

MY TURN

By Carol Ellis



RED AND GREEN are the traditional colors of Christmastime. This signifies the time when you spend all your green, which leaves you in the red. Every year, after all the packages have been opened we chastise each other for buying too many gifts and we vow to keep it simple next year, but when next year rolls around, you know what happens. Same song, next verse.

While visiting my number one son in San Antonio over the Thanksgiving holiday, I ran across the following list of "Ten Worst Holiday Gifts" on the back of a restaurant menu, of all places. Here it is:

1. Fruitcake recycled from last year's Christmas party.
2. A wilted poinsettia that won't last the 12 days of Christmas.
3. Giant wicker tray in the shape of a Christmas tree filled with jars of jams and jellies.
4. A T-shirt left over from the company picnic.
5. A jumbo tin of stale popcorn.
6. Smoked cheese in the shape of the state of Texas.
7. A frozen turkey that will stay frozen until next Christmas.
8. Hard candies in a holiday coffee mug.
9. A big ham that you have to take home and cook.
10. A paper weight with the company logo imprinted on it.

Well, some of those aren't really so bad. I actually like a nice fresh fruitcake, a bright poinsettia, popcorn, and jars of jelly. In fact, I can think of about 15 really awful Christmas gifts that are much worse than the ten mentioned above. My least favorite Christmas gifts are as follows:

1. The recorded tape or CD of dogs barking to the tune of "Jingle Bells." They also now have one of cats meowing to various Christmas tunes. Plus, there is a coffee mug that plays a Christmas song when you pick it up to drink out of it. Try that with your first cup of coffee in the morning.
2. How about those football-shaped armchair doodads intended to hold your remote and "TV Guide."
3. The big plastic candy cane filled with colored jelly beans.
4. A cap with the logo of your favorite beer on the front.
5. Key chain with an astrological sign attached.
6. Boxer shorts covered with pictures of a cartoon character.
7. Soap-on-a-rope or shower radio-on-a-rope.
8. That clapper gadget that is supposed to turn on your lights when you clap your hands.
9. The coin sorter bank, or any coin bank in the shape of anything.
10. An impossible jigsaw puzzle with a geometric "put-out-your-eyes" design. I actually like jigsaw puzzles with pretty pictures, but not the go-blind kind.
11. Any cutsie item designed to hold your "extra" rolls of toilet tissue in the bathroom.
12. Anything with the logo of a pro-sports team on it. This includes afghans, towels, coasters, radios, watches, lamps, articles of clothing, etc. These same items with logos of a college are okay, as long as it is Texas Tech.
13. The Chia Pet.
14. Kitchen gadgets are the worst. Sometimes the idea behind them is good but they usually don't work. Please don't get me the salad shooter, the sandwich maker, the "Speedy Thaw" defroster tray, the pop-up hot dog cooker, electric vegetable steamer, electric potato peeler, and/or the sugar packet shaker.
15. Christmas sweaters. They are beautifully designed with glittery Christmas decorations all over them. But if I open it on Christmas morning, I can't wear it for nearly a whole year. When do we have our coldest weather? In January and February, when I can't wear my pretty Christmas sweater any more. Buy plain ones.

My all-time favorite Christmas gift would be a big winning lottery ticket. I'd even share it!

Bovina Kids Participate In Project

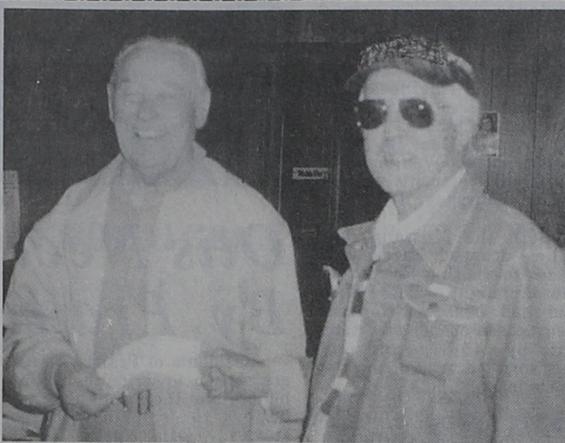
Bovina Elementary, Middle and High Schools launch Kids for Wish Kids Program, December 2. Students and faculty at the Bovina school system will participate in a local Kids for Wish Kids program to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Amarillo.

Bovina students will be raising money to help the Make-A-Wish Foundation grant a wish to a child in Bovina, "Amanda," who has a life threatening illness.

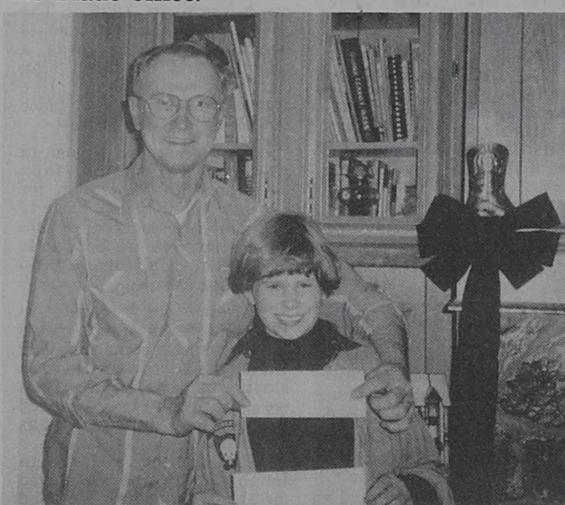
"Our projects for the month of December for the elementary students will be a small change drive, collecting pennies and small change, a teddy bear raffle and selling "Amanda's Angels" for 25 cents," said Ms. Sealy, principal.

Cindy Spanel, Wish coordinator of Make-A-Wish of Amarillo, said the Kids for Wish Kids program provides young people with a valuable learning experience about life-threatening illness and how they can help make a difference to another child. This will help the students learn to work together for the common good while at the same time providing a valuable opportunity for students and teachers to get to know each other better.

Make-A-Wish grants wishes to children between the ages of 2-1/2 and 18 years old with a life threatening illness. The Amarillo chapter, located at 2324 Lakeview, Amarillo, has granted 396 wishes since its beginning in 1984. At present they are working on 45 wishes in the top 55 counties of the Texas Panhandle.



\$100 SMILE.....A. M. Wilson became a 3-time winner in the annual Bovina Business football contest. Ron Carr, Blade editor, presented Wilson his \$100 top prize check this week at the Blade office.



FAMILY TRADITION.....The Roach family plays football with the Blade every week during the annual Bovina Business football contest. Jerry Roach and daughter Stacy won second and third place prizes in the final week contest.

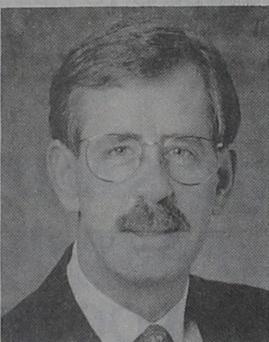
Bivens Invites Area Folks To Town Hall Meeting

State Senator Teel Bivens (R-Amarillo) will conduct a town hall meeting in Friona at 2:30 p.m. Monday, December 9 at the Depot in Friona City Park. All area residents are invited to attend.

Bivens will discuss the upcoming 75th Legislative Session and the bills he plans to introduce. He will also answer questions from constituents and solicit their views on state issues.

In January, the legislature is expected to address such issues as tax reform, redistricting, tort reform and economic development. "I look forward to hearing from my constituents about what is important to them," Bivens said. "I believe we will have another successful session like we did in 1995."

Bivens is serving his third term in the Texas Senate.



TEEL BIVENS

He is chairman of the Senate Education Committee and also serves in the Finance and Natural Resources committees.

The legislature will convene January 14, 1997 and meet through June 2, 1997.



FESTIVE FOODS---Suzan Hughes, left, chats with SPS Marketing Rep Connie Moyers at the Festive Foods demonstration held Tuesday at Friona State Bank. Connie showed a large group how to prepare colorful food items for Christmas gifts.

A.M. Wilson Finishes Football Contest With \$100 Grand Prize

The third time was the charm-A.M. Wilson winning only \$10 this year in weekly prize money finished off the contest as the \$100 grand prize winner.

A.M. won earlier in 1975 and 1992. This third win makes him the "winningest" of the Bovina Blade contest. There are four past contestants who have won the grand prize twice, but A.M. is the first to win three times.

A list of past winners can be found elsewhere in this issue.

In the weekly contest, Bertha Chavez of Clovis came in with twelve correct picks and received the \$20 weekly first prize.

Three contestants tied with eleven correct picks. The Houston 35-New York Jets 10 game decided the second and third places.

Stacy Roach cashed in with \$10. Her tie-breaker guess was only 19 points off the actual score.

Stacy's dad, Jerry, came in third place with his score difference of 21. He received \$5.

Al Kerby Jr. missed out on the weekly cash with his tie-breaker guess that was 23 points off the game score.

Because the Friona-Vernon game was played Friday afternoon, some contestants could have turned in their form after the game was finished. To make it fair to all contestants, we counted this pick correct for everyone.

Pick number four was listed as the Lazbuddie-Chillicothe winner vs. Highland-Wellman winner. Wellmand actually played Grandfalls-Royalty. This pick was counted correct also.

The college games proved to be the trouble-makers of the week.

One of the most missed games was Southern California-Notre Dame. This was a big surprise to most contestants but mostly to Notre Dame's Lou Holtz.

This was the first time his team lost to Southern California in eleven years.

The Miami-Syracuse and Florida State-Florida games were also missed by many pickers.

Another surprise came with the final grand-total scores. Virginia Steele had been trailing A.M. for weeks for the grand prize money but this week she fell to third. Jerry Roach came in from behind and landed with second place honors.

A list of the Bovina Blade football contest contestants can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Congratulations to A.M. for his persistent contest playing. It goes to prove the theory, you don't have to win weekly, just play weekly.

Wind Flips Bovinan's Airplane

On Friday, November 29, Blake Rundell of Bovina was landing his small, single-engine, Luscombe airplane at the Floydada airport.

According to the Department of Public Safety in Lubbock, a gust of wind flipped the aircraft on its top.

Rundell, 20, was uninjured and the plane sustained minor damage.

The National Weather Service in Amarillo reported southwest to west winds averaging 10 to 20 mph, gusting to 25 mph in the area at the time of the incident.



Turn In Santa Letters To Blade Office By Dec. 17.

Job Skills Workshop Set at BHS

Bovina High School invites interested adults to join the school for a job workshop on December 9 from 7-8 p.m. The workshop will be held in conjunction with the school's "Monday Madness" program.

Josie Alonzo will conduct the workshop covering topics such as job interviewing techniques, submitting job applications and resume writing. All community members are welcome to attend.

In an effort to provide more services to students and the community, Bovina High School began hosting "Monday Madness" on November 11.

The high school learning resource center, computer lab and a classroom are available from 6-8 p.m. on Monday nights throughout the school year. Tutorial help is offered

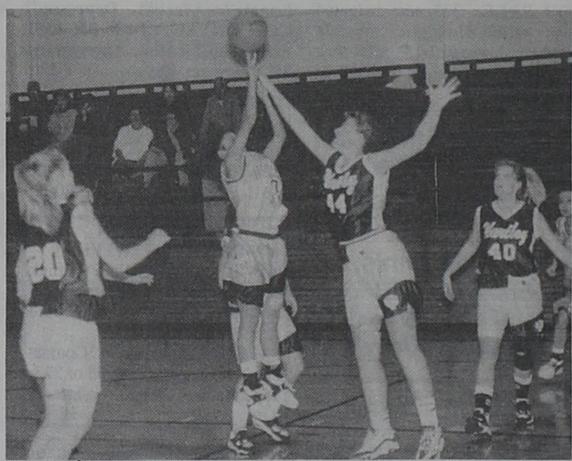
as teachers are available.

"We've had a number of students participate in the first four weeks that we have offered the program," explained BHS principal Jerry Birdsong. "Our staff is excited to be given another opportunity to serve our students and the community."

The school would also like to create more parent involvement with the "Monday Madness" program.

"We want our parents to be a part of their children's education," said Birdsong. "We welcome our parents to come to the workshops or explore the library and computer labs."

Non-high school children will be welcome provided that they are supervised by their parents. For more information, contact Bovina High School.



HOOPIN' IT UP....Bovina Fillies and Mustangs are in full swing for the 1996-97 basketball schedule. The varsity boys started late because of the bi-district football game. Shown above is Fillies standout Bonnie Quintana firing a jumper against Hartley. Below, Martin Reyna scores on a fast break against the Hartley boys. Bovina won both games against Hartley. The Fillies are 3-3 and the boys are 2-0 so far. (Ron Carr Photos)



Reflections

...from the files of The Bovina Blade

40-Years Ago-Dec. 5, 1956
After being dormant for some four years, the Bovina American Legion was re-organized and back in action after two meetings in five days.
Bovina Jaycees voted in a regular meeting Saturday in Bovina Restaurant to sponsor "Atoms for Peace", a mobile exhibit presented by the United Atomic Energy Commission. The van contains exhibits showing peaceful uses of atomic energy.
Bovina School retained its rating as a fully accredited school system after a visit by an inspection team from Texas Education Agency, November 22. One of the primary reasons for the inspection was to point out weaknesses in the system.

35 Yrs Ago-Dec. 6, 1961
Mrs. Don Murphy of Bovina was painfully, but not seriously, injured in a freak accident Saturday night in Silverton. While she was making a telephone call to Bovina from a Silverton phone booth, the booth was struck by an out-of-control car and knocked from its foundation.
Bovina Lions Club will sponsor the 1961 Home Christmas Decoration Contest. The contest is open to all homes in the Bovina area, Tom Bonds, Lions president, announced.

Two Panhandle men have purchased controlling interest in First National Bank of Bovina. Announcement of the transaction was made by Warren Embree, bank president. It was effective November 28.
Texas Highway Commission has approved the project of widening FM Road 1731 (Third Street) in

Bovina. Notice of the approval was received in Bovina last week.

30 Yrs Ago-Dec. 7, 1966
Voters in Bovina Independent School District turned out 283 strong Saturday and rejected three proposals totaling \$268,000 for a new construction program for the school system.

Contributions are coming in "very slowly" in the Bovina Christmas Card Project for a medical clinic and doctor fund, according to Mrs. Jesse Walling, chairman of the Community Improvement Committee. Only \$59.50 had been deposited at the First State Bank in Bovina on Monday morning.

An official State Health Department citation for work proficiency has been awarded to Andres Garza, assistant superintendent of the Bovina water supply system. The citation reflects the high regard in which Garza is held by state water officials.

Truck Lusk won the final week of the Bovina Businesses Football Contest and, at the same time, won an expense-paid trip for two to the Cotton Bowl game in Dallas on December 31 with a total of 95 games guessed correctly in the 13-week event.

20 Yrs Ago-Dec. 8, 1976
A former Bovina resident Alfred Moody, had the unhappy experience of being involved in the daring bank robbery and kidnapping that happened at Petersburg Tuesday. Moody, who was associated with First State Bank of Bovina (formerly First National Bank) off and on from 1955 until 1968, is president of the First State Bank of Petersburg, which

was the target last Tuesday of the unusual daylight robbery.

Fifty-two of approximately 200 Texas Tech University nominees qualified for "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges," which includes Janet Dell Kassahn of Bovina, from the College of Business Administration.

10 Yrs Ago-Dec. 10, 1986
Mr. Mike Woollends of Clovis will begin his practice locally Thursday, December 11.

Both the Mustangs and Fillies dropped hard-fought games to visiting Friona last Tuesday night. The Fillies, who had beaten Friona in their season opener at Friona, lost by 45-37, and the Mustangs led most of the way before losing, 73-69.

5 Yrs Ago-Dec. 7, 1991
Bovina Feeders has been honored for the month of December by the Bovina Chamber of Commerce.

The Bovina High School Fillies won one of their three games in the Vega tournament last weekend. The team downed the Vega JV, 43-36.

The BHS Mustangs were runnersup in the Vega tournament last week, falling to Highland Park in the finals. It was the team's first loss of the season.

Inmates Make License Plates, Vinyl Stickers

Inmates making license plates--the granddaddy of prison industries--set a 15 year record high in volume, sales and profits this year at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's Wynne Unit in Huntsville, Texas.

The license tag plant turned out more than seven million plates for the Texas Department of Transportation at a cost of \$1.21 a plate, plus another 30,000 plates for other customers for total sales of \$8.5 million.

The tag plant's companion industry which produces vinyl stickers also set records with sales of \$2.6 million from more than 100 million stickers, ranging from windshield and license tag stickers to registration and inspection decals for boats and gasoline pumps.

"It's useful work for the inmates and it actually produces a profit for the state," Texas Criminal Justice Board chairman, Allan Polunsky said.

Gross profits were \$2.3 million at the tag plant and \$1.6 million at the sticker plant. More than 300 inmates work without pay in the license and sticker plant.

There are 140 different license tag designs produced by the plant, not counting personalized ego plates. The designs range from those used routinely for passenger cars to such specialized plates as "fertilizer truck."

The two plants operate ten-hour days four days a week and use the fifth workday for maintenance on the high-speed, high-technology equipment used in the tag and sticker processes, a far cry from the old metal stamping shop used for many years after the prisons first began making the state's tags in 1934.

The license tag plant moved to the Wynne Unit in 1975 from the historic Walls unit in downtown Huntsville. The sticker plant opened in 1975 when the state went to the multi-year license tag system instead of issuing new plates to every vehicle every year.

"We are not at capacity yet. We could add another 10 to 20 per cent production," says Mike McDowell, TDCJ industry's graphics division manager who oversees the plants. "Consequently, we are always looking for new customers and new products for the equipment."

Besides the state transportation department, license plate customers include the state Parks and Wildlife Department, U.S. military forces and from time to time, foreign governments.

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OTIS NEEL

Otis Neel Featured By Prairie Acres

Residents of Prairie Acres are chosen to write their life history and the Friona Star is happy to re-print these stories. Otis Neel's story follows:

By OTIS NEEL
I was born in Tahlequah, Oklahoma in Cherokee County on June 8, 1910. We came to Texas the first time on a train in 1920. The reason I say the first time, is because my father was a traveler and he didn't stay put. I really didn't like traveling from place to place but that's the way it was!

Well we stayed a year in Abilene, Texas and then went back to Tahlequah for another year. Then back to Abilene in a covered wagon. After that year we headed to Redlands, California and stayed for awhile.

Then we went to Paducah, Texas to pick cotton for about three months and then back to Tahlequah staying for three years. Then we left with two covered wagons for Amherst, Texas for awhile.

Dad rented a farm in Lamb County and we stayed for about ten years. We lived in a little place called Bula in southern Bailey County. In the meantime I married Athlea Teston in 1935.

I bought my first farm in 1942 and owned about 500 acres in Bula. In 1955 I

bought a farm in Hub and decided to sell some of my land in Bula. I farmed for one year in Hub. I then bought the Hub Grocery Store and my wife and I ran the store for twelve years and three months. My wife and I had five children.

We moved to Friona in May of 1969 and lived here 27 years. My wife worked at Foster's Store on Main Street ten years. My wife and I did some traveling together. We went to Missouri every year for seven years in a row.

My wife became ill. She suffered from arthritis and later had to be in a wheelchair. She passed away in 1993. I also have health problems and decided I needed to be in a rest home and came to live at Prairie Acres.

I'm very grateful for my children. They stayed out of trouble and never gave me any problems. I've been lucky!

Two of my sons, Dwayne and Jerrell, were principals in Colorado for thirty years and retired about three years ago. My other son, Dale, works for U.P.S.

One of my daughters, Kaye, teaches school in Stinnett, Texas and has been teaching 25 years. And my other daughter, Paula, lives on a farm in Adrian, Texas. I have nine grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

FB Contest Standings

Total points for the entire thirteen-week football contest are:

- 131-A.M. Wilson.
 - 129-Jerry Roach.
 - 128-Virginia Steele.
 - 126-Frances Johnson.
 - 125-Denise Anderson, Al Kerby Jr., Josh Kerby, Susan Kerby, J.T. Roach and Dorothy Stowers.
 - 124-Matt Hromas.
 - 122-Jo Blackwell and Galen Hromas.
 - 121-Judy Hromas, Phillip Johnson, Tyson Kerby and Stacy Roach.
 - 120-Cameron Charles and Jan Smith.
 - 119-Lisa Hromas.
 - 118-Jerry Birdsong, Darren Hromas and Donnie McDonald.
 - 117-Eufemia Torres.
 - 116-Deborah Raymond.
 - 115-Jason Kerby.
 - 114-Mike Read and Kay Roach.
 - 113-Travis Lockmiller.
 - 112-Doug Johnson, Jeanne Kerby and Roy Lee Stowers.
 - 110-Dean Stanberry.
 - 109-Gilda Garner and Christen Stowers.
 - 108-Johnny Martinez.
 - 107-Beky Johnson and Jess Stowers.
 - 106-Mike Raymond and Blake Sudderth.
 - 105-Janie Sudderth.
 - 104-Adam Mejia, Linda Sudderth and Scott Sudderth.
 - 103-Ellice Martinez, and Kenny Sherbon.
 - 102-Jamie Stanberry.
 - 100-Glendon Sudderth.
- A complete list of all contestants' weekly and grand total scores can be found at the Bovina Blade office.

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Year--Winner	1978--Harry J. Charles
1960--Neil Smith	1979--David George
1961--Erith Hawkins	1980--Johnny Curtis
1962--Emmett Tabor	1981--Ken Horn
1963--Paul Jones	1982--Larry Wiseman
1964--Jeanne Kerby	1983--Richard Shepherd
1965--Allen Cumpton	1984--Howard Card
1966--Truck Lusk	1985--Teresa Cary
1967--Leroy Lance	1986--Brad Lance
1968--Bill Roberts	1987--Tilly Card
1969--Larry Wardlaw	1988--Jerry Bentley
1970--Donna Criswell	1989--Kay Roach
1971--Ted Graham	1990--Mike Read
1972--Gary McCormick	1991--Virginia Steele
1973--Harry J. Charles	1992--A.M. Wilson
1974--Emmett Tabor	1993--Donnie McDonald
1975--A.M. Wilson	1994--Donnie McDonald
1976--Greg Hromas	1995--Mike Read
1977--Allen Cumpton	1996--A.M. Wilson

THE BOVINA BLADE



Out Here

By RON CARR



50TH ANNIVERSARY... Carl and Velma Schueler will observe their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception on Sunday, December 15 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at their country home. They were married December 14, 1946 in Rhea Immanuel Lutheran Church. Children of the couple are Floyd Schlenker of Rhea, Jim Schlenker of Venezuela, Carleen Sims of Lubbock and Connie Johnson of Friona.

Tuesday, Dec. 3, 1996
Dear God:

Thank you for all the recent blessings you have sent to Parmer County. The cotton harvest seems bountiful and we appreciate the moisture received by the snowfall last Saturday.

Around the county, families gathered over the weekend to renew our spirits and to give thanks with food and fellowship for our many blessings which we sometimes take for granted.

Remind us often, if you will, about the true meaning of the Christmas season and the completion of yet another year.

Remind us also that you give us choices for our lives everyday. Continue to guide us so that we can make the right decisions in our lives and so that we will not forget to help others, even as you have helped us.

Now, God, could we talk some football? I know, sir, but the Friona Chieftains only have three more games left this year. Besides, there are some life lessons to be reinforced in these playoff games.

For instance, Coach Morton told the High School Extra TV reporter after the Vernon game that the players believe in the coaches. They trust the coaches and play the way they are told to the best of their abilities.

Isn't that what you expect too in life? Don't you provide a game plan for us and give us the freedom to execute the plan as best we can. You gotta' believe.

I know you were very busy last Thursday with everybody giving

you thanks and stuff, but I do appreciate you getting to Snyder on Friday before the kickoff this time.

When I saw how big those Vernon boys were and how they had us outnumbered, I figured we needed help the entire game.

Thank you for showing Friona how to score first so we didn't have to worry about playing catch up against the (former) number one 3A team in the state.

It was neat the way you let them be ahead by one point at halftime too. At least they had something to look forward to for a few minutes.

And I am not questioning for one minute why we made our two-point conversion in the second half and they failed.

Maybe that is another life lesson, huh? Scoring a touchdown in life is not always good if you don't do that little "extra point" that keeps you ahead. Isn't that the way you figure it?

I couldn't help but laugh and cheer when that young man from Vernon fluttered a pass up for grabs with about two minutes left in the game and our Aaron King stood there waiting for it like a centerfielder.

To tell you the truth, Lord, I thought that ball would never come down and I forgot to take a picture of the catch because I was so caught up in the action.

You have to know that right before that pass interception, there were at least two thousand of us fans, including a few coaches, that prayed for a turnover. We thank you for that bit of drama.

Oh, and say, God did you notice how many Vernon fans got up and left after that turnover. I wasn't paying attention, but some Friona fans told me that whole sections and busloads of so-called "Vernon fans" left the game (and their kids) with two minutes left to play.

I can promise you that Friona fans would never do that. It is

more than just a game to us, sir. They're our kids and it should be obvious that we wouldn't leave them with two minutes left.

And what about that trophy thing, God? I suppose only you know the real story, but someone told me that as the "home team" Vernon was supposed to furnish the winners trophy and they left it "out in the van" and then couldn't find the van or something?

Could that be true? I would

Producers Received Extra \$\$

Texas and Oklahoma cotton producers received significant added value to their crops from their local and regional cooperatives during fiscal year 1995-96, according to figures released recently.

The cash payments, over and above the lint value of the cotton, originated from local cooperative gins, Plains Cooperative Oil Mill (PCOM), Farmers Cooperative Compress, Plainview Cooperative Compress and Plains Cotton Cooperative Association (PCCA).

The figures show an average of \$67.29 per bale was paid in cash from the combined fiscal year earnings and stock retirements. Cotton producers receiving the average payment ginned their cotton at a cooperative gin, stored the cotton at a cooperative warehouse, marketed the cotton through PCCA and participated in its denim mill program, and had their cottonseed processed at PCOM.

The \$67.29 added value per bale is a significant contribution to the cash flow of cotton-producing cooperative members throughout Texas and Oklahoma, and it is further testimony to the advantage provided by local and regional cooperatives.

like to think not, but I know our young Chieftains were celebrating on the field after the game and there was no trophy presented to them. We finally got the trophy the first of this week.

Can you believe that, God. Oh, sorry, I forgot you already know all of this.

Well, anyway, we thank you. We ask your continued guidance and protection for all the Aledo and Friona fans and players as we journey to Sweetwater on Saturday. Keep us safe from injury and see us home safely.

Especially guide, strengthen and protect our Chieftains, the wisdom of our coaches, the motivation by our band and cheerleaders, and the cheers of the fans.

And would you remind whoever is supposed to bring our quarter-final trophy to make sure it gets to Sweetwater please. It means a lot to our kids who work hard for the rewards they earn.

Before I sign off, God, I know you are enjoying these games as much as we are so don't forget it starts at 2 p.m. in Sweetwater. We are still the ones in red and white.

Accept my playoff prayer this week. (I don't need this to be 100% perfect, but if you can get as close as possible we sure would appreciate it.)

Friona 27, Aledo 0. Amen!
P. S. Welcome back to Friona to my brother Rick and Sherry!!

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FRIONA/BOVINA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

Facts About The **BIBLE** BY JOHN LEHTI

JACOB'S WELL

ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE ANCIENT SAMARITAN CITY OF SYCHAR, IS JACOB'S WELL WHERE JESUS OF NAZARETH ASKED THE WOMAN OF SAMARIA FOR A DRINK OF WATER. IT IS SITUATED AT THE EASTERN MOUTH OF THE VALLEY BETWEEN MOUNT EBAL ON THE NORTH AND MOUNT GERIZIM ON THE SOUTH. THE WELL IS MORE THAN 75 FEET DEEP BEFORE WATER IS REACHED BUT IT IS STILL USED AND ITS WATER IS PURE AND IS SUPERIOR TO THAT OF NEARBY SPRINGS AND STREAMS. THE DEPTH OF THE WELL CERTAINLY AGREES WITH THE STORY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN ADMONISHING JESUS THAT HE HAD NO WAY TO GET WATER FROM SO DEEP A WELL AS THIS ONE WAS! (JOHN 4:11)



THE WELL WAS PROBABLY DUG BECAUSE THE MANY SPRINGS IN THE VALLEY DRIED UP IN THE SUMMER AND PEOPLE NEEDED A GOOD SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY WHICH A DEEP WELL WOULD GIVE THEM.

329

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AMY DARLENE BOOZER and DONALD ERIC GODWIN....Lowell and Kathy Boozer of Canyon, Texas announce the engagement of their daughter, Amy Darlene, to Donald Eric Godwin, son of Mrs. Jetta Michaels of Dallas. She is the granddaughter of Carlene Blankenship and the late D.H. Jones of Bovina, graduated from Canyon High School in 1994 and is currently a junior student at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, majoring in nursing. The prospective bridegroom is a 1995 graduate of Arizona State University with a bachelor of science degree and is currently a first year law student at Texas Tech University School of Law. The couple will exchange wedding vows December 28 at Ceta Canyon Methodist Encampment near Canyon and will make their home in Lubbock.

Joan Coupe New ASTA President

Joan Coupe, owner and general manager of Hereford Travel Center for the past twenty years, recently travelled to Bangkok, Thailand this week where she will be installed as the president of the Southwest Chapter ASTA (the American Society of Travel Agents).

The Society is the world's largest and most influential travel trade association with over 28,000 members in 168 countries. The Southwest Chapter covers the states of Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and New Mexico and has over 1200 members.

The mission of the American Society of Travel Agents--the traveler's advocate--is to enhance professionalism of members worldwide through effective representation in industry and government affairs, education and training and by identifying and meeting the needs of the traveling public. ASTA's motto is "Integrity in Travel."

ASTA is continually fighting travel fraud--which cost consumers over \$7 billion last year. ASTA also fights government for the unfair taxation of the industry and the need to keep the cost of travel competitive. In order to get the most for your travel dollar, let your local ASTA travel agent make your travel arrangements.

The panhandle area has many travel agencies who are members of ASTA. They are professionals who strongly believe in "Integrity in Travel." They will give you excellent service and will be able to help you find a vacation that fits your time schedule and your budget. ASTA has a Consumer Affairs Department to mediate disputes in the event that the traveler experiences difficulties.

If you have any concerns regarding travel, travel agencies or travel suppliers, you may contact Joan Coupe at Hereford Travel Center, (806) 364-6813.

Saturday Xmas Performances Are Cancelled

The Friona Living Christmas Tree performances, scheduled for Saturday, December 7, have been cancelled and re-scheduled for Friday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m. and Monday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets for the Saturday performances will be honored either Friday or Monday evenings. Sunday, December 8 performances have not been changed.

Scooter's Scoops

By SCOOTER RUSSELL



We finally got a little snow and it was pretty for as long as it lasted. Sunday was a beautiful day but perhaps before the week is over, we'll have a little more of the white stuff.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Brother John and Bernice Ferguson of Houston and former residents of Bovina, will be honored on their fiftieth wedding anniversary with a reception at their daughter and son-in-law, Suzanne and Gary Messerberry's home in Houston.

Suzanne wanted us to let you know if you wish to send a card, letter or note to please send it to 5460 Huckleberry, Houston, Texas 77056. She will be putting together a book of memories for her parents and thought we may want to be part of it.

Brother John pastored the First Baptist Church in Bovina many years ago in the late fifties and early sixties and was loved by so many here and still keeps in touch with friends.

The Fergusons have three children, John David and Suzanne of the Dallas-Ft. Worth area and they have three daughters; Carol Jean and her husband have one little boy and they also live in Houston; Suzanne and Gary Messersmith of Houston, who have two daughters.

The reception will be held December 15, 6 p.m. hosted by their children and grandchildren.

Dear Scooter: Hope you'll be watching my brother as he makes another appearance on ABC's "Lois and Clark" Sunday December 15. Ben, by the way, is the "cheesy" one on the right. Happy Holidays!!! Butch McCain.

Woodrow Wright enjoyed a good Thanksgiving with his sons and families Joe Pat and

family of Crosbyton and Jerry Wright and family of Albuquerque. Woodrow said Jerry brought Thanksgiving dinner.

The holidays were lively around the Kunselman home as Pat and Pat had a houseful for a few days and on Thanksgiving Day. Mr. Pat's brother, James Kunselman and his daughter and her husband, Beth and Tom, came from Pennsylvania.

Also, there were the Kunselman's children, Rick and K.C. Kunselman and daughter, Amber from Kileen; daughter Vicki and Leland Jennings of Flagg and their sons, Chad and Drue; and son Arty and Tami Kunselman of Spearman and their daughters, Gina and Jamie.

Doris Wilson, Pat's mother, was also with the family for a good Thanksgiving.

All of Nelline Spicer's children were with her for the holidays. Son Marty and Amy Spicer and children, Tamara and Clay came from Mesquite; daughter Nena and Mike Veazey and daughter, Kylee, came from Hereford; and daughter Kay and Joe Stanton and daughter, Kristi came from Farwell.

Marty and family came on Wednesday and left Saturday.

Our Thanksgiving day was spent in Hereford with Jim's mom, Mae Russell and several members of the family. Mrs. Russell's daughter, Carol and her husband, Richard, of Hereford.

Her grandchildren, Mary and her friend and two daughters were present and Mary's brother, Chuck, also of

Hereford were with the family.

Brother Gary Morgan and his family spent Thanksgiving in San Angelo. Brother Gary's wife, Donna, and their three children, Sara, Zach and Johnathan made the trip to San Angelo and visited with parents.

Brother Gary is pastor of the Bovina First Baptist Church and has only been in Bovina a short time.

Company visiting A.M. Wilson from Abilene were his daughter and family, Suzanne and Rod Murphy and sons, Adam and Kip. The Murphys also visited with Rod's parents, Don and Juanda Murphy over the holidays.

Artie Fay O'Hair had a lot of fun with her children visiting. Daughter Claudia and her husband, Morris, came from Longview and also their daughter, J.J. and her husband accompanied them and they also live in Longview. They had a great time together.

Joe Looney and daughter-in-law, Dorothy Looney, flew to Houston from Lubbock on Monday before Thanksgiving and stayed until Saturday. They had dinner at the home of Dorothy's daughter Kay and her husband, Harry Hodges.

They were able to see Joe's twin great, great granddaughters, Lexi and Carri. Grandparents are Kay and Harry. The twins are the daughters of their only son and his wife.

Also with the family was Dorothy's daughter, Lynn and Kim Cabe of Sherman and their daughter.

Joe said she and Dorothy

had a wonderful week with the kids and has supper at Leal's in Mulshoe before coming home to Bovina.

While in the airport they saw Richard Grisham and his daughter Julie who were taking Richard's wife, Velma's parents to the airport. Joe said they had a good visit with Brother Richard. They said they are getting along real well in their new home. Bro. Richard pastored the First Baptist Church in Bovina for a number of years.

The Mejia family had more than a few things to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. Porfirio and Patsy Mejia celebrated their forty-sixth wedding anniversary on December 2. Porfirio suffered a heart attack a few weeks back but is getting along better.

Daughters Naomi and Sandra from Ft. Worth came for the holidays. Son Louis and wife, Gloria, of San Angelo, along with daughter Monique, and sons Little Louis and Thomas also came.

Also there on Thanksgiving Day were son Adam and the families of Joe and Esther Steelman and Doyle and Gilda Garner.

While Naomi and Monique were riding a four wheeler in the drive way, they lost control and flipped three times. Naomi was taken by ambulance to the Clovis hospital but was treated and released. Monique was a little shaken but was not treated for injuries.

In spite of the accident, Gilda reported that the family had a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Thank you for your calls and stories, I appreciate all of you...Scooter.



JOAN COUPE

Craft Sale/Cookie Walk Set Dec. 14 In Friona

Handcrafted gift items from around the world will be on public display and can be purchased during the Annual Cookie Walk, which is sponsored by Friona's Union Congregational Church on Saturday, December 14, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon.

Sale proceeds directly benefit artisans in more than 40 developing regions of Africa, Asia and the Americas through SERRV International, a 50-year-old non-profit organization that promotes social and economic justice throughout the world. Items purchased are twice blessed. Once when given as a gift and again in dignity and income to the developing world artisan.

The myriad of handcrafted items for sale includes jewelry, dolls, musical instruments, games, Christmas decorations and home accessories. Reflected in the workmanship of the crafts is the culture of their origin--places like Bangladesh, Ecuador, Indonesia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mexico, Nepal and the Americas.

Each also incorporates native materials such as silver, copper, agate, marble, wool, cotton or wood, which is traditionally hammered, molded, woven or carved by fourth and fifth generation artisans.

Union Congregational Church is one of 3,500 church and community groups in America that sells the more than 2,300 products SERRV imports and markets from 180 cooperative and self-help artisan groups, worldwide. In most instances, every \$1,000 purchased in the U.S. will provide enough income for an artisan and family for one year.

SERRV, one of the largest Alternative Trade Organizations in the United States, has its roots in post World War II refugee camps,

where Americans recognized that the talent of impoverished artisans could provide a means for much-needed income and self-sufficiency.

Since then, more than 40,000 artisans have participated in and benefited from the SERRV program, bringing independence, dignity and hope to their lives.

Happy Birthday Bovina

Area birthdays for the week of December 8-14
Dec 8-Velma Grisham
Dec 9-Judith Jenning
Dec 10-Sabina Schilling,
Jerry Birdsong.

Dec 11-Ken Guest, Keith Guest, Marilyn Rains, B. J. Charles.

Dec 12-Martha Buchanan, Lola Parson, Lavern Black
Dec 14-Barbara Hall, Laura Gilbreath, Dorothy Sorley.

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

Bovina School Lunch Menu

Week of December 9-13
MONDAY--chulupas, lettuce, tomato, cheese, crackers, fruit and milk.

TUESDAY--toasted cheese sandwich, chicken noodle soup, pickle spears, fruit and milk.

WEDNESDAY--beef and noodles, mixed vegetables, vegetable rings, cornbread, fruit and milk.

THURSDAY--bologna and cheese sandwich, lettuce, tomato, potato chips, fruit and milk.

FRIDAY--turkey and dressing, sweet potatoes, green beans, rolls, fruit and milk.

First Baptist Church

Bovina, TX

Will Present a Christmas Cantata

"Tree of Light"

Sunday, December 15

7:00 p.m.

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Narration By-Pastor Gary Morgan
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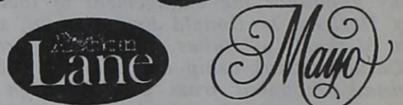
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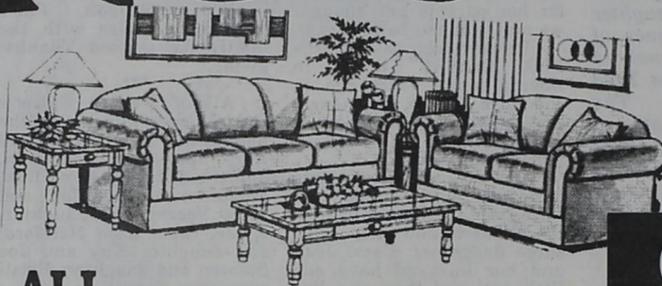
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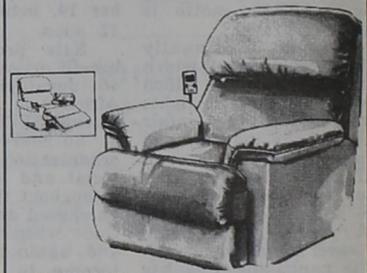
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