

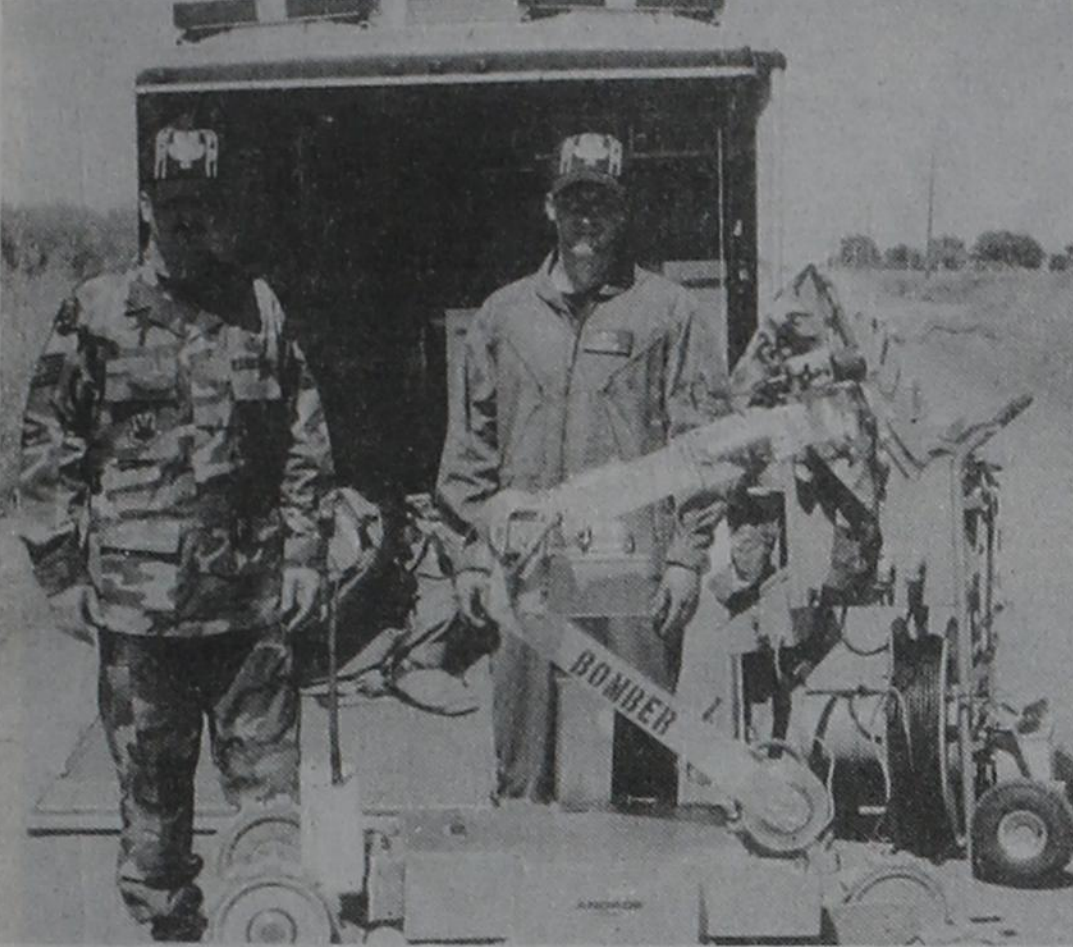
The Bovina Blade

VOLUME 46, NUMBER 4

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1999

EIGHT PAGES

Watch for the
Annual
Football Contest
starting next week!



CANNON EOD...Tech. Sgt. Mike Korbely, left, and Senior Airman Richard Soares, of the 27th Civil Engineer Squadron, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit at Cannon Air Force Base are packing up their remote-controlled robot, named Bomber, after assisting Parmer County in a potential bomb scare
ron carr photo

County Law Officials & EOD Defuse Potential Pipe Bomb

It turned out to be a hoax but for about three hours in the blistering afternoon sun last Tuesday, it was a serious threat.

At about 12:50 p.m. last Tuesday, a Farwell resident called law enforcement officials about an object that appeared to be a pipe bomb.

It was spotted lying in the dirt road intersection of Railroad Road and County Road X about 1/2 mile east of Farwell.

The object was two pipes taped together with a watch timer and wires attached. Texico police officers and Parmer County Sheriff's deputies arrived at the scene and called the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) unit from Cannon Air Force Base.

Deputies also notified BNSF Railroad who closed the tracks to train traffic for several hours. The object was adjacent to the tracks.

The EOD team used a remote-controlled robot named Bomber to check out the

object and move it further up the dirt road where it was subsequently detonated.

EOD personnel reported that the device was a hoax and there was no explosive material inside the object.

Parmer County Chief Deputy Gary Blair was quoted as saying, "While fortunately this device was a hoax, we appreciate the rapid response of the EOD team from Cannon Air Force Base. This allowed us to safely handle a potentially dangerous situation."

Officials were unsure whether the device was placed intentionally or fell out of a vehicle. In either event, the trick tied up three Sheriff's deputies, two Texico officers, a colonel and two airmen from Cannon Air Force Base and countless BNSF personnel and stopped train traffic for three hours.

The Sheriff's office has no leads at press time on how the device was placed at the scene or who placed it.

Expansion To Bovina Ahead For WT Services

(Special to Blade)

The new millennium will bring a pioneering chapter to the history of Bovina as WT

Meet The Mustangs Sept. 2

The 1999-2000 Bovina Mustangs and Fillies Booster Club will hold their annual Meet The Mustangs night on Thursday, September 2, prior to their season-opener on Friday September 3 at Anton.

Everyone is invited to the football field about 7 p.m. to meet the 1999 Mustang football team, cheerleaders and new teachers.

Hamburgers and watermelon will be served and everyone in the community is invited to come out and support the Mustangs.

Services, Inc. introduces hometown communications services.

Local telephone, long distance, Internet, and cable television service via fiber-optic cable will become available to Bovina within the next several months.

A new telephone prefix--2-5-1--will also be introduced for WT Services/Bovina customers.

WT Services, Inc. a wholly-owned subsidiary of

Hereford-headquartered West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, introduced local telecommunications service to Friona in 1997/98, and will be expanding the service to Bovina on the heels of that successful venture.

Crews from WTRT/WT Services will be burying cable within Bovina over the next several months in a new

chapter of an expansion project that has already brought top-quality local service to Friona.

Bovina customers can anticipate having their telephone and cable television maintenance and repair needs met by local technicians when the WT Services/Bovina system is activated.

Some of the groundwork for the expansion to Bovina was completed back in 1997, when thirteen miles of fiber-optic cable was buried between the WTRT central office at Summerfield and Friona by WTRT's construction crew as part of the Friona project.

Anticipating a future expansion of service to Bovina, WTRT/WT Services crews kept right on going upon reaching Friona, burying an additional 15 miles of fiber-optic cable from

Friona to the outskirts of Bovina.

WT Services workmen are now performing road bores and other preliminary work to prepare for laying cable within Bovina. Fiber-optic cable will be buried in alleyways and copper coaxial cable will complete connections from alleys to residences to deliver the varied telecommunications services.

Cable television customers can expect a sharp, clear picture when service is established, comparable to the quality picture available in Friona.

As work on the Bovina project progresses, WT Services personnel will solicit easements from residents in order to cross their property with cable to deliver telephone and cable television services.

Friona Woman Is Missing

At press time, Friona Police and Amarillo Police were trying to unravel the disappearance of Sonia Mejia, 36, of Friona.

According to reports, she was last seen in an Amarillo motel parking lot early in the morning of August 9.

After a disagreement on who would drive back to Friona, she got out of their vehicle. After her husband, Joe Mejia, drove around the block and returned, he could not find her.

She is described in police reports as 5 feet 5 inches tall with brown eyes and light brown hair.

Anyone with information about Mrs. Mejia's disappearance is asked to contact the Friona Police Department at 250-2711.



WE'RE IN THE BIG SCHOOL NOW...These second graders are in Mrs. Steelman's class. They are enjoying their first year in elementary school.
ron carr photo

RECENTLY, YE ED and spouse changed companies on our health insurance, and if you've been through that, you know that this procedure can cause you to completely reshuffle your HMO situation, while losing your mind.

The Good Old Girl who lives with me on Maple Street handed me a list that kind-of-sorta describes what we have been going through. She found this on the internet, and it is entitled:

The Top Ten Signs You Have Joined A Cheap HMO

1. Your annual breast examination is conducted at Hooters.
2. Directions to your doctor's office include: "take a left when you enter the trailer park."
3. Tongue depressors taste faintly of fudgesicle
4. "Patient responsible for 200% of out-of-network charges" is not a typographical error.
5. Only item listed under the "Preventive Care" feature of the coverage is "an apple a day."
6. Your "primary care physician" is wearing the pants you gave to Goodwill last month.
7. The only proctologist in the plan is Gus from Roto-Rooter.
8. The only expense that is covered 100% is embalming.
9. With your last HMO, your Viagra pills didn't come in different colors with little "M"s on them.
10. You have to call your banker and get a loan before you can even make your co-pay.

Now, this list does NOT apply to our local doctors (remember, it was found on the internet). It is entitled:

"Doctors: What They Say Versus What They Mean."

When they say: "What have we here?" They mean: He hasn't the foggiest notion of what it is, and hopes you'll give him a clue.

They say: "Let me check your medical history." They mean: "I want to see if you've paid your last bill before spending more time with you."

They say: "We have some good news and some bad news." They mean: "The good news is he's going to buy that new BMW, and the bad news is you're going to pay for it."

They say: "Let me schedule you for some tests." They mean: "I have a 40% interest in the lab."

They say: "We'll see." They mean: "First I need to check my malpractice insurance about this."

A MAN WALKED INTO a cowboy bar and ordered a beer just as president Clinton came on TV. The man mumbled "He's the biggest horse's ass I've ever seen." A customer at the end of the bar got up, walked over and decked him and left.

A few minutes later, Hillary Clinton appeared on the TV. "She's a horse's ass too," he exclaimed. Another customer came over and knocked him off his stool. "Dadgum! the man said, this must be Clinton country." "Nope," the bartender replied, "It's horse country." (This, on the other hand, really might have happened around here!)

AND THEN FOR our "You've gotta be kidding" feature of the week. The PETA group, animal rights activists, have contacted McDonalds to see if the company would make sure that none of the cattle used for making Big Macs suffered unduly when they were slaughtered.

Bull Town Bulletins



By Bill Ellis

4-H Project Forms Due

All youngsters involved in 4-H activities during the past year are encouraged to turn in their project forms.

The forms are due by 5 p.m. on August 23.

"There are no exceptions. Remember 4-H'ers, you will not receive a year pin if you do not turn in a project form," Cody G. Hill, Parmer County Extension Agent, stated.

Comptroller Sends Aug. Tax Rebates

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander has delivered \$272.3 million in monthly sales tax payments to 1,098 Texas cities and 117 counties. Rylander says that year-to-date, payments to cities and counties are running 6.5 percent ahead of last year.

The net payment to Parmer County this period was \$29,136, an increase of .99% over last year's same period payment of \$28,848.

The breakdown of this payment and comparison to last year is Bovina, \$2,682 (-23.61%); Farwell, \$6,308 (+19.28%); Friona, \$20,145 (+4.8%).

Total payment to date in 1999 to the county is \$200,763, compared to last year's total to date of \$236,449, a decrease of 15.09%.

So far in 1999, Bovina has received \$17,397; Farwell, \$34,197; and Friona, \$149,169.

The amounts are all decreases from the same period in 1998: Bovina, 13.03%; Farwell, -0.44%; and Friona -18.08%.

Energas Requests Rate Increase Locally

Energas Company has filed a notice with 67 cities requesting \$9.8 million in additional revenues from its West Texas customers.

The Bovina City Council voted to suspend the proposed effective date of the rate request for an additional 90 days.

In its letter to the cities, Energas said "This is the first request for a rate adjustment by Energas in more than three years. Energas has invested more than \$64 million in the West Texas division since 1996 to ensure the safety and reliability of the gas delivery system, enhance customer service and

to expand its system for new residential and industrial customer growth."

If the request is approved, the average customer will see an increase of about 8.8 percent, or \$3.64, in their monthly gas bill. When annualized over the past three years, the current request reflects a 2.8-percent increase per customer, per year. "Our rates will continue to be among the lowest in the state and indeed among the lowest in the nation," said Earl Fischer, President of Energas.

In addition to paying for the system's improvements and expansion, Energas also proposes to restructure its gas

rates by separating the gas commodity cost from the utility's cost of service.

Fischer said the proposal before the cities will enable Energas customers to more clearly distinguish between the cost of gas, which is currently a pass-through from suppliers, and the cost of service. The proposal to restructure gas rates will also have the effect of smoothing fluctuations in customer gas bills, which often occur in months when weather is colder and demand for gas heating is higher.

In addition to the expansion and improvements of the local gas distribution system, Energas expanded its West Texas presence in 1998 by locating its national customer support center in Amarillo. The center has brought 160 new jobs to the West Texas economy. The center provides customer support call service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for 12 states.

"We're proud of our ability to provide low-cost, high-quality service to our customers, and the investments we've made in our system will ensure that our customers continue to receive excellent service. Natural gas is the safest energy source available, and these improvements are aimed at maintaining and enhancing our safe, reliable service to our customers," said Fischer.

Energas Company, a division of Atmos Energy Corporation of Dallas, provides natural gas service to more than 311,000 customers in West Texas.



MUSTANGS PREPARE for the 1999 season. Leading an offensive drill in practice was quarterback Tyson Kerby. The Mustangs travel to Happy for a scrimmage next Thursday.
ron carr photo

BOVINA REFLECTIONS

....from the files of The Bovina Blade

40 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 26, 1959
Encephalitis lethargica (sleeping sickness), attacked two teenage boys last week, sending them to hospitals with severe headaches, high fever and delirium. Jerry Strawn, 18-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Norvell Strawn, was admitted to Plains Clinic in Lubbock last Monday. He is improved slightly but his condition is still not good. The other victim is Danny Morton, 19-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Morton.

35 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 19, 1964
Miss Lula Washington Smith, 83, died Saturday in Parmer County Community Hospital in Friona. Miss Smith had been a Bovina resident for approximately 40 years. She moved here from Marble Falls.

Visiting in the home of Mrs. Frank Smith are her children and their families. They are Mr. and Mrs. Charles Don Smith and children of Hanford, California, Paul Smith of San Antonio, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Malcom and family of Tulsa and Mrs. Neil Smith and Bruce of San Antonio.

30 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 20, 1969
A new trash truck was put into use by the City of Bovina Monday morning. Darrel Read flew to San Antonio Friday to receive the new truck and drove it home Saturday.

Another successful Bull Town Days celebration was folded back into the pages of

BISD PUBLIC MEETING SET AUGUST 30

The Board of Trustees of Bovina Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 7 p.m. on August 30, 1999 in the board room of the administration building of Bovina ISD at 500 Halsell.

The purpose of the meeting will be to hold a public hearing on the 1999-2000 proposed budget for Bovina ISD and to adopt the 1999-2000 budget.

Interested taxpayers are invited to attend.

history Saturday night. The popular community celebration was held here Thursday, Friday and Saturday. This was the sixth consecutive year for the event to be held.

25 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 21, 1974
Funeral services were conducted in Laredo last week for Amado Salazar, 46, a resident of Bovina for the past 17 years. Salazar had been employed as a field man for Gateway Farms in Bovina for the past ten years.

The 11th annual Bull Town Days celebration, Bovina's community-wide series of activities, was held here last week, and once again thousands of people turned out for the celebration, which caters to people of all ages.

20 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 22, 1979
Bull Town Days was held with about sixty-eight people attending the Old Timers Reunion. Heavy rain caused cancellation of many events.

A statewide workshop on "Gasohol Know-How" will take place in Lubbock Memorial Civic Center September 6 and several from Bovina are planning to attend.

Anne Corn and her daughter, Heidi, have recently returned home from a three weeks' vacation in Germany.

It was reported this week that Myrtle Vinson passed away at her home in Lubbock. She was Janie Beauchamp's mother.

15 yrs. Ago--Aug. 22, 1984
The Bovina Bull Town Trade Days went over big for its first time around and there was a good turnout for every event that took place, and a big crowd for the Trade Days.

The Children's Choir of Bovina's First Baptist Church will be presenting "Kids Praise!" Sunday evening.

Funeral services were held for Gary Lee Ward, 29, former Bovina resident, who was killed in an accident near Edmonson. His parents were

Lee and Dorothy Ward. The Chuck Wagon Breakfast was held at City Park and 24 pounds of bacon was cooked for the group.

10 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 23, 1989
A new committee is functioning in Bovina--the B.A.D. committee. B.A.D. is an acronym for "Bovina Against Drugs."

Earl Quintana returned recently from a trip to Baniff, Canada, where he was sent by the Excel Corp. which is opening a new plant there. Quintana, who is associated with Excel's Friona plant, was helping with a training program at the Canadian installation.

Nancy Knight made a hole-in-one in a couples tournament last Saturday in Morton.

5 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 20, 1994
Sue Nuttall has been named Bovina I.S.D. superintendent. This will be her first year in that position.

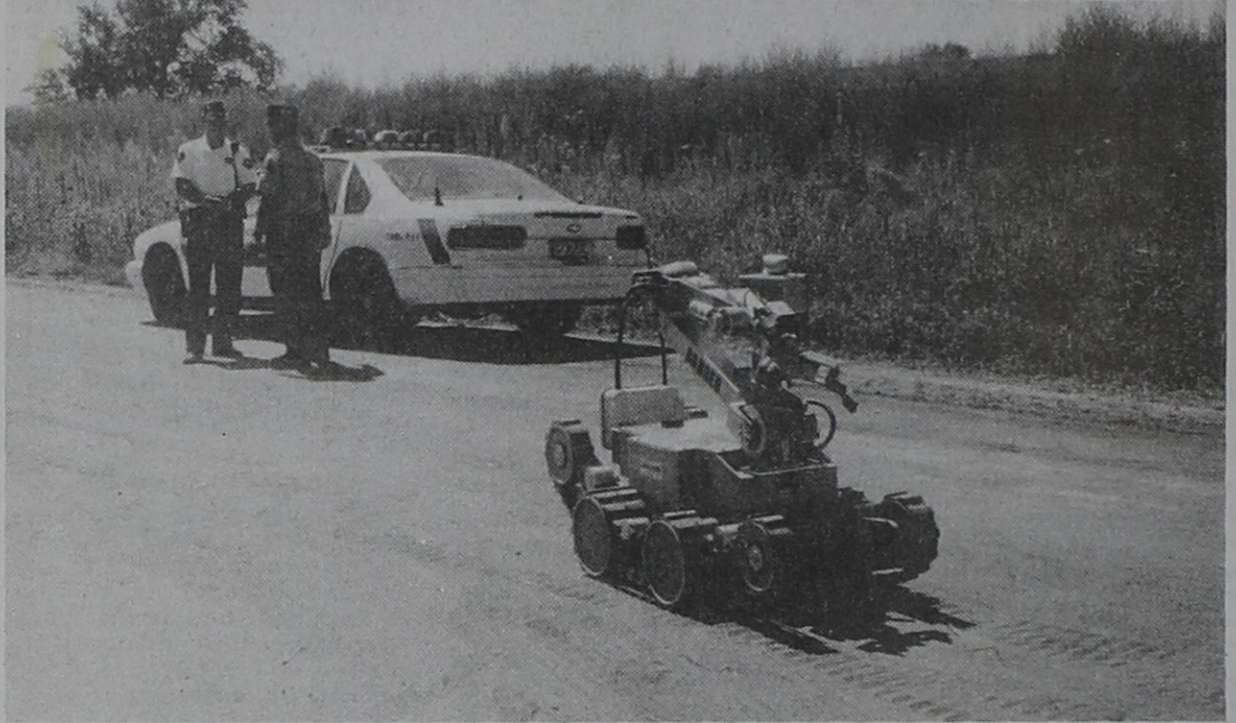
Sue has been affiliated with Bovina schools for 15 years, teaching fourth grade for nine years, serving as elementary principal for five years, and served as high school principal for one year.

Angelica Gallegar was recognized as "Little Miss" in the two-year-old division of the Bovina Little Miss Pageant.

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Bill Ellis.....Publisher
Ron Carr.....Managing Editor
Scooter Russell.....Advertising
Tammie White.....Composition



LIVE ACTION....Top, Senior Airman Richard Soares operates the remote-controlled robot, Bomber, at the scene of a bomb report Tuesday. The potential bomb was located in the intersection shown in the center of the top photo. Below, Bomber makes its way back to the trailer after Cannon EOD personnel had defused the threat. Texico officers, who also assisted, are pictured. ron carr photos



WE'RE BIG KIDS NOW....After Pre-K, kindergarten, and first grade, these youngsters have finally moved to the big school building. The second-graders are in Mrs. Holman's class, top, and Mrs. Steven's class below. ron carr photos



PASSING ATTACK!!!!
Tyson Kerby loosens up the arm in a workout this week. Coach Scroggins says the Mustangs are working on a passing game to compliment a strong running attack. ron carr photo



1999 Property Tax Rates In City Of Bovina

This notice concerns 1999 property tax rates for City of Bovina. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$113,132.00
Last year's debt taxes	-0-
Last year's total taxes	\$113,132.00
Last year's tax base	\$20,633,230
Last year's total tax rate	\$0.5483/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$113,057.00
/ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$20,646,564
= This year's effective tax rate	\$0.5475/\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function)	\$112,971.00
/ This year's adjusted tax base	\$20,646,564
= This year's effective operating rate	\$0.5472/\$100
x \$1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$0.5909/\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$ -0- /\$100
= This year's rollback rate	\$0.5909/\$100

Schedule A Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
---------------------------	---------

Schedule B 1998 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Total required for 1999 debt service	\$ -0-
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	\$ -0-
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources	\$ -0-
- Excess collections last year	\$ -0-
= Total to be paid from taxes in 1999	\$ -0-
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 95.00% of its taxes in 1999	\$ -0-
= Total debt levy	\$ -0-

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at PARMER CAD, 305 3rd ST. BOVINA, TX. 79009.

Name of person preparing this notice: RONALD E. PROCTER
Title: CHIEF APPRAISER
Date prepared: AUGUST 6, 1999



Out Here

By Ron Carr

"Keeping The Barn Doors Closed"

Burglar alarm companies say they sell a lot of alarm systems to people after they have been burglarized.

After a crook steals valuables out of our vehicle, we start locking the car doors. Tough guys that get along pretty well without praying or going to church, eventually find themselves in a sudden terrible or tragic mess where promises to God seem the only answer.

Anyone who has grown up west of the Mississippi knows the horse and barn door example. When the horse gets out of the barn because you left the barn door open you decide closing the barn door is a good idea except the horse has already gotten out.....!

"That's kinda' like shutting' the barn door after the horse is gone, isn't it?" People get a kick out of saying that.

Everybody you know has been in that pickle at least once in their life. The lesson is, and always will be, that we have to consider the consequences of our own actions.

That is why we have laws to help us determine acceptable and unacceptable behavior. That is why every time a tragedy occurs, such as the Columbine high school killings, the government rushes to pass more laws to "keep it from happening again." If we can just get enough laws on the books then America will be a better place to live. NOT!

Time and time again it has been acknowledged that in America now there are in the neighborhood of 20,000 gun laws. To a crazy, mean, lowlife, hateful, self-centered, demented human being, 20,000 gun laws are nothing.

It means about the same as 20,001 gun laws would mean. They simply do not care about the consequences. If they did, they wouldn't take the action.

The self-anointed king of America, Billy Jeff Clinton, has done his part in shredding the difference between right and wrong.

His reckless abuse of power and disregard for the justice system has no doubt influenced countless Americans in a negative way.

He blames Hollywood, and gun manufacturers, and video games for the unraveling of American ideals, yet takes no responsibility for his own damaging example to American youth. (The sooner America is rid of Billy Jeff and Hill Rod Clinton, the sooner it will be a better America.)

I thought about the horse and the barn door last Monday morning while watching the CNN live coverage of the first day of school at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado.

I do not know how I would have felt if I was a parent or student at Columbine. The horror of the shootings was unspeakable to those of us who could only watch TV. It must have been overwhelming for those who were there, especially the youngsters trapped and terrified inside the school building.

It must have been difficult at best for parents to deal with the reluctance of their kids to re-enter the school building. Some, I'm sure, simply enrolled at other schools. For many the Columbine memories were too overwhelming to deal with.

The Columbine principal is a man named Frank DeAngelis. High school principals tend to not like the spotlight and they certainly don't welcome controversy.

During the aftermath of the tragedy when the media converged on Littleton, I remember Mr. DeAngelis telling the national TV audience that he was never aware of any Columbine students wearing trenchcoats at the school. In fact he made the statement more than once.

But every student that was interviewed knew about the students in their trenchcoats. They even knew that the group of students

were called the "Trenchcoat Mafia."

Granted there are 2,000 students at Columbine, but it seems to me that the principal should have known about the trenchcoats. Maybe he lied.

On Monday, Mr. DeAngelis led a pep rally before the first day of school. The theme was "Take Back Our School."

It seemed to have come as a surprise to Mr. DeAngelis that some of his students were bullying and picking on other students. It seemed to come as a surprise that problems could even exist at Columbine.

So now, after the horse has bolted from the barn, the new Columbine is equipped with 16 video cameras. There is a tip box in the school office for students to leave anonymous information about potential problems.

He explained the school's new zero tolerance policy against harassment, bullying, profanity, joking and kidding about violence, and a list of other prohibited actions in school.

He exhorted the students to feel empathy for each

other. To help each other and look after each other. He told them that an assistant principal had designed a signal they could give to each other to show that they care about each other.

The signal is "touch your left ear to help somebody." If a student knows that a fellow student is having a bad day, they can brighten their day as they pass in the hall by touching their left ear.

My guess is that by the end of the first six weeks, ear tugging will be a passing fad.

Finally, Mr. DeAngelis quoted an FBI agent who wanted students everywhere to remember that "Snitching May Save A Life." That was his quote.

He urged every student to tell a teacher if they suspect that there is trouble brewing.

Wouldn't it have been great if Mr. DeAngelis and his staff had had this pep rally a few years ago?

Wouldn't it have been nice if they had tried to combat the bullying and harassment and profanity in the past instead of the future?

Wouldn't lives be different today if he had kept closer tabs on the barn door?

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GAS RATE CHANGE

On August 4, 1999, Energas Company filed Statements of Intent to change its gas rates with each incorporated city listed below. The proposed changes will take effect no sooner than 35 days after filing. Each city may suspend the proposed effective date for an additional 90 days.

The Company proposes to increase rates to General Service (residential and commercial), Small Industrial Service, Large Gas Air Conditioning and/or Electric Generating Gas Service, and the Air Conditioning Rate Rider. The company may implement a different rate design than proposed provided the increased revenue does not exceed that specified herein.

The proposed changes are expected to increase the company's annual revenues by approximately 8.8 percent or \$9.8 million. The proposed changes to the rates are unrelated to gas cost which the company will continue to charge only cost paid to its supplier. The proposed changes could affect approximately 200,000 gas consumers in the following communities:

Abernathy	Lamesa*	Quitaque
Amherst	Levelland*	Rails
Anton	Littlefield*	Ransom Canyon
Big Spring*	Lockney	Ropesville
Bovina	Lorenzo	Seagraves
Brownfield*	Los Ybanez	Seminole
Buffalo Springs Lake	Lubbock*	Shallowater
Canyon*	Meadow	Silverton
Coahoma	Midland*	Slaton*
Crosbyton	Muleshoe	Smyer
Dimmitt	Nazareth	Springlake
Earth	New Deal	Stanton
Edmonson	New Home	Sudan
Floydada	Odessa*	Tahoka
Forsan	O'Donnell	Timbercreek Canyon
Friona	Olton	Tulia
Hale Center	Opdyke West	Turkey
Happy	Palisades	Vega
Hart	Pampa*	Wellman
Hereford*	Panhandle	Wilson
Idalou	Petersburg	Wolforth
Kress	Plainview*	
Lake Tanglewood	Post	

*The level of revenue increases in these communities constitutes a "major change" as defined by state law.

Copies of the filing are available at the Energas Office at 5110-80th Street, Lubbock, Texas 79424.

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"No travel time or mileage charge from Amarillo!"

Service Calls are \$35.00 Parts & labor extra.



STATE CERTIFIED "BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE TESTER"

Concerned about the safety & quality of the water your family is drinking and bathing in? Call for a FREE consultation on how to determine if YOUR toilet could be polluting your safe drinking water! (it's called "backflow"!)

SPRINKLER BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICES TESTED

TNRCC CERTIFIED TESTER # 464645205

We repair faucets as well as install new ones! Garbage disposals; water heaters replaced Toilet repairs; Drain lines cleaned & repaired. CALL TODAY FOR YOUR PLUMBING REPAIRS!

We Have Tickets For The Friona Fire Department New Pickup Drawing. See Jerry or Glenn.

Mon. - Fri.
8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

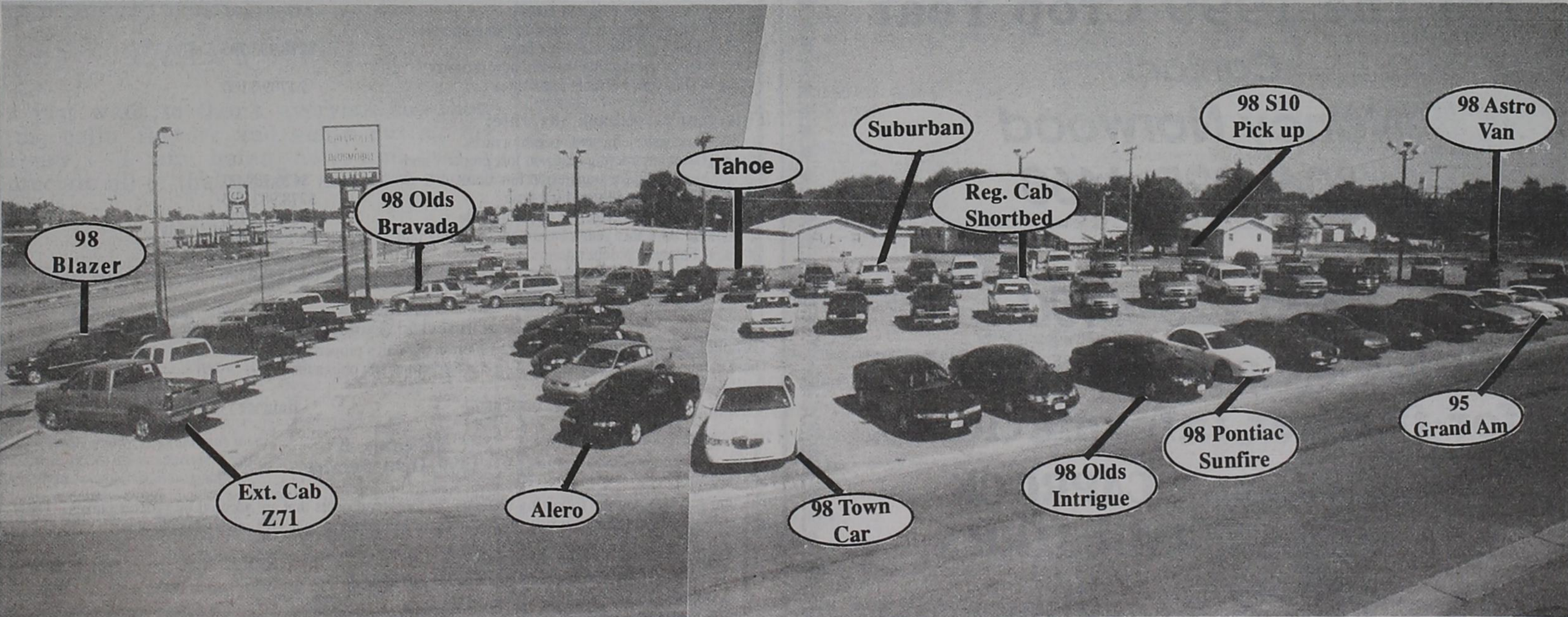
E-MAIL ADDRESS:
western2@wtrt.net

WESTERN

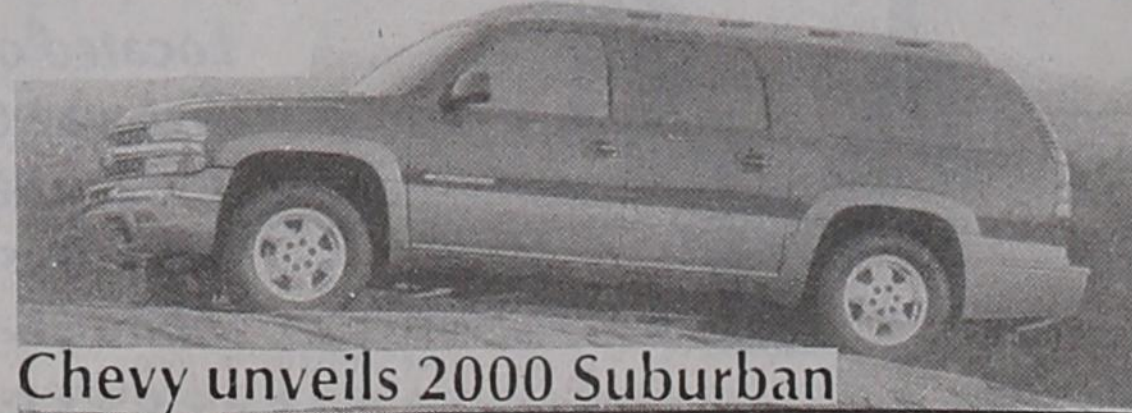
Chevrolet - Oldsmobile

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1-800-957-2438



LOOK US OVER... ORDER AN ALL-NEW 2000 MODEL TAHOE, BLAZER OR EXTENDED CAB THIS WEEK. 16 TO CHOOSE FROM ORDERED AND COMING IN.



Chevy unveils 2000 Suburban

'59 Bovina Grads Have Reunion In Amarillo

The 1959 graduating class of Bovina High School recently celebrated its fortieth year reunion. The celebration was held July 24 in the Santa Fe Room at the Ramada Inn West in Amarillo.

Twelve of the twenty-four surviving class members were present. Three of the class members are deceased.

Senior class sponsors Bob and Evangeline Wills also joined the class for visiting, sharing stories and memories, looking at school annuals, photographs and newspaper articles.

The group enjoyed dinner together at the Desperados Restaurant and then returned to the Sant Fe room for more visiting. Several of the class members stayed at the Ramada Inn and concluded the reunion with breakfast together Sunday morning.

Class members attending were Jerry and Kay (Hartzog) Strawn of Panhandle; Barbara (Taylor) Oglesby of

Las Vegas, Nevada; Ramey Brandon of Olympia, Washington; Ferman Kelso of Clovis; Billy Burnam of Hereford; Donald Jones of Farwell; Julia Ann (Lloyd) Olona of Belen, New Mexico; Arlene (Clayton) Hance of Amarillo; Don Bandy, Janice

Richards, and Gladys (Dean) Spring, all of Bovina; and class sponsors Bob and Evangeline Wills of Wheeler.

Others attending were spouses Maxine Kelso, Vickie Jones, Pat Bandy and Don Spring.

Red Cross Update

A very special thanks to the students of Dimmitt High School and their fund raising efforts toward the Oklahoma tornado victims. We received an additional \$2,682.00 from a student sponsored cookout. Keep up the good work. We appreciate you all.

The winners of the Tri-County Red Cross drawing, held at Hereford's Town & Country Jubilee, were John Griffin, Bernice Orel and Mrs. J.E. McCabe. Each received first aid kits. We hope you visited our booth in the park. We enjoyed the excellent turnout. A special thanks to McCracken Loader Service for the ice donation. Many

people were extremely grateful for the ice water.

Also, to Roger Fields and Lois Norwood from Friona and Genevieve Miller from Dawn, many thanks for helping out Saturday.

No clothing or articles can be accepted at this time. Our garage is over-flowing. All previous donations have been appreciated and the public will be notified when items can be accepted once again. The storage area is being organized and helpers are unable to do so because of the quantity of items. Thank you for not dumping articles outside our building either.

The Red Cross is currently trying to get enough people together for a first aid class. If you are interested please call (806) 364-3761. CPR instructors will visit your work place, fitting your schedule.

The American Red Cross is dedicated to helping make families and communities safer at home and around the world. The Red Cross is a volunteer-led humanitarian service organization and annually provides almost one-half the nation's blood supply, certifies more than 8.5 million people in life-saving skills, mobilizes relief to victims in more than 68,000 disasters nationwide, provides direct health services to 2.8 million people, assist international disaster and conflict victims in more than 40 countries, and transmits more than 14 million emergency messages to members of Arm Forces and their families. For more information you can call the local office.

All American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from the American people. To help the victims of this and other disasters, contributions can be made to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund by calling 1-800-HELP NOW or 1-800-257-7575 (Spanish).

The Tri-County Chapter is a United Way Agency.



Class of 1959....Enjoying a 40-year reunion were Class of '59 members, front, l-r, Jerry Strawn, Ferman Kelso, Ramey Brandon, Billy Burnam, Donald Jones and Don Bandy. Back, l-r, Kay (Hartzog) Strawn, Barbara (Taylor) Oglesby, Gladys (Dean) Spring, Evangeline Wills, Bob Wills, Arlene (Clayton) Hance, Julia Ann (Lloyd) Olona and Janice Richards. (photo courtesy of gladys spring)

Friona's Temp, Rain Led Area For July

Friona enjoyed slightly cooler temperatures during the month of July than the other 27 reporting stations which report to Lubbock's South Plains region on a daily basis.

Friona's average maximum temperature for July was 88.9. Next lowest to this was Olton's 89.6. Friona's average minimum temp was 63.9, topped only by Muleshoe's 63.6 degrees.

The city's overall average temperature was 76.4 degrees, lowest in the region. Dimmitt and Olton registered averages of 77.4 for the next lowest.

In the precipitation department, Friona's 3.51 inches of rain during the month was topped only by Snyder's 3.68 inches. The 28 reporting stations combined for an average of 1.30 inches for the month, so Friona topped this average by 2.41 inches.

Following are the average high and low temps, and precipitation, for each location, courtesy of the National

Weather Service:

Station	Max-Min	Rain
Abernathy	91.5-65.4	1.81
Big Spring	95.8-71.6	0.24
Brownfield	92.5-66.4	0.71
Crosbyton	92.6-68.5	0.70
Dimmitt	91.4-63.3	0.99
Floydada	93.2-69.1	0.20
Friona	88.9-63.9	3.51
Hereford	91.5-64.6	2.98
Jayton	95.4-70.2	0.25
Lamesa	93.5-65.5	0.29
Levelland	93.4-64.5	0.82
Littlefield	91.1-65.3	2.69
Locketville	92.2-66.5	0.91
Lubbock	92.2-69.0	0.79
Matador	93.8-70.5	0.62
Morton	90.0-64.9	3.25
Muleshoe	92.0-63.6	1.89
M'shoe Wild-life Refuge	90.9-62.4	1.55
Olton	89.6-65.2	0.93
Paducah	94.7-69.6	1.49
Plainview	92.1-67.0	0.53
Post	93.0-70.5	2.00
Seminole	94.5-67.2	0.42
Silverton	92.2-66.4	0.87
Snyder	94.0-70.4	3.68
Spur	94.0-67.7	0.10
Tahoka	91.9-68.5	1.37
Tulia	92.3-64.6	0.75
S.P. Avg.	92.5-66.9	1.30

Attention Non-Cable Viewers

Due to interference with Channel 59, the Bovina translator for KFDA-TV has moved back to Channel 63, until further notice.



1999 Property Tax Rates In PARMER COUNTY HOSPITAL

This notice concerns 1999 property tax rates for PARMER COUNTY HOSPITAL. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:	
Last year's operating rates	\$477,388.00
Last year's debt taxes	-0-
Last year's total taxes	\$477,388.00
Last year's tax base	\$282,478,107
Last year's total tax rate	\$1.690/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$476,919.00
/ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$278,983,795
= This year's effective tax rate	\$1.709/\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function)	\$476,734.00
/ This year's adjusted tax base	\$278,983,795
= This year's effective operating rate	\$1.709/\$100
x \$1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$1.845/\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$ -0- /\$100
= This year's rollback rate	\$1.845/\$100

Schedule A Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
---------------------------	---------

Schedule B 1999 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Total required for 1999 debt service	\$ -0-
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	\$ -0-
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources	\$ -0-
- Excess collections last year	\$ -0-
= Total to be paid from taxes in 1999	\$ -0-
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 95.00% of its taxes in 1999	\$ -0-
= Total debt levy	\$ -0-

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at PARMER CAD, 305 3rd ST. BOVINA, TX. 79009.

Name of person preparing this notice: RONALD E. PROCTER

Title: CHIEF APPRAISER

Date prepared: AUGUST 6, 1999.

CAPROCK INDUSTRIES Inc.
Is Now Contracting High Moisture Corn For the 1999 Crop Year

Contact
Nancy Norwood
(806) 225-4460

or
(806) 225-4400

Come by our feed yard for further information.

CAPROCK INDUSTRIES, Inc.

Located on Highway 60
3 1/2 miles southwest of Bovina



FRIONA/BOVINA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

460 *Facts About The* **BIBLE** *BY JOHN LEHTI*

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Genesis intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

ABRAHAM'S BATTLE WITH THE FIVE KINGS
THE DEFENDERS OF SOPDOM ARE NO MATCH FOR THE FEROCITY OF THE INVADING ARMY'S CHARGE! THEIR RANKS BREAK UNDER THE WEIGHT OF THE ATTACK, AND...

LET ME GET OUT OF HERE!
RUN TO THE REAR—THERE WE CAN REFORM OUR RANKS!
JUST LET ME RUN!

THE TROOPS WILL NOT STOP—THEY ARE RUNNING AWAY!
IN TRYING TO ESCAPE, THEY ARE TRAPPED IN THE OOZING, TAR PITS OF THE SIDDIM VALLEY, BECOMING EASY TARGETS FOR THE ARCHERS OF THE INVADING ARMY!

NOW THE PENALTIES OF DEFEAT—THE BURNING, THE LOOTING, AND THE TAKING OF SLAVES, BEGIN AND CONTINUE THROUGH THE NIGHT!

OF ALL THIS, LOT, CAMPED NEAR SOPDOM, KNOWS NOTHING—UNTIL, IN THE EARLY DAWN, THE PRIVACY OF HIS TENT IS INVADIED!

Next Week INTO SLAVERY!

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK



**FEED AND GRAIN HAULING
HOPPERS-FLAT BEDS-PADDLE TANKERS
WINKLES TRUCKING**
-Friona Division-
P.O. Box 757 Friona, Texas 79035
(806) 247-2724 Watts 1-800-242-2724

First Bank- Bovina

MEMBER, FDIC
101 North Third Ph. 238-1442



P.O. Box 956
Friona, Texas 79035
(806) 265-3433
(806) 265-3281

Dudley's Auto Parts
300 Highway 86
Phone 238-1219
Observing our 30th Anniversary
In Bovina (1968-1998)



HI-PRO FEED AND ANIMAL HEALTH SUPPLIES
East Highway 60
Box 519
Phone 247-2791
Friona, Texas 79035



Friona State Bank
"Where People Come First"
MEMBER, FDIC

**BE A GOOD
NEIGHBOR**

**Cattle
Town, Inc.**
Office: (806) 357-2231
Mobile: (806) 357-9132
Summerfield
P.O. Drawer 1938 Hereford, Texas 79045

Sherley Grain Company
"Serving Texas & New Mexico Farmers The Year Round"
503 Gardner, Hwy. 60 Ph. 806-247-1521
Bovina, Texas 79009



1205 Hwy. 60 West Friona, Texas

Beef'n More HEREFORD MADE REAL BEEF DRY DOG FOOD

THIS DEVOTIONAL & DIRECTORY IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THESE BUSINESSES WHO ENCOURAGE ALL OF US TO ATTEND WORSHIP SERVICES.

FRIONA CHURCHES

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
1006 Ashland
Ricky Beard, Pastor
250-2207

TEMPLO "MARANATHA" SPANISH ASSEMBLY OF GOD
301 Grand
Rev. Isidro Jimenez

BAPTIST

CALVARY BAPTIST
14th & Cleveland
Alvin Petty
250-3000

FIRST BAPTIST
Sixth & Summitt
Rev. Waide Messer
250-3933

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
13th and Virginia
Interim Pastor, Don Kimbrough
250-3185

TEMPLO BAUTISTA
403 Woodland
Rafael Marin, Pastor
250-3472

CATHOLIC

ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC
16th & Cleveland
Father Ed Sweeney, Pastor
247-2871

CHURCH OF CHRIST

SIXTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST
502 West Sixth
T. Leon Talley, Min.
250-2769

TENTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST
10th & Euclid

METHODIST

FRIONA UNITED METHODIST
8th & Pierce
Rev. Don Boren
250-3045

IGLESIA COMPANERISMO CRISTIANO
7th & Washington
Ruben Rivera, Min.
247-8011

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Union Congregational Church
1601 Euclid
Herman Kruael
250-3635

BOVINA CHURCHES

BAPTIST

FIRST BAPTIST OF BOVINA
308 Third Street, 238-1632

MISSION BAUTISTA BELEN

PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST
Pleasant Hill, New Mexico

CATHOLIC

ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC
401 Third Street, 238-1511

BOVINA CHURCH OF CHRIST
500 AVENUE E. BOVINA

LUTHERAN
Lariat, Texas

METHODIST
First United
Methodist Church
205 4th - Bovina



**CAPROCK
INDUSTRIES**

Phone 806/225-4400
A Cargill Company
P.O. Drawer E Lot 5 Bovina, Texas 79009

**Parmer County
Spraying Service**

Drawer GG Bovina, Texas 79009
Phone Tharp 225-4990



**West Texas Rural Telephone
Cooperative, Inc.**

Phone 364-3331
Hereford, Texas 79045



SWINGING & SLIDING was a favorite activity for the elementary students during this first week of school. ron carr photos



DEFENSE TOO... Coach Mike Newman has been working to put together strong offensive and defensive lines for the 1999 Mustangs. According to the coaches both the offensive and defensive line should average over 200 pounds per man. ron carr photo

Scooter's Scoops

By SCOOTER RUSSELL

Hot weather is still with us but it is cooling off not far from us. My brothers who live in Moriarty, New Mexico said it has been in the low forties at night there.

Husband Jim just got back from Bayfield, Colorado and had to run the heater until he got past Pagoso Springs, Colorado. So one of these days it will be better but seems like the summer was a short one, anyway. Perhaps it is because the kiddos are

Letter To The Editor

We can hardly wait to get the Bovina Paper.

We enjoy hearing from all, that is going on there.

We love every one there and please say hello to every one.

We are doing fair here and hope to see good old Bovina sometime.

If my health stays this good we plan to go to Zapata, Texas for the Winter.

Best wishes always, Carl and Erma Bradshaw Schrader

back in school earlier every year. *****

NEWS AROUND TOWN...

Dean and Juanita Hastings have recently returned from a vacation trip to Colorado.

They visited with her brother and his wife, Frank and June Wright of Mansfield, Texas, and they traveled together to Florence, Colorado where they visited with their sister, Florence.

They also said they ran their heater in their car until they were south of Pagoso Springs, Colorado.

While there, they also visited with a niece and her family, Howard and Ruth Eggleston of Hillside, Colorado.

Juanita said they have a new grandson, Dylan Elijah, who is about three weeks old. His parents are Heath and Jarron Wright of Belen, New Mexico. Heath is a paramedic with an Albuquerque group.

The couple also has another son, Nathan Joshiah. *****

Pat Kunselman was hospitalized Tuesday evening at the Veterans Hospital in Amarillo with double pneumonia and other problems. He was in ICU Tuesday night. *****

Taryn Ward spent a week in Bovina with her dad and step-mom, Jerry and Rose Mary Ward. She also had a great time with brother, Zachary, who started to school this year.

Taryn's mom, Elyese, grew up in Bovina and lived next door to us when she was a baby until a few years later.

Taryn came by to visit with Jim and me on Tuesday. She's a beautiful girl and just as sweet as she is pretty. She will be a senior this year and lives in Austin with her mom, Elyese. *****

Patsy Sherrill was hospitalized in the Friona Hospital for a time and later was taken to a hospital in Amarillo but we haven't heard since they have been running tests.

We've always heard about the "Dog Days of Summer," and I guess that's what we have been having this week.

Here we have school starting its new term during some of the hottest weather we've had. I think Carol had it right in her column last week about the school schedule. *****

Suezy Smith sent me the following, and it has a lot of truth to it.

"ADULT RESIGNATION"

I am hereby officially tendering my resignation as an adult. I have decided I would like to accept the responsibilities of an eight-year-old again.

I want to go to McDonald's and think that it's a "Four-Star Restaurant." I want to sail sticks across a fresh mud puddle and make ripples with rocks.

I want to think M&Ms are better than money because you can eat them. I want to lie under a big oak tree and run a lemonade stand with my friends on a hot summer's day.

I want to return to a time when life was simple...when all you knew were colors, multiplication tables and nursery rhymes, but that didn't bother you, because you didn't know what you didn't know, and you didn't care! All you knew was to be happy because you were blissfully unaware of all the things that should make you worried or upset.

I want to think the world is fine, and that everyone is honest and good. I want to believe that anything is possible.

I want to know about the

complexities of life and to be overly excited by the little things again.

I want to live simply again. I don't want my day to consist of computer crashes, mountains of paperwork, depressing news, how to survive more days in the month than there is money in the bank, doctor bills, gossip, illness, and loss of loved ones.

I want to believe in the power of smiling, and the fact that you can trust that what people tell you is the truth, also in the imagination, mankind, and making angels in the snow (I already believe in the power of God).

So...here's by checkbook and my car keys, my credit card bills and my 401K statements.

I am officially resigning from adulthood. And if you want to discuss this further, you'll have to catch me first, cause, "Tag! You're it!" *****

(Some of my "top news sources" were out of pocket this week, so I decided to take a breather. Besides, I've resigned from adulthood!

--Scooter.

Happy Birthday Bovina

Birthdays for the week of August 22-28, 1999.

- Aug 22 Janee Russell
- Aug 23 Sharla Cruz, Audelia Serna
- Aug 24 Jake Steelman
- Aug 25 Paula Guest
- Aug 26 Lisa Hromas, Edwin Lide, Kathy Cantu, Patrick Lee Espinoza
- Aug 27 Adeana Carlyle
- Aug 28 John Stormes, Buck Lloyd, D. T. King, Noel Ortiz

For corrections, changes, or additions to our birthday list call 238-1523 or write Drawer B, 79009.

Bovina ISD Free & Reduced-Price Meals Policy

Bovina ISD is announcing its policy for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the National School Lunch/Breakfast Program. The Office of the Superintendent has a copy of the policy which may be reviewed by any interested party.

The household size and income criteria identified below will be used to determine eligibility for free and reduced price benefits. Children from households whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Foster children who are the legal responsibility of a welfare agency or court may also be eligible for benefits regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside. Eligibility for the foster child is based on the child's income.

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS 1999-2000 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

FAMILY SIZE	ANNUALLY		MONTHLY		WEEKLY	
	FREE	REDUCED PRICE	FREE	REDUCED PRICE	FREE	REDUCED PRICE
1	\$10,712	\$15,244	\$893	\$1,271	\$206	\$294
2	14,378	20,461	1,199	1,706	277	394
3	18,044	25,678	1,604	2,140	347	494
4	21,710	30,895	1,810	2,575	418	595
5	25,376	36,112	2,115	3,010	488	695
6	29,042	41,329	2,421	3,445	559	795
7	32,708	46,546	2,726	3,879	629	896
8	36,374	51,763	3,032	4,314	700	996
9	40,040	56,980	3,338	4,749	771	1097
10	43,706	62,197	3,644	5,184	842	1,198
11	47,372	67,414	3,950	5,619	913	1,299
12	51,038	72,631	4,256	6,054	984	1,400
For each additional family member add:						
	+\$3,666	+\$5,217	+\$306	+\$435	+\$71	+\$101

Application forms are being distributed to all households with a letter informing households of the availability of free and reduced price meals for their children. Applications also are available at the principal's office in each school. To apply for free and reduced price meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school. Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and verification of data. Applications may be verified by school officials at any time during the school year.

For school officials to determine eligibility for free and reduced price benefits, households receiving food stamps or AFDC only have to list their child's name, food stamp or AFDC case number, and an adult household member must sign the applications. Households who do not list a food stamp or AFDC case number must list the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member and the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. If the adult who signs the application does not have a social security number, the household member must indicate that a social security number is not available by writing the word "none." The application must be signed by an adult household member.

Under provisions of the free and reduced price meal policy the school secretary will review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss the decision with the reviewing official on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to Sue Nuttall, Supt., P.O. Box 70, Bovina, TX, 806-238-1336.

Households that list a food stamp or AFDC case number must report when the household no longer receives these benefits. Other households approved for benefits based on income information must report increases in household income of over \$50 per month or \$600 per year and decreases in household size. Also, if a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the levels shown above.

In the operation of child feeding programs administered by the US Dept. of Agriculture, no child will be discriminated against because of race, color, sex, national origin, age or handicap. If any member of a household believes they have been discriminated against they should write immediately to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250.

HRMC's Obstetrical Services...

Hereford Regional Medical Center believes you shouldn't have to travel far to receive quality healthcare, especially when it is time to deliver your child.

After all, the best medicine should be close to home.

The OB Department at HRMC knows that the joy of childbirth is meant to be shared with those closest to you. That is one reason we offer complete services to meet women's needs.

We are proud to now offer epidurals for those concerned about pain-relief during labor. Birthing classes are provided regularly and parents can take advantage of complete prenatal and post partum care at the Women & Children's Health Clinic.

HRMC's newly remodeled OB unit provides the perfect setting to welcome your new arrival. Our skilled medical staff is committed to offering quality care to expectant parents and their families in a friendly, caring environment.

This commitment underscores our belief that the best medicine is close to home.



HEREFORD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

The Best Medicine Is Close To Home.

CENTURY NOTES

From time to time we will feature pages from the Bovina Blade to highlight news from the century. In May of 1978, five girls plus an alternate brought home the state track and field trophy to Bovina. The group of girls won every meet they entered that year.



The Bovina Blade

THE NEWSPAPER THAT WORKS FOR A BIGGER, BETTER BOVINA

In The Agricultural Center Of Parmer County

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1978

BOVINA, TEXAS

8 PAGES

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 43



Bull Town Bulletins
by Bill Ellis

Fillies Grab State Title Depth, Grit Win It For Bovina

by BILL ELLIS

ALL HAIL THE CHAMPS! What a performance by the Fillies, in winning the state track and field championship for 1978!

Contrary to what some may think, the team victory was not accomplished by an "average" performance at the state meet. Disregarding illness or other factors, the Fillies, relay teams included, posted either their best marks of the season, or near best for the state meet.

The state meet is the pinnacle, as far as high school athletes are concerned. Points and wins are just a little harder to come by at this level than on any level leading up to the state finals. Nothing is assured. There are no easy wins.

The Fillies had to fight and scratch every inch of the way for their 47 state meet points. They had a little hard luck along the way, but for once, the team got one lucky break.

And in the end, they earned the state title which had evaded Bovina track teams by three and ten points the past two trips to the Austin event.

What a bunch of competitors make up the 1978 Fillies' team! If we were assembling a sports team, or a business organization, this is the type individuals we would want on our team. They are winners from the word go—and they realize that wins don't come cheap, but only by consistent hard work.

As far as can be determined, this is the first team state championship ever for Bovina High School, so that makes it all the more sweet.

We have thoroughly enjoyed following this group of athletes, all the way from local meets to the state meet. Arriving back home the first part of the week, we felt a little sadness for the fact that the season was over, and we wouldn't be able to watch the girls perform again this year.

Thanks, girls, for an exciting season. I'm sure that all of your friends and relatives in the community join us at the Blade in saying "Well done...and we're proud of you!"

Coach Nelson's Remarks

"We won the title, and that was the main thing," said a relieved Coach Joel Nelson, who had experienced two previous "close calls" at state meets in which the Fillies were edged out for the championship.

"We were under a lot of pressure. It's hard to imagine how the pressure builds up week after week, especially when you're expected to win," Nelson said. He indicated that both he and the team had returned to Bovina in a state of mental and physical exhaustion.

Nelson said that the 1978 Fillies had suffered more injuries and illness than any team he had ever coached and yet, there had been no missed days of workouts. "This is an unusual group of kids," he said about the Fillies.

The Bovina Coach felt that under "normal" conditions, the Fillies would have won both the 880 and 440-yard relay events.

(Note: the events were actually run by meters at the 1978 state meet. We're continuing to use the term "yard" due to old habits which are hard to break.)

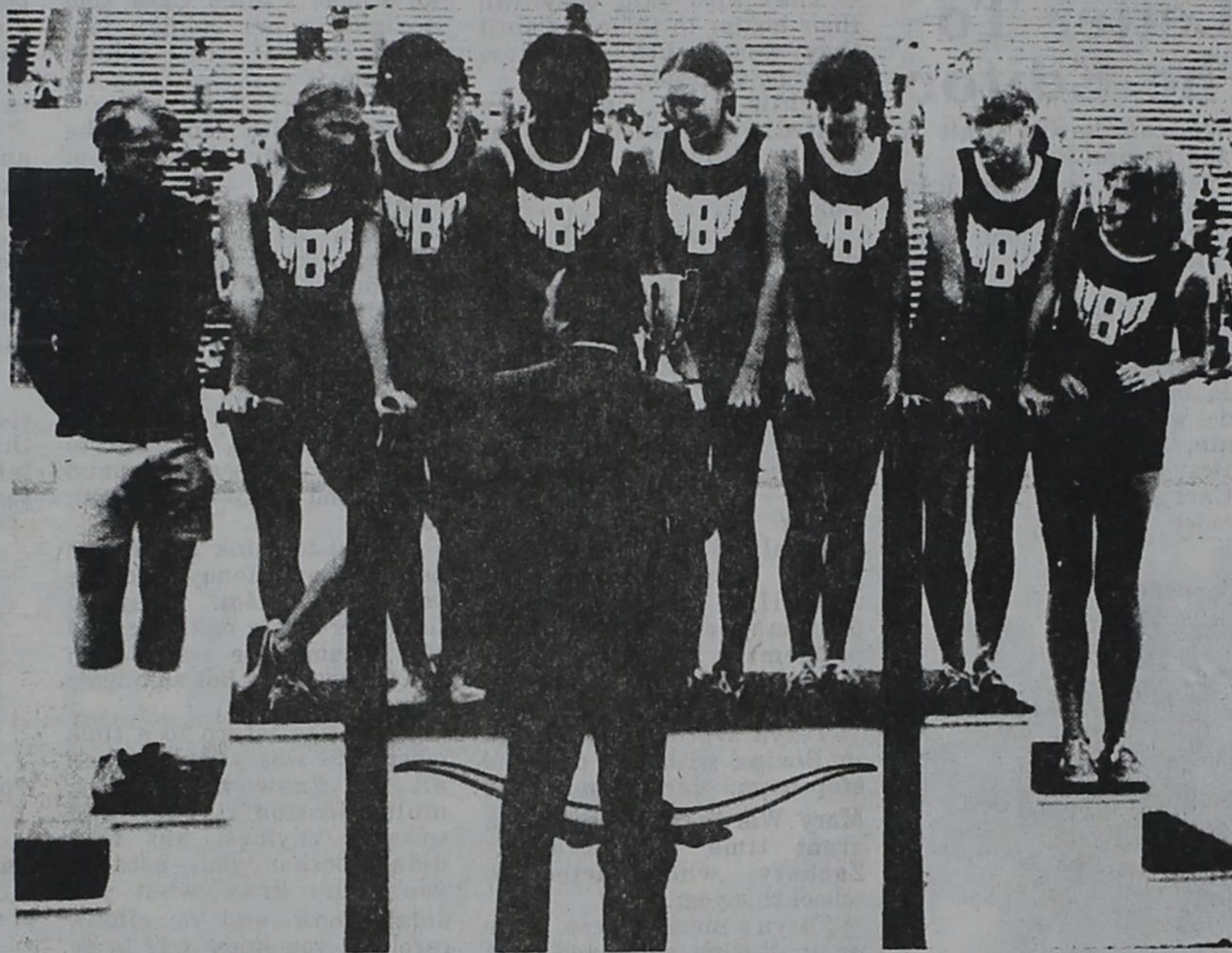
Bovina had the lead in the 880-yard relay when Miss Sides took the stick, but having already competed in two events for the day, Sandi just didn't have the strength to hold the lead. A symptom of "mono" is that it causes one to tire out more quickly than usual.

"There's not a girl in the state who could catch Sandi when she has a lead, if she's 100 per cent healthy," Nelson said.

The Fillies' coach pointed out that the sprint relay foursome achieved its lofty finish in spite of a less than perfect first handoff, which saw Belinda Shelby and Denise Read virtually collide. Miss Read had to keep her balance, as well as the baton, and finish the lap.

"I figure that probably cost us a full second in the race. If you took a second off our time, we'd have been first, and would have set a new state record in the event at 48.2," Nelson said.

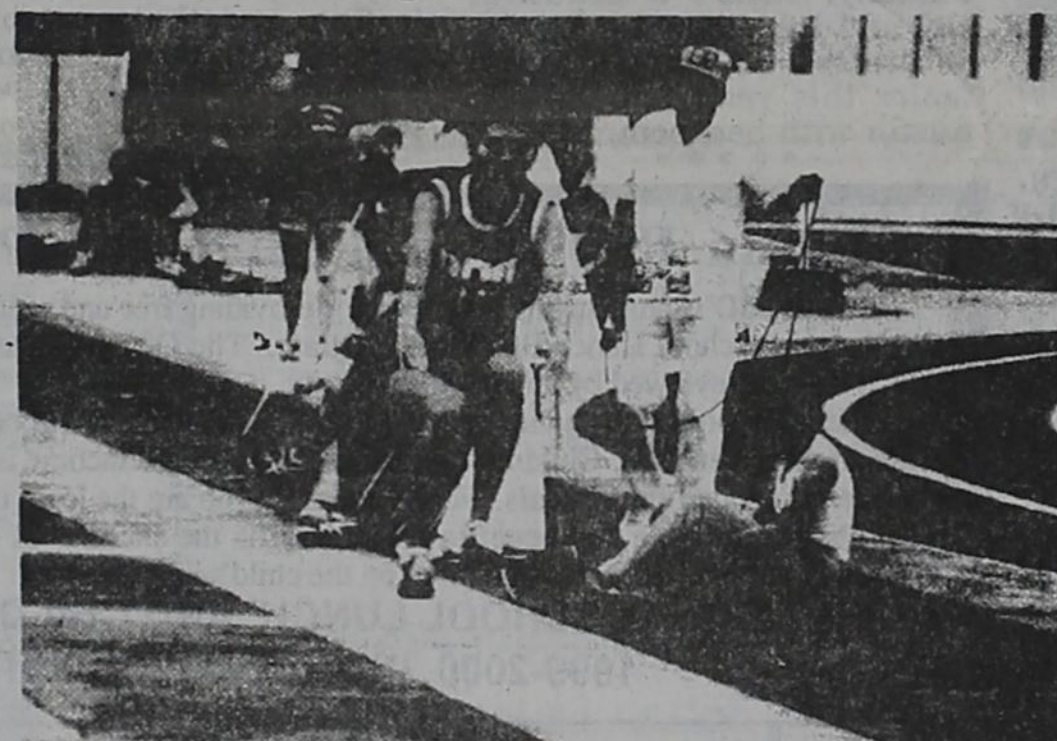
In the 880-yard relay event, the Fillies were needing to push challenger Spring Hill as far down in the race as possible, and in the final analysis, they got a helping hand they didn't expect.



TO THE VICTORS....The Bovina High School Fillies are shown as they mounted the victory stand at the state meet in Austin to receive

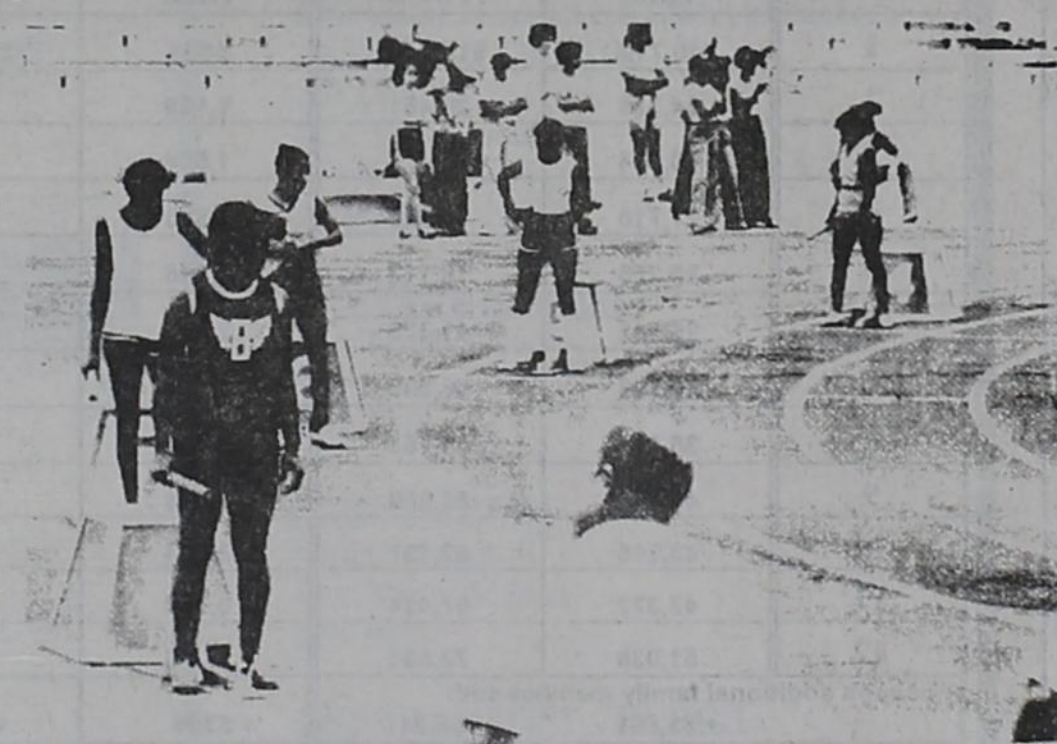
the cup signifying that they had won the state championship. From the left are Coach Joel Nelson, Laura Widner, Belinda Shelby, Pat

Shepherd, Denise Read, Sandi Sides, Diane Glibreath and Fonda Griffin.



MEDAL WINNER....Sandi Sides is shown competing in the triple jump, an event in which she won third place with a personal best jump of

35-5. Miss Sides was the district and regional champion in the event prior to the state meet.



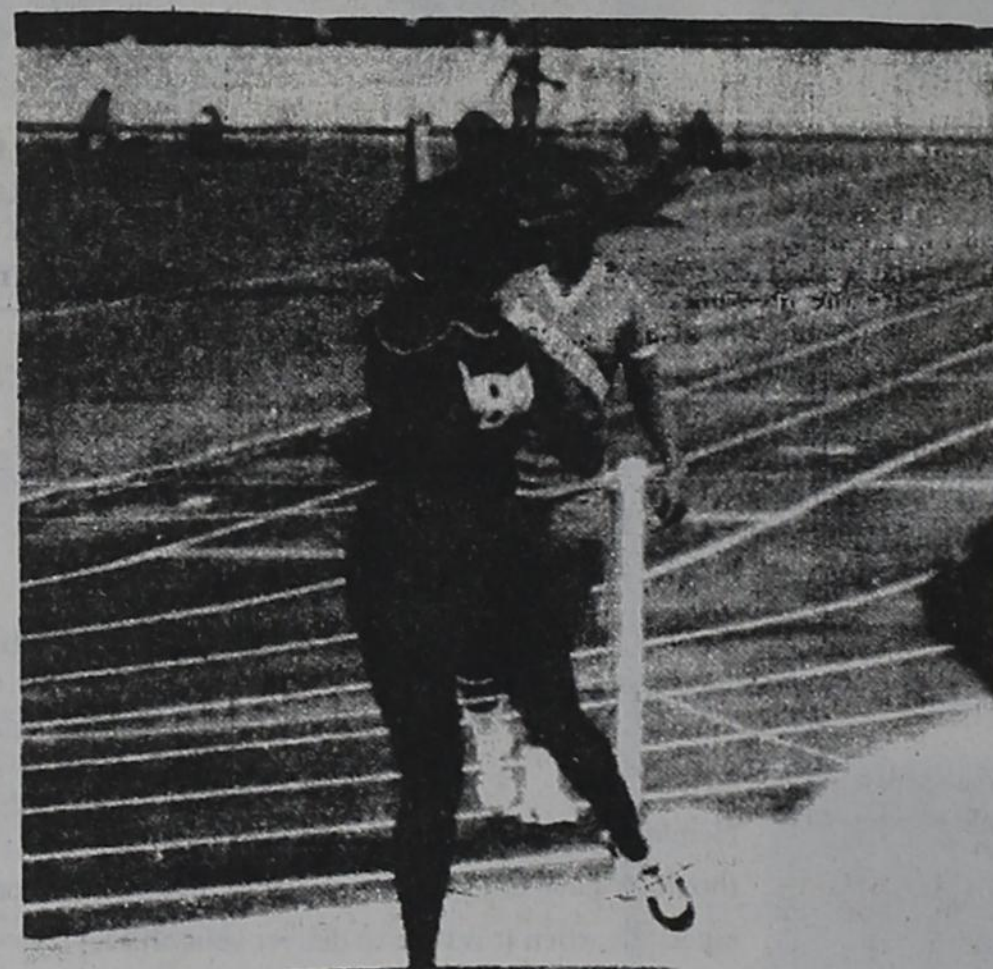
MOMENT OF TRUTH....Belinda Shelby, closest to the camera, catches her breath just prior to hearing the official starter call the

leadoff runners to their marks to start the 400-meter relay race, an event in which Bovina placed third, after a near-missed first handoff.



AT EASE....Shown in a moment of relaxation just prior to the mile relay, their final event, were the seven members of the Fillies' track team which captured the state championship last Saturday in

Austin. From the left, and facing the camera, are Sandi Sides, Belinda Shelby, Denise Read, Laura Widner and Fonda Griffin. Diane Glibreath has her back to the camera.



FILLIES STAR....Pat Shepherd, one of the most consistent performers the Fillies track team has had, is shown competing at the state track meet. Pat is shown in the shot put

ring, where she nailed down fourth place in a field of eight real "pros." Pat scored 12 points for the team, winning second in the discus.



ARE THESE METERS OR YARDS....Fillies' leadoff runner Laura Widner surveys the scene just moments prior to the mile relay event, of 1600 meter relay, as it was run in Austin.

(See Col 1 At left for continuation)

Tele-Photos
by Bill Ellis