



Riel Bowl XI enjoyed by family on January 1, 2002

The Riel Bowl XI was the best one we ever enjoyed. The family began to arrive shortly after 11:00 a.m., and the fun began almost at once. With help from Grandpa Bob set up the golf pool game in the living room, and devised a set of rules for contestants. Soon the kids and parents lined up to try their skill, with Grandpa and Margaret keeping score. Nine winners were selected for further consideration in the Jeopardy game. Meanwhile the crossword puzzle entries were graded, and we had a tie between Francie and Listy, who got perfect scores. This required a tie breaker test, and the two contestants were asked to name the last 10 vice presidents, from the Truman to the Bush administrations. Listy won by a score of 6 to 5 correct answers. By this time the prime rib roast was ready, and everyone enjoyed an assortment of great food provided by the families. Afterwards we continued the contests to identify the Jeopardy players. In one contest two teams were selected and provided with an assortment of small items, some soda straws, paper clips, paper and colored crayons, etc., and were told to create their impression of a family outing. Following that contest Robert held a contest in which the contestants had to add up in their heads some numbers shown on flash cards. Finally, the Jeopardy finalists were selected, Kevin, Jason, and Carol. Kevin and Jason tied, and Jason was the winner of a golf putting contest. His prize was \$100.00, contributed by Robert. We then all gathered in the living room for the opening of presents, followed by the white elephant gift exchange.

The coveted RFNL dine out gift certificate was won by Jeff and Carol. This ended one of the most exciting and fun filled Riel Bowl events. We want to thank everyone (100 % attendance) for the gifts and the way in which everyone entered into the various activities. Most of all, of course, we thank Robert and Karla for not only opening their home but also providing the great prime rib roast we all enjoyed so much. We took a lot of pictures, and a few are reproduced.



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Christmas Eve at Francie's house

Once again Grandma and Grandpa were invited to Christmas Eve dinner at the Sorem home. We met early and took in the 5:00 p.m. mass at St Columba, and then went to Francie's. Lyle was the head chef, and cooked not only a smoked

turkey (see photo) but also grilled swordfish. Everything about the meal was great, and we enjoyed the traditional desserts of flame caramelized custard and raspberry cake. It was a wonderful evening, and Grandma and Grandpa enjoyed it very much. We had a chance to visit with Brett and Bryce, although they skipped dinner to be with Alan and Grandma Sorem. We certainly thank Francie and Lyle for having us for another Christmas Eve. .



There was one more celebration, at the Hartman home, and Grandma and Grandpa were invited, as usual. However, both were sick with severe colds, and regretfully had to stay home and rest. Birdy reports that they had a great time, and we were very sorry to have to bow out. We really appreciated the invitation, and hope that we will be in better shape next time.

Sick Call

In addition to Grandma and Grandpa being down with colds, which still are not completely gone, there were several other sick ones. Carol had pneumonia, and was very sick just before the holidays. David and now Annie suffered bouts of pneumonia, but both are well now. Brian also was sick during Riel Bowl XI, and we certainly hope no one else is laid low.

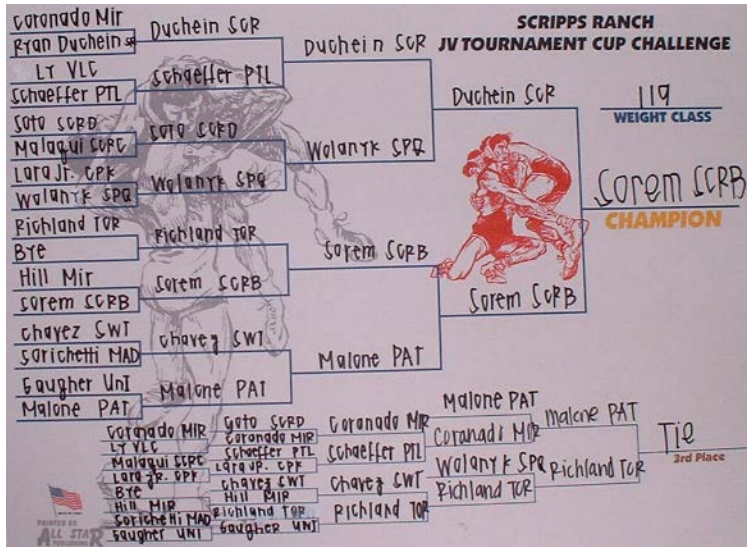
Some sports news



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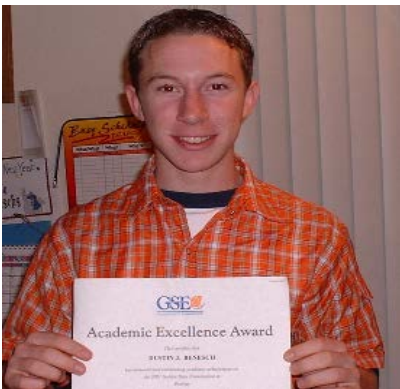


travel by Carol and family, the celebration was delayed for a week. We were invited by Carol and Jeff to have dinner at their home on January 4th. We were treated to delicious snacks, boiled shrimps with home made sauce, along with drinks. Jeff expertly broiled steaks and fish and dinner also included mashed potatoes, salad, and vegetables, all served by candlelight. We enjoyed the company of Dustin, Jason, and his girl friend, and everyone had a great time, as you can see in the following pictures. We thank the Benesch family for inviting us and sharing this 55th celebration.

As you can see in the above chart, Bryce defeated four other wrestlers in winning the Scripps Ranch JV Tournament Cup Challenge. Congratulations, Bryce, good work. However, we hope you are not considering a career in professional wrestling.



Dustin wins award



As you can see from the pictures shown above, Dustin was the winner of an award for academic excellence. The inscription on the certificate says "for demonstrating outstanding academic excellence in the 2001 Golden State Examination in biology with High Honors" Congratulations, Dustin, and keep up the good work!!

Grandma and Grandpa celebrate 55th wedding anniversary

Yes, another anniversary arrived on December 28th, but due to sickness and



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It was a great evening, and we much appreciated the hospitality.

Megan's newest work of art

Recently Margaret sent us by e-mail a picture Megan had drawn, with the understanding that it would be given to Grandma at Christmas. Therefore, it was withheld from RFNL in order to keep its identity a surprise. Now that Christmas is past and the gift has been received we are in a position to print a copy of the picture.



As you can see, it is a very impressive work, and it now located in our living room for all to see. Grandma is thrilled, and thanks Megan for the time and effort she spent to make the picture.

Status of 1875 sale

The sale of the home at 1875 Lyndon Road is stalled at this time. After the September 11th incident the real estate market, especially in the higher priced properties, came to a halt. On Los Angeles resident visited our home in September. He expressed considerable interest and had planned on bringing his wife to San Diego to see the property the following weekend. However,

that all changed after the 9-11 incident, and he decided to not make a move at this time. Things have been quiet since then, although we did have one potential buyer plan a visit on January 5th. Carol and Jeff learned of the Saturday visit on Friday and volunteered to come over to our house and set up the hanging planter Christmas present. They brought along some flowering plants, and Jeff set up everything and mounted the planter in the small deck outside the family room.



We almost experienced a disaster on the morning of the visit. About 10:00 a.m. Grandma got out the vacuum cleaner to clean the downstairs. When she turned it on in the front hall it spewed out a dense cloud of dust and dirt all over the floor. It was apparent that the hose was plugged up, and Grandpa got a long piece of wire to try and unplug it. Just then Carol and Jeff showed, and with expert assistance from Carol the problem was resolved, and Carol then finished up the vacuuming chore just in time. It was pretty funny, but not while it was happening.

Birthday calendar for January

There were no birthday celebrations in December, and we are anxious to catch up on some overdue ones. Call us!!!

Edith Riel	January 2	77
Megan Riel-Mehan	January 15	18