, Matthew has what looks like cankers in his throat - so I guess we'll have him checked too. Mike's parents + Keri came today + had lunch + stayed until about 6. It was fun to just talk. I'm really tired.

Monday 6 July 1981 Aaron is feeling pretty good today, but he had a rough night last night Matthew woke up every couple of hours, too, so I was pretty worn out. I did get quite a bit done, tho - I really cleaned the inside of the van - it looks good. We've decided to sell it.

Tuesday 7 July 1981 I made bread, 2 batches of cookies + yogurt today, + I ironed all the ironing - it was a ton! Then Mary Jo Carlile came over + asked if I wanted to go to an exercise group with her - so I did. However, we couldn't find it, so we went to her house (kitty corner behind us) + exercised. Whoa, what a workout! I'm bushed.

Wed 8 July 1981 - boy am I sore today! But I did some more exercises tonite. I'm going to get skinny! (er) I signed up for a jeans class next week. I talked to Mary Jo again - she's really nice. I found an ad for a dishwasher for $300 - usually $420. I really like it, + I thought I'd put it on layaway, but Sears doesn't layaway appliances. Shucks.

Thurs 9 July 1981 I didn't accomplish much today - went to visit Helen Bennecore - DeAnna's (Claudia's wife) cousin in our ward. She's really nice + Michelle + her 2 girls (7 + 5 age) get along really well. I went grocery shopping + spent $80 at Harmon's - I'm not all that impressed. It took me a long time to get everything! I also went to 2 places to look at dishwashers on sale - a GE, $255 - was off + on - black/white. Yuk. Sears has a $420 for $300 - I really like it - it's a step up from our last one. Mike said we could get it! Yea! Keri came tonight + is staying here - she's flying to LA tomorrow.

(oops - goofed - see next page for Friday)

Page No._____ Date_____

Sun - Today was a nice day - I feel lots better tonight. I guess lately I've been feeling "resentful" about a lot of things - why, I don't know. But today I feel better. Monday - last night when I went to bed my neck hurt a little - it got worse all night to where it made me cry to turn my head. Oh it was bad - then I couldn't sleep for over an hour because I couldn't get comfortable. It hurt all day - I had to look down to the right - I could look right, but not left. I had a hair appointment & I drove to it, but it was difficult. My hair is in a short wedge again, & I like it, but see have to get used to styling it again. I called Mom & she said I should go to a chiropractor, but Mike said I couldn't. It sure does hurt.

Tuesday - My neck feels a LOT better now - just a slight ache. My shoulder (which was 2 inches higher than the other one) is about normal. I took the kids to the Primary Parade & party from 11-330 - what a long day! Then I really cleaned up the house fast & it looks better. Mom called & I went to see how I was. I watched a good movie - "2 Faces of Jenny Logan" it was really good.

Thursday - July 16 I picked up Patrese (my niece) & Michelle, my cousin, & we ran all over - went to Valley Fair Mall & looked all over for some denim. They were lots of help with the kids. I bought Brett & Aaron some sandals, & as soon as we were out of the store Brett started bawling he didn't like them. I remember why I never take them shopping! Then I took them home & we had lunch, then I went to a store & bought some denim & a pattern & notions (100), then spent $25 at the store on milk & fruit. Sickening. Then when Mike came home, we went to the temple & did initiatory work - 13 names. Then we did a session & it was neat. We didn't get home until 10:30

Fri 17 July I'm pooped. Started training Aaron today. He's a cutie & I think he'll catch on pretty soon. I worked all day & didn't get any progress made! Discouraging.

Sat 18 July 1981 I cleaned, washed & baked today! I really got a LOT done, but it's 1:30 & I'm pooped. Mike hung some pictures tonight - it looks better. His folks popped in today for a while - mowed the lawn & edged some. I gave them some bread & cookies - they seemed pleased. I was sure embarrassed cuz I hadn't done my hair or makeup & I had Mike's ugly polyester nightwaters on. Anyway - I'll be fun to see Mom & Dad tomorrow. Aaron went in the potty 2ce today - all the other times he wet his pants - & twice he messed in 'em! Argh!

Date Sunday 19 July

Page No.

Mom & Dad came today - we visited, ate dinner, then they went to Lances to see the family. We were up till about 12 & pooped

Monday 20 July I accomplished zilch today - Mom & Dad left about 9 a.m. I washed diapers, cut out Michelle's jeans, & made dinner. That's all. Didn't even do dishes it's a mess. Aaron wet his pants all day - he went in the potty maybe twice! I set him on there & he sits for 5 min, & doesn't do anything, then 30 min late he's wet! We watched TV tonite - what a waste of time! But I was too tired to do anything. It's so discouraging!

Wed 22 July Went to sewing class today - it was fun - makes me want to get busy sewing. Tried to work on my talk tonite. Gave Matthew beans & cereal tonite - he likes food!

Friday 24 July - Today was a long day, but fun. We went to the parade & watched it for a couple of hours - it was HOT. Then Mikes parents & Sheri met us at Liberty park, & we had lunch. Then they took Matthew, & Mike Sheri & the 3 kids went to the rodeo. It was pretty good; not the best I've ever seen, tho. It was inside the Salt Palace. Then we just came home & collapsed. Matthew turned back to front! ★ !!!! OH! [Thurs 23 July] How could I forget? YESTERDAY MIKE BOUGHT ME A NEW SEARS DISHWASHER! It is really neat & we stayed up late looking at it all the instructions, so that's why I didn't write last night.

Sat 25 July - Mike installed my dishwasher today - it took from 11-2:30 to go buy the stuff, and until after 11 pm to get it in. He sure worked hard - & his thumbs & elbows & fingers all are sore. I sure do appreciate his sacrifice for me - & so complain when I have to iron a shirt! Anyway, I put all the dishes from today & yesterday in - there are a few remaining. I cleaned, washed, shopped, & tried to work on my talk today - I need an hour to polish it up - maybe I'll get up at 4 am. I'm really tired tho.

Sun 26 July Mike & I spoke in church today - it turned out really well. I talked about being happy, & Mike talked about obstacles to success. Mike's parents & Sheri came down & watched the kids & fixed dinner - it was so yummy. I'm really going to try to be happier because I do have so many blessings, & I should be happy! Aaron & Matthew are both sick tonite - they both keep waking & bawling. I think Aaron ate too many apricots & I think Matthew may be a little constipated & it's hard for him to have a BM cuz there's more to it! I'm extremely tired.

Page No. Friday July 10, 1981 Date

Today has been a weird day. I had to get all the stuff ready & packed for the campout - & that took all day, plus I was just tired & was a little upset, I guess, that Mike left it all for me to do. Mike's parents came down today & transplanted some tomatoes for us, laid some sod, & mowed the grass. They worked so hard & it was so hot - I was worried about them - I was going to call Sears & order the dishwasher, but then we got an American Express Bill today for $300 for car repairs. So forget the dishwasher! Boy, that kills me. Michelle & I had pizza for dinner, then popped popcorn & carmeled it & watched tv. So fun! But I really am pooped & I stuffed myself with that dumb carmelcorn, & I'm still stiff. & I just feel lousy. It's kind of a "what the heck" feeling.

Monday July 27 July I did some cleaning & a bunch of mending today Today we went to FHE at Ray & Louise Smullin's for a barbeque. It was good & fun. I made the pockets for Michelle's jeans today - they're so cute.

Wednesday - July 29 1981 Yesterday was homemaking day, & I made Brett a Superman - Batman cape. It's really cute. Went to exercise class, & I'm sore today. Not real bad tho. Today Prince Charles & Lady Diana were married - how exciting! I had my jeans class - it was fun & they're turning out SO darling. We're almost done! Mike's parents came tonite & brought us some apricots - so tomorrow I'll be busy. I've been feeling really happy & satisfied lately. (Maybe I'm finally getting over the post-partum blues!) I think Matthew sleeping longer at night helps.

Thursday July 30 1981 I put up 14 qts of apricots this morning, 2 trays fruit leather, & 3 qts puree. Then I made Michelle's wonder woman / supergirl cape, & Aaron's batman cape. I stayed up to watch the news & M*A*S*H (DUMB) & it's 11:30 & we're tired.

Friday - Today I cut out 7 tops for Michelle and 3 prs jeans. My legs are really aching tonite. We barbecued out & ate out side. I'm tired.

Sat AUGUST 1ST 1981 I cleaned & Mike worked till 200 - then at 330 I went shopping - saved $5.00 w/ coupons on a $100 groc. Then we went to a ward picnic - it was ok, but I didn't get the kids to bed till 10, & to after 11 & the kitchen is still a mess - I shouldn't go places on Sat pite. I called Judy & talked a long time (40 min?) They've decided to try for the Air Force - it's hard for them 'cuz they're not doing anything & no privacy etc. I feel sorry for her & him.

Sun Aug 2nd 1981 Today was a good day. I taught the 4yr olds - oh how fun! It was frustrating... I girl especially. Anyway - it was interesting. I'm going to get up early & get exercising & get

Date Monday August 3rd, 1981 Page No.

I got a lot done today - cut up a bunch of apricots to dry - they're partially dry, but need to be out in the sun tomorrow. Lorie Ogden, a neighbor, gave me a bunch of apricots & apricot puree & I made 3 fruit leathers & 3 or 4 qts of frozen apricot pineapple dessert. It's yummy! I made bread, cleaned kitchen & bathrooms, washing, put away clothes - we went out to Shakeys Pizza for dinner, & Temple Square for talk. It was fun. I rode Mike's bike at 6:30 this morning, & really loved it!

Tuesday Aug 4, 1981 Mike didn't wake me up this a.m., but Aaron did, at 6:50, & so I took a quick turn around a few blocks. I really enjoy it. I took the kids to Michelle's school to sign her in & walked all over looking at the school. It's really nice. That exhausted all of us, so we all took a nap. I went to Sprouse-Reitz & bought corduroy - enough for pants for Mike Me, & I for Michelle. They're going to be neat!

Wed Aug 5 Mike didn't wake me again today, & I had to get up & get the kids up so we could take him to the VA hospital for a discharge physical. He called tonight from Vernal, he's there for work, & everything's ok. I went to my sewing class, & got discouraged because my machine was skipping stitches on topstitching the waistband. I wish I could get a new machine! Anyway, I was Roped when I came home, so I did dinner & straighted up the kitchen - that's about all. Mike's mom called to see how everything was going.

Thurs Aug 6 I "sewed all day" between interruptions, that is. I got 2 prs of jeans almost done. They really look good. I just have to sew the inseam waistband & belt loops! Mike said he's feeling better today - I'm glad. It's almost 11:30 & I'm pooped!

Fri Aug 7 Taught 4 yr old class (Brett's) today. It wasn't as bad as last week - it was kinda fun

Mon - Cleaned & washed today. Vicki came & brought her kids around 4. It's fun to have her here.

Tues 11 Aug We talked, made bread, & cut out jeans today. We left at 3 & did some shopping - then we picked up Mike & went to the 5:00 session at the temple. We didn't get home till 10:00! It was Vicki's first time to the SL temple - it was neat.

Wed 12 Aug Today we sewed mostly & just about got Vicki's jeans done. They're cute, but we spent about 2 hrs getting the pockets to look right!

Page No._____ Date_____

Thursday 13 Aug 1981 - We got a babysitter (again) & went downtown this a.m. We went to several factory outlets & got a lot of errands done - including Matthew's DPT shot. I realized later tonite they didn't give him any polio drops. I'll have to call & check on that. Then tonight, Mike had to go home teaching, so Vicki & I went to Promised Valley. It was really good - but I felt let down, for some reason. Ours in K-town was better - & so was Mike!

Friday 14 Aug Vicki left around noon - what a mess this house was (is). The kids & she really helped tho. I was exhausted, I was up with Matthew twice in the night - he was feverish & uncomfortable. We all 5 had a good long nap - a Miracle!

Sat 15 Aug 1981 I had such a hard time getting moving today - my legs felt like rubber! Mike worked till after 3 - I cleaned & made bread. Tonite Mike said he wants me out of the study - my sewing, that is. That made me feel bad & I feel really selfish for wanting to stay in there, & I feel he's really selfish for wanting me out! So I don't know what to do. I have an appt. with the Bishop tomorrow - anything but nursery, please!

Sun Well, I got called to teach Star-B; 5 year olds. I think it might be Michelle's class. I think it will be fun. We were all tired, so we took naps today.

Tuesday 18 Aug 1981 Yesterday & today I cleaned, washed, & sewed jeans. I've almost finished 2 more pair of jeans for Michelle. They're so cute. I'm not feeling too swift. I've had gas & diarrhea all day, but tonight's been worse. I'm tired -- Pooped --

Wed 19 Aug 1981 I sewed & cleaned - Michelle's 5 pr of jeans are done & so cute! And I made 2 blouses for her & one for me - they're cute. I went V.T. tonite & it was fun - we (Teri Maples) visited Mary Beck - married 2 weeks & 2 days. It was fun.

Thurs 20 Aug 1981 Tonite was the choir party - we went to hear the tabernacle choir rehearse it was neat. Then we had ice cream. It's 11pm & I'm pooped.

Sun - Last Friday 21, we went camping - it was so fun. It rained a little & stormed, but it was a beautiful place. Sat we ate, broke camp, & went for a "hike" along the river. Last night we had a 70's party. It was fun. Today I've had an upset stomach & diarrhea & so I've felt yukky. I taught Michelle's class - 3 six year olds. They were good. Tonite Mike gave Michelle a blessing tonight. It was special - so is she. She's a sweetie & I love her. She's really growing up.

Matt has 3 teeth!

Date 24 Aug 1981 Page No.

Matt's 4th tooth is out!

Today was all clean, wash, & put away! Romells were supposed to come for dinner, but they couldn't. I feel frustrated about my relationships with Mike - I feel he's the most wonderful man in the world - & I know he'd do anything for me & I love him dearly - so I'm frustrated that our intimate relationship isn't better. So we had a long talk about it - but no conclusions.

25 Aug 1981 Tues R.S this am, then cleaned (some) at 5, Mike Michelle & Brett & I went downtown, bought Michelle 2 prs of shoes ($31 gag) & went to see Promised Valley. It was fun - I'm Roped. Matthew is 7 mo old today!

27 Aug 1981 Thursday - Michelle's 1st Day of 1st Grade! Mary Jo watched my kids while I walked Michelle to school. She was so excited - I was so proud of her - she didn't know a single person, but she did so well! As I went out, I felt like crying for a moment, but then I saw someone I knew, & so I didn't cry. It was strange without her home all day - I missed her especially at lunch. It was sad for me to think she's growing so fast - my only daughter! She's such a cutie, & I love her so much. After I left her in her class, I walked back to see how she was doing, & she was sitting at her own little desk, looking around. It was hard for me, but I'm so proud of her.

28 Aug 1981 Friday Last nite Mike & I went to her Hong Kong Children's Choir at the Tabernacle & we took Mary Jo & Steven Carlile with us. Then went to Snelgrove's For Banana Splits. It was fun. At Snelgrove's I saw Bruce Sedgwick from High School. Weird to see someone like that.

31 Aug 1981 Sat nite Mary Jo brought my peaches over - she'd picked them up for me in Provo, & we were just starting to eat, so I had them eat with us. It was fun, but hectic. Sun we went to Mike's parents for dinner - they gave us a bushel of peaches, so today I put up 40 qts of peaches, & I made peach butter, but burned it, so I had to throw it out. Shucks. I'm Pooped, but I enjoy canning - or at least the accomplishment.

Sept 2 - Today I canned about 40 qts tomatoes & I am beat. I feel dead all over. I made soup, & it turned out awful, & it was a lot of work, & I made tom sauce, but it was too much work to be worth it. I am DEAD.

We came up to Idaho Sat, & everybody came over - we played cards & ate ice cream - it was a riot. Sun we went to church, visited with Linda's family & Colleen's family - the kids Michelle Brett & Aaron rode the horse - Michelle rode it alone - & she ran & loved it (I nearly had heart failure). Mon - Labor day, we went to Island Park & saw Mom & Didi's land - it's going to be neat. We painted the new outhouse Dee built. Tues we came home

11 Sept - Friday Mike & I did some inlatory work & it was enjoyable but Dee Jean [illegible] Speaking of which, Judy called last week & told us she's pregnant & excited. That's neat. During the weekend John got really sick - & Judy took him to the hospital - spinal meningitis! But he's ok now. That sure was scary

13 Sept Sun - Diane & Scott Fred came down tonite - he has a 2 day school here. It's fun to see her.

14 Sept Mon We visited all day & I started my cards so I could show her how to do it. Scott wanted to go out to dinner so we went to the "Royal Palace" (I'd heard it advertised & thought it sounded neat) It was NEAT! Like $24 each, SO we walked out (duh) but it was funny. We ended up at diamond lil's & it was ok, but we spend $30 that we didn't have.

15 Sept Tues We just talked all day & sewing - & my cards just hang on me & look stupid. Tonite I went V.T. 6-30 to 8 pm then had a practice for the bazaar at 8 - 10:30. I'm dead! It was so fun tho. Diane left about 3:30

17 Sept Thurs Today Pete & Arlene Connon & their 3 kids came to see us - it was fun to see them. She's lost over 100 lbs & looks good! Tonite we went to B/U for Barry Manilow concert - WOW it was great

Date_____ Page No._____

8 Sept 1987 Yesterday I got two bushes of peaches & 2 of pears, & spent the day doing peaches. I enjoy canning. Gives me a feeling of accomplishment.

10 Sept 1981 Stk conf today was good. My neck is really starting to hurt again

21 Sept 1981 Mon I put up 14 qts of pears - what a pain - & 4 pts peach pear butter. That's about it. & went to see the salt lake - walked out to it & just about got eaten up by mosquitos! It was awful. We took Aunt Reva's ring to Aunt Loree's.

22 Sept 1981 Tues I washed & folded clothes, cleaned, planned shopping, cut out some things for the bazaar, went shopping $50 - $6 saved with coupons not enough, but I'm learning, I guess. $25 of that was contact lens stuff. Then I came home, ate, went to a practice for bazaar. I'm pooped. Brett's arm are awful - red, puffy

23 Sept Wed I did 14 more qts of pears today - I'll sure be glad when this is done! I felt scruddy today & the house is a mess.

24 Thurs. I cleaned & finished my stuff for the bazaar. I made 2 casserole carriers & pair of jeans, & 10 hair decorations. Mary Jo showed me how - they're beads & feathers, & cute. I thought I led a room mothers meeting today. To look my kids, & I walked over & when I got there, I looked at the invitation & it was Monday! D.A.

25 Sept Friday - Bazaar - I cleaned up, did 7 qts pears (done) (those things were so little I put 10 pears in each quart!) Bonite was the bazaar. I was shocked at the small turnout. There were cute things, but not enough of em. There were only a couple of things I really wanted, but 10 seconds after the buying began, they were gone. I think twice amount of the stuff would have sold. They made $1500 Mike's folks came down to see us perform. It was pretty good, although some of our practices have been better. Mike & I sang a number together - "I'd do Anything" & it was fun & turned out pretty good. We got a lot of compliments on it

Matthew had a fever of 102.5 today, so Mike & the kids went to sac meeting, & he came home & I went to primary. I was a little frustrated because the lesson was too short, & the kids were all giggly & answered everything backwards or opposite what they should say. I had a headache & didn't feel to swift anyway. I wrote to Doris Hardy & Marilyn Warren. Vicki called today & it was fun to talk to her. Yesterday we bought lumber for shelves ($80) cowboy boots for Brett & Aaron & ballet slippers for Michelle ($50), & 4 fruit trees - apple (4 variety) peach, pear & apricot. Mike planted 1.

30 Sept 1981 Wednesday I've been busy - Matt's been sick - Monday his temp was 104.6°, but it was lower, then normal by tues nite - he gets hot off & on. Tonite I heard Don Aslett; It was entertaining, but nothing I didn't know. Yesterday in RS we heard a lady give encouragement on being beautiful, so I decided again to get up in the mornings & exercise & organize myself. Got up at 6:30 & exercised. Pooped the

1 October 1981 Thurs I got up at 6:30, exercised etc - & I felt awful all day! Like I'd been run over by a truck! But I feel a little better tonite. I took Brett to his gymnastics class - he was a little shy at first, but now he likes it. It was cute, I was watching him & Matthew crawled over my legs & hit his face right smack on the hard floor - cut his lip & it looked like his gum. Poor baby. He's got a rash on his face, head & torso - so I think he's probably has roseola.

3 October 1981 Sat I started a book Sacaguwea yesterday - it's really good & I'm half thru. Course, I haven't done much else. We watched conf today - it was good.

4 Oct 1981 Sun - We went to Ogden today & watched conference - & had steak. It was a nice day. Headache

5 Oct 1981 Mon My ear really hurt all day - recurrent shooting pains. So I laid on the couch & finished Sacajawea. Good.

6 Oct 1981 Tues I did lotsa wash, cleaned kitchen & got quite a bit done, went to a preschool meeting - I want to join it. Then I talked to Mary Jo about refunding & couponing - made my shopping list, & went shopping. Saved $15.20! On matching ads & $3.60 on coupons. Then voted, then had a practice. So the house is dirty.

Date 7 Oct 1981 Wed

Page No.

I had so much to do all day - & I worked all day & didn't rest - & still felt like I didn't get much done. I cleaned kitchen & vacuumed - then did 7 pints of applesaus + 1 qt - took 3 hours! Made dinner, ate, bathed kids, did dishes, fold clothes, bed! Can't believe it.

10 Oct Sat Last night we did our program for a stake music thing - I blew it, but did pretty good covering up. We took Michelle & Brett - it was fun. Today I went to a meeting for a pre-school for Brett, & I've felt wierd about it - confused & not sure, & just "not good". I've decided not to do it, & I feel better about it. Matthew has been grouchy all day - he's had a bad diaper rash the last few days, plus he fell on his mouth & cut his lips, pluss, I think he's cutting more teeth. Then Aaron got up from his nap with 102° temp, & about 10 pm - he threw up, & just got back to sleep - so did Matthew - it's 20 to 12. I'm pooped - hope they (& I) sleep

12 Oct Mon - stayed home with kids yesterday - they seem to be doing better. I had lunch with Michelle today - it was ok - & fun to be with her. I checked out some fun toys from the school-educational toys. I always feel like "I didn't accomplish anything today" so I've decided I've got to stop saying it & dwelling on my failures - instead, I'm going to try to be positive! I've decided to wean Matt - I'm tired of nursing him - he bites & scratches & messes around & I spend so much time nursing him & I'm so tired all the time - anyway, he wouldn't take the bottle from Mary Jo, but I fed nursed him at 9:30 am, & gave a bottle - then nursed about 6:30 - but he drinks 3 oz in no time! So I think he'll do ok. I'm pretty sore though.

13 Oct Tues - Boy, last night was rough. I was so sore - I nursed him 3 times today - I feel a little better tonight. I cleaned family room & wash room, & ironed about 1000 shirts (not quite - but a LOT!) Plus all our temple clothes. Mike bought me & Matthew new journals, a hymn book, and teaching Children Joy. It's a good book - I want to use it in our family.

14 Oct Wed - I cleaned Brett's room! Organized the toys. Got my hair cut - its SHORT! Shorter than ever. Went to K mart & got $40 worth of stuff! Also thread, belts & ribbon I got me some new JEANS! size 14 but they look pretty good. Today this guy from Army Reserve called & said they need a signal captain - sounds good - we'll have to think about it.

Page No 15 Oct 1981 6 months out of the Army! Date

Today I cleaned house, then put up the rest of my apples into apple pie filling took Brett to tumbling, went to the store ($20)(groc). Got home, fixed dinner, had elders over to dinner - it turned out pretty good. Got kids ready for bed, did dishes, sprayed oven so I can clean it tomorrow! Boy, what an exciting day. I'm feeling pretty good tho I nursed Matt early this morning - he slept till 7! and tonite at 9. I'm not hardly even sore anymore. He takes a bottle really well.

18 Oct 1981 Sun Yesterday, Mike's parents came down & helped dig out sod for our garden, & make shelves for the basement! He almost finished them - & they look great! Today Michelle gave a talk in Primary & did such a good job - I was so proud of her. I sure do love her - & all my kids! Oh 16 Oct Friday I was just getting to work 9:45 & Mike came home for the day! So we went to see the Jordan River temple. We took Michelle & Brett - it was beautiful. Their favorite thing was the chandeliers.

19 Oct 1981 Mon I got quite a bit done today. After Mike got home Mary Jo Carlile & I went to a fabric place & I got enough material to make all the kids some pj's. They're going to be cute. But I couldn't find a pattern.

21 Oct 1981 Last night we took a lady & her son (inactive - Mike teaches) to see the temple. We waited in line 1 1/4 hours - it was long - 3 1/2 hours altogether. But they liked it. My throat is getting sore - on one side. I feel yukky today. Judy called & is coming tomorrow. Should be fun to see her.

22 Oct 1981 Thursday. This morning, Mike's parents came & painted our shelves, then started the deck. The shelves look so good! Then they dropped me & the kids off at Mikes work, & we picked up Judy from the airport. Its fun to see her. She has some cookbook diet she's going to give me - It sounds really good. John got here at 8 pm. My throat has really hurt & I have a swollen gland on that side. Yuck.

24 Oct Sat - Yesterday we talked & cleaned. Last night Mike, John, Judy & I went to Benihana's for dinner. It was fun & so yummy! They left about 11 today & I cleaned like mad till Steve & Kenda came at 1:30 - They stayed for a couple of hours - then went to the Jordan temple. We talked about trading cars - but they thought the van was too big & we thought their car too expensive so - Tonite we spent getting Mike ready for his trip to Denver tomorrow

Journal

of

Joyce Marie Nielsen Williams

25 October 1981 - 29 October, 1989
(date)

DELUXE FLICK JOURNAL

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Non-tear Tyvek Washable Cover and Signature Sewn

25 Oct 1981 Sunday

Matthew is 9 months old today! And he is such a doll. He crawls all over the place, pulls himself up to things & walks along them, plops right down on his bottom when he wants to get down, & takes off! He can sit from crawling, too. He has 7 teeth & loves to bite & chew on things; therefor, I weaned him to a bottle this past week. He took to it surprisingly well, considering he wouldn't touch one before. He's getting more hair, & he's starting to show his desires & feelings. He loves to scream - shriek - if he wants attention, & when I look at him, he grins. Or if I'm reading, he hits my book & smiles. He's a happy boy & we sure do love him - he's our little "bubba." He loves his brothers & sisters, too - & they love to play with him. He still gets up around 5 am. & that irritates me to pieces, but I haven't the heart to let him cry. The other night I was sick (sore throat,) so I asked Mike if he'd get up & feed Matthew. Reluctantly, he agreed. Would you believe Matthew slept till 7 am ?!? But was up at 4:30 for me 2 day - brother!

Mike went to Denver today - I feel really yucky & grouchy & depressed all day - I hate to have him go! I miss him, but I feel like I resent him being able to go & have a fun vacation - new place, motel, eating out doing anything he wants to! and I'm stuck here with the kids & the same old grind. I hate to be selfish & negative, but I think that most accurately describes my feelings.

Well. Tomorrow I'm going on the Cambridge Diet (Judy gave it to me) & I'm going to do that, exercise & sew while Mike's gone - so we'll have new clothes & I hope to lose 5 or 10 lbs this week. I think it'll be easier if he's gone & I don't have to cook.

27 Oct 1981 Tues

I started the diet yesterday. I got a pattern & started tracing off patterns for pajamas for the kids. This morning I was in the baby nursery at Relief Society - man, what a mess!! 24 kids - 2 tenders. I was getting weak & shaky & boy, was I grouchy! And I really spouted off that they need less kids, more rules etc & probably made a lot of enemies. Oh well. I ate some Hawaiian rice tonight - I have a feeling I won't stay on this much longer - it really isn't smart. Went V.T. tonite & got 1 person. Mary so tended for me & we were gone 1½ hrs! I'm tired & oh was I grouchy to the kids! Gotta be better.

28 Oct 1981 Wed — I wish I knew where all the time goes. I cleaned & sewed today - got Matthew's new blanket sleepers done & Aaron's almost done. We decided I'm going to really get in to refunding & couponing - make it a hobby & reduce our food bills. I went V-T tonite but my partner had forgotten & couldn't come, so I went alone, & out of the 2 appointments, I was gone. What a night. Mike called the Reserve Col. & told him he didn't want to take the Sig Co. CO slot. The Col was going to call Mike tonight & offer him the job. It would be nice to have the money but nicer to have the hubby.

29 Oct 1981 Thurs — Boy, today I just didn't accomplish anything! It was so discouraging. I did clean the bathroom & kitchen (3 times). Tonite I cleaned up the sewing room so it wouldn't be a mess for Mike. Michelle was sick today, so she didn't go to school. I hope she's better tomorrow so she & I can go to her party - I'm in charge of it! I made owl cookies today - they turned out really cute. I went to a coupon club & got lots of coupons & refund forms! It was fun. And I got 2 opera books - we're going to the opera tomorrow night. Still be neat. It rained a lot, then snowed hard tonight. It's still on the ground. Pretty.

30 Oct 1981 Friday — Mike came home today - it's good to have him back. Michelle was still slightly sick - flu, I think, except her ear hurts her. Mike & I went to the opera "Tosca" Very good - but long. Took the last guy forever to die! We hadn't studied it well enough to really understand. We enjoyed being alone together.

1st Nov 1981 Sunday Temple Dedication Lighthall deaths — Today has been quite a day. We rose early & went to the first session of the dedication of the Jordan River Temple. It was really special, & I really want to improve & become a better wife, mother, & person. Mike & I painted the deck ~~tonight~~ This afternoon Alene Cannon, our friend from Germany, called & told us of the tragic deaths of some other friends from Germany - Alan & Jana Lighthall. They were on their way to speak at their ward in Md., as they were to move to Georgia this week, when a car struck them, killing Alan, Jana, & their 3yr old son & 8 mo old daughter, leaving a 5 year old son with 2 broken legs & a broken arm. Boy, it really makes me grateful for the gospel & my sweet little family - I'm so thankful we'll always be together. I pray we will be worthy. That's one consoling factor about Alan & Jana - they were married in the temple & so good - were sure they're together now.

17 Nov 1981 Tues

Mike called Abbotts this morning - I was still asleep. She had another baby 2 mo ago. Then I woke up & we talked to Rochelle Wenger, then Cherie Wiesman. It was fun. Rochelle told us Rose & Larry Powell live here! So I called her, & they live about 2 blocks from us! And Alan & Dorothy Miller are moving here too! Unreal. I cleaned up all day & ironed. I'd like to get my house in shape - then KEEP it!

21 Nov 1981 Sun

Tonight was really kinda sad. We went to Ogden to go to Lighthalls' viewing. It was really sad, but what really got to me - and still does when I think about it - was that Vana had her 8 mo old baby cradled in one arm - such a beautiful baby! She looked just like a doll. And their 3 year old son had a firetruck in one hand. Wow - what a heart-tugger. There were so many people there, I couldn't believe it! They've been dead a week, so they were getting pretty old - they looked like mannikans - Al looked kinda like himself - Vana not at all. It was sad, but it really makes me want to re-evaluate my priorities & goals. Last night we had dinner with Rose & Larry Powell & Al & Dorothy Miller - both from our ward in Germany. It was really fun.

1 Dec 1981 Tuesday

We had a nice Thanksgiving - Mike's parents & Sheri came here & it was nice. Poor Matthew - last night he got ahold of a glass tree & bit it! Cut his lip. Then tonight I was standing behind him on the stairs & he flipped over & somehow ripped his lip - the tissue that connects his lip to his upper gum ripped really far - it was really bleeding. He must have loosened his teeth too - they were bleeding around them. Poor baby. He's really feeling yucky & feel bad too. Michelle had strep throat on Thanksgiving - I took her & the dr. the day after -

19 Dec 1981 Sat

Boy, I've been busy! I've sewn & shopped & etc etc. Tonite we went to the "Heidleburg" for dinner for Mt Bell Party. It was ok - Mike & I sat alone - but we enjoyed it - the food was pretty good, but it cost $40! And it sure wasn't worth that. Makes me sick!

2 Jan 19 82 Boy, I've been really bad about writing! We had a really nice Christmas. One night we took the kids to see the lights on temple square, then to see Mr & Mrs Santa Clause. We all enjoyed it. Christmas Eve we delivered some goodies, had our own little program, & opened each other's presents. Mike gave me a watch, iron, 2 pants, 2 shirts, a sweater & a dress! Wow! I gave him a jogging suit, slippers, socks, after shave. I made the boys some matching jogging suits & we gave Michelle a sweater. Course, Santa loaded the kids with toys - the most exciting of which was a big riding horse. Christmas day we went to Ogden - Mike's folks gave me a beautiful dress - size 11! A sweater & some shoes; Mike, a suede a-la-sixty suit jacket, brown sweater vest & tie. And the maid-o-a ceramic pitcher & bowl set. We gave them a Can vacuum, powder & holder, & UNO. Sheri gave me a book, Mike a shirt the kids bubbles & Matthew a darling crocheted lion. We gave her a necklace & holder. Rex & Carrie gave us a sampler "Families Are Forever" & a family picture. We stayed overnit then went to SD on Sat 26th. We had the family party that night - it was so fun! Vicki had our name - she gave Mike & me matching thermal-lined sweatshirt jackets, Mike a boss' bib, me a gorgeous pieced blue vest with material for a dress, Michelle a Vanessa Brady tape & book, Brett a teepee & Aaron some jamies. She also made a pushme pullme for the oven. We had Linda & Dee - We gave Linda some pillow covers - I made them for the inner tube pillow she always sits on. I was so excited - & she loved em! Dee - after shave, Carol, necklace & holder, Curt, fishing stuff, Holly, her name, Chad, a corsall. I think they all liked em ok. We gave mom some stainless steel bowls & UNO, & Dad a staplegun. (He used to have one, but I lost it in High School. - Nice present, huh) They gave us a 12-gal bucket of money & a family picture. It was a riot. Sunday we went to church with Vicki. Monday we went to Steves for FHE & saw Superman on their VCR. Tuesday we went skiing & it was so Beautiful & we really enjoyed it. Then we went swimming at Heise Hot Springs it was neat. It snowed on us while we swam. Roxanne came over & visited me that night. It was good to talk to her. She's got lots of problems too. Wednesday I visited with Diane, & Mike bought a new $25 calculator! Vicki came over & I showed her refunding. Thurs we went to take the kids to Cinderella, but it was sold out, so we did some shopping. I bought some photo albums 3 for $5! That night we went to dinner with brothers, sisters & parents - it was fun, then to Vicki's for games. Happy New Year! Went back to Ogden Fri, lazed around, then Home Sat! What a fun week! Oh, on the way up, we had a blowout on a 2 day old snow tire. It was so scarry but they replaced it in Idaho so everything was ok.

3 Jan - Matt stood up by himself!

6 Jan 82 Wed — Boy, I've been feeling yukky today - a pain in my lower left abdomen. I've decided it must be ovulation - so I'm going to watch it! It happened, I remember, a couple of months ago - boy, that'd be a great thing to know. We've been busy cleaning & reorganizing the house - boy, it sure feels good to walk thru a clean house! The weather has been extremely cold & snowy - I shoveled the driveway & walks today. It was fun.

17 Jan Sun — Last Jan 2 I was called to be R.S. Missionary Activation Specialist. It should be interesting - We'll have help from Mike, I'm sure. Things are ok - Aaron's ears didn't clear up - Mike took him to the dr & got some more medicine. Everybody seems to be feeling better - generally. Fri night Mike came home with a waterbed! This place was selling them out for $17! So he bought one, plus a heater. Now he has to build a frame. Fri night we took Mary Jo & Steven & went to the Jordan River Temple. It was great but SO crowded!! We left here at 6:30, didn't start the session 'till 9 pm! We were tired.

Matt walked!

25 Jan 1982 Matthew's 1st Birthday — Today Matthew is 1 year old! What a sweetheart! He sure has won a place in our hearts. He is so sweet, & I would say, if I had to describe him in one word, HAPPY! He is usually very happy - really, the only time he's grouchy is if he's hungry or tired. He's also very curious, always getting into things, and persistant - he keeps on trying if he wants something! He can be a little stinker, too - so mischevious! His favorite thing to do in church is to try to get my earrings. He grabs my nose, turns my head, & grabs the earring. Or he'll pull my cheek, or hair, or whatever he can get ahold of. A new thing with him is to crawl under the benches, too. His favorite way to bug me is to get ahold of a telephone & punch all the buttons. If he sees me comin, he giggles & laughs & thinks it's pretty neat. He knows when he's not supposed to do it, but it's almost like he's just baiting me! He's getting pretty good at sipping magazines, newspapers and books. He also loves to go ups and downs the stairs! If I ever leave the gate off - he's down at the bottom before I know it! And if we're all downstairs, he can be clear upstairs & playing before we notice he's gone! He sure is a mover! We watched slides of him when he was born - such a cute little angel & we love him so much!

1 Feb 1982 Last Friday & Saturday I read Dollie House I & II by James Caswell. They were good books, but it makes my family mad when I ignore them - so I guess I'm through reading for a while. I really should control myself more on that - I cleaned house & ironed today & finished etc.

3 Feb Wed Steve & Kenna came last night about 10:30. We talked & unpacked & etc so didn't get to bed till 12. Mike went to work at 6:15, but instead of going back to sleep, I got up & ironed! So proud of myself. I really cleaned the house yesterday - so I just had to do maintence today. We talked & I did 1 coat of varnish on the boards. Mike bought some photo album pages for 19¢! and albums for $2.98 instead of the $4.98 at C.C. The pages were 2¢ at C.C. So on 66 pages & 3 albums, we saved $16.00! pretty good.

7 Feb Sun Thursday night, we all went (Steve Kenna, Mike & I) to Salt City Grill for Prime Rib (Steve paid!) and to the movie "Golden Pond." It was really fun & we were glad we left the kids home. Friday they left, and that night Mike & I went to the Stake Gold & Green Ball - it was really neat. Mike sang at intermission - he's such a sweetheart! I sure love him & was so proud of him. Yesterday, he bought the riser for the waterbed & set it up - it's so nice! I love it! The water was a little cool last night but it feels nice now. Michelle's left neck is swollen - Mike thinks it's mumps, but I think it's just a swollen gland. She seems ok otherwise. Tonight she said her ear hurt & she had a headache, so will have to watch her. Boy, I sure do love my husband!

15 Feb 1982 Mon Last Friday my old roommate, Pam Anderson Fenton, her hubby & daughter, came over for dinner. It was really fun to see her again - hard to believe it's been 8 years since I saw her. Yesterday we went to Ogden for Shiri's birthday - it was really fun. Sat we took the kids to see the Capitol building. They enjoyed it - we all did. Today I cleaned upstairs - incl. vacuuming & yesterday's dishes - in 2 hrs! Then I tackled the study - it was a MESS. I really threw a lot of stuff out & organized it. It looks so much better! I was in the study working & Matt was playing with the kids in the family room. I went in to check, & he was gone! I also noticed the door was open. I looked out, didn't see him, closed it, & ran thru the house looking for him. Still couldn't find him! So I looked outside again, only

this time I went out to look. He was sitting out on the sidewalk by the driveway, just bawling! It was so cute, but scared me to death. I guess Michelle had gone out, & since the door doesn't close easily, she left it partly open. He must have opened it, gone up the stairs, all the way down the driveway, & then realized he was alone & didn't know where he was! It was pretty warm today, fortunately about 46°, but it had rained, so the driveway was wet, & the wind blowing, so he was probably cold. Poor little darlin! I felt so bad. Boy did I let the kids know they should shut the door!

22 Feb Mon — Tonite Mike's parents Rex & Carrie & kids & Sheri came for dinner & FHE. It was really fun.

24 Feb — Rex & Carrie & Sheri & her date came to SL & we went to a show "Absence of Malice". It was pretty good. We had Pizza first, then ice cream after. I wore my black gaberdine pants which I haven't been able to zip! Yea!

25 Feb 1982 Thurs — BRETTS 5TH BIRTHDAY!! Today was quite a day. My contact ripped, my oven broke while I was decorating the cake, & my camera jammed. Anyway, we had a party & it turned out pretty good. I was so tired all day & glad when the party was over.

Brett, at 5, is really a delightful, loving child. He often kisses me or his brothers during the day. He really has a good sense of

42 Wks — humor - he loves to tell jokes & be funny. He likes to tease & surprise people with the unexpected answers to his questions. He is an excellent artist - he can sit & draw for hours. I think he draws better than I do! His best friend is Shawn Nielson - next door. But I think David Carlile is getting to be a better friend all the time. His favorite toys now are horses. However he got 6 cars & a big truck for his birthday, & he had a good time playing with them today. His favorite present was a "Key-car" - you put a key in it, squeeze, & the car takes off! He really enjoyed playing with it. We gave him a big truck with a horse, bull, cowboy & clown in it, a songbook, a rifle, a nerf rocket shooter & a suit shirt, socks & tie. Mike's mom sent some money to help pay for the suit, & Mom sent him a box of goodies. It was a fun day for him.

March 4 1982 Thursday — Well, I've been doing pretty good lately. I've been keeping the house fairly clean for the past 2 weeks - I've been exercising & dieting - I've lost 5 lbs - a couple of inches! and I'm getting into clothes I haven't worn for 2 years! Yea! That makes me feel good about myself! I get up at 6:30, exercise for ½ hr. make Mike's lunch, shower etc. Then after I get Michelle off to school, I do my daily cleaning including vacuuming upstairs, our room, bathroom kit & am usually done by 10:30! Then I iron, mend, sew or whatever. A couple of days ago I painted the shelves in the study - they look good, but need another coat. Today while I was mopping the floor, I had a pain in my lower left almost center - under my breast. That scared me. This afternoon I felt kinda yukky, so I took it easy. Tonite I looked thru the paper for cars, boy, there's lots that look interesting! I hope we make a wise decision.

Mar 6 Sat — Today we looked at 3 or 4 places for cars - found some real nice ones. We think we should be able to get one for around $2500 that is pretty good. Tonite we went to St Conf & boy was it good. Elder Loren Dunn spoke & bore a very strong testimony that God lives - I could just feel it. He told us to Pay Tithing, Have FHE, family prayer & scripture reading. He said he felt inspired to talk about being happy with what we've got - NOW & appealed to us to strengthen our marriages & stand steady.

Ma 7 Sun 1982 — This morning we found out Pres Benson was coming to our Stk Conference - so we got ready in 1½ hours & were there by 10 to 9! It was a really good meeting. Michelle & Brett went to Primary & Matthew slept thru it! Aaron was really good, so I really enjoyed it. He told how his mother-in-law's late husband (he'd been dead 40 yrs) visited his wife one Friday nite & told her she would be joining him the next Thursday. So she got all ready - had her lights, gas etc turned off, & went to her daughter's house, & died peacefully in her sleep Thurs. It was neat to see him & hear him. Then we went to Ogden to visit. It was relaxing & enjoyable. I'm tired & have felt kinda icky all day.

Mar 11 Thur — This past week I've been feeling kinda yukky - mostly headaches & pains in my abdomen - and tired. Something unusual happened last week & as we talked about it, we thought it might have been someone up above saying "time to have another baby" even tho we were trying not to. Anyway, I've been wondering about that & hoping I'm not, [P3] but I guess I could accept it if I was. There's going to be a K-town reunion Apr 3. I called Elene Cannon to tell her - but she can't come. We watched "Ishtar" tonite - it was good. Boy, it sure is windy - sounds awful!

Mar 18 — Mike's 30th Birthday!

Last night we went to Ogden & stayed till noon today, then came up to Ogden. Mike's parents gave him a windbreaker and $50 for shoes. My folks gave him a really nice flannel shirt. We just visited & took it easy. I made him some new jeans & they look good! We decided to give each other our water bed for our birthdays.

Mar 19 Fri — This morning Mike & I went to the Temple. It was really special, & I had just a super good feeling there. I feel I'm on the right track, & I'm grateful for my wonderful husband & family. My period was due yesterday — We had Sister's day - what a madhouse - but fun. Tonite, after I went thru Vicki's cupboards & ripped off all her UPC's, Vicki, Mike & I went to the stake play. Colleen directed it was pretty good. Then we picked up Mom & went to a Chinese restaurant. We 3 split a dinner, & Mike had one. I'm pooped.

Mar 20 Sat — We visited & I stole everybody's garbage & it was fun. We stopped at Mike's parents' house, & they were sitting in a new Subaru!! So they sold us theirs for $2,000! That's good cuz a dealer offered them $2,000 for it! So we drove it home. Now we have 2 cars! Today I saw DeAnna & Claude's baby girl. WHAT a doll!! If I could just get that model!! I found myself excited about the prospect of having a baby girl! Still no George!

Sun

* MAT's 1st molar (9th tooth) came thru

Matt

(Mar 22) George

Mar 23 Tues came last night! So - we know I'm not pregnant! A test, to see if we'd accept? Hmm - I don't know, but I'm sure glad I'm not! I'm going to get busy again - exercising & dieting.

April 1 1982 [27] Well, I'm 27 years old! Mike bought me a shredder/slicer attachment for my bosch. Mike's parents gave me some purple & white sandals & some material for a dress, my parents gave me a cone of white thread & a note pad. I watched Mary Jo's kids while she registered Brett & David for Kindergarten, & she watched mine while I got some patterns. I'm making Michelle & me matching "Gunne-Sax" dresses. I got them cut out, then Michelle & I went to find ribbon & lace but nobody had purple! (Orchid) So we finally bought mauve - it matches some other flowers in the material. A big storm moved in & dumped snow all over & the roads & traffic were AWFUL. Mike was expecting me by 600, & we didn't get back till 10 to 7. He was so worried & upset! To top it off, the electricity went off at 15 to 7! But he had a yummy dinner fixed. Steak, baked potatoes, brocalli, & strawberry shortcake! We ate by candlelight - & it was fun. Sure made us reassess our heat/light capabilities in an emergency. So we just came to bed early.

2 April Fri The electricity came on about 11:30 last night. Boy, what an experience! But we were fine. I took the boys to find some ribbon, since Mike & his mom said I had to use ORCHID! We went all over. I finally found some in the mall, but they didn't have enough! I about bawled. So I got it for me & will use the other on Michelle's. Overall, I spend over 5 hours & went to 10 stores to find that [illegible] ribbon! I sure was mad. I got the bodice started on my dress. Tonight we went to the Hong Kong Mission Reunion - it was neat. Then after, we went to see "Raiders of the Lost Ark." It was good, but strange. Boy, this night cost us about $10! Brother!

3 April 1982 Sat Gen. Conf

Today was general conference - it was so good! I sewed during the session. After the 2nd session, we went to a Germany Reunion, & it was fun to see a lot of our old friends. We saw Meyers, Hogans, Standers, Hellgoss, Verbecks, Blacks, Ottleys, Nefs, Ellsworth, Blunks, It was fun. Then I sewed & sewed till midnight! My dress is all done, & on Michelle's I just have to put the bottom ruffle & buttons/buttonholes. They turned out really cute.

4 April 1982 Sun Gen Conf

We went up to Ogden to watch General Conference & eat & visit. It was really a nice day, & conf. was really good. Pres. Kimball said a few words & just to hear him speak was a real joy! He's been suffering so much lately, & only attended 2 sessions. I sure do love him. He's such a special man - so loving & Christlike. Our neighbor, Sandy Jacque, is really having a hard time. Lanny's been taken away & put in a foster home. Mike's over there now, giving her a blessing. Poor thing.

10 Apr Sat

Tuesday Morning (6 Apr) I left with the kids & my neighbor, Diane Knight & her kids, & went to Idaho. The weather was yukky & got sleety/snowy at the Malad Pass but we did ok. Tues night I went with Sandy to Vicki's ward RS to hear Linda give a mini-class on sewing. It was good but shock (I decided I can sew probably) as good as she does. It was fun tho.

Wednesday Sandy & I went downtown & bought a few things - I bought 2 new pair of 2 piece garments 7 bucks each! But boy are they nice.

Thursday was sisters day - we went to Kenda's & the kids watched movies while we talked about colors that look the best on us and what "season" we are. They decided I'm "winter" I look best in bright true colors - no yellows or golds, but pinks blues - "rosy" colors. Vicki's a winter too. It was lots of fun - & fascinating!

Friday I did some clearing up & Vicki & I worked a lot on fabric swatches for our colors. It was fun.

Sat I left about 1 & got home at 4 - everything went fine! It's nice to be home.

21 April 1982 Wed — Well, last Tues & Wed Mike & I were both really sick - flu or something! I threw up several times - YUKK! I was so weak & tired. Then yesterday my period started & I felt awful, but a little better today. FHP called & told me Brett & Matt are both anemic, so I have to take them both in for blood tests! Brother! Teri Maples & I were supposed to go UT but she was gone all night & day, so I went myself & got 3 out of 4! So I'll let her get the other one. Matthew is cutting his 2nd molar & is very grouchy! Such a doll tho.

Matt

23 April 1982 Aaron's 3rd Birthday! — Well, Aaron is 3 years old today! We had cake & ice cream last night & sang happy birthday to him - he loved it. Today we went to Dee's for lunch & had lotsa fun (This morning Mike & I went to the temple & were witnesses. It was really neat. Ogden's tended Aaron & their little boy broke Aaron's new finger racer car. She made him give some money to pay for it.) Anyway, then we went to a store & bought him a small Tone Ranger & Silver. Then we went to Ogden, picked up Mike's parents & took them to the airport. They flew to LA for their vacation.

Aaron, at 3, is a delightful little boy. He's got such big brown eyes & long lashes! He's still pretty skinny, but getting bigger. He's a mischevious little kid - he gets into things he knows he shouldn't, then when I say "Aaron, what are you doing?" he jumps & says "Anything!" If we walk into a room when he's doing something wrong, he'll say "Mommy (or Daddy) go in the other room!" He likes to tell Knock Knock jokes, but they usually consist of "Knock Knock" "who's me there?" "Freda Bumps Ice Cream!" Hahaha! He loves it.

His favorite toy is his hot wheels, which he still doesn't pedal - he scoots. That's how he's worn thru his cowboy boots. He loves those boots & hates to wear his new jogging shoes or sunday shoes or sandals. He loves to be a cowboy & play with guns. His best buddy is Ryan Carlile & they really get along well. The other day Aaron got all wet playing in the water. I said "Aaron, you're all wet!" He said "uh uh, my shirt is dry!" He says "I wuv wo!" a lot & is a real doll. He still likes me to hold him a lot.

May 5 1982 Michelle's 7th Birthday

Michelle's 7th Birthday! Today was really a fun day - Michelle wanted to take the family to Chuck E Cheese's Pizza Parlor so that's where we went. The food was good & the shows & games were fun - we all enjoyed it. We gave Michelle a jumper, sandals, jump rope, paper dolls, paint book, puzzles & Strawberry Shortcake book. She is really a sweetheart, & we love her so much! Michelle is really a girl of many colors. Sometimes she's happy, cheerful, & smiling, and sometimes she bawls & whines about everything sometimes she screams & yells. Pretty much normal, I guess. Unfortunately, she's only happy as long as everything is going her way, then she gets pretty mean if she's thwarted. If I could name her profession, I'd say she's going to be a diplomat! She'll ask for a cracker, for example, & I'll say - ok, you can have a cracker." Then she says, "How about 3?" Seems like she negotiates on everything! Like "well, if I can't read a book, can I look at one?" no.

"just a short one?" no

"How about just one page?" she's smart!

She really is a lot of help to me - I rely on her a lot to fetch, carry, watch Matthew, feed Matthew, help Aaron, get napkins, help the babysitter etc. She really can be helpful, if she wants. And she usually does. Another of Michelle's character traits is bossiness. Boy can she be bossy! I guess a lot of it comes with being the oldest child. Her friends at school got mad at her one day and told her she was bossy. Her best friend is Sherry Owens who lives pretty close & is in her class. They play really well together - usually. Michell's hair is almost to the middle of her back, she has beautiful eyes & lashes, a cute little nose, perfect lips. She's very delicate looking - her blond hair is more brownish anymore. I'm sure she'll be a brownhead. I really love her & I'm so grateful she's part of our family.

June 22 1982 Tuesday — Well, I'm really late & I'm going to be better. Mike went to Sierra Vista for the last 2 weeks of May - I got to go to the commissary & BX & I just loved it! For our anniversary, I got tonsilitis - boy was I sick! And we had tons of company that weekend. On May 23 I was called to be a Sunday School teacher - 17 year olds! It's been interesting & I sure have had to study. I have to make up 2/3 of the lessons! I went to education week last week & just loved it! I learned many neat things, but most important, I got a good kick in the pants to do all the things I should do. Now I really want to go to BYU Ed week the end of July. I just need to figure out the money & babysitting

July 26 1982 Monday — Repentance time again - We've sure done a lot lately. On the 3rd of July we went to Idaho for Dad's birthday. On the 5th we went to Island Park to help work on Mom & Dad's Cabin. On the 4th, Judy & John blessed their cute little son, Michael John. On Wed 7th Mike went back to Utah, & I stayed up in Island Park. It was fun, but kind of a mess. Anyway, I spent the week up there - 1st Mike said Ok - then he said no - then he said you decide, so I decided to go home with him - cuz I should. So then he said - you stay. So it was kind of weird. Mike had a hard time, but I sure had fun, course, I missed him. Then the next Friday, he rode up with somebody going up to Rexburg - I met him & went to Rexburg with him. His group "The Footlites" performed Fri nite, Sat afternoon & Sat nite. They were so good. Mom & Linda came Friday night & they were so impressed. Then Linda & kids came again Sat, & Judy & Carol came Sat nite. Mike's parents came for both Sat performances. It was sad tho, cuz there were probably no more than 250 all together. Judy brought Michelle up & she stayed with us in the motel. It was really fun. Then Sun a.m. we went back to I.F. went to church, went to Judy's & Steves, then came home. And we've just tried to recover. Diane Fred & Scott came Fri & Sat. Like went to a drive in Friday night - it was dumb, But fun - My assignment this week is to get our house organized! So I worked all day - I am finished. I sure love my wonderful husband & Kristen.

27 July 1982 Tuesday — Today went to RS - a guy talked about stress. I decided I handle it pretty well, and that I do use my reading as a stress valve. It was really quite interesting. After, I straightened the house, then cleaned up and organized the kids toys. What an exciting day.

28 July 1982 — Today I mostly worked on coupons & refunding - I've got 20+ letters to go out, & money $50 coming back but a lot of freebies. I'm tired

29 July 1982 — It really rained the last 2 days - our basement flooded so I cleaned it up this morning - then I took Michelle & Brett shopping. We bought Brett some jeans & shorts & Michelle some sandals, tennis shoes & skirts & stuff. I got a purse & sunglasses! We had a missionary activation meeting tonight - there was a little 10 yr old girl kidnapped last week in Kaysville - she escaped & was found today - safe, unharmed - wow.

30 July 1982 Friday — Today I cleaned, washed, ironed, sewed, & went to the temple with Mike. I'm really glad we did. Then we went to dinner - it's now 11:30 & we're bushed. Last night I burned my finger & today there's a dime size blister. It sure hurt.

1 Aug — Yesterday we had a ward picnic in Lily Creek canyon - it was just gorgeous & makes me want to go camping. Today was really nice - I felt moved - really - to bear my testimony & I felt really good about my life - calm & content & happy. Then tonight Mike tells me we've got so much to do! Oh well I realize we do, & so I'm going to start getting up & exercising again at 6:30 in the morning.

2 Aug Monday — Today I did regular clean up the house, washing (I love the clothesline Mike put up for me last week! Our clothes smell so fresh-) I planned shopping & went shopping - I took Aaron, & he was a real doll. I sure do love him. Mike & I have been talking about me going back to school, too - & so I looked at some stuff from BYU - East Lake - it'd cost me $150! For a 3 credit hr semester. So I guess I'll have to wait. For FHE tonight we made ice cream. Sure was yummy -

3 Aug Tues — We're all stopping out tonight - should be fun. Matt hurt his foot & couldn't walk last night & this a.m. so I took him in. It's ok - she couldn't find anything, & tonight he's running around. West & Sean & I bought Michelle shoes & pants, Brett pants & shirt. Vicki called & said she's coming tomorrow.

4 Aug 1982 Vicki came today - it feels good to see her. We've been "blah" & tired all day. Tonight I had a practice for our ward group & it was so fun! It's 1230 pm. Mike fixed my camera tonight - that's why it's so late.

5 Aug 1982 Thurs Today we took the kids to Liberty Park & they really had fun. There were lots of fun play ground things to play with - like a big cage with 2 ft of soft balls the kids jumped & played in, A bazaar swing, big fish nets, slippery slide tubes, then we saw ducks & birds. It was fun. Tonite Mike was called as Stake Mission President in addition to his ward calling. So it should be interesting.

7 Aug Sat Yesterday Vicki & I got a babysitter & got our hair cut & went shopping. We bought lots of material - all T shirt material! Some lace too. It sure was fun. Today we went to the temple, sewed, & watched Mike perform. Tired!

8 Aug Sun Yesterday when we went to the temple, I did work for a lady names Katherina Richard. It struck me because last week when we went I got Catherine & it's what I want to name a little girl! Then, stuff happened last night to where I wouldn't be at all surprised if I was pregnant! The funny thing is, I don't feel bad about it - just sort of taking it in stride. Anyway, I guess I'll find out in a couple of weeks. Mike was set apart today & it was neat - a calm, peaceful home, & means to support the family. Ref was called today to be his ward mission leader.

9 Aug Mon Today we went out to the Great Salt Lake for our FHE & it was really fun. We all went wading or swimming & all the kids enjoyed it - even Matthew. I took him in for his well-baby check up - 24½ lbs, 32½"! He's getting big & doing great. I sure love my family - I sure am tired.

Mets

12 Aug Thurs Tuesday Vicki & I cut out & made 11 shirts! They're all so cute. She left Wednesday, & today I got myself all organized using a card file. I'm really excited about it.

1982

13 Aug Fri — Boy, today was my "Heavy" Housecleaning Day. At 2:30 I was done! So I went to the store! Mike & I went to dinner at Shakey's, then to Star Wars. LOVED IT.

14 Aug Sat — Felt tired & lazy today, but still got a lot done. I LOVE this new organization system! The house has never looked better! I finished the PVC chairs for the kids & they love em!

15 Aug Sun — The kids were all sick today, but a little better than yesterday, so I hope they'll continue to improve. I taught my SS class & Mike attended the other meetings. Tonight Shellie Pearson & Bev Mecham came over to visit to ask me if I wanted some clothes for Michelle. Course I accepted! Boy, we sure had a fun time talking for a half hour. Mike was gone to some meetings.

17 Aug Tues — Aaron was worse yesterday, & better today. Brett was better yesterday & worse today. Mike came home sick yesterday & stayed in bed today. I'm feeling exhausted & frustrated. Yesterday I went shopping & bought a bunch of stuff - today I made about 40 cups of strawberry jam. It's so yummy.

19 Aug Thurs — Well, I guess everyone's about better. I'm so proud of myself for not running to the dr for a change. Had a practice for the word culture night - its so fun! 9th George

21 Aug Sat — Last night we took Michelle & Brett to see "ET", a new movie about a little space creature who makes friends with a little boy. It was heartwarming & the kids loved it. I did too. It was special to just be with the 2 big kids. Today I just cleaned & stuff - Mike was gone to work & missionary all day & evening. I called Sandy & talked 40 min - it was neat.

22 Aug Sun — Today was really a nice day. Shelly Pearson brought over a whole stack of clothes for Michelle - 4 dresses (all darling) 2 pantsuits 6 jeans, 4 shirts. They're all so cute. I've got to hem all the pants & do a few different alterations, but I loved it. Aunt Reva, Laree & John came over for a little while & it was fun to see them. I wrote 6 letters tonight - makes me feel better.

23 Aug Mon — I love this organizational system. I've got going! It's GREAT! By 9 this am my house was clean enough for Mike's folks! Then I cleaned out the hall closet, linen closet & under bathroom sink! Boy is it nice! I was really tired this afternoon, so I fell asleep & asked Michelle to watch Matt. I slept for 1 hr & awoke to hear him bowling. He was at our back neighbors on their deck burning his feet! I was so mad! I'm pooded. My nieces Carol & Holly came by to visit & Holly's staying the nite.

24 Aug Tues — Today I went to RS & did a little shopping with Kelly & Michelle Thorne. I took Kelly to meet her aunt Lonita. I'm so tired.

25 Aug Wed — Education Week at BYU! Boy was it fun. I took some real good classes & I went with Shelley Reason, Sandy Tipton, Teri Maples, Coree Ogden, & Bev Mecham. They were lots of fun. Boy what a memory trip I had today - going all over BYU & it was neat - remembering Mike & I dating etc. I sure wished he was there! Almost all my classes were family oriented & I really want to be a more loving, teaching (not punishing) mother. I'm so glad I got to go even tho it cost me $25. $11 babysitters, $7 registration, $2 gas, $5 books

26 Aug Thurs — Yesterday I was pooped & didn't get much done. A lady contractor from Atlanta, whom Mike has been working with, came to dinner & it was a mess! Mike took the Subaru in Tues & went to get it today - $537 yuk! We had another practice & it was fun but ~~I was rushed~~. Today I had more energy & got a lot done - helped Mary Jo with her disposal - we fixed it! Then Mike & I went to see Robin McCee, our neighbor. He went for a walk & the school with the kids & had a nice time.

28 Aug Sat — Today I did cleaning, ironing etc. Tonite we went to an elders quorum party - hayride, barbeque & square dance. It was a RIOT but my feet are killing me! Mike had a honeydew day - he fixed lots of stuff - I love it.

30 Aug 1982 Monday — Today was Brett's first day of school! He was so excited. He looked so handsome in his new clothes. He was so proud. Tonite in FHE he was sitting on my lap & he whispered, "I'm a school kid." Michelle is in 2nd grade & she was real happy, too. She looked so darling. Her teacher passed out a paper today & said "Read all the directions before you do anything." So Michelle did, & found out she only had to do 1 - write her name. She was the only one in the class that did it! I thought it was neat. Matt was sick-acting - cough, runny nose grouchy Sunday & today, but I think is doing better today.

School! Brett-K Michelle-2

31 Aug 1982 Tues — Today I had all my "daily work" done by 10:00 (am) so I could exercise. Then I planned my shopping - Brett went to school & I took the other boys & went grocery shopping. I was worried they'd be really bad, but overall, they were pretty good except that Matt got ahold of the mayo & butter & threw them out of the cart. I went Visiting Teaching tonite & finished up. Next month I have a daytime route! Yea! Only 3 people, too. I'm glad.

1 Sept 1982 Wed — Today was my "free day" so I sewed. I made Brett 3 shirts & finished a 4th - they're really cute. I got up @ 6 am & exercised - & it's almost 11, so I'm bushed.

2 Sept 1982 Thur — This morning was frustrating. Michelle said her ear & throat hurt, so I called the clinic, it was full, so it referred it to another one - I took Michelle & Matt in - he still is goochy & coughing etc. So I went downtown - got there, was in the wrong place, couldn't find the other place - it was fun. But we finally got checked & Michelle was fine but Matt had L. ear infection. I probably should have taken him in Monday poor baby. Anyway, the good thing is that I had the house clean before I left at 10:00 - it's such a good feeling. Had a practice tonite for the ward show & I'm bushed

4 Sept 1982 Sat — Today was so special. We went to a Wilson family reunion - just Mike's mom, sister & brother - & their children. 32 in all were there. It was so neat to hear them talk about their parents - made me understand why she is how she is. Then we went & visited some old friends - Dee & Kris Johnson & had a good time visiting. They've been out of the A.F. for 6 mo & he doesn't have a job yet. At the reunion, Michelle Brett & Jason sang "Families can be together forever" & it was beautiful - the spirit of love was there, & those darling little kids were singing & everyone was crying. I guess it got to Michelle, cuz she started to cry & couldn't sing. She was so embarrassed & I felt so bad for her. The boys were just darling tho.

5 Sept 1982 Sun — What a special day. I'm so thankful for my life & family. I gave a lesson I made up for Relief Society "Love One Another" & I felt pretty good about it. Mary Jo said me before & gave me a hug & said "Good Luck I know you'll do good job" & that really made me feel good. I feel the sisters enjoyed it & hopefully felt the spirit. It was kind of fun teaching Relief Society. I gave the same lesson to my class - after, the girls said "That was a good lesson" & I said "but now I have to give it in RS & I'm scared!" & they said "Oh, you'll do just fine!" That made me feel good too.

6 Sept 1982 Mon — I worked like a dog today - boy, after 2 days of not doing any housework, this house was a mess. I worked till 4, when Mike's parents & Sheri came - we had dinner & FHE. It was nice - I'm tired!

7 Sept Tues — Boy, I woke up this morning & my lower back was killing me! So I spent the day in bed with the heating pad. It felt better tonite, but still not all better.

8 Sept — Ted went to RS & learned a little about tole painting. It was interesting. I talked to Hey Young for a while, Mary Jo for a while (Matthew went over there!) & talked to Shelley Pearson on the phone tonite & Tended Shauno Nathan Nielson next door - it was fun.

9 Sept — Thurs This a.m. I put Matthew on the toilet while I took a shower & went & took him off. He'd gone stinky! I about died! It was neat. Went to a practice tonite

10 Sept — Friday Took Michele & Aaron to the dr for a check up. They're just fine. Cleaned & screamed at kids to clean all afternoon. When we got it clean, it was time to eat so we went to Dee's. Mike went to school straight from work, so he didn't get home till 9:30

11 Sept Sat — I had a site practice & Mike had to leave for school at 7:45. I cleaned house & finished a sleeper for Bennie Eich, then went to her baby shower. It was fun. Ate dinner, then Mike & I went to see the movie Star Trek - it was good. Got home at 10 & the kids were all up, the basement a MESS & popcorn all over! I was so frustrated.

12 Sept Sun — Today was ok - we were going to get the kids to bed & spend 2 hrs "planning" & Mike was going to help me with the dishes, but then he had to practice piano & then he called his mom & she talked for an hour. So I did the dishes & now he's down doing something else. It really upsets me sometimes & so I make a smart alec remark & that made him mad (since I'm sure he was feeling guilty anyway -) Oh brother. We had the same frustrating problem only last night it was about money. We talked for 2 hrs last night & finally I told him I felt better about each other. He's really a neat guy & I really do love him, but I guess I just feel left out - unless it's something he wants to do.

14 Sept Sun — Well - I missed this whole week! Monday nite we took the family to see the movie "Bambi" it was fun. Thurs nite we went to the temple, then bought me some new jeans & shirt - wow! I love it. Wed was my day off & I read a book - Thurs I did a little work and talked to Shelley Pearson for an hour (she came over to bring me some pants) & Hey Young next door for an hour. Oh Wed night Mike & I went over & asked our next door neighbors - Nielson's to go to the park Sat they said yes. Friday I bottled 55 qts of tomatoes, peaches & apples. We bought 3½ bu peaches more (I had ½ bu), 2 bu pears 1 bu apples 2 bu tomatoes. Sat we spent the day at the stk park. Nielson's went 5-8, but Don left early & walked home (sick) I hope it was ok tho. We performed last night & it was fun.

20 Sept Mon — Today I put up 38½ qts tomatoes apples & pears. Tonite I ironed all the clothes & folded & put others away. I'm bushed. They found the body of a little 3yr old who was kidnapped several weeks ago. So sad

21 Sept Tues — Today I put up 57 qts peaches - boy was I tired! Mike felt sorry for me, so he sent out for pizza! It was great! Tonite I went to a coupon mtg & got forms worth $35 to me! Also, I was going to buy more jars, but a lady gave me a dozen - then I went to K-Mart to get lids & while there, I asked this guy about wheels for Aaron's bike - he gave them to me!!

22 Sept Wed — I did 14 peaches 14 pears today cleaned up a little - tonite I got $26 worth of refunds ready to go - & lots more to come! All in all I did 177½ qts of fruit! I'm so proud of myself - canning is something I enjoy doing & get immense satisfaction out of, but I'm glad when I'm done!

14 Sept Thurs — I cleaned, then read a book today. About 8, I got a ~~cramp~~ spasm in my back that knocked the breath out of me. So I went to bed (Mike was at school) with a book.

25 Sept Sat — This morning was awful. I bawled 'cuz my back hurt so bad I couldn't - sit - stand - lay - turn over - breath deeply - anything! So I went out on the couch where I was more comfortable. Mike had school all day & I just laid & read all day. I missed a practice for our ward program and one for stk Conf. I went to conf tonite tho. The spasms just grip my back & force the air out in a groan - sounds like I'm dying - feels almost like it too!

26 Sept Sun — We sang in ~~stk~~ sick conf today & it was just beautiful! My back was bothering me, but not as bad as yesterday. It rained last night & poured all day today - when we got home from conference, our

basement had 3 inches of water in it! And it had gone partly into the bedroom & den. So we had to get busy & get the water out - So that didn't help my back much. What a mess! Mike's parents came down & bought Chicken for us & that was nice - I didn't have to cook!

Monday Sept 27 1982 Today my back felt a little better - I cleaned house & Mike only worked for 2 hrs, then came home & we worked in the basement all day. I have to be so careful, cuz if I bend or stretch, reach pick up, twist - any movement, it still hurts.

Tues 28 Sept I went to Dr. Day this morning - X rays & the whole bit, but she couldn't feel or see anything so she just gave me a muscle relaxant which doesn't help at all. My back is worse today - about like Saturday. It's driving me crazy. I decided I'd go see a chopractor but Mike said NO WAY & that made me feel like he didn't care how I felt - Oh well. I also have a cough, cold, slight sore throat.

2 Oct Sat Well I didn't do much - my back felt a little better, but not much, & my cold was worse. Thursday my back felt better - hardly any spasms, but my cold was worse. Steve & Kenda & their kids came. Friday Kenda & I did a little shopping, took a nap & we went to see - He Stoke play "Run Down". It was good. Today Steve & Kenda left - I was so glad. The house was in such an uproar & I had so much to do & I was just tired - so I was glad they left.

3 Oct Our Testimony This morning Mom called to see how I was feeling & that made me feel good. We went up to Ogden to watch conference & really enjoyed the day - We decided there's 2 things that I really must do! 1) Have our family devotional every a.m. & 2) Study the scriptures every day. I'm feeling ok - just occasional achy back & headache.

4 Oct Sat Today I cleaned up the house - my old roommate Belinda Gail & her husband came for dinner. They live in Texas & were here for a wedding. And then after that was the program we we in for our ward. It was a show of a bunch of songs & dances from Broadway Plays. I was in the opening & closing, plus Mike & I sang "Sunrise Sunset". It was really fun to do it with him instead of always watching. I felt

I did a pretty good job & lots of people complimented me. Course, Mike was in about ½ the [illegible] numbers & he did a great job. It was so much fun. Belinda & Daniel came, & Mike's parents & Shen came too.

Sunday Oct 10

Today was fast day & a pretty good day, even tho I was pretty tired. Oh, this past week we got our basement pretty much cleaned up, our sink upstairs fixed (yea!) our waterbed patched refilled & heated - it's so much better so I feel like we're getting pulled together - slowly!

Oct 23 Saturday

well, I haven't written for a couple of weeks but things are ok. I sure love this housecleaning system - the other night, I realized my house is staying clean & most of the time looks pretty good. My back is feeling better, my cold & canker are gone, so I'm feeling pretty good. Today, after Mike got back from school, we rode up Parley's canyon to Park City & back down Immigration canyon. We went to see the Autumn leaves, but they've just about all fallen up there! They sure were gorgeous in town tho. Matthew was echoing us, saying "Gorgeus!" over & over. It was cute. It was Sandy's birthday today so I called her - it was fun.

Oct 31 Sun

Friday nite Judy & John came & it was fun to see

Nov 30 1982 Tues

Brother, I've been awful! I'll be better. We went to Idaho for a week for Thanksgiving, it was lots of fun. We stayed at Steve & Kenda for 2 nights & Steve did dental work on us - Brett 4 fillings Michelle & Aaron 1 filling, me 2 (big) fillings. Brett still has 2 to go, so we'll try to do it the end of December. We went up to the cabin & it was really neat! The snow was pretty deep & we had fun.

Dec 5 1982 Sun

Mom Dad Steve & Kenda came down Friday nite. Saturday we went shopping while Mike was at school. Sat night Mike & I took Mom & Dad to see "Motherlode" & it was ok. It was fun to double date. They all went to Sacrament meeting with us, then went home. It was fun to have them here. I broke my washer today - I washed a big rug & it just stopped.

Dec 10 Fri

Went to the Ward Christmas party without Mike - he was at school. I ate so much - then when I got home, I ate some chocolate candy & orange jellies. at 12 I got up & threw up - a LOT Yuk Feel lousy.

Dec 11 1982 Sat — Today was weird - I spent all morning reading - then I finally started to get busy. The washer repairman came yesterday & fixed my washer & dishwasher (68 in all) so I've done a lot of washing & folding & put away. Mike came home from school about 4:00 & I was really grouchy. I guess I was mad at myself for lack of self control, mad at Mike for coming in wanting to eat & go again - & he wanted me to get a sitter so I called all over but couldn't get one - I really felt like I should stay home & prepare for tomorrow, but he wanted me to go; the kids were begging me (no real reason) anyway I just felt awful & I started crying as Mike left, & I just bawled. I was sitting on my bed & I looked up - there was Brett, half embarrassed, half surprised I was crying. Then Michelle came in & saw me crying, & started to cry. She put her arms around me & asked why I was crying. Course Aaron had to be in on it & see Mom cry - so there he was. Everywhere I went they followed. Couldn't even cry in privacy. It touched me, too, to see & feel their concern for me. It really was stupid to be crying. So anyway, Mike left & I was glad I stayed home. I got my lesson ready, cleared the house, made pumpkin pie for tomorrow, folded & put away clothes, & watched part of Walt Disney with the kids. Boy, I sure feel like a lousy mother. I don't want to have any more till I figure out how to be a better mother! My main problem is figuring out how to spend some time with each kid. Good Grief - I don't even spend 15 min a day on weekdays with Michelle so she can read to me! That's sickening. So see try to be better & remember THEY are the most important

Dec 20 — Today I cooked all day & Nate we put the treats together for our friends. It was fun. I'm pooped. Last night we sang in the Messiah & it was really beautiful. Mike had 2 solos & did such an excellent job. Last week we went to Temple Square to see the lights - it was beautiful & so peaceful. Also, last week I told Michelle about Santa - she had said "it's really you & dad, huh mom." I told her & she seemed excited, I couldn't believe it. I guess she's glad to know the truth. She's growing up.

Dec 21 — Tonight I had the cousins party here - it was pretty good. There were 16 altogether - just right! That's all the chairs we had. 4 of Beth's kids, 4 of Aunt Ramona's, & me & Mike. It lasted till about 10:30

Dec 22 Wed — I was going to take it easy today but Carol called to see if I could take the boys all day. I did & actually lived thru it! They drive me crazy too. I don't see how I could tend in the summer. I did make the boy's pj's today & they're kinda dorky but I hope they're ok. We went to tithing settlement - we paid over $3700.00! Wow! I actually contributed $20! woopee. Refunding & babysitting

Today I just cleaned, planned & went shopping. We took treats around to a lot of our neighbors & friends

Dec 24 Fri — This morning we went to Grand Central & ECMI & got a few last minute things. Then I cleaned house & fixed dinner - Mike's folks came at 3:30. We had a cute little program, Then opened presents. We gave Sheri a blouse, Mikes mom a book, Dad a book, both of them a picnic quilt I made & framed pictures of the kids. They gave each of the kids an outfit, & Aaron some cowboy boots. They gave Mike a corderoy jacket, wool pants socks, belt & gloves, me 2 darling blouses, slacks & an "autumn" dress - but the style is cute. She gave us both 2 sets of corelle dishes - they're really neat. Then we had a "Nazarene" dinner - Pita bread with meat stuffing, tabooleh salad, honeyed carrots, grape juice, & dates, cheese, nuts for dessert. It was really fun - good too! Then they left & the kids opened each other's presents, Ours to them - karate pj's they loved, & Michelle Strawberry Shortcake pj's she loved! Sandy & Ryan gave Matt slippers (cute - too small) Michelle & Brett a book Aaron a game. They gave us a wok! I was so excited but Mike gave me a wok too! His is authentic - theirs is electric. He also gave me a book & I gave him a new set of leather bound scriptures with his name engraved. He loves 'em.

Sheri gave each of the kids a game.

Dec 25 Sat Christmas — The kids were nice & didn't wake us up till 7:30. Santa sure was good to them! They got a speak n spell, artist easel, Michelle got a watch, printing kit, dolly pops, books etc Brett got some loc blocs, he man, zoids - etc Aaron got a jogging suit, wristrancer, chalkboard set, a Crest big wheels - it's big! Matt got a shopping basket, FP airplane, jogging suit, shoes etc Santa brought us all a Simon electronic game. About 1, we went to Ogden for a delicious dinner - we got home about 8. Lovely day

1983

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31 Dec / JAN FRI (2:30 AM) We had such a good day. We took down all the Christmas decorations & put them up in the attic, along with Halloween & other ones boxes. Tonite we went to the Oaken Bucket Restaurant for dinner - it was Excellent! Then we went to a dance for adults - at its peak there were about 25 couples. The band was good, & we had a riot. Especially at midnight we had hats & noisemakers & serpentine - everybody went wild. We danced till 12:30, then the Mechams invited over for snacks - with Pearsons. I felt like I've arrived! It was fun but its LATE & I'm bushed

Jan 2 Sunday Yesterday (Sat) I cleaned house & slept. Today I had a new class in Sunday School 5 girls 3 boys - I think it'll be fun if I can be prepared! We just did an intro today & it was awkward oh well. Mike & I spent the afternoon & evening planning & goal setting. My major goals for this year are

1) Be spiritually in good shape. DAILY scripture STUDY
2) Physical good shape EXERCISE 5 days week
3) Happy Home - show more love thru individual time with each child etc. Hope #1 will help here.

We also want to move toward debt liquidation. It's 9 pm & I'm planning on getting up at 6 to exercise

Jan 3 Mon I got up & exercised! I left at 9:30 & went & bought me a new navy blue wool suit $39. It's neat. Also a black wool skirt $20 & a "crazy" striped dress. Then I bought $50 worth of toiletries, & a little dress for Sabrina, Sandy's baby. This afternoon I went grocery shopping, cleaned house, dinner - Sheri came over - Mike moved her in to her new apt this afternoon.

Jan 4 Tues Today I worked so hard cleaning. The house looks so good. Mike helped me with the family room. Sandy & Ryan got here at 10 pm & we stayed up & talked - I'm dead - I exercised at 6 again. Feel good

Jan 5 Wed I went to the eye doctor today & had my eyes checked - ordered some new glasses yea! Sandy & Ryan went to the zoo this afternoon - I watched Sabrina. She's a doll, but wouldn't sleep, so I didn't get a nap. Sandy & Ryan were going to go to Provo, but stopped to see a friend & didn't leave till 10, so they came back here.

Jan 6 Thurs Sandy & Ryan left at 11. I fed the kids, sent Brett to school, & we went to bed. I was absolutely exhausted. Tonite I cleaned out my closet & tried on my new clothes. Fun

Jan 11 Tues — I took Matt & Aaron to the doctor - they both have ear infections, as I suspected. Matt has been referred to an ear specialist if his ears don't clear up - I hope they don't kind of, so we can see somebody who knows what he's doin. Anyway, Mike & I went to the temple to do initiatory tonight, & it was so special. The promises there are so neat! Anyhow, it hit me that it is time to have another baby! Up until now I've not been at all baby hungry, but this past week I've been thinking about it. Sunday we had a good lesson about motherhood, & different things - anyway, it's all up to the Lord now. I have faith that all will go well. I'm going to continue to exercise & hope I can firm up before I start fattening up. Anyway, I'm really praying for a girl - I hope that's OK to do - of course, I'd love another son - our boys are so darling. But I keep thinking there's a little Amy Katrina Williams waiting for us to get with it! Mike & I have had such a special relationship lately. I'm so grateful to have such a wonderful, spiritual husband.

Jan 17 Mon — Last night Mom & Dad, Linda & Dee came & stayed. They brought us our Christmas present - a big garbage can full of emergency supplies - it's really neat. We stayed up talking till 12:30 & I couldn't get to sleep till after 1. They left about 10 am - I planned shopping & went shopping - then put away groceries - fed dinner & ate. FHE - & bed! Mike's parents & Sheri were going to come for FHE but they called about 4 & said that they didn't feel like it. Sheri & I came & we watched slides. I am exhausted tho.

Jan 18 Tues — Today I worked hard & got a lot done. I went to the Dr & he gave me a very good check out. I was embarrassed tho, cuz I was just wearing my bra & garment bottoms. He said I'm OK - my back muscles are stiff and I'm too young to be so stiff - so he gave me a muscle relaxant & told me to exercise to stretch the muscles. So - I'll try it.

Jan 20 Thurs — Today I went to a chiropractor! Yesterday I called around & decided I would go to one. I talked to Mom & Sheree Smith - & she said I really should go to one. So I talked to Mike & he said - "do what you feel is best", so I went to Aunt Lorie's chiropractor. I was so scared, but he was very nice, & my back still aches, my mobility is so much better! I was changing the sheets & I could bend my neck on the pillow to put the pillow case on - I was thinking about whether it's the right thing

to do - he told me to come back tomorrow & then twice next week - then once a week for a month whew - that scared me! That's been one of Mikes complaints - that once you start going to em, you have to keep going. And it cost $30 today (gulp) & $15 each other time. So anyway, I was worrying about if I did the right thing, & I noticed I had just clean pillowcases on & hadn't noticed any pain! Usually it really hurts. So that really excited me.

Friday Jan 21 I went back to Dr. Tripp (the chiropractor) today - he worked on me some more & said my body had responded perfectly to the treatment yesterday. He was a little rougher today, but I sure felt great! My mobility is much better & my back doesn't hurt very much - its much better than yesterday even. He explained that I needed three close appointments to gradually work it back in - like a rusty hinge. I got some pamphlets for Mike to read - but they just bothered him because of their fanatical - zealous proselyting - he says they sound like protestant tracts. Anyway. Then I took Mary to ord to IHP for her blood test, then I took her home & went to St. Marks for an eye exam - I sure wish I would have kept my appointment with Dr. Smith at IHP - this guy had never even seen soft lenses! And he gave me = ~~one~~ prescriptions for each eye! So anyway, I went to Royal & got my contacts - they sent the insurance in, so I only paid $8! Then I had to go back to St Marks because I forget to have them do the insurance - so they gave me back my $27 check & I gave them one for $24! So, $12 not bad! Then I came home & got the kids from Yetters & went to Wendy's - met Mike there for dinner. His parents had come down to give him a new coat & it is really beautiful.

Jan 23 Jan

Yesterday we saw Mike for an hour, Friday we saw Mike for 1/2 hour, & today we saw him during the meeting and from 5:30-8:30 then he left for an hour to run a paper to the bishop. I know he's engaged in a good cause & I know he's involved in things, but it bugs me & makes me feel like he doesn't care that much about being home - even if he does so. I felt pretty good all day - Dave sang with Mike & it was good. Then Sue stayed till about 6:30 but we sure enjoyed having her here. I enjoy talking with her.
My back still bothers me at night - & so does my neck.

Mon Jan 24

I went to the chiropractor again today - my back feels as bad as ever, altho my mobility is much much better. Anyway, Mike said my appointment next Thursday is the last one, & I feel so bad cuz I'm not so sure what to do. I feel like I really should do the whole series - which would be 4 or 5 more times. That means a total of $125 - $140. And - that's a lot. But if my back is all better - it's worth it! So I feel bad - I don't know what to do. He really worked me over & told me I might be sore - so I don't know what to do.

We celebrated Matt's birthday today, because tomorrow is going to be hectic. So, we gave him a few toys & had a party. The snow started falling about 4 pm, & it came down a big fluffy flakes, so the kids & I went out to play in it. Then Mike came out & we made 3 big snowmen & played fox & geese & we all really enjoyed it. Brett said "This is so fun - our whole family out here playing in the snow together." And it really was fun.

Matthew's 2nd Birthday!!

Tues Jan 25

I can't believe Matthew is 2 years old. He don't still do believe is that whenever Sue had a child turn 2, Sue either had a 2 month old, 3 month old, or been 7 months pregnant. It's hard to imagine having a baby & him, too. He is such a sweetheart & we love him so much! He really is a stinkbug though. He'll grab something and run away giggling just so I'll run after him. He is a real mess maker too. He pulls chairs around in the kitchen & gets whatever he wants off the counters. He's forever getting into the sugar or honey & dumping it all over. And like the other day when he got a little chair, stood on it to open my bedroom door, went in, closed the door, got the stuff off my dresser, found some pins & poked 5 holes in my waterbed. Or like when he pulled a chair to the office door, went in, pulled up a little stool to the phone, turned on the radio full blast, & picked up the phone - I was on the phone upstairs & I said "Hang it up." He did then a minute later, picked it up & started pushing buttons!

He really got a temper, too. If he doesn't get what he wants, he screams & kicks & goes all stiff, then limp so he's hard to carry. He "sputters" at anybody when he's mad at them.

He loves to read books - he'll make me or Mike sit on the Rockin Chair, then he'll get a book & back up to us. He especially likes the Book of Knowledge with all the pictures in it. Pokey Puppy is a favorite, too.

I took him to the doctor today & he's still got an ear infection. I have an appointment with an ear specialist for the 17th.

Matthew also loves to sing - he'll open a song book & sing & sing - even at church. It's so cute. He tells me when he's "ca-ca" & "change my diaper" but he's not real interested in potty training.

Jan 27 Last Monday after my treatment I was really miserable. Today I felt better, but not much better than I had before I started going to the dr. So today I told him how I felt, & I wasn't sure if it would help or not to keep coming, how I couldn't afford it etc etc. He said he likes patients to keep their bills paid but he doesn't want me to stop coming just because of money. That I should keep coming and pay whenever I can. He said you've got to take care of yourself because you're #1. Who's going to take care of your kids if you can't? He said he was less in Conference & the prophet said Put yourself first, your family second, the church last. So I need to take care of #1! So anyway, Mike's concerned but I think he's slowly coming around to believing in chiropractors. I did some refunding last night & today - I told Mike I have to earn my keep! He said no I don't - he'll earn my keep & I only need to do refunding as a hobby. I'm sending $23 worth tomorrow, plus I have $50 that should be coming back in a month!

I went to Mervyns (speaking of being broke) and put on layaway socks & underwear for the kids - $36 worth. We get them next month. I also bought Michelle some undershirts at Penney's she really needs 'em. I bought some Vit D & garlic for the kids - Dr Tripp says Garlic is a natural antibiotic & I should give the kids 2-10,000 A's a day & 4-250 mg C a day & that'll help with ear infections. He said they probably need an adjustment, but I don't think I'd go that far. I'm not that sold on it.

Tuesday 30 Jan — Today was ward conference and Coree Ogden gave an excellent talk. It was about spirituality in the home. She's so spiritually tuned I can't believe it. Anyway, I want to work on having a more spiritual family life. One idea popped into my head - that Mike should give our kids the missionary discussions - especially Michelle, since she'll be baptized in 4 months. Vicki came over this afternoon - her roommates are really gross & crude, so she looked at the newspaper & called a few places - then she & I went & looked at 2. She found one she likes, so we're helping her move here tomorrow, then she'll go to California for 1½ wks. Then when she gets back, we'll move her in. Her parents are coming down tomorrow night & they're going to buy her a bedroom set! My back's feeling pretty good - the ache is more centralized & not so deep - kind of superficial.

Sat Feb 5 — Carol's Wedding

I came up to Idaho Thursday & brought Grandpa & Ellen. It was a really enjoyable trip. I stayed at Judy's Thurs & Friday. This morning Carol Cannon, my niece, married Ben Elkington. The temple president married them. It was so neat - he talked about listening to your parents, but always setting your own course. It was so neat - that I sure missed Mike - I felt so bad for Vicki, esp. she was alone - & Mike would have been there if he could have. It was really special tho.

Mon Feb 14 — Jonite for FHE it was so neat. Mike had everybody tell everybody why they loved them. It was really special - you could just feel the love flowing.

Feb 25 1983 Brett's 6th Birthday

Today Brett is 6 years old! He sure is a funny kid. Ever since school started he's been pretty grouchy, I don't know if it's added stress or what. Anyway, I hope he grows out of it soon. When he's happy he is so much fun to be around! He loves to tell jokes, do puns or rhymes, & they're usually pretty funny! He likes school, I think, but he hates to quit playing to get ready. He also gets upset that they don't ever get recess. His teacher says he's doing really well his schoolwork - he always gets ☆ or ✓. Brett always dresses himself, ties his own shoes etc. & boy is he proud of it! Course, he has 2 or 3 shirts he wants to wear all the time - worn out ones, of course. I gave him some cute ones for his birthday - I hope he wears them. After school 3 of his friends came over & watched "Star Wars" but boy did they talk constantly! So when the movie was half over, I turned it off, opened the presents, fed em & sent em home. Judy's been staying here this week - it's been fun. Anyway, Brett is a wonderful artist. He sits for hours, really, & draws & draws. Right now, dinosaurs are really his big thing. It's amazing to me how smart he is - he knows all their ½ mile long names, what they eat etc. He draws them, colors them, cuts em out - you name it. He still loves horses, too, & draws those really well too. He can read almost anything - he sure is a smart kid! He's really growing tall, too - he's about an inch taller than Michelle. They look like twins! His hair is still quite blond & his eyes beautiful chocolate chip. I sure do love our special 6-year old!

March 17 1983 Thursday night

Today Matthew had tubes put in his ears & his adenoids taken out. He left about 8:30 (he hasn't eaten since 9 last night) - they checked him & stuff. They had me put him in a little hospital gown & some little slippers. He looked so adorable after the anesthesiologist checked him - he said, "Get dressed. Go home now." He was really a doll. Mike came & stayed for about an hour - during the surgery & after. The doctor came out & said everything was ok & that he checked Matthew's adenoids - they were enlarged so out they came! Then I got Matthew dressed & went to another waiting room for almost 2 hours - he slept most of the time. Then he woke up & ate 3 more popsicles (he ate 1 soon after surgery.) He fell asleep on the way home and slept till after 5. Then I gave him some grape juice & he threw it up. I gave him a cracker it was ok. Then he ate dinner & later 3 more popsicles. He is such an angel. He was so good today & I think the blessing Mike & Mark gave him last night really helped.

March 18 Friday Mike's 31st birthday

This morning I went to Mervyn's clearance & bought $20 worth of stuff. Mike was disappointed I didn't get him anything for his birthday, so I got him an $18 wallet for $2.98! A shirt & tie - me a skirt & blouse, nylons etc & some disposable diapers. I'm sick of real ones! He came home at 2:30 so we got to spend some time together. He left for school at 5:45, & my parents got here at 6. We went to my cousin Randolyn Beckstead's wedding reception in Provo.

Sat Mar 19

This am. Mom & I went to Mervyns to find her some good deals & all she got was a dress. I got 3 maternity blouses @ 2.98 ea & 3 turtlenecks 98¢ ea & she bought Colleen 3 maternity tops too - yes, she's pregnant. Anyway, we were gone too long & Dad was mad. I sure was exhausted & grouchy today. Took a nap. Mike & I went to a 70's dinner tonite - weird, but fun. We had to choose our menus but we didn't know what it was - I had spagetti & a salad, but no fork! Anyway, it was interesting, but I was so tired when we got home (9:30).

Sun Mar 20 1983 This a.m. I awoke with a sore throat but didn't think much about it in the rush to get ready for church. However, during church it got worse & I got a headach. Mike got me some aspirin & I taught my class, but didn't talk much. Fortunately, there was a lot of student involvement. A disturbing thing happened, & I don't know what to do about it. One of the boys in my class said he was letting friends into the movies for free, & he was going to sell unused tickets for $. Anyway, I said something about needing a lesson on integrity & honesty, & I can't believe he's really doing it. Anyhow, I'm worried about it a lot.

Anyway, I came home from church & went to bed till 3:30, then got dressed, we picked up Staci, & went to FHP. (I earlier told Mike to go without me but he said if I didn't go, he wouldn't go - and since it was his birthday dinner, I felt he should go) So anyway, I saw 2 doctors & they said I have tonsilitis & I have an abscess in my throat. (By this time I had a slight fever & chills.) They gave me a Rx for 8 tablets (250 mg ea.) of Penicillin every day. That's double the usual dose. I was shaking so bad by then I couldn't believe it. All the way to Ogden I slept - even with the heat full blast, my coat & 2 blankets. When I got there I took a big HOT bath - Mike's mom wasn't real thrilled about it, I could tell - but that took care of the shakes. After about an hour, I got out & got in bed & then I was sweating. (I sure wish I would've stayed home.) We didn't get home till after 11 & I'm miserable.

Mar 21 Mon Last night was almost as bad a beginning labor. I woke up every hour for about a half hour - my throat hurt so bad, I held a splitting headach & I alternated between sweating & freezing - or both. Today I had Michelle stay home & read but they all thought it was "Mamma this" or "Mamma that" & drove me crazy. Karen called & she said to send them over - so that was 1½ hrs I slept - Brett was at Carlile's. Ben, Matt & Aaron slept after lunch so I did too. I was so miserable this morning 102.6° & freezing - my throat is so gross looking - it's red & thin all yellowish white clear to the back of my throat. I asked Mike to give me a blessing, but he couldn't get ahold of Mark - about 7 my fever broke & I felt so much better.

Mar 22 Tues

Last night was better but I feel really rotten today. My left side is getting sore & the gland is swollen now. Brett & Aaron played at Bens this am & I just laid on the couch. I tried to get Aaron to take a nap but he wouldn't. I was just about to go to sleep & the doorbell rang - Pete & Alene Cannon! They stayed & talked for a hour - then people kept calling. I nearly went crazy. I called Mary Jo to see if she'd watch Aaron & she said "well, are you sure he doesn't have tonsilitis?" so I said never mind. It made me feel so bad - I was so sick & Karen was my only friend to offer to help! And she's the one I've probably helped the least. I can understand tho - she (Jo) isn't feeling well & can't handle sickness. She also said "I know I should take all your kids, but I'm so paranoid about anybody in my family getting sick." so I felt bad - but I tried to understand. So I hoped maybe she or someone would bring dinner (this my 1st tho!) but nobody did. So I threw something together & felt better & sad & mad that nobody was helping me. (Mike just started his new job yesterday, so he couldn't stay home - but he's been Great.) I was hoping Mike's mom would offer to keep the little ones for a few days, but I'm sure it would never occur to her. Unfortunately. Finally Mark Tyson came over & he & Mike gave me a blessing & I'm sure I'll feel better. My back sure has been feeling great! Not hurting at all.

Mar 23 Wed

Boy, I felt so much better today. The yellow is almost gone & the swelling is down. I can swallow and talk now - it's great. Brett played at Loreens this morning & Aaron played at Diane's today so that helped. I fixed a pretty good dinner tonite & even did dishes. I'm so thankful I'm feeling better.

Mar 24 Thurs

My back hurt a little this morning & I was trying to figure out why - It's been feeling so good. Reasons? 1) antibiotics 2) I haven't been doing dishes 3) I've been laying around 4) I've been taking 500 mg magnesium but I did dishes last night! (This it sounds funny (ha ha) as I thought more about it, I stand there, twist & bend to load the dishwasher!

George

well, I told Mike & thought maybe he'd do the dishes from now on but he said I'd just have to figure out a different way to do it. I tried a different way - but my back is bothering me tonight - I can't believe it. My throat, altho still a little swollen, hardly hurts. I'm just quite weak & still haven't done much. I weigh 138! I haven't weighed that for ages! I look so skinny! I love it, but I'm afraid I'll gain it all back once I start eating again.

April 1 1983 My 28th Birthday Friday

I had such a nice birthday today - Sheri slept over & Mike & I went to the temple this morning then to the mall. We ran all over & we bought me some pretty white shoes, & a pattern for a white blouse & some pearl earrings (cheap). Oh - last Wed (30th) we met Mike's parents & Sheri at Benihana's & had a good dinner, then went to the church's production "Behold the Lamb of God." After, we saw Ralph Rogers, the director, and Mark E Peterson! It was neat. Mike's mom commented on how nice I looked & that I'd lost weight. She sure seems obsessed with it. Sheri's gained more - I'll bet she weighs 160. I know it kills her mom but she ought to stop bugging her. Anyway, they gave me a beautiful summer suit from Zeni - it's light blue. But its too tight, so I don't know whether to take it back or what. Maybe with control top panty hose - Anyway, my home teacher called at 7 am to say Happy Birthday. 5 minutes later Judy called - while I was talking to her, Mom called, & while I was talking to her, Vicki called - it was fun. I got a package from Diane (bavarian mints & footies!) such a cutie - & Sandy called tonite. It was fun. Sheri & I were going to go out but I was too tired, so she came over & we watched t.v. Mike had school. But anyhow, it was a very nice day.

1983

April 9 Sat — Thursday ~~Peg~~ Carrie came for dinner & then we all went to "Magic to Do" - the same program we got on last October. I did really look on my date with Mike - I had a frog in my throat. Anyway, I was glad it was over. After, this lady came up & gave me $10 - I almost died! It was my babysitter's mother - She said we overpaid her daughter & then had to pay her for all those practices etc - boy, I couldn't believe it. I was exhausted, too. I worked really hard all day to whip the house into shape - I've just been exhausted these past few weeks! Friday my back & throat hurt again, but I took the kids & Sheri to Ogden - Christopher + Jennifer stayed over. But by the time we got home I was feeling sick again - it was worse this morning, so I went to the dr. & took Aaron. I have tonsilitis again & he has an infection in both ears. They tested for mono but it was negative. He said it's a bacterial infection - so I'm back on penicillin & I feel lousy. I sure am sick of being sick. Oh last Sunday Mike said, "Well if I'm getting out of the reserve, we'll be able to go to Education week!" I'm so excited I can't stand it. He couldn't believe how happy I was

April 12 Tues — Today I really accomplished a lot more than I expected. I'm feeling pretty good. I went to the chiropractor yesterday - he helped, but not completely! My back feels better today than yesterday so maybe there's hope. A ~~X~~ the other day at the dr I told Aaron he was an angel. He said "Uh-uh - I'm not an angel, cuz I don't have a horn!" cracked me up.

April 13 Wed — Matthew got up looking pretty sick today, so I took him to the doctor. His tubes are ok - his ears don't look just right, but his throat was red, tonsils enlarged & pus - so he gave him some penicillan & took a throat culture. We stopped at the library & got some books, took a nap, and worked on my sewing class. I balanced my checkbook.

April 14 Thurs — Boy I cleaned like mad today - Mom Dad Linda Lee came around 3 & stayed for about 2 hours. It was fun to talk to them. My sewing class started today & 1 of the 3 showed up - but Pam Bloch & her Mom came. Then a guy from Avolier came & tried to sell us some good stuff, but we didn't buy - It was NEAT but I think it was over.

April 15, 1983 Friday — This morning I cleaned up and filled about 6 boxes & bags of good garbage - then after lunch I went to Mervyns & spent $33! But I got 2 darling dresses for Michelle one is beige & purple with ribbon & lace - one is a navy sailor dress with a big white collar & red piping. I love 'em! And I got her a purple gingham blouse & purple material to make some pants - knickers, I think. I bought Aaron & Matt 2 T-shirts. & didn't buy me anything! I talked Karen into buying herself a maternity blouse for $2.98. There were 2 darling other ones but they were $6.98 so she didn't get it then. She's 6½ mo pregnant & still wearing regular clothes (she looks awful) I wish she'd take care of herself Anyway. When Mike got home we went to Hardees for dinner. Then to Grand Central & bought $50 worth of gardening supplies. I hope our garden does better this year! Today the scouts power raked and raked our lawn. Hope it helps.

April 16 1983 Saturday — What a day! It started out beautifully - the weather was gorgeous. I cleaned up the house then went out & worked on the garden with Mike. He tilled it by hand - filled in dead grass & peat moss. Then I raked, fertilized, & raked in made furrows. About 1:30 Brett rode his bike into the back yard & somehow tipped over & hit his leg on the plastic drain pipe & it really hurt his leg, so he crawled into the house (we were resting) & laid on the couch. We checked his legs - only a slight bruise on his lower shin - left leg. No swelling. So we watched him a couple of hours - he acted OK, but Mike had him try to stand on it & he just screamed. So Mike took him to the doctor about 3:45. At 5:45 he called me & said the pediatrician didn't think it was broken, but X-rayed to be sure - & sure enough, a clear fracture a couple of inches above the ankle! So Mary Jo took my kids & I went to Holy Cross Hospital & Dr Dear put the cast on "that dirty foot" Brett is so brave & tough. The only time he cried was after the cast was on it got Really hot & he said his leg was cookin'. Anyway, we got home around 9:15 What a day.

Brett's broken leg

It wasn't cracked clear through, but almost! We couldn't believe it.

April 22 1983 George (Sara) Vicki & Ron came Sat nite - Mike & I went to the temple & got to be witnesses - it was really neat. Wed I cleaned & visited. Thurs Vicki left - Ron went to Texas for AF basic - he'll be gone 5 mo. then he'll be in the reserves. I sure hope all goes well & this works out for them. I've been walking 2 miles every morn this week & I've been a ZOMBIE & GROUCH!! Brett went back to school Wed & has been doing really well. The bottom of the pad on his cast is almost worn out. Thurs I took Aaron & JC tonite & we picked out some shoes, jeans, cowboy hat & a couple of little toys. He was happy. I bought some sheets (2 sets) to make curtains for Michele as well as new sheets.

April 23 1983 Aaron's 4th Birthday Today Aaron is 4 years old! He sure is a cutie. Tonight we went to Showbiz Pizza to celebrate. It was fun. He sure did enjoy it, anyway Aaron is sure a cute little boy. He's full of life & energy - he plays ball, swings hard, rides his bike fast, colors & draws really well - he's getting better all the time. He's big thing is folding up lots of papers then taping it all together. He loves to tape things. He can write his name & he can write & recognize many letters. One cute thing he does is write ODKNCOG or something like that, then come & ask me what it says. The other day he brought me a big paper with a lot of letters on it & asked me what it said. So I said "Does it say Mother Dear I love you so!"? and he said Ya! And then he taped it to my door. He is such a cutie. He's concerned that I'm going to kick him out of the house when he grows up, because he'll say things like "I don't want to be a missionary" or "I don't want to be a daddy" "I don't want to get married" "I can't live in another house when I get big - cuz I don't know where one is!" "I don't want to get another mom" (wife) so I tell him he can stay with us as long as he wants. He gets too warm at night, so he often kicks off his covers. Then he gets really cold. sometimes he comes up & gets in bed with us. And he feels like an icicle! Then he snuggles up to me & puts his

ice cube feet between my legs. I love it. I used to do that all the time with my mom when I was little. Another thing about Aaron - he is the kissiest kid! He loves to kiss me & hug me - he's such a cutie. We love him so much.

May 5 1983 Michelle's 8th Birthday

Michelle's 8th Birthday!!

My firstborn - 8 years old! Unbelievable!! She is growing into a beautiful (if stubborn) young lady. Michelle can be very grown up, smart & helpful - when she feels like it. She's very generous and giving - usually. She has a quick mind & is persistant - she's a real diplomat. If I say no to a request, she explains, pleads, restates the question, modify her question & bugsbugsbugs me until I see the light & give in! (Anything for peace & quiet!) She draws pretty well, & likes to make cards & letters & little things for people. She makes me cards that say how much she loves me, etc. She's getting pretty good about her schedule - & she's getting better at cleaning the bathroom - She is really good about setting & clearing the table, making her bed & cleaning her room. (Altho it sure gets messy fast.) She's getting pretty tall, & her hair is getting long again - she loves it long. She sure is definite about her clothes & what things she wears. Likes slip on pants, no belts, no slips etc. She's pretty good & usually looks pretty cute. Sometimes she loves to tease her brothers & bug them, & of course, Brett screams & bawls & carries on so she loves it. In all fairness, sometimes it's reversed, too! And he bugs her. "She's intelligent, pretty & she knows it," says Dad. "Inquiring, sensitive." (She bawls at the littlest things - she gets her feelings hurt very easily. "Motherly, loving." She's so cute with Matthew - she helps dress him, change his diapers, swing him & she goes to get him when he runs away around the block. What would we do without her? I'd hate to know. Sometimes I just stare at her - she's so delicate & pretty & smart & graceful. And I hope I'm giving her the love & self esteem she needs to help her be successful in life. Oh yes, one more thing -

she is BOSSY. Course I suppose that comes natural to a firstborn. When she's playing with friends - she's always the teacher, the leader, the boss. She organizes everyone & tells them what to do. We have a tape with songs from different countries & she does the dance & tells everybody what to do, where to stand, who's what & so on. It's cute but I hope it's leadership & not bossiness!

She had a birthday party & had 14 kids here & we watched Charlotte's Web. It was pretty fun & hectic. Alene Cannon my friend from BYU & Germany came & brought her kids. It was so fun to talk to her. Mike & I bought a new waterbed! It has foam in it & is really nice. $130. Gulp. Hope it works better than the other! I was filling it when the party started so I turned off the water & put the hose in the tub. Well, it fell out of the tub & drained all over the bathroom floor! What a mess.

Mike & I went to a Stephen R. Covey lecture & it was excellent. Sheri went too. I sure do like her. Anyhow, he stressed how it is so important to take care of yourself (the goose in the golden egg fable) So your production will be better. Physical, Mental, Spiritual & ~~Social~~ Emotional - love. It was really good & I'm so excited to go to Education Week with Mike. Can't wait.

5/29/83 Today in my class we played "Follow the Prophets" instead of having a lesson - it was fun. There were only 4 girls there & it was fun. After church we drove out to South Jordan cemetary to see Grandma Beckstead's Grave. On the way, I read her life story to the kids & they really liked it. Especially Michelle. At her grave, some people came over & they (he) was Henry's nephew! Walgreens. It was neat to talk to them. On the way home, we finished the life story & I cried quite a bit - Brett was concerned & put his hand on my arm - quietly, comfortingly. It was neat - I'm glad we got to go. She was a great lady & I'm thankful for her & of course, my own mother! I called Vicki & she'll probably come around the 8th. It was fun to talk to her.

Oh! On the 19th Brett got his cast off & altho he can walk, he doesn't bend his knee - he acts as tho there's still a cast on. Mike's bugged him a lot but I think if we bug him it'll only get worse. So Mike's backed off a bit & the last few days have seen a big improvement. Steve & Kenda had a baby boy that same day - Justin Shaun Nielsen. So exciting. I'll bet they're thrilled. Oh - I've been giving Brett vitamin B for a month or so & I've noticed a marked improvement in his attitude. he's a much happier boy! So I think I should start giving them to All of us!

In June Vicki & her kids came for a week - we had a lot of fun & went crazy. We went to Hogle Zoo & Liberty Park & it was neat. The week of 25 June we went to the Cabin & really had a fun time there - just our little family. Then on Thursday people started coming for the July 4th weekend. Over the weekend there were 45 of us there - what a madhouse! But neat. We spent a whole day going thru yellowstone & we all really enjoyed it.

I got a perm & cut & loved it!

July 18 was my 10 year HS reunion! It was really fun to see so many old friends. I came home happy & grateful & satisfied with my life.

July 30 Mike went to Ft Carson Colorada for his 2 wk training. I went to Idaho for a week & just visited. I had a good time. I stayed up till after 3am one night talking to Vicki & up past 3am another night talking to Sandy!! Boy was I tired & grouchy the next day. My period was late & I was getting suspicious. We went to some garage sales & got some fun things. The next couple of days, I recovered, then went to Hill AFB & spent $160 at the commissary & $250 at the BX! I bought me & Michelle a new bike rack! It was fun. That 2nd week while Mike was gone, Mountain Bell went on strike, & it went on for 2 more weeks, so he spent 2 weeks working 12 hrs a day. It was ~~awful~~ awful! Especially since it was during Ed week at BYU. I had worked so hard at getting babysitters etc all worked out, then we

couldn't go. I was upset, but I wasn't feeling too swift anyway - & I was really tired of going all summer. Sheri went to the Temple July 18, & I was making a temple dress & my sewing machine broke so I got mad & said "I'm not putting any more money in this yukky machine!" So I went to Bernina & bought a sewing machine. It is the "bottom of the line" but it sews beautifully and I love it! Now I've got to get busy sewing. Anyhow, I am PREGNANT! I haven't been feeling too great - in fact, I don't remember feeling this lousy before. I just get queasy & can't do anything - I'm tired, as usual.

Thurs, Aug 25 The kids started school - Michelle in 3rd grade & Brett in 1st. It's sure nice to have them gone all day - especially Brett - because he really bugged me - he was bored. Anyway, he's been having fits about going to school. Last weekend (Sept 3) Mike had strep throat, so Tuesday we all went in & had throat cultures. Wednesday, Judy & John came, & Thursday, I found out Brett, Aaron & Matt all had STREP! (And Mike's test was negative!) Weird. So I hope Brett will do better in school if he can start feeling better. I think he must have some allergy - his eyes have been stinging & puffy but seem to be doing better. Then Thursday night my throat started to hurt again, & Friday it turned into a lousy head cold. I guess if it's not one thing, it's another.

Oh - a couple of weeks ago we bought a 21 cu ft. freezer from our neighbors for $50! I cleaned it up & put stuff in it - I love it.

By the way, I had gone to a ENT specialist & he suggested I have my tonsils out, so I got an appt for Sept 13. However, since I'm pregnant, I had to cancel. Also, the greatest thing is that I've been going to a physical therapist for about 3 months & he has helped me immensely! He said my problem is muscular not skeletal & that's why the chiropractor didn't help. I sure wasted a lot of money on him (Dr Tripp) But anyway I've been going 3 weeks between visits - I hardly ever notice my back! And I used to always notice it! I love it.

Oct 9 1983 Sunday

This is ridiculous- how seldom I write. Yesterday we had an earthquake! It only lasted here about 10 sec but it sure was a big rumble! It was just before 6 am & Aaron had climbed in bed with me a few minutes before. Then, this big rumble & the house started to shake! I thought it was a big hailstorm that hit immediately & shook the house, but Mike said, "It's an earthquake!" We couldn't believe it. It was felt from Ogden almost to Provo, lasting 45 sec in some places. No one was hurt, just very minor damage. (A typewriter fell off a desk & hurt somebody's foot) I thought about it all day & kind of took it as a warning to be prepared! So we'll have to decide what we need to do. I've been feeling pretty good lately- hardly any nausea, just a little tired (some days I even go without a nap!) My biggest problem is constipation. Exciting, huh. So I'm feeling much better - cooking dinner, cleaning etc. I go to the doctor tomorrow & we'll be glad to see how I'm doing.

Oct 10 1983 Monday

This morning I was sorting laundry, bending over, & something happened in my lower back. Ow-it hurt. I had an OB appt this morning- everything is FINE - I even heard her heartbeat! That was really exciting. This afternoon I spent on the heating pad but it didn't help much.

Sunday Oct 16 1983

Today in my SS class I gave a lesson on keeping a journal- so I made the kids promise to write every day this week & I told them I would. I went to my physical therapist tues & fri & he told me to exercise & strengthen those supportive muscles. So I've been looking for a book that's supposed to have good ones in it. Fri night we went to Carlos & played cards & ate & talked till 1:30- it sure was fun. Sat night we had a SS party at Deanns- everybody else left about 9:30 & we stayed & gabbed till 1:30 - I think we kinda overstayed our welcome — Hi! Mike's applied for a job with Bonneville Intl. He should have an interview this week- I'm anxious to get it over with & not knowing what's going on makes me nervous. We started Messiah practice tonight & I was so glad I'm a part of it.

Oct 17 Monday — Matt woke me at 6:10 a.m & said he'd wet Michelle's bed. So I stuck him in the tub. Soon Michelle was up & barking cuz she was wet. So she went in the tub. Mike was complaining he didn't have any shirts, Brett & Aaron were yelling they didn't have any clothes - I went downstairs and the clean laundry was piled up & the dirty laundry was piled up - it was a mess! Mike came down to kiss me goodbye & I started bawling - I felt so bad! Anyway, the cracked wheat burned, the kids were fighting & carrying on & I just started crying, came to my room, & I heard Michelle crying too. She felt bad cuz I was crying. Anyway, I got my card file reorganized, cleaned fridge, top of fridge, Rich's store straightened house & did about 10 loads of laundry - even put most of it away! So I got quite a bit accomplished today.

bad day!

Oct 18 Tues — This morning I got my hours clean, went to VT, Diane took my kids while I went to Mervyns & tried on flat clothes yuk - didn't love any of em, went to JC & bought junk, got milk. Then I fended her 2, then Debbie 3, then Ryan & Michael for 1½ hrs. It was a little taxing but not too bad. I got 1 blouse cut out today & 1 tonight. Amy Lou called & told me Harmons was closing but their intellivision game - a $300 value for $49! So Mike ran down & bought 2 of em! One for us for Christmas & one for Claudia's family. Good deal! We played the 3 games that came with it. Still be fun. It's late I'm tired.

1st Video game

Oct 19 Wed — This am I went to the Phys Ther & he says I feel looser. So I'm going to go 2 weeks. I am feeling better. After ther went to the mall & I bought some game cartridges 3 for $40! No more! I made dinner for Carlie, cut out blouse, did ironing. We met Mike for lunch. He took us to Shakeys & it was fun.

Oct 20 Thurs — Today I made a blouse! It's a sailor-type - so cute! I started another one, too. I feel like I'm being calmer & using better discipline with the kids. I've been reading this book - A Survival Manual for Mothers of Children by Linda Eyre - it's great. I talked to Vicki this am. It was fun. She says Claude has a computer - so I guess we'll sell it to someone! (The Intellivision) I also bought a book yesterday for pre-natal exercises - it's good. I hope it helps my back. Poor Mike is studying so hard. I'll be glad when he's done with school.

1983 Today I cleaned, paid bills, & caught up my checkbook. Mike had a presen-
Oct 21 tation in class tonite & did really well. Sheri had a practice so stayed
Fri over. On - I made ww bread & it turned out really good. I got new
yeast so I guess that helped. After the kids went to bed I set up
the intellivision & played with the new games. I couldn't get the
intellivoice to work & neither could Mike. so I got the other one
out and it works fine. Vicki called tonite & they want the other one - So -

Oct 22 Today the kids & I really cleaned the family room & got rid of a lot of
Sat junk. Now I need to work on the sewing/laundry room. Such a mess!
I watched Mike mow the back lawn with the hand mower - had
dinner, dishes, kids to bed etc. Got my lesson on life histories ready -
I love to read my ancestors' histories & I have 5 years on my
own to catch up on!

Oct 23 Sandy (my sister)'s birthday is today so I called & talked to her for
Sunday a half hour. It was fun. Mom & Dad & Colleen & Vicki are going up there
tomorrow - I wish I could go. It'd be fun. Kinda impossible tho.
Well, in my class today on 1 person had written every day -
Jodi Oliverson, & she wasn't even in class last week! Today I
talked about life histories - I read some excerpts from Mine &
my grandma's life histories. Then we all worked on life histories.
I thought it was kinda fun. Now that I'm into writing in my
journal, I'm going to start scriptures again. My back's been
bothering me today - because of the stuff I did yesterday, I guess.

Oct 24 Boy did I get a lot done today. That card system sure helps me -
Mon Mike loves it. I hung a bunch of pictures today - in my
bedroom, L room & boy's room. It sure looks better. I really
cleaned out my closet & drawers & end table. Boy my room looks
great but I'm exhausted & my back is really hurting

Oct 25 I'm pooped - went shopping & got a lot of stuff. I'm really tired.
Tues Felt the baby move today! How exciting!

Oct 26 Brett's had a big zit in his ear & it's been really yukky so I took him to the
Wed dr today, went to school for child check (I've been doing it this week) Then came
home & zonked! Then I went to Mervyns & bought me some black pumps & red earrings.
Then I met Mike & we went to the temple - it was nice. I'm so pooped

Oct 27 Thurs — Today was another busy but not to productive day. I went to the school again to do child check went to Grand Central & bought stuff, talked to Shelly Pesson on the way home - washed everybody's sheets towels & rugs gave a bunch of junk to DI, cleaned dinner & went to my class - interior decorating. It was better tonite. Last night Mike decided to get out of footlites (in 6 wks) I'm so relieved. He's got so much on his mind,

Oct 28 Friday — This am this big earthquake (7.0 on the R. scale) hit Mackay, Idaho. 2 little boys died - walking to school. I called Judy in Shelley & she said they felt it pretty bad - 30 sec to a minute. Some of the people at Mikes work felt it. Scarry. Tonight we went to a costume party - a progressive dinner. What a RIOT! It's 2:30 & I'm exausted I haven't eaten & laughed so much for ages. It was really fun.

Oct 29 Sat — I lazed around & slept & finally got movin. I did a batch of whites yesterday & Mikes last pen broke in the dryer & got ink all over Mike's shirts, my blouses, & our underwear! Make me sick! So I've worked on that all day off & on. I'm afraid they're hopeless - We took a ride to Centerville to see Radio Data Systems & had dinner at McDonalds - I couldn't eat it. I got really bad pains in my stomach it was awful. I called my mom & talked to her - it was nice

Oct 30 Sun — Today I fixed turkey, dressing & pumpkin pie for lunch - sure was good. We went to a special fireside tonight "Come Follow Me" & it sure was good.

Oct 31 Mon — Boy am I glad Halloween is over! I took the kids trick or treating & it was fun. I made up all the kid's faces but Matthew didn't even want to get dressed up. But after he got the hang of "trick or treat"ing he loved it & didn't want to go home. We had a ward party after & it was fun but tiring. Brett won a cake at the cakewalk! Mike was in the spook alley & we scared three - Michelle Brett & D & it wasn't as scarry as they thought it'd be - but they were glad to get out & wouldn't go back. Mike had a 3 hr interview with Bonneville today & he really wants the job. I hope for his sake he gets it. It would really be a challenge.

1983 Nov 1 Tuesday — Today was a normal run of the mill day. After I got my daily work done I decided to sew a blouse I started working on a couple of weeks ago. But I couldn't find the instructions, so I ended up cleaning out a whole bunch of material & sewing stuff. I'm tired.

Nov 2 — Mom & Dad came this morning - we ran around & did some shopping rested, went to KS. Woodsworths dropped 'em off at McDonalds & I picked 'em up after my trek appt.

1983 Nov 3 Thurs — Mom left about 8am I cleaned up the house & went to Mary Jo's. She helped me make a pattern for maternity pants. I was going to sew but was so exhausted I took a nap, then laid for a while. Meanwhile, Aaron took 2 paring knives & a long big knife out & he Adam & Ryan were carving the bark off Mary Jo's tree! I really turned him over my knee & spanked him & made him stay in the rest of the day - & no t.v. It was tuff but I think it taught him I was serious It really scared me. Tonite I went to my interior decorating class - it was BORING & nothing I didn't already know. I'm really tired.

Nov 5 Sat — The past few days I have been so exhausted & have accomplished zilch! Last night I laid down with Michelle & had a good talk with her - I told her the facts of life! Then when Mike came home he was mad I had done it. So today I worried about her but she seems fine. Tonite she asked me What Adam & Eve's last name was I sure got frustrated with the kids today - makes me feel bad. I helped Michelle clean up her room - 2 sacks of garbage, 1 big load of dirty clothes & a bedful of non belonging items. I couldn't believe it! What a mess!

Nov 6 Sunday — After church we drove up to Mike's parents house & visited his parents - Last Tuesday his mom had a flexiscoped knee - they checked to see if she had torn ligaments - she didn't. They saw beginnings of arthritis - She has to use a crutch to walk but is feeling better today. She's got a baker's cyst in the back of her knee but they don't know what to do about it. It's about as big as an egg. Then we stopped & visited with Grandpa & Ellen in Layton. We had a really good visit with them I really enjoyed it. We called 8 babysitters tonight & no one could babysit so Mike stayed home & cleaned up the messy kitchen. It was great.

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Nov 7 Mon — I had an OB appt today - I've gained 7 lbs this month! I saw Dr. Austin & he was surprised at my weight gain. Larger than normal uterus & early quickening & he wants me back in 2 weeks just to check on me. I was so tired again! I slept & made dinner - that's all I did today! It snowed tonight, but was pretty wet so I doubt it'll stay.

Nov 8 Tues — [illegible] & house straightened; Mike came home for lunch then I sewed till dinner & made a new blouse - it's cute. I ironed 50 things tonite while I watched a show. I'm really tired.

Nov 9 Wed — Well my big accomplishments for the day were: make bread, make pants, clean bathrooms. The pants were the ones Mary Jo made the pattern for. I think they'll be great. Well, and my house (the upstairs, anyway, is pretty clean. That's nice to go to bed with a clean house. I'm tired & have a headache. Michelle & Brett got their report cards - they're both excellent. We've sure got smart kids.

Nov 10 Thurs — I went shopping with Mary Jo this morning - it was so fun! I helped her pick out a suit, skirt, slacks, pants, jeans & blouses, a shirt sweater earrings - she was excited. She spent $59! Then Mike came & told me to buy a coat & some blouses, so I bought a really nice down filled stadium coat $25 coat for $39 & 2 blouses for $10 each & a $6 sweater for Michelle. I was exhausted the rest of the day. So tonite Mike took the family out to Chuck E Cheese for dinner, then we relaxed & watched tv. We had parent teacher conf with Brett's teacher & she says he skipped 1st grade reading & is in 2nd grade reading. He's doing fine, but she doesn't feel like he's very happy. We decided he's just not a happy child. I don't know what to do. He's happy enough when he gets his way, but if he doesn't he whines, cries, mopes & has fits! I don't know what to do with him.

Brett

Nov 12 Sat — Yesterday the kids were an hour late coming home from school. I called everywhere, got on my bike (van was getting fixed) & rode to the school. Boy am I stiff today. Finally I found them at Toni Ricks house. They saw the van was gone so they went there & she had unplugged her phone so when I called it rang & rang. I thought she won't

1983

home! I was pretty upset, but glad everything was OK! Tonite we had a 70's party here & it turned out OK.

Nov 13 Sun — Today was a nice day - I nearly had heart failure when Pete & Shelley Pearson showed up to audit my class. I spent probably ½ hr preparing for it. However, it was an esp-esteem so I showed the video of "Johnny Fingo" & it was so good ½ my class and Pearsons had never seen it! It was kinda fun. In R.S. we discussed teaching children financial planning. So Mike & I talked about it tonight & will work on it tomorrow, but we really should be able to manage our money better! We want to SAVE & get out of debt.

Nov 15 Tues — Yesterday I worked myself "to death" - I was exhausted! Then Mike & I watched "Ordinary People" on tv. Today I was bushed - I straightened the house, tended Debbie Odekirk's kids 2½ hrs (she just found out she's pg & she's really upset) Got a haircut & perm. It's short but I think I'll like it when the perm settles down. Then I took Aaron & Matt to get their pictures taken - they were so good. I think (hope) the pictures turn out good.

Nov 16 Wed — I tended Diane Knights kids today - she paid me $6. After she got off work she took my kids & I went to a mini-world sale here in Salt Lake. I was really disappointed cuz there weren't any size 8 dresses. So I bought $2 worth of lace, then went to Mervyns & bought a nursing bra 38B! Then I decided to get some material, so I bought $5 worth of material. I'm tired.

Nov 17 Thur — I straightened up my house, then sewed all afternoon & tended Debbie Odekirk's kids again 2½ hrs & Michael Carlile while Margo gave Stacy a party. My blouse turned out just darling. I love it. I think I'll use the pattern for the material I bought yesterday for a dress. I cut Matt's hair really short & he looks so cute but OLD!

1983 Nov 18 Fri — This morning I did my Visiting Teaching & enjoyed it - I really do like to get out & visit. Then I went to the mall & bought Brett Aaron Harris shoes & Michelle Sunday shoes for Christmas. I also got me some new maternity 2 piece garments - how exciting! This afternoon I organized my patterns and looked through my material. Tonight I just tried to keep up with kids. Jenny Barker, a new neighbor, is sleeping over with Michelle. Mike's at school.

Nov 21 Tues — Last night Mike & I went to dinner & a show - "The Right Stuff" It was pretty good & fun to go out. Sunday was normal Yesterday I went to the Dr & everything fine - no twins, 21 cm 19 week 156 lbs Then I went running errands all day till 4. Today I cleaned house all day. Tonite I went to my last Interior Dec class & it was a fun & kind of fun. I'd sure like to do something to our house.

Thurs Nov 24 Thanksgiving — Yesterday & this morning I cleaned house & fixed food - last night I was absolutely exhausted - Tonight I'm really tired, but I don't hurt as bad. Mike's parents & Sheri came today & we had a delicious dinner played UNO & talked etc. Mike & I played with our intellivision - it's a video game & it's fun. I thought I'd never buy one Anyway, Thanksgiving is always a good day to remember all my blessings & I'm truly grateful for all I have Claude called - they had a baby girl this morning.

Nov 29 Tues — Yesterday & today I made photo albums for my mom & dad & for Claude & DeAnna. They are absolutely beautiful! I'm really pleased. We set up our tree Tuesday & I finished it today. It looks pretty good. But I can't believe it's up already.

Nov 30 Wed — I can't believe November is over! It sure went by fast. Today I made a pair of pants & cut out & almost finished a dress - I think it'll be pretty. I just have a sleeve & hem to go! Sheri came tonight. She's lost so much weight & she looks gorgeous!

Dec 1 Thurs — Last night we took the kids to see the festival of trees. It was pretty. Friday I went shopping all day & took the kids to see Santa. I'm pretty exhausted.

Dec 5 Mon — I was sure a zombie today. My house was super disaster but I got it straightened a little. This afternoon I made a gingerbread house & we put it together for FHE. But it was too soft & the roof fell off & broke. Wonderful. Mike helped me clean up & vacuum tonight so at least I'm ahead for tomorrow

Dec 8 Thurs — I made Matthew a cute little sailor suit today - I just have to put the buttons on. I've just about finished all my shopping - I just have a lot of sewing to do but I'm really enjoying sewing with my new machine. I had a Messiah practice tonight - I enjoy it but I'll be glad when it's over!

Dec 11 Sunday — Well Mom & Dad came yesterday. Friday nite Vicki & Ron & kids came - LATE, then sat at 9am Ron & Vicki left to go to the drs. for her arthritis. They returned at 3 & then got the kids & left at 330. I was sad to not have more time to visit with her. Then Mom & Dad came about 4:30. We all went to the Annie practice it was great. Then we went to Beniham's - it was fun.

Dec 25 — We came to Idaho Friday evening - boy is it cold here! Last Sunday we went to Ogden for dinner & presents. We gave Mike's parents a "cheese & cake wine" basket & family picture & kids' school pictures. They gave Mike 2 sports coats & 2 pr pants. They gave me $100! (I spent it last week - dress $40, garments $14, bath pillow $10 - it was fun.) They gave each of the kids an afghan & outfit.

Last night was the family party. Boy was it hectic! Claude & DeAnna couldn't come, so we didn't have anything to open. We let the kids open some presents. (The Yellow Iron game.) Mom & Dad gave us a beautiful kerosene lamp, a 1st aid kit & pictures of the temple. This morning was fun - I think the kids enjoyed it.

Jan 20 1984

Boy, I've been LAZY lately - so tired! I had a dr appt last monday they did a blood test & sent me a card yesterday telling me to take iron 4 times a day. Maybe that's my problem. I went shopping today to find something for Matt - I bought him a snowmobile suit, a pair of overalls & flannel shirt, a jogging suit & velour shirt. I hope Mike's mom sends money. I got my hair cut & it looks better. I wish I'd had her cut it shorter in back. I was mad & grouchy at the kids & Matt was being a real brat - I looked in the mirror, grabbed the scissors & whacked off the back. I think it looks better. We'll see. Mikes at school & I've had this depressed feeling a day (week - month - 6 months - - - ?) Anyway, I was a real witch to the kids tonight & they all deserved it. Not really. But I put them to bed at 6:15. It's almost 8:30 & I'm dead. I woke up at 5 am & haven't slept since. I'm so fat 171 lbs! 32 cm And only 27 weeks April looks like a long way off. This baby is so active. I love to feel her move. I already love her/him to bits. We've decided to name him Talmage! Mike's not real keen on it.

Jan 25 1984

MATTHEW'S 3RD BIRTHDAY

Today was really neat. Our stake had a special temple day, & they wanted as many endowments as possible, so Mike took the day off and we went to 2 sessions - it was nice but took all day. I told Debbie we'd go about 8, but we didn't get going till 9 & I was ticked at Mike & the kids & everything - anyway, so Mike was mad cuz I was mad & he said "I'm not going to the temple - I'm just going to go to work." So I felt worse. Anyway we both sat & meditated, prayed etc & then both apologized & made up & kissed & it was a good experience.

Matthew is such a sweetheart. His curly blond hair is so cute & he's usually grinning & is such a doll. People always think he's such a cutie. His sense of humor is developing - he likes to tease me & say funny things like "Mommy, you're a BIG stinkbug & Daddy's the Daddy Stinkbug!" He's getting quite good at pretending - of course his big brothers are good examples for him. But he likes to talk in a deep gruff voice "Hey Joyce, whatcha doing?" & things like that. He is most impatient, too. Especially when I'm reading. He'll knock the book or paper down &

demand what he wants. Usually it's, "I'm hungry!" I'll bet he says it 10+ times an hour. Sometimes I think it's just to get my attention a time. Often, it's "I want a drink of water!" So I get him one, he takes a sip & that's it. Drives me crazy sometimes but I guess I should get the message.

He loves to listen to our Disney tapes & look at the books, even tho he can't follow & is continually saying "what page, Mom?" His favorite tape is "Brer Rabbit & the Tar Baby." He says it so cute - with a southern accent.

His favorite friend is Sarah Knight - they play together really well. Sometimes he says "I'm the Dad & Sarah's the Mom." They like to play outside together, sledding down hills of snow & making angels & eating the snow. He likes his primary class (nursery still) & is so good to go every week. He loves to watch Mr Rogers & sometimes Sesame Street & Polka Dot door. One of his big pastimes lately is sitting on the kitchen floor and cutting paper up in little tiny pieces. What a mess! But it keeps him quiet & is good, I think. He likes to draw - with a PEN never a pencil, but he gets mad cuz it doesn't look like a horse or dog or whatever, so he tries to get me or Beth or Michelle to draw it for him. He likes to "play" the video games we got for Christmas, but gets bored real fast.

He's very observant of things & places, often saying as we drive past some place "We've been there, huh Mom Mom." He always says "MawMaw" to me - it's cute. And boy he remembers things! If you say he can have a sucker after naps, he gets up after his nap & says "Where my sucker!?" He's a smart little guy. He counts to 11 or 12 & recognizes that letters are "ABC's". He's learned a few songs & loves to sing them - I am a Child of God, Let us all press on, We Can Fly, Bipadeedoodah & Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer. He can sing all the way through. He says food prayers & night prayers. He is such a doll & we love him so much. Our house would be empty without him.

Jan 26 1984 Thurs — I went to see the Stk President Louise and he called me to be Stk Relief Society Secretary. Sounds exciting - it will help me get to know a lot of people in the Stake. Judy + John + Michael + "Beck" - Judy's 2 week old baby, came tonight.

27 Jan 1984 Fri — I rented some movies + made popcorn + we were watching + eating + Matthew started coughing + was having a real hard time of it. After about 10 minutes it didn't stop so we called FHP + they said to go to "Instacare", which is pretty close. We did, they did X-rays, listened to him + couldn't find anything wrong. They gave him a popsicle + he seemed fine.

28 Jan 1984 Sat — Matthew slept most of the day, + wouldn't eat much. He seemed better this evening, but is still coughing quite a bit. We decided there's not much we can do - maybe his lungs or throat were irritated by all that coughing last night.

29 Jan Sun — Matthew seems to be worse. I know something's wrong. He's got about 102° fever off + on, sleeps most of the time and won't eat or drink anything. (For him, that's really strange.) Mike wanted to watch him 'till tomorrow - George Ellertson came over + they gave him a blessing. Poor little kid + feel so sad for him.

30 Jan Mon — This morning first thing I called FHP + they said bring him right in. I did, + they did X-rays again + listened to him. The poor little boy looked sick - like he was miserable. I told Mike his breathing sounded like Brett's when he had pneumonia. Anyway, the radiologist said his left lung was totally pacified (Duh) the Dr said that meant opaque as opposed to transparent as they usually are. So they sent me to Primary Children's Hospital. They had a Dr Michael Matlak do the operation + he was so nice. In fact, everyone there was extremely nice. Anyway it

Matthew in Primary Children's Hospital

took about 10 minutes for him to do the "bronchoscopy" which was they put Matthew out, inserted a scope down his throat that contained fiber optics so he could see where he was going & pushed it to the left lung. There, right at the top of the lung, was a piece of partially popped corn as big as the end of my little finger. The doctor grabbed it with the forceps on the end & pulled it out. He showed it to me & I about died. When I think of the pain & agony that poor little kid went thru for those 9 days. It makes me mad at myself for not taking him back Saturday or for sure Sunday. Dr Mallak showed me the X-rays & said, "You don't have to know anything about X-rays to know something's wrong here." I about died. The left wasn't even visible on the film. It just looked like there was no left lung or ribs or anything. It was sickening. Dr Mallak said he'd scoped 3 kids out that weekend - 2 popcorn & 1 peanut. He said 500 kids a year die from this type thing & since there was NO breath sounds at all in his left lung, "you're like you almost didn't have a son." Boy was it scary. Mike came up & got Aaron & I saw Matt after he came out of recovery, & I stayed till about 9. Around 10:00 he woke up screaming hysterically. He said his bed was moving too fast. I couldn't quiet him down - it was scary. Mike came up at 9 to stay the night with him. Boy all these lil kids up here are hard to believe - but the staff is great & everyones so nice. I'm so grateful everything ok now & I'm thankful to have Matthew. It's amazing how much I love him & how much I'd miss him if he was gone. Even tonight I looked at his empty bed, his unused toothbrush etc & thought how hard it would be if something happened to him - or any of our Children. I love them all so much & want so badly to be a good mother to them.

Feb 17 Friday — I got my neighbor, Karen, to tend my kids this morning & I went to Mervyns Clearance. I really shouldn't have, because it's been so long & I spent $80.00 I got coats for Aaron & Matthew for $10.98 each, robes & nightgowns & clothes for Michelle, & few things for the baby. Then I went to the doctor. I saw Donna, the midwife today, & she was surprised at how big I am. I'm 32 weeks & 37 cm. (They usually correspond quite closely.) She questioned my last period date - kept saying Are you really sure of your date? Then she got Dr Austin to come feel me - they both agreed I'm quite large & he felt the baby & said, "it feels like 1 big baby. I can't feel 2." She also listened all over but said she could only find 1 heartbeat. So apparently they were thinking twins. Then she said to "come back in a week & see a doctor, & come back a week after & see me." So apparently she thinks I'm 8 mo along.

Last Tuesday we went to Ogden for Sheri's birthday. It was really nice & we sure were expecting her to get a diamond from Richard, her boyfriend. It was a surprise when she didn't. I don't think it will be much longer though.

Feb 20 1984 Monday — Sheri went to Parowan with Richard to stay with his family for the weekend. Tonight she called & said she's engaged! I knew it. Today the kids & I went to all sorts of stores to find Brett some "He man" characters but nobody had anything. I took Michelle to the doctor 'cuz I thought she had strep throat, but he says it's just a virus. I've been feeling better physically, just a lot of feet in the ribs & generally klutzeness, but not as much gombiness & back pain. I sure do wadle tho. I feel like I walk like Grampa McKoy.

I've been getting a lot done lately. I recovered our kitchen chairs - I got an estimate of $9 each. So I bought the material for all 6 chairs for $10.00 They look so much better. Michael bought me a beautiful cradle & I made some cute bumper pads for it. Oh! Diane Knight, my neighbor, had her baby girl on the 14th & she is a doll. I made a bumper

pad for her cradle, too. I've got all my baby clothes washed & piled in the cradle. Mike bought a mattress but it's so little so I've got to take it back.

Feb 25 1984 Saturday

Brett's 7th Birthday

This morning we got up & got ready & all went to the Utah Museum of Natural History for Brett's birthday. It was fun but of course I got tired. After lunch the kids played outside - it was a beautiful day. We gave Brett some He Man toys, pants, underwear, coloring toys & animals. It was pretty nice, but he kept saying "Aren't there any more presents?" Mom sent him a card & $3 for his mission fund, Mike's mom sent him a card & $2, which he spent on a video game. Brett, at 7, is an amazing kid. He is really smart & is doing really well in school. The first part of school Brett was really negative about going & stuff - his teacher said she thinks he's much better now. He reads really well, writes neatly & is in top math & reading groups. He still has a real sense of humor & is getting to be quite a kidder. He loves to play video games & is really good at it. He got his new video game "Donkey Kong" & played it for a couple of hours. He said "I love this game, but not as much as I love you" which made me feel good, esp his crazy about those games. It worries me sometimes. I think I'm going to have to limit his playing time.

Brett is still quite emotional about many things. If I ask him to do something, or tell him to do something he doesn't like, he'll fall on the floor & bawl & scream & threaten to run away etc. If you get his arm & hold it & carry on about how it hurts & so forth - brother. Drives me crazy sometimes. He's still really creative, although he doesn't read as much as he used to. Next to video games, he loves to play with his "He Man" characters & Castle. He still has a vivid imagination. We had tacos (his choice) Chocolate Cake & Ice Cream tonight. I think he had a nice day.

I'm sure feeling fat & miserable

Talmage Don Williams

March 15 1984

was born this day at 3:58 pm. He weighed in at 7 lbs 6 oz and 19½" long. What a delivery! It all started Monday Evening March 11. I started having contractions at about 4:30 pm & they were about every 10 min. Stephen Carlile came over at 10 & gave me a blessing with Mike & it made me feel a lot calmer. I took a hot bath & the contractions stopped. I went to bed about 11. I woke at 2:45 & had them every 2-5 min till 4, when I called the dr & he said come in. So we got here about 5 am & I was 1 cm & not effaced or down. So they had me walk till 8 & still nothing. They sent me home with a sleeping pill & I slept till 4. I had erratic contractions off & on thru the night & the next morning. Wed 14th I had a dr's appt with Donna, the midwife. She checked me & I was still the same & she told me to take it easy, but she thought I was probably full term. Weighed 181 3/4 & measured 39. So I stopped at Albertsons & got some convenience food & had contractions almost every 3 min. I felt miserable all evening. I had a RS meeting & felt real awful through it. I came home, went to bed, & slept till about 3:15. I had 3 strong contractions 15 min apart. I got up at 4:00 & realized I was drenched. It was colorless & there was some red bloody mucous. So I went back to bed & had contractions off & on. about 5:30 I called FHP & talked to Donna Austin - she said "come on down!" So in we went. They checked & I was 1½ cm 50% effaced, baby high. They had to keep me because if you don't have the baby within 24 hrs, the infection rate is really high. Well it was a real boring morning - the contractions came every 10-20 min & I had to stay in bed with monitors. Finally about 11 they put an IV on me with pitocin in it & the contractions started being a little harder. Then they decided to have an Ultra-sound to see if it was twins or a lot of fluid or what. Anyway, that was a real pain. When I got back, they put the pitocin back in. Then things started to happen a lot faster. They did a good job with it - they turned it up little by little so it was about like a natural progression of labor instead of being shoved into transition. Around 2:30 I could tell I was really making progress. They wouldn't let me go in the

birthing room because of the possibity of a premature baby. I told them I didn't want to go into the delivery room, so they said they'd deliver me in the labor room. I warned them once it started, it happened fast. So about 3:30 I was 6-7 & she called the doctor - he said call back if I get closer. I said I could feel the baby & a slight need to push, so she checked me again. & she did, she said I went to 9, so go ahead & push & I did! Oh it felt so good. The resident Dr Beeson, a girl around my age, asked me if I wanted to deliver on my side. I had only been comfortable on my left side, but the monitor wouldn't pick up the contractions or heartbeat, so they made me lay on my back for a while & they said "you were right! you were having some good contractions!" So when I went back to my side it was a lot easier. Poor Mike didn't know what to do but really helped a lot - sponging my face & getting me ice & stuff. Anyway, when she said push - Mike held my right leg up & she was getting all excited. "I can see the head!" So she told me to pant while she got her glove on - the head slowly came out & she guided it while I panted - then she flipped the cord off & I pushed again - out came the shoulders, then the rest of him! "It's a boy!" I said "I knew it!" & I looked at him & he was so white - just covered with vernix. Then she clamped the cord, wrapped him up & gave him to me - so tiny! But so sturdy! & guessed he was about 7lb8oz. Then she told me to push out the placenta. I asked to see it, so she showed it to me & picked up the bag - amazing! It was like a plastic bag with the placenta & cord inside. Really something. Mike got to carry him to the nursery & they weighed & measured him. I called Michelle & told her she had a new little brother & she started to cry. "But I wanted a sister!" So I said "well, maybe next time!" It was so fun to call everybody & tell them. They kept him in the nursery for a few hours to warm him up then give him a bath. They moved me to post partum & I got him about 2045 7 until 7. About 15 to 8 Mike's parents brought the kids (they'd picked them up from Mary Jo's about 6 - she'd had them all day). So they saw Talmage in the nursery & me in a

wheelchair - the nurse wouldn't let me walk. It sure was fun to see them - Matthew was the most excited. I got Talmage back about 8:30-10. I tried to nurse him but he wouldn't wake up. I told the nurse to keep him & not wake me - I'm taking a sleeping pill & sleeping all night! They all feel Talmage is fine - he was grunting & groaning a little so I asked & they said it's ok - his lungs are fine & he's just getting used to breathing. Oh! after he was born & she was cleaning me up she couldn't believe it - not a tear or anything! Just a "skid mark". So - no stitches or anything. The dr & nurse praised me up & down for being the ideal patient & for doing a perfect job - they just really went on & on & made me feel so good. I'm so glad it's over

19 March 1984 Monday Thursday night I was up every couple of hours so I didn't get a real good nights sleep. I felt pretty good this & nursed Talmage at 5am & he did quite well I got ready to go - the pediatrician checked him out & said he's fine - probably 38 weeks gestation - his only problem is that purple spot like a V on his forehead, but it will fade. Donna, the midwife, checked me & said everything's fine - so Mike came & got us & we came home! Then he took the kids to the dr - Brett has walking pneumonia & Aaron's ears still have fluid. This morning Mom was going to leave & it was all blizzardy so Dad was going to drive her down, then back tomorrow then she'd take the bus back. (Yuk) So I suggested that she fly, so she did. Mike got the tickets for her - $140 both ways. She got here & they all picked her up. She had a slight sore throat & cough - Saturday Mike went to school & she kind of sat around & talked to her sisters on the phone. Matt messed on the bathroom floor & I cleaned it up. Aaron spilled my juice on my bedroom floor & I cleaned it up. Matt just did what he wanted & I had to chase him around. I don't know if she felt that bad or just didn't want to interfere - anyway, I was pooped. She went to a family party - this group was supposed to bring us a pizza & didn't, so Mike went & bought chicken. My visiting teachers brought a really nice dinner Sunday night. Sunday Mom felt

even worse & Mike was gone a lot but I got a little rest. She really got sick this - fever & chills, bad cough etc. Late last night she was really dizzy & felt really awful. This morning she said she better go home - she slept all morning then her fever broke & she started feeling better but was still weak & woozy. She felt really bad that she hadn't helped me more. Yesterday was Mike's birthday & she was feeling OK in the morning so she made a roast & dinner rolls - yumm! It turned out really good, but she didn't eat. Anyway, we got to talk for a couple of hours this afternoon & She left about 5:00 - Mike took her. Tonight Dorothy Nielson & Kathy Manwaring brought dinner - Diane Knight brought some lasagna & Pam Olson brought some salad. So we've got lots of food! Tonight all the kids got the dishes done & it was really cute. Mike says he doesn't want me to do anything. So I haven't, but what a mess! He did some laundry tonight. Talmage has been doing so well - I was up about every 2 hrs last night, but today it's been every 3 hrs, but I'm usually up about an hour. My after pains, which have been REALLY bad, are a little better today & I had a good bowel movement, so I think it helps. I'm so tired - I only slept for about an hour today & 5 hrs last night -

1 April 1984 Sunday My 24th Birthday

I took Talmage in for his circumcision on Wednesday 21st March. After they did that, they got he needed his billirubin checked cuz he looked jaundice - The poor little guy! He was exhausted from crying. The dr called later & said it was high - 14.1 so I had to take him in the next day & the next. It just killed me (& him) to have them poke him & take his blood. Anyway, Judy & Jon came down Tues night on their way to California. They've had problems so they couldn't leave until Tuesday night so they just went home. It was fun to have them here to visit. She felt bad that they were "imposing," so she scrubbed my kitchen floor & walls & bathroom & vacuumed for me & cleaned up. I took Talmage in Monday for another billirubin test - it went down to 11.6 on Friday - & had the dr look at his circumcision - it looked like it might be infected, but he said it was fine & his color was fine - don't have his blood tested

again. I was so glad! Meanwhile, Aaron had developed a fever & cough and so I had him checked - another ear infection! Brother!
~~Thursday~~ Wed morning I was feeling pretty good so I was cleaning my house, even washing the sliding glass door. I bent down to pick up the spray bottle & my back went out! I couldn't move without it hurting. Boy did it hurt! So back to bed. Maybe I'm a hypocondriac!? Something's always wrong.
Mike has really been wonderful(er) than ever the last few weeks. He's really great! And we had wonderful people bring food - We only cooked a few meals! Last night Mike gave me a card saying he'd do all the laundry & he could last night. So I had him fix the boy's bikes (they'd really been bugging me) and we cleaned up the basement - a big mess since our last flood. It's such a relief to have it done. He gave me $60 for clothes (as I had asked him not to buy me any - I wanted to try them on & pick them out (besides I can get more for the money!) He's been so good to help & tell me to take it easy etc & he has really worked his tail off. Oh! He also bought us a 2½ year membership in "Body by Natalus" a fitness club - so in 4 or 5 months I'll have a new stronger, healthier, happier body! I'm excited! He started last week & loves it - I'll start in a month after my 6 wk check. There's been such a special feeling of love between me & Mike the last few weeks - I guess because he's been so openly admiring of me & he's always telling me what a wonderful & perfect wife I am. Boy, it sure makes me feel good.
Jim & Colleen came yesterday for a couple of hours & brought some cute little cowboy boot-ies - they're so cute! Talmage is a little angel & I love him so much - as well as my other cute kids!
Today I didn't go to church - Mike took the kids, then we went up to Ogden for my birthday dinner. Mike's Mom fixed a beautiful meal. Shari made me a yummy carrot cake. We had a great visit & they loved lil Talmage. They gave me $40 for my birthday - Wow! It was a lovely birthday.

April 22 1984 Sunday Easter

Well, Talmage is growing so much! I took him in for his 2 wk check on April 3 - he weighed 8 lbs 10 oz 21" long! Boy is he growing! Thurs & Sat night he slept 6 hrs - it's great. I left him with a babysitter Thursday & ran errands - it was fun & everything went fine. (I think)! The day he was 4 weeks old I felt so good - it was like the page of a new chapter. I felt like a regular person again! I've gotten so much done lately - cleaning, shopping, sewing - I made Michelle a pretty red dress - Mike bought a new IBM PersonalComputer jr - it's really neat. He got a printer, phone modem, monitor disc drive etc - it all cost about $800.00!! I sure hope our $ situation is OK. But we got a check for over $2000 from VA cuz they've underpaid him for GI bill. We should be getting another $1500 from them. Also, we got $300.00 back from taxes, so I guess we're OK.

Last week I went out & bought a diaper pail & started using cloth diapers - 2 days & 3 dirty stinky diapers later I said forget it. & went & bought some more disposables. Say heck, if Mike can buy a $800 Computer I can sure spend $20 a month on disposable diapers!!

I taught my class today & it was fine. I was almost glad to be back! Dorothy taught half the class & she couldn't believe how rude & awful they were. (Dorothy Nielson 5th ES pres - has taught it for me for the last 2 weeks - since I had Talmage.) Mike folks, Sheri & Richard came for dinner it was really nice. Sheri brought me 5 beautiful dresses - 3 that button down the front! She's way too skinny for them!! They're neat - 2 or 3 I can wear now. I'm not sure about the other 2. They're kinda sheer - I'm very tired & Mike is still playing on the computer!

April 23 1984 Aaron's 5th Birthday

I can't believe my Aaron is 5 years old! Saturday we had a birthday party - joint with Jeffrey Knight. It was fun. Aaron is the most loveable, appreciative, loving little kid. He's always the one to give me a big hug & kiss & say "I love you Mom". He often tells me "You're beautiful!" He is such a sweetheart. He's so cute with his big brown eyes & long thick lashes, his dark thick curly hair & his generous smile. He's got a light sprinkling of freckles on his nose He is such a doll. He is a

very sneaky little boy at times too. He loves to put things in his pockets & we always have to frisk him before we go to church - its amazing the things he pulls out of his pockets sometimes. He's starting to develop his artistic talent which is quite good. He has the same eye for detail that Brett does. He loves to draw & color. He likes cartoons, especially "He-Man". His friends are Ryan Carlile, Adam Aldrink, & Jeffrey Knight. They ride bikes, play He-Man & generally make messes & run around. He's a little doll & we love him a lot.

5 May 1984 Sat Michelle's 9th Birthday

Today, my little girl turned 9 years old! Hard to believe. She is really growing up fast! Tonight for her birthday we went to the 49th Street Galleria. It was really fun - we all went roller skating. Vicki & her kids were there. She watched Talmage while we skated. We even took Matt & Aaron out & it was a hoot. Those kids - especially Aaron, were trying so hard but just couldn't control their legs. Matt just leaned back & we pulled & pushed him. The older kids did really well tho. It was lots of fun.
Michelle is maturing so much. She has taken on so many responsibilities & does a good job. I don't know how I'd have made it thru the last few months without her. She does the dishes, cleans the bathroom, her room, vacuums etc - she's really great. She's taking piano lessons & doing really well. She loves to play & does a good job. She's still quite gassy but is mellowing a bit. For her birthday, we used the money Grandma sent her & got a perm almost a month ago & it is absolutely darling. It's made such a difference in her appearance - she looks so much more feminine - it accentuates her beautiful eyes & cute little nose. She's starting to grow out of the "ugly duckling" phase altho her teeth are still quite crooked & look weird. I hope they straighten out. I took her to an orthodontist & he felt that they would straighten out & be fine. She is a cute little ballgitter & tries so hard to take care of everything - especially Talmage

I am proud of her & glad she's our daughter. She has a very intelligent, curious mind. She's forever asking questions & watching a show with her drives me crazy because she asks so many things, but when I calm myself down & realize she's just trying to learn I am amazed at her depth of perception & interest.
Daddy says she's "conscientious, intelligent, wanting so much to succeed & improve & take on more responsibility." She is very sensitive, & often we expect her to act like an adult all the time instead of just sometimes. Oh we love her so much & expect so much out of her that we forget to appreciate all she does. Consequently, I'm afraid she feels we often disapprove of her & think she's worthless. I really need to make sure she knows how much we love her & appreciate all she does.

16 May Sun Bless Talmage

Today was very special - my wonderful husband, Michael, gave our fifth child a name & a blessing. What joy comes into my heart & soul when I see my worthy spiritual priesthood bearer take my sweet, innocent little child in his arms & give him a special blessing. It was very special because both our parents were there, plus Vicki & her kids. Michelle is our only other child who's had both her grandpa's in the circle. My mother took down the blessing:

Our Father in Heaven,

By the authority of the Holy Melchezedik Priesthood we bring this child before Thee to give him a name and a blessing. And the name we give him is Talmage Don Williams.

Talmage, we bless you that you will have all the health and strength necessary to grow to maturity in this life and to be able to serve as a sharp and effective instrument in the hands of the Lord.

You came from a lineage of great people who have chosen to live the gospel & we bless you that you will be able to continue this heritage with your children.

We bless you that at the appropriate age you will

be baptized and at the age of 19 you will receive the priesthood ... you'll have the opportunity to go on a mission. The Lord's spirit will be with you to have a desire to go on a mission. At the appropriate time you will go to the Temple with a sweet, worthy girl & there be sealed for time & all eternity. Those blessings & all others you stand in need of we bless you in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Mike told me that he had a really strong feeling that Talmage will be a great missionary.

After the blessing & sacrament, we all came here & had hogies & visited quite a while. It was really enjoyable.

22 July Dun Talmage is 2 months old now! He is such a little doll. He weighs 16 lbs 3oz & is 26" long. He doesn't take a bottle very well. He loves to nurse! He laughs & talks so cute now. He smiles at himself in the mirror & at anyone who will talk to him. Matthew is still quite jealous & rough with Talmage & it drives me crazy. I get so mad at him sometimes it scares me. Other times, he is so adorable & fun. I've really been trying to be more positive and loving with my kids.

This past week I've been going to aerobics every day & it's just about killed me, but I know that's what I've really needed. Michelle's been tending for me when I go. She does a pretty good job altho I hate to leave her for very long.

29 Sept 1984 sat Today is my day off! I asked Mike a couple of weeks ago & he said yes. So - I got up & went to Aerobics, then got ready & went to the stake Center & helped set up tables & stuff for a luncheon. Then I went with the RS presidency - Dorothy, Pauline & Kathy - to the RS Building downtown where I met the general presidencies of the Primary, Young Women, & Relief Society. That was interesting. We also saw Barbara Smith & Marion Boyer. Then we came back to the church for a luncheon we had for the RS presidencies, then I got home about 4. Mike took the kids & went to Ogden to visit his parents.

So much has happened the last few months. On June 8, Sheri, Mike's sister, married Richard Burton in the SL Temple. It was a beautiful day. I was a bridesmaid (fat) but I guess Sheri loves me anyway. Michelle was a beautiful flower girl. Several weeks after that, June 19, we went to Lagoon & had a fun time. That night when we got home, Mike's mother called to tell us his dad had a heart attack & stroke & was in the hospital. He recovered fine, but they sold their house & moved in August to a beautiful new condo. While they were moving in, his mom had a gall bladder attack & was really miserable, but then BT went to the dr. & they said he needed a pacemaker! So he had that done, & as soon as he recovered from that, she had her gall bladder surgery - last Monday. So she's home & doing ok. When she moved, they got rid of all their furniture & got new - so we got their dining room set, their love seat & recliner. I love the dining room, even tho its more work to keep clean. The weekend of Labor Day Mike & I & Talmage drove to LA & back to take the bedroom set to Rex & Carrie. It was a long trip but kinda fun - we hired a girl to stay with the kids & she did a good job

The kids all started school - Michelle in 4th grade!, Brett in 2nd & Aaron in Kindergarten. I'm still going crazy with Matthew - he's such a little stinker! But I'm really trying to give him more individual attention.

Talmage is growing so much - hes 18 lbs 6 oz - amazing. I've started him on solids & he's doing quite well. One day several weeks ago I got fed up with feeding him 100 times a day, so I've really cut down on nursing him. I've accomplished a lot more. He sits, rolls over, & crawls a little. He's quite a happy guy & I just adore him. We all do, even Matt - at times.

Tonight was the General Woman's Conference & it was just beautiful. The theme was "Striving Together" - how we should work together to help each other - it was great. Today was just a beautiful day.

Wed Oct 3 1984

Today my visiting teachers came & talked about journals. I committed I'd write every day this month, so here I am. I've really been working to get caught up lately - it was our DI drive & I got rid of a LOT of junk. Felt great! We had an orientation for the new 31st ward RS pres, then I went to Velma Alplanalp for a Lamaze class she's giving - I just talked about my birth experiences & how great natural childbirth is. It was fun - I hope I did some good. I was thinking today that I would like to be a Lamaze instructor. Then I got to thinking that if I were to go back to school, I'd like to be a midwife at a birthing clinic or something. I really would. So that's an interesting thought.

Thurs Oct 4 1984

I'm pooped! Talmage didn't sleep much & was fussy all day - I had so much to do because Steve & Kenda were coming tonite. So finally after dinner he went to sleep & I started working - I cleaned the kit, LR bathrooms & they look nice but I'm dead!

Oct 5 Fri — Today Kenda & I ran errands & spent $8! it was fun! Michelle got a new perm & is so curly! Cute too. We stayed up late talking & playing with the computer.

Oct 6 Sat — Having company wears me out! I'm bushed. We watched conference - parts, went to Brett's soccer game, went shopping for groceries (& forgot them & had to go back to pick them up. We watched a movie "Wolf of the Never Never"

Oct 7 Sun — General Conference today - it was a good, relaxing day. Pres Kimball & Romney were at the afternoon session & it was great to see them all together as a presidency. Each conference I wonder, will President Kimball still be with us next time? and each time, I think not. He looked frail & weak, but he stood with the congregation & sang. He's such a sweet man. It makes me sad to see him so decrepit. Steve & Kenda left about 11 - it's been so nice. I like to have company, but I like to have them go, too. We had a little family council on obedience - boy I can't believe how disobedient the kids are, & how disrespectful. Today I was trying to make Michele smile thru her tears & she said "Shut up Mom." & boy did mike get mad. It just makes me sad. I don't know what to do. Brett outright disobeys or ignores me, or does it so slooooow Things have got to change, & I know I need to be the catalyst.

Kids

Oct 8 Mon Mom's Birthday — My mother is 62 years old today - gee that doesn't seem that old! I called her yesterday & she said if I came it'd be a good birthday present - so I guess we'll go up Thursday - the kids are out of school. We've got tickets to the Opera "Faust" on Saturday night, so we'll have to be back by then. I rearranged the living room, cleaned the kitchen & did 2 batches of laundry today. That's all! We had a runny nose for about a week now - almost like hay fever. Talmage has had a cold for quite a while too. I'm tired!

Oct 9 — I didn't feel real swift today & consequently didn't get much done. My throat hurt & I had a headache & slight fever. I did get up & get everybody dressed by 6:30 - we went out & watched the space shuttle go over - it was neat. It looks like a very fast moving star. The stake president wants to see Mike & me. Gulp. Mike thinks it might be his vocation over missionary work. I hope it's not bishop.

Oct 10
1984
Weds

Tonight Mike was released from his church job as Stk Mission Pres and called to be a high councilor. Should be really interesting. I went to the doctor today & they gave Baron & I antibiotics in case we have strep. My tonsils and glands are swollen & painful, but not too bad.

Oct 11
1984
Thurs

I came to Idaho today - I'm tired but have enjoyed the visit with Sandy & Vicki & Mom. Mom fixed an excellent turkey dinner tonight. I'm tired!

Oct 12
1984
Fri
Grandma Beckstead's 95th Anniversary

Today Grandma Beckstead would have been 95 years ago - Well its after 12:30 & I was going to get to bed early. But today was really hectic - We had our pictures taken - All the sisters together & one of me alone for Mike for Christmas. Then we went out & got nachos & ice cream - it was good. We just gabbed & yelled at kids - I'm going to go to bed as soon as I get my cute little Talmage to bed - He woke up bawling —

Oct 13
1984
Sat

I got up with kids a 5:30 & I was mad at 'em cuz they wanted to watch TV & I wouldn't let 'em 'till 7. We got home at 3:40, the kids were pretty good on the way home. I took a nap, fixed dinner, then Mike & I went to the Opera "Faust." It was excellent & we really enjoyed it, but were pooped

Oct 14
1984
Sunday

Mike was ordained a high priest today & set apart as a high councilor. His dad came to ordain him & it was neat. Mike's going to be gone all the time on Sunday - incl Sac Mtg. I'm tired - feel asleep at choir practice tonight

Oct 15

I did a lot of catch-up today - washing & cleaning - that's about it! Talmage is 9 months old! Such a cutie!

Oct 16

I cleaned, tended Diane's kids, laundry. Boy, what an exciting life! I took the kids shopping & bought 3 pr boots, 4 pr gloves, 2 hats & spent over $50! It's enough to make you swear off kids.

Oct 17 It's getting colder & icky outside. Maybe I wouldn't mind living in California. I don't like the cold windy weather. I did housework, ran errands, & had a meeting tonite. I'm tired.

Oct 18 Went visiting teaching & that's all I accomplished today! I took Michelle to a student parent night. A little strange but she was glad to go & felt important I think. I need to work on building up my children instead of tearing down -

Oct 19 I went to a Mervyns Sale today - it was so fun! I bought me $185 worth of clothes - 4 pants 4 shirts & a sweater - for $45. I bought some other stuff too. I cleaned house, then took the kids + Jinny, Michelle's friend to Albertsons & bought pumpkins & groceries. It was ~~others~~ interesting. A lady was giving suckers & balloons to kids said are all these YOURS!? I laughed & said Oh No - that 1 is not! I only have 5! She about died. I let Tyler & Jinny stay over tonight - it wasn't too bad.

Oct 20 Today I cleaned house & fixed dinner - Sheri & Richard came, then we went bowling at the Galleria - it was fun but I was lousy - 85, I think. Oh well. I'm really tired Cho.

Oct 21 Sunday Mike had meetings from 6:30 on - I went to choir practice, church, then we went to Ogden to visit Mike's parents. She told me she ordered some draperies for her living room $1400!! Their house sure is nice. I've been kinda upset with Mike lately - like I do when I start feeling unloved & ignored. Poor Mike - I know he's doing his best, but I wonder if I can continually be the supportive wife - long suffering!? Sometimes I feel like he needs to suffer too! It seems like he'd rather be anywhere else than here! This is not a new feeling, so I'm sure I'll get over it when I stop feeling sorry for myself. My back is starting to bother me again! Oh No!!

Oct 22 Monday Today I cleaned the kitchen, had lunch, took Aaron to the ENT specialist, ran errands, fixed dinner, ate, had FHE, folded clothes & came to bed!! That's all! The house (except the kitchen) is still a disaster. The doctor says he's fine but to keep his nose clean use humidifier, decongestant, etc. I sure hope he'll be over this ear infection / sinusitis etc.

 1984

Oct 23 Went to Nautilus this morning - cleaned house, did laundry, made up the agenda for my board meeting. Had the meeting - talked to Judy - waited for Mike - it's 11:20. My, what an exciting life

Oct 24 Wed Mike stayed home today to help me get caught up - it was so nice of him. We cleaned the house, then he covered the swamp cooler & made some coat racks for the kids on the landing. It looks great! I stayed up to iron - I'm exhausted.

Oct 25 Thur The regular - went to Michelle's dancing lessons & was impressed - they had to do a solo dance - just making it up as they went - twice. Michelle is such a cutie - so graceful & cute - & she tries so hard to do everything

Oct 26 Fri The regular - or less. I was tired from staying so late last night, so I didn't get much done. Today was Mike's last day at that work - they took him to lunch & gave him a game - "Celestial Pursuits". We went to dinner at the "Fordy's Queen" - it was good, then we played the game & really enjoyed it. We stayed up watching Jack Benny, so I'm tired again.

+ Talmage's 1st Tooth Upper Left

Oct 27 Sat Tonite we went to a Halloween Party at Pierson's - it was fun, as usual. Mike & I went to Nautilus this am - it was nice. Talmage has been fussy all day - poor baby doesn't feel too good.

Oct 28 Sun 2nd tooth Lower Left Daylight Savings went off last night, so even tho it's only 10:30, it's really 11:30 & I'm tired. Mom & Dad & Judy & her kids came down tonite - Mom for a funeral, Judy to stay a while (my idea) Talmage was fussy & grumpy today, poor lil guy! I was showing off his new tooth & realized he had another one! So now he's got 2 - in 2 days! And more will be coming soon.

Oct 29 Mon Woke up at 5:15 & now it's 11:30 again & I'm bushed. Judy & I took the van & our 4 kids in to have the van inspected - while they did that, we shopped at Pic n Save & I spent $32 on Christmas stuff! The van didn't pass, so I spent 2 more hours waiting to get it fixed. Then Mom & Dad & Mike's Mom & Dad came & so we ate dinner - soup - I was embarrassed. Then we played celestial pursuit & I think everyone had a good time

Oct 30 Tues — Registered the kids today - got ready for ward Halloween party. I got about 5 hrs sleep last night - Johnny was up half the night just screaming & he's been fussy all day - hope it's not his ears I feel like his teeth. Went to the ward party - stupid. The kids liked it tho. Then Judy & I went to Nautilus - Pat was fun & we came home feeling like rookies. My back is starting to ache.

Oct 31 Wed — Halloween! Boy, I'm glad it's over - altho the candy problem will be with us for several weeks. My kids looked so cute tho - Michelle a belly dancer, Brett a vampire Aaron a pirate & Matt a clown. Matt was the cutest, but Aaron was too. We'll have to do better next year. Brett wanted to be a popular super hero bad guy but I wouldn't get the stuff he wanted - I wonder how important it is? I was in charge of Michelle's class' party - a little strange but ok. It was fun. Mike feels like he's getting sick. Tired

Nov 1, 1984 Thurs — What a day. Had a RS mtg here at 1:30, piano lessons at 3:30 soccer at 4:30 - Brett made 2 goals! and dance at 5:30 Denise at 6:30. Busy! This am. we saw some errands. Pretty good day.
3rd tooth Lower Right

Nov 2 1984 Fri — Today Johnny went shopping & I cleaned. Today I went to look for wedding but didn't get any. Ordered a bunch of toys - had a catalog party & so called people today.

Nov 3 Sat — Brett had his last soccer game today & tonite they had dinner at Chuck E Cheese & his coach, Pete Pearson, gave them all trophies - Brett's was for "most improved" It was fun. Jim stopped.
4th Tooth Upper Right

Nov 4 Sun — A regular Sunday, except Mike went to all the meetings! My right shoulder is sore, as is my back. Today & Johnny left today I sure love her.

Nov 5 Mon — Laundry & house cleaning today - was fun! I did get pretty much caught up. My back is bothering me but my shoulder feels a little better.

1984

Nov 6 Cleaned house, bread dough ornaments with Mary Jo - went to Homemaking Mtg - it was fun. I'm tired Election Day - Reagan beat Mondale with a landslide - it was great!

Nov 7 Wed Nothing too exciting - just the regular. Michelle babysat for Sandy Tyson after school - strange, but I guess she's old enough.

Nov 8 Thur Tal 5th Tooth! Left upper Center - next to center tooth. Michelle lost her tooth today too. Mike & I went to Nautilus tonight. It was fun.

Nov 9 Friday Tonight I helped serve & clean up for the senior citizens banquet. It was really nice. The footlights performed & did really well & I kinda missed seen Mike up there. I took Michelle & Brett to the orthodontist & they're both ok for now

Sat Nov 10 6th Tooth upper R Today was a really fun day. Mike & I got up & went to Nautilus to exercise & relax in the jacuzzi, then he showed me his new office - pretty neat. Then we took the kids swimming at Cyprus Swimming Pool. Their PE teacher set it up for all Hunter kids & families. I put a little swim suit on Talmage - he looked so darling! At first he really clung to me - it was noisy & splashy & crowded, but after a while he got used to it & loved it! He kicked & splashed & laughed & played. He splashed hard - right in his face & laughed & wiped his eyes & splashed again. It was so cute. Neither of us really wanted to go - other things "we should be doing" but we were both glad we went. Everyone really enjoyed it. Then we went to Hardee's for lunch. Tonight Mike & I went over to Carlile's & played Celestial Pursuit" & had fun. Mom called today & said Deanna's father died. (My brother Claude's wife.) He had open heart surgery 6 weeks ago & has had lots of problems since.

Sun Nov 11 Veterans Day. Aaron was a little sick so I stayed home except for Sac Mtg. We went to a fireside Hunter on music that was good. Wasted the rest of the day! Hard to believe.

Mon Nov 12 Cleaned house - what a Mess! Did Laundry - a ton of it! Went to Mike's parents for HE. Abs Nice

Nov 13 Tues — I went visiting teaching, and cleaned house, did laundry, read, ironed, fixed dinner. How fun! I've been a real snot all day - mad at everybody, especially Mike. Poor Guy. Depressing thing - went to Nautilus this morning - weighed 158! I've gained 3 lbs in the 7 months I've been going there - and I planned on being in good shape by now! Sickening!!

Nov 16 Fri — I lead such a boring life! Just cleaning & washing etc. Today I went to a Mervyns sale & only bought 2 pr pants for Mike! I tended kids the rest of the day.

Nov 17 Sat — Mary Jo Carlile & I went Christmas shopping today & really had a good time. Then tonight Mike & I went to a show called "Oh God; you devil." Sounds terrible but it was so good & heartwarming about importance of love & marriage & family. Today Michelle said she wanted a sister - I told her she was too old - she said she really wanted one so she could have sister's day. So cute. Mom called tonight & said they're putting in their papers for a mission! Pretty exciting stuff. I bought Celestial Nursing games for my parents & Rex & Carrie for Christmas, & a silk flower arrangement for Mike's folks. It's gorgeous.

Nov 20 Tues — I felt the other night that I don't see the need to write every night because I always do the same boring stuff! Except today Mike & I had a dinner at the Fion House for the BYU Alumni committee. It was delicious & interesting! Mike left before it was over, so when it was done, I walked next door & saw Sheri. I got to meet Joseph Anderson, 95 years old, an Emeritus member of the 70. I saw Elder Tom Perry, Marvin Ashton Barkman, Scott, & Arthur Haycock, & we got to go in Pres Kimball's office & the quorum board room! It was so fun! Then I walked the more than 1/2 mile to the Car. Boy, I felt so sophisticated - grown up, important, intelligent etc or something - it was great. I took Matt to have his picture taken. The kids had theirs done at School today & I had ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible] done a month ago. A cold's been nagging for several weeks but tonight it HIT & I'm going to bed now 9:30. I'm rushed.

Christmas 1984

We had a lovely Christmas - Mike's parents came for Christmas Eve. Brett was sick - flu - & they later got it. They gave Mike & I $100 each, & the kids each an outfit. My folks gave us a case of margarine & some other stuff. I gave Mike a robe & some after shave & binoculars. He gave me a curling iron and my surger I had on Layaway! He cashed in all our savings bonds to do it. We put our money together & he bought a IBM 420 computer program "Lotus". I don't believe how much computer software costs. We bought a game King's Quest & it was $50! Money goes so fast - it worries me. This Christmas week & the week after, EVERYONE but me got sick. What a pain.

My parents got their call for the Birmingham ALABAMA Mission - they enter the MTC Feb 20.

M

Matthew's 4th Birthday

January 25, 1985

Our little Matthew is 4 years old! So hard to believe! The past year has gone by so fast. It's been kind of a hard year for Matthew & I. I think it all started with the popcorn episode a year ago. It must have been such a traumatic experience that he became such a mean little kid. I felt I came so close to actually abusing that child - it scared me sometimes. He has been the meanest, orneriest, snotty little kid! However, at other times he is just a little angel! He can be the cutest, sweetest little guy. He's been going to pre-school for the past month & it has really helped him - I'm shocked. He used to only want to watch tv all day - but now he's a little more interested in other people & things & I'm delighted to see he's getting a little less self-centered. He's a smart little guy, too, and he's starting to draw people & things with meaning. His best friend is still Sarah Knight & they play together nearly every day. He knows her speed-dial number & he calls & asks her to come over. He also plays with Adam Freebairn & David Maples a little. He is certainly strong-willed.

B

Feb 25 1985 — 8 years old! Its such a special day. Tonight we went skating at the 49th Street Galleria & took Tyler Pearson, Brett's best friend. We had a fun time. Brett really concerns me. He's almost like a Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde. He can be so ornery! And he can also be very loving and sensitive. It really concerns me. He'll be sassy & rude to me, & disobedient, but the minute I say, "let's call dad" or "I'll just tell Dad all about it," he bawls "no mom, no! I'll be good, I promise!" "Please don't tell Dad!" Not that Mike is mean - he just is very firm & he always gives a 2 hour lecture. But boy, Brett (and the others) sure do whatever he asks! Makes me sad - but I know lots of kids are like that.

Brett's 8th Birthday

As for Brett, he is doing excellent work at school - he is in the top 2nd grade reading group. He does such good work & he is an excellent printer. He doesn't spend as much time drawing as he used to. I think he's starting to realize his objects aren't just like they look (like a photo.) But he still does well. He won an honorable mention for his "reflections" picture of dinosaurs. (Not one of his better works, either.) Course, now that he's 8, he's a cub scout, & he's very proud of that & thrilled. Mary & Carlile is his Den mother & she'll be great.

For his birthday he got his scout stuff & a new bike. It really is a nice one (6/20 gulp). He also got some clothes & toys and $ from Grandmas. Interestingly, Brett & Matthew have very similar personalities. Hmm. I wonder why.

T

March 15 1985 — I cannot believe Talmage is 1 year old. What a sweetheart! He has been an absolute joy to me. He wakes up early - 5:30 - 6:00 & so I take him back to bed with me & nurse him. When he's done, he crawls over & grabs the phone, kleenex, lotion whatever & makes a mess. He's a delightful baby! He can get up the stairs fine but hasn't yet mastered going down. It kind of scares him. He does peek a boo

Talmage's 1st Birthday!

21 lbs

and patty-cake. He loves to bang on the piano & throw things off his high chair. He giggles when he's being changed. He's definitely a mommas-boy - he loves to nurse as much as she let him. He gets really grumpy, then I give him a snack & he's really cheerful! The past year with him has gone by so fast - it's so hard to believe my 5th baby is one year old!

18 March 1985

I can't believe Mike's 33!! We went to dinner with his parents & Sheri & Richard & Michelle & Brett to Benihana's. The kids loved it and we all had a fun time. I look at Mike & think how great it is to be growing old together! (will be)

Mike's 33rd Birthday

He is the greatest guy I could ever imagine I'd marry. I look at him sometimes & marvel at what a wonderful husband & is and how lucky I am to have him. He is so smart, talented, intelligent, hard working, good looking, spiritual, considerate & loving, I can't believe it sometimes! I'm not saying he's perfect, some things drive me crazy, but there is no one better for me - I love him so much & am always thankful we have each other.

1 April 1985

Well, I made it to 30! It's funny, lots of people comment on how old & over the hill they feel & how depressed they are when they turn 30. However, I've always kind of looked forward to the greater maturity I experience it would afford. My children are getting older and are more help & more fun to do things with - I've got myself a little more organized etc - I don't (???) have the next decade full of nursing pregnant & nursing constantly - altho who knows? People ask if I want more kids & I don't know!! I'm kind of neutral about it at the moment - I wouldn't mind if I didn't have more kids & I wouldn't mind if I didn't. Actually I think if it was totally up to me & my selfishness I wouldn't do it again. When I think of the yuckey false labor & stuff

30 years old

and how crappy I felt with bilmage, I shudder & don't want to do it again - sleepless nights and all the rest. Isn't 5 a nice little family? And then when I look at Michelle and Brett & all the extra things they need & I want to give them - piano, soccer, dancing etc etc & how expensive it is and how much of my time it takes & multiply it - wow! it becomes overwhelming. And their emotional needs - already I'm hearing "you don't understand me!" Or "you don't even give a care!" And the arguing & fighting and teasing etc is really something else.

However, I must hasten to add here, lately I've had such a calm, unruffled feeling when things happen. I don't get so upset, but I can be firm and cheerful. A lot of it has to do with a "Home Careers Seminar" I attended in February. I feel bad I didn't write about it. It was a beautiful seminar put on by Linda Eyre, author of Joyful Mothers of Children, one of my favorite, most helpful books on Mothering. Judy & Vicki came down from Idaho to go with me. It was an all day seminar at the Marriott hotel & it was delightful. She had 4 really great mothers to speak to us & they gave us some great ideas, motivation, & inspiration. One, LaDawn Jacob, mother of 10 under 14, really impressed me. She has a devotional every morning & they sing (I learn hymns), learn a scripture, read scriptures, and learn a famous or fun & practical poem. She had 5 of her kid there to show off & the things they memorized were wonderful. I really want to do that, & we've tried off & on. We are eating together more often these days, I think. (Breakfast that is. We nearly always eat dinner together.) Another thing that really helped me be more calm was a book several of the speakers mentioned "The Hiding Place." A true story of 2 Dutch women imprisoned in WWII, it told of their survival & faith & their great attitudes. No matter what they went through, they had a calm, understanding and unshakable manner. And I thought, My word, these ladies went through all of that, & I get upset

because my kids are fighting or crying or disobeying? And I love those sweet little guys!" And then one day I had a sudden clarity of thought - inspiration? I hope - when I suddenly saw myself & my children and realized. This is what I'm here for. There is nothing on this earth I want to do more than be a good mother & teach & train & love these kids!" What greater opportunity is there than to influence & teach the 5 bright inquiring little minds & spirits I have for my Stewardship. They're each so special & have so much potential! When I see them all dressed up for church, I sometimes catch a glimpse of 4 handsome, blue-suited missionaries with testimonies and enthusiasm for serving missions, & a beautiful, smart, loving mother in Michelle & perfect husband & father. It tickles me to see how the kids love Talmage. Something especially touches me about seeing Brett & Talmage together I guess because Brett is usually the tough, cool kid - to see him being so gentle & tender & loving with Talmage really touches my heart, & I know he'll be a great dad.

Anyway, this calm detachment is something Mike has been trying to explain to me for so long - & I never thought it possible - but it works! Instead of getting angry & losing my cool, I can look at a bickering, brawling, arguing kid & smile because first & foremost I love him! And I know I'm in charge. I'm certainly NOT the perfect mother. But I really don't feel upset so often & loose control. Even when Matt's being naughty, I can look thru his behavior & see my loveable little kids. It truely is amazing to me.

There are so many things I want to work on in my life! 1st spiritual. It always seems to get pushed aside. For some reason, I feel almost afraid to get involved in the scriptures consistently! I love the scriptures, & I love to read them, & I know when I read

then consistantly, I'm a better person! So why don't I do it!? I have a funny feeling about Mike sometime being a Bishop - I really don't want him to be! Maybe my inner subconscious thinks if I'm not prepared, he won't be called? I don't know. I don't wish that job on anyone - especially him. I need him to much.

However, I again I have to add this - I had one of those sudden illuminations - I am so blessed to even have Mike for a husband - shouldn't I be willing to share him & spread his niceness around to others? So I've resolved to be less demanding & more supportive of him.

Mike

Also, my physical body is still in lousy shape. Honestly, I look like I just had a baby. I've got such a fat tummy. It's funny - I have a slim - relatively - waist & upper abdomen, but my fat belly just sticks out. I've really worked hard this past year doing aerobics, nautilus machines etc & I've gained an inch on my stomach! So I decided it's not worth all the pain - I've quit exercising that really bothers Mike - he faithfully goes to nautilus 3 times a week & he feels great & looks good, but I just don't feel it's worth it for me.

And another thing that bothers me about me - I get all excited about doing things then after once or twice, that's it. I don't do it anymore. I need to carry through more.

Anyway, I feel that I am becoming a better mother & wife! I'm looking forward to the next 10 years because I really want to take some classes, learn new things, & have fun with my kids! I'm excited to be 30!!

A

April 23 1985

Aaron Spencer Williams is 6 years old!

I can't believe it's been 6 years since we had our special little Aaron in Germany. The time has gone by so fast.

Aaron, at 6, is still a delightful, loving child. Of all my children, he is the most loving, demonstrative little kid. He's a real musical little guy - he's always humming or singing. He's got really good rhythm - he loves to dance, too. Even when he gets mad & has a fit, I never find myself getting mad at him because he's so darn cute! His big brown eyes and silky thick hair are just gorgeous. He's got a sprinkling of tiny little freckles across his nose. Mike says he's "sweet, cute, sensitive, talented, loving." He loves kindergarten this year & his teacher, Mrs. Smith loves him & says he's a really good kid. She's really impressed with how "artistic" he is - and that kind of goes by unnoticed because we're always thinking of Brett as the artistic one. But we're beginning to realize that he does have talent & he is a cute little artist. Aaron is a very sensitive little guy & probably would be classified as a "people pleaser." He'll do just about anything for Brett - give him anything he wants & Brett takes advantage of it. Aaron's favorite friend is Jeffrey Knight; they play a lot together & get along quite well. Jeffrey, being the oldest, usually gets his way with Aaron going along. Aaron got a 2 wheeler for Christmas & has learned to ride it really well, but it's a 16" bike and all his friends have 20" bikes. He says he doesn't like to ride a "baby bike" so he rides Michelles. He's doing really well in school & loves it - we never had a minutes problem getting him to go to school. I love that kid so much. I remember when he was born, I felt he was a very special little spirit, & I still think that.

April 27 1985 Saturday

Today was Michelle & Brett's first piano recital. They did so well - we were (are) so proud of them! Michelle played "March of the White Keys" a recital piece Mike played when he was little. Brett played "Boogie Beat" & they both played a duet. Mike's parents came & it was a special day. I started taking piano lessons about a month ago & I just love it! I'm so excited to be learning all this stuff - I can't believe how much I don't know. I sit down to practice & a whole hour goes by without my realizing it.

On - on Easter weekend, April 3-8, I took the kids & went to Idaho. We went to the dentist Thurs & Friday & Saturday I started feeling sick & by Sunday, I was miserable. So cute old Mike went up to get me - his parents drove him to Downey, & Steve & Kenda drove down & took him to I.F. We stayed at Mom's house, & as we were getting ready to leave in the morning Talmage fell & cut his eyebrow so Mike took him to the hospital emergency room - $50! I had gone to the dr the day before $30 & got medicine $25! What an expensive, wasted weekend!!

B

March 9, 10 1985 Brett's Baptism & Confirmation

We got to go back to March 9 & 10 & tell about Brett's special day - his baptism & confirmation. On Saturday March 9, Brett was Baptized. Mike's parents came & it was special. Earlier that day, I had gone shopping & my parents, who were at the MTC for their mission, stopped by & visited with Brett for a while. I was sorry they couldn't stay & sorry to have missed them. Brett seemed to understand the importance of the ordinance, & looked so handsome, all dressed in white.

Mike's parents came also for his confirmation, & it was really neat. Mike's Dad & the bishopric stood in with Mike. (Bishop Batt, Bro Whetstone & Bro Nielson) Mike gave a beautiful blessing that Brett will be a great missionary & have special concern for others & self control. (which he needs a lot of help with)

April 30 1985 Jus Michelle's Dance Concert

Tonight was Michelle's Dance Concert for her year of dance with Shelly Pearson. She did really well, altho the new glasses she got last week (the 24th) were kind of distracting to her. I hated to have her get glasses. She looks older & grown up. And no one looks better in glasses. But she did a great job & is a cute little dancer.

M

May 5 1985 Michelle's 10th Birthday

I cannot believe how my life has changed in the last 10 years. I sure didn't realize what I was getting myself into!! I love Michelle dearly - I'm so grateful she's my oldest!! She is a great help to me! She babysits a LOT for me - she is learning how to cook a few things. I hope to work more with her on that this summer.

Sometimes I look at Michelle & my heart just aches - I want so much for her & I love her so much but Mike & I are so critical of her! She does so many things right & good - but if she does 1 dumb thing, we jump all over her! Especially Mike. She is so sensitive that she gets her little feelers hurt & cries so easily. I think she's doing better as far as having friends - I think she's had a hard time with that. Ginny Wilkerson, who lives behind us, has been a great best friend for Michelle, & I've enjoyed seeing that, & have tried to encourage it. Friday Michelle had a birthday party with 10 friends from school & church, & I think it turned out well & they all seemed to enjoy it. She loves being the center of attention (who doesn't) but she was so cute & funny & tactful about her presents. She did the whole party herself - she made the piñata, picked out the candy, made up a treasure hunt for it, chose the video (Hansel & Gretel) & chose the refreshments - candy, popcorn & kool-aid. She even made up the invitations & delivered them. It was cute the way she wrote on the invitations "Bring this to the party". Then they

put them in a box & she drew them out to open her gifts. She got some cute things - including metallic blue fingernail polish (yuck) but she loves it.

Anyway, Michelle is a very creative, responsible, diligent intelligent young lady. She has a job chart that she does every day & I barely have to bug her about it. She practices really good & I don't have to bug her at all about that. She's a good hard worker. We were a little concerned about her this semester - Every grade but 1 dropped a full grade! Her social studies went from A to A. However, & we were proud of her for that. However, she is not a C student so we were shocked! Her teacher didn't seem to know what the problem was (OR CARE) (I felt). She had a lot of daily Fs etc, & that sure brings down the averages. However, I'm going to wager that it is because she's needed glasses that her grades have gone down - she's not understood what is happening & hasn't caught up. April 17 & took her to the eye doctor & her eyes were -150 & 175 (Mine are -175 & -200!) so she's had a bit of a problem. We got her some cute little blue-brown glasses that look real cute on her & they sure help. I hate to see her have to get glasses, but if you need 'em, you need 'em! Poor poor kids, with parents like us they'll have glasses & zits! Anyway, her teacher said she's been more social lately, too. So I hope she can work things out & get her grades up. 4th grade has been somewhat of a shock - it's getting a lot harder academically plus her teacher has ½ fourth grade & ½ fifth grade, so! Needless time than normal. We have a fit if she gets in another split class!

I'm glad to have her for a daughter - I went to a maturation film with her - I wasn't much older than her when I started having periods. Hard to believe she's approaching that time in her life!! I love her so much & want her to be happy!!

May 5 1985 — Well, this seems like a mean thing to do, but Mike and I left after church today & flew to Denver! I can't believe I'm really doing this!! We had Lowell & Mary Beck come stay with the kids - they have 2 kids 3 yrs & 2 yrs so I hope it'll work ok. Our flight was scheduled for 2:45 but at 2:30 they cancelled it because of plane problems. So we didn't get out till after 4:30. But it was fun to fly again! I got to see all the mountains between here & Denver. I couldn't believe how neat it looked - just like a relief globe looks! the rivers & mountains & gullys & ridges - it was so interesting! We rented a car & drove out to Lakewood to the Holiday Inn - it's really plush & neat. Regular room rates are $80 per night, but Mountain Bell is paying Mikes $53 & his free! So it's going to be neat. I'm really excited but can't believe we're really doing it!

DENVER

May 6 Monday — Mike left about 7:30 & I read for a few hours, then went down to the exercise room & rode the bike, then sat in the spa, then, altho it was cloudy & around 70°, I went swimming in the outdoor pool! It was warm water & really nice, so I luxuriated in the solitude & sheer luxury of just paddling around! I loved it. Then I showered & dressed & read some more. Boy, it's so quiet here, I kinda got spooked - I don't know anyone, I don't know how to get ahold of Mike etc! The maid came in & cleaned up & changed the sheets - I loved it! I was starving by 12 & finally Mike called & came & got me at 12:30. We went to the Mountain Bell Training Center, where Mike's attending a seminar, for lunch. After lunch I drove 10 min to a shopping mall & looked around. I bought each of the kids a T-shirt that said "Colorado". Then I picked Mike up & we came back to the Hotel & relaxed for a while. Then we went downstairs and ate in the restaurant. Talk about fancy!

white tablecloths, reall silver-ware! Wing back chairs-wow, ritzy! Wierd waiter! He was in a tux, tho. We had chateaubriand! It was sooo good. Oh what a neat day!

May 7-9 Denver

Our stay in Denver was absolutely delightful. While Mike was in class, I read, swam, shopped or just lazed around. One afternoon I spent a couple of hours in class listening to Mike (he lead the discussion for 2 days-! He seems to be the only one brave enough to lead out!) People were always shocked to hear we had 5 kids! The seminar got over a day early (shucks) but on the way to the airport we visited a building-partially completed- to see the cabling systems. We had to wear hard hats & I stuck out like a sore thumb in my hot pink pants & white sandals, but it was fascinating! One evening we went into Denver & walked around. Wow-they've got a lot of big buildings-I couldn't believe it. Lots of them are ½ empty. anyway, it was fun. We ate at the neatest restaurant. The Broker. It was fancy & expensive! $54 for dinner! They gave a a huge fresh shrimp bowl. It was so good. This was just a wonderful vacation. Michelle called one morning just hysterical - her goldfish died! But that was the only bad thing that happened while we were gone. The kids did fine & Mary & Jowell Beck seemed to do fine - we paid them $70. Good deal. It was so neat to just talk & talk & talk. It was neat.

June 8 1985 Mike's MBA U of U

Mike graduated from University of Utah today, with his Masters of Business Administration. He was going to skip all the rigamarole, but he did it for me, because it's so important to me. Mike's parents came to the convocation, but his mom wasn't feeling well, so they left early. I took Michelle & Brett & they enjoyed running up & down & around the Special Events Center. I'm so proud of Mike!

July 4-10, 1985 Dad's Birthday

We went up to the cabin to celebrate the 4th of July. Early that morning, we went to the church for a flag-raising and breakfast. Mike bought a new printer for the computer, and it wasn't working, so he tried to call around & see if he could fix it, but no one was open. So we finally left around noon, picked up Judy & her kids, & got to the cabin around 7. We had a nice, laid-back time. Steve took Brett fishing & he caught 2 fish! He was so cute & proud & Steve made him clean them. Mike took the computer and worked on his homework - he had so much to do! Even though he graduated last month, he won't finish class until the 20th, & he had lots to do. Then, after everyone left, a lot of us had the 24 hr. flu & we were miserable. So the only outing we took was to Henry's lake to wade for a few minutes. I lost my keys up there. It wasn't the same without Mom & Dad - there wasn't the organization there usually is. I kind of wondered if it was worth it or not. We left Michelle in Idaho to stay with some cousins

July 20 Mike's last day of school - hooray! I'm so glad he did it, but so glad it's over. I sure hated the Friday nights & Saturdays he was gone. We went to Snowbird for dinner - a company he did some jobs for invited us. We rode the tram & it was fun.

July 31 Today was a neat day. Mike & I have been trying to decide what to do about looking for jobs, moving etc - so we fasted today & then attended the temple together. We were specifically asking for guidance on jobs, moving etc. All during the session I kept thinking about what it would be like to live in Hong Kong & what temple we'd go to, & the kids schooling etc. After we went in the celestial room, Mike asked me how I felt - I told him, but said "Is it just me, wishing?" He told me to pray about it & ask if what I was feeling was right. So I sat there & prayed

and started to cry, because I received no great impression or voice or anything, & I wondered, am I not worthy? Have I lost all spirituality and feeling because I'm not studying scriptures etc? Mike just asks for & speaks answers— don't I have the necessary faith? And I just prayed & tried to open my mind but the other options we had discussed (staying with Mtn. Bell, SLC, moving somewhere like Dallas, Cal, Washington D.C. etc.) just kind of faded away & they weren't even there - it was just Hong Kong. But I was afraid that was not the answer Mike had received, so I kept trying to block it out. It wasn't leaving - so I told Mike, sorry. It's still Hong Kong! He smiled & took my hand & told me that was the very strong feeling he had, too - he wanted to make sure that's what I felt also. So we both feel really good about it and both feel really excited about it. My feeling now is ok, we've decided. Now LETS GO!! We talked to a computer matching company, but they charge $400! We weren't sure at the time if that's what we wanted? We'll try a few avenues on our own first, then maybe go that route. So we'll see!

Sept 8 1985 Boy, I've let too much time lapse again! Mike's written lots of letters to Hong Kong, & we've received 3 "sorry" & one we're not quite sure of - an address change with our file number on it. But we're both got our new passports so we're ready whenever!! The first of August Mike & I went down to the Lion House & were interviewed & be in a "BYU Film Fest" which is to be beamed to all the stake satellites in the US in October. We're not sure we'll be in it but we might - who knows? Anyway, it was really fun to be a part of it. We're on the alumni committee for BYU - that's how we got in on it. Also on August 22, I went to BYU Education Week - & Mike came with me! It was fun & neat, but I wanted it to be WONDERFUL so Mike would love it!

Oh! Mike received a special achievement award for exceptional contributions - it'll be $400. Not as much as we'd

hoped for but who's complaining? Money is money!! He's such an excellent worker - he could do anything. I'm really surprised someone hasn't snatched him right up!

Last Sunday we got a new bishopric. Our new bishop is Steven Carlile, Mary Jo's husband! She was called several months ago as our R.S. President!! So they'll be busy! But, I'm sure she'll be released. I hope she's put in as den leader again! She was great with the boys.

On Thursday we went to the Jordan River temple & it was really nice. Mike stayed for a priesthood session, & as I was leaving, there were all these men coming in and I just thought, wow! These are good men ~~and~~ from our ward. It was neat to see them. This is a good ward to live in. There is a new painting in the women's dressing room of a woman surrounded by children & babies and it was really touching. So of course I started thinking - is it time to have another? I get so impatient & mad at my kids - I feel like I'm always getting mad at them & looking for the bad - and FINDING it. I really want to be more positive and happy so I'm trying!! Mike says I need to get into better shape before I get pregnant. I really don't want to be pregnant, but the kids are worth it!

28 Oct 1985 Mon

I've had a good couple of months - I don't know exactly, I'm just feeling good. I've really been enjoying my kids, my husband, my life. I'm on a bowling league and I just love it! Last week I bowled a 168! I nearly died! My starting average was 90, last week it was 108 - who knows what it will be next week? I got 3 strikes in a row, by sheer luck. Today I got up at 5:20 & exercised! Oh, another thing I've been doing is I've got my schedule going again & I'm really getting the house whipped into shape! I love being organized & having clean closets, drawers, home.

6 November 1985 Wed President Spencer W. Kimball, our beloved prophet & president, died last night shortly after 10 pm. What a sad news! I really love President Kimball & the beautiful example he's been to me. Of course, we were so impressed with him; that's one reason we named Aaron "Spencer" that. What a loving, caring man! Our children were all pretty sad about it too. I am glad for him, though. We took Michelle & Brett to General Conference & sat in the balcony - President Kimball attended! So we all got to have a last look at him. He looked so old and frail and unhealthy - my heart ached for him. So I am grateful he has been released from his pain & frustration & earthly concerns. I like to picture him dancing & being freed from his worn out old body. I can just imagine him embracing the savior & hearing "well done, my good and faithful servant." I hope & pray I can live life half as well as he.

Judy came down on Halloween - we've had a good time together. John brought her down, dropped her off & left. Today, Vicki came down - her husband, Ron brought her down, dropped her off & left. So she's kid-less and loving it! We're having a nice time - poor Mike sure has to put up with a lot, but I really appreciate it. I love to have them here.

Nov 7 1985 Thurs Tonight we went down to BYU to see a special Egyptian exhibit "Ramses II". It was really fun & interesting. We took Michelle & Brett & they really enjoyed it. This was the main reason Judy & Vicki came down.

Wk Dec 11 1985 — Today was a really neat day!

Jan 2 1986 — I Can't believe its 1986! So much has happened I can't believe I haven't written. But Mike said to start with today & catch up later. So here I am. Went to lunch with some ladies & Coree Ogden, who used to live behind me & has come for a visit from Washington DC. Was fun to visit with her. Makes me want to move!!

Dec 11 1985 — Ill start here & catch up. About 3 weeks ago, just before Thanksgiving, I saw a little notice in the paper telling of a "Christmas I Remember Best" writing contest. The prize was $50! We've been so tight on money lately, so I thought that'd be a neat way to earn some money to buy Mike a present. So I went to bed with ideas and thoughts swirling in my head. The next morning I got up & got the kids off to school, then went down & started typing. Thank goodness for our word processing program on our computer. In two hours, I had written, printed, & sealed to mail my submission. I got showered & dressed, then went to the store, bought some stamps, & mailed it. All through this, I had the feeling I knew I would win. It was like knowing I was going to get a strike before I threw the ball. Sometimes (rarely for me) I get that feeling. So anyway, I did not tell a soul. I wanted it to be a surprise. Then I told myself to forget it. And as time went on, I questioned that silly feeling & decided not to think of it. So when I came home from bowling, there was a letter from the Deseret News. Well, one year we did a "sub for Santa" & we

since Deseret News sends us a letter asking us to do it again. Honestly, that's what I thought the letter was, so I almost threw it away without looking at it! Then I thought, gee, I better look before I throw it away. I honestly did not even think of the contest! So I nearly died of shock when I read "Congratulations! your story has been chosen as a winner in the "Christmas I remember best" Contest. I couldn't believe it- so I called Mike & he was out. So I called Judy right in the middle of the day! and screamed long distance to her. She was so excited and thrilled too. Then I called Diane & told her. Then I decided not to even tell Mike, but wait until it came out in the paper & just show him. But I couldn't stand it. I was fixing dinner when he came home & I said "By the way, as soon as everyone's sitting down & quiet, I have an exciting announcement to make." He said, "well what is it." "You'll have to wait." I said, "but it's probably the most exciting thing that's ever happened to me!" "does it involve money?" he asked? I just told him he'd have to wait. So finally we got everyone up to the table & semi-quieted down. I got out my letter and read it to them. I started to tear up & it was so neat, because all the kids started clapping & shouting "yea!" Matt said, "you're going to be another Enid Dahl." (I had just finished reading them a book by him.) Mike was so excited and proud of me. I was so excited. I'm glad I told them. So then we called our parents & told them. It was fun.

Dec 12, 1985 Today was awful. Aaron was home sick & I put Talmage to bed & left Aaron home while I took Matt & his friends to pre-school. I decided to run over to Fabric Goods & get some material for pajamas I was going to make for Christmas. I was trying to hurry & not being careful, & I turned right in front of a pickup & he crashed in my rear end. I was in the van & I looked but not good enough, I guess. It was awful & I feel awful. The policeman was really nice, but I got a $62 ticket, & my insurance company is responsible for all the damages! In the afternoon I went in to have the damages estimated $414 on my van alone. I'd hate to know what it was on his truck - the whole front was dented in - not BAD, but worse than mine. Anyway after the excitement of yesterday, it was a real downer. Fortunately, no one was hurt & Aaron did ok at home for 2 hours!

Oh - Rex and Carrie & family moved up here around Dec 8 with a new baby girl named Stephanie Michelle

Dec 25 We had a lovely Christmas. On Dec 22, Sunday, my story came out in the paper - a big color sketch & big picture of me - whole bit. It was really neat. Of course I was a celebrity for a day. I loved it. Monday pm we had a nice dinner & FHE at Mikes parents house with Rex Carrie & Richard & Sheri. It was really nice, then we had our own quiet (?) Christmas Eve. Christmas Day we relaxed. The 26th my teeth & head were killing me so I took the kids in the little car to Idaho (dumb). The crown I went up to have put on didn't fit! But Steve filed the temporary so it didn't hurt.

Jan 19-26 For Christmas, Mike gave me a trip to Florida! We got a couple in our ward, Lowell & Mary Beck to stay at our house & tend our kids. We flew to Tampa, Florida, & stayed in Holiday Inn where Mike had a convention - kind of meetings for BICSI. I walked & shopped & just read & looked. It was great. Then we drove to Orlando, stopping at Cypress Gardens. It was so beautiful and we had a delightful day. On Friday we went to Disneyworld & Epcot - it was really interesting. That night we went to a Polynesian dinner show - Mike danced with the Hula girls again like he did in Hawaii!! Saturday we went to Kennedy Space Center - what a thrill! We saw the shuttle on the launch pad & were scheduled to watch it take off that day. The launch was rescheduled, however. (This same launch did take off the following Tuesday morning after we got home & I was actually watching on tv when it exploded. What a sad day. I felt it was the cold weather, & if it would have gone off on Saturday everything would have been OK) We really enjoyed the space center - what a fantastic historical part of our lives! We were just starting school when the space age started, & it's grown up with us. I felt that this was probably the neatest experience of our trip. One thing I really enjoyed also was Cocoa Beach. I begged Mike to take me to the beach, & we got there just before sunset. It was glorious! The sand was almost like powdered sugar & the day was just gorgeous. We only spent about a half hour there - we had to get back to a dinner - but it was really beautiful.

(April) I guess I should also write about a very disturbing incident that happened. We had enjoyed an absolutely beautiful day at Cypress Gardens & had arrived at our hotel in Orlando. It was a stupid little thing, but I got upset at Mike & he withdrew from me - it was so strange. For the rest of the trip, and indeed, for several weeks after, I felt like I was

living with a very polite stranger. The feeling of closeness and mutual admiration was gone. Mike treated me like I imagine he treats all his female aquantidas - polite & aloof. Gone was my kidding, teasing, loving husband. Even after several heartfelt, emotional discussions, I felt "arms length" to him. It was a really disturbing & upsetting feeling. And yet, he didn't seem to be aware that there was a problem. I've tried to figure out the psychological aspects of it - why did I blow up over an insignificant little thing after such a delightful day? Why did he become so aloof? As a punishment to me? That's what I felt, altho he claimed it wasn't the case. What an awful experience - it still shakes me up to think about it. I guess the constant togetherness brought up problems that are generally ignored. I don't know why, but we've always had such a great relationship and lately so many things bother me about Mike. I get so angry & frustrated with him. So often, I feel like a servant in this house. I'm expected to wait on him & the kids, & provide for their every need & comfort. It's frustrating. Is it because I'm getting older & I'm tired of the demands - constant demands - of husband, home, & children?? Was my starry idealism of the perfect home evaporated in the harsh light of reality in day to day living? It is because I've lost my sense of spirituality (which I don't feel I've ever really had all during my marriage.) I know God lives & loves me & I know the gospel is true, but it's the daily weekly & constant demands that have to be met that bug me. When leaders put all the programs and policies ahead of what people need. We become weary of it sometimes. Sometimes I feel Mike's such a fanatic almost - then I think - where's my faith? Is it gone & evaporated under piles of diapers, dishes, worries? I'm tired of being everybody's servant - I want to do something for myself - & yet it seems so selfish to feel that way. The other day I was thinking as

I did the dishes, in three & a half years, Talmage will be in kindergarten, and I'll be able to start doing something for ME. College, art classes, writing classes volunteer work at the historical museum etc etc. Good grief, for the past 12 years of my life, my whole focus has been Mike & kids. That's what I've wanted, & yet I feel the time has almost come to start doing something for JOYCE. And yet even as I write I think this, I feel guilty for my selfishness. I'm sure if Mike knew or read this, he'd be shocked and very very disapproving. For example, I feel like 5 kids is plenty. All I can handle. I shudder when I think of going through pregnancy, labor, delivery & then sleepless nights, teething, potty training (only 1 more to go) & then they get bigger & start fighting & demanding & being such brats. Yesterday, after I missed Medical Conference to take Brett to his soccer game, we were coming home from the game & Brett had a fit that I wouldn't take him to 7-11 & buy him a treat cuz he made 2 goals. He said "you don't give a crap about me." I was so angry! Oh that makes me so mad when I work my head off & try to do everything for those kids & they act like that!! Boy, it's hard being a parent. Brett is such a smart-ass, conceited little snot. He can do everything better than anyone. I'm worried about Carson's self image - Brett's always knocking him. Oh well. I guess I needed this quiet time to just sit down and pour out all my frustrations. Oh! what I started was - Mike thinks I'm really selfish because I don't want any more kids. He's always teasing me "Now don't you want another cute little baby?" & it really irritates me. He thinks it's a real sin to have your tubes tied or take the pill. And of course, with all my indoctrination, I feel guilty for not wanting more children. So what to

do. I guess I'll get all my frustrations out while I'm at it. Elaine had our house up for sale for 3 weeks. I have absolutely worked my head off getting the house ready. I've painted both upstairs bedrooms & bathroom, had all the carpets cleaned - cleaned out closets, rooms - everything! Lettered signs & put them up - everything! Mike has put the FOR SALE sign up & he bought some flags & put them up. He also helped me paint one night. (& had to re-do it the next day cuz he missed so much.) But I can't get too mad because he really isn't feeling well. It's like he puts all his energy into work & church, then he doesn't have anything left for home. I guess the thing that bothers me is that he won't go to a doctor & track this thing down. For the past year, his health has been rotten - he feels lousy & tired all the time & I'm sick of it! He complains but won't do anything about it. I think, sometimes, he's just glad to get out of it! Well that's enough complaining. I hope in a year I can read this & laugh.

Matt

Jan 25 1986

Matthew is 5 years old! We moved here when he was just a tiny baby & now he's getting ready to go to Kindergarten!

Matthew's 5th Birthday

Matthew is generally a really cute, fun kid to have around. I usually don't see him in the mornings until he's dressed, & working on getting his schedule done! He's so cute about getting it all done. He gets dressed, makes bed, empties all the garbages & combs hair before breakfast. (Usually)

He loves to play outside with Adam Freeburn, swing, ride bikes, & watch t.v. He's a tv zombie, so I have to really monitor him.

Sometimes, however, I wonder if Matthew will live to go to school & I wonder if I can stand him for the next 14 years. He is such a smart mouthed,

bratty little kid! Several months ago he was talking back to me so nasty that I started putting cayanne pepper on his tongue! It made him barf & it made me feel awful, but it only took a couple of times & he doesn't talk to me like that anymore. He has a hard time obeying, tho - he says NO! a lot, & then when I start to go after him, he'll say "OK OK I'm going!" But then he'll just stop & watch me & see if I'm really going to get mad. Then - "OK OK!! I'll DO it!" It takes a lot of control sometimes not to beat that kid. Yet, sometimes he is just as cute & sweet as can be. He's really looking forward to going to kindergarten next fall. And I'm really looking forward to it too. I just wish it was full days.

B

Feb 15 1986 Brett's 9th Birthday

Brett's 9 years old! It's so hard to believe it's been that long since we lived in Georgia.

Brett is a really talented, bright boy. He is very smart & gets straight A's in school. His teachers and classmates all like him. He seems to get along with others at school. He is very talented in art & music. And he drives me crazy. His scout leader says he's almost shy!! Yet around home he's always bragging & putting everyone down. No matter what anyone else does, (according to Brett), Brett could do it better! Nothing is ever his fault. He hates to practice & usually just messes around on old songs instead of working on new. He hates to do schedules and complains about how all he does is "work work work" & all we want him for is to be our slave. How it's a "dumb stupid rule" that he's supposed to do his schedule before breakfast. And he lays around and complains for longer than it would take him to do his schedule! He hits things when he gets mad. He's real "Macho." I guess that's par for the course when you're a 9 year old boy. He's a great kid and we love him a lot.

March 15 1986 Talmage's 2nd Birthday

My baby is 2 years old! So hard to believe. He is such a sweet, cute little boy just barely starting to show his independance. His favorite toy is CARS He drives them, lines them up, sleeps with them He jabbers an awful lot but doesn't say much. He says lots of words & tries to repeat just about everything everyone says. During prayers, he folds his arms & squeezes his eyes shut, & babbles along. He likes to read books - a favorite is "Pat the Bunny" & a book you scratch n' sniff. He LOVES to "go" & he gets his coat out of the closet. He really likes to go outside & play in the back. His favorite spot is the living room window - he always watches when someone comes or goes. He loves to see cars - "Bye Bye." He gets really excited when he sees cars on TV - "bye bye! bye bye!" He loves "goggy," and "kikky kats" When he wakes up in the morning, he is so cute & quiet - he talks & plays with cars. If no one is up, he stays quiet for quite a while. But after a while, it's "EAT!" "Yeereeoo!" And he does NOT want to wait. It's the same at dinner time - he hangs on my leg & SCREAMS while I'm trying to get dinner. But all in all, he is a really sweet little boy & we all love him dearly.

April 1 1986 My 31st Birthday

I'm 31! I've put this off again!! I'm glad I've had another birthday so I can sit down and ponder my life & what I'm doing. This past year has been a little difficult for me - I guess, really, the last 6 months. I've been kind of discouraged I suppose a lot of it has to do with my friend, Diane Knight. She's been really depressed & to counseling & we talk a lot. I think she brings out my frustrations with husband, kids & life in general. So I've been trying not to get down. It's been hard having the house up for sale & not getting anything and trying

to keep it continually -SPOTLESS- that's turned me into a screaming Mother. It's just not worth it! (Altho I do enjoy having a clean orderly house.) Our yard is even starting to shape up- I've been mowing & watering & weeding & edging.

My relationship with Mike has improved quite a bit and I'm feeling better about us. I think maybe he has begun to realize that maybe part of our problems is possibly his fault, & it's not all me I know he loves me & we're working on it from there.

For my party we got a video of "Unsinkable Molly Brown" and it was just delightful. We all - even the boys - loved it. Mike's parents gave me money and I spent it all at a Mervyns sale on stuff for everybody & me. Mike gave me some really neat perfume - Galore! I love it. I'm really grateful for my life & family & I'm really going to try to get it all together and enjoy my life.

A

April 23 1986 Aaron had his 7th birthday today. It's amazing how time flies -

Aarons 7th Birthday We had a really fun birthday party with scortched parchment invitations, pirate hats & eye patches, treasure hunt & good old party games. The cake had gold coins, skeletons & a pirate. The cupcakes had skeletons on them - the kids got daggers & candy for the treasure. It was really the cutest party I've ever done & all the kids really enjoyed it.

What can I say about Aaron? He is still the same as he's always been - cute & loveable. With his big hazel-brown eyes & light freckles, thick straight blond hair & a happy smile, he just makes me happy! I just can't get really upset with him 'cuz he's so cute! He still is

the most loving, giving, happy little boy. And he still is sneaky! He tries to be a sneaky sly little kid 'cuz he doesn't want to get in trouble - Something new with him is the whining and crying & general booboing! Also, he is such a klutz - seems like he's always falling or bumping or hurting himself & bawling about it. But all in all, he's a badly happy & fun child to have around. He's just finishing 1st grade & he has done really well this year. He got off to a slow start at first & it made me feel guilty because I felt I haven't spent the time reading to him & helping him & just giving him individual time. He's so undemanding so he doesn't get all the attention he needs. He's played soccer this year & although he's enjoyed it, he doesn't really care that much about it. So we haven't signed him up for next year - course we might be moving anyway - Anyhow, Aaron is going to start taking piano lessons from Mike - he's really interested in it. He likes to play with Jeffrey Knight & Ryan Carlile & has a few other friends from school. He is such a cute boy & is getting pretty tall but is still skinny & hairy! We love him so much and are so grateful that he is in our family.

M

May 5 1986

Michelle's 11th Birthday

Boy, it's hard to believe my Michelle is 11 years old! Next year she'll be in mutual! Michelle is growing into a lovely graceful young lady. For her birthday she had a birthday party & invited 11 friends. She watched "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" & snarfed out on food. They had a good time, I think, and Michelle is a gracious little hostess.

As Michelle grows, we are kind of having a hard time deciding how to treat her. When we need to go somewhere, she is our babysitter and we expect her to feed them, do the dishes, get the kids to bed. However, if she acts a little big for her britches, we get mad at her for being too bossy! So it's a hard thing for her & for us, too, but I hope we can work it out. I feel sorry for her as the oldest, because we're trying out all these things on her. Of course we expect an awful lot from her and she is a responsible young lady in many ways. Yet, if she goofs up, we're all over her, criticizing & telling her what she's done wrong (as if she didn't know.) And then, of course, she gets rebellious & upset & "you don't understand"!!!

Daddy says "cute, becoming a young woman. She's maturing, becoming more responsible."

She is a beautiful girl with her big blue eyes & honey blond hair. Now it's curly from a permanent & it looks really cute on her. She has such a delicate little face - cute little turned up nose & delicate cupids-bow mouth. She's getting taller but is still petite for her age (which frustrates her, but I think it's great!)

I'm grateful for Michelle, that she's come to our family, that she's the oldest & so much help to me. I pray we can be close through the coming years.

August 31, 1986 — Summer is over - tomorrow is Labor Day, then the next day is 1st day of school!! Boy, am I excited!! Just think - I'll have 4 kids in school & only 1 home! Half a day, anyway. I can't wait!

Today we went to Layton to hear Ken & Carrie speak in their church. They did such a good job - on teaching your children and living the gospel as a family. We brought Christopher & Jennifer home with us. We drove through Farmington & Centerville & looked at a few homes. & had Mike drive around a Centerville neighborhood about 1900 N. that I really like. He was impressed with it. When we got home, I just had a really good, positive feeling that things were going to be OK & everything would work out. I told Mike & he said he felt the same way. So, who knows?

Sept 2 1986 — Today was the first day of school. What a wonderful, freeing feeling it was to have 4 kids in school & out of my hair!! I would feel like an unloving, heartless mother, except that I heard the same sentiment over and over today from many mothers. It's funny, I mentioned to Mike that it sure doesn't affect him the way it affects me - whether or not the kids are in school. But he said it really does affect him because of the way it upsets me & my schedule!!

Matt — Well, Matthew has been so excited about school. He just loved it today! I'm so glad I got him registered and in Mrs. Smith's class! He's going to do great. I sure didn't think we'd be here now though; I thought we'd be long gone.

Aaron seems to like his teacher & class; Brett has been put in a split-accelerated 4th/5th class - it should be interesting. The biggest problems I can see are 1) all the other 4th graders are at the satellite school, hence, no friends to play with & 2) It's going to be strange for him, I think, not to be THE BRAIN of the class! I'm excited for him & hope this works out for him. He's

got Mrs. Block. Michelle couldn't find her name on ANY of the teachers' lists, so she went in Mrs. Allens', who had been written (on her spring list) & on Michelle's report card. There are several really good girls in the class, so I'm hoping Michelle will be able to make a friend. I've noticed a real change in Michelle lately - she's very concerned with how she looks & what matches. She looked really cute today. Tonight she babysat at Relief Society, and as we were leaving she said, "You look nice, Mom." I about died! So she's starting to notice things. I think she'll do well this year. Oh, after school she said, "I think I have a nice smile. Don't you think people look better when they smile?"

Sunday night Mike gave all the kids a Father's blessing. It was really special as he blessed each one to be safe, do their work well & make others happy. Then I asked him to give me one - I've been having such a hard time lately just getting anything accomplished. He gave me a beautiful blessing about how important a job I have raising these special souls & what wonderful people they're going to be. As he gave me the blessing, it was like my eyes were opened & I could see these handsome young men & beautiful young woman going forth & it was really touching. It gave me kind of the vision of what I'm doing. I hope I can remember that & give me some goal to work toward.

At R.S. we had Christmas demonstrations & ideas & it got me excited about Christmas & getting organized! So I'd like to do some planning in the next couple of weeks

4 Sept 1986 Started School!

Well, an exciting event happened today. I started my Sophomore year at BYU (Salt Lake!)! I am taking a Humanities 101 class - trying to fulfill my General Education Requirements. My biggest frustration - now as well as then - is why in the heck did I take Spanish? Dumb! Oh well. I think this class will be neat! The only problem is that I have to give a 1 hour demonstration on something I am creative in. Wo! What in the world can I do?

Yesterday I got a babysitter for Talmage & went & signed up for my class $105! And my book $30! Choke Choke! I sure hope it's worth it, & I think it will be! Anyway, after I signed up, I just about drawled; I was so excited. Then I went up to Farmington & Centerville & looked at some houses $91,000, $97,000 $115,000 & 152,000! I sure liked 'em all! I think, however, that if I could have anyone of them, I'd take the $115,000 one. I love it! Then I bought some pearines & came home & put up 2 batches - the kids helped & they enjoyed it - but what a mess! My biggest problem is that I have no energy! I do a batch of laundry, then lay on the couch for 15 minutes. I drag myself up & go change the water, & come in & sit down for 10 minutes. It's ridiculous! I don't know what to do! Always tired!

Sept 24 1986 Sold our House!!

Well, today was pretty exciting. WE SOLD OUR HOUSE! We've had it for sale since March, but nothing really exciting happened until 2 weeks ago today - an older man & his son dropped in to see our house - it was a mess!! But then Sunday night he brought his wife & they liked it. Lindsay & Carolyn Campbell They drove around Monday evening & looked at the 3 houses they were considering - & we were out playing soccer in the back yard - they decided this was the best neighborhood & the yard was the thing that convinced them! So Friday night, while I was in Idaho at my nephew Curt's wedding (I took Grandpa Nielsen & had a great time talking to him!) they came over and made an offer! We were excited even though it came out much less than we

wanted. Anyhow, the next Monday, they came back & we countered with $300 more. OK! So today we closed & we got $9,000! They paid up $49,500 for this house, all the closing fees - paid off our 2nd, & we can rent back the house as long as we need to ~~for~~ until Sept 1, 1987. So it'll turn out great. And our rent is only $450 a month, $50 less than our payments were! So now we need to get out & find a house!!

December 11, 1986 Wow! Tonight I took the final in my humanities class. As far as I know, I got the highest score in the class! I finished 40 minutes for the rest of the class, & writed after ~~for~~ to help correct some tests. I missed 7 on the short test & 31 on the LONG 170 test! Everyone else got in the 50's-70's. Boy it sure made me feel GOOD!! Then I got home & from habit looked at "Homes South Davis" ads & saw one I had never seen so I called & it sounded Perfect! So we'll go see it tomorrow. I'm so excited I can't get to sleep. I actually am still smart! BOY! I'm so proud of myself! My Mind Still Works!! I have renewed hope in myself!! I came in & told the family & Michelle said "That's My Mom!" I'm tired - that's why I can't write!!

December 12, 1986 WE DID IT!! We bought that house! At least, we made a offer which was accepted & we paid $1,000 earnest money!! We are so excited!! It is a split level - 5 levels! It will be finished in 4-6 weeks! So it's BRAND NEW, it will have 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms a living room, LARGE kitchen with pantry & desk, an ENTRY, 2 family rooms. Our room has a large walk in closet & our bathroom has a soaking tub & vanity, then thru a door is the toilet & shower. All the closets are customized & we'll put a new type water softener in. The area is Rolling Hills - the area we've looked at & love. Love is Rolling Hills - the area we've looked at & love. We've been praying since last summer. It's so exciting. We're paying $105000 !! Not so exciting. But we're getting a LOT of home!

Dec 25 1986 Christmas! What a Christmas this has been. I really couldn't get into the spirit of it - I've worried a lot about money & Commercialism etc - & I'm tired of doing it all so Mike & I did almost all the Christmas shopping together. It was fun, but we spent a lot of money! Mike's parents gave us $200, so we bought a garage door opener! I'm so excited. Then Mike & I bought a VCR! I can't believe it - it's a STEREO one so Mike spent hours today hooking up the system. It sure does sound neat though! We bought the 3 boys "LASER GUN" sets - electronic targets you strap to your chest & then shoot lasers at each other. Michelle got a ghetto blaster & set of electric rollers. My parents gave us a comforter & the kids all got blankets. Mike's parents gave the boys' sweaters & pants and Michelle a new dress which is too small. But we've had a really nice Christmas. The kids said it was wonderful & the best ever! We spent about $70 a kid! Oh, Mike bought me (well, I told John & Judy I wanted it & Mike had John buy it) a hand painting on Egyptian papyrus - it's really neat & what a surprise! It's been a nice Christmas - & nicest of all, we're getting a new House!! They're really going to town on it.

Jan 8 1987 Today Judy & I went to the Utah Symphony - it was beautiful and fun. Afterwards, we went to the house to see how it's going! Wow it's "gorgeous"! They're painting! Tuesday, Diane & I went & they were doing the carpentry work - shelves everywhere! The carpenter said "I've never seen this many shelves in a house! The painter said almost the same thing. It's WONDERFUL!! The paint is light light grey - "winter berry white" by Ameritone, I think. The tile guy is doing tile this week, Monday the floors will go in & Tuesday the cabinets! We've been looking at shades, drapes, curtains etc & will meet with a dealer tomorrow. This is exciting & scary

New House - Centerville

Jan 9 1987 Fri — Today Mike & I went up to the house and talked to Gayle Pack about window coverings. She let me bring all her sample books home & I looked at them all afternoon. On the way home, I stopped at a drapery place & looked at fabric & sheers. I talked Mike into not having shades in the living room - just sheers. He finally agreed! I called Judy in Idaho - she went to a lady today who makes draperies & sells fabrics. She bought me enough for 4 or 5 windows for $16! I'm dying to see the material. I'm going to see this before I order the shades. I'm so excited. They were putting on the 3rd coat of paint when we were there today. It's really starting to look like a house! We're supposed to close on Jan 20! We're counting on 28th or 30th tho.

Feb 15 1987 — I can't believe I haven't written! (Couldn't find a pen!!) We closed the house on ~~Wednesday~~, Feb 4, & moved the 5th & 6th. We stayed here on Friday the 6th. Michelle's bedroom was leaking so we had a plumber come fix it. I got my fridge back on Tuesday - it's white & it looks beautiful and brand new! We love our ward & the neighborhood - the kids seem to like school & have found friends. We feel really a part of this ward. Like we're meant to be here. We love the house!

M

Jan 25 1987 Matt's 6th Birthday

Matthew George Williams is 6 years old! What a sweet (usually) fun kid he is.

For his birthday, we gave him a really nice new bike. He sure loves it. He learned last summer to ride a "2 wheeler" and before long, he felt he needed a big bike, cuz that one he learned on was a "baby bike." So he got one and he is thrilled! For his birthday, we had a birthday party at McDonalds for Matthew and Sarah Knight, since her birthday is the same time. All the kids had a good time & Matt especially enjoyed it.

Matthew is growing up. This year in kindergarten has been a real growing period for him. In fact, his personality has changed drastically. He rarely fights me, & although he is definitely his own person, he is much more obedient and cheerful - much more happy! I'd say. I think a lot of it is his teacher Mrs. Smith. She is so loving and cheerful & happy. Rarely does a day go by when she doesn't hug and/or kiss him. I guess that shows me how much love and affection and positive feedback helps him. He really is a sweet boy. We love him so much.

B

Feb 25 1987 Brett's 10th Birthday

Wow. Brett Michael Williams is in double digits. Hard to believe. For his birthday, Brett wanted to have a sleepover party & like a dummy, I said ok. He had 9-10 year old boys here! We had pizza, videos, food etc. They had fun, I think, but I was sure glad to get rid of them all. Never again! That was just too many boys. Maybe 2 or 3 - but no more!!!

Brett is getting so tall! I think he enjoys school ok here - In fact, I think a lot of pressure has been taken off him. We'll see what happens. Brett is really a smart kid. He's talented musically & artistically. But he must feel some inferiority because he treats Aaron like a dog. He almost never speaks to Aaron & a normal

voice - its always degrading or rude. And Aaron worships the ground Brett walks on! Will not quite, but Aaron hates Brett treat him like that - but he feels bad about too, I know. Anyway I know Brett wants to do what's right - he just wants to be the boss of everything all the time - the "Joe Cool" & tuff guy, whatever! We're working on loving each other tho.

We gave Brett a skateboard & the party - Grandpa Williams gave him pants & shirt, my mom gave him some cookies. I think he had a fun birthday.

March 8 1987 Sunday

I'm trying to get caught up - hard to believe we've been in our house a month!! We sure do love it here. I went to West Valley to help Diane Knight move, & as I drove through the neighborhood, I felt nostalgia, but I sure wouldn't want to move back. I even went to our old house and talked to Carolyn Campbell - boy, the house looks bigger & cleaner! They really don't have very much furniture so it looks big. My tulips & stuff were coming up - I do miss that! So far they've asked Mike to Home Teach me to Visit Teach, but besides saying "hi!" we haven't talked to the bishop. There've been 2 new families move into our ward this year, so there's lots of newbies. A couple of weeks ago, the church had a fireside for parents that was really good. President Benson mentioned something about not having children for selfish reasons - isn't right so I got to thinking about it. I am being selfish - I just don't want to be pregnant any more & have more kids. I can't even handle the ones I do have! But I fasted about it last week & Mike & I started talking about it & he felt we shouldn't be avoiding more children. So I had to say "Joyce, do you accept & sustain Pres Benson as a prophet even though it may be hard for you & a sacrifice for you?" & I had to answer "yes." I'll do whatever. I wouldn't mind not having any more kids but if the Lord

wants us to have more, I guess its up to him. So I'm fully resigned to having another baby. It's hard in a way because after carefully charting my cycles I know when I'm fertile, so I'd be more surprised if I'm NOT already pregnant than if I am.

Well I have to mention this neat thing that happened today. We were off & on potting Talmage on the toilet this week, & was doing fairly well. After church, he went potty, but he did not want a diaper - he wanted BIG BOY pants. So every once in a while he'd run in & go potty by himself! Once he even had a B.M. & Mike thought he was playing in the toilet! He was trying to wipe & really making a mess of it. He went until 8 pm & didn't have 1 accident! He didn't want to wear a diaper to bed but I don't trust him that much! He's such a cutie. - He said the lunch blessing by himself - it was perfect.

"Heavnly Fader. Thank thee for the food. Please bless it ... to be good for us. In da name ... Jesus Christ ... amen. Then everyone clapped & I hugged him & he buried his head on my shoulder. He's a cutie but he doesn't like all the people!

Yesterday was our stake women's conf. Don Lind, the mormon astronaut & his wife, spoke. It was really neat & fun to see his "home movies" of his trip in Challenger space shuttle.

15 March 1987

Talmages 3rd Birthday

What a little doll my Talmage is -- he's doing quite well with potty training but it's a headache for him to run up the stairs all the time! Talmage has become the little "despot" of the family. If he doesn't like something, he screams. If he wants something, he screams. If somebody teases him, he screams. And because I start going crazy, I say "just give him what he wants!" So he's spoiled rotten. Daddy says Talmage is cute, cheerful, bright, but "spoiled, knows what he wants ... intelligent. He loves cars - plays with those a lot."

I don't think I've ever seen a kid spend so much time playing with a car, and whenever we go somewhere, he has to take 2 or 3 or 4 or more! He is such a joy to me. He is really good while I drag him shopping & everywhere with me. He is a perfect little companion. He loves Mr. Rogers. He knows Mr Rogers is on after Sesame Street when the kids leave for school. He sings along with Mr Rogers and answers questions etc. He might be playing on the floor & listening to the TV, but when Mr. Rogers comes on, he declines to the couch & sits totally mesmerized.

He rarely takes naps anymore - sometimes it bothers me, but most of the time he plays so well with Kinsey or with Matthew. He loves his new room with Matthew. Every once in a while he says "This is my new blue house."

We gave Talmage a Fisher Price trike for his birthday - he really likes it. Mike's mom gave him a little blue suit & it's darling but almost too small for him so we'll take it.

We're so glad to have our Talmage as part of our family - he's a real joy.

April 14-18 1987

Trip to Disneyland

What a fun experience we've had! We left on Tuesday after school and drove to Mesquite, where we stayed in the Peppermill motel. We arrived at Sheri & Richards on Wednesday afternoon and then went to the beach at Corona del mar. We had a delightful afternoon - we swam or waded in the ocean - Even Talmage waded up to his waist! At first the water rushing back scared him a little, but he got used to it. The other kids would go out a little farther, then dive in with a wave and body surf in to the beach. They had a riot. Sheri & Cami came with us & Cami fell all over & was sandy from head to foot - and loved it! We buried Brett & Aaron in the sand - it was fun. I wanted to stay all night!

Then Thursday we went to Disneyland - it was packed! Sheri came after lunch with Talmage & Cami - Richard went with us in the morning. Talmage was absolutely thrilled with the whole place. He loved it. We went on all the major rides but had to stand in lines for over an hour for many of them. "Star Tours" was a new one & absolutely the greatest. I wanted to go back & back but after standing in line nearly 2 hours, decided to see others. We got to see Mickey Mouse & Goofy just as we were leaving & had some cute pictures taken. We didn't leave until 11:30 pm & we were all exhausted but the kids were excellent!

Friday we slept in then after lunch headed down to San Diego. It was a little overcast, & we weren't sure whether to go or not but were sure glad we did. It was another delightful day, seeing the whales & dolphins perform & seeing all the exhibits. I loved the penguins - they were so cute! Our favorite place was the petting zoo - a little pool with little whales & dolphins SO CUTE! Mike bought some live fish & the kids got to feed them. We all loved it.

Saturday we got up at 3:30 am - loaded up & drove home! We were all so tired but the kids were wonderful.

April 23 1986

Aaron's 8th Birthday

Aaron is 8 years old! Wow time goes by so fast. I took Aaron shopping after school & he got some action figures & we bought him a basketball & some scriptures. Grandma & Grandpa W gave him some slacks & shirt & tie. Grandma N sent some cookies. We watched "Flight of the Navigator" and had a fun evening.

Aaron is such a special son - we love him so much. He is still very sensitive to the feelings of others.

Daddy says, "Aaron's cute, sensitive, loving, & appreciative. He's excited to grow up, be baptized, be in scouts & yet he's meek & willing to submit to conditions beyond his control."

Aaron is a very undemanding child - he will state what he wants, & if I say no - he says "ok" - & sometimes it surprises me because the others would argue and plead & I'd probably give in to them. So Aaron doesn't get a lot of things the others get. I need to watch that -

Aaron is doing very well in school - he enjoys school and seems to be getting along with his teacher & making good friends.

Aaron's biggest problem right now is that he whines and bawls a lot. Brett bugs him a lot; Aaron bawls a lot. They fight a lot - that's the hardest thing for me to handle.

But - we're very proud of our children & especially of Aaron & what a sweet good boy he is. We love him so much!!

May 5 1987 — Michelle's 12th Birthday

Hard to believe my baby daughter is 12 years old! I'm so glad I was blessed to have such a special daughter, especially for my first born. Michelle has passed the "Ugly duckling" stage and is maturing into a beautiful, graceful young woman. She's becoming quite responsible, especially with her personal hygiene and appearance. It's interesting to talk to her and listen to her ideas and feelings. She's really growing up. It's sometime overwhelming to listen to her talk and realize she's turning into a teenager. She rambles a lot and likes to tell me everything & sometimes I get a little "impatient" & in a hurry to get on with it. I need to spend the time - LISTENING - to her and being interested in her. She graduated from Primary today & I was so proud of her - she is a beautiful young woman. She is excited about being in Young Women now. It was fun to see her there today.

(May 10th)

Michelle's found some friends - the girl she spends the most time with is Heidi Erickson - next door. She's a year older than Michelle & although she's a nice girl and I like her, she tends to get Michelle into trouble at times. Michelle tends to be a little extra-sensitive about things. She bawls a lot about little things & sometimes I go crazy. I need to be more sensitive and understanding with her. She is still a pack rat & tends to keep everything & she's rather messy on her room. Cluttery. But she is a doll & we love her so much.

A

May 2 1987

Today was a special day for Aaron. He was baptized and confirmed a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. We decided to have him confirmed after, so everyone wouldn't have to come back. Judy & John & Rey & Carrie came, & Mike's parents came to the baptism & confirmation. It was really nice - but a little strange to not confirm him in Sacrament Meeting. Mike's folks left after the confirmation to go to Provo to look for an apartment for Sheri (real urgent.) But Judy & Rey & families came over for a roast turkey dinner. I had hopes my parents would come, and they were going to, but last week my uncle asked them to go to Chicago to pick up a van for him, so of course they went. They called from Nauvoo last night.

Whatever - anyway, we had a really nice evening together & everyone enjoyed it. Aaron was absolutely darling & we're so proud of him & love him so!

July 16 1987

I'm so bad about my journal I can't believe it. Not a LOT has happened except that I'm 3 mo pregnant! I went to the doctor this week & had a complete physical. Everything looks good. Although I had a period in May, I felt pregnant before that & I seem to be 12 weeks along in size, so she said it was most likely implantation bleeding & will go with Jan 21 for the due date! I guess I'm kind of excited - Mike really is. I can't believe it. I sure have been tired & lazy & grouchy & yukky. I've been feeling sick - then starving - then sick. So we'll see how it goes. I was going to go to camp but I didn't think I could handle it. So Michelle is at camp this week & I hope she's doing good.

July 29 Last week, July 21-27, we went to "Nielsenhaven" my parents' cabin. We went on a hike & picked wildflowers, drove up Sawtell, & Mike & I went on a raft down the Snake River. It was so fun and so beautiful! We saw a moose, beaver, 2 golden eagles & 1 bald eagle - huge! Some ducks, fish, hawks, etc. It wasn't very dangerous - hardly any white water, but we had a lot of fun. The reunion was lots of fun - very "laid back" but everybody was there except Ron - & Dee only came to fix breakfast Sat a.m. They brought Colleen's trampoline & the kids all enjoyed it - especially Talmage! He got pretty good as did the others. I am feeling a little better, but LAZY! Boy, there's so much to do & I'm just too tired! I really want to get my kitchen done & bedroom & playroom.

Aug 16 1987

It's Sunday - yesterday afternoon we got back from the super activity with the kids in our ward 14 on up. It turned out to be a fun, relaxed but learning experience for the kids - & for me. I got to know the kids better & I came to like & know the boys more. It was held at Redfish Lake - it was so beautiful. But COLD. I wore my down-filled coat nearly the whole time. Mike was in charge of the Super activity fund raising and the "impact activities" so he got to go & so that was fun. We even got a cabin to ourselves. Carrie & Ray took Brett & Talmage, Ericksons next door took Michelle, & Daines, a family in the ward, took Aaron & Matt. They were all really good & I didn't worry about them at all. It was fun to be away from them, but I was happy to see them again. I'm getting ready to go down to Provo for Education Week & I'm excited.

Oct 4 1987

Shame Shame Shame! I guess instead of writing at night, I'll plan on writing on Sundays - I waste so much time on Sundays. My life is passing by & I'm not recording it or all the cute things my cute kids are doing - so hopefully I'll get more regular.

August 18-21 was Education Week. I stayed at Judys & had a riot. Mom, Vicki, her 3 girls & Kenda came down. We'd get up at 6 am & eat & go to class, come home & eat dinner, then go back to class till 9 or 10. There's so much to learn & know & it was really exciting. I absolutely loved being there. I probably won't go next year because of the baby, but maybe I will - who knows?

The kids started school the next week - HALLELUJAH!! Boy, the stress in my life has lessened considerably. I'm sorry to say, I was SO GLAD to get rid of them! They were getting so [illegible] and absolutely unbearable! Talmage is a cute little companion - he's getting to be such a big boy! Having me gone to Redfish, then Education Week was hard on him, & he's been having somewhat of a problem wetting the bed and messing his pants. He's so cute. He's a real "Herbie nut" - we have a movie about a Volkswagen Beetle car, "Herbie". He loves Herbie! If we're ever riding in the car, he watches & sees "Herbies" all over! He draws Herbies & asks everybody to draw Herbies for him -

A couple of weeks ago, I had been reading all day & ignoring Talmage - when I finally went downstairs after my afternoon shower, he'd gotten Mikes "dry erase" markers - indelible - & scribbled on every piano key, the new living room couch, & the garage floor, van, lights, front steps & porch - I about died. Actually, his drawings were the cutest little Barbie cars. I got it off the piano (whew) & couch but I can't get it off the cement. cute. (Its interesting - I merely scolded him & cried & spanked him once on the bottom - I probably would have beaten Brett to death! Or at least, really spanked him & yelled a lot. Hmm)

Mike & I are in a parenting class that is pretty good - I hope we can become better parents. We really need to listen to our children & understand them - & help build up their self esteem.

On Friday, my parents were down for a mission reunion - my mom asked me to meet her at the temple & go thru with them. I was going to be taking Brett downtown to Mike - they went to a Bill game - so I told her I'd join them. She said be there at 4:30 for the 5:00 session. After I dropped Brett off at Mikes work, I went to Designer Textiles & bought the green material for my Bedroom accents - then rushed to the temple, got dressed & - No mom - or anybody recognized. In fact, I went upstairs & looked - & asked - nobody knew anything. So I was a little upset. I decided since I had the name I'd go ahead & go thru the session. I had never gone to the temple all by myself before! I decided it surely wouldn't hurt & might even be good for me! So I relaxed & enjoyed myself. Mike & I had just gone 2 days before & had been the witnesses - it was really nice. Anyway, the thought struck me that maybe Mom meant the Jordan River Temple. Which is where they were - so I had assumed since it was a mission reunion & it was conference time in SLC it would be the SL temple! She assumed since that's where they went last time for their mission reunion, SL

know it was Jordan River. So it was pretty funny & a good example of poor communication.

Anyway, I was sitting there & I suddenly thought "Susanna - that's this baby's name!" Tears came to my eyes & I was a little overwhelmed - then I thought, now "Joyce, is this me or inspiration?" So I pondered about it all thru the session. Kind of exciting.

Susanna Suzannah
Suzanna Susannah

Mike has a great grandmother whose name was "Susannah Charlotte Quilliams" - Mike's father's paternal grandmother.

So - if this baby is a girl, her name will be Susannah JOY? JOYCE? Williams. I'll have to ponder this some more I told Mike & he seemed very agreeable. It was a special experience.

I looked through my journal but I couldn't find any record of a similar experience I had with Talmage when I was about 4 months along. I remember clearly sitting in Bed reading Joyful Mother of Children by Linda Eyre. I read about an experience she had & one of his children was - "Talmage - " & it hit me that "This is a boy & his name is Talmage." And so I was quite confident thru the rest of my pregnancy that he was a boy. So it was no surprise when he was! I hope this is the same thing.

I wanted to write about our house & our lives since we've moved. We love our house so much & we've worked hard on it making it ours. We (I) still have a lot to do. But the first night we moved in, we felt it was our home - I guess because we were so involved in the building of it. We saved out some money for drapes - I took a couple of classes & read hundreds of books & I made most of my window coverings in the first 3 months - fortunately. Because then I got pregnant & was too sick & lazy to do anything. I got most of my material at Calico Corners & Designer Textiles - They are

drapery fabric stores & they have gorgeous material!
Let me describe my new home:

You walk up 6 or 7 steps to a covered porch - the house is blue siding with a very very minimal amount of brick up the front. The garage sits out in front of the rest of the house. You enter the front door & you're in the entry hall. To the left is a large opening into the living room. The entry hall has grey vinyl that looks like tile. The entry, kitchen, laundry room & bathrooms all have the same vinyl. The whole house is carpeted in grey. The living room has three large windows & I bought white embroidered sheers for them. In front of the windows is my new royal blue velour couch - camel back with wide round arms. It has a light grey fleck in the fabric. I bought 2 cherry end tables - rectangular for each side of the couch. They have lace doilies on them. Mike's mom gave me a lead crystal lamp for my birthday - this sits on the far table; a potted plant is on the other. We have the piano on the opposite wall. 2 rocking chairs flank the piano but look dumb in there. I want to get a couple of wing chairs & maybe a coffee table, persian rug, paintings (dream on!) Mom gave me a cross stitch picture of some flowers - blue & burgandy - perfect for my living room! But I don't have anything else! You walk up the stairs from the entry. Aaron & Talmage's room is just a bed & dresser. I made a beautiful pebbled Roman shade for their room - it turned out really pretty. We put the desk & (light blue) file cabinet, love seat, typewriter tv in the office. I made some really nice pinch pleated drapes (lined) for his office. They're dark blue with mallard ducks on them. They look really nice. I'm really proud of what a good job I did. Our bedroom is so nice - I bought some raspberry drapery material & made floor length lined pleated drapes. I created

on these and used pleater tape - it was so much easier but doesn't look as nice. In June I went to [illegible] and for sisters day we quilted my bedspread - it has green vines & leaves on it & we quilted up one vine - it looks so neat! I need to put a ruffle on it & some green piping - it's going to be neat. I have a gorgeous picture to put in there - I bought a frame with a green mat at a garage sale for $15 but it's worth $100. I replaced the icky watercolor with a Renoir print & I love it - so I'll put that in there. I'm also going to make a cloud valance & round table covers for our nightstands. I also have a stool Vicki gave me that I'll cover for the vanity in my bathroom, & cute little puffy curtains for the bathroom. Then I just need some more pictures & maybe a rug - & I'll be done! (Maybe)

Back downstairs into the kitchen - I'm working on my kitchen curtains. They're dark blue with a little white design - I made a "mock cloud topper" across the windows with a ruffled swag on each side tied back - they're turning out really nice. In fact, I have a neighbor (Robin) who is an interior designer who seriously wants to pay me to do hers! So I'm going to! Gulp! My kitchen is large & airy & I love it. My cabinets are light white oak & although they're different from most people's, I absolutely love them. Mike's mom gave me a set of Meissen china she bought in Germany after WW II. It's white with dark blue onion design - all hand painted and beautiful. I'm going to hang the plates around the kitchen & over the cabinets. My neighbor Robin suggested a shelf over the opening to the Family Room for plants, odds & ends etc. I want to do it - we'll see. The whole feeling I want is "old German country" as opposed to the popular "goosey-ducky" Dem "country, that's really popular right now. (That Carrie & Mike's mom both have - too canned, I guess. Altho it is cute.) Down the 4 stairs is the family room. We have french doors that are cold in the winter & hot in the summer so I made heavy lined dark blue with light blue design - & I made a continental valance & it looks really nice - I

have all our old furniture is there - so lots of trash - yuk - but it's OK. Maybe next year we'll be able to buy some new furniture. I framed my egyptian papyrus with a blue fabric mat. So it looks pretty neat. The playroom is the last window we do - so there is nothing on the window. Brett & Matt's room - I made a plaid Roman shade in black with grey plaid - I padded it with batting. I have enough of the material to make bedspreads - but I don't know if I will - they never make their beds!

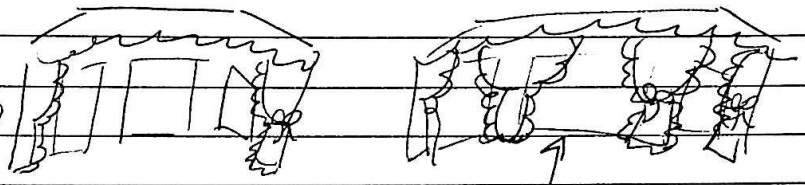
Michelle's room I'm really excited about. I made her a beautiful "ruffled Roman." It's lavender with white flowers. I bought her a purple & white striped comforter, & I'm going to make a dust ruffle & throw pillows & pillow shams & table cover out of the same material as the shade. So even though I've done a LOT of work I've still got TONS to do! I'm starting to do a little more & feel a little better. I'd really like to get my card system going again.

My biggest problem is fatigue - I get up feeling pretty good, then I tackle one thing & then I've had it. So I feel like if I get one thing done, I've accomplished a lot!

Oct 11 1987 Sunday

I've had a nice week this week - Monday & Tuesday & Wednesday I finished my kitchen curtains! They look great, I would like to do more, but I'm out of material & it would cost $50 so I probably won't.

This is what they look like on the bay window and the window over the sink is similar.



What I'd like to do is put 2 more swags on the bay so it would look like the second one. Oh well. It looks pretty good.

Thursday, Judy came up & we went to lunch & to the temple. She's only been in 2 other temples, IF & Oakland, so this was fun for us. We had a nice day. Then I rode home with her & stayed overnight so I could go to some Alumni meetings on Friday. Mike & I are on the regional alumni council & Dale Call, the chairman, couldn't go to this chairman meeting so he asked if I would & I did. It was fun. Then Mike met me for a nice banquet & evening at the Marriott Center - "Homecoming Spectacular." It was fun & all free. Then we came home tired. Pep & Carrie came over today to visit & stayed for dinner - I am incredibly tired all the time!

Oct 18 1987 Sunday

I went to see my mid-wife this week. I told her how lousy I've been feeling, so she had me get a blood test. She later called and told Michelle, since I was gone, to have me take 3 iron pills a day because my iron is so low. Honestly, I have absolutely been dragging & not doing a thing! Barely getting laundry, dishes & dinner done. Last night - Saturday, Mike & I went to the opera "The Magic Flute." It was delightful! About a month ago, I mentioned I'd love to someday - when we're rich, get Season Opera Tickets - and the next day, Mike bought 'em! $20 seats! The next Opera is Jan 23 - right around the time I'm due, so I sure hope I'm able to go to it!

Today they announced our ward will be dividing next week at Stake Conference, so today in YW we had a testimony

Hematocrit: 32 - was 36 when I first went.

meeting which turned out nice. Tonight was a YW church wide fireside - they introduced some new themes for each group - Behives, Prayer, Mia Maids, Scriptures, & Sacred - preparing for temple. I guess with the shakeup of the wards, she probably be released - I kinda sort of hoping I will be - I just don't have the energy to give it what it needs. And I have an attitude problem about the young women - they drive me crazy! But I guess by I'm kept in or put back in, it's because I need to learn to truely love these young women.

Steve called me tonight & talked about Mom - Dad's Christmas present - It was nice to talk to him. Mike & I were talking last night about the Halloween Party Reasons always had & we decided to have one ourself. He said he'd help & so I guess we'll try

Oct 25 1987 Sunday — Last night at our stake meeting our ward was divided - the dividing line goes right behind our house & three our block behind Erickson's. So Morris are in the other ward - & he's been called to be in the bishopric. We're still in the YW ward & we really didn't lose that many people. More than ½ of the YW Presidency is in the new ward, so she'll probably be released I hope so. I know it's not right, but I feel that I don't have the energy to do the kind of job I should be doing. So I guess we'll see this week - Sandy, my sister, called me & she's pregnant! She's so excited - she's due in April she's 8 & says this is not the smartest thing to do, but she's really happy

Nov 1 1987 Sunday — What a busy week! Wednesday night we were called in to see the bishop - Mike was called as Asst. Explorer Advisor. Strange calling, if you ask me. Anyway, by the way the Bishop talked - I felt like I was being released. this knew I needed a rest etc, so I was kind of relieved & I got so excited about the prospect of going to Relief Society

and not having to worry about a lesson every week! Then the next night, I was called in & Bro Klomp called me to be a primary teacher! I was really surprised - in fact, I came home and bawled & bawled! I couldn't believe it & I felt bad about feeling bad --- but I taught today & the kids - 9 yrs old - were really cute, so I'll be fine. And I feel bad when I saw & talked to my mutual girls. Oh well!

Friday night we had a Halloween party here for 22 people on our block - it turned out pretty well & I felt kinda bad that everyone left at 11:00 - it was like someone pulled the plug on the drain & everybody left! I felt after it was over - well - was it worth it? I don't think so. I worked so hard to clean & plan & worry. I spent around $50! which we really can't afford. In fact, Mike said we can't buy school pictures! And really, what is more important? Oh well! I'll do what my mom used to do - use the food money & scrape around for food.

We went to Ogden to see Mike's family. Everybody else was there (they'd just eaten -) Pep was called as 2nd counselor in his bishopric today - so that's pretty exciting.

Last night the kids were so cute - Brett was a football player - he didn't get home till 15 to 10. He sure got a lot of candy but he was exhausted. Michelle was a pretty genie - wearing the belly dance costume she wore in her 1st grade dance review! She's getting so pretty. Aaron was a werewolf - I glued hair on his face & hands with spirit gum - He looked so tuff! Matt was a cute Dracula & Talmage was a darling little clown. I'm getting more "into" Halloween each year - I hung ghosts on our ceiling fan so the ghosts chase each other. What a hit! It was fun.

Also - I finished my bedspread & it is gorgeous! I also made table skirts for our bedside tables. It looks so neat & I am anxious to get my valance, pillow shams & throw pillows done - also my bathroom curtains & stool cover! Then I can get going on my bathroom! Oh Fred, but I have been feeling better this week - Michelle!

Nov 8 1987 Sunday

Tonight we watched a special on T.V. put out by the church on the Book of Mormon. It was excellent and really impressed on me the importance of re-discovering the Book of Mormon.

This week was busy - I took the kids to the school to have their pictures taken on Monday. Tuesday Jody came up & we went shopping & cut out aprons. Wednesday we sewed 10 aprons - she's going to finish them and sell them at a craft fair. I hope she can sell them all. I think they're really cute.

I've been feeling better overall - I still need a nap, but if I miss it, I'm ok. Last night Mike took me to a show - "Made in Heaven" and it was fun. Some old friends of ours, Dee & Kris Johnson called us & they're moving to Salt Lake in January so we tried to talk them into moving here. That'd be so fun to have them close by.

Nov 15 1987 Sunday

This past week was busy but I've been feeling pretty good & getting quite a bit done. I finally finished my bedroom! I got the pillow shams & valance & bathroom curtains done - they look nice. Somehow I'm disappointed in them but maybe (I hope) it's because I'm so sick of doing it. I do need to paint & cover my stool though.

I've been helping at Brett's school with this Thanksgiving thing - I'm helping 9 kids make a little village. Boy is it going to be dumb. We had parent teacher conf on wednesday - all the boys are doing just great - Practically all A's & their teachers really like them & have nothing but praise for them. Matt's teacher says he's so organized and so helpful to Mark Erickson. He does his work well, but doesn't always get it done. He's doing really well in reading & brings a new book every night & reads it to me. He seems to be improving daily. His teacher said he offered to help a friend clean his desk & organize it cuz it was such a mess.

Matt

Aaron, on the other hand, is a "genius" but has a MESSY desk! He has a hard time getting his work done & is very sociable. He's been recommended for the gifted program, but I'm not going to put

him in it - he & Brett would probably both do well in it but its at a different school clear across Centerville & the parent has to put in 2 hrs a week per child plus pick up & delivery! Brett is really against it - he doesn't want to be the "genius of the world" & feels that he's just gotten some friends here & doesn't want to go to another new school! So I think they'll be fine. Brett's teacher said Brett does everything right - all the kids like him - and GET THIS - only has to be told ONCE and he does it! He - Mr Bruyt - said he wishes his kids were like that! I said, "me too!!" "Are you sure we're talking about the same boy?" It's great to know that Brett knows how to act & people like him.

Friday night we went to a new movie "The Princess Bride" with Rex & Carrie. It was so fun - we'll take the kids when it gets to a $1.00 theatre. Carrie bought Michelle & Jennifer matching MINI WORLD dresses from Mike's Mom for Christmas! I'm so excited I can't stand it. We always wanted her to have one but have never been able to afford it - & now she's almost too big for it! I'm excited.

Saturday night we went to the "Salt Lake City Ski Ball" $100 per plate at the Marriott. It was a Charity dinner/dance for the US Ski Team which is based in Salt Lake. Mountain Bell bought tickets for 5 couples & Mike's boss asked if we wanted to go. Mike had to wear a tux & everything! Mountain Bell paid for it. I wore my Red dress & looked pretty good. But, mainly, I wore my navy high heels that hurt my feet & kill my back! & we had to stand & walk around for an hour & a half. Once we were walking down the hall & these guys walked by us - as they passed us, they started laughing & one said "Welcome to Utah!" I was so embarrassed.

The dinner was SO GOOD - melon procuitto, caesar salad, filet mignon, baked salmon, snow peas & baby carrots - all excellent! Blueberry cheesecake & chocmint. It was YUMMY!! But the show after was GAGGY & tacky & by 11:00 I was dying - so I was so glad to get home.

Nov 22 1987

Last monday I took Talmage and went to Provo to see Judy. We got a babysitter & went to a Mervyn's sale - I bought a few things for Christmas. Then we went to Juliettes & bought me a maternity girdle - actually, it's called a singlet & it supports my stomach & back & I love it! My back still hurts some but not nearly as much. It feels great to wear & I love it! I sure wish I'd have had it 4 pregnancies ago!

I had a wonderful thought - If I'm right about my due date, I've only got 2 months!! That means I'm 7 months along and I've been thinking I was only 6! I really feel I'll have her on Jan 30. Well see how my feelings are!

I was quite busy this past week - I helped Brett's class Tuesday & Thursday & most of the day Friday. I also got my visiting teaching done! We had our last parenting class on Thurs night & I'm glad it's over - we had some good info & the manual is good but the class was boring! Thurs night was also homemaking & I was in a skit & did pretty good - I got a lot of compliments - not only on my acting but I got 6 or 8 compliments on how good I looked! My contacts are so filmy & gunky all the time - they're driving me absolutely crazy! I frown & squint all the time because I can't see very well. I'll probably get new ones after I have the baby. I've started wearing my glasses more.

I'm enjoying my primary class a lot - it's been really fun. I have 4 girls & 2 boys & they're so cute but my lessons only last ½ the time so we play pictionary or hangman. It's easy to prepare & present & I'm really enjoying it. I'd like to go to RS but I'll survive & be fine!

We're going to Idaho for Thanksgiving & I'm really looking forward to it. I knew if I stayed here I'd end up doing Thanksgiving for the whole Williams family here & I'm just not up to it!

I went to the DR last week - I weigh 177! Arrgh! I weigh more than Mike! Everything seems to be fine.

Nov 29 1987 Sunday Mike's Parents 48th Wedding Anniversary

This has been a really nice week. Wednesday afternoon we went to Idaho to my parents house. We had a nice visit. Judy was staying at Mom & Dads, too, so it was a little hectic at times. Thanksgiving was a lot of work but delicious! Of course. The kids all stayed somewhere with a cousin so we had it pretty easy. Friday we cleaned Mom's house & dejunked a few things (Judy & I were ruthless!) We watched a tape on preparedness that was really good, then we went to the temple & to dinner with Steve & Kenda & Linda. We played "Mormon Bridge" afterwards & had a riot. I never laugh so hard as when I'm around my family! Vicki's kids were sick & so Judy's got really sick. Vicki is doing really bad - she's got a growth on her rib & she's so skinny it hurts!

We came home last night & had a regular day at church. After, we went to Mike's parents house & had a yummy dinner! Sheri & Ray were there too with their families & we had a nice visit. My feet were so swollen tonight that they were tight in my size 10 shoes! Mike started feeling sick tonight - sore throat, fever, headache & sure hope it doesn't get passed around!

Matt

Matt came up tonight screaming & wild-eyed again. He's started having nightmares again - he's had 3 or 4 in the past couple of weeks. I don't know what to do.

B

Brett said a funny thing as we were preparing to go to Idaho - "We don't want to get stuck in the middle of nowhere, and there's a LOT of middle of nowheres on the way to Idaho!" Cracked me up.

Dec 6 1987

I don't really know what I've done this week - Mike was sick on Monday & I tended Cindy then did some Christmas shopping. Friday Steve & Kenda were in town, so I went to the temple with Kenda & we really enjoyed it. Aaron had a school program that was so good. Yesterday we set up the tree & did a little

decorating. We went across the street to Sutherland's & played a really fun game - NERTZ - kind of like a group solitair with ROOK cards. We had a lot of fun & stayed 'till midnight! Thursday night was the Rotary Party at the Oakridge Country Club - it was a really nice dinner & we had a good time - but I'm getting so I get sick & uncomfortable when I eat very much.

Dec 20 1987 Sunday

Oops - missed last week. Last Sunday night Mike sang in the Hunter Stake "Messiah" & did a wonderful job - as usual. When he started to sing, the baby just JUMPED so I think she'll probably love the Messiah. It was like she recognized her Daddy singing. It was fun to go back & see lots of old friends - We took Michelle but I'm not sure it was a good idea. However, she was called as Beehive Class Secretary & felt very honored and excited - Aleshia Pitt is president & she's a really neat girl. Michelle was so happy to be chosen by her.

I've been really busy shopping & sewing and planning - I'm getting really excited about Christmas because I've done some pretty neat things - (I'll write about them next week just in case I have snoopy kids)

I've been feeling really pretty good - tired mostly, but I probably only nap half the time - I sleep a lot of days. Twice this week, though, I was awake from 3-5:30 am & then up at 6:30. Friday my parents came down to take a girl from Alabama who's at Ricks to the airport. We went to Temple Square to see the lights & Judy & Jon met us there. It was beautiful. They had a lazer show downtown so we all went to Mike's office to watch it but it was weird & not that great. Then we all came over here & had Chili - it was good! Then we played Nertz! & Mormon Bridge & had fun.

Oh - two weeks ago I drove to West Valley Meijers for a sale & it was a blizzard & awful driving. When I got there, I realized I'd left my purse home! What a pain! I went through a big rigamarole, lost most the stuff I wanted to buy ($98 sheets) & wasted the am. Lori Rich, my old neighbor, finally helped! What a hassle!)

Also— Dec 11 I went to Dr. gained 8 lbs! So I weigh 185 gag. I've got to watch it but lots of neighbors have been bringing goodies over— so I've still been eating. Baby is quite active — I'll be surprised if I go to the end of January — & that's only 6 weeks away! Yea!

Dec 27 1987 We had a lovely Christmas. Wed 23, Mike's family came for a family party. We had a nice dinner — Mike's mom did it all. I cooked the turkey but they brought it. I think they outdid themselves this year. They gave us a rose colored queen anne chair for the living room, & a fake ficus tree — looks so real! The chair is pretty & looks nice in there — I'm just not sure that's what I wanted. Also, part of me doesn't want her decorating my house! Dumb, huh! But it stays. They gave Michelle a Mini-World dress & it's so pretty — she looks wonderful in it. Brett & Aaron got acid-washed jeans and neat shirts, & Matt & Talmage got darling little grey suits. They look so nice! All 3 kids gave Mike & Dawn a cordless phone, a shirt & a sweater. Carrie gave Mike a shirt & Sheri gave me a fake plant. I'm the only one who didn't get clothes! And I need them more than anybody! Between me & Mike's family, Mike got 10 shirts for Christmas! 5 dress, 5 casual. Nobody likes to buy FAT clothes. I made me a new shirt the other day. I love it. Anyway, we had a big blizzard Wed night & it was a mess. WINDY WINDY! It blew the canvas cover right off our coolers. I fixed it & Mike put it back on.

Sandra did a good job this year & I didn't go too far over budget! For Michelle, I sewed her bedroom! I bought a comforter & made a dust ruffle, pillow shams, throw pillows, a ruffled heart & a flowery hat. I embroidered a pillow A DAUGHTER IS A SPECIAL KIND OF JOY & it looks really pretty. I took all the junk out of her room & rearranged it & it looks really nice. She also got makeup, a lamp a tape + piano book, pj's slippers etc. I think she was a little disappointed, but really likes her room.

Brett got his football uniform, 613 football cards, a football & watch — it's cool PJ's of course. He's been sick — cough & fever — so he's really organized & reorganized & played with those cards.

Aaron got 3 bears - big med small & some army guys & lots of misc. stuff. He was surely the hardest to get because he changed his mind & was so vague. But he really liked everything. KARATE PJ's - he loves 'em!

Matt got exactly what he wanted - "sonic ranger" walkie talkies & big set of crayons, a soccer ball, football poster, karate pj's.

Talmage got a new trike & he really likes it. An Ark toy, some boats, 30 little cars & his favorite is a F.P. Train - he's played & played with it. I bought him one originally, then gave it to Carrie & Danny & he wanted it so bad, I went to the store & bought him one - I'm so glad I did.

Mike gave me a Seiko watch - it's gold & pretty & I love it. I gave him 5 shirts, a book, a bunch of misc stuff & best of all, I made a collage of his museum & framed it. It's really cool & I think he likes it.

We drew for Pixies - I bought Aaron a ninja doll, Matt bought me a microwave bundt pan, one of which I already have & never use - so I took him to the store yesterday & I picked out a set of pyrex mixing bowls - cost me $11.00 more! But I really need them, so I don't feel too bad about it. I just hope Matt doesn't feel bad.

Jan 3 1988 < First time I've written it! 1988. We've had a nice week - I had a dr appt on Tuesday - 188 lbs! But it's only 3 lbs in 3 wks so that's ok. I measured 34½ cm. So I figure I have 4 weeks left - even though the due date is really Feb 11 on my charts. But I don't trust ultra-sounds too much. I just feel like I'm getting close - I have lots of contractions & they're pretty hard ones. So anyway - I hope I'm right! Michelle took me to the "Nutcracker" ballet. It was really good. Thursday I got a haircut - wedge & I really like it. Sat night - New Years Eve - Judy & John & Sheri & Richard came over and we played Yertz & Pictionary & we laughed & laughed & had a really fun time & ate & ate & ate. They left about 1:30 & we were tired but we had fun. I had decorations & flowers & it was a lot of fun. The next day we went to lunch with Judy & John (they stayed over.) We went to a little Chinese restaurant & had a nice

lunch. Then we played Nelly again & they left about 4. It was a really nice laid-back day. Last night we went to Dorothy & Dick Nielsons for dinner with Leightons & Jessens - just like the olden days when we were in the Stake RS presidency. Then we watched 2 movies "From the Hip" recommended by Judy & Roy - it was a little adolescent. Also the Scarlet & the Black - an excellent movie - but long. We didn't leave until midnight. We had a good time. Today D kept Mack home from church because he has impetigo, I think. Also, everyone else went to Mike's parents for dinner & D gave his Mom a blessing - everyone's been fasting for her b/day because her legs have really been bothering her & the doctors can't seem to help at all. We stayed home because it's highly contagious. I got a new Primary class & I think they'll be fun - 10 kids, including Aaron

Jan 10 1988 Double Digits! Wow! Only 2-6 more weeks! Much closer to 2, I hope & pray. I'm getting so anxious! The last few days have been a pain in the neck & I mean that! On Thursday I cleaned, did all the laundry & grocery shopped for the next 2 weeks. Everybody was having Costco sales so I overdid my budget & bought cases of toilet paper, tomato soup, chicken soup, tuna fish, noodles, salt, pineapple, beans, corn, tomato sauce & feel great about having it - secure, I guess. We're going to inventory our food storage & get that going. Anyway, that night I was exhausted. So Friday I stayed in bed and read & slept. Talmage was a doll - he watched TV all day. Our VCR has been broken for about 6 wks & Mike just got it back Thurs. So Talmage watched Herbie goes to Monte Carlo twice & Herbie goes Bananas once & Bedknobs & Broomsticks. What a doll. Then Friday pm I started getting a sore throat & it was SO BAD I couldn't swallow, or sleep well - what a night! I was so miserable & uncomfortable & started to cry - Mike woke up & felt so bad! He tried to make me feel better but there was not much he could do.

We & Bruce Erickson gave me a blessing. Sat am I slept some more and then we went to the doctor & sure enough, I had strep! Matt was diagnosed with strep on Monday, so I was pretty sure I had it too. So I've just slept & been lazy the last 3 days. I've started feeling better tonight - but now Talmage is sick. He had a cough Fri & Sat so we had his throat tested too, but he & Mike were negative. I think he's got what Brett had - yukky cough and fever. I'm sure getting anxious to have this baby!

Jan 15 FRI Well, Talmage got sicker - Sunday he had a fever & Monday broke out with a rash. By Wednesday, he wasn't any better so I took him & the doctor. Strep & scarlet fever! Poor baby was miserable. It's amazing what medication does - he is doing so much better. The doctor said if anyone else gets sore throat or fever - call & they'll give us medicine! I had an OB appt yesterday & it was so fun! Weight 190 gulp - getting up there! I measured 37 cm - & by me! Joni, my midwife, felt the baby & she said it felt like 6½ lbs! I told her my next appointment is 28th & that's supposed to be my "birth plan" but that I truely did not expect to be there. So she said ok - let's do the birth plan now! She took a lot of time & it was fun. We talked about who & call when & what I want - no episiotomy, little monitoring - those belts are a pain - side delivery etc. I told her I wanted a LeBoyer bath - where Mike bathes the baby - & she said - has he ever cut the cord? I said no, but it sounds neat! So she wrote those down. When I told Mike, he said "No way! They're getting paid - let them do it!" But maybe he'll change his mind. I was excited & telling him about the visit & he just hugged me & kissed me & told me how wonderful I am! Then after, we prayed he had this wondering look on his face & he said "Here's going to have a new little person to get to know! She's so neat! A new baby!" Well I thought it was funny - like on Christmas Eve after it stopped & wrapped & waited for hundreds of hours & he was putting a bike together & he said "I'll forgotten

how much work Christmas is!" What a crack-up. It's finally getting through to him that we really are going to have a baby. Anyhow, the midwife seemed to agree that 2 more weeks is probably about right. I told her it has to be after the 23rd so I can go to the opera, but it'll be in January. I asked her when she'd be on call so she can deliver, & so she wrote it down - 20th & 26th. So I said - "Oh! 26th sounds good - see you then!" We both got a kick out of it. I would like her to deliver, but I really don't care that much about it. I asked her if it was a boy or girl, & she said - my gut feeling is "boy!" But I forget - What do you have already? So I laughed & told her "girl" - "4 boys!" Well, at least you have a girl!

It's amazing how much better I feel - I was so sick last week! I have been tired - I think my iron count is probably low again. Sleeping is becoming increasingly uncomfortable - My hips get so sore! I woke up at 3 am & couldn't sleep because my hips hurt - so I guess I'll sleep shorter) amounts - more often. Talmage is such a doll - "are you tired Mommy? I'll watch Herbie Monte goes to Carlo & you go to sleep" I feel guilty but grateful he's willing to let me sleep! I made a darling little pink soft sleeper - its so soft! I have 2 more cut out & I want to start on the blessing dress (gulp)!

Jan 17 1988 Sunday

Well I've been having contractions all day every 10-15 min apart! Also some diarrhea - I've had about 5 BM's today - mostly after a contraction. I haven't had to use any breathing - its just hard, down low, & aches more than cramps. I decided I couldn't get excited though - because this went on for 4 days before I had Talmage. It's probably false labor, so I'm really trying hard not to get too excited. I did make Mike sit down & go through our Talmage book with me. So I feel somewhat better about that. We haven't done much lately - Friday night we went to the Davis's house & just partied with them & 12 others - just a spur of the moment" party. It was fun. Last night we - just Mike & I - went to his parents' house & played Nerts & Mormon Bridge & had a really fun time. We decided to have a Williams family vacation up to the cabin around the 24th of July & everyone seems to be in agreement -

I was really surprised Mike's parents would be interested! But I think it could be really fun. So we called my mom & she said it would be fine.

The baby is moving around saying - leave me alone! I can't wait

JAN 24 SUN

Well, my contractions lasted until 2 AM, when they were getting pretty good. Then I went to sleep & felt normal Monday morn! I really thought I had something going these - but I guess not! I haven't had as many contractions this week as I was having before. I feel fine though, & although the baby has slowed down a little, she still moves. It's interesting - I'll be laying there thinking "When was the last time I felt the baby move?" And it's as if she knows what I'm thinking & starts moving around so I know everything's OK!

Today was nice - we went and visited grandpa Nielsen & had a nice visit. Grandpa told us of several times when he was young that he almost died & yet was saved. He told us once he was duck hunting in Dixon, on the Bear River & he shot a duck - it landed in the river. He looked at the river and thought it looked ok, so he laid his gun on the bank & waded into the river. After a few steps, the bottom went out from under him and he was way over his head in waders, boots & heavy clothes. He saw he was being dragged toward an eddy in the river, and he clawed and grasped & pulled himself toward the bank, finally freeing himself. Then he took off his clothes & hung them to dry. After he told us this, he reflected for a minute, then said - "That's the first time I've ever told anyone about that experience" & said, "Didn't you even tell your folks?" And he said: Nope - I've never told anyone about that!" So we had a nice visit. Then we went to Ogden & saw Mike's parents - Ed & Carrie were there so that was fun too. I've really felt the importance of good family relationships lately - I wish I could visit my family more often. I've decided that I must be wrong & the Dr. Right! My due date is Feb 11, so the earliest I could hope for would be probably Feb 4. I've got to be PATIENT! We went to the Opera LA BOHEME last night & it was beautiful. I'm glad I got to go - even tho I really thought I'd have the baby before it.

Matt

JAN 25 1988 MONDAY

Today is Matthew's 7th birthday!

Matthew is really maturing into an independent, self sufficient little person. He is growing to be a delightful guy. He rarely has temper tantrums or screaming fits! Once in a while, but it's pretty seldom. Usually only if someone's bugging him.

He is generally a happy, cooperative boy. Of all the kids, he is definitely the best worker and most organized. I rarely see him in his p.j's in the morning - he gets up, gets dressed, makes his bed and gets going on his schedule. He has a pretty big schedule and he does it without complaint or nagging. He goes all thru the house and empties all the garbages, then takes out the kitchen garbage. Then he collects all the dirty clothes and sorts it for me - & does a good job of it! It's very rare that he has to do work after school, because he does it in the morning. He's usually very cheerful and willing to help. Hard to believe, huh! He was so hard when he was small.

The neatest thing about Matthew is his friendship and concern for his friend Mark Erickson. Ericksons are our next door neighbors. They have 3 kids who have cerebral palsey & 3 normal ones. Mark is their youngest and only boy. Matthew takes care of him & goes over & plays with him or has him over. Mark is such a cute little boy & he just loves Matthew. It means a lot to the Ericksons for Mark to have a friend. Matthew helps him at school and church - pushes his wheel chair and stuff. Joyce (Mark's mom) said she saw Matt pushing Mark really fast around the gym at the church & they were both laughing - Mark always wanted to run around the church! Matthew can understand what Mark wants & he really tries to please him. I gave Matt a choice of cakes & he asked Mark! Mark was over all afternoon watching movies with Matt, then he came back tonight for ice cream & cake. He was so concerned about getting Matt a present.

I just asked Matthew:
What makes Matt happy? "When people are nice to me, & when we do things like build things out of construx. When I play with Mark."
What makes Matt sad? "When people are mean to me. When people (Brett) call me names."

We put Matt & Brett together in a bedroom & it works a lot better. Matt doesn't get his feelings hurt as easily as Aaron & will stick up for himself. It's better for Aaron to be the big brother to Talmage.

Matthew is doing really well in school - he loves to go and he loves to read. He's so proud of himself that he can join in scripture reading in the morning with the family. He is a smart, cute, happy big 7 year old and we really love him!

31 JAN 1988 SUNDAY

Well, I'm still here - there must be something about Sundays that get my contractions going! I've had them all day & they've been ok - but not much stronger than 2 weeks ago. I felt so bad last week - We've been having a hard time sleeping; waking in the night & not being able to get back to sleep. Thursday morning I got up at 4:30 & watched a movie Mike had rented for me. It was good but sad at the end, so I started bawling. That kind of opened the floodgates & I bawled & bawled. I guess I was just discouraged & tired & sick of being pregnant. So anyhow I felt really bad that morning. I had an OB appointment that afternoon - I weigh 195 lbs! Yeech! And the tummy measurement was only 37 - same as last time! She said it's probably because the baby has moved down. She checked me & said I'm only 1 cm dilated, 30% effaced, but everything is so soft in there, it's like mush! So that's good! Also, the ~~[illegible]~~ uterus is anterior - meaning to the front & low & the baby is -2 & in perfect position! She said I needed to relax & not worry about it and I'd probably have the baby in 4-7 days. I was also worried about the placenta

being in the way, but she said when she put her fingers in she felt the baby's head! She could tell the baby hadn't really engaged because when she touched the head, the baby floated up a little. So after I talked to her I felt immensely better! Then I went to Mervyns & they were having a clearance so I bought me 2 dresses, 2 tops and 3 pair pants for after! I bought sizes 14 & 16 so I'll be able to wear them. So then I felt even better! I got over $300 worth for about $80! So I have to leave the hospital within 12 hrs so I got a $75 rebate!

This morning just before I woke up, I dreamed I was nursing my cute little baby girl! She had dark eyes & dark hair - I remember thinking in my dream she looked like Cindy Erickson, one of Joyce's girls!

1 FEB 1988 MONDAY

I can't believe I'm still pregnant. I took 2 baths yesterday to stop the contractions & they did for a little while - but I had some pretty hard ones in the night - lasting 2-3 minutes. I kept thinking my water would break or they'd really start getting hard but I was able to go back to sleep. When I woke up at 6:00, I was so mad! I've been tired & grouchy all day. Judy came up about 11:00 & when the kids got home, we went shopping at Mervyn's. They were having the clearance sale extended + 25% off so we went crazy. I spent another $100 gulp, which we don't have. When I got out of the car, I felt like the baby's head was between my legs! I about died. But after walking around it was ok. I did something to my back & it's really been hurting today. If it's not one thing it's another! I felt so bad this morning - I was sure it would be today! But the baby's still moving fine. I'm so tired & tired of being pregnant!

3 FEB WED

How frustrating. I had contractions all day yesterday & last night from 7pm - 12pm they were 5-10 minutes apart. Not bad tho - just there. Slept pretty good off & on. Had contractions all day - 5 min apart about 12:30 & feeling much stronger. They felt more like cramps & my back was hurting with them. Each contraction. So I called the midwife & she said "go get checked" so I did.

Mike left work & came & got me & down we went. It was just like with Talmage! They checked me & said the outside of the cervix was 3-4 but inside was 1.7 ☐ Real thick & high & firm. So they monitored me 45 min then we walked for an hour & a half. They monitored & checked me again - still no change. So home we came! We stopped & had dinner at Wiggles, then got some movies. I felt so bad. Did at least we know the baby's ok! I hope I can be patient until this baby comes. It was fun to see the new babies in the nursery. I heard one lady who just had a baby say she came in 4 times in 3 days! So I'm not the only one! Mike is so understanding & so comforting. I really love him & appreciate his support - but I told him "you remember all this next time you get a great idea to have a baby!"

FEB
MAY 7
1988
SUNDAY

Here I still am! I've been feeling fine the last few days - my # of contractions have really decreased - they're just every 15 minutes or so off & on, & not too strong. ~~Friday~~ Thursday I was a couch potato - I watched "The Hiding Place" and "Funny Lady." "The Hiding Place" was good and made me say to myself "Shape up! You're being a big boob!" So I decided I had to start living my life & taking responsibility for my home & family. So Friday, I scrubbed the kitchen floor - it hadn't been done for over a month & it was a big mess! It looked so good, but it took me all afternoon. I even made a good dinner. Mike brought some movies home & we watched em. Boy, have I been a couch potato! Saturday I slept a lot & sat around a lot - I guess I'd done too much Friday. We talked to Mike's parents last night & they said I'd have the baby today! Boy, would I love to! But even though I've had a few fairly good contractions, nothing is happening! I'm going crazy. I have an OB appointment tomorrow morning - I sure wasn't planning on going! I can't believe I'm still hanging around! I stayed home from church today because church is so hard on me and Talmage's had a cough & slight fever. I hope he gets over it! Aaron, Matt & Talmage are all coughing.

FEB 8 MON — I had an OB appt today - & lost 2½ lbs! I measured 40 though - she said "that's a good size baby in there!" The discouraging thing is that she said my cervix was higher and firmer than my last exam! Brother - I took Michelle & Talmage in too - strep throat! This is getting ridiculous! Mike was feeling yukky & so was Matt so I called in & got prescriptions for them too. I'm so sick of everyone being sick!

FEB 10 WED 4pm — Well, I had contractions from 6:30 pm last night every 10 min going down to 5 min & 2-3 min. so I thought this was IT! I slept a lot today - poor Talmage watched 3 movies! Mike kept calling to see how I was doing & it was nice but drove me crazy. Mary Jo Carlile called this morning & I had a nice talk with her.

FEB 11 THUR — Today was my due date & I knew I'd go crazy if I stayed home, so I went to lunch with Mike and went shopping and got my hair cut - SHORT wedge. I like it, even tho I look like a pin head. I felt really good all day - I called & got prescriptions for Matt - he's home sick again - and Aaron so everybody in the family is on penicillan except me. Tonight was the Blue & Gold Banquet for scouts & everyone was saying "Are you still here?" Poor Joyce! Etc. It was so funny. I walked home FAST with the boys & it was like I had one long contraction. I was standing in the kitchen about 7:30 & felt a leak. I was pretty sure it was my water. I called FHP at 8:30 - the midwife said wait for a while - till morning if nothing happens. [redacted] This has GOT to be IT!

FEBRUARY

((TIRED)) ~~JANUARY~~ 12, 1988

- MORGAN FLOYD WILLIAMS ZIPS INTO LIFE - WHAT A SURPRISE TO HIS MOTHER!!

I woke up this morning about 2:00 & I was just gushing. I soaked 3 bath towels & numerous pads and undies. So I called & we came into the hospital at 3:30. I was 1-2 cm & 30% effaced! No change from last week! They let me walk around & then hooked me up - signed me in. About 7 am Dr Matarese came in & checked me - no change - said go with pitocin. I said OK! 4 hours! Yea! Ha ha. They increased the dosage every ½ hour & the contractions got worse but still not too bad. At 2 pm I was only 4 cm! but 100% effaced. About 2:15 Mikes parents dropped by & I was just dying to get rid of them - there they are visiting & watching the monitors & are DUH. Finally about 2:30 they left & I was glad. About 3 the contractions were BAD & I was really working & shivering. I asked the nurse to check me but she said no the midwife & doctor would be here pretty soon. At 3:15 I said GET THE NURSE! Mike called her she checked & said Yes, you're 8! I'll get delivery ready! She went out & the dr. was on the phone so she said "COME OVER!" a Mean while, I had a really strong contraction & felt like pushing - I panted thru it but the next one came really fast & hard & I said "It's coming!! It's coming!!" Mike was saying PANT PANT I can't! Call the Nurse! But I felt the head pop out & Mike called her - she rushed in the cord was 2x tight around the neck but she couldn't get it off so she said PUSH! I did & HE was born!! It's a boy! Oh no! You're KIDDING ME! But sure enough, it was another BOY!! So anyway, Mike put his hands on the baby's head while waiting for the nurse. She rushed in and got the baby out, turned him around to get more slack for the cord, Meanwhile she's yelling, Send me another pair of hands & the resident STAT! I've got a baby & nothing ready! So then the resident came in & delivered the placenta. I tore more than usual so he gave me a local & sewed me up. Finally the FNP Dr arrived to

say hi! What a joke! I thought Morgan was about 7½ lbs - he's 8 lbs 10 oz 21"! I was surprised because he seems so tiny! I held him & we called everybody while I got stitched up. He nursed really good - what a cutie! He looks just like all our other cute little babies - stork bite & all! The nursery cleaned him up & brought him to me - Mike went home & took the kids to Burger King then brought them here - they're so sweet! Talmage wanted to see my tummy & when we asked him the baby's name he said Susannah! Ohh - we've got to teach him the right name! Mike said MORGAN MORGAN! & he said GUN! It was cute - hopefully he'll learn.

Well, it's 7:30 & I had 2 hrs sleep last night. I nursed Morgan a little more & the afterpains were AWFUL! Boy, I hope I can handle them. I'm so tired - I told them not to bring me the baby to eat. My rear end is tired cuz I labored most of the time reclining. I'm so thankful it's over & my baby's ok! What a miracle!

FEB 28 1988 Sunday

Boy, my baby is 2 weeks old!! It has gone by so FAST and I thought I'd never get through those 2-4 weeks before he was born! I have really been taking it easy. Mike took really good care of things, neighbors brought in food for a week - GOOD food. My mom & dad came the Monday & Tuesday after Morgan was born - Mom did all the laundry (a ton) & cleaning & stuff. On the 19th, when Morgan was 1 week old, we took him in to be circumcised. Mike went in with him & gave him a little blessing before, then cradled his head & talked to him through the whole thing. Poor little baby! I couldn't have done it. It really was a bonding for Mike & Morgan, though. I think this kid will have Mike really wrapped around his finger - Mike's been through more with Morgan than with any other baby. Anyway, I've been really lazy & taking it easy. Morgan's cord & circumcision are healed & look good. He is such a doll & we all love him - he's a part of our life! Tonight Pauline (Jack's Dorothy) & Morgan Larsen came up to see us & bring Morgan a cute little jogging suit. We had a nice visit & they all thought Morgan was darling.

March 6 1988 Sunday

Morgan's Blessing Day

Today was a really special day. We had Morgan's blessing and it was really neat. Mike, his father & brother & brother in laws. My father & grandfather were in the circle & it was a very nice blessing. Morgan was absolutely darling & was an angel all during church. I nursed him ~~and~~ just before church, then Mike gave him a bottle in church & he snorfed down 4oz, then came home & had pictures, then he slept all afternoon while we had lunch. It was really good. I made barbequed beef - delicious! salads, cookies etc. My mom & Sheri brought cookies & Mike's mom & Judy brought salads. It was neat to have everybody here. My parents brought Vicki & Wade down Friday night so we had a nice visit.

Those who came - Grandma & Grandpa Nielsen
Vicki & Wade Williams
Judy & John Morgan & kids
Grandma & Grandpa Williams
Rex & Carrie Williams & kids
Richard & Sheri Burton & kids
Great Grandpa Nielsen & Ellen

I have been feeling so good these days. I'm tired today but that's cuz I've been up late & not getting naps & getting up in the night.

Morgan 9lb 8oz 22¼"

Oh! I took Morgan to the dr. Thursday - she says everything looks fine. She said the discrepancy in length is due to mis-measuring - that he was probably 22" at birth. He is gaining weight - the little fatty. He's so cute!

I had a new dress & it was so fun - One lady told me I looked "disgustingly gorgous!" and I got a lot of compliments. It was fun. My hair even looked good.

Poor Vicki has been so sick - she's had pneumonia & they say she has an ulcer & her arthritis has been so bad - she's down to 103 lbs! Her arms are about

as big around as Aarons & she is just plain skin & bones - her doctor gave her a prescription for weight gain formula.

On - we rented a video camera & videoed this day - after church. It was really nice.

FEB 25 1988 Brett's 11 years old now! We let him have Nathan come over for pizza & videos. He had a fun time. We bought him a acid wash denim jacket & some music stuff.

Brett's 11th Birthday Brett is growing so tall & he's so handsome! His hair is getting a little darker blond, but his eyes are still Chocolate Chips & he is darling! Altho he really bugs his brothers - Aaron especially - he's starting to be a little more enjoyable to be around. The main thing we noticed is that he talks to me more about things that are happening to him. His sense of humor still comes out & he's quite the prankster! He's doing really well in school and seems to be quite well adjusted. He has some friends & is doing pretty good. The thing that bugs me the most about him is that he makes fun of Aaron or others & they argue & bicker & it drives me crazy. He really seems to be the catalyst for most of the discord in our home. And there's a lot lately! I think even though Brett is an extremely bright, talented young man, his self-esteem is pretty low, mainly because we Mike & DJ are so critical and negative and down on the kids all the time because they aren't perfect. Anyway, I feel that I need to spend more individual time with him. He really is a great kid, & he really loves football still The kids are all growing up so big and are really becoming quite responsible. We really do love Brett and are grateful for his place in our family. I hope we can all make it through the next 8 years!

MAR 15 1988

TALMAGE 4th BDAY

TALMAGE DON WILLIAMS is 4 years old! He got some clothes and toys and I made him a blue berbie cake & we watched some movies. Joyce Erickson & Mark came over and gave him a blue herbie car and he loves it. We gave him a flashlight & he just loves it!

It's been a hard month for Talmage since Morgan's been born. He loves the little baby but is very demanding of me & sometimes a little rough in his "loving" of Morgan. Plus the fact that Talmage has been the spoiled baby of the family for 4 years, and suddenly Jim is touchy & pushing him away because he's hugging me. So Jim sure he feels pushed out of the nest and more than a little ignored. So we're having a hard time. It's funny he never used to "bug" me but he bugs me A LOT lately! He's really getting a temper & it's driving me crazy. And if I tell him to do something he just says "NO" & keeps on with whatever he's doing. One thing he's started is that if we tell him to do something and he says "Will you spank me?" and I haven't been threatening to spank him! So he's pretty cute, too. He's starting to talk a lot & has a lot of logic & I can tell he's thinking about things a lot. Daddy says "a sensitive, cute, handsome little boy." One cute thing he says is "So, what dya think?" Also "Well, how's it goin?" He really is a cute little boy & his best friend is probably "Erickson" (Joyce). He'll often say "Can I go over to Erickson's?" "Can Erickson play? He's cute.

9 yrs.
MACN
APR
23

Happy Birthday to my Aaron Spencer Williams. Aaron is still a wonderful loving, cute child but is getting older! He's still skinny but is getting taller. He's doing SUPER in school & his teacher thinks he should be in the gifted program - he's so smart! And he's an excellent artist still. What a cutie pie. Aaron's biggest problem is that he cries and whines when something goes wrong. The worst part of it is that Brett really enjoys MAKING him cry, so it's really hard on me from both sides! I hate for Brett to bug him & I hate for Aaron to bawl about it. It absolutely drives me crazy. But I guess it's normal.

Aaron has such a special spirit - he really has a sensitive spirit and personality. I wish I could encourage that and discourage the bawling. Aaron really has 1 other problem - he is SO SLOW at getting things done - it drives me CRAZY!! He knows how to work & he does a lot around here, but it sure takes a long time! He sleeps in with Talmage & their rooms always a MESS & he is a real hoarder! Pack rat, I guess you'd say. Cleaning out under his bed is absolutely astonishing! He is the worst kid about dropping stuff & leaving it right where he left it.

Aaron is a very special son & we are grateful to have him in our family.

13 yrs old

May 5 1988

Michelle Marie Williams is such a beautiful sweet 13 year old! She is doing just wonderful work in school & she's a super baby sitter. Her self esteem is the pits however, and she hasn't any friends. I think because she feels insecure & so gets a little self righteous or "stuck up" or whatever. I've discovered a social problem in children called "pseuds-adult" & I think that's Michelle! Adults love her & think she's wonderful, which she is, but kids her age just don't relate to her, which destroys her ego, but the only thing she can do is show off what she can do well - which is to please adults. (She does what she's told, responsible, smart, talented on the piano ETC!!) I don't know what to do to help her, but ultimately, it's her problem and she's got to solve it.

Anyway we love her so much & yet find so much fault with her - she does so many things well & yet we are so critical of her! She takes advantage of our guilt in that area & really feeds on it, I think.

May 12, 1988

Morgan 3 mo.

Mike called as bishop

What a day. This morning at 11:00, Pres. Edgley, our stake president, called & asked if we could meet him at 6 pm. I'd heard the name was to be approved today, & President Edgley works for the church, so I was pretty suspicious. I called Mike - he was in a meeting, but when he called back, he was pretty suspicious too. We tried to think of something else, but just kept coming back to "Bishop." When we went in, we had a kneeling prayer with the Pres & Pres Pitt a member of our ward. Then they asked us to tell about ourselves & our testimonies, then they told Mike that the 1st presidency had cleared his name to be called as the bishop of the Centerville 20th Ward. They told us their feelings & testimonies, then asked us our feelings. I said (honestly) that I knew Mike was Bishop material, but I felt safe because I wasn't Bishop wife's material. I honestly think, way down deep, that that is why I haven't been as good about scriptures, prayer, etc - because I was selfish & didn't want to share Mike as I knew I would have to do. Anyway, with faith that it will be fine, we accepted. It is an honor just to be considered worthy of the calling. It's hard not to tell anybody, but I feel that I will really have to be strong & keep my mouth shut! I can do it!!

I wanted to take Morgan in for 3 mo. pictures but he's got a cold.

Not much sleep for Mike tonight ---

May 15 1988 Sun. Mike made the Bishop of Cent. 20th Ward!

Today Michael G. Williams, my husband, was made BISHOP of the Centerville 20th Ward. What a busy day. His whole family came, & my parents & Judy came. It was really nice. His mom made a bunch of food & brought it so I didn't have to hassel with it - Mike wasn't home much today, but several people brought cookies & called. When everyone left (finally) I just felt like bawling! So sorry for myself. I kind of feel like I've been sentenced to 5 years paid labor! On the other hand, I know it's a real honor & even be considered for bishop & family. Pres Edgley told us the wife is considered as strongly as the husband! So I've been praying & praying for peace & confidence and faith that I can handle this. I took a bath & read a book - so tired - emotionally wrung-out. I guess. Poor Mike, though. I feel for him - What a load!

MON MAY 16 Morgan pneumonia

What a day! Morgan was acting irritable & felt hot, so I took him & all the kids except Matt & Talmage to the Dr. (I had taken them in Friday & Matt has a positive strep & Talmage had a cough & fever, so they gave them both anti-biotics.) Anyway, I felt kinda sick & so did the others so they all went & we got strep tests - all negative! I was surprised. Poor lil Morgan had to have a blood test & x-ray & he has pneumonia! The Dr seemed quite concerned & so I have to take him back in the morning. All together, we spent 3 hours there, much to the chagrin of the 3 bored kids waiting. Brett complained the most & made me cry - I felt so bad about Morgan being sick & keeping Brett from playing (he complained about it) & I kept Aaron from a trip to the zoo! All the emotional upset - I bawled a lot. What a day.

Nov 6 1988 Sunday

My Goodness - I cannot believe how long it's been since I've written - I'll try to do some catching up.

I would say this summer has been one of the hardest in my life - I just seemed to be running & running and never getting anywhere. I was really discouraged & depressed - I just couldn't seem to pull myself out of it - and I'm still having a hard time. I keep thinking it's because I'm still nursing & just too tired to get much done.

In April - June, I took a diet class at American Heart Assn - it cost $40 - I lost 17 lbs & attended 9/10 classes so I got $20 back. I got down to 157. I was kind of watching my diet but mostly, I was so faithful in riding my bike 40 minutes a day. I was really starting to look better. I stopped losing as soon as I quit the class - indeed, I gained back 5 lbs so I weigh 162 now. Yuk. But I'm sick of thinking about it. So I'm going to try and just keep me some new clothes and be me!

In May, Mike & I went to a dinner show in Provo about Golden Kimball - we had a lot of fun. Judy tended Morgan for us - it was really special.

In June Vicki brought her kids & we had a fun time visiting and goofing around. Vicki looks absolutely awful. She's really lost a lot of weight - she's just skin & bones & really having a hard time.

The day she came, we had 1400 sq feet of sod delivered. All our neighbors & Lee & Richard came & helped us lay it so we've got a beautiful yard - no flowers, shrubs etc but what an improvement!

July 24 we went up to the cabin with Rex & Sheri & their families - Mike's parents bombed out on us - it made me feel insulted but it was probably more fun without them. We went to Yellowstone & had a lot of fun. Rex & Sheri left July 27, & we were alone up

there for a couple of days - the van got a repaired tire & we had to buy a new one, then something else broke so Mike took it to SLC & left it to get fixed and brought mom & dad's car back to the cabin - then dad drove our van up. Brother! We went to "Joseph's amazing technicolor dreamcoat" at Playhouse and it was so fun - I'd like to take the kids next year.

Then 29-31 My family came up & everyone was there except a few in-laws (Dee & Ron) & assorted grand & great grandchildren - who cares? All the brothers & sisters were & it was great. We had a really fun program. We went fishing - Mike bought 3 float tubes & gear (about $300) and we caught 3 fish the whole time! But one night, Mike & I & the boys (Michelle was in IF) went to Island Park Reservoir & fished & it was so beautiful & peaceful with the sun setting on the lake, the loons & a small moose across on the island. It was really neat.

On Sunday, we had a very special fast & testimony meeting - I think everyone of the original 8 & their spouses all bore testimony. It was a very beautiful, moving meeting & a highlight of our week up there. We sure had a good time.

Mike also took a bunch of scouts up a couple of weeks later & they stayed at the cabin and had a really fun time.

In August I signed Brett up for football - I can hardly believe I would do such a thing. But he loved it, even though he played for about 10 minutes of each 2 hour game & cost $65! What a rip off! His last game, he played more & his coaches were really complimentary. He thinks he's pretty cool & he is!

I was released from Primary in June & July & soon after, Mike & I were at Sizzler's & he said "you've been turned in for a job." And I said "anything but den leader!!" and he said yes, & I started to cry right there at the Sizzler. Really made him feel good. I really didn't want it & I begged him not to call me to it. The next Sunday he called me about a half hour before church & said "well, we want to sustain you today! Ok?" so I said yes; & really didn't want it & I still really don't want it, but it looks like I'll be stuck with it for years & years & years & years. Let's see - Morgan will be out of it in 1-- 11 years!

The first den meeting I had I called Mike 1 hour before & I was hysterical & crying - I was so worried, I couldn't decide what to do! I was just sick. But I lived thru it & I still dread Thursdays & I'm glad when they're over.

Oh in August I went to Education Week for 2 days & stayed at Judy's - mom & Linda were there and it was neat - I wish I could have gone the whole time. I felt empty this - Empty, that's kind of how I've felt for the last few years. I know Dave taught was a really depressing influence on me, & the pregnancy & baby have been hard on me, & I feel like a zombie! My beautiful new house is a wreck & try as I might I just cannot keep it clean! It's so discouraging. I think I haven't written cuz I've been so down. And I realize I have so many blessings so I feel guilty & that makes me feel worse!!

Morgan. Even though he's the cause of a lot of my problems - fat, tired, discouraged - he's such a little doll & I love him so much. He has 4 teeth - got 2, 3 weeks ago, then 2 more last Sunday. He sit spit while I was nursing him 4 times one day but I screamed & he bawled so I think he's got the idea. Once I yelled NO NO & he bawled & Talmage said "Mom, you're grounded!" Talmage goes to pre-school & LOVES it. I only wish it was every day 8-5. Not really (really)

Well what an exciting life. I exercise with some friends T and F for an hour. Oh! The reason I stopped riding my bike & gained 5 lbs! While at the cabin I pulled a muscle & stretched a ligament in my right knee & it's been swollen stiff & sore ever since. I saw an orthopedic Surgeon PA & he says the bike is about the worst thing I could do to it. He told me to stay off stairs & don't pick things up! Hahaha! He said I could walk but not on hills! So here I am - just FAT DUMB & UNHAPPY! & tired

20 Nov 1988 Sunday

Another exciting episode in the thrill-a-minute life of Jaya Williams. Last Tuesday I had a sore throat & so did Michelle - at 2:00 I took a nap and didn't crawl out of bed until Saturday! Just about! Well am Mike took Michelle & I & Talmage & Morgan to FHP & we had throat cultures. Talmage, Michelle & I were positive but Mike had a cough & Morgan's throat was red so they put us all on anti-biotics. Then I came home & went to bed & died. That afternoon Mike took Brett down to the DR & both Brett & Matt tested positive! So they gave all 3 of them penicillin! So ALL 8 of us were on medication. I really didn't care - I was so sick. I had fever, chills, sweat, headache, throat ache, swollen glands - about the size of a small egg. It really was living in a daze. Poor kids had to do a lot! Mike was so nice & did so much & just let me rest

Tuesday night he brought home pizza. Wed he stopped at Hardee's & while he was gone Laura Daines brought soup bread & ice cream. Thursday, Judy Wayment brought ham rolls, macaroni, soup doughnuts - it was great Friday Raline Sutherland brought bean soup & cake. Cindy Bagnell brought salad & rolls. Saturday we ate Daines soup. Most of the nights I couldn't eat anything. I think last night was the first meal I ate & even then, couldn't eat much. Then today, Raline brought a 4½ rump roast in a pan with potatoes & carrots & I stuck that in the oven. Then after church, I didn't go, Wayments brought a salad & rolls, & Karen Case brought ice cream puffs with chocolate sauce! I did eat that meal - pretty good - in fact, absolutely delicious! It really made me appreciate what neat neighbors & friends I have here (and reminded me of the awful experience in WV when I was this sick!) I've also had the feeling that I need to "grow up" I feel like an 18 year old in a 33 old body who's just woke up & said who got me into this mess!?

Sun Jan 1 1989 What a month! I'm now on penicillin for my 3rd bout of strep. I wasn't as sick this time or last time - just sore throat & swollen glands. Last time I went I had a pregnancy test - NEG - What a relief! I'm so sick of being sick! I did what I had to do and it was mostly Christmas stuff so the house is a disaster. Christmas turned out really nice. Friday (23) night we had a pizza party with Mikes parents, siblings & families at Pizza Hut. Then we went to Carrie & Kep's house and opened presents. Wow - we gave Mikes Mom a purse wallet & sweatshirt, his dad a book belt Mikes Mom a purse wallet & sweatshirt, his dad a book belt wallet. We went in with Kep & Sheri on these. We gave Richard & Sheri a picture of Jesus, some books & a F-P board for the kids. Kep & Carrie gave us an electric knife & statue of Christ in Gethsemane. They gave the kids a movie "E.T." Mike's parents really went all out. They gave Mike a beautiful suit - dark grey with wide stripe - we love it. They gave me a red knit wrap around dress with white collar - really pretty. Also, a pearl necklace & earrings, and beautiful taupe leather heels. And a new rug for the entry. She had one just like mine & I mentioned I needed another one for my entry so she got one, only it's bigger looks really nice. I put the old one in

the laundry room. I like it there. All the kids got a cute outfit from Jes that Carrie bought for her, bless her heart. We had a good time.

Saturday we did some clean up and opened presents thru out the day. That turned out nice because the kids really enjoyed all their little presents from each other without being overshadowed by the big things. Sat evening Mike gave me "My" present which was a NINTENDO video game that the kids - especially Brett - really wanted. We told him he wouldn't get one so forget it! We softened our hearts & decided if it was mine, we'd have better control. So they had fun playing that. (It's a no no on Sunday.) My parents gave each of the kids a pillow with a cute applique on it. She gave us a "thought for the day" but said there was more for Mike & me. [Later gave us 25# sugar & a case of soup]

Several days before Christmas I took Michelle shopping and found her a bunch of clothes and me 2 dresses and a skirt. My favorite is a black sheath with a pleated skirt and a purple/blue/pink floral blouson top. I feel really nice in it. $92.00 / 45 then a black window pane shirt dress & navy skirt. I found a really nice coat & told Mike about it & he said go buy it! So I did & that's what I got for Christmas!

Oh, plus Mike bought tickets to "The Nutcracker." The night he bought the tickets we were zapping around the tv & "the Nutcracker" was on. He asked me if I'd ever been to it & I said it was too long & kind of boring & didn't think I was really into ballet! That night we had a huge windstorm - 100 mph & Boy was it scary! We finally moved downstairs & the boys slept in the playroom because it was so noisy upstairs. It sounded like the roof was going to go off! In fact, a guy in the ward lost the roof off his garage & family room. Lots

of people lost siding chimney etc. We lost 2 shingles and the ~~[illegible]~~ lid off our heater. It was one scarry night & all the schools were closed the next day. What an experience!! Anyway, the next morning Mike gave me the non refundable Tickets & apologized. Well, we went the night after Christmas and it was delightful. Course, we had $20 Tickets & when I went last year I was on the TOP row of the Capitol Theater, 8 mo pregnant, with the mutual, so we had a fun time and we really enjoyed it. So did Mike - it was his first time.

Back to Christmas - as Mike described it, if you wanted the perfect reaction to a gift, that was it when I opened the Nintendo. They were yelling & screaming & jumping up & down - Brett said "Am I really awake?" They really love it & have had a lot of fun with it.

Christmas morning we woke them at 6 am & they all had a nice Christmas. Michelle got clothes, 2 watches & a clock radio. She was a little disappointed that she didn't get FUN stuff, but she needed clothes so bad! She got a robe, a dress, skirt, 2 sweaters & 2 pants, socks, 2 shirts. We gave Britt a small electronic football game, clock radio, football cards, football card note book, poster & [illegible] got a remote control car, basketball, calculator watch, basketball cards & Gi Joe. Matthew got a Gi Joe plane, some horses & corral & Gi Joe. Matthew got a Gi Joe plane, some horses & corral baseball cards, calendar watch & t ball, bat & ball t. He had a good time. Talmage got a FP camera, a FP tape recorder, a big dump truck, & some little things. Morgan got a few little toys & outfits. He was cute. He loved all the wrapping paper & bows & big boys stuff. It started snowing about 6 am. & it snowed steadily all day. We shoveled out the driveway 3 or 4 times. By the end of the day we'd received 21"! July was going to come for dinner but the weather was

bad so we just really took it easy & had a fun day with the kids. Mike also gave me a punch bowl so I'd have something to open! I gave him a lot of little things - garments, shirts, suspenders, sweat pants, cologne, calendar & little things like that.

We had a nice turkey dinner & a nice relaxed day. We had to shovel out the circle so we could get out. The shovel came through Tuesday morning & Mike had to really shovel out our driveway.

Mike did all the tithing settlement & we're glad that's over - we ended up, after going over our tithing, we ended up owing $200! Gulp. Interestingly, we just got a $560 check from our share savings dividend, & Mike got a $1,000 bonus ($600 of which we received.) Course, we decided it was great for Christmas but we really should have been more careful about our tithing throughout the year. Interestingly, we did regularly until sometime soon after Mike was put into the bishopric. What a challenge! After (last April) Mike got his bonus, we were out of debt except for our house and car & we had most of our years supply of food. Then we borrowed $3000 for our yard, we got a Mastercard & charged $1800 on it & we're $2000 in debt in our overdraft so it makes me sick to my stomach! Mike made $56,000 last year! We should have oodles of money. But we are really going to try to get our budget in control. Oh, to top things off, we got a new coupon book for our house payment and our taxes were wrong and we have to pay $70! more a month. Sag! We have Michelle's braces $50/mo now and it just seems like it adds up!

Jan 15 1989 Sunday Well, I can't believe it but I have STREP throat again! This is the 4th time since Thanksgiving I caught a cold last Monday but Friday my throat was starting to hurt & yesterday I went to the dr & sho nuf! Strep again! So he referred me to ENT and said they'd probably want to take out my tonsils. So I don't know what to think. a week & a half ago my parents came down & my dad had surgery on his hand to straighten out his arthritic fingers. They stayed here when Dad wasn't in the hospital He had a pretty rough time of it but I guess he's doing better & his hand looks great.
Michelle went to the temple yesterday to do baptisms for the dead & she had such a special spirit & felt that those people whose work was being done were there. She's so sensitive & so cute. She's sure growing up.

JAN 25 1988 Matt's 8th Birthday Matthew George Williams is 8 years old! Wow, we've lived in Utah that long! Matthew is doing really great in school. straight 1's - which is just like A's! He really likes school and gets along great with the other kids and teachers. He's still a really hard worker, although occassionally he has his fits and refuses to do the work. Once in a while he's downright disobedient & I hope once he's baptized he'll try a little harder. He's really excited to get baptized. Last monday we had a party for Matthew - 8 friends came & watched "Little Rascals" then opened presents & ate cake & ice cream. I couldn't get them to go home so Michelle had them go outside & race to see who could get in the van first. So I came out & shut the door & took them home! They said "You tricked us!" Bet I was glad to be rid of them. I bought Matt some size 8 pants but they were too small so I traded them for 10's & they fit! He & Aaron are about the same size. Mike says "I love him! He's a fine boy. He knows what's right & wants to do it." He really do love him.

FEB 4 1989 SAT MATT'S BAPTISM

Matthew was baptized today. It was really nice and I was so grateful he has such a wonderful father to baptize him. The weather was awful and the roads were awful so nobody came. We felt kind of bad, but it was kind of a relief to not have to play hostess. So we had an easy, relaxed evening. Matthew said he felt really warm & like he felt the spirit.

Sun Feb 5 1989 Matt. Confirmed

Today the weather was a little nicer but still. nobody came for Matt's Confirmation. I was a little sad to see just Mike, one hometeacher & one counselor confirm Matthew. But of course Mike gave him a beautiful blessing and it was a nice day. My kids have been sick - Michelle was out of school all week & I think everyone's had flu - it's been awful. So Brett stayed home with Morgan and Talmage. I had such a delightful Sunday. The kids were wonderful in church. I listened in Sunday School & even took past. And I gave the spiritual living lesson in Relief Society I'm sure that's one job I'll never have because I'd love to have it! It was about the first vision & it turned out really well. The class listened & participated & it was really neat. This is the best Sunday I've had in months! Ever since Mike was made Bishop. When we went to the temple last time I had such a peaceful feeling & I felt like - I don't understand why we have to have cub scouts, but if the Lord wants me to do it I'll do it! And I've felt so much better about scouts & my role as den leader. Anyway, I'm going to do a better job! I've planned stuff & will work on their BEAR's. Matt's really excited about being in cub scouts. Brett can't wait to get out of primary.

2 weeks ago we went to the opera

"The Marriage of Figaro" It was delightful. We went courtesy of US West & the lawyer who always gets the tickets - $40 seats. Wow, they were great. We had so much fun. I think it's a great thing for a couple to laugh together.

Then last week we went to a $100/plate benefit dinner for the Utah Symphony - Courtesy US West. It was a lovely dinner, dancing & fun. I got to know some of the people Mike works with. It was very sophisticated & some of the dresses - wo! The whole evening cost $5 - a tip for the coat check! So we're seeing some of the "perks" that come along as you get up in the company. I love it!

1989

Feb 12 Morgan's 1st Birthday

One year old! I cannot believe it. Not only that, we've now lived here for 2 years! I'm really glad we moved here. Morgan is such a doll. I cut his hair day before yesterday & just got a few little strands but at least it doesn't hang over his ears. He's such a cutie! He says mama (mostly) and (bad) nanana & sometimes dadada. He claps & patty-cakes & waves bye bye. His teeth are his most lethal weapons, followed closely by his ear-splitting screech! Talk about an ankle biter! When he gets made he bangs his head & bites whatever is handy. We have really spoiled him rotten, but he's so sweet. He's had an ear infection & I thought it was the flu, so I didn't take him in, but I finally decided to make sure. So Wed I took him & Talmage & sure enough ear infections, both of them! Poor little kids. This is Morgan's 3rd & I think that's not too bad for a year. Mike comments quite frequently on how much joy Morgan's brought into our home. And it's true everyone enjoys him - even if Talmage does bring him to distraction. It's done LOVINGLY, so I'm never sure of Talmage's motives - I just judge

them negatively. Poor kid. Poor mom. Some days, like today, & worse, I really get frustrated. Hopefully I'll grow up & grow out of it. (Or else they will.)

FEB 19 1989 Sunday — For the past 6 weeks, I've been taking a weight control class at FHP Redwood. I've lost 7½ lbs & am down to 156, fully dressed! I haven't been following the diet exactly, but I've been AWARE of my eating so I've been more careful. Also, I was talking to my friend Robin who had back surgery last year. Her doctor told her to walk but not on hills, & that's what mine said, so I checked with the Bishop & he said OK so we decided to walk at the church! We've been doing it for about 2 months. The week I didn't walk I didn't lose any weight! We've had so much illness lately - it's driving me crazy. Last Monday I had an appointment with an ENT specialist - Dr. VanDuden. He agrees I should get my tonsils out! So I'm scheduled for March 2 to get them out. Mike really doesn't want me to do it but I feel like it will really help my overall health & vitality. Also, about a week & a half ago, I was sitting on the couch holding Morgan. I started to get up & when I put the stress on my knee, I felt something slip inside & intense shooting pain and numbness in my lower leg for a few minutes. Boy, it hurt so bad! My knee is worse and I have to really baby it. Sometimes when I've been running around a lot my whole leg hurts - from my hip & lower back to my ankle! So I called & got an appointment with a Dr Unsicker (love that name!) for next Friday. Should be interesting.

Feb 24 1989 — I saw Dr Unsicker & he said I should have seen some progress by now, but that waiting a while won't hurt it. However, he said to make an appt in 4-6 weeks & have it rechecked. Then, we can either wait some more, or schedule arthroscopy. So we'll see. My last diet class - didn't lose any more but I was #3 loser in the class!

Feb 25 1989 — Brett Michael Williams is 12 years old! What a shock to realize how old he (& me) is getting! Brett is getting so tall - I need to measure him, but he's shooting up there! He is absolutely darling & I'm sure the girls are all going to go crazy over him. I've convinced him that braces will make him look even better, so he'll get them next summer. I keep telling him he'll want to look good on those NFL posters! His teeth really are a mess - much worse than Michelle's, who is doing great with her braces.

Brett's 12th Birthday

We went up to Layton last night & got Christopher & he slept over. This morning we went to the Utah Symphony & it was great as usual. Then we went to Godfathers pizza - $32 for pizza! Crack! Then Mike went to work & the kids played Nintendo & I took them to the church to play basketball. Then Pep & Carrie brought their girls over & we went to dinner & the Tab Choir & Symphony. (All the kids stayed home) We had a really nice time. For his birthday, all Brett wanted was "Link" a nintendo game - so I ordered it from Penny's $50! gag. We really overspent but we rationalized it was his birthday - his 12th!

Brett is growing up. Unfortunately, it hasn't been all good! He is really getting obnoxious & rude. He is getting somewhat better at getting his work done - how he LOVES that Nintendo! It worries me, but I need to remember how Brett gets obsessed with whatever he's involved in like horses, dogs, football, nintendo. Mike sustained him in Sacrament Meeting last week so he can ordain him tomorrow. I can't believe a son of mine is old enough to be a deacon & hold the priesthood! He is a really a good kid & I hope & pray will make it through the next 7 years with him! He said to me the other day, "Mom, when Morgan's baptized I'll be going on my mission!" So his planning

on being a good boy! I know we need to be more positive & less negative with him. I know we (& especially Mike) are always looking for & finding the negative.

Feb 26 1989 Sunday

Today Brett was ordained a deacon by his father. It was special & he was so cute. He got to pass the sacrament & did a good job. He said it was easy. He's so glad he doesn't have to go to Primary any more - He said Deacon's quorum is a lot neater. He's really cute & I do love him.

Last Monday I started worrying about Talmage's tooth - he's had an extra tooth growing between his front teeth. Steve saw the tooth in an x-ray last summer & said an oral surgeon would have to take it out, but it erupted about a month ago & I had an appointment in a month with a dentist down here, but I got to worrying so I called Steve & he said he could fit me in. So I picked Michelle up at school & took Talmage & Morgan & we went to Idaho & stayed with Mom & Dad. Then Wed Steve took out the tooth - It was huge - Talmage was so cute & tough. I was glad I had Steve do it. Then we came home! It was a quick trip, but nice. Michelle & I had a good time.

March 2-12 1989 Tonsils

In Thursday, March 2, I went to the FHP Surgical Center & had my tonsils taken out by Dr. Richard VanOden. They gave me a sedative which made me drowsy, then did it with local anesthesia. I looked at the clock 2:15 when he finished - & I left about 5:30. Thursday night was pretty bad. I woke up every 20 minutes & had to get a drink. Friday & Saturday I felt surprisingly good, but Sunday I got a little worse & continued feeling that way until about Thursday, when I felt I could swallow a little easier. People were great - They brought in food & flowers & candy & brownies - it was great. Mom & Dad came & took care of everything - well, Mom did. I'd sleep in til 9 or so every day - it was great & not have to face the kids in the morning. Or after school. I'd take naps whenever I felt like it & I read 3 or 4 books. Meanwhile Mom did the cleaning, food prep, dishes, laundry, etc. She was so busy & I felt guilty! But boy, it'd be great to have that kind of service. I decided I'm a big baby. I had the kids Friday & Saturday, & it was a real trial. Mike had to go to work Saturday & I was mad at him - mad at the kids mad cuz the house was a mess, mad cuz I had to get back to being the "slave" again - mad cuz I didn't want to, mad cuz I still didn't feel well, mad cuz I felt like Mike ignored me all week - he was so busy with everything & he just let Mom do it all. One night he helped her sweep up the kitchen & I guess I felt like he should have suffered more or something. Maybe part of it was seeing Mom work so hard & Dad just sat around & read. I enjoyed having Mom here - I'm sure she's exhausted! Thursday night Dan called & said Judy was so sick with Strep Throat - could Mom & Dad come down & help them? He was so busy with school! Brother! These men! I was glad to share Mom & help Judy out, even though it would had been great & selfish to keep her. So I was feeling yukky & sorry for myself yesterday & Mike was late coming home to go with me to the last part of the Womens Conference (which I was mad I missed cuz I was so tired & grouchy) Anyway, I was in a fine fettle! Richard Eyre spoke & it was on joy & it was good. After, Mike & I had a good talk & told him how awful I

feel. such a lousy mother, terrible wife etc. So we talked about it & read Pat Hollands "Face to the Son" & I know what I need to do to repent & be better & we ended the evening on a very loving, close note. It was so nice to feel close to him. Then just before I woke up this morning I was given a gift. I'd been expressing how I'd been feeling dislike & frustration for the children - She felt "I really don't like this child" many times lately -) Anyway, I dreamed we were involved in a war. They had separated us all & I was so frustrated & upset. At one point, I went into a room, & there was Talmage & Morgan & they were sad I went & hugged & kissed them & the ladies said I had to leave them Somehow I got away with them & we escaped - we were going through a mine field - it was so scarry & the kids were running around - some Vietnamese people came & saved us & took us down into a bunker - there were a whole bunch of kids & I was asking their names. Morgan was snuggled up against me & I asked one little boy his name. "Mike" he said. I replied "That's such a good name" & I started to cry. Then I heard Mike's voice behind me & there he was in his army uniform! We hugged & shed joyful tears & I was so happy just to be with him & have our children with us. Anyway, I woke up feeling so grateful for my life, my children, my husband. I needed that.

March 23-27 Idaho

We went to Idaho for Easter vacation - only this time we didn't see the dentist! Everybody enjoyed it best since Mike stayed home, & missed him. Vicki & Mom helped me make Easter dresses for Michelle & me. I finished a dress I started 3 years ago & made one out of matching leftover material for Michelle. It's really pretty.

March 15 1989 Talmage's 5th Birthday

Talmage is 5 years old! Such a special little boy. I think this past year has been extremely hard for Talmage - he was my best buddy for 4 years, & all of the sudden he's a pain in the neck. It's been hard, but he has grown up a lot. He is a loving, very sensitive little boy. He's very perceptive and asks A LOT of questions - especially about Jesus & Heavenly Father. He always wants to know - "Does Jesus want us to say ---" or does Jesus like us to ...?" Where does Jesus live? How come the church is his house? How come he has lots of houses? How do guys make rocks? How do guys make tv's? .... and on & on! He asks questions about everything! Drives me crazy sometimes, but I realize it's the sign of an intelligent mind. He really is smart. He's so cute too. I have treated him like a baby for too long though - he needs to have more responsibility & I need to follow through on things I tell him to do. He loves to draw, and paints, & staple things to things - like walls. He take about 20 papers & staples them together) then draws & colors on them. He still loves Herbie, although not as much as he used to. He still draws them a lot, but he doesn't watch the movies very often.

He opened presents throughout the day & we went to Hardees for dinner. Mike took the older boys to a Jazz game - I guess he should have taken Talmage! I just didn't think he'd enjoy it

We sure love our Talmage & we're glad he's part of our family

March 18 1989 Mike's 37th Birthday

Mike & I went to see "Lawrence of Arabia" last night for his birthday & it was wonderful. He really enjoyed it. We went to his Boss' son's wedding reception & stake conference. After Conference, Denise, Kim Wall & Kitchens came over for cake & ice cream. It was nice. I gave Mike 2 pairs of shoes & socks for his birthday. I sure do love him.

March 30-April 3 1989 St George Trip

My 34th Birthday

Tuesday when I got home from Idaho, Mike had a babysitter to take me away for my birthday so we decided to go to St George. Carrie took the 3 oldest - Jedy took the 3 youngest. We got there late Thursday night & went out & sat in the jacuzzi - it was great & I loved it. I wore my new $50 swim-suit! Friday we went to the temple - felt like newly weds with all these old people. They asked us to be witnesses & it was so special. Then we ate lunch and went to another session. Then Saturday we watched conference - ate lunch, watched conference, then went to my cousin Melanies for dinner & Mike went to priesthood - we had a nice visit. Sunday we watched conference, ate & went out & visited Mike's aunt Phyllis & Uncle June. We drove around with them & enjoyed their company. Monday we came home! It was really nice & probably the greatest conference we've heard - mainly because we were able to hear it. We had a really nice, relaxing trip. It was really good for Mike, me, and us.

April 5 1989 Heather

This morning I was cleaning my basement & I heard sirens really close, then they stopped. I thought I ought to go look, but no - then Cindy Bagnell called & said there was an ambulance at Ericksons, so I ran over. The paramedics were giving Heather CPR. Carol Bingham was with me & she ran in & got Mark - he was hysterical I said "Is there anything I can do?" Duh. We went out on the porch & waited. The worked on Heather for a half hour. Finally, they took her in the ambulance with sirens blowing, so I thought, there's hope! But I felt, when they brought her out, she was so still and she looked dead - almost blueish. Poor Mark was having a hard time. Within an hour Bruce & Joyce were home - they seemed very calm. Joyce was talking to some neighbors out on the driveway - then were laughing about something. I wasn't sure what had happened until Joyce said "Can anybody recommend a mortician?" She said it was hard just leaving Heather there. "What do I do now?" And "never a dull moment!" she said. Apparently she had brought Heather home from school yesterday with a slight fever & cough. Joyce had taken Mark to the doctor - Bronchitis - & had gotten some medicine for Heather too, because she had seemed a little sick but wanted to go to school. Last night she got worse - labored breathing, rapid heartbeat. This morning Joyce had called her doctor & told him Heather needed some oxygen. (Last month Heather had pneumonia & they wanted to hospitalize her but Joyce felt she could take better care of her at home & she had oxygen then.) He had ordered it, but about 11:15 Joyce was trying to make Heather comfortable on the couch. She took 3 deep breaths & her eyes rolled back. Joyce felt her heartbeat & it was gone. They never did revive her. I called Mike & he came just as they got home. He spent the afternoon helping them, then went back to work till about 7:30. Libby & Dan took dinner in & I went with them - everyone seemed calm & doing well. I'm sure it won't hit for a while.

April 8 1989

Heathers Funeral

Heather's funeral was so beautiful. The viewing was last night. I did a lot of running around Friday & as I took flowers into the room where Heather was, I was overcome with a feeling of love & peace. She looked really nice. The funeral was packed. I was trying to figure out what to do special for Ericksons & I was inspired to remember that someone had had people write a remembrance of the deceased for the family. I talked to Judy Wayment and she did it for me - bought a binder & ran off & cut pages that said "Memories of Heather." About a hundred people wrote something. I think it's something they'll always cherish - much more than flowers. She called me & said "now you'll know how much I think of you." I said "you want me to clean your bathrooms." She laughed & said "No, I want you to clean my fridge!" So I did that yesterday. The lady who's article appeared in the Enseign read her story & then added to it - it was beautiful & moving. Hal Allen Packer (Boyd's son & a good friend) spoke & said a few good things but most of it was kinda boring & long. Then Mike spoke and did an excellent job. We went to the grave & then to the dinner so it took most the day but it was neat. A really funny thing was Joyce's best friend from California flew up to sing Heather's song that Janice Kapp Perry wrote. Her sister was with her & as we talked I realized I knew them! Their father was the 1st bishop I can remember - Bishop Bell. Gloria was one of Colleen's best friends all thru college. What a small world! Joyce couldn't believe it. She seems to be doing really well.

April 23 1989 Aaron's 10th Birthday

Aaron Spencer is 10 years old! So hard to believe. He is getting taller but is still straight and slim. What a dear boy. He's going to be a heartbreaker.

Aaron still retains his loving-ness, even tho he's not nearly as demonstrative as he used to be. I worry so much about him, because Brett is constantly bugging him and running him down. - making fun of him, teasing him, copying him - you name it. And then Aaron bawls and whines till it drives me crazy! When I stand objectively back, I can see that I take Aaron's side & Brett feels that I like Aaron best so he bugs him! And Aaron bawls to get my sympathy. So I try to just ignore it or treat them both the same. Drives me crazy tho.

Aaron is doing great in school - he was recommended for the gifted program & Mike insisted he apply for it. So I did. He didn't do very well in school the first 2 terms but got all A's last time - I guess he started turning his work in! We decided he's just out & out lazy, but I've tried not to let him know I think that! He manages to get out of a lot of work somehow. And yet he's such a sweet boy that I get upset with him rarely - & never in a really bad way, as I do with the others sometimes. I always love Aaron & feel that he's cute. He's still the same sensitive caring loving boy who would rather do without than make someone else sad. "Dad said when I asked him. Aaron really doesn't make a big fuss when he doesn't get what he wants - so I'm afraid he doesn't get what he wants as often as the others - more demanding - kids do. If they were all like Aaron, we'd have a much more peaceful home. (Albert messies!) He's a one man disaster at making & leaving messes - not cleaning them up. We love him though and think he's wonderful!

May 5 1989 — Michelle 14th Birthday

My daughter is 14 years old! How clearly I remember a Sunday night, May 4, 1975. I was talking on the phone to Kenda, my sister-in-law, and I noticed my stomach getting really hard (a contraction, obviously...) However, I said to Kenda - Oh! the baby must have turned over because my stomach just got really hard! And then, having her born at 6:30 the next morning, & seeing the sun rise over the Provo temple - it was a beautiful experience. And now I look at her - 14 years later and she has become a beautiful young woman. So hard to believe. A lot has happened since that day -

I've noticed an increased maturity in Michelle - She's more obedient, less moody, more positive and cheerful. I attribute most of that to the fact that Rebecca has been her friend for a while. They have been getting along really well lately. I'm a little worried because she's been her friend for a while before, but then Rebecca "drops" her & messes around with other friends who think Michelle's weird. She's not weird! She's just spiritual, smart & talented, and pretty! She really is a pretty girl. I love her and pray that she will know of my love

May 28 1989

Well, Mike's been a bishop for over a year - I can't believe it. It's been hard for me & hard for him - but harder, I think, for me, because I have the pressures of fighting bawling kids & he gets the rewards of spiritual experiences, praise, the joy of seeing people repent & change. I'm not saying it's not hard for him - I just feel like he gets the work & the rewards, whereas I just get work. And loneliness. He had a meeting at 7:30 AM & got home at 7:45 pm tonight. I've been feeling very sorry for myself and resentful towards Mike for dumping everything on me. Last weekend I tended Judy's kids - Thurs to Mon & they were really good - but it was a lot of extra work & strain.

Mikes been really involved at work with the rate cases, so he's been working 12 hr days & he worked 8 hrs last Saturday. It's really hard for me to be cheerful and supportive, altho I feel like I really do try. Well, Judy's been taking these classes & learning about "Circles of Life" which are supposed to help you define your goals & subconsciously use the untapped part of your body's energy to be the kind of person you want to be. So we had a good talk & I wrote down about 6 pages of affirmations of what kind of person I want to be & what kind of behavior I want to have - such as more organized, loving, cheerful, grateful, understanding, happy, wonderful PERFECT AWSOME etc and I feel like it's already helped me to some extent to be more relaxed and accepting.

Mike got home at 7:45 & I grilled him a steak & he ate then talked on the phone several times during - Then our home teachers came, then he left for a meeting at 9:45. It's 10:51 & he just got home. Poor guy.

Yesterday we cleaned house & did a lot of honey do's - then I was out talking to Libby & Robin - & Libby suggested we have a cookout. So I ran to the store & everybody brought stuff & we had a nice cook out with Bagnells, Ericksons us, Pedersons, Murrays, Jones & Baxters. It was fun. Then Mike & I watched a movie. Today was ok - I didn't get all uptight & screamie.

I didn't write about Mother's Day. The Saturday night before, Michelle & Rebecca had a surprise dinner for us - lace, silver, china, candles. All the kids were dressed in their Sunday best & the boys were waiters etc. It was so cute. They had soup, salad, apple & grape champagne, POT PIES, strawberry pie. It was great. Then they sang & played the piano for us. They worked so hard & did such a good job. It was really sweet. The next day Rebecca decided she didn't like Michelle, I guess. She doesn't talk to her or anything. I don't understand & I feel sorry for Michelle.

June 4 1989 Sunday

Well, school is out & the summer is starting. I've been very apprehensive for quite a while, but I'm feeling pretty calm about it. I looked at my calendar & we're going to be so busy this summer - I doubt I'll have time to notice! Haha.

I haven't said anything about Morgan for a while. He is growing so fast & he's so cute! He's got 8 front teeth & 2 molars - upper. He jabbers a lot & says Hi! Whatsat? Ohh! Mama (but not much.) I don't know if he says daddy - I don't think so. But the other day, Mike lit a match & I thought Morgan said "Happy Birthday to You"! (Happ bir to you) He runs all over & loves to be chased & tickled. He loves to bounce on the bed & get away from me when I'm trying to change him after his bath. His favorite activity is playing in the toilet, no matter what's in there. He loves to throw things in the toilet, but he hasn't learned to flush yet. However, last week, after trying 3 different snakes, we pulled the toilet in the kid's bathroom & found 3 library cards & a toy rubber car. Gross. We did it! I'm proud of us, but Mike tightened the bolts too tight & cracked the tank & he had to go to the doctor cuz he hurt his hand - tendonitis & it was ok after a couple of days. It was funny though & I enjoy doing things like that rather than calling in someone to do it.

Yesterday we had a family picnic with Mike's family for his Dad & all the June birthdays. It was nice except Carrie brought up painting the van & his mom said they couldn't make us do it if I didn't want it which put me on the defensive so I said I did but Mike didn't - he came back & felt like we were all attacking him - I admit it was nice to be on his mom's side for once but he felt bad & took sides. So on the way home he practically yelled at me (He was just being (emphatic)! But I was trying to defend & justify myself & I turned around & the kids were wide eyed & gaping - Michelle was crying, & Talmage said to Mike - "How come you're bein mean to Mom?" They were all in shock. We talked about it & worked it out but I've decided I've got to stop taking offense at what she says - Mike says I take

it wrong. I don't think so, but it only hurts me + our relationship so I need to be more positive.

Tomorrow Jim going to outpatient surgery for arthroscopy on my right knee - it's been hurting + swollen ever since last July. I kept going to doctors + doctors + they all told me something different. Finally, before I had my tonsils out, I saw Dr. Unsicker (Great name) + he said if it doesn't improve in 6 weeks he'd scope it. Well, I slid down the stairs + it's been worse, so I went back + he said do you want to sign up? I said yes! So Jim scheduled for tomorrow at 11:30. I'll be so glad when it's done - I hope + pray they can fix it - so I can use it + not feel like an old grampa mckay. He does have to use general anesthesia which Jim not too excited about, but Jim sure it will go fine.

June 5 Knee Surgery

June 10 1989 Well, FHP called Monday morning at 7am and asked if I could be there by 9. I was glad to go in early. They started about 10 + I expected to drift out, but one minute I was looking around at the operating room, + "the next" I was in recovery, and the clock said 11:30. I felt like I was ready to go by 12 - surprisingly good. I had to talk to the dr + walk before I could go. Dr Unsicker said it was very interesting. That I had good, legitimate reasons for having pain.

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First of all, I had a "divet" or slice in the cartilage - & the bone was scraping. So he smoothed that out. Then, there was a small piece of cartilage floating around - pea size. So he felt like even though I will never have a 100% normal knee, it should be much better. He said "you must have really whacked it" but I sure can't think of anything. Anyway, my wonderful visiting teaches brought in 3 nights of dinners - it was great. By Thursday I was feeling pretty good, & even helped the kids clean the top 4 levels. Then I crashed. Friday, my knee felt better than it has in a long time - even tho its still quite swollen. We cleaned the basement, then I crashed. I'm really glad I did it - I can tell the inside feels better. And I think I'm walking with less of a limp.

June 18 Sunday Father's Day — Today was Father's Day - I feel bad I didn't do more for Mike or my Dad. I sent Dad a card, got Mike a book & card. I worked on the budget all morning & straightened up the house - then we went to Mike's Dad's church because Mike gave a surprise talk about fathers. It was so good. Then everybody (Rex & Shei & their families & his parents) came over for dinner. His Mom brought the dinner. We had a really nice visit.

My leg is doing really good - feeling better every day. We took the kids swimming yesterday & Morgan was scared to death at first but enjoyed it, I think, toward the end. I tried kicking a little but my knee is stiff & swollen. I bought a season pass for the bubble so we can all go as much as we want - so the kids have gone about 4 times this past week. Michelle has had 3 swim lessons & is doing really well. Brett's done pretty good too. Brett's been working this past week - picking ~~potatoes~~ onions, radishes & squash - he worked 3 - 8 hr days & (24 hrs) made $125. Poor kid comes home exhausted. He spent last week before in Idaho & we had a really nice week - everyone did their jobs & we didn't have hardly any fighting. Such a switch when he's around! He argues, is insolent, obnoxious & rude. He

is driving me crazy so I'd just about pay someone to take him off my hands!

July 2 1989 Well, a couple of weeks after the surgery, the 21st I guess, I was running Michelle & Brett around & I was hurrying. I came out of Price Savers & somehow slipped or something & I fell right on my knee & boy did that hurt! I stayed in bed all the next day & it was really painful but it's doing better - even tho it's painful & stiff.

Last week was girl's camp - at Lake Powell. I went with Mike on Thursday & we came home Saturday. It was WONDERFUL! It was so beautiful. They camped on a little bay - 12 ft across - you could jump in & swim around & be cooled off - then get out & sit around. I went out in the boats a lot - they had 3 - & watched the kids ski or try to ski. Larry & Cindy Hintze had a water wienie - a torpedo that 5 people sit on & they pull behind the boat. I went once on it & was so worried about my knee I didn't really enjoy it. Then we wiped out & either the impact of hitting the water or someone hit my back knocked the air right out of me & my back still hurts - but falling into the water was really strange - so silent & muffled - just like in the movies! Mike & a lot of the kids & other guys went cliff jumping. All the young women leaders & their husbands were there - Anita & Gordon Todd, Annette & Kim Wall, Cindy & Larry Hintze, Brenda Atkinson, Suzanne & Mike Evans, Marion & Mark Cullimore. They were all a riot & the girls really loved them.

Friday morning I got up at 5:45 & walked over to the next bay & sat for about an hour watching the sun come up & thinking, praying & meditating. The fish were jumping and the sun was rising on the buttes - it was so overpoweringly beautiful and peaceful. I was raised on mountain camping and my love for the mountains has always been with me, but with Lake Powell it was love at first sight. I feel that my horizons have been broadened and now I understand why people want boats - they can take them to places like that! It was wonderful!

July 7-10 1989 We had our Williams vacation at Lake Powell. We drove to Parowan & stayed at Richard's parents house on Thursday, then went on to Lake Powell on Friday. Michelle & I made - well, silkscreened, T shirts for everyone & even tho it was a PAIN it was fun for us & a good bonding experience. We had a lot of fun at the Lake. Richard's parents have a houseboat & speedboat & Carrie's brother Brad brought his boat. We had fun - everybody (kids) tried skiing & Brett did the best. At first Morgan was afraid of the water, but later liked it. He was so hot one day, he couldn't nap, so I put his life jacket on him & played in the water with him. He got so relaxed, he fell asleep & slept for about a half hour. It was so sweet! I wanted a picture of him. He was cute - he loved the sand & throwing rocks in the water. He slept whenever we went on the speedboat. We got to go see Rainbow Bridge. It was awesome! I loved the trip up the river through the narrow gorge. Absolutely Beautiful! Sunday, we had planned to have a sacrament meeting, but Rex & Carrie & Brad & Carol left because they had to get back & a storm came up so we had to move & spent most of the day moving & didn't find a good place till about 9:30 pm. So it was a strange day. Monday we came home & dropped Brett off at scout camp (1:30 pm) & Mike off at Sheri's in Orem. He'd left his car there & went back to scout camp the next day. On Mike cracked or bruised some ribs on the water wienie.

July 20-31 1989 I took the kids on Thursday & we went to S.F. & stayed with Kenda & Steve in their new house. Its beautiful! Mike came Friday for the wedding & reception then went home Sat & came back Wednesday & we went up to the Cabin. It was nice to be there alone before the big rush. Everybody but Judy came - she moved to LA in June when we were at girls camp. It was fun to be there & seemed more relaxed than usual. Mike went fishin 3 times & never caught a thing.

The sacrament meeting on Sunday was in the cabin with 43 people attending. It was very special to hear those I love most bear their testimonies and express their love for all of us. Families all great even if they drive you crazy sometimes! We relaxed the rest of Sunday & Monday cleaned up & came home. Tuesday I spent 2 hrs $9.00 at the laundromat!

July 6 1989 I gave another lesson in RS today - Im not sure if I've recorded it but I was called to be a Spiritual Living teacher in R.S. & I love it! I really wanted to do well on this lesson on Temple Worship - our ward has gone down 20% in the past year in temple attendance! I prayed & prayed & felt the material was good, but the presentation felt wooden & stilted. I really didn't feel like I had the Spirit & I really wanted & needed it. I know I need to prepare myself more spiritually by studying scriptures & praying more diligently.

Mike & Michelle are on Pioneer Trek & I wanted to go so bad. I drove up to take them & bawled all the way down! In fact, after I went to the introduction last Spring, I called to get my knee fixed so I could go. I really think I could have gone, but was afraid I'd be a burden. So hopefully in 3 years I can go! I miss them and am anxious to see them & hear their experiences. I know it was something Mike needed to do & Im hoping it will help bond him & Michelle. And I hope it helps cure her of complacency and negativeness!

Michelle is turning into a beautiful young woman. She is going to be gorgeous! If she can figure out the makeup, hair & clothes bit which I don't think I've ever quite got the hang of. And she's getting much easier to live with - really. I think she's trying harder to get along. It helps that she has friends with

Rebecca usually but it sure hurts her & me too, when Rebecca ignores her or turns to her other friends. One thing - when we were in Idaho Michelle re-met Rachels cute cute neighbor, Spencer. He was really nice to her - she went to a mutual party at Rigby Lake & Spencer asked her to swim across the lake, & Rachel ignored her, so he talked to her most the night. Michelle is not really boy crazy, but she kinda likes a boy and he doesn't like her. Anyway, Spencer would be ideal because he's gorgeous! and neat & cute & lives in Idaho! So he can just be an ego-boost to her.

Brett's been working off & on for Charlie Sangster, a farmer who employs teenagers at slave wages. On good days, he earns 50¢ - 75¢ an hour. He hates it and wants to quit, but I feel strongly that he should finish the job till school starts. So I even told him he couldn't play football if he didn't work & he said ok! So I know he hates it. He bawls & argues & pleads every morning and I feel sorry for him but I just don't think he should quit! He's been a real pain in the neck this summer but Mike must have had a good talk with him because he's been really helpful and considerate this weekend.

Aaron is such a boob! He bawls about everything! Especially Brett. And so Brett loves to bug him, then make fun of him for bawling. Aaron is, I hate to admit, very lazy & will do anything to get out of work. So I don't know what to do with him.

Matt has been really driving me crazy this summer, too. He screams & screames & it really drives me over the edge. He fights with Brett, Aaron or Talmage. Don't know!

Talmage is growing up and driving me crazy too. Stubborn little cuss. And get's away with murder that I'd never have allowed with the older kids. His cute tho, & I'm delighted he'll be going to school. Wish it was all day. He needs to make friends too - Austin 3, & Janelle 2, are his only friends.

Morgan is now going to nursery! Hallelilah! (I guess I oughta learn to spell it) He really won't be legal till next week, but I had to teach today. Apparently he did OK. And I loved it!!! Talk about a SPOILED little brat! Michelle calls him an S.B.A (Spoiled Brats of America.) But he's so cute. It was so hot yesterday - took the kids swimming & it felt so good. Morgan really enjoyed sitting or standing on the side & then I'd count 1 2 3 & he'd jump right in! He had fun.

July 7-9 Lake Powell

Aug 13 1989 Sunday

This morning has been unreal! (but normal!) This #6 child of mine is wearing me out! He woke up about 7:30 & I listened to him talk & play until about 8:00. When I went in to get him, he said "teeky?" & then held up his finger & said "whatsat?" Sure enough, he was stinky, as he had a bath. Mike watched him while I took a shower, & he unloaded the dirty clothes basket. & took him downstairs & fed him some oatmeal. When he finished I got him down & gave him some keys to play with. He loves keys! "Keytay" Anyway, he stuck the keys in an outlet & started screaming. I couldn't see a burn - I guess it just shocked him. He was playing with a truck so I went up to the bathroom, after putting a bar stool in front of the fridge so he couldn't get into the fridge. (He'd already taken some ice cream topping out.) When I came out of my bedroom, I shut the door & heard Morgan but couldn't find him. I opened my bedroom door & there was Morgan - covered with orange juice concentrate. He'd been sitting in my closet! So he had another bath. After his bath Michelle made him some toast & after he ate it I washed him off & set him climbed up on the barstool, opened the freezer & gotten out a ½ used can of OJ & brought it upstairs!

him down. I was reading the newspaper. A few minutes later, I looked up to see him with both hands in the raspberry jam. Of course it was all over his face and body. Mini-bath #4. I set him down & walked off. He walked into a puddle of water, slipped & fell on his head. The water was a result of him pouring a cup of water on the floor earlier. I picked him up, loved him, & went up to change another sticky diaper and put him to bed. It was 11:30 A.M. whew

Michelle & Mike had a wonderful experience on task. Mike said everytime he looked at Michelle she was working hard & laughing and joking & having a good time. They were both so dirty I couldn't believe it. I think it was an excellent experience for both of them. I wish I could have gone. We had a family Reunion Thomas & Lettie Nielsen & it was so fun. They had a fashion show of some of the things Grandma made

AUG 14 - Brett got braces

Sept 3 1989 Sunday, This has been the busiest summer I ever remember having. It's been a lot of fun, but school started this week and am I ever thankful! I got to go to Education week with Vicki, Linda, Kenda & Deanna - it was so wonderful! We stayed in Canyon Terrace apts & had a riot. We ate cold cereal for breakfast, & lunch & dinner on campus the classes were wonderful and it was great. I've been such a grouch since I've been back. I told Mike it's because it's like a prisoner who has escaped & felt of freedom and coming back, realizes whats ahead.

Sept 28 1989 Thurs I'm starting to feel a little better about myself & my kids - even tho they still are driving me crazy! Our teachers walked out last Friday & Monday so the kids & I went to Idaho for my friend Robbin's wedding open house. Brett stayed home to play football and made 3 TDs! He was so excited! Since then cleaning & stuff - just my usual EXCITING life!

Oct 8 1989 Sunday

One of my goals is to write in my journal weekly so here I am! Steve & Kenda came a week ago Friday, & Steve went home Sunday night & came back Fri morning. Kenda & the kids stayed & it worked out pretty good. I went shopping & to the temple with her, and on Saturday we took the kids to Lagoon. Dumb!! I was dead & I really don't like Lagoon! Today is my mon's 67th? birthday I called & talked to her Kenda & I bought her a slo cooker. I went to get mine & Michelle's eyes checked Mon afternoon, and I had a blowout on the van I pulled over & didn't know what to do - but after about 10 min a guy stopped and helped me - it was so scarry. He was young and scuzzy looking old broken down car. But he was nice and said he'd been trying to get a job for 3 months so he could get home to Minnesota & so I was so grateful, I gave him all I had 15 and wished I could have helped him more. Was scarry tho.

Today I gave a lesson on Pondering & it was ok. I loved studying for it, but I never feel like it was good enuf. Oh well! I'm so tired I can't keep my eyes open

Oct 15 1989

The kids were out of school for UEA Thursday & Friday so I felt this week was really shot. Nothing too exciting happened except US WEST (Mike's company) has won a bid on a big job in ... HONG KONG!! So he's sent in his resume and application and his boss, his boss' boss, and his boss' bosse's boss, Mac Lawarence are all behind him and helping him out. We are getting so excited about the possibilities. At first I said NO WAY and the kids about had a fit. Michelle is the most negative Bretts next & the others are ok. So we've asked them to pray about it so they can accept whatever we decide. We already sold or given away everything in the house! mentally My parents stayed here last night and it was fun to visit with them. Tonite we went to Ogden W/O kids & had a nice short visit with them.

Oct 22 1989 Sunday

Friday after school I was talking to Brett about school & his new girlfriend - he's never really talked to her but she's looked at him and a friend of hers told a friend of his that she likes him! Anyway, as we were talking, I noticed some writing on his hand. I don't like my kids to write on themselves, so I looked at it - it was a bunch of dates viz: V 1693 - 1758 etc so I was immediately suspicious. I asked him if he cheated & he said no. I felt really uncomfortable with that, so continued the interrogation and he admitted it. He'd looked at it during a music test for the composer's dates! I can't believe Brett would feel the need to cheat. I was just sick. So we jumped in the van & ran over there - but everybody was gone. So he has to go alone & confess to his teacher tomorrow. I feel so bad about it, and I think he does. He seems to - I hope he's sincere.

Yesterday I took Brett up to the U of U to be part of a study. This lady in our ward is participating in for her thesis or something. They wired Brett up to a polygraph and had him do some tasks - games, really. Then they took me in another room and asked me questions about Brett. As I told her, sometimes I get so upset with Brett because he's being such a snot to me, but after going thru an interview like that, I realize what a good kid he is. She asked me things like "has he be involved in more than one fight with a weapon?" "Has he run away from home overnight?" "Has he been cruel to animals?" "Has he sexually molested or involved anyone?" "Is he constantly worried about things ...?" "Has he been afraid of the dark - animals - noises - etc." Really strange questions, but it helped me realize what a good kid he is. After the test, they commented he had done extremely well. Then one of the psycologists talked to me and said he'd done an IQ test and that Brett is a very bright boy. He wanted to make sure I realized that and that he should be in gifted classes so he doesn't get bored with school. He said often these kids have a so-what? attitude so it's important to challenge them. He said he tested between 135-155, so about 145, which is quite high. (In high school a friend told me he saw my records in

the Counselor's office, and I had an Ia of 145-) Not that it helped me at all in being a good Mother or Housekeeper! This poor house looks like a wreck! Nails are popping out of ceilings all the corners are chipped, there are dents & chips & holes all over the place the entry ceiling is stained from the water problem last year. The carpet which I had cleaned the end of August, looks matted and worn, the linoleum in the entry has separated at the seam, the front step is cracking again, the driveway is pitted and it's boring because I don't have ANY thing on the walls & the furniture is ugly & doesn't match - the stove & counters are chipped, the linoleum is ripped or gouged We need to do some work on this place! The banister is coming out of the wall - what else? We did stain the deck & put in a drainage system!

I don't mean to complain, I just get so overwhelmed! And I really don't enjoy cleaning & repairing things - although I know it needs to be done. I guess I depend on Mike to much, & he doesn't have time to do anything! We all caught colds this past week - it was a lot of fun. Mike called Denver re: Hong Kong, but they said they won't even know what they'll need for another month.

Oct 29 1989 Sunday Nothing much happened this week - I started cleaning out closets and getting rid of stuff by the bag full & keep thinking if we're going to leave, we need to get rid of it & if we're not we need to get rid of it! I feel like yes, we need to get ready, and Mike's had some strong feelings that we'll go to Hong Kong, but overall, I can't really believe we'll do it. Michelle is so down on it.

Friday night was Road Shows - Mike Michelle & Brett were in ours - ours was the best - really! Mike wore a hero outfit I made him & looked so cute he wore Brett's shoulder pads & if he would have had blue eyeshadow he would've looked even more "macho"! He looked great & did a great job. Michelle and Brett did a super job too - Michelle really has stage presence or something. Several people commented on what a good job she did. Lately we've been working

on showing more love in our home and being humble and it seems to be going better. Brett & Aaron have even gotten along sometimes! Brett is starting to grow up a little and be disgusted at some of the things Aaron & Matt do that are in imitation of him! He seems more concerned about my feelings. He sure is a cute boy! Even with braces! Especially when he smiles - which isn't often enough.

Sundays are a really hard day for me & today was no exception. Matthew was such a terrible brat - screaming, yelling, bawling, & I know the poor kid just wants to be loved, & get it's so hard to love him when all his prickles are sticking out! By the time Mike got home I was ready to hand them over, & I did, but he didn't appreciate it at all, having been at church for 12 hours. So I need to not burden him more, but they're his kids too!!

I didn't go to church today because Morgan's been sick - just a low grade fever, fussy & cough since Thursday night, I think. He clung to me all day except when he slept for 3½ hours. Lovely peace!

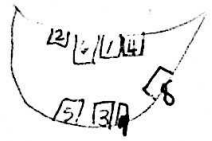
Well, I guess this ends my journal of the last 8 years almost exactly! - Matt was 9 mo old - he's now a cub scout and feisty as ever. Morgan is growing daily & talking so much. He's 20 mo old & wears 3T clothes & size 7½ shoes. He's really into everything & loves to suck toothpaste. He's not a great eater, but loves to get into the fridge & test everything. He says "where'd it go?" & "What's at?" & "Go! Go!" for you to move & "go byebye!" and LOTS of other things. He stuck his fingers up his nose & pulled it out & said "Boos!" He wrinkles up his nose & says "stinky" when he is. He's a joy & delight, and a headache rolled into one. I love him

July 1993- Morgan was writing letters on a box, and I said "Morgan, what does that say?" He replied, "I don't know! I can't read!!"

One day, while chasing Morgan up the stairs, Talmage said, "Morgan, I can see your underwear!" To which Morgan replied, "Ha, Ha, Ha, it's YOUR underwear!!" (He'd borrowed from Talmage.)

Not long after, I had to take Morgan to the doctor for his pre-kindergarten physical. While rushing around to get ready, I said "Run upstairs and put on clean underwear!" ~~[illegible]~~ When we were at the doctor's, I discovered he had put on clean underwear - right on top of his dirty ones!

Nick's teeth



1- Dec 2, 1993
2- Dec 13, 1993
3- Jan 1, 1994
4- Jan 2, 1994
5- Jan 4 1994
6- Jan 8 1994
7- May 10 1994
8- May 18 1994



Joyce Marie Williams
November 5, 1989 -
April 5 1999

Deseret Book Company
Salt Lake City, Utah

November 5, 1989

Today was the best Sunday we had in a LONG time. I had decided last night I really need to love my kids more and be more patient and loving and understanding. So this morning I went to choir practice, and when I came home, Michelle was in bed, all the boys were watching TV and so I made them get ready, but I didn't come unglued. Michelle apologized for not getting up and I didn't berate her - and she was quite pleasant today! She helped me in sacrament meeting and during classes I was teaching & so was Mike, so they got Michelle out of Mutual & Change Morgan. I cut her hair a little this morning and she looked really cute - she thinks she's ugly but I think she needs reassurance. Don't we all? My class today was on spiritual gifts - I think it turned out pretty good.

January, 1990

I cannot believe we've gone almost 3 months without writing. We decided we hadn't had Thanksgiving with Mike's family for years, so we had it at Sheri's new house & it was great. We left soon after the dinner went to Idaho for the weekend, so we got to spend time up there too.

Christmas was nice - we had a lovely dinner party at Mike's parent's house. We went with Sheri on a bathrobe for her & shirt & wood plane for him. We gave Carrie a gift certificate (it's what she really wanted!) and Ref his name carved in oak. We gave the kids "Life" game. Sheri & Richard gave us a brass wood (log) holder & a popcorn popper for use in the fireplace. They gave the kids puzzles. Mikes parents gave us a glass light fixture for the entry & a fixture for the office. Also Mike a shirt and me a tablecloth.

Every year I swear I'm not going to overspend but I did again this year. I bought Mike some cassette tapes & a book - then he mentioned he'd seen a little TV at Radio Shack - so I bought it for him! He kept saying how neat it would be, but he knew I'd never buy something like that.

so mostly it turned into a big joke. Boy was he surprised when he opened it! He has really had fun with it. It's the size of a transistor radio, & the screen is 2" square. It's really amazing. He gave me some leather dressy gloves - I love 'em' and some shoes & awful gold towels. The towels are nice but the color made me want to throw up. (So I exchanged them) We bought Michelle two really pretty dresses ($115 - 7CM1) & she looks lovely in them. She had some concerts - choir - before Christmas, so we let her have one before then & surprised her with the other one. She also got a boombox - portable stereo. Brett got a walkman, football & basketball; Aaron got a Nintendo game & a basketball; Matt got a wooden horse barn & walkie talkies; Jamage got a store beepee (play cash register) & various toys. Morgan got trucks & cars. It was a nice Christmas & I was so worried about getting stressed out that I didn't even start shopping till after Christmas & I did almost all of it in 3 or 4 trips. I decided it wasn't worth the stress to run all over town to save $2. It really helped. Mike even went with me once or twice to Price Savers & we got quite a bit then. We gave neighbors little date loaves - they were yummy. I think I made 40! We went to Idaho Christmas night & stayed 2 days. We got to be at the Christmas party & it was fun. Mom & Dad gave us a ham and 25 lbs of Br sugar and pd sugar. The kids got various small toys & stuff. We went in with Steve & Linda & bought Mom & Dad a Hansen Classic Statue. We gave Colleen & Jim 4 folding chairs & some Book of Mormon tapes; Sandy gave us some silk plants, dried apples, canned apple pie & red raspberry topping & "Castle Risk" a game that we've really enjoyed. It was fun & crazy.

Oh - one of Michelle's performances at Christmas was at the visitors center & assembly hall on temple square - she got to accompany & it was so neat. She did a great job!

New Year's Eve we went to Sheri's & ate & talked & played games. Mikes parents came & we had a nice time. We stayed till 3 a.m! Michelle Brett & Aaron had stayed in Idaho so we only had the 3 little ones. It was so calm & quiet for that week - I loved it!

The 29th of December Tara Erickson married Derek Bass & I got to go to the wedding. Elder H Burke Peterson married them & it was lovely. So was the reception. The kids came home New Years Day & everything was then normal (& crazy).

January 25, 1990 Matthews 9th Birthday

Matthew George Williams - at 9 he is the same as he always has been, only more so. This year has been a swing back to his screaming, hysterical rebellious outbursts. I hope it swings the other way soon, although there are minor swings now and then. He's not as cheerful as he was for a while, & he tends to dawdle more & try to get out of things. Maybe it's his age. He used to be neat and organized but now he just piles things & shoves them wherever they'll go. He doesn't really like scouts that much - I don't think his leader has figured out quite what she's doing yet. He did earn his wolf & 4 arrows at pack meeting on his birthday. (Barely.)

Matthew really likes school. His teacher just adores him & thinks he's as close to perfect as is possible. "A perfect bishop's son" she said. (Ha Ha) His teacher never see his other side - just like Brett! But he is really smart - it never ceases to amaze me how smart all my kids are! So he does well in school & enjoys it. His best friend is Andy Bingham & they get along really well. His greatest love is HORSES! There's some people by the school who have horses & he goes down & sometimes they

let him groom & ride them. Then he's in horse heaven! He keeps telling us he wants a horse - I remember feeling the same when I was his age - & so does Mike! So I bought him 4 play horses & a horse poster for his room. Also a shirt & fanny pack and game. We went to Peter Piper Pizza for dinner, then Pack meeting. I think he had a nice birthday. I really do love him & realize that the more love & personal attention he gets, the nicer he is. And so it is with all my children.

Saturday, January 27, 1990 Federation

Michelle & Brett played in Federation today - 2 solos & 2 duets each & they did a great job. They got superiors on everything! Aaron turned their pages, so the 5 of us went to Sizzler for lunch - it was so fun! Michelle & Aaron had never been there. They all got steak & shrimp. I had salad bar & stuffed myself! Then we came home & rested for a half hour, then Mike & I drove to Idaho, had dinner with the family, & drove home! The weather on the way up was perfect - it snowed most the way home & was tense. But we had a nice, uninterrupted talk & enjoyed Chinese dinner with Mom & Dad, Dee & Linda, Colleen & Lew, Vicki & Lon & Steve & Kenda. Mom gave everybody - girls - their birthday presents - pjs - & it was a lot of fun. So we got home at 1:15 & we were bushed! Morgan seemed to have a fever & cough so Morgan & I stayed home from Church & slept. It was great.

The last couple of weeks, I've been feeling really down & depressed; the talk with Mike helped & things are starting to look up, I think. He told me again - I need to get my scriptures, prayer & exercising going again & that will help me more than anything. But I just want to sleep! Or read. I've gained 5 lbs this month & am up to 167 again. I really want to lose weight but I don't want to diet! Ha-Ha.

February 2, 1990

Tonight Mike and I were getting ready to go out when Talmage fell down the stairs, hit his head on the sharp edge of the banisters & cut it really deep. Blood was running down his face-it was gross. We stopped the bleeding (I was very calm - Mike was impressed!) Dr Sam Wilson, our new doctor I had never met, was on duty & we really liked him - he did a good job. Talmage was so good - very calm & solemn. He cried when we told him we were taking him to the hospital - I don't want to get stitches! Then while we were waiting he said, "I wish we had stitches at our house." I said why? "Cuz then we wouldn't have to come here! They gave him a sucker & he was delighted. It was a very deep cut - right to the bone. We watched him lift it like a piece of sod & look under it - gory but interesting. He did 3 layers of stitches - fortunately the cut is back in his hair where it won't show. I brought him home & showered him & washed his hair really well - there was so much dried blood! He was such a cute little trooper & seems to be doing fine. Mike promised him his own "blizzard" (shake) & he was so excited that it was going to be "only him - nobody else" as he was to get a blizzard.

As I think about it, we've really been blessed with health & not a lot of accidents. Brett's had stitches in his forehead and chin, & a broken leg, also he burned his foot on the radiator; Matt's had tubes in his ears; that popcorn incident, & he cut his head on the merry go round but they just taped it - I think this is Talmages first emergency - can't think of any for the other 3 - thank goodness!

February 12, 1990

Morgan's 2nd Birthday!

What a sweet little angel we have living with us! I hasten to add this sweet little boy is about as spoiled and feisty as they come, but he is so darling! Morgan is starting to say everything - quite a little myna-bird. And Matthew is his personal slave. (As we all are!) I heard him the other morning, while he was still in his crib, yelling, "Matt!"... "Matt!"... "Hey You!" Then, often, at night, he'll be in bed & he'll say "Matt!... Drink!" And Matt will cheerfully get up and get him a drink. He's so cute with him. One thing the kids taught him, & he's done it for probably 6 months, is they say "Gimme 5!" & he slaps their hand & says "Alwright!" One day he was sad & crying & one of the kids said "Gimme 5" and he did it - interrupting his sobs to say "Gawright!" It was so cute. He has climbed out of his crib several times, & when I put him in & he's mad, he swings one leg over & straddles the side bar, but then I put him back & cover him up. He loves the stretchy knit blanket my mom made for him & the quilt she made him. We have a bedtime ritual where I wrap him up with his blankets - he used to say baybe - baby - & I'd have to put the blanket over his head & around his face. (I guess because his baby towels have a hood & I've always put that on & cuddled him after his bath & said "Oh, this is my little baby.") Then he says "BYE." and I sing "Bye-oh, Bye oh Bye, oh Bye oh Bye, oh Bye oh Bye." Then he says "K-bye" & I sing "Rock-a-bye Baby, on the tree tops" & then he says "A & I" & I sing "as I have loved you..." & he says "BYE" & so on - & laughs with glee whenever I change. I guess he's delighted he has such power! Then after a while he says "ni-night" & I put him down & cover him & he cheerfully goes to sleep! Sometimes I don't sing & just put him in bed & he cries & gets this sad look & says "Baby, Baby, Bye!" so I melt and pick him up & sing. It's neat.

He's really a little character, though! He loves to get into the fridge - he's dumped a dozen eggs on the floor & lots of other

fun things. One day I cleverly put a chair in front of the fridge door, & he got stuff out of the freezer. He loves to drink from the sugar bowl. He's written on my living room wall with magic marker, on my bedroom wall & drapes with reg markers, on the family room & laundry room with pencil; on his bedroom walls with a colorful variety of crayons! His latest addiction is flushing toilets, but he doesn't usually put things in. (I hope.) He used to put things in all the time - like our toothbrushes. I went through about a dozen! Once we pulled the toilet in the kids bathroom & found 3 library cards & a toy rubber car. (And the toilet has leaked ever since!) Once, my neighbor, Joyce Erickson, was watching him during his nap, & when she checked on him he was still asleep. 5 minutes later, she went in & he was writing on the walls with an old eye-brow pencil he had found somewhere! He's so sweet & cute & has the cutest little face. He says "tinky" & wrinkles up his nose so cute! He is usually very uncooperative about getting dressed & think it is great fun to run away from me. He knows he's not it made if he can get to the stairs, turn around & slide on his belly feet-first. He can get down those stairs in 2 seconds! He & Talmage like to race down that way.

For his birthday, we bought him a "cozy-coupe" - a little red car with a yellow top. It is so cute & he LOVES it. He especially likes to ride it outside.

Mike says, "oh its been so fun to have this little spark of joy in our lives - let's have another!" (He's such a funny guy) But Morgan really has been a delightful, joyful baby & he does have his little temper tantrums, but he's a cute, mischevious, fun little guy & were really grateful he's part of our family. We all love him to bits. (My parents even commented on how good Brett is with Morgan - really loving and tender!) They're all great kids.

February 25, 1990

Brett is now an official teenager! He is growing so tall - he's nearly as tall as I am! He is a darling boy! I can tell he is maturing tho - he thinks he's really hot stuff! If you ask him, he says he's really an awesome dude!

He loves junior high, he loves riding the bus, he loves being Mr Kool! He loves girls, he loves nintendo, he loves football. He does NOT! love piano lessons or practicing, work or work or work. He still thinks he's a slave & works only because we enjoy seeing him suffer. He loves the radio & tv; he thinks I'm extremely mean because I don't let him watch tv much. (My rule is no tv on school nights. They hate it, but I love it because I really feel like most the shows are either mindless dither or obscene.) Anyway, Brett is growing up & I can tell sometimes he's trying to be nice, but usually he argues & fights with me or anybody else. I always vow that I won't let him make me mad & I end up just gritting my teeth with my stomach tied up in knots! He can be so insolent and obnoxious & rude. However, I'm afraid I've gotten into a bad habit in our relationship of demanding & being mean & over bearing when I should just ask nicely and follow through. His grades have really dropped off - B's & C's - I think he just doesn't want anybody to know he's smart! I'm afraid there's a lot of peer pressure on him to be cool - fortunately the guys he runs around with are cool good guys - no smoking etc - but I shudder to think - what if they did? He's so concerned about his hair, clothes etc. He's embarrased about the van. He wants to ski. There's so many snobby things about him I worry (He wouldn't be caught dead in DI!) I bought him a shirt, 2 shorts, & a pair of shoes ($50)!! & I about died, but he was excited. It's hard for me to spend that kind of money on shoes. But he said Mom I don't swear, drink or smoke & I never will!" So I said "I guess that's what's really important!" I was reading out of my journal when he was little that he needed more love & attention & I read that to him & he said "Ya, just like now!"

Dad: Brett's extremely sensitive to peer perceptions, athletic, intelligent, enjoys the art, art especially cooking, cool, picky about clothes, wants deeply to do what's right, but struggles

* wants to be a DR or DDS!! (money I think)

March 12, 1990

Well, a lot has happened. About 3 weeks ago, I took the kids to Idaho to go to my niece, Holly's wedding. It was sad. Steve married them but they're going to have a hard life. Anyway while I was there, Mike got a letter from Tom Morrow, general manager of telecommunications division, Hong Kong Cable Communications. He had received Mike's resume from Laird Walker, who had received it from Mack Lawrence. Last October, we'd read about this company (US West International) forming & they won a bid for this big job in Hong Kong. Anyway, Mike sent his resume in & called & asked but nobody seemed to know anything. So in Jan or Feb, Mike went to Mack & asked if he'd do something, so Mack sent the resume to Laird. (Laird's brother John was in our ward before it split & his wife Kathy walks with us) Anyway, Tom was impressed with it & made an appointment with him to meet in Denver last week. Mike went & talked to him for several hours. He came home with quite a positive feeling and an unofficial offer - it has to be approved by the board of HKCC next Thursday. We are so excited and sitting on pins & needles. He said the company will buy our house (or pay us 5% of the sale price if we sell it - about $6,000!) They'll pay our kids schooling ($8,000/year each), and rent $6,000/mo, a car & major appliances, & they'll fly us home once a year for a month! It all sounds so exciting and thrilling! We took the kids to a nice Chinese restaurant & they really enjoyed it. On Thursday night, Mike asked all the kids if they'd support his decision & they all said **Yes**. We've been very pleased at how well they're taking it. Of all the kids, I think Brett is the most excited! (I think it's because I told him he wouldn't have to take piano) Michelle is being amazingly positive, too, & I'm really grateful for that. We've told all our families & they're all just thrilled (and jealous!) I'm dying to tell my friends here, but I've been really good and haven't even told Joyce! It kind of worries

me, because it sounds too good to be true, I usually think if it sounds too good to be true - it is! So I'll feel a lot better when I find out for sure!! I've started thinking "What will I do with ... my house, cars, junk, washer & dryer (I just bought it in January & it isn't even paid for!!) I called Sandy to see if she'd like to buy my van & washer & dryer, then Vaughn could drive it home! I also said she could have my waterbed. Rey wants to buy the lawnmower; anyway, I'm thinking of everything! I'm excited.

March 15, 1990 Talmages 6th Birthday!

Talmage Don is six years old today. He is quite a character. Last Saturday, he walked to Albertsons with 2 little friends. They took some money from Jessica's mom & bought candy with it. They were walking home when Joyce Erickson saw them & brought them home. We were calling & looking everywhere but had no idea they'd head that way. Talmage is very brave - & smart! He'll go anywhere - a couple of weeks ago I let him play at a friend's on main street. The next evening he walked over there! Dad says "he's happy-go-lucky, do anything to get out of work, likes to be close to you, likes time with Mom & Dad, a little mischievous, intelligent, analytical, keen sense of fairness in his own little way, somewhat shy."

Talmage really likes school, but he's very quiet & shy. (Hard to believe!) His teacher says he doesn't dare risk - what? making a mistake, I guess. He's doing super on his sounds & basic reading - he loves words & letters & rhymes. His best friend is Eb Madson - they get along great - Eb is who he went to the store with. He still plays with Justin, but not as much - I'm glad. Talmages job is emptying the garbages. He "HATES emptying garbages!"

he says that every day & we both got really tired of it. I think I'll have to make him do it before breakfast. He doesn't ask as many why questions as he used to, but he asks a lot of questions about other things. Brett was scrambing eggs & Talmage didn't get any. He said "I want some of those eggs!" "What kind of eggs?" "I don't remember their first name!" He's really a crack up. I bought him a video, "Land Before Time" & a book, then took him to the toy store & he chose a G.I. Joe guy & jeep, some color racers, a boat & some Balloons. We went to Hardee's for dinner & watched his video. He thinks he's really a BIG BOY because he's 6! He's a cuties & we love him.

We were supposed to hear from Hong Kong yesterday but Tom didn't call, so Mike called him today. Unfortunately, the board is not sure it wants to go ahead with the whole business plan - & if they don't, Tom Morrow said he'd cut his losses, and the 4 of them currently in HK from US West would come back home! The board members (in Belgium, HK & US) wanted more time - they're investors NOT Telecommunicators! So they're a bit apprehensive. Tom told them if he didn't get a YES before the 29th, he was leaving. So hopefully we'll hear by the 29th. I want to get this YES or NO! But Tom also said they'll still need 1 man there from US West, & it'd be a good possibility for Mike! So will see.

March 18, 1990 Mike's 38th Birthday

Today was Mike's birthday and our Stake Conference. Mike sang & Michelle accompanied him "O Divine Redeemer." It was beautiful & they both did a wonderful job. I sang last night with a RS chorus & that was really nice too. Mike's family all came over for cake & ice cream. We had a nice visit. He gave his mom a

family picture we had taken Feb 27. Michelle & I went to a beauty salon & had a makeover. They did our makeup & hair - it was a lot of fun. Michelle looks gorgeous! They cut her hair about ear-length & she just looks wonderful! I bought a bunch of makeup - happy birthday to both of us!!

March 25, 1990

Today Sheldon Poon came & spoke in our sacrament meeting about China & Hong Kong & the gospel. It was good, & so fun to talk to him! We're sure excited to go - we really feel like we will - but sometimes things turn out different than you might expect. Who knows? I sure would like to! (Bro Poon knew Mike on his mission, & we bought my diamond & his ring from him.)

Friday morning, Mack Lawrence, head of US West in Utah was on a radio program on KSL, & he mentioned that one of US West's top employees, who had engineering & MBA degrees, & who went on a mission to HK & spoke the language, was being considered for a job there. Friday night, we were at Kim Walls' cabin with a bunch of youth & leaders & Kim mentioned he'd heard something about it & started asking Mike questions. We were dying! But Mike stayed real cool. Kim either realized the potential & backed off, or really didn't know what he was saying, so he kind of let it drop. Close Call!

Thursday, March 29, 1990

Mike got a fax at work today - Tom Morrow wrote telling him The Deal is off! Due to government problems & permission - etc etc - they're cutting their losses & coming home! So "thanks anyway!" Shoot! I felt kinda sad all day, but the kids are glad, even though they have mixed feelings too!!

April 1, 1990

35 years old

What a nice weekend! Friday, Mike took the day off & we went to Manti and attended 3 sessions of the temple. Then we stayed at a Bed & Breakfast - The Mansion House. It was really cute. We had a wonderful breakfast, then came to Provo. We watched Saturday morning conference in the step down lounge, then ate at the Cougar eat & went to the bookstore. We checked into the Royal Inn here in Provo & watched afternoon conf, then went to Price Savers. Mike went to Priesthood and I went grocery shopping & to Pic n Save. I sure miss Judy. Anyway, then we went out to dinner. Today we ate in our room, watched Conference, & went for a walk on campus. So many beautiful memories! We did a lot of talking and planning about our family - Many of the talks in Conference were about better family relationships thats my major concern right now. I really want to improve myself - personally (I really want to go back to school) as a wife (more supportive etc) as a mother (nice, loving, understanding) housewife (organized, clean, neat, tidy - in short, PERFECT!! Should be easy, now that I'm the ripe old age of 35!

April 8, 1990 - Well, it's been kind of hard for me to get back into the groove of things, and besides, the weather has been so absolutely beautiful that when Morgan escapes outside, it seems a crime to make him come back in. So I've spent a lot of time outside. I read A Mormon Mother by Annie Clark Tanner - her autobiography as a poly-gamist wife. Very enlightening and sad. But good. I also read "The Bishop's Horserack" - a pretty good Pioneer Mormon book-fiction. Wednesday nite was RS & we saw a video on gardening called "Yardening" by Jeff Ball - really good - made me want to garden, but I need Mike to see it. Thursday pm was Michelle's choir concert & it was really good. She's so pretty. Saturday I went to Weight Watchers! I weigh 171½ Yuk. My goal range is 122-143. They set the exact goal later. I've had it Mike said I'm as broad as my mom help! I think - 145 would be great & now I think Mom should go, too! Mike & I went to a movie "Hunt for Red October" it was Really good. Matt's sick & has a fever & swollen glands.

April 15, 1990 Easter

This has been a busy week. I took Matt to the doctor & he had tonsilitis - no strep. This was my first doctor visit, & talk about sticker shock! $45. He's feeling much better now. I worked at the welfare cannery on Tuesday & enjoyed that. Wednesday a.m. Mike & I went to the temple - they've revised the ceremony & it was neat, (as usual.) But they just began doing the new one Tuesday, so they were all still learning. Thursday, Vicki came with her kids & we had a nice visit. The sister missionaries came over for dinner. Oh! Wednesday night I went to weight watchers & I'd lost 5½ lbs!! I've really enjoyed the diet & Mike's proud of me because I fix for them what I eat - & we eat on time! So the meals are better, too. I did eat 4 easter eggs, but that's about all I've done wrong.

Friday, Vicki & I went to the temple, then we took the older kids shopping - bought Brett some t shirts & Michelle a dress & Morgan a little sailor suit. We were DEAD. Sat Vicki & I went to DI & had fun there - I spent 20! Oh, we had 5 checks bounce! One was our taxes for IRS, one was tithing! Embarrassing!!! We can't figure out how we can be so dep! Vicki left Sat afternoon & her car broke down by Dirks Creek & some guy towed them to Downey, where Uncle Hal fixed their car, so it was a pretty scarry trip. So I'll bet Ron doesn't let them come again!

Today is Easter. I'm preparing a lesson on the atonement & I've never been so touched by the meaning of ↗ in my own life, & how I've always taken it for granted. I don't think I understand it, still, & I'm concerned that hardly anybody seems to comprehend. So I really am going to study it so I understand it.

April 22, 1990

Not a lot has happened this week - I spent a couple of days working out in the yard. I weeded the front & side & part of the back. Mike put up the kids basketball standard yea! We've had it a year now - our neighbors gave it to us. I read "Christy" this week & it was really good. Thursday night we went to the Marriott for an awards presentation for US West by S.L. Chamber of Commerce. It was so good & I hardly ate anything all day so I could be legal. Then Saturday night we went to dinner & "Driving Miss Daisy." I loved it. It was my kind of show! I did eat a little candy & probably too much bread, but I have done pretty good, I think. I got down to 159 on the scales yesterday am after my shower. First time I've seen that since I had my tonsils out! I don't really know why, but I was just a witch to my kids yesterday especially & somewhat today. I've been feeling "(I hate kids!!)" and I haven't felt that for quite a while. In fact, I thought the other day, how much easier my life would be if I only had 1 or 2 kids - then it ~~would~~ hit me, yes, it would be easier, but I wouldn't have grown or learned as much. And then I thought - but what have I learned? I still am complaining & unhappy & sorry for myself. So I've been given the great chance to learn and grow & I refuse to learn the lesson. I guess I was a bit upset yesterday because Mike went to work until 330. I get tired of being home alone with the kids all the time & being responsible for everything. So I guess I took it out on my kids. Poor things. I've got a slight sore throat so I took a long nap & I dreamed I was in a stationwagon Michelle was driving fast up a hill & the tailgate was open. The lawn mower was back there & I was screaming at her to stop & she was just going & not listening to me. Then we were running all over the VA hospital back & forth, up & down trying to get Michelle a physical exam. I was so frustrated! Anyway, I read dream. Frustration seems to be my biggest problem.

April 29, 1990

Aaron Spencer Williams 11th birthday

I think Aaron had a fun birthday. After school, I took him shopping and with his birthday money he got some sports and 7 Ninja Turtles. What a rip-off - it's the latest fad. We took all the kids, plus a couple of friends, to see "Mutant Teenage Ninja Turtles" at the show house. It was pretty dumb, but the kids loved it and we all had a good time. Then after that, we grilled steaks for dinner. It was a fun night.

Aaron is still Aaron. He's still cheerful & loving, but if there's any work to be done, he tries to wiggle out of it. Last week he told me his state report had been due that day! He's known about it since January. So he stayed up till 1:30 doing it - I hope he learned something from it - to not procrastinate! I think his teacher has just kind of given up on him. His other problem is that he whines & bawls & everyone seems to enjoy bugging him. I worry about that & hope he can learn to toughen up a bit.

His best friend is Brady Bangerter, although he doesn't do a lot of playing after school. He got to play basketball this season & he really enjoyed that - his team did quite well. Since Mike got the basketball standard up, he plays a lot out there - I love to see him & Brett playing together so well. He is a smart, cute, sensitive boy & I love him to pieces. We're proud of him & how he's growing up.

Something has happened to Morgan in the last couple of weeks - he won't take naps! He spits & bits and screams and bites! It breaks my heart because he's been such an angel. I realize this is what all 2 year olds are like, but I guess I figured since he's my baby, he wouldn't be like that! Such is life.

April 26-29

Washington

Mom & Dad took Vaughn home from BYU because Sandy & Ryan's car doesn't work. They asked me to go with them, & I was more than happy to get out of here! My bad mood-depression - whatever, has lingered & I've been really feeling low lately. Mike & I haven't been very close - he's been annoying me for some reason. I've decided that I can give & give & give & give and then I've nothing left to give, so I start resenting everything I'm demanded to do. Which is all very confusing for Mike, since he hasn't done anything different - just me. I think I cushion & soften & support him so much that when I refuse to do so, it hurts & confuses him. Then he gets resentful & upset & feels that I'm judging him, which he hates more than anything! So it's pretty confusing & frustrating over all for both of us. So anyway, I felt like I needed to get away, & I felt like maybe they'd all appreciate me a little more if I left for a few days. So I took Morgan & went Thursday morning & came home Sunday night. I'm very glad I went - it was good for me. The last time I went to Sandy's was 15 years ago - she's still in the same old, cheap small house - it's a dump. I could tell she was glad to see us but ashamed of her house. I wanted to bawl. It's poorly built, small, messy, dirty, moldy. It was fun to visit with her & her kids are so sweet & smart & cute it's amazing! But I think she's got a good attitude & is doing the best she can - I really admire her for that. So it helped me appreciate all the nice "things" I have. The kids all told me they missed me & Mike did, too, but it still feels a bit distant - I don't quite know what to do.

May 5, 1990

Michelle Marie's 15th Birthday

The last of the birthdays this year - hooray! I can't believe my daughter is 15 - that's it's been that long! I woke up this morning & re-lived her labor & delivery - what a joyful experience that was for all of us. (Too bad they all got progressively worse!)

Anyway, Michelle has really blossomed this past year. In February, she got her braces off & she had a make up lesson & hair cut & she just looks gorgeous! She has basically gotten over her shyness & is usually pretty easy to get along with. I feel that our relationship is pretty good. I really think she's a very beautiful, gifted, smart, talented, sensitive spiritual young woman. She was recently called to be co-ward organist with her best friend, Becca Weyment. She played for the first time last week & I was gone, but I heard she did a great job. She's a counselor in her Mia-Maid class, she sings in the school choir & is really enjoying 9th grade. She's looking forward to being in high school next year. Her biggest concerns are lack of friends (although I think she's doing fine there, but more specifically, BOYS. She is afraid she'll never get married because boys don't like her! Oh my heck! They're probably afraid of her!) My main worry about her is her lack of self-esteem and self-confidence! She doesn't appreciate herself. It makes me worry that it's because we are so critical of everything & we always seem to find the negative.



16th Anniversary

May 31, 1990 - Kids got out of school today - Horaay for them and oh no for me! I went to a class though that gave me some ideas on what to do, so I feel better prepared. Mike & I went to the Ogden temple & saw the new film - it was really wonderful. Then we went to dinner. It was really nice. Two men from our ward died today - both had terminal illnesses - Richard Jensen & Reed Mooney. So Mike will be quite busy.

June 2 - Richard Jensen's funeral. It was really nice. He died of cancer. His wife had gone to the hospital to get him after they decided not to do the operations which might prolong but not cure anything. She was getting him dressed & he died in her arms. He was a very humble spiritual man. Mike conducted the funeral and sang "The Test" and did a beautiful job.

June 4 - Red Mooney's funeral. It was at the funeral home & really different - even tho Mike conducted & talked. I had gone with Mike over to Sis Jeanne Mooney's & she told Mike about Reed's life & Mike did the life sketch. He's been inactive all his life so it was interesting to find out about him.

June 8-9 Father's & Sons. Mike took the boys & they had a really fun time up on Bountiful Peak. Joyce E. & Heidi came over and we watched a couple of movies & pegged out. We had fun & so did the boys. This is a real big deal to them.

June 13, Wednesday Tonight was the stake semi finals for the speech festival. Michelle was the only entrant from our ward & she won her age group! We were so proud of her. She's such a cutie & so talented. There were 8 participants. She did a great job.

June 15-22

Vicki & kids came to visit and we had a really fun time. Mike took all of us up to Bountiful Peak where we shot his rifle & pistol, then we had a picnic. On Father's Day, Ron came down & stayed overnight! He'd never been to our house before. The next week we went shopping, made some really neat patriotic wreaths, went to Liberty Park (boring for the older kids - they're really growing up! They think you have to spend money to have fun.)

I gave my RS lesson on murmuring & it turned out so good! I had everyone take the part of a scriptural person & read about their murmuring. I had such good participation & discussion. I'd say it was one of my best lessons.

Vicki & I took Thursday & went to the Ogden temple then Price Savers. We had such a fun time together. Unfortunately, almost everyone had vomiting or diarrhea one time or another while they were here.

Sunday June 24

Yesterday we took the kids to Ogden to watch the air show at HAFB. It was exciting. I went to work with Mike 330-1030. He's been working so hard trying to get everything done he needs to. Our ward is in charge of the float for July 4 & it's kind of been passed around & around & been dumped back in Mike's lap. It makes me so mad that his counselors don't support & help him more so Mike said he wasn't going to abandon the float - he was committed to it! So he called a meeting for 4:30 & 2 people came - Terri Lothern & Don Harris. Terri was so positive & optimistic so Mike told her I'd be glad to help her! (which I told him I would do anything to help him.) He has got major stuff due this week & had to spend Thurs at girls camp

June 26, 1990

This morning Terri Locher and I went to Modern Display and spent $669 for the float! It was fun - we bought TONS of stuff. Mike designed the float - it will have a 5' wall going diagonally across it, a break in the wall with water" FREEDOM" pouring through. The front will say - "Soldiers built it - now even little children tear it down." And on the sides FREEDOM POURS THROUGH THE IRON CURTAIN. The base is blue, then white on the sides, then metallic blue fringe, & red "festooning" (like Christmas tree garland) at each juncture. It should be really fun - and a lot of work! Mike is really relieved to have someone take over.

Sunday July 1st, 1990

Yesterday we had a "float party" and worked all day on the float. It was a record 103.4° & we were out in the church parking lot & it was hot. We were going to do some more when it got cooler, but some of the stuff melted & looked awful, so we decided to wait till Tuesday. We did cover the float with a tarp, but Mike woke me up at 6:30 am & said "The wind is wrecking the float!" So I grabbed my trusty staple gun and ran out to fix what I could. I called around & found a garage we could put it in (Mike's counselors told him they had "called everybody" & couldn't find one - so tough luck - too bad!! I'm really upset with them & the activities committee & everyone who was asked to help or be in charge - no one would do it! It really caused a lot of stress for Mike & made me really mad! Not to mention I ended up doing it!) Oh! I forgot! Last Sunday - the 24th was the Stake Speech festival - Michelle talked & did a great job. The WWII candy bomber, Gail Halvorsen was the main speaker & it was great! Tonight was another fireside, actually the quarterly Stk. priesthood meeting, & Kitty deRuyter was the speaker on her experiences during WWII. It was very moving.

July 22, 1990 Sunday

Well, we finished the float & it was beautiful and we lived to tell about it! That was a LOT of work but pretty fun to work together with a lot of people. It was in 3 parades & I was really proud of it. Mike went on a scout hike in at the Unitas on the 11-14 and I really worked hard cleaning the house - it looked nice when he got home & we left to go to his 20th year high school reunion. We sent Brett Aaron & Matt up to Idaho to stay the previous week. Anyway, I got to meet a lot of Mike's old friends & it was nice, Altho expensive ($70) & I'd rather have been at Nielsenhaven) but I was glad to support him. Anyway, we left Ogden at midnight & got to the cabin at 5am - & slept till 8:00. We had a really nice Sacrament meeting at the cabin & a nice visit - but Mike left at 2:30 to go to S.F. to catch a plane to Seattle. He was there on business all week & I stayed at the cabin till Wed night. Steve & Kenda stayed & Mom & Dad & Linda. We rode horses, - even I did! - Went to Sawtell, went to the playmill & saw a Melodrama, went to Old Faithful & had a nice, relaxing time. On Thursday I took the kids to Claude & Deanna's & had dinner & talked to Claude about geneology - it was neat. Friday we went to some Garage Sales & Mike came back to S.F. Sat we came home & brought Heidi home with us to stay a week.

July 29, 1990 Sunday

This week has been so busy - shopping, cleaning, etc. Vicki & Ron came & brought their family to stay while his nephew got married. On the 24th we went to Mike's work & worked on our checkbook ALL DAY. Then we went to Sheri's Church & had dinner. This week I've had my kids all off milk & sugar - it has been hard but not impossible. The kids have complained, but not awfully. Talmage really misses milk but I really think his allergic, & I think Morgan is

Dr, & possibly Matt & Brett. I think I am too. It really is hard to plan meals - especially breakfast lunch - & dinner without Milk or sugar. I'm not sure where to go now! Brett is the worst about sugar, but I think they miss Milk more. That's good, I guess. I feel fine about saying NO SUGAR! but it's awful hard to say NO Milk - cheese - yogurt! (etc.)

Thursday Vicki & co left & I took all the kids to the mall & bought school clothes - $400 for 2 ea jeans, shirts & 1 shoes. Boy, Brett's been bugging me all summer for some $125 "Air Jordan" shoes until I could smack him! Anyway, he got some air flight & was happy about it - & even tho they were $63 (reg $85) I felt like I was getting off easy! (Choke choke!) Then we went to see Grandpa & he gave us some corn, then we came home & went swimming at Duncan's - Michelle asked. I was pooped! Friday I just read & was lazy. Then met Mike downtown & we had dinner & went to the geneology library. It was neat. I love that place! Yesterday, we decided to go to Timpanogos cave so we got the house cleaned up & drove down there - we got there at 1:30 & they had 8 tickets left - for 500! so we just went to Cascade Springs & walked around there, then took our picnic down to Kaiser's Park in Provo & told the kids that's where we met. Then we came home & watched a movie!

August 12, 1990 Sunday

Boy this summer has gone by fast! Some days weren't fast enough, though. I'm so excited for school to start!! July 31 - Aug 4 we went back up the the cabin with Sheri & Ray & their families. We had a fun time - we hiked up Mt Washburn, well Mike & Ray & Brett Chris hiked up Mt Washburn, well Mike & Ray & Brett Chris hiked up Mt Washburn, well Mike & Ray & Brett Chris

Aug 6-11 Brett was at boys camp & Michelle was in Idaho and Joy was that nice! We took the kids to Hardees for an ice cream cone & it was so fun! They played tag & everyone had fun & no one felt bad or cried or sulked! It harkened back to earlier days when our kids were little. It was amazing how well everyone got along & was cheerful & helpful. Oh, they weren't perfect, but compared to how it usually is, it was HEAVEN. It's too bad that Brett has such a negative influence on the whole family! However, he's been wonderful for the 1½ days since he got home! I think he missed me. Shock Shock. Thursday pm Mike went up to scout camp & brought boys home on Saturday. On Saturday, I took the kids & went to Hyde Park to the Nielsen family reunion. Mom & Dad were in charge of it, so they were harried. But it was fun. After they took us to the Hyde Park Cemetary & we found most of the graves of the Nielsen side. Then the kids & I went up to Smithfield & saw the Tabernacle- my gggggrandfather burned the brick so I was impressed! Then we went to the Smithfield Cemetary & it was HUGE! But I really wanted to find the Mouritsen's graves. We searched & I was ready to go when Aaron found them! I was so excited. Then when I read the last of his life history, it said right where he was buried! But I had told them to look for old (1904-1914) headstones & when Aaron saw them, he thought "I'll bet that's them!" So we had a good time. When we got home I found Mike sick with Strep Throat! So he cancelled all his meetings & stayed home from church. I took Michelle & Brett to hear Michael Dallam speak. He's so good & our grandmothers are sisters! So I told him & he said like are related! And hugged me duh. He's really nice & said he'd be glad to come talk in Centerville.

Education Week is in 1 WEEK & I CAN'T WAIT!!
Mike's going on Monday with me!! Then I'm staying.
Then School starts in 2 WEEKS & I CAN'T WAIT!
It is going to be Great!! 5 Kids in School ALL DAY!

August 26, 1990

Well, I went to Education Week - we went on Sunday evening, Mike & I, and went to Monday classes. We went to Paul Robinson on families and Michael Ballam on music. It was wonderful! We really had a nice time. He left Monday evening & I stayed until Saturday. What a wonderful week! I went to so many classes and just loved them. I went to genealogy

Examination Book

NAME Joyce Williams

SUBJECT Education Week 1990

INSTRUCTOR

EXAM SEAT NO. SECTION

DATE Aug 19 - 25, 1990 GRADE

8⅜ X 6¾

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What I have learned at Education Week

As I sit on the quad in front of the administration building, I am overwhelmed by memories - nearly every building on this campus brings back memories of the years I spent here in 1973-1976. This is a place very sacred to me - a special spot on earth where I came to know the man who would become my celestial companion. I have to laugh at myself - I'll bet thousands of people could say the same thing, and yet it doesn't diminish its importance to me. I remember so clearly the beautiful spring day I stood, dressed in my sponsor corps uniform, in front of the Administration Building. Down on the quad, past the statue of Brigham Young, stood all the military students - all dressed in uniform and at attention. Jets flew over; the flag was raised; the band played "The Star Spangled Banner"; my heart, and eyes, and soul were full & overflowing with love for God, family,

and country. Mike was among the army cadets; what a handsome man! I've thought, as I walked out of the southwest corner of the bookstore, of the day I walked down those steps on my way to Spanish in the MARB. The walkway now there used to be a parking lot. I had met Mike several weeks before and really liked him, but he hadn't called me, so I figured he didn't like me. As I came out of the bookstore, I saw him drive by, drop a roommate off, and leave. Tears came to my eyes as I thought "I'll never see him again." Obviously, I was wrong. Anyway, I've seen young couples, with one cute little baby, and I've thought: "That's me - 16 years ago!" Or newly weds: "That's me - 16 years ago!" It makes me feel old, but I'm grateful I am where I am. I remember we used to say "We're going to ENJOY this now because someday we'll look back on this as a very choice part of our lives." That someday is now, and I'm grateful for those experiences and memories. I'm glad I can come back and be reminded of those years.

Chapter 2: This week!

I've taken many classes and loved them - but I think the most important thing I've learned (again) is that there is only 1 way to true happiness and fulfillment: DO WHAT IS RIGHT. Scripture study, pondering, prayer, living by the Spirit - all these things are essential - and yet, how much time do I devote to them? Somehow I pay lip service and I know in my heart that these things are true, and yet they fall by the wayside. All of my desires to be a better wife and better mother and calmer, "centered" person really boil down to doing these things that we hear over and over and over again - Read the Scriptures Pray Always. I want my children to be happy - and what brings happiness: Quicksilver T shirts? books, cars, stickers? No - a testimony of Jesus Christ and the importance of his sacrifice in our lives. A very strong feeling of "use the opportunity you have of teaching

your children to know & love the Savior through Family Home Evening and other opportunities - Daily Scriptures and prayers, etc. I need to have my values and my actions congruent - and I need to teach my children. I think I have been inconsistent - overly strict whenever I feel strong about it - then "who cares, do what you want, you will anyway" at other times. I really want to get the family organized & stick to it - I want to have Family Council, Family Home Evening, & Family Scriptures daily. Last year started out great when we all got up at 5 am & had scripture study, prayer breakfast, piano and chores. It was great. Also, I'm very concerned about the influence TV & radio, rock stars (not so much) - bad sports heros - have on my children. Much of it is wicked and Satan loves it. Movies we bring right into our homes to teach our

children values that are inconsistant with what we believe!
So what are my values? What do I want to instill within my children?

① love of God
desire to do right
Word of Wisdom
testimony of Jesus Christ
knowledge & love of the scriptures
Charity
Honesty
Chastity
Hard work
Humility
love of family
Integrity
Service
Unselfishness
Discipline

If I could only help them have 1 of these, what would it be? I guess I'd say to love God, because hopefully that would encompass everything else. These are all things I think I have need to work on.

Another thing I love about being here - I feel enthusiastic, happy, carefree, for a short time that is, but looking foward to the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead of me as soon as I walk in the doors of my home. I love my home, my husband, my

children, very much! But I so often let myself become weighed down with all the little things and unimportant things. This past summer has been extremely hard for me - at times - and I think it was due to a lack of structure - especially a lack of consistant scripture reading on my own part and as a family. Also, I did not have written charts, and it made for a lot of mental pressure on me. That's going to change.

Another problem is that I have become at times resentful of my husband, and I've felt unappreciated and taken for granted. He's so busy at work and being a bishop - I feel guilty at being upset, which makes it worse! So I'm really going to work on my appreciation of him and his hard work and sacrifice. He is a very good man, and I'm so grateful for him. One speaker told us to think of those we love and how we'd feel if they were taken from us. Then treat

them as well wish we would have treated them if they were gone!
I noticed, when Michelle stayed here that one night, that I was tellin & tellin & pickin and poking & yak yak yak do this do that! I was surprised at myself - maybe I was more aware of it because I was staying with my own mother. It helped me realize that no matter how much we love our mom, we are different and need the room to be what we are - and still love and respect each other! And even though I'm a mother, my mother would correct me & I took it as she meant it - but it helped me understand Michelle a little more, I think.

Vicki & I discussed how every year we're going to use our Ed Week notes as a scripture study guide - so I really want to do that.

Chapter 3:

Concerning a discussion Mike & I had on the way down here - whether or not we should have any more children.

It's funny, when something important like this is on your mind, nearly everything you hear has bearing on the question! Brother Gerald Lund told in one lecture of the sacrifices of the pioneers & the things they went through - their trials and tribulations - it always gets to me to hear about those pioneer women - and how they sacrificed everything to do what the Savior wanted them to do! - Join the church and go to Zion - Boyd Packer says he doesn't worry about the dirt poor starving people in SA as much as he worries about <u>us</u>. We have so much & are so selfish & worried about our own comforts! (My interpretation of what he said.) So that night I prayed - am I doing wrong? Am I being selfish? What does the Lord want me to do? What is RIGHT? And, I had

a dream- jumpy + strange as most dreams, but I dreamed someone in our ward saw me putting a bod in my drawer + I was embarrassed + I thought- would I be embarrassed to have the Lord see? And know? And I want to do whatever is Right and what the Lord wants BUT! I'm getting old, my body is wearing out, I shudder when I think of pregnancy + labor and the 20 years after that! Oh I love babies but I'll be content to wait 6 or 8 years to have a grandchild to love!! Besides, my life is finally getting organized and more calm + easy! It's so funny- I've seen so many babies + they're all so cute! Isn't 6 enough? Haven't I done enough! It's too hard! Boy, does that sound like a spoiled selfish little brat or what? Well, I've decided I'll do what Bro Lund taught in his class on revelation- because I feel I need a revelation to convince me to do this again- He said that whenever someone gets a revelation, over, many times, its because they're pondering what

the scriptures and prophets have said. So I'm going to study & ponder & pray what the scriptures have said concerning children & birth control & I know right now what they say & what I should be doing but it's so hard & I don't want to! Especially when my children are all fighting and screaming and disobeying & being a pain & I get this big knot in my stomach & I think: "I would be crazy to have another one!" But then I think Oh, look what I have to give another spirit child of Heavenly Father: a home where we want to do what's right and follow the prophets and follow the Savior - where we want to get back to God! Is it too much to ask? How much more do I need to do? I'm such a grouch when I'm pregnant - so tired & moody & mean & that last month! But oh, those precious little babies - up until they're about 2 I just love 'em - then it gets hard. And I finally feel like I have my own body back & I don't feel tired all the time!

I honestly don't care what anybody thinks - I'm sure Mikes parents & a lot of other people will think we're crazy! I'm worried about me. Can I handle it? I know Mike & the kids would love to have another baby - but can I do it? Will they help & support me? Can I do it without being a baby myself? Have I learned to grow up & be mature? Can I give more of myself? Can I worry less about myself? Can I honestly put my trust in the Lord and say "Thy will be done?"

Who did Brigham Young use to build up the kingdom? The strong people! The weak ones died or gave up. It was too hard. Only the strong ones made it to the Valley. And I come from that strong pioneer stock. If the strong ones have a lot of children & the weak ones have few, it will hasten the day of the millenium because there will be more righteous people! And the spirits will all be on earth! Can I do it? Am I strong enough, tough enough? Do I want to do what's

right? Yes! Do I want to follow God's plan for me? Yes! Is there a Susannah up there waiting and pleading for me to soften my heart?

What if the Lord doesn't want me to have any more children? He won't send 'em (Kinda-etc) What if he does want me to and I don't want to? Who's will should be done? (I'm having a heck of a time, sitting here bawling & not a kleenex or nice husband's shoulder in sight.) Oh I love Mike! I think he's been getting the promptings to have another one and my heart has been hardened & my neck stiffened. I think I needed to come to Education Week so my heart would be softened and neck bent, and I think I really needed to sit here all by myself for an hour and a half and write out my feelings and pray and think on the things of eternity. Michael, I love you. I wish you were here with me. What would I do without you? Please forgive me for being selfish and judgmental! Thank

you for letting me have this experience. Thank you for being patient and loving and understanding.

Is this my test? I've often wondered why my life is so easy - aren't I going to be tested? And dreading it. But I think it is, and I guess I have to exercise my faith.

So, Heavenly Father - here I go again. If you feel another child is necessary for me and our family, I will nurture and try my best to train that child to do what is right + "follow me." In the meantime, I guess this is what is called example.

Joyce Williams
12:35 pm
August 25, 1990

Aug 6-11, Brett was at boys camp & Michelle was in Idaho and boy was that nice! We took the kids to Hardees for an ice cream cone & it was so fun! They played tag & everyone had fun & no one felt bad or cried or sulked! It harkened back to earlier days when our kids were little. It was amazing how well everyone got along & was cheerful & helpful. Oh, they weren't perfect, but compared to how it usually is, it was HEAVEN. It's too bad that Brett has such a negative influence on the whole family! However, he's been wonderful for the 1½ days since he got home! I think he missed me. Shock Shock. Thursday pm Mike went up to scout camp & brought boys home on Saturday. On Saturday, I took the kids & went to Hyde Park to the Nielsen family reunion. Mom & Dad were in charge of it, so they were harried. But it was fun. After, they took us to the Hyde Park Cemetary & we found most of the graves of the Nielsen side. Then the kids & I went up to Smithfield & saw the Tabernacle- my gggggrandfather burned the brick so I was impressed! Then we went to the Smithfield Cemetary & it was HUGE! But I really wanted to find the Mouritsen's graves. We searched & I was ready to go when Aaron found them! I was so excited. Then when I read the last of his life history, it said right where he was buried! But I had told them to look for old (1904-1914) headstones & when Aaron saw them, he thought "I'll bet that's them!" So we had a good time. When we got home I found Mike sick with Strep Throat! So he cancelled all his meetings & stayed home from church. I took Michelle & Brett to hear Michael Ballam speak. He's so good & our grandmothers are sisters! So I told him & he said like he'd be glad to come talk in Centerville. We are related! And hugged me duh. He's really nice & said

Education Week is in 1 WEEK & I CAN'T WAIT!!
Mike's going on Monday with me!! Then I'm staying.
Then School starts in 2 WEEKS & I CAN'T WAIT!
It is going to be Great!! 5 Kids in School ALL DAY!

August 26, 1990

Well, I went to Education Week - we went on Sunday evening, Mike & I, and went to Monday classes. We went to Paul Robinson on families and Michael Ballam on music. It was wonderful! We really had a nice time He left Monday evening & I stayed until Saturday. What a wonderful week! I went to so many classes and just loved them. I went to genealogy

Sept 23, 1990 - A whole month has passed since Education Week - I cannot believe it! I had a wonderful week and loved every minute of it. Also, I have had a great change of heart - I can't even believe it - but Mike and I were discussing more children - I have felt so strongly that I am done!! But all week, I heard things & felt things and I even had a dream - I believe - in response to a sincere, heartfelt prayer, that I should not do anything to prevent another child! And even though it has been scarry and I wonder about my sanity - I know in my heart that I'm doing the right thing! In fact, when my period started last week, I was shocked - I was so sure id get pregnant immediately. I can really understand now what it means to soften your heart. My heart was so hardened against going through that again - but somehow I know ill be blessed and helped through it.

It's been so delightful since school started - just me & Morgan home all day - heavenly peace & quiet! I've been getting quite a bit done lately. I got to be a voting judge & sit at the polls all day - it was a riot but surprisingly tiring! I was with Anita Todd and Jeri Locher & we had a riot. Joyce E. watched Morgan for me.

Tonight we went to a youth fireside - Scott Anderson spoke on gratitude and the Atonement & it was very touching & I could really feel the Spirit there - how blessed I am and how grateful I am and how childish I am so many times. I hope I grow up before I get too old! Brett & Michelle went & they both enjoyed it and felt the spirit - Brett even felt like crying but didn't cuz he's a "man".

October 7, 1990

Sunday. General Conference - yesterday and today were really great, as usual. We were able to watch all the sessions of conference. President Benson is in the hospital - he's undergone several surgeries in the past few weeks but is now in serious but stable condition. We missed seeing him. All the speakers were excellent, as usual and, as usual, everything has smushed together & I need to watch & read them all again. Last night we went to dinner with Kep & Carrie & Shesi & Richard - it was fun - then the girls plus Mike's Mom visited while the guys went to Priesthood.

Tad A couple of weeks ago, Talmage was looking at the book of "Little Mermaid" when it was as if a light turned on in his head. He said "Mom! I can read this! Listen! 'Eric took Ariel in his arms'." He was so excited and it was so neat. He has been reading scriptures very seldom that night, he said "Where's my Book of Mormon so I can read with you guys? Don't forget to wake me up!" It was really neat.

We've been doing pretty good on getting up at 6 a.m. and reading, then breakfast, then scheduled. I've been going back to bed. I've been so tired lately! (And tender breasts and nightmares - what does that suggest! I should know by next week for sure - Anyway!

Joyce Erickson & I have decided to have "Sister Day". I helped her with a couple of projects & she helped me prepare for and lay out around the basement patio. We get so much more done and the time passes quickly.

We left Brett at Kep's & brought Jennifer home. They came for dinner tonight & it was nice but NOISY!

October 21, 1990 Sunday

Today I taught a lesson in Relief Society on Genealogy - it turned out really nice. I felt really good about it. I've really been into genealogy lately and I really love it! I volunteered to do family Extraction work - getting info reading to go into the computers.

Lets see - whats happening -

Michelle is busy in 10th grade - hard classes! She teaches piano and does a really good job. Generally, she's easy to get along with and tries to get along, although she can bug her brothers, too. It especially annoys me when she teases Morgan & he screams.

Brett is driving me crazy, altho I have to admit that he was really trying hard yesterday & today to be nice. He is forever cutting, criticizing, annoying, teasing, & making fun of his brothers. I get so tired of it! And it rubs off, so he's got the other kids being rude. It seems they cannot communicate without fighting or bickering or arguing.

Aaron's really into basketball cards trading & stuff. I've got a terrific headach so I'll continue later!

November 4, 1990 Sunday

Matthew is growing and doing great. For some reason, however, he likes to irritate Brett so Brett will punch him so he can scream and bawl so I will scream! I get sooo tired of screaming and fighting! He's doing fine in school and he thinks he's a real awesome dude!

Talmage is really working hard in school and on his reading - he is progressing really fast and is so excited to be able to read! He loves math and is really smart at figuring it out. He just lost his second front top tooth yesterday & is really a cutie.

Morgan is defenitely a 2½ yrs old - he bounces everywhere! He says everything & talks in cute little sentences. Today I put a new Sunday shirt on him and he said "Pretty shirt!" Matt was pretending to be a dog, and Morgan petted

him and said "Cute little doggie!" He manages to escape all the time and head over to Erickson or Reynells. He's such a cute little guy - I've decided to start potty training because he keeps taking off his diapers! He's too doggone stubborn and independent. He'll be a PAIN!

Last week - 2 weeks anyway, I had a discovery toys party & it was $709.00 Wow! I sure did work hard at it though. It was a lot of work, but I got $140 worth of free toys, plus I bought $40 worth so I have a big chunk of Shopping done!

Last Tues afternoon Mike's parents were in a minor traffic accident - she cracked her sternum & he bumped his head, but they seem to be all right.

Last night Mike & I went to a big dinner at the Little America - it was super and we all came home with a box full of goodies from Utah manufacturers - including a turkey! & coupon for one) candy, pop, sunglasses etc. He rode with Bruce & Joyce, which reminds me of another deal going on! Mike went on Wednesday to interview with Evans & Sutherland, Bruce's company, at Bruce's urging. Mike told his boss Floyd about it, and he wasn't too happy - nor was his boss, Kirk. So it was a little tense at the dinner - but they both told him he has to do what's best for him. It will be interesting to see what happens next.

Nov 30, 1990 Today I went to a sample sale & bought a whole bunch of stuff - clothes, mostly for Christmas. I spent $300 but got a lot. Yesterday Mike had a very good interview with E&S & his boss's boss told him "please don't make any committments until you talk to us! We don't want to lose you!" Then when I got home, there was a letter from E&S saying "No thanks - don't call us - we'll call you!" So it was quite a shock; Bruce E. came over & told us it was because of Equal Opportunity & they'd turned down 2 blacks & a woman, so they don't dare hire him. What a waste of time!

December 1990

What a busy month! Mike's bosses were all delighted that Mike would be staying - maybe it was a good thing, so they'd appreciate him!

We went to Idaho for Thanksgiving, & had a really nice time - we had it at Kenda's & it was fun. We took Vaughn up, & Sandy & Ryan came down, so we had a nice visit. While we were there, we bought a really nice computer - it's great. So Mike's been working at home quite a bit. Did put Morgan down for a nap, & go shopping! I swore I wouldn't overspend, but I did - we spent about $1500! Gulp! But we had a lovely Christmas. Mikes parents gave Mike a new suit, me $100 (& bought a red down filled coat! Love it - Mike put $9 more on it!) I bought all the kids clothes - all the boys, sweaters & turtlenecks & dress pants, Michelle, 2 sweaters. My parents gave us some food & a clock dad made, some pliers, cutting board, & flashlight. We gave his folks a ghetto blaster & tapes (from all of us) We gave mine - mom, Mrs Pollyfay books & sweats Dad, emergency radio & calendar. This year, our family each brought a family present & exchanged - Colleen got mine & I got Kenda's. We gave Sheri a book & mop dad, Richard an emergency radio, the Kids a discovery top game. Ref & Carrie gave Mike & me a sweat shirt & the Kids "Salt Lake Poly" We had a nice dinner & program with Mike's family on Christmas Eve. Then went to Idaho on Christmas day. I took the car & Michelle, Brett & Morgan - Mike came up later & went home Thursday - I came home Friday afternoon. It was glad to be home. I gave Mike a suit 2 ties, belt, calendar, sweater. He gave me my coat, a jacket & sweater (& bought all those, tho) He surprised me with a RED purse - matches my coat, some warm bootie slippers, a gold knit hat (ill exchange for a different color) & some black keds - tennis shoes. We & Santa gave the kids a TON of stuff - Michelle - a franklin planner, Brett - a boom box, Aaron - a computer game that Mike played all

+ a computer program for menu planning

day on Christmas - Matt, an Australian cowboy hat ($70!) but he was thrilled & he loves it (and it was on sale!) Talmage - marble works & an ice cream maker, Morgan - lego's & ball-batting game - he loves it. They all got books, pj's, sweats, games, watches & the boys - incl. Morgan - got basketballs! They all seemed very pleased & happy with their gifts.

Oh - last week Mike got a letter from Gary Jones, the president of US West, saying he has been chosen as a leader of the 90's & they're giving him 250 stock options - worth $10,000 right now, but they aren't really his for 3 years. Tricky way of keeping him! But it's quite an honor for him & he felt really good about it.

Judy & John stopped on their way home to Calif. & it was fun to see them & visit. Judy was sick the whole week she was in Idaho, so after I said her, we didn't do much, & she slept most the time. They got home tonite (Sun 30th) ok.

Morgan gave me the absolutely very best present I think I've ever received in my life - he potty trained himself the last 2 weeks! He had been going stinky in the toilet for about a week, but refused to put training pants or pull-up's (disposible training pants.) Joyce S. suggested I put real big boy pants on - he loves 'em & hates to have a diaper on at night! If he can pull his pants down, he'll go in, go to the bathroom, wipe & flush without me even knowing. He can't put his pants back on yet, & he loves to run around bare. I bet he hasn't had more than 10 accidents in the 2 weeks we've put pants on him - and none since about Saturday!? It's great - just the way I've always thought toilet training should be, and never, never has! I love it. He's a cutie.