

Bull Town Bulletins



By Bill Ellis

CONGRATULATIONS to Bovina's Coach Bobby Ortiz on his selection this week as Coach of the Year by the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal in its annual All-South Plains class 2A team.

Ye Editor predicted at the close of the regular season that he SHOULD win the coaching honor. It's one thing to do a rebuilding job, but quite something else to achieve it in one season, and make the playoffs to boot.

We also were pleased when Friona's Coach James Morton won the similar honor for the class 3A coaching honor. What a deal, to have both Bovina and Friona excelling in football for a change.

Several Bovina residents have been at least listening to the game broadcasts of the Friona Chieftains in their playoffs, and we know of at least two Bovina couples who attended Friona's state semi-final playoff game last Saturday at Texas Stadium.

Among the Bovina folks who attended were Thomas and Virginia Rhodes, and Bob and Sarah Owen. The reason we're aware of these two attending is that they took the chartered bus trip that Ye Editor also took.

Since Bob was a former Friona head coach, it wasn't surprising to see he and Sarah on the outing, and Thomas said he saw the trip advertised on Channel 6, and told Virginia--"That sounds like a good idea. We ought to take the bus down to Dallas and watch Friona's play."

Virginia, he said, wasn't overwhelmed with the idea at first, but when he started to leave to go pay for his ticket, she told him "Oh, go ahead and get mine too."

Friona played an extra half-season of football, and as most folks know, that's a new record for them in the playoffs. The surprising thing was that in the five playoff games--two on Friday evenings and three afternoon games--the weather was as good, if not better, than for the ten regular-season games.

They played their regional game in Snyder against top-ranked Vernon on November 30, with the temperature in the high 60s. The following Saturday, Friona met Aledo in the state quarterfinals at Sweetwater, and the temp was in the 70s.

We never did hear the temperature at Dallas (or Irving) last Saturday, but it had to be in the 70s, as it was shirtsleeve weather. The next day, for the Cowboys vs New England, the cold front had hit, and it was back to wintertime.

A LITTLE TOWN is where you don't have to guess who your enemies are. Your friends will tell you.

A little town is the only place on earth where people past middle age are called by their first name.

A little town is where everybody knows everybody else's car by sight and where and when it goes.

A little town is where you can get the wrong phone number and talk 15 minutes anyway.

A little town is where the ratio of good people to bad is 100 to one.

A little town is where it is hard for anyone to walk for exercise because it takes too long to stop and explain to people in cars who stop and offer you a ride.

A little town is where everybody becomes a neighbor in time of need.

A little town is where those same businesses dig deep many times to help countless fund-raising projects.

A little town is where it's nice to be rearing a family.

A little town is where many teenagers say there's nothing to do, then are surprised to learn their big-city friends think the same thing.

A little town is where you don't have to lock your door every time you leave the house.

Hereford's Holly Sugar Plant To Remain Open

By KAY LEDBETTER
Amarillo Globe-News

HEREFORD--Holly Sugar in Hereford will keep its doors open at least one more year, Imperial Holly and Texas-New Mexico Sugarbeet Growers Association officials decided in a meeting Tuesday.

The association put out letters two weeks ago advising producers that Holly must have 25,000 acres committed for the 1997 crop by December 15 to keep the operation profitable.

"The response received from the association's request for early acreage commitments has been encouraging," the two parties said in a joint statement Tuesday.

"Based on the level of commitments received and indications from growers who have not yet committed that they are going to grow beets for the 1997 campaign, Imperial Holly has decided to operate the factory to process the 1997 crop," the joint release said.

Kenneth Frye, president of the Texas-New Mexico Sugarbeet Growers Association, said about 20,000 acres were committed for the 1997 crop, and the push will continue for more acres.

Old growers and new growers are signing up, he said. Frye said some positive growth is expected in the Dalhart area as well as the stateline area south of Bovina.

"They realize that we need to all pull together and keep striving to get that 25,000 acres to keep this factory going now and in the future," Frye said.

Holly pays out about \$20 million to area farmers and

employs more than 300 people during the harvest campaign. In 1996, about 350 regional beet farmers harvested 14,000 acres for processing, which only occupied 37 per cent of Holly's factory capacity, Frye said.

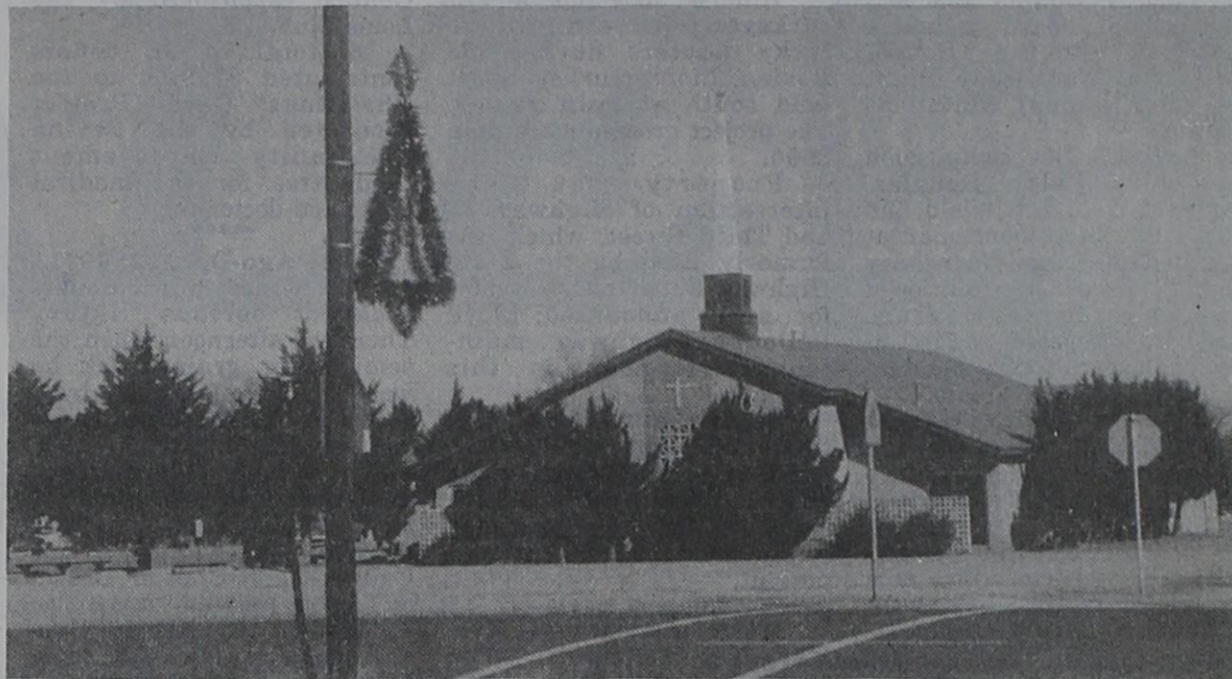
Holly officials said sugar prices are expected to remain strong in 1997 due to the short crops being produced in 1995 and 1996 and the resulting tight supplies of refined sugar.

With the recent decline in grain prices, sugarbeets offer a particularly attractive alternative, association officials said. The recent changes to the sugarbeet purchase contract provide a higher payment at harvest and offer the grower in the Panhandle the best sugarbeet contract in the industry, they said.

"It's important that those growers who have not finalized their 1997 crop plans complete their commitment so as to ensure that the association reaches its committed level of 25,000 acres," he said.



COACH ORTIZ



WISHES OF THE SEASON.....Peace on earth, good will toward men. Bovina's Christmas decorations grace the streets and its churches welcome all people great and small during this holy season of thanks and celebration.

(Ron Carr Photo)

Ortiz Takes South Plains 2-A 'Coach Of Year' Title

In only his first year as a head coach, Bovina's Bobby Ortiz took the Mustangs from a 1-9 record in 1995 to an 8-2 regular season record and district runnerup victor in 1996.

Although the Mustangs lost to Lockney in the bi-district round, the preseason polls had them picked to finish last in District 3-2A.

To make the record even more remarkable, the Bovina Mustangs moved up from 1A to 2A in the 1995 UIL realignment. They missed remaining in 1A by only one student, making them one of the smallest enrollments among 2A schools.

As a result of an excellent turnaround year, Coach Bobby Ortiz was selected coach-of-the-year in the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal's All-South Plains Class 2A Team.

Bobby Ortiz was born in San Antonio, the oldest of 11 children. He attended Texas Lutheran College in Seguin, Texas where he graduated in 1991.

His first job out of college was as a junior high coach in Beeville, Texas. At that time, Beeville did not have a junior high football program and it fell to Coach Ortiz to establish the junior high football program.

He remained in Beeville,

moving up to assistant high school coach after one year at the junior high level.

In 1995, after his four years in Beeville, Ortiz came to Bovina as an assistant with his Beeville boss, Bovina's new head coach Mike Royce.

After one year as Bovina head coach and athletic director, Royce accepted a position as head coach at Floresville, a 4A district rival of his former Beeville team.

Coach Ortiz was given the opportunity to follow Royce to Floresville. Instead he chose the Athletic Director and Head Coach position in Bovina.

Ortiz continued the off season conditioning program begun under Royce and fashioned his own overall building program for the boys, which included academic, spiritual, and physical emphasis.

Ortiz is quick to point out that the team's success can be attributed not only to the positive attitude of the players, but the dedication and assistance of his coaching staff.

Every member of Ortiz's football coaching staff was new to Bovina this year. The cadre of young coaches garnered praise from Ortiz.

"Everybody was new this year, and everybody contributed," he points out.

"Without them, we couldn't have had the success we did."

At 28 years-old, Bobby Ortiz is one of the youngest coaches to earn an athletic director and head coach position.

The won-lost record of 8-2 and the honor as South Plains 2A Coach-of-the-Year are a fitting beginning to Bobby Ortiz's head coaching career.

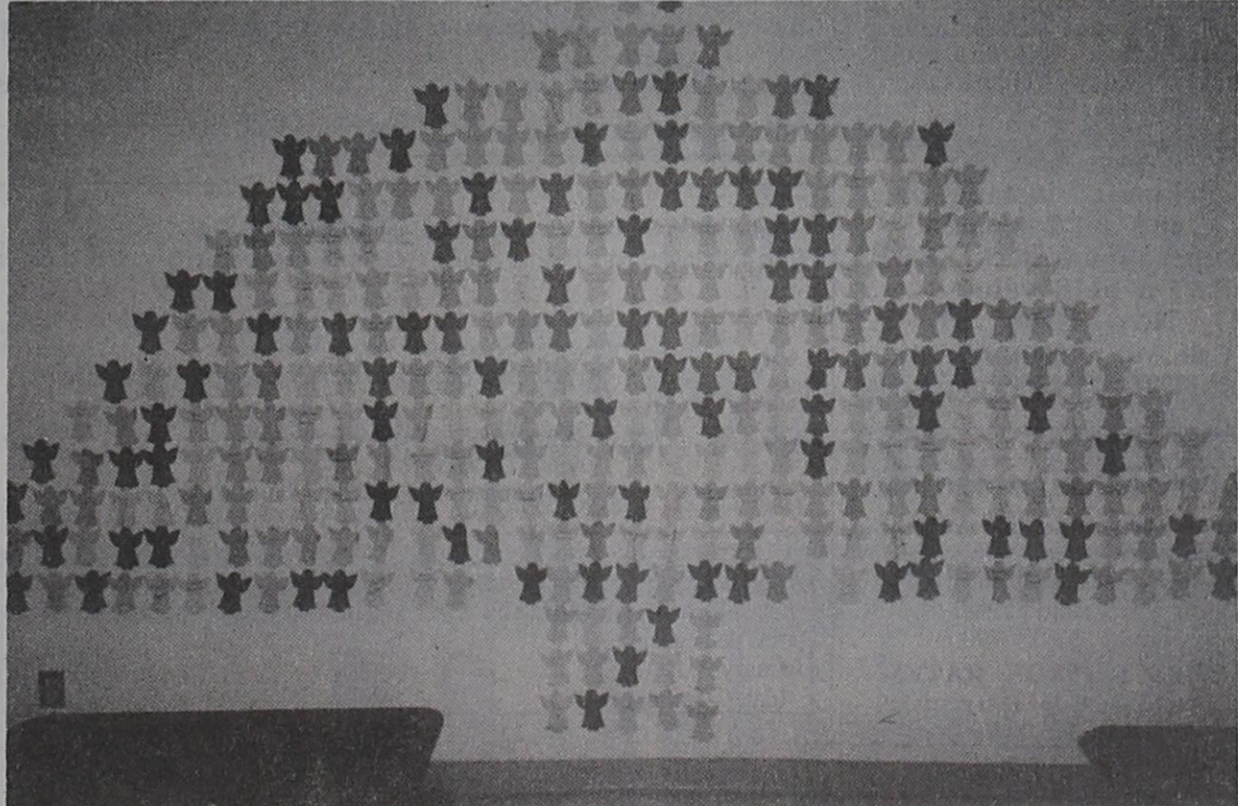
He and his wife, Anna, a pre-K teacher at Ridgelea, are active members of the Bovina community.

Congratulations to Coach Bobby Ortiz, the coaching staff, and 1996 Mustang football squad for an excellent season.



MAKE-A-WISH TEDDY.....To support the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Bovina Schools held a raffle. Tickets sold for twenty-five cents each. The winner of the teddy bear was Bovina Schools teacher Gladys Spring, shown being presented her prize by a host of little elves from the elementary school.

(Ron Carr Photo)



AMANDA'S ANGELS.....Here are the angels from the "tree of angels" in the school cafeteria. The children bought the cut-out angels for twenty-five cents each. Each angel has the child's name on it. Proceeds will go to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The cut-out angels will be presented to Amanda Prather, a Make-A-Wish beneficiary and for whom the angels are named.

(Ron Carr Photo)

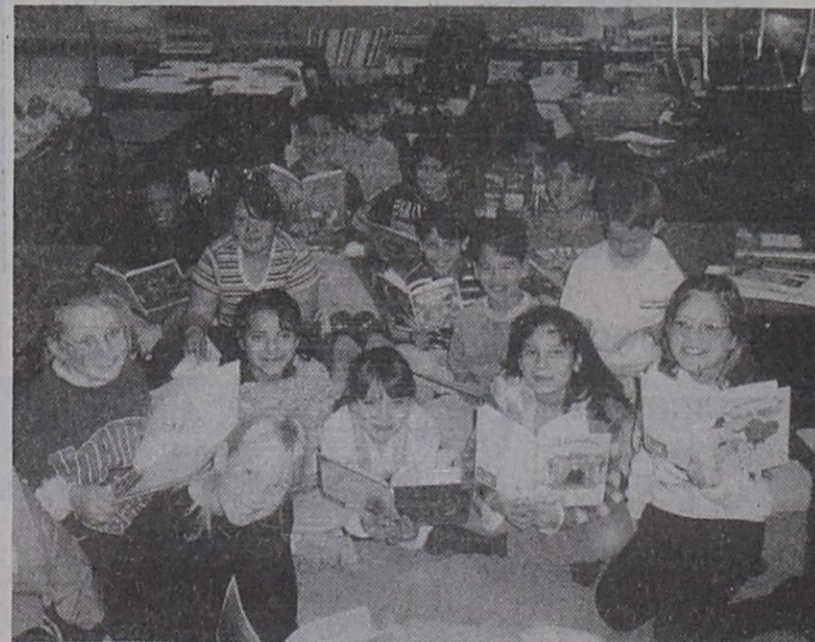


Melissa Cano is Student of the Week

Freshman Melissa Cano was selected as student-of-the-week at Bovina High School.

Cano plays JV basketball and participates in cross country. She placed sixth in state 2A cross country competition in spite of being accidentally tripped and falling at the beginning of the race.

She was nominated by teachers Eugenie Brown and Robin Bailey as a "great athlete, good student, always smiling and polite, has a pleasant personality, and represents our school well in the extracurricular activities."



READ-A-THON.....These fourth graders went on a recent day-long reading marathon to qualify for points in the Bovina accelerated reading program. They brought sleeping bags and quilts to school to make the day of reading more like home.

(Ron Carr Photo)

Reflections

...from the files of The Bovina Blade

40 Yrs Ago-Dec. 19, 1956

Santa Claus slipped away from his toy workshop at the North Pole Saturday long enough to make a two or three hour visit in Bovina.

Parmer County teachers and school board members met in Bovina School Cafeteria Wednesday night for their annual Christmas meeting.

Bovina's city commission met with Ralph Douglas, engineer from Littlefield and Tom Anderlitch, bondsman at a called meeting Wednesday night to discuss possibilities of paving for Bovina. Anderlitch represents First of Texas Corporation, a bonding company in San Antonio.

Bovina American Legion met Monday night for the second regular meeting since the organization was revived this month.

Entries in the Bovina Junior Chamber of Commerce Decoration Contest have been trickling in since announcement of the contest was made last week.

35 Yrs Ago-Dec. 20, 1961

A total of 19 people were awarded certificates for completing a six-session community civil defense course here last week.

Almost 50 hams and/or turkeys were awarded to lucky hunters during the Bovina Lion's turkey shoot held south of town Friday. The project grossed more than \$600.

Property at the intersection of Highway 86 and Third Street, which was formerly used by the State Highway Department, is now for sale, announced Lloyd Killough, highway maintenance foreman in this district.

Santa Claus is coming to town on Thursday. In addition to traditional visits with children, he will give away sacks of Christmas candy treats to all children present.

Music students of Mrs. Margaret Caldwell were featured in a Christmas program Friday afternoon in

her home.

30 Yrs Ago-Dec. 21, 1966

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bonds are first place winners in the Bovina Christmas Decoration Contest, sponsored by the Loins Club.

A total of 95 donors contributed \$799.12 to the Christmas Card Project sponsored by the Bovina Community Improvement Committee for the medical clinic and doctor fund.

25 Yrs Ago-Dec. 22, 1971

Joe Jones miraculously escaped serious injury Thursday afternoon when the semi-trailer grain truck he was driving was struck by a Santa Fe freight train at the west crossing in Bovina.

First and second place prize money in Bovina's 1971 tailfeather contest was divided between Bruce Caldwell and Chester Brown of Tucson, Arizona.

Friday, Christmas Eve, will be a holiday for some offices and firms in Bovina.

Brett Whitten is the first place winner in the 1971 Decorations Contest, sponsored by Bovina Lions Club.

20 Yrs Ago-Dec. 22, 1976

Tammy Christian was named FFA Sweetheart and Lezli Williams, FFA Plow Girl.

The Christmas Card Fund total of \$643 will be donated to the Bovina Volunteer Fire Department.

Steven Wiseman of Bovina is a centennial graduate of Texas A&M University. He is a 1970 high school graduate and the son of T.C. and Jean Wiseman.

Mike Spears, son of Wayne Spears, graduated from the Eastern New Mexico University.

15 Yrs Ago-Dec. 21, 1981

The donations to the Project Christmas Card amounted to \$1,784 and will be going to the land fund for the clinic.

10 Yrs Ago-Dec. 17, 1986

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pruet of Clovis announce the marriage of their daughter, Sandra Marie, to Steven Lee Cockerham, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cockerham of Bovina. The couple exchanged vows on December 8 at Amarillo.

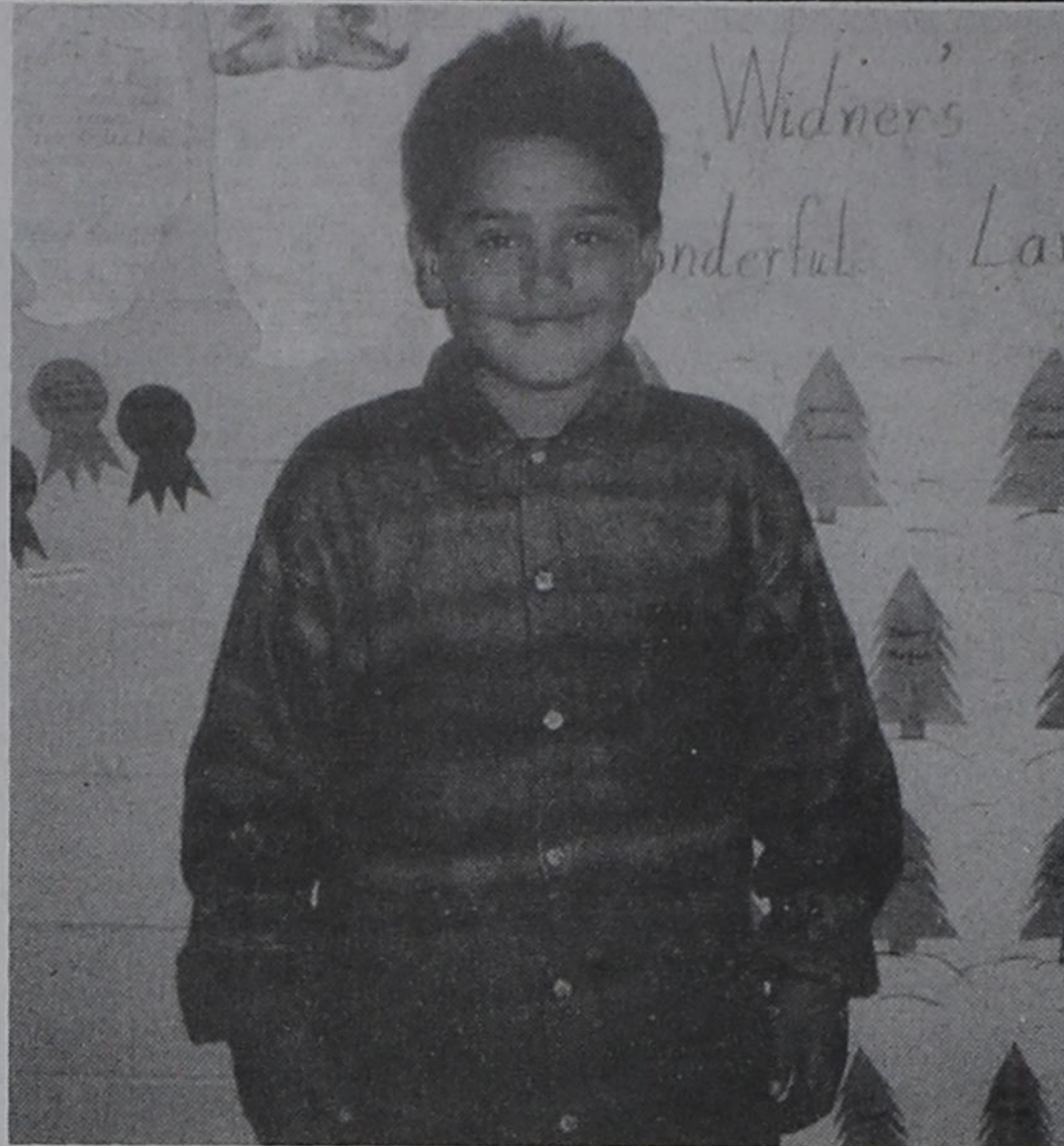
Mrs. Christina Quintana, a 1972 Bovina graduate, is a member of the Bilingual Education Student Organization at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales.

Misty Boozer, an elementary education major, was among the new members of the Texas Tech University chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta National Scholastic Honor Society for freshman and university students.

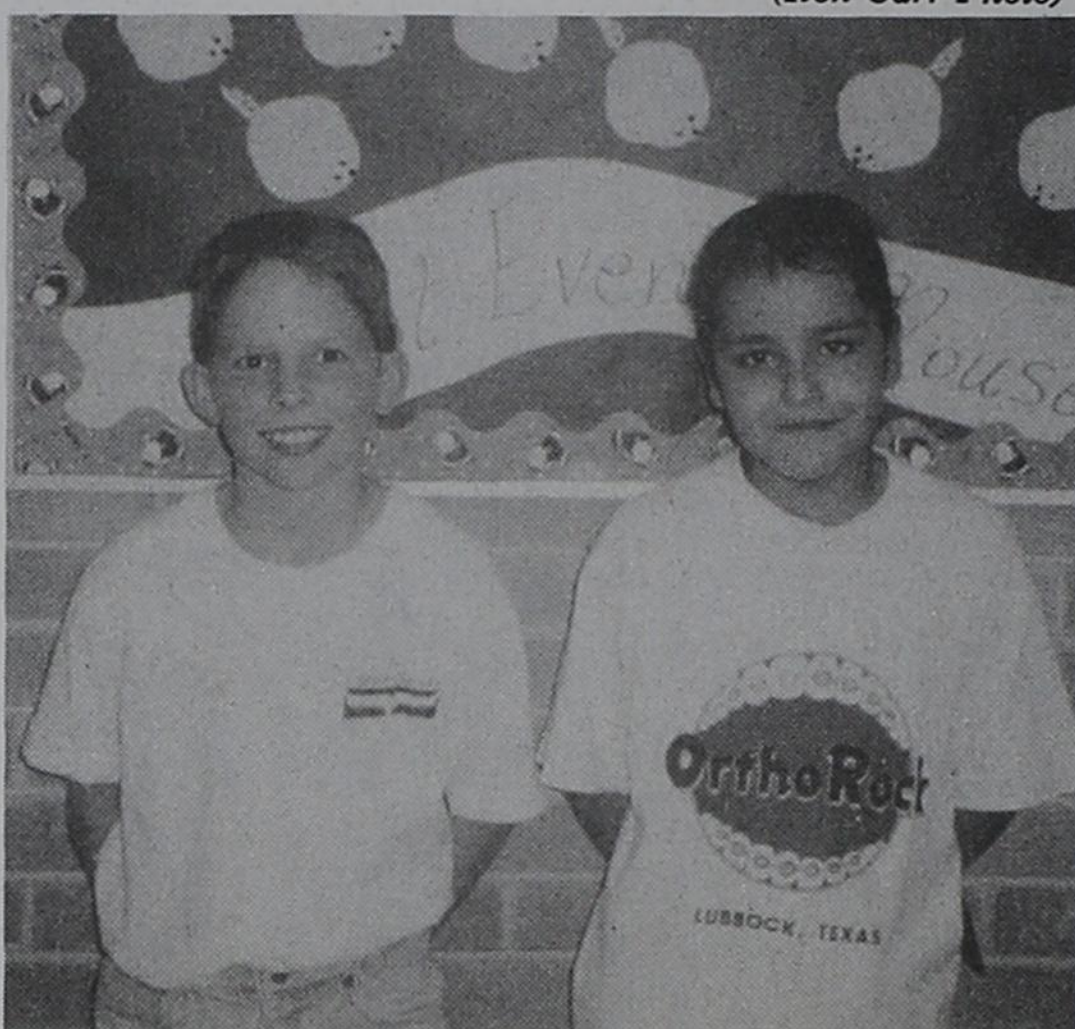
5 Yrs Ago-Dec-21, 1991

The Bovina Mustangs won two of their three games, to post a 9-3 season record. The team blasted host Farwell, 73-54 behind Corey Kirkpatrick's 28 points and Rusty Venable's 17. Venable also had ten rebounds.

Donna Griggs, Bovina High School cheerleader, returned recently from a trip to New York, where she participated as a member of the National Cheerleaders Association in the 65th annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.



BIG MAN ON CAMPUS.....Fifth grader Gonzalo Quintero has spent time reading enough books to earn his 100 point t-shirt in the accelerated reading program at Bovina Elementary. (Ron Carr Photo)



T-SHIRT TOTS.....Fourth graders Rebecca Carrillo and Trey Widner joined the Bovina Elementary 100-point club in the accelerated reading program. Both youngsters earned 100-point t-shirts. (Ron Carr Photo)

ACS Tells Dangers Of Smoking

In preparation for "The Great American Smokeout," the American Cancer Society has released a list of reasons smokers should QUIT NOW.

Within twenty minutes of stopping, a persons blood pressure and pulse rate drop to normal and body temperature of hands and feet increases to normal.

Within eight hours the carbon monoxide level in the blood drops to normal and the oxygen level in the blood increases to normal.

Twenty-four hours after stopping smoking, the chance of a heart attack decreases.

In forty-eight hours nerve endings start regrowing and the ability to smell and taste is enhanced.

Two weeks to three months after a smoker stops circulations improves, walking becomes easier and lung function increases up to 30-percent.

In one to nine months coughing, sinus congestion, fatigue and shortness of breath decrease. Cilia regrow in the lungs, increasing ability to handle mucus, clean lungs and reduce infection and the body's overall energy increases.

Within one year of stopping the excess risk of coronary heart disease is half that of a smoker.

In five years lung cancer death rate for the average former smoker (one pack a day) decreases by almost half. The stroke risk is reduced to that of a nonsmoker 5-15 years after quitting. The risk of cancer of the mouth, throat and esophagus is half that of a smoker's.

Ten years after quitting smoking the lung cancer death rate is similar to that of nonsmokers and pre-cancerous cells are replaced. The risk of cancer of the mouth, throat, bladder, kidney and pancreas decreases.

Finally, fifteen years after a smoker quits, the risk of coronary heart disease is that of a nonsmoker.

P.R.P.C. Establishes Revolving Loan Fund

Assisted by a \$500,000 grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC) has established a regional revolving loan fund (RLF) designed to stimulate economic development in the region. The RLF may be used by eligible counties and communities to either encourage the location of new industry or help expand existing businesses.

While the grant from EDA will comprise the largest portion of the RLF, communities wishing to utilize the fund will be required to provide a 25 per cent match when a loan is made. For example, if an application was submitted for \$100,000, 75 per cent of the amount requested or \$75,000 would come from the grant. The remaining 25 per cent or \$25,000 could come from the local chamber, economic development entity, city or county.

As the loan is repaid, both the grant funds and local match remain in the RLF. A key element of the program is that no more than one-third of the total project cost may be requested from the RLF. The remaining balance of the project could be a mix of equity injection and other loan sources. The use of proceeds may include working capital, consolidation of accounts payable, purchase

of machinery and equipment and purchase of building and land. Existing loans cannot be refinanced.

The term of the loan is tied to the useful life of the asset financed. Working capital loans may not be more than five years while the maximum term for building and land may not exceed 25 years. The interest rate will normally be at prime.

Businesses located in specific counties as designated by EDA may access the RLF. Those counties are Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Sherman, Swisher and Wheeler.

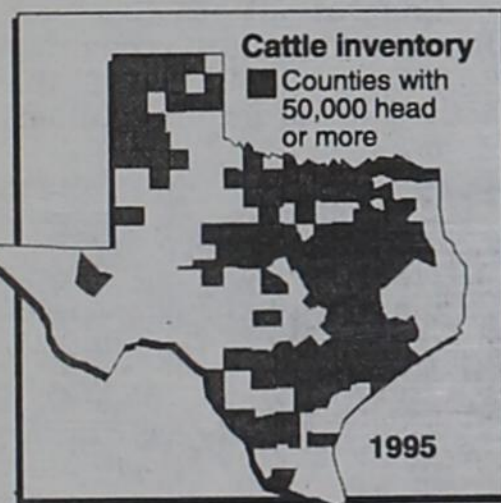
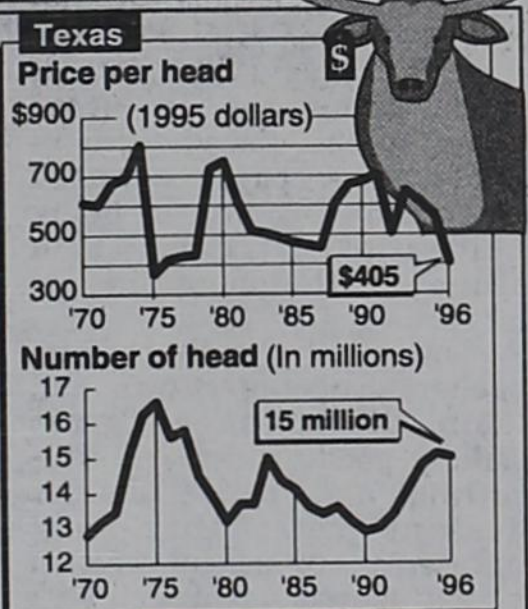
The RLF will be administered by a board composed of Panhandle residents with business and financial experience. Initial members of the RLF Board are: Pam Ashford of Groom; Juan Cantu of Booker; Nina Beth Hargrove of Perryton; F.C. "Sonny" Hilburn, Jr. of Shamrock; Tommy Hudson of Wellington; Hubert Jones of Memphis; James Meekins of Borger; John Sherrod of Hereford; Charlotte Staffus of Vega and Jerry Wilson of Pampa.

For more information on the revolving loan fund, contact Perna Strickland at the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (806) 372-3381.

Keeping an eye on Texas

Cattle ranchers suffer losses

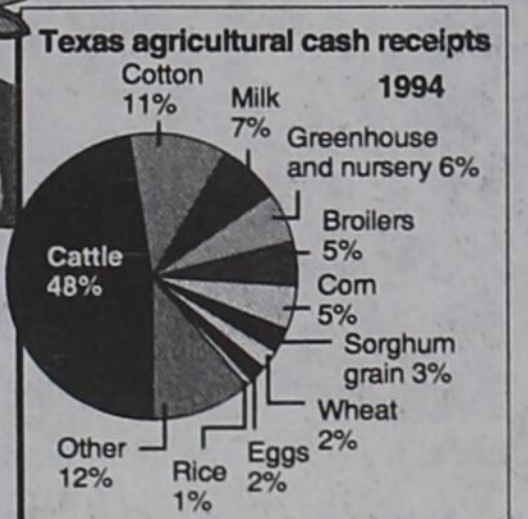
The price per head of cattle has dropped to its lowest point since 1975 due to an abundance of cattle, the Texas drought and the increased cost of supplemental feed. Imports from Mexico appear to have little effect on the market.



After the North American Free Trade Agreement, Mexico and Canada have supplied only 2.7 percent of the demand for beef in the U.S.

Cattle: King of ag market

The cattle industry is one of the largest in Texas. Cattle sales made up almost half of all agricultural cash receipts and exceeded receipts of natural gas produced in the state in 1995.



SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, U.S. Department of Commerce, and Texas Agricultural Statistics Service.

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The Bovina Blade

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Bill Ellis.....Publisher Ron Carr.....News Editor Scooter Russell.....Advertising

NOTICE OF BOARD ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION de Regentes)

To the Registered Voters of Bovina, Texas: (A los votantes registrados de) Bovina Texas)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on January 18, 1997, for voting in a special board election, to elect one (1) trustee. (Notifiquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales sitados abajo se abriran desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 18 de enero de 1997 para votar en la Eleccion para elegir uno regente (1).

LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES (DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)

Bovina I.S.D.
500 Halsell Street
Bovina, Texas 79009

Absentee voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at (La votacion en ausencia en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en)

Ridgelea Primary School, 1000 Hwy. 86, Bovina, Texas 79009 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. beginning on December 30, 1996

(entre las 8:00 de la mañana y las 4:00 de la tarde empezando el 30 de diciembre, 1996) (date) (fecha)

and ending on January 14, 1997. (date) (y terminando el 14 de enero, 1997.)

Additional absentee voting will be held at the same location as follows:* (La votacion en ausencia ademas se llevara a cabo en el mismo sitio de tel manera:)

Date (Fecha)	Hours (Horas)

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan enviarse a:)

Pat Read
(Name of Absentee Voting Clerk)
(Nombre del Secretario de la Votacion En Ausencia)
Box 70
(Address) (Direccion)
Bovina, Texas 79009
(City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) Zona Postal)

Recommended but not required

Applications by ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el) January 9, 1997 (date) (fecha)

Issued this the 17th day of December, 1996. (Emitado este dia 17 de diciembre, 1996)

Aue Nuttall

Signature of Presiding Officer (Firma del Oficial que Preside)

*If absentee voting is not going to be conducted on either Saturday or the last Sunday during the period of absentee voting delete this part.

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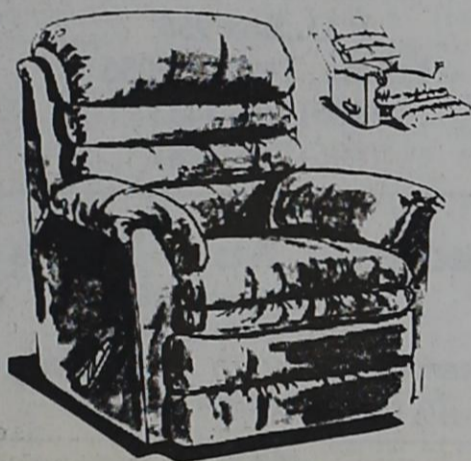
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Merry Christmas
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OFF**

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OFF**

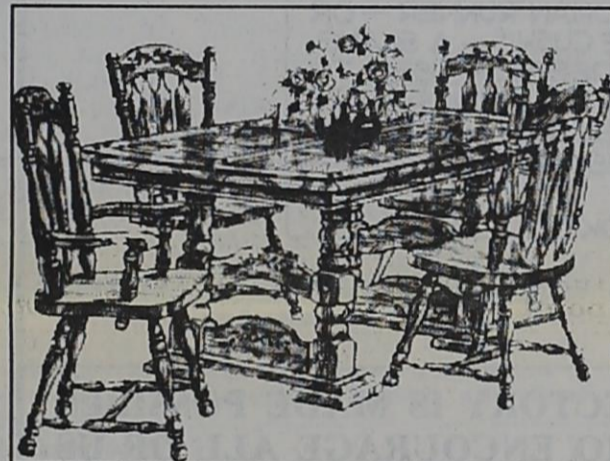
We are finishing another GREAT year in Plainview and Hereford and want to say THANKS to the many, many fine folks we have served during 1996. We will be closed Wednesday, January 1, for inventory and during the next two weeks, our sales people have taken BIG MARK-DOWNS STOREWIDE on OVER 200 ITEMS that must go before inventory. We want to SELL IT - NOT COUNT IT. As always, we have bank and in-store financing, FAST credit approval and FREE DELIVERY in our trade area.



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FRIONA/BOVINA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

Facts About The **BIBLE** BY JOHN LEHTI

A MESSAGE WITH GOOD-BAD TIDINGS!

AHIMAAZ WAS A SON OF ZADOK, THE HIGH PRIEST, IN KING DAVID'S REIGN. HE AND JONATHAN, THE SON OF THE OTHER HIGH PRIEST, ABIATHAR, HAD BEEN MAINTAINING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN KING DAVID'S LOYAL FORCES IN JERUSALEM AND PRINCE ABSALOM'S REBEL FORCES, ENSCONCED DEEP WITHIN THE FORESTS OF EPHRAIM (II SAM. 15:27, 36; -17:20). WHEN ABSALOM'S POORLY DISCIPLINED AND BADLY LED TROOPS WENT DOWN IN A ROUT BEFORE KING DAVID'S SKILLFUL VETERANS AND ABSALOM, HIMSELF, WAS KILLED, AHIMAAZ BEGGED JOAB, DAVID'S COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, FOR THE HONOR OF RUNNING AHEAD OF THE RETURNING VICTORIOUS TROOPS TO TELL THE KING OF THE VICTORY. (II SAM. 18:19) BUT JOAB REFUSED AHIMAAZ BECAUSE KING DAVID'S SON WAS KILLED IN THE BATTLE! INSTEAD, JOAB TOLD AN ETHIOPIAN TO RUN AND "...TELL THE KING WHAT THOU HAST SEEN!" PERHAPS JOAB, A WISE VETERAN, KNEW THAT BEARERS OF BAD TIDINGS WERE OFTEN KILLED ON THE SPOT—AND AHIMAAZ WAS THE SON OF THE HIGH PRIEST, WHEREAS THE ETHIOPIAN WAS A NOBODY, SO...! NEVERTHELESS, AHIMAAZ WAS THE FASTER OF THE TWO, BECAUSE AFTER PESTERING JOAB UNTIL HE GOT HIS PERMISSION TO RUN, AHIMAAZ STILL GOT THERE FIRST! BUT HE ONLY TOLD KING DAVID OF THE VICTORY—LEAVING IT TO THE ETHIOPIAN TO TELL THE BAD NEWS! (II SAM. 18:32). LATER IN HIS CAREER, AHIMAAZ WAS THE TAX COLLECTOR FOR KING SOLOMON AND MARRIED ONE OF SOLOMON'S DAUGHTERS, BASMATH. (I KINGS 4:15).



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE ETHIOPIAN RUNNER—OR "THE CUSHI"—A SLANG EXPRESSION USED TO DENOTE AN ETHIOPIAN IN THOSE DAYS—THE BIBLE DOES NOT RECORD!!

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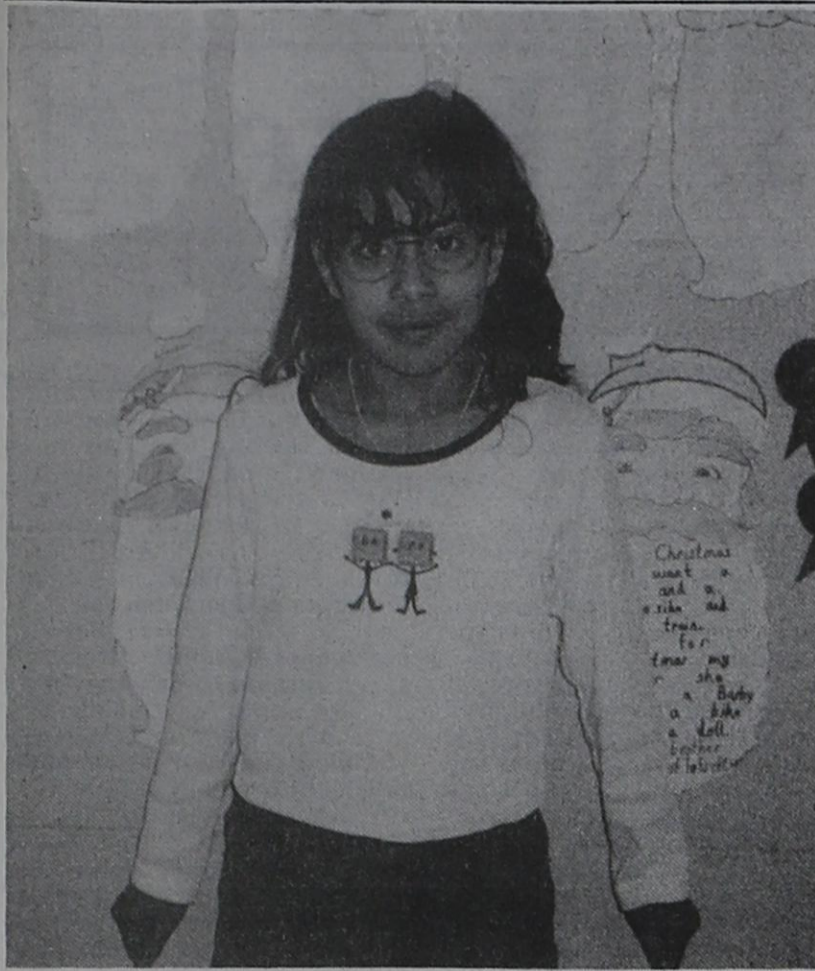
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SHE'S BACK.....Last year Jolyene Ortiz earned more than 200 points in the accelerated reading club. This year, as a fifth grader, she is once again leading the pack. So far, she has more than 200 reading points and has earned a duffle bag for her efforts. (Ron Carr Photo)

Retailers Concerned About Propane Prices

Propane customers who have purchased fuel in the last few weeks may have noticed a price increase that has Texas propane marketers both baffled and frustrated.

With only the earliest hints of cooler weather heralding the coming of winter, the wholesale price of propane during the first week of October jumped nearly 50 percent over a price that already has remained steadily higher than normal throughout the summer.

While most marketers absorbed the higher summertime prices, this latest price spike has translated into at least slightly higher costs for customers.

If the current higher prices hold, average Texas propane customers can expect to see a \$75 to \$100 increase in their propane bills over the entire heating season, according to the Texas Propane Gas Association.

The reasons for the price increase are many and varied, said TPGA President George Welch Jr., who is the president of Cass County Butane Co. in Atlanta, in East Texas.

"Typically propane inventories nationwide are built up from March through October," he explained. "This year we are reaching the end of that period with lower-than-normal inventories. Even though propane stocks are adequate to see us through a normal winter, then the numbers are off, the market is affected."

Another reason for the price increase is the current high price of crude oil.

"Even though 85 percent of the propane produced in the United States comes from natural gas processing, the price of crude is a benchmark figure that affects the price of propane," said TPGA Executive Director John Danks.

He said inventories are low because of several factors. Propane is one of the products

used by chemical companies as a feedstock for the manufacture of plastics and other products, and usage by the chemical companies was high throughout the summer.

"The wholesale price of propane generally has remained steady for the last five years," Welch noted.

"The last two price hikes we saw in 1989 and 1990, were directly attributable to arctic weather and to the Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. The reasons for this year's price increase are a little harder to pinpoint.

"Ultimately the weather will determine the price and ready availability of propane," Welch said.

Customers who arrange with their local propane service provider to be on a "keep-full" basis, whereby the provider fills the customer's tank at regularly scheduled intervals, are most assured of uninterrupted service, Welch noted.

Danks said that in the event of a critical cold snap, the Texas Railroad Commission has the authority to take emergency action for a limited period to assure adequate supplies of propane reach all areas of the state. The commission was scheduled to test its emergency notification system this week.

Three File for Sch. Bd. Election

Three candidates have filed for the vacancy on the Bovina School Board, according to Superintendent Sue Nuttall.

Candidates are Estella Ortiz, Bryan Thurmond, and George Villarreal.

The election is set for Saturday, January 18, 1997. Early voting begins on December 30 and ends on January 14.

Scooter's Scoops

By SCOOTER RUSSELL



Severe Winter weather hit Bovina Tuesday morning and was expected to all week. Early that morning reports from Clovis showed a temperature of 13 degrees with a chill factor of 19 below. It is supposed to be even colder by the end of the week.

Joe Looney has loved over ninety years in Bovina and said we have to have this kind of weather once in a while to kill the bugs and insects. Not really bad except for the cold and wind because only about an inch of snow covered the ground by Tuesday morning. I do believe it could kill the bugs, for sure!

The annual Christmas party for the Webb family was hosted by Polly Mills at her home on Saturday, December 7, with fifty-two attending which included nine children of the late Bessie Webb's children, out of ten.

They were served barbecued brisket with all the trimmings plus other Christmas goodies for the noon meal and enjoyed throughout the afternoon.

Wayne Webb of Azle was not able to attend, as his wife was ill. Those attending were: Larry and Patsy Webb of Hale Center and their daughter Becky of Amarillo; Bob and Arlene Webb of Burkburnett; Sam and Rhonda Webb of Farwell; Rachel Ketcherside and children, Esau and Jord of Lubbock.

Also, Al and Kathy Webb of Dimmitt; Beth Casus and children, Raul Jr., Robert and Bethany of Dimmitt; LaAnn Pigg and children, Megan McKinsey and Tate of Dimmitt; Art and Joyce Smith of Farwell.

Also, Dale Sikes of Farwell, Rick and Amy Sikes and son Garrett of Fort Worth; Twila Gorley and children, James and Jessica of Amarillo; Tommy and June

Muse and children, Sheila and Bryon of Lubbock; Mel and Pam Clark of Bovina and Melissa Taylor of Bovina.

Also, Dan and Debbie Goldsmith and daughter, Sarah of Dimmitt; Karla Withrow and kiddos, Layla, Emily and Jordan of Littlefield; Kara Fulcher and Von Flucher of Lorenzo; Patti Gencarelli of LaPorte; Floyd and Ann Lee Englant of Bovina; Tabitha and Randa Englant of Bovina; Lillie Limbacher of Olton, aunt of the Webb children.

Patti, daughter of Polly Mills came in Saturday from La Porte and surprised her mom. She attended church with the family on Sunday and left Sunday afternoon.

Brother John and Bernice Ferguson celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary at their daughter Suzanne's home in Houston. Friends spoke with them on the telephone and they said they were leaving the next day on a cruise, an anniversary present from their children.

They lived here some years ago and pastored the First Baptist Church in Bovina.

Buster Morgan was hospitalized a week ago Friday with breathing problems. His condition has improved a little but he may be there a few days because of the cold weather that is supposed to get worse by the end of this week.

I talked with Ella Jo Stormes Tuesday morning and she said her mother-in-law, Grace Stormes, who lives with them is still in the hospital in Clovis in serious condition with breathing problems. She is in a room now and out of ICU.

Ella Jo's husband, Sammy, was hospitalized for a couple of days in the Clovis hospital and tests showed he had diverticulitis. He is better and back at work.

Their daughter-in-law, Jana and husband, John and baby, Kimberly, will soon be moving the first of the year to Wichita Falls from Canyon.

Jana has been in school and working at Walmart in Canyon. She was one of thirty students picked from 200 who applied for the radiologist program. She will attend one year of classes in Wichita and work at Walmart, then will be moving to San Angelo where she will get her internship and after a year be qualified with her degree.

John is planning to go to a mechanics school at that time. He has been employed at Taylors in Canyon.

Joe Looney was telling me about her daughter, June, who is still in Houston taking kemo treatments. She became ill recently with a temperature of 104 and was hospitalized for a time. She is much better and it was thought that her immune system was very weak at that time.

She has been in Houston taking kemo off and on for a type of cancer that causes red splotches just below the skin. So far she hasn't suffered pain.

Elsie Smith, Billy Smith's mom was hospitalized in the Clovis hospital the first part of last week suffering with problems with blood clots. She has been released and is back in the rest home now.

Out deepest sympathy to Jill Timms, whose grandmother died in a fire at her home about forty miles from McAllister, Oklahoma. I was unable to get in touch with Jill but friends said the grandmother was taking care of two of her grandchildren whose mother was murdered five years ago. One of the teens is a mother herself to a two year old boy. The grand mother cared for this child also.

The two teens, one a senior in high school and the other in college, were not home but the two year old boy was. He passed away in the fire. May God give this family strength to get through all this.

Charlsie Eubank suffered a broken arm a few weeks ago when she fell in her kitchen. She said she could see the blood under the skin and thought it was just bruised but she drove herself to the hospital in Friona and after x-rays was told it was broken.

She had to have a splint put on it and a friend who was there brought her home, even though she thought she was able to drive, but the doctor didn't want her to. She has the second splint on and is getting along real well.

Friends said Lee Stevenson has been moved to a room in the Clovis hospital after being in ICU for some time with breathing problems and double pneumonia. They said she looked great and is getting along so much better.

Three-year-old Jake Brozek, son of Justin and Arlene Brozek, celebrated his birthday with a party at his home on Saturday. Little friends who attended were Kami, Kasi and Kelsi Birdsong, Scott Steelman, and Mike Garner.

Cousins Hanah and Heather Miller, and Robin Smith also attended. Adults who attended were Kristy Steelman and Gilda Garner.

Billy and Suez Smith, grandparents and Herman and Edna Estes, great grandparents, all of Bovina were also there for the big party.

THINK ABOUT IT: One of our greatest possessions is the 24 hours directly ahead of us, so we must use it wisely...Have a great week and stay warm, Scooter.

BOVINA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND COOPERATIVE EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1996

Data Control Codes	1B 100-199 General Fund		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2B 200-499 Special Revenue Funds		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Budget	Actual		Budget	Actual	
REVENUES:						
5700 Local, Intermediate, and Out-of-State	\$577,695	\$598,930	\$21,235	\$27,800	\$28,548	\$748
5800 State Program Revenues	2,139,682	2,208,022	68,340	37,044	36,154	(890)
5900 Federal Program Revenues	6,676	1,042	(5,634)	351,844	344,079	(7,765)
Excluding Revenues Funding Fn. 14	\$2,724,053	\$2,807,994	\$83,941	\$416,688	\$408,781	(\$7,907)
5014 Revenues Collected for Funding Fn. 14	-	-	-	-	-	-
5030 Total Revenue	\$2,724,053	\$2,807,994	\$83,941	\$416,688	\$408,781	(\$7,907)
EXPENDITURES:						
0011 Instruction	\$1,615,272	\$1,604,234	\$11,038	\$181,083	\$169,874	\$11,209
0015 Public Education Grant Program	-	-	-	-	-	-
0016 Juvenile Justice Alternative Edu. Prog.	-	-	-	-	-	-
0017 Charter Schools	-	-	-	-	-	-
0021 Instructional Administration	5,500	1,703	3,797	5,468	5,468	-
0022 Instructional Resources & Media Services	60,304	59,472	832	-	-	-
0023 School Administration	186,394	183,159	3,235	1,966	1,966	-
0025 Curriculum & Instruct. Staff Development	6,100	6,100	-	1,064	776	288
0026 Communication and Dissemination	-	-	-	-	-	-
0031 Guidance and Counseling Services	20,548	19,946	602	21,468	21,468	-
0032 Attendance and Social Work Service	-	-	-	-	-	-
0033 Health Services	22,556	20,867	1,689	8,711	8,711	-
0034 Student Transportation	77,687	75,227	2,460	-	-	-
0036 Co-curricular Activities	118,013	107,213	10,800	-	-	-
0037 Food Services	3,367	3,367	-	218,613	208,089	10,524
0041 General Administration	166,116	161,359	4,757	-	-	-
0042 Debt Services	-	-	-	-	-	-
0051 Plant Maintenance and Operations	274,038	256,705	17,333	3,315	3,315	-
0052 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	332,013	331,997	16	-	-	-
0075 Data Processing Services	5,495	5,495	-	-	-	-
0081 Community Service	-	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditures Excluding Function 14	\$2,893,403	\$2,836,844	\$56,559	\$441,688	\$419,667	\$22,021
0014 Inst. Services Between Districts	-	-	-	-	-	-
6050 Total Expenditures	\$2,893,403	\$2,836,844	\$56,559	\$441,688	\$419,667	\$22,021
1100 Excess (Def.) Revenues Over Expenditures	(\$169,350)	(\$28,850)	140,500	(\$25,000)	(\$10,886)	14,114
7990 Other Resources	-	778	778	25,000	11,294	(13,706)
8990 Other (Uses)	(25,000)	(11,294)	13,706	-	-	-
1200 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues & Other Resources Over Expenditures & Other Uses	(\$194,350)	(\$39,366)	\$154,984	-	\$408	\$408
0100 Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	818,942	818,942	-	4,480	4,480	-
1300 Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	-	24,556	24,556	-	-	-
3000 Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$624,592	\$804,132	\$179,540	\$4,480	\$4,888	\$408

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Dr. A.R. Ploudre

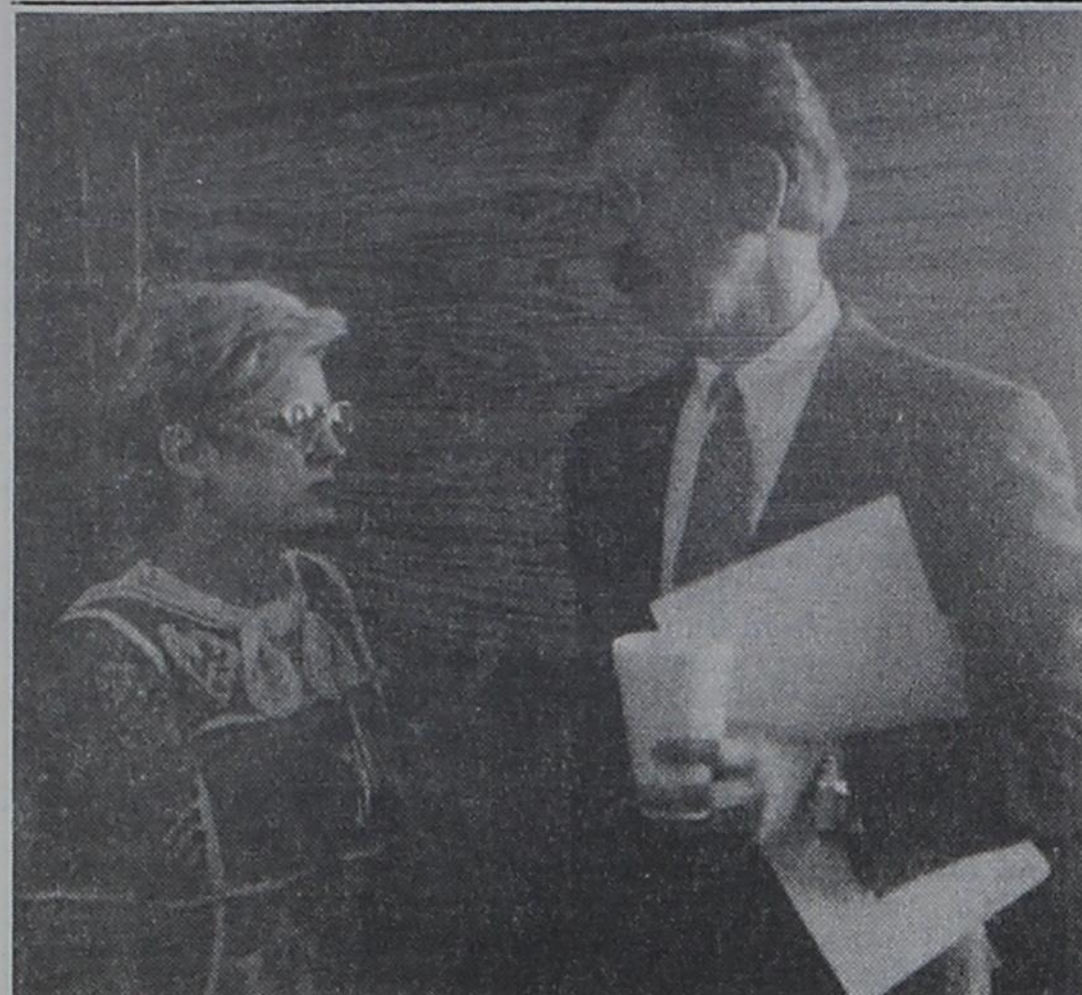
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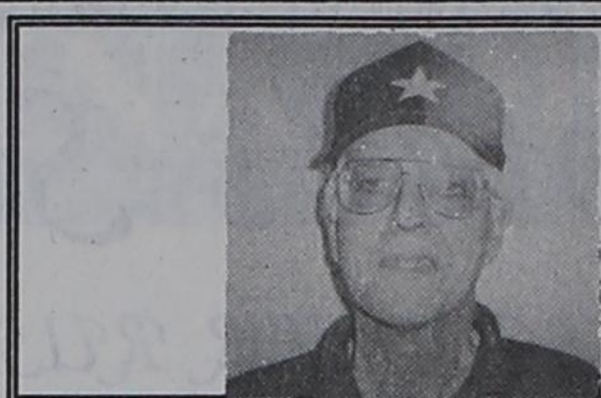
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BIVINS VISITS....State Senator Teel Bivins conducted a town hall meeting in Friona on Monday, December 9 at the Depot in City Park. Bivins, center, discusses the upcoming 75th Legislative Session, and the bills he will introduce, with County Judge Bonnie Clayton and Floyd Reeve. (Ron Carr Photo)



Out Here

By RON CARR

Most newspapers, including this one, do not print anonymous letters. Even if they are nice anonymous letters.

Truth is, newspapers do not get many nice anonymous letters because if you have something nice to say, you usually want everyone to know you said it.

It occurred to me that this is the time of year when anonymity accelerates.

In other words, there are many anonymous good deeds performed, such as donations to assist needy families and countless volunteers who help out because they want to.

And there are many anonymous "bad guys" who take advantage of the goodness of the season to

steal and pilfer.

Many people lose Christmas decorations from their front yards or Christmas gifts stolen from their cars. The takers certainly would prefer to remain anonymous.

People who have problems can seek help from many "anonymous" organizations like Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and any of the other numerous 12-step anonymous programs.

In today's electronic inclined, instant communications, Internet, media frenzied world, a lot of people who would prefer to remain anonymous, aren't.

Like a first-grader who kisses his little girl classmate and is suspended from school for sexual harassment and makes national newspaper and TV headlines.

Most people thrust into the spotlight had rather remain anonymous. Others work hard to shake off anonymity and become famous (and rich).

One irony in the anonymous vs. famous issue that bothers me are those famous people who perform in athletics or show business, get paid millions of dollars, then want to be anonymous too.

They make millions because millions of anonymous fans buy tickets and tennis shoes they endorse, yet they shun the spotlight and refuse to give a kid an autograph.

Jesus Christ, whose birthday we will celebrate on December 25, began life in a stable. A man who started out as an anonymous baby, yet whose name and fame endure almost 2,000 years later.

So why all this sudden fascination with being anonymous? Well, several weeks ago I received an anonymous letter.

It was addressed to me, with an Amarillo postmark,

handwritten on both sides of a piece of tablet paper.

For whatever reason, I didn't throw it away. I kept moving it around out of my way, and every now and then would read it again.

The first sentence said "I don't appreciate it very much for you to make the kind of remarks you do about our President."

It seems that in one of my "playoff prayer" columns I had been thankful that God kept "President Clinton and her husband" out of the country for ten days.

The anonymous writer had enclosed a clipping of that particular two paragraphs from my column.

"Shame on you, using God's name to say a prayer about it", the letter continued.

I will paraphrase a couple of other sentences: ".....its the remarks like you make that make me sick. The news media stinks and you are a part of it."

"Peoples thinking are messed up enough without people like you adding to it.....your article sometimes make me want to puke (sic)." (I think the author meant "puke". At least I hope they did.)

The part that bothered me the most was near the end of the letter. "Im very sure God will not listen to you about prayers like this....." The letter was signed "anom"

It is not my job in life to offend people. None of us can get through life without hurting some feelings or making another person angry, but I still have a hard time with it.

On the other hand, it is not my job in life to satisfy the often single-minded anonymous community who prefer to tell me and you what to think and how to live.

It is my choice not to like

Bill Clinton and I have no intention of referring to him as President Clinton. You are free to call him whatever you want to.

I am especially bothered when some shadowy figure is "very sure God will not listen to you....." What part of a prayer does God listen to?

Oh well, it is just a newspaper column. Besides, 'tis the season to be jolly.

Thanks for sticking around all year and I hope you have the most joyous and peaceful Christmas season.

Even you, anom!!

Wed. Dec 18, 1996

Dear God,

Here is a copy of my column.

Since the person who wrote the anonymous letter seems to know more about you than I do, and invoked your name several times, I wanted you to have a copy for your files.

I thank you for all the blessings of the week, for the opportunity to see the Chieftains play in Texas Stadium, and for all the fans who returned home safely.

Touch the hearts and lift the spirits of the Chieftain players and coaches who were good enough to play in a state semifinal contest and made it to the final four in 3A football.

It is okay for us to be disappointed along with them, God, but assure them that we are in no way disappointed in them.

Thank you for your many blessings and be ever with us throughout the holiday season.

Especially bless all anonymous people. May they forever stay that way.

Merry Christmas, Ron Carr

P.S. Just out of curiosity, God, which part of this did you listen to?

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For more information on this listing, call J.B. Sudderth Realty at (806) 481-3288; Darren Sudderth, State Certified General Real Estate Appraiser.

Happy Birthday Bovina

Bovina resident's birthdays from December 22-January 12.

Dec 22-Dick Steelman, Tabitha Englant.
 Dec 23-Artie Faye O'Hair
 Dec 24-Nita Marshall
 Dec 25-Maria Robledo, Ethel Johnson.
 Dec 26-Dean Wines.
 Dec 27-Norma Villarreal, Joe Steelman.
 Dec 28-Tammy Stormes, Francis Johnson.
 Dec 29-Angie Riley, Scott Riley.

Dec 31-Michelle Stanberry, Joshua Parson, Brenda Wilson, Bill Ellis.

Jan 1-Jody Wilburn, David Murphy.
 Jan 3-Jerry Ward.
 Jan 4-Judy Hromas, Brad Hromas, Peter Vanegas, Sandra Cockerham, Joe Black, Sr., Brandi Ventura.

Jan 5-Nora Fuentes, Charlsie Eubanks, Ricky Jamerson.
 Jan 6-Don Teague.
 Jan 7-Wayne McClaran.
 Jan 8-Belinda Dale, Ruben Serna.

Jan 9-Ricky Morgan, Galen Carson, Aaron Ramon.
 Jan 10-Rocky Bartlett.
 Jan 12-Andy Stormes, Patricia Parsons, Melinda Ramon.

If you would like to add a friend or relative to our permanent birthday roster, call the Blade at 238-1523 and leave a message or write Drawer B, 79009.

Boys Win Whitharral Tournament

Last weekend, the Mustang varsity swept three games to win the championship division of the Whitharral basketball tournament.

In the opening game Thursday, December 12, Bovina handled Morton easily by a score of 69-34, led by Tony Beauchamp's 31-point performance and eleven rebounds.

In game two, the Mustangs edged the Shallowater JV 49-35. This time it was Luke Steelman leading with 24 points and nine rebounds.

The championship game against Anton was nose-to-nose as Anton led 25-24 after three quarters. But the Mustangs outscored Anton in the fourth quarter 23-9 and won the championship game by a final score of 49-34.

Scoring in the final game was fairly even as Luke Steelman led again with 12 points. Others were Martin Reyna-10, Adan Perez-10, Herman Marquez-9, and Beauchamp-8.

Individual statistics for the 3-game tournament were: Luke Steelman-50 points, 23 rebounds; Tony Beauchamp-49 & 34, Adan Perez, 27 & 9; Martin Reyna, 17 & 14, Herman Marquez, 17 & 13.

Also scoring during the tournament were Jason Kerby-4, Derrick Vanegas-2, and Albert Larrea-1.

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Roast Beef	\$2.79	\$4.49
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Italian (Sandwich Pepperoni, Hard Salami)	\$1.99	\$3.79
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Tuna	\$2.79	\$4.49
Extra Meat	\$1.00	\$2.00
Extra Cheese	\$0.25	\$0.50
Bacon	\$1.00	\$2.00

HOT STUFF PIZZA

ANYTIME'S A GREAT TIME FOR HOT STUFF!

	Personal Size Pan Pizza	Super Savor™ Single	Super Savor™ Double	Medium	Large
1 Topping	\$2.29	\$5.49	\$9.99	\$7.99	\$10.59
2 Topping	\$2.69	\$6.49	\$10.99	\$9.89	\$12.09
Breakfast Pizza	\$2.69	\$6.99	\$11.49	\$10.89	\$12.99
Breakfast Supreme Pizza	\$2.89	\$6.99	\$11.49	\$10.89	\$12.99
Specialty Pizzas	\$2.69	\$6.99	\$11.49	\$10.89	\$12.99
▼ Garden Style (Mushroom, Green Pepper, Green Olive, Black Olive, and Onion) ▼ Five-Meat Supreme™ (Beef, Pork Sausage, Italian Sausage, Pepperoni, and Canadian Bacon) ▼ Bacon Cheeseburger (Beef, Bacon, Pickles, and Cheddar Cheese) ▼ BBQ Beef ▼ Double Pepperoni					
Masterpiece Supreme®	\$2.89	\$6.99	\$11.49	\$10.89	\$12.99
(Pepperoni, Beef, Pork Sausage, Italian Sausage, Canadian Bacon, Mushroom, Green pepper, Black Olive, Onion)					
Additional Toppings					\$1.30 \$1.50
(Pepperoni, Beef, Pork Sausage, Italian Sausage, Canadian Bacon, Mushroom, Green Pepper, Green Olive, Black Olive, Onion, Jalapeno Peppers, Jalapeno Salsa Sauce, Extra Cheese)					