

EXTRA!

BASKETBALL
SPECIAL

EXTRA!

IF IT'S NEWS IN BOVINA, YOU'LL FIND IT IN THE BLADE.

The Bovina Blade

THE NEWSPAPER THAT WORKS FOR A BIGGER, BETTER BOVINA.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1956

BOVINA, TEXAS

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 85A

MUSTANGS TO REGION TONITE

Mustang Boosters Feel Oats

Mustang fans, as loyal and supporting as fans can be, feel optimistic about their beloved Mustangs' chances of winning the region B tournament that begins tonight in Canyon.

They feel, and rightly so, that the going will be rough. But like most fans, they all have an optimistic hope in their thinking and talking about the tournament and their team's chances.

A Blade reporter took a survey of Mustang fans and here, in their own words, are the feelings of a few of the many Mustang supporters.

Gene Ezell, postmaster, "It'll be hard. We're going to have to play ball, but I think we can win."

Billie Sudderth, farmer, "I think we have, because of our experience, a better chance this year than we did last year when we won it."

Ovid Lawlis, ginner, "We won it last year and we have just as good a chance this year."

Aubra Ellison, insurance man, "I think we can win it, but we're going to have to play ball. Our experience from last year in this tournament and the state tournament should give us an advantage."

Catherine Johnston, drug store employee, "I'm just hoping."

Otis Huggins, a fan of the Farwell Steers, who the Mustangs beat out for the District 3-B crown, "I hope they (the Mustangs) go all the way."

Willie Williams, businessman, "I think our chances to win are good."

W. H. Willoughby, superintendent of Bovina schools, "I played at Briscoe during my own high school days. They were hard to beat then and will still be hard to beat, but I think we can do it. Bob (Coach Bob Wills) has done a good job in getting his team ready."

Allen Cumpton, who is planning to open a new business in Bovina, "I think we can beat 'em, but it's gonna be tough."

Nat Read, groceryman, "In my honest opinion, I think we can win. I can just feel it in my bones."

The fans, as you can see, are confident but not overly so. That is a good frame of mind to have.

Fillies On Court Monday Night

The Bovina Fillies and the Farwell girls, tied for second place in District 3-B, will play the tie off in Williford Gym in Bovina Monday night at 7:30 p. m., R. E. Everett, Fillies' coach, has announced.

The Fillies are holders of second place in the regular season

This Extra Made Possible by Bovina Merchants Who Invite You to Patronize Them



THE 1955-56 BOVINA MUSTANGS ready to go into action in the Region B Tournament in Canyon tonight are bottom row, left to right, Larry Ezell, Marvin Young, Lynn Isham, Erith Hawkins, Tom Ware, and Billy Johnson. Standing, left to right, James Stevens, manager, Neil Smith, Jerry Loflin, Leon Richards, Darrel Read, Billy Richards, Dick Horn, and Coach Bob Wills. Terry Adams, manager, is not pictured.

IN THREE YEARS —

Mustangs Have Won 83 While Losing 7

Bovina High School has had a wealth of basketball material during the last three years. And it has an 83 won, seven lost record to prove the point.

The District 3-B Mustangs started their impressive record building in 1953-54 under Coach C. T. Ratliff. They won 26 games and lost three that year. Included in their string of victories was a bi-district championship game, prior to the regional tourney. However, the 53-54 version of the Mustang team lost its first game at the Regional B Tournament in Canyon to Follett by one point.

district play and the Farwell girls won second place honors in the district tournament at Farwell last weekend. Thus, causing the tie.

The winner of Monday night's game will be awarded the second place trophy. Lazbuddie is the District 3-B girls first place winner.

Three of the present team members—Darrel Read, Larry Ezell and Neil Smith—were starters on that team. Besides Follett, the Ponies lost one game each to Friona and Hereford.

Just getting a taste of glory wasn't enough, however, because the next year, 1954-55, the Mustangs came back with another powerhouse team that racked up a 30-3 record and finished in third place in the state tournament at Austin. The three losses that year went to Quitaque, Amarillo "B", and to Big Sandy, in the state tournament.

Bob Wills took over the coaching reins from Ratliff to begin the present season and Mustang fans had reason to be proud of their team for the third year in a row. To date, the present team has made a 27-1 record. That one loss went to the Mustangs' oldest rival, the Farwell Steers, in the finals of the Farwell Invitational Tournament in January of this year.

Aside from the Steers, who play a good game anytime they play Bovina, the Mustangs had little trouble this year in winning the District 3-B crown for the third year in a row. Aside from district play, the Ponies have played and beaten bigger, higher classification schools such as Clovis, Brownfield, Hereford, and Dalhart.

The 1954-55 team set a scoring record for Class B schools in the state, tossing 126 points during a district game with Adrian. Norman Killough, a member of that team, tied an individual scoring record in a district game against Lazbuddie by making 55 points.

This is the first year of the three that just one game has been lost at this point in the season. In other years, two games had been lost.

So, with a record that will be hard to improve on, the Bovina Mustangs go into the regional tournament tonight trying to do just that.

PLAY BRISCOE AT 7:00 P. M. IN CANYON

Coach Bob Wills leads his Bi-District Champion Bovina Mustangs, owners of a 27-1 record, into Region B Tournament action tonight at 7:00 against Briscoe, which has a 30-1 record, in West Texas State Fieldhouse in Canyon.

The Mustangs, playing in their third regional tournament in three years, are hoping to emerge victorious and advance to the state tournament which will be held in Austin next week.

Little is known locally about Briscoe and its type of play. However, it's low-score, 41-28, victory over Samnorwood in the team's bi-district playoff indicates that it plays a slow type of ball, possibly similar to that of the Cotton Center Elks, who the Mustangs defeated in their bi-district game.

Mustang starters in the tournament will include Larry Ezell, Darrel Read, Neil Smith, Erith Hawkins, and Billy Richards or Billy Johnson. This is the same starting team that has compiled the 27-1 record.

Other team members include Lynn Isham, Leon Richards, Jerry Loflin, Dick Horn, and Marvin Young. Team managers are Terry Adams and James Stevens. Individual pictures of the boys appear on the following pages.

Included in the Mustang's list of victories are eight district games and three tournament-final games. They rolled over all district opponents with ease except Farwell, which they defeated by the slim margin of two points in both district encounters. The first place tournament trophies the Ponies have added to their growing collection include those of Friona, Bovina, and the District 3-B tournament. They lost their one game and one tournament to the host Farwell Steers in the Farwell Invitational Tournament.

Should the Mustangs win over Briscoe in the first regional tournament game, they will play again at 11:15 Saturday morning. Win or lose in the second game, they will play Saturday night. If they lose Saturday morning, the night game will be to determine the third place tournament winner, and if they win Saturday morning the night game will, of course, be for the tournament championship.

With the eight best teams in the region entered in the tournament, the competition will, to say the least, be hard to beat.

As one fan put it, "It will take an awful good team and a little luck to win it."

Two years ago, the Mustangs were bi-district champions but were defeated in their first game at the regional tournament. Last year, they won the regional tournament and advanced to third place in the state tournament.

In those two years, Bovina fans and players alike learned how it feels to win and lose. They like the "feel" of a win a lot better than that of a loss.

Coach Wills Says "Get by Briscoe"

"If we can get by Briscoe, I think we'll have a chance of winning the tournament," the young, blond-haired coach of the Mustangs, Bob Wills, says.

Wills will be "going home," so to speak, for the regional tournament. He is a graduate of West Texas State College at Canyon where the tournament will be held.

Wills, who sits calmly on the Mustangs' bench no matter how exciting the play on the floor gets, started his coaching career at Hartley after his graduation from West Texas. After Hartley, he moved to Flomot and then to Brownfield. He was "B" team football coach and assistant basketball coach at Brownfield last year.

Wills' wife, Evangeline, is a commercial teacher in Bovina High School.

Beat Briscoe!

WESTBROOK	Friday, 3:00 p.m.		
WEINERT		Saturday, 9:45 a.m.	
GRUVER			
Friday, 4:30 p.m.			
SILVERTON			
BRISCOE	Friday, 7:00 p.m.	Third Place	FINALS
BOVINA		Saturday, 7:00 p.m.	Saturday, 8:30 p.m.
WHITHARRAL	Friday, 8:30 p.m.	Saturday, 11:15 a.m.	
ROPESVILLE			

Win the Tourney!

Fillies Had Good Record!

The Bovina High School girls basketball team, known as the Fillies, have played 22 games since November 21, and are now tied for second place in District 3-B.

These 22 games consisted of five practice games, eight conference games, and nine tournament encounters.

The Fillies entered three invitational tournaments and played seven games in the tournaments. In the Friona tournament, they lost to Amherst and Muleshoe, and in the Bovina tournament, they won from Rosedale and lost to Friona. They won the Farwell invitational tournament by defeating Lazbuddie, Adrian, and Farwell.

The Fillies won six of their eight conference games, losing only to Lazbuddie. In the District Tournament, they won from Adrian and

lost to Lazbuddie, the district champions. By winning six conference games, the Fillies tied for second place with the Farwell team which placed second in the tournament.

The Fillies made 964 points in their games, while their opponents made 916. They scored 332 field goals and 300 free shots out of 562 attempts. Their opponents scored 347 field goals and 223 free shots from 436 tries. The Fillies fouled 293 times and their opponents fouled 380 times.

The girls averaged 44 points per game against 42 averaged by their opponents.

Individual scoring was divided among seven forwards.

Janice Richards, a freshman, made 372 points in this, her first season, with 124 field goals and

123 free shots. She shot 8 free shots and fouled 12 times. Janice played 19 games and averaged 20 points.

Pauline Lloyd, senior, made 295 points in 21 games, averaging 14 points per game. She made 92 field goals and 111 free shots from 214 tries. She fouled 35 times.

Dee Pounds, junior, played 18 games and made 162 points, with 69 field goals and 24 free shots from 66 tries. Her average was nine points and she fouled 42 times.

Ellen Berry, junior, made 66 points for the Fillies with 21 field goals and 24 free shots from 51 tries. She fouled 6 times.

Sue Moody made 44 points with 17 field goals and 10 free shots. She tried 20 free shots and fouled 11 times.

Kay Leake, sophomore, made seven field goals and seven free

WE WON'T STOP NOW!

**QUEEN'S
CUSTOM SLAUGHTERING**

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL MEATS



Erith Hawkins, 18

SENIOR
Height—6'-2"
Number—27
4-Year Letterman

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"Pioneers in Bovina"

EVERYTHING TO WEAR

WE THINK YOU CAN DO IT!

GULF OIL CORPORATION

Wholesale and Retail

TOMMY BONDS

Goodyear Tires—All Kinds of Oil



Neil Smith, 18

JUNIOR
Height—5'-8"
Number—35
3-Year Letterman

BEAT 'EM, MUSTANGS!

**S. E. CONE GRAIN
AND SEED COMPANY**

R. S. JOHNSTON JR., Mgr.

WE'RE SUPPORTING YOU, MUSTANGS—

GO ALL THE WAY!

HARMAN'S

BOVINA, TEXAS



Leon Richards, 17

JUNIOR
Height—5'-11"
Number—35
1-Year Letterman

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ODIS WHITE, Proprietor

Phone 2951

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INSURE US A TOURNEY WIN, BOYS

**WILSON AND BROCK
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"All Kinds of Insurance"

AUBREY BROCK

JOE WILSON



Tom Ware, 16

JUNIOR
Height—6'-3"
Number—32
1-Year Letterman

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Billy Richards, 17

SENIOR
Height—5'-8"
Number—38
3-Year Letterman

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BUT OPPORTUNITY"

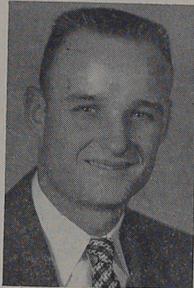
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READ'S GROCERY

NAT READ

RONALD BERGGREN

Phone 2071 — Bovina



Darrel Read, 19

SENIOR
Height—5'-11½"
Number—40
4-Year Letterman

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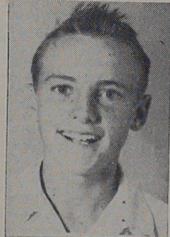
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Phone 2081



Dick Horn, 16

SOPHOMORE
Height—5'-6"
Number—33
1-Year Letterman

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JUNIOR
Height—6'-3"
Number—41
1-Year Letterman

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NINTH ANNIVERSARY SALE — MARCH 8-9-10

Let's
Go,
Ponies



To
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State
Tourney

TERRY ADAMS, Manager

BOVINA BUTANE SERVICE

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Larry Ezell, 18

SENIOR
Height—6'-1"
Number—34
4-Year Letterman

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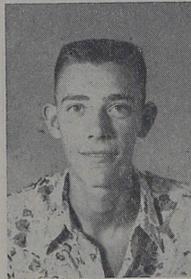
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RAYMOND ADAMS, Mgr.



Billy Johnson, 18

SENIOR
Height—6'-1"
Number—42
3-Year Letterman

ALL THE WAY, MUSTANGS

CICERO SMITH LUMBER COMPANY

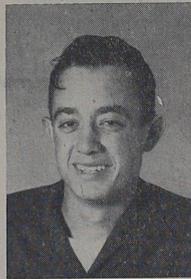
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Jerry Loflin, 18

SENIOR
Height—5'-10"
Number—39
2-Year Letterman

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H. J. CHARLES

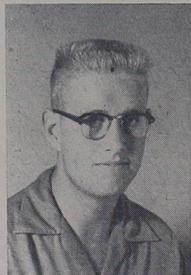
Phone 4321 — Bovina

LET'S GO TO STATE

HUBERT ELLISON

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Phone 2632



Lynn Isham, 18

SENIOR
Height—6'-2"
Number—43
1-Year Letterman

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Way—
Big Team



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Think
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Do It

JAMES STEVENS, Manager

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