

# RIEL FAMILY NEWS LETTER

VOL. 2 NO. 1 JANUARY, 1992 PRICE ONE CENT THE COPY-FREE TO FAMILY

## FIRST ANNUAL RIEL BOWL BIG SUCCESS CAROL BENESCH 1ST NET IN CLOSEST TO PIN GOLF CLASSIC. GRANDPA RIEL TAKES 1ST LOW GROSS. MUDDY FIELD CAUSES CANCELLATION OF SOCCER, FOOTBALL CONTESTS. GRANDCHILDREN TAKE UP GOLF .

**ALPINE** - The annual Riel New Years Day Christmas celebration was held on January 1, 1992 at the Alpine country estate home of Bob and Karla Riel. The feature event was the newly established Riel Bowl. Unlike other bowl games, the Riel Bowl was planned as a multi-event contest, including football, soccer and golf. Unfortunately, the football and soccer matches had to be canceled, due to the muddy condition of the playing field. This was a great disappointment for the Kids team, since they were counting on getting revenge for the disputed Thanksgiving day soccer match loss. The golf match went off as planned, however, and was a great success. In a first for RFNL, a special East County Sports Edition was published by Assistant Editor Bob Riel, and included in the issue were the rules for the golf classic. A flag mounted in the center of a section of artificial turf was located about 50 yards from the tee, which was in the back yard. Each contestant was allowed as many practice shots as desired, prior to the official starting time. For the contest, however, each contestant was allowed three shots, with the one closest to the pin being selected. Each player was given a handicap, ranging from -3 (for pro Bob G.) to 36 inches. The best ball hence was moved closer to the pin by the amount of the handicap. In addition to the handicaps, Bob posted the morning line odds on each player, plus comments on their chances. Grandpa was listed as the favorite, at 2:1, along with Grandma, at 3:2. Margaret was the 100:1 long shot. The overall net winner, however, at 12:1 odds, was Carol Benesch, who beat out her husband Jeff by the narrow margin of 6 inches, provided by an 18" handicap advantage. Grandpa beat out Grandma by 6", for the gross lead. Carol was awarded six raffle tickets, which produced \$6.00 in winnings, and Grandpa got five tickets, with \$4.00 in winnings.

Although the Kids team did not have a chance to participate in any organized games, golf turned out to be very popular, and there were many fine shots produced by all who tried out their skills. Some no doubt will grow up to be excellent golfers.

Lunched was served around 1:00 PM, and the highlight of the meal was the prime rib roast expertly cooked by Bob R. In addition, there was a delicious turkey, sweet potatoes, various salads and some absolutely wonderful deserts. Everyone ate and drank their fill, and then some.

After lunch the call went out for opening of presents, and all of the children dropped golf clubs and made a mad dash for the living room, where presents for all were piled up under the tree. After the presents were unwrapped, the adults had their annual white elephant gift ex-

change. The rules were laid down by Bob R. and were strictly adhered to by all. Every gift exchanged hands several times, and everyone came away with something of value and/or of interest. The most selected gift was submitted by Listy and Bob G. and consisted of three video tapes cleverly wrapped in a Nordstrom box.(unethical deception???) Bob and Karla wound up with the gift provided by Grampa, a carved ivory elephant (white, of course) which had belonged to his father, Frank Riel, Sr. The elephant originally was purchased by Grandpa in either India or Iran, during the war, and was given to his father, who collected little elephant figures as a hobby. It was given back to Grandpa by his father, shortly before he died.

One of the most interesting and unusual gifts for everyone was a family tree t-shirt for each member of the family. Each shirt was color coded for each family, and the front contained the inscription "THE RIEL FAMILY TREE - COMMEMORATIVE T-SHIRT JANUARY 1, 1992" along with a picture of a tree. The back of the shirt had another tree picture, surrounded by the names of all the family members. These clever gifts were provided jointly by Margaret/Bud and Francie/Jose, and were much appreciated by all. Everyone put on their shirts, and lined up for picture taking. Look for a copy of one of the pictures in the next issue of RFNL.

In addition to the entire family we were pleased to have with us our dear friends Harry and Libby Post, who joined in the celebration. As usual, Harry entertained the small children with the stories and games he does so well. He also led the singing of the happy birthday song for Grandma, who as usual celebrates her birthday on New Years day. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO GRANDMA!!!!

The Riel Bowl and associated festivities were a great success, and was all owe to Karla, Bob, Katy and Brian a big THANK YOU FOR A VERY SPECIAL DAY.

### VACATION NEWS

As is their custom, Grampa and Grandma spent the Christmas week in casino land, this time at Laughlin, Nevada. We stayed at Sam's Town, which incidentally has just been sold, hence is no longer Sam's Town. the new name is the Gold River Hotel and Casino. So far as we know, the reservation phone number is unchanged. We went via the Bob Riel short cut,(313

miles from Mission Valley) through 29 Palms. If anyone is headed for Laughlin we have complete instructions on how to go this way, along with helpful hints on where to eat, get gas, toll free numbers for reservations, etc.

We enjoyed good luck with the gambling activity, in that shortly after we arrived, on Monday afternoon, Grandma got three sevens on a nickel slot machine, winning \$50.00. She continued to win lesser amounts, and by bed time had two large plastic cups full of nickels. This supply lasted until Thursday afternoon, when the last nickel went down the slot.

We also did well at bingo, winning over \$600.00 in prizes. The most unusual win was by Grandma, who was busy marking a set of paper cards with an ink dauber. During one game she set her dauber down, and a few seconds later accidentally picked up a half full bottle of beer instead of the marker. The beer soaked card, however, won a \$150.00 overall prize, just as Grandma predicted as soon as the beer was spilled. However, she says that it only works if the spill is an accident. In addition to the gambling there were some delicious meals, and all in all it was a pleasant vacation.

Margaret, Bud, Michael and Megan also were on vacation during Christmas week. Their trip was to Taos, New Mexico, a ski resort. They went with another couple, and the main exercise was cross country skiing, which is easier and less risky than the down hill variety. They too had an enjoyable time, and returned just in time for the Riel Bowl celebration.

**BIRTHDAY CALENDAR**

Kristy Gillingham turned 8 on December 8, but her celebration with Grandma was right in the middle of the Christmas rush, on the 20th. Naturally, they went to Fashion Valley mall in order to shop. There was a slight glitch in that Grandma accidentally locked her car keys in the car, but a phone call to Grandpa saved the day. After lunch at MacDonalds they went to the Zoo, and then saw a show at the Science Museum. All's well that ends well, and HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO KRISTY.

**JANUARY BIRTHDAY CALENDAR**

Edith Riel	January 2	67
Megan Mehan	January 15	8

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS**

We recently acquired the report cards for Brett and Bryce Sorem, and were pleased to see that both are doing well at St Columba School. Brett's grades were excellent, and the following teacher's comment on Bryce is of interest. "I've never enjoyed a student as much as I do Bryce. His personality lights up our classroom".

Dustin Benesch was honored recently as an all star at Green School. During the year ten students are picked as all stars and super stars. All stars are students who show outstanding performance and behavior in Physical Education, and super stars are awarded for classroom excellence. Dustin was a super star in Kindergarten and now an all star as a first grader. These awards must run in the family, since Jessica was an all star

in Kindergarten and first grade and a super star in second grade. Also, Jason was a super star in Kindergarten and an all stars in the fourth grade. These awards are coveted by all, because they not only get the award, but are honored at an all star assembly and treated to lunch. CONGRATULATIONS to all, and also to the proud parents who deserve recognition for bringing up such talented children. The following picture was taken when the award was presented.



**THE EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW BOOK**

As is customary, Richard released the 1992 edition of the annual compendium on the family. In addition to the usual listings of names, addresses, birthdays, etc. this edition contains many quotes from RFNL, and practically everyone is mentioned. There was, however, one person who was not mentioned at all, Listy. This certainly was an editorial oversight on our part, since we all are aware of her many accomplishments, especially as a math teacher at Standly Junior H.S. We were personally aware of how well she coached a Standly team entered in the county mathematics competition, and that her team won awards in several categories. Also, approximately a year ago Listy received a letter which is quoted from as follows: "Dear Mrs. Gillingham: Each year we ask students admitted to MIT to share with us the name of a teacher who has been especially influential in that student's development. We congratulate you on being named this year by Thuchien T.Nguyen. More importantly, we thank you for the time, patience, expertise, love, discipline and all the other qualities which have had such an important impact on your students. You do the work from which we all benefit. Congratulations again on the respect you have earned from your students. Sincerely, Michael C. Behnke Director of Admissions, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA.

**CORRECTION-** In the December issue of RFNL we erroneously reported that Ed Riel scored the winning goal in the Thanksgiving soccer game, whereas the credit actually goes to Carol Benesch. Sorry about that mistake!

# **RIEL FAMILY NEWSLETTER**

## **EAST COUNTY SPORTS EDITION**

**JANUARY 1, 1992**

**SPECIAL EDITION**

**ONE CENT**

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### **RIEL BOWL TO BE HELD IN ALPINE TODAY**

The first ever Riel Bowl will be held in Alpine today. The event will cap off a week long celebration that started Christmas day and continued on until early this morning. Most of the nation held parties last night in anticipation of today's activities. However they were dealt a cruel blow this morning as event coordinator Bob Riel announced that the television rights have been revoked. "The family decided that this was to be a private event and even though CBS had offered 3 million dollars for the rights to broadcast the bowl, we just felt it wasn't worth it"...

Unlike regular bowl games the Riel Bowl has more than just football going on. "We like to provide something for everyone" said family spokes person Francie Castro. "and besides we knew it was only a matter of time before the innocent by-standers couldn't keep up with us"...

The Innocent by-standers is a group of members that married into the family. They got that name because .. well ... it just wasn't their fault.

In addition to football, there will be a game of soccer, a \$10,000 Golf tournament and a little wrestling thrown in for good measure.

### **\$10,000 Golf Tournament**

A closest to the pin golf game will be played today with the winner getting a chance at \$10,000. The event will take place at today's Riel Bowl sometime in the after noon. All contestants will be allowed to practice right up until tee time.

This will be a best ball event (best of three balls) with the one getting closest to the pin winning. The RFN has done extensive research and has come up

with odds on who will win (see next page). There will be a handy cap given to all players in the form of inches. After the player selects his/her best ball they may then move that ball toward the pin the amount of inches given in the handy cap section of the score card. This location is then marked for all to see. After everyone has completed, the person closest to the pin will be declared winner and get a shot at 10,000 dollars.

### **KIDS TEAM FAVORED FOR TODAY'S BALL GAMES**

In today's Kids vs. Adults soccer game the Kids team is favored to win by 2. RFN sports correspondent Edith Riel likes the kids chances. "What are you talking about of course they will win. your talking about my grand children".

Kevin Riel and Michael Mehan will lead the charge for the kids team with all the rest close behind. There will be a little rivalry going on in the nets as Jason attempts to out do his father Jeff as goalies for the two teams.

"Don't count us out yet even if they have the edge in age we can still beat them with our brains" said head coach and general manager Frank Riel. "The best thing going for our side is that we still control the money end and if those kids want a raise in allowance they had better play right, if you know what I mean".

The football game could go either way as both teams have a solid defence, however the adults offence has a bit of a height advantage and this could be hard for the kids to defend against.

It has been rumored that the Hartmen and Gillingham kids have perfected the shin kick defence, if true, it could have devastating effects on the adults team. Kickoff is set for early after noon.

# Golf Tournament Odds

Name	Odds	Handy Cap	Tee	Comments
Frank R.	2:1	Even	White	Solid player always in the money.
Edith R.	3:2	+ 6"	Red	Today's favorite, should be a happy birthday.
Richard R.	15:1	+ 13"	White	Has a kid entering terrible two's ... need I say more.
Liz R.	16:1	+ 24"	Red	Has two kids entering terrible two's.
Ed R.	10:1	+ 12"	White	A possible if the wind is just right.
Jan R.	13:1	+ 24"	Red	A mother of four boys can do anything
Bud M.	10:1	+ 12"	White	Could do well if his age doesn't get to him.
Margaret M.	100:1	+ 36"	Red	Everyone should stand back when she hits.
Jose C.	8:1	+ 9"	White	A sleeper, may sneak in.
Francie C.	15:1	+ 30"	Red	Always in the running, But this is golf so who Knows ?
Jeff B.	20:1	+ 12"	White	Good player but will be distracted by other activities.
Carol B.	12:1	+ 30"	Red	Has been playing since she was young.
Bob R.	5:1	+ 12"	White	As long as he stays away from the trees, should be ok.
Karla R.	25:1	+ 36"	Red	Starting her come back.
Bob G.	3:1	- 3"	White	Great player but chokes under pressure.
Listy G.	7:1	+ 24"	Red	Has been secretly practicing, could win with a good bounce.
Bruce H.	5:1	+ 12"	White	Just off of the I.R. list, should show well.
Birdy H.	9:1	+ 30"	Red	With a name like that, how could she not do well ?

## WHITE ELEPHANT WRESTLING MATCH TODAY

The annual White Elephant exchange will be held today as part of the Riel Bowl festivities. More commonly Known as the White Elephant Wrestling Match, the event has been surrounded by controversy since it's inception. To avoid this problem in the future it was announced that a commissioner of white elephant wrestling has been selected to over-see the game. This years commissioner Bob Riel will have complete control and his rulings will be binding on all parties.

"In the past we have had a lot of pushing, shoving and whining, this will not be tolerated this year. I

intend to clean up this game so that it gets the respect it deserves". Each couple is to bring two gifts, one was not to exceed \$10 and the other a white elephant. Each person will have to describe his gift in a liberal terms to entice someone into choosing it, although never revealing what's inside.

The rest of the rules will be announced at the event "in this way we hope to keep down the complaining" said Commissioner Riel. "actually the less they know the better".

The new rules should provide for some of the best wrestling ever, maybe this event should be called Wrestle Mania XX or what ever number their up to.

## News Flash

Dustin Benesch is honored as an All-Star at Green School. During the year, 10 students are picked as All Stars + Super Stars. All-stars are students who show outstanding performance and behavior in Physical Education and Super stars are for classroom excellence. Dustin was a Super star in Kindergarten + <sup>now an</sup> All-Star in ~~FIRST GRADE~~, Jessica was an All-Star in Kindergarten + first and a Super Star in Second. Jason was a Super Star in Kindergarten and an All-Star in fourth. These are very coveted awards where the child is recognized in an all-school assembly, given an award + treated to lunch.. What great genes those Benesch kids must have!!! And proud parents!