

Dear Family,

Well, this week has been minor accident week for the Mecham's. First I fell off a counter in the garage backwards onto my back, twisting my ankle, and tearing a ligament in half. The injury will require surgery to repair it sufficiently for physical activity such as running, or aerobics. (which I really need). The next evening, Chelsey sprained her ankle at cheer practice, bruising her foot. Then the next day, I was grating some cheese with a hand grate, and grated my thumb nail in half length-wise. Ouch! Otherwise, everyone is doing fine!

On Doug's side of the family: Doug's mother is the only child in her family who was not sealed to her parents. Her parents went through the temple to be sealed when she was an adult, and unworthy to enter the temple with them. She has expressed an interest in being sealed to them now, so we set up a bishops interview for her, and she is scheduled to go to the temple this Saturday. It's been exciting to see Doug's nephew, Shan, (Sandy's son) get baptized. Doug was able to confirm him a member of the church. He recently received his patriarchal blessing and is hoping to go on a mission soon. Also, Doug's oldest brother, Lamar, who was a raging alcoholic, has since repented and has been sealed to his wife and family. He lives in St. George. His son, Fred (Doug's nephew) has also gone through the temple with his family, and we're working on lil' Lamar, who has had a drinking & cocaine addiction, but has since quit, and is working on quitting smoking. We're praying that he'll come around. Doug is very busy with his new tractor. He can't keep up with the calls. He also rents it to a contractor friend for \$30. \ hr. while he's at his real job. Another contractor friend of his owes us \$700.00, and came to us yesterday explaining that he can't pay us because he's gotten in over his head on some jobs he's done. Doug is very forgiving. He told the guy that he wasn't in any hurry for the money, and could pay it when ever he can, or trade out for some odd jobs around the house. (Like installing a sink & toilet in my preschool). His foot still has a chronic wound or ulcer on it. The doctor is trying to buy some time before he tries another surgery so that vascular tissue can increase in the wound area boosting Doug's chances for recovery. We are trying to wrap up his insurance settlement with Workers Comp. We think they'll fight us over Doug's detached retina.

Chelsey is having a blast on the freshman cheerleading squad. We were worried that the boys would start calling. So far only one has called, and Doug told him that Chelsey doesn't live here anymore. She has found high school to be more of a challenge than expected. She got 100% on her Geography test today, only two kids in her class including her got 100%. She lives in the house up with her opera singing and loves her baby sister!

Carli is still working for Dr. Wiest (a dentist), and seems to enjoy her job for the most part. You wouldn't catch me sitting in a chair getting splattered with tooth chips and spit. She's a great help with the baby. She likes to dress her up and get her pictures taken. I'll try to scan a recent picture of Keslee into the computer and place it with this letter, and fax it to Charlotte. It may not work, however, this is an experiment. Carli is going to Bunco with me tonight. (A mild form of gambling played with cards between 16 women, for prizes. Each person chips in \$5.00) It's fun to have a night out with Carli once a month. She's downstairs carving Garfield into a pumpkin for the front porch.

D.J. is learning to use the phone. . . let's all hope he doesn't dial China too often. He called me from school today. He also called the printing house for the blind to order a braille calendar. (Their free). . . And he called the Library for the blind in Salt Lake to order a tape recorder (on loan). Every now and then he pops up with a memory from his past that blows us away. . . like the other day he wanted to know where his Sit and Spin toy was that Grandma Carter bought him over 4 years ago. (That disappeared 3 1/2 years ago). I let him change a stinky diaper yesterday, after 4 months of begging. He did a pretty good job, although he turned his nose up at the smell! He is very protective over the baby. He can't stand to hear her fuss. A few days ago, after returning from some errands, I brought D.J. and Keslee (asleep in

her car seat) into the house. I set Keslee on the kitchen counter, and went upstairs to load some laundry into the washer. Carli heard D.J. making some grunting noises downstairs, and went to check on him. He had taken Keslee (still buckled into her car seat) off the counter and was trying to carry her and steer his wheelchair at the same time. He was going to bring her upstairs to me. SCARY!! I have a new calling in the ward as the Relief Society invitation & delivery person. It should be easy and fun.

Keslee has been so healthy. She weighs about 18 pounds, and is now 4 months old. She is such a pleasant baby. She rarely complains about anything. What a blessing! She now sleeps through the night, usually waking at 5:30 or 6:30 to nurse, then goes back to sleep for another 3 or 4 hours. She takes 2 long naps during the day, and spends her waking hours, eating, smiling, gooing and playing with her toys and toes.

Happy Birthday to Tracy Jr., Charlotte & Dad this month! And Happy Halloween! (One of my favorite times of the year).

Love Nancy

P.S. You can all fax me now at this number: (801) 374-5139 . . . wait for the answering machine. I leave the computer on most of the time.

