



Maya thankfully not a boy



With the application of a fake moustache, Maya's resemblance to Jeff Spicoli of "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" became downright chilling.

"Thank God she's a girl," Carol said.

"Aloha, Maya," Todd said.

"Maya, you look ridiculous," Lily said.

Maya, a gifted dinner-dawdler, spent the first quarter of 2013 finishing a single meal.

Maya's hobbies have narrowed substantially, limited



Lily succumbs to sleep during another protracted Maya meal.

Oscar enlists stunt double



Oscar hired a stunt double for dangerous sleeping, eating and lounging scenes. Here they practice proper window-staring form.

now to art, knitting, sewing, dress design, soccer, figure skating, skiing, basketball, choir, piano, and puggle maintenance.

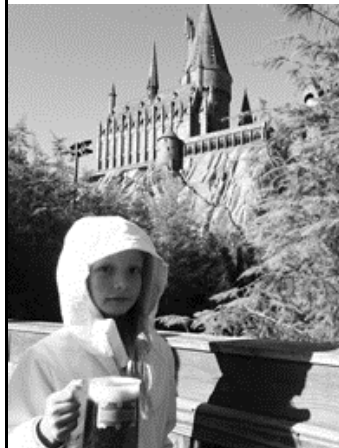
With soccer, she and her Mighty Dolphins recently completed their sixth season, again with a record of 0-0-6 because they don't keep score.

All this commotion can be exhausting.



Maya's desperate need for a dwarf hamster somehow evaporated midyear, her parents now careful to avoid all mention of it. Now she's thinking either Dumbo-eared rats or cassowary chicks.

Lily enjoys first beer



Lily tried her first beer at Universal Studios, which took the edge off her first two-hour amusement-park line.

Beacon Snapchat-optimized

The Beacon announced in September its introduction of a Snapchat-compliant vers

CAROL SWAMPED IN MAMMALS

Carol found herself surrounded by mammals, all but one smaller than she. "If there weren't so many blasted mammals around here, I'd get way more done," she said. "Though I suppose they're better than reptiles or monotremes."

She has switched jobs within

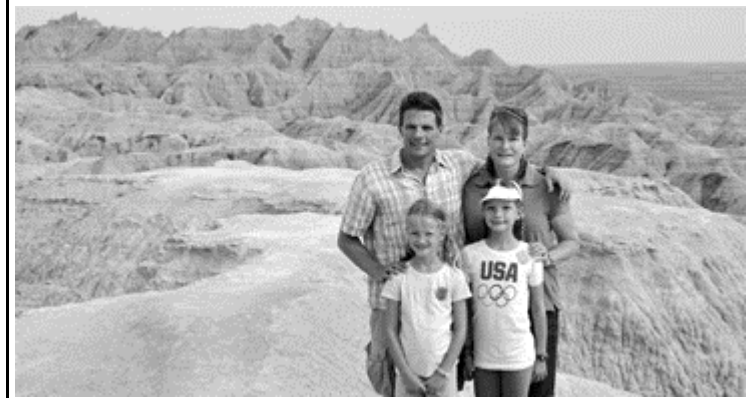
Johns Manville, now leading a small team involved with either Business Warehouse or human spaceflight.

"It's Business Warehouse," Carol clarified. She continues to drive to rinks and occasionally yogacize in her free time.



Carol, guinea pig (center), higher primate, severely mutated wolf spawn.

Home Xeriscaping experiment goes horribly wrong



Princess-friend a real dud

Maya's attempt to make her first princess-friend fell flat when she realized the princess was little more than an amalgamation of colored plastic blocks.

Maya later chatted up a bronze statue.



Lily fortifies diet

The highlight of Lily's ski season at Winter Park was a mountaintop encounter with former Denver Broncos star Ed McCaffrey. She had, despite low-black skills, fallen in the flats, immediately in front of McCaffrey. He stopped so as not to run her over.

"I hate skiing," Lily yelled.

McCaffrey looked over to Lily's father. "Maybe she should try snowboarding," he suggested.

Lily, a senior at Lowry Elementary, spent time touring Denver middle schools, often with her parents.

"Such fond memories," Carol said.

"We can maybe tour dentists next, and then Department of Motor Vehicle offices," Todd said.



Lily fortified her diet with important vitamins and minerals contained in medals from long-forgotten skating competitions.

The Front Range Diet™ is Swag

Maya takes 'big watch' trend to the next level



Florida features unique Lily-head-measuring devices.

REMEMBER THE NEEDIEST!

Girls encounter complete asses



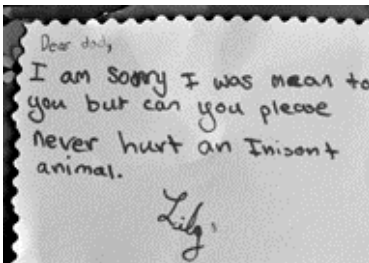
Lily and Maya ran into a couple of total asses during their late-summer trip to South Dakota.

"I suppose it's good training for the rest of their lives," Carol said.

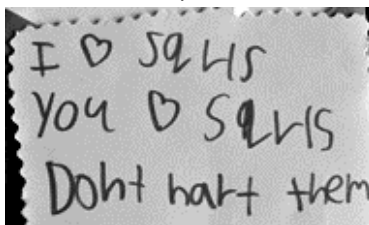
Todd wars with squirrels

Maya wanted to feed the birds, so Todd put a seed block in a hanging cage on a shepherd's hook in the yard. Todd, who works from home, noted how quickly a squirrel can consume a two-pound seed block. His first countermeasure involved opening the screen door and instructing Oscar to "Go get 'em, boy." Oscar strolled out and lay in the sun-warmed bark mulch.

Todd then hazed the squirrels, clapping and throwing whatever was handy. But squirrels are not bears. Then Todd greased the pole with oil – first olive, then motor (5W-30). Squirrels leapt and slid until the oil soaked into new belly stripes. The girls were disturbed by this. They wrote him notes.



And from Maya:



So Todd bought an aluminum roasting pan, some hardware, and gorilla glue. He fashioned a "Squirrelinator." It worked until the squirrels chewed it apart.



The girls laughed, and the squirrels sniggered as is their wont. Then Todd learned the term "squirrel baffle" and bought a steel one on Amazon.

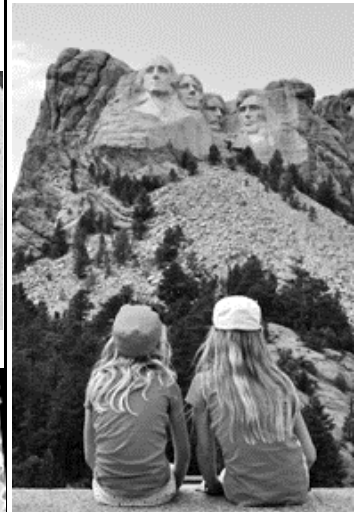
TRAVEL REPORT

Trips to Orlando with our friends the Fords and a Rushmore/South Dakota drive highlighted the Neffs' travels.



Todd squeezes life out of Phileas.

Todd also spent time in Germany and France, where he caught up with old friends at Rainerhof and attended his godson Phileas's first communion in Colombes.



Girls think presidents are looking at them.

There were quick trips to Arizona and Maui to visit paternal grandparents, visits to Denver from maternal grandparents, and the Elks rolled in with a camper the size of the Costa Concordia.

