CORNER BARGAIN

USED CARS

BARGAIN CORNER

1974 Cutlass Supreme Coupe.
Landau Top, Vinyl Interior, Factory Installed Stereo Tape, Air Conditioning, Full Power and Automatic. A Local One Owner, Extra Nice Car. $3695.00

1974 AMC Matador Brougham.
ONLY 23,000 Miles, and Still in Warranty. Divided Front Seat with Recliner. Real Sharp One Owner Car. Full Power, Air Conditioning, and Automatic Transmission. .... Only $2395.

1974 Impala 4-Door Sedan
LOCAL ONE OWNER CAR with Low Mileage. Has Good Tires, and has Full Power and Air. Tu-Tone Green with White Top. Burns Regular Gas. $3095.00

1972 Cutlass Supreme Coupe
Local One Owner Car in Good Condition. Beautiful Blue with White Vinyl Top. Loaded with Extras... $2695.00

1975 Chevrolet Silverado ½ Ton Pick-up.
Has All the Extras Including Full Power, Automatic Transmission and Air Conditioning. $4195.00

1970 Malibu Coupe
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1969 Oldsmobile 4-Door Sedan.
Still Lots of Use. $795.00

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4-Wheel Drive 1/2 Ton Pick-Up. Has 4-Speed Transmission, Power Steering. Lock Out Hubs and Many More Extras
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SW Bell Mgr.

[Continued from page one]

company's wire chief in Columbus was reduced from four exchanges to two (Eagle Lake and Columbus and Bellville and Sealy were removed) and further that an additional installer-repairman was located here. He went on to state that the company accomplished three written commitments made to the council at the time the rate increase was approved. The first was to complete the cable extension down Main Street by Oct. 15th of that year; to move a pole at the corner of Main and McCarty; and to have a company representative to meet with city officials to determine rendition of property for taxation.

"We still plan and intend to put a wire chief here as soon as possible and maybe this year, but I am not in a position to make any definite commitment," he added.

Oldmixon added that service in the Eagle Lake exchange has been improved greatly and there are relatively few rural eight-party customers and he said that records show that trouble reports in the local exchange are well below the 4½ reports per 100 customers set out by the company as a goal for adequate service.

Councilman Gene Baker asked Oldmixon about the number of personnel in Columbus as compared to Eagle Lake, noting that his information was that there were 9 people in the Columbus exchange as compared to 3 in Eagle Lake when Columbus has only 600 or so more customers. Oldmixon retorted, "now you're telling my company how many employees are needed to provide adequate service, which is just like me trying to tell you how many people are needed to adequately service your customers in this city."

Councilmen Bennie Miller and Alvin Kohleffel both expressed disappointment in the fact that the wire chief and clerk have not been added. The remaining councilmen passed on remarks.

No Riders in Police Cars

During the discussion of the incident the night of July 4th between police and local citizens, discussed in last week's paper, it was noted that some non-city employed persons were riding with officers in the police cars. Mayor Elmer Struss decreed that until clarification can be made on legality of this matter and the city's liability and responsibility determined, there would be no riders, other than authorized persons, riding with the policemen in city vehicles.

Timing of Stop Light

The council authorized the city manager, T. J. Smith to meet with highway department officials to seek a minor adjustment in the timing on the red stop light at the intersection of Main and Hothe Drive near Alamo Lumber Co. Traffic has been noted stacking up at times on Main Street for motorists traveling east due to the short period that the light is green and it is anticipated that this might be a problem when schools begin and traffic increases even more at the intersection.

Also a discussion was held on the possibility of installation of a new drop box on an island behind the postoffice. The post office is working to get a new drop box with deposit entrances on both sides and if and when the box arrives the city plans to build the island on which it would be located permitting traffic on both sides of the box.

Also preliminary amendments to the city's dog and cat ordinance were presented for consideration of the council and these will be discussed in future meetings. The amendments will provide for more mandatory controls on pets running at large in the city.

Visitors Present

Due primarily to the interest in the discussion of the July 4th-8th incident, there were an unusually large number of visitors present at the meeting. These included: City policemen Roy Chisum, Bulford Ashley, Steve Skinner, Highway Patrolmen Rodney Green and Gary Eden; Ike Etheridge, Jerry Pustejovsky, Earl Jones, Gilbert Duty, Mrs. Carolyn Rosprim, Joe H. McCreary, Jim Wood, Dick Wood, Ed Tate, Dale Cassady, Jack Listowski, Fred Fruka, Joe Duncan, Bill Appelt, Frank Sherrer, Louis Schorlemmer, Travis Wegenhoft, Hugh Morton, and Morris Morales.

First Period Gross Sales $31,241,089 In Colorado County

City Gets $3,112 Sales Tax Check For 2nd Period

Comptroller Bob Bullock mailed checks totaling $13.4 million to 535 Texas cities and towns last week as their July rebate of the one-cent city sales tax they collect.

Bullock also released a computer analysis of gross retail sales in each Texas county during the first quarter of this year that he said "shows the Texas retail economy is growing as fat as a Waller County watermelon."

The analysis shows there was a total $28.3 billion in gross retail sales in Texas during the first quarter of 1976, the Comptroller said.

"That is 13.8 per cent higher than the $24.9 billion in gross sales during the same period in 1975 and a whopping 28.2 per cent higher than the $22.1 billion gross sales in the first quarter of 1974," he said.

Bullock said city sales tax rebates are also running well ahead of 1975.

The $158.8 million rebated so far in 1976 is nearly 13 per cent ahead of the $140.6 million rebated during the same period in 1975, he said.

The City of Eagle Lake received $3,112.26 for the second three-month period ending July 2nd. Checks to other area cities were: Columbus, $2,942.03; Halletsville, $2,766.56; La Grange, $7,341.19; Sealy, $2,957.00; and Weimar, $6832.31.

Taxable sales for the first three-month quarter from reporting cities in Colorado County (Columbus, Eagle Lake, Weimar) were $7,118,665. Gross sales were listed at $31,241,089; gross taxable sales at $14,011,307; deductions at $6,980,484; and, use tax purchases at $87,832.

In Fayette county, total sales were $27,371,511; gross taxable sales $12,251,275; deductions $5,220,138; use tax purchases $49,759; and, subject to tax $7,080,896.

Austin County total sales were $18,115,409; gross sales $10,398,470; deductions $4,662,681; use tax purchases $1,132; and, subject to tax $5,742,921.

Lavaca County total sales were $21,736,248; gross taxable sales $14,510,121; deductions $10,121,919; use tax sales $102,125; and, subject to tax $4,490,327.

Wharton County total sales were $48,845,285; gross taxable sales $26,280,489; deductions $11,312,320; use tax sales $1,724,943; and, subject to tax $16,693,112.

$150,140 Damages Asked In Death Of Lisa Grumbles

A suit was filed in District Court at Columbus July 14th seeking a total of $150,140.00 in damages resulting from an accident in which a Columbus girl, Lisa Ann Grumbles was killed.

The suit was filed by H. U. Grumbles and Sarah Frances Grumbles against James Gregory Busselman. The accident occurred July 10, 1975 when Lisa Ann was riding in a pickup driven by Billy Ray Teague when the vehicle was hit by one driven by Busselman. The petition sets out that Teague was driving his car in a "careful and prudent manner east on US 90 and was turning left onto old US 90 when the car was struck by one driven southwest on US 90 by Busselman."

The plaintiffs allege that Lisa Ann suffered severe and painful injuries before her death from these injuries. They ask for a total of $100,000.00 for the conscious pain and suffering suffered by the girl, plus $140.00 for medical expenses; and $50,000.00 for wrongful death.

Supreme matriarch of bee society, the queen is fertilized only once during her entire egg-laying life, which may extend over several years.

CC Names Committee For Xmas Lighting

Directors of the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce met Monday afternoon to hear a report on the successful Bicentennial program held in this community July 3rd and 4th and started plans for another community-wide project that of improving the Christmas lighting for this community.

Joe Duncan, president, presided at the meeting and noted that the chamber will just about break even on funding of all of the Bicentennial activities. Those who have not remitted fees for booths in the downtown area on July 3rd are urged to get them in to the chamber office as soon as possible.

Duncan noted that the Bicentennial took the wholehearted cooperation and assistance of a lot of people and "we sure do appreciate everyone's valuable assistance."

A discussion was held on improving the downtown Christmas decorations and Duncan appointed a committee composed of Mrs. Elfe Thomas, Mrs. Gail Bradshaw, Robert Griffith, Albert Pustejovsky and City Manager T. J. Smith to look into the project and to come up with a plan for the decorations and a method of financing.

Some discussion was given to the possibility of financing the decorations through public donations, similar to the method used to finance the permanent float for this community.

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New Class of Needlepoint on Monday, July 26.
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BUZZIN' ABOUT TOWN

• Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Gertson who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on Monday, July 19th. Friends joined in observing the momentous occasion when they gave a party in the couple's honor last Friday evening. Best wishes are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Gertson.

• A new salesman at the Smith-Taylor Ford in Eagle Lake is Rodney Tompkins. At this time Mr. Tompkins and wife, Laura, reside in Houston but hope to move here soon.

• Congratulations to the Eagle Lake Little League All-Stars for their victory Tuesday night. Good luck in future games in the Area III competition.

• The paper will come out a day early next week only. Your cooperation in meeting earlier deadlines will be appreciated.

Visit In McAllen

Mr. and Mrs. Gus Seaholm and daughter Kari and Mrs. E. H. Breithaupt visited the family of their sister and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Henske and son Kevin, in McAllen Friday through Monday. During their stay they enjoyed an afternoon of entertainment at South Padre Island.

Ambulance Corps Training Meet Thursday Night

The Eagle Lake Ambulance Corps will have a training session at 8 p.m. this Thurs., July 22nd and all members are urged to attend.

The group will work on the check and all are urged to be on time, said the officers.

Rice District

[Continued from page one]

implementation in the 1976-77 school year districtwide are: hiring of a reading coordinator; participation in the state-right-to-read program; first aid training for the professional staff; first aid supplies on each campus; a revision and development of the curriculum to spell out in detail minimum requirements, etc.

At Rice High School plans are for an evaluation of premium and regular courses: add ensemble music and mini-courses: add bookkeeping lab equipment: up-date career education media materials: implement a competency based guidance program: add combination unit in Homemaking; and up-date media files at RHS.

Projects at Garwood Elementary include: field trips in subject areas (also at Sheridan); individualize junior high language arts instruction; and, expand the professional library.

Playground equipment will be added districtwide; career education offerings will be improved in junior highs; the music programs at Eagle Lake Middle and Eagle Lake Primary School are to be restructured; a 3-year renovation program for ELMS library is included.

Eagle Lake Primary School projects include: work to improve school-community support; add provisions for the gifted accelerated; repair floors in the South wing; and, provide for orientation visits to the Public Library.

Harvest

(Continued from page one)

little over normal. Through the first six months of 1976 a total of 24.74 inches were measured as compared to 24.11 during the first six months of 1975. This year there was no measureable rainfall in February but April made up the difference with a total of 12.55 inches. Average rainfall for this area is around 39 inches per year.

The lake plant measured the following rainfall amounts during the month of July: 5th, .99; 8th, .51; 9th, .46; 10th, .13; 12th, .48; 13th, .62; 14th, .25; 15th, .74; and 17th, .63. The measurements are the readings at 7 a.m. on the date recorded and some of the rainfall occurred during the night previous.

The total rainfall measured here in 1975 was 38.79 inches.

AGRICULTURAL OBSERVATIONS

From
TEXAS A&M RESEARCH SITE
EAGLE LAKE

Observations from Texas A&M Research Eagle Lake 1/

Date	Air Temp 2/ Max.	Min.	Soil Temp 4 Inch Max.	Min.	Rain (Ins)	Evap. (Ins)
July						
13	88	74	88	78	0.79	.223
14	81	71	80	77	1.23	.089
15	85	73	81	76	0.36	-
16	84	74	91	76	-	.137
17	88	76	85	76	-	.190
18	91	74	89	77	-	.281
19	91	74	93	77	-	.301

TUESDAY, JULY 20, 1976 10:00 A.M.

FARM WEATHER OUTLOOK THROUGH SATURDAY: Partly cloudy skies and warm afternoons are due for the Rice Belt through Saturday. There will be about a 20% chance for showers or thundershowers, mostly light for Wednesday. Daytime temperatures will be in the low 90's in the agricultural areas. Overnight lows will be in the low 70's. Drying conditions will be good.

PAST WEATHER: A few showers fell in the eastern Rice Belt but rainfall from them was very light. Generally, skies were clear to partly cloudy and temperatures were warm, Afternoon highs were around 90 degrees and overnight lows were in the mid 70's.

HARVEST, HAYING AND FIELD WORK: Harvesting, haying and field work will make good progress this week where fields are dry. A few brief delays are possible today and Wednesday in the vicinity of the showers. Good drying conditions will favor haying and will help remove excess top soil moisture from wet fields in the eastern Rice Belt. Grain moistures in the western rice fields will be dropping rapidly making harvesting critical for the remainder of the week. Critical decisions concerning harvesting or rutting need to be made.

APPLICATION OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS: Moderate southerly winds will make the application of chemicals during the afternoons somewhat risky for a few days. Early morning hours will be more favorable.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF CROPS: The warm and sunny daytime weather will promote the good growth and ripening of rice, sorghum and corn. Soybeans and ranges should show good growth but the potential for foliar diseases remains high.

PEANUT LEAF SPOT: Peanut growers in the Rice Belt are advised that since early July, there have been numerous occasions where temperature and humidity have been extremely favorable for the rapid development of peanut leaf spot disease. Weather conditions for the remainder of the week will not be as favorable as early in July. But several periods favorable for the development of peanut leaf spot disease are expected.

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Eagle Lake Headlight

VOLUME 23 — P. O. BOX 67 — EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS 77434 — THURSDAY, JULY 29, 1976 — AC 713 234-2783 — NUMBER 15

Council To Hear Audit Report Tonite, Tuesday

Eagle Lake City Council will meet in regular session at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday night of this week, July 27th, for a report on and discussion of the independent audit made of the city police department and corporation court records.

"It is likely that some form of action will come out of the council meeting," said Mayor Elmer Struss but he declined to comment on what the action might be.

The City Council ordered the independent audit in a special meeting June 29th, noting in the motion calling for the audit that it was being called "due to inconsistencies in the police and corporation court records."

The council heard a preliminary report on the results of the audit in an executive session last Thursday evening, but took no action other than to review the findings.

It was noted at the time the audit was authorized that the police records are not audited independently when the annual audit is made. The corporation court records are included in the annual audit but comparison of the records between the two departments are not included in the audit process.

AARP To Hear Violin Maker Wed., Aug. 4

The Board of Directors of the Eagle Lake Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons will meet at 9:30 a.m. Mon., Aug. 2nd in the fellowship hall of First Baptist Church.

The regular meeting will be held at 2:30 p.m. next Wed., August 4th in the same location. An interesting program will be presented by a violin maker from the Brenham area. All are invited to make plans to attend.

G. & D. Little Market Opens On East Main

A new business for the Eagle Lake community is the G. & D's Little Market, located at 734 East Main Street. The new business is open in the former Gulf Station location near the Dairy Delite, and the building has been completely renovated with heating and air-conditioning for the convenience and comfort of patrons.

Owners of the new firm are Gilbert and Donna Wilbeck, new residents of the community and formerly of Wharton. They and their three children, Johnny who will be a freshman at Rice High School, David and Tracey who will be attending Eagle Lake elementary school, purchased the former Dr. Curtis Laughlin home at 407 North Lake.

Prior to coming here they operated Gilbert's Music Service in Wharton and also an Econo-Wash. They still own the car wash but sold the music service business.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbeck say the Little Market will be open every day from 6 a.m. until nearly midnight and they invite one and all to come by for a visit at any time.

Royal Cleaners Closed Next Wk.

Gerald and Gail Bradshaw announce that their Royal Cleaners in Eagle Lake will be closed all week, August 2nd through 7th for summer vacation.

3 Fined On Hunting Charges

Three San Antonio men paid fines of $112.50 each for hunting without a license following their arrest by Game Wardens Leo Kohleffel and Sam Center on FM 109 north of Columbus, near the Manley Leyendecker place, at 7 a.m. Tues., July 13th. A report was received of shooting in the area and the officers arrested the three men who claimed they were shooting at rabbits.

The men, Kimberly Meyer, Robert Fitzgerald and Mark Haeze each paid $112.50 fines in the court of Justice of Peace Richard Schmidt in Columbus. They were also charged with carrying an unlawful weapon, a pistol and bond was set at $500 each on these charges. Game Warden Center reported that a check on the pistol carried by the men, a .25 automatic, showed that it was reported to have been stolen in San Antonio.

One Man Killed, Two Injured In Nada Mishap

Joseph R. Hoffman, resident of Taiton, was killed in a collision in which the pickup he was driving collided with a car driven by Mary Ann Henneke at the crossroads in Nada, Sunday afternoon.

Barbara Korenek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Korenek of Garwood, a passenger in the car, received serious injuries in the wreck and was taken to a Houston hospital.

Mary Ann, daughter of Mrs. William Henneke of Nada, received minor injuries and was released from Nightingale Hospital in El Campo.

Further information was not available at press time.

Seifert Bros. Injured In Dryer Explosion

Two Garwood men, Richard Seifert, 22, and brother John, 19, are reported in fair condition in John Sealy Hospital in Galveston after receiving severe burns from an explosion at the Ottis Rice Dryer in Wadsworth, eight miles south of Bay City, early Sunday afternoon.

Both men were loading a tower at the dryer with maize when the blast occurred. Richard received burns over 60% of his body and John received burns over 40%.

Fire fighters from Wadsworth and Bay City said the explosion occurred at 2:35 p.m. and said most of the buildings on the five-acre tract were damaged extensively. Officials were speculating that the explosion was set off as grain dust was ignited.

Four other men were also injured in the blast.

Bad Check Investigated By Police

Eagle Lake patrolman Bufford Ashley was called to the House of Fabrics at 1:45 p.m. Friday to investigate the passing of a bad check.

It was reported to the officer that a check for $20 on the First State Bank of Columbus and signed by a Jenice Robertson listing an address of 402 State Street in Eagle Lake was cashed. A phone number given on the check was also a phony and the address is of an unoccupied house.

Ashley said that officers in the area are on the lookout for the woman since it is believed that she also passed some bad checks in the Columbus area.

Charles Glueck Named To FHA Committee

Charles F. Glueck from the Bernardo-Mentz area has been appointed to the three man Colorado County Farmers Home Administration committee, it was announced by Clarence R. Matula, County Supervisor.

The appointment is for a three-year term beginning July 1, 1976. Mr. Glueck is a livestock, chicken and peanut farmer in the Bernardo-Mentz area and he succeeds Herbert Aschenbeck from north of Columbus near Cummins Creek.

Mr. Glueck will join Gillespie Wilson from Weimar and L. Arlin Miller from the Garwood-Nada area to serve as the Colorado County Committee. This committee serves in an advisory capacity to the County Supervisor.

Harvest In Full Swing Despite Daily Showers

Last week's paper with headlines that the rain had ceased had just hit the street on Wednesday of last week, when another flood of rain came in a thunderstorm and rain fell in some quantities in many sections of this area throughout the past week.

But nevertheless the rice and grain harvests are in full swing, despite temporary delays by the rain. Good yields continue to be reported in most rice fields.

No date was available at our press time for the first rice sale in this area.

Sheriff's Dept. Awaits Word On Decomposed Body

Colorado County Sheriff's Department was still waiting word last Saturday on a possible date for a polygraph test for a 16 year old involved in a shooting July 1st which injured the 16 year old and killed another 19 year old. The youth reportedly gave a different story from that given to the sheriff's department by pharmacist Ivar George Lewis Heggen, 55, who contended that the two young men tried to kidnap him.

Also the county sheriff's department was still waiting word on an autopsy being performed by Ben Taub Hospital on the decomposed remains of a woman found near Sandy Creek between Rock Island and Sheridan July 19th.

New Librarian

Librarian David S. Coplen Checks Book Files

New Full-Time Librarian, David Coplen, At Wintermann Library

Citizens of the community join in extendinga welcome to David S. Coplen, the new full-time librarian for the Wintermann Public Library in this community; his wife, Nancy; and their three year old son, Tot. Mr. Coplen took over as librarian here on July 13th and has already started some plans for an exciting program of activities at the Eula and David Wintermann Library.

The librarian hails from "show me" country in Jefferson City, Missouri and was one of two children in his family. He received his bachelor's degree from Lincoln University in Jefferson City with a double major in history and philosophy. After working for three years in the Thomas Jefferson Regional Library System in Missouri, he decided to continue his education and received his Masters Degree from the University of Denver in Colorado in Library Science.

The fact that Mr. Coplen's primary hobbies are hunting and fishing probably had a lot to do with his decision to locate in this community. He is an avid competitor and would like to compete with any interested persons in any games of their choice.

Mrs. Coplen is resolved at this time to be a housewife but she has had excellent experience as a private secretary and may return to that field some day soon. The family attends the Methodist Church. They reside presently in the Luna rent house, formerly occupied by the Gene Baker family, almost directly across Main Street from the library location.

Coplen was also selected as one of only twelve prospective state library employees in the entire western half of the United States to attend an Institute for librarians at the Wyoming State Library prior to his coming to Eagle Lake.

More Minority Usage

One of the primary goals of the enthusiastic young librarian is to increase the use of the library among the minority citizens of the community. He plans to be working also with the elementary schools here in hopes of increasing the interest in reading among the children. "The youth of the community hold the key to a good reading program," he said. "If we can get them interested in books while they are young, this interest will continue with them into adulthood."

Some of the other projects the new librarian has in mind are: a paperback book exchange area where you can bring your paperbacks and exchange them without checkouts or if you see something in a paperback that you like and want to take it and read

(Continued on page two)

Sen. Bentsen Greeted On Visit Here

Many citizens were on hand Monday morning to visit with United States Senator Lloyd Bentsen (second from left) at a coffee in the Eagle Lake Community Center. Shown with Sen. Bentsen are D. R. Wintermann (far left), Ralph Meadows of Columbus (second from right), and State Representative John Wilson (far right). (See story on page 12).

$2,469,422 School Budget Proposed With No Tax Hike

Tax Valuations Up Approx. 3.5 Million

The proposed budget for the 1976-77 year for the Rice Consolidated Independent School District was completed last week, and if approved as submitted by Supt. E. A. Krivacka and Business Manager Roy Marshall, there will be some pleasant surprises for the taxpayers in the district and also for the teachers and auxiliary personnel.

A public hearing on the 1976-1977 budget is set for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 9th at the District's administration offices in Altair.

The proposed budget calls for a record $2,469,422 in expenditures, as compared to the 1975-76 budget of $2,444,129. At the August 9th meeting, the board will also be called on to approve final amendments to the 1975-76 budget which may alter total expenditures during the past year slightly.

Supt. Krivacka notes that the new budget calls for the same $1.61 tax ratewhich has been in effect for the past two years. It is anticipated that $1.41 of that figure will go to local maintenance and operation, as compared to $1.38 last year, but the allocation for debt service was lowered this year from 23¢ per $100 valuation to 20¢, thereby retaining the $1.61 total.

$89.1 Million Valuations

The superintendent explained that the new budget is set up on a total valuation of $89.1 million, a $3.5 million increase over the total valuations for 1975-76. Tax Assessor and Collector Roy Marshall listed total valuations at the completion of the 1975 tax roll at $85,661,775 which was an increase of $10.7 million over the 1974 total.

Of the $3.5 million increase in tax valuations for the next budget year, an estimated $2.75 million came about in increased values of oil and gas properties. Most of the increases were due to the increased prices being paid for oil and gas from wells and from royalties held in this county. The remainder of the increase was made possible through new construction and revaluation and equalization of some personal properties.

Estimated revenue from the $89.1 million valuation figure and the $1.41 allocation at a 98% collection is expected to be $1,231,100; and the revenue from those figures with a 20¢ per $100 allocation to debt service would amount to $175,000. Other revenue anticipated in the new budget includes: $61,370 from food service; $13,750 from a 43% allocation of the $32,000 expected from the county's permanent school fund; plus $11,500 from interest revenue on certificates of deposit; $2,500 from rental of properties; $800 from the county available fund; and $20000 from other sources including special education.

Revenue from state sources is listed at $623,843 for the regular budget, $252,356 for the special education budget, and $116,700 for the Title I budget. Non-revenue receipts are listed at $500 making total revenue for the 1976-77 year totalling $2,491,419.00.

Pay Hikes Proposed

The revenue will exceed the anticipated expenditures by slightly over $30,000 noted the superintendent and he is proposing that the teachers and auxiliary personnel in the district be given pay increases of approximately $200 per year rather than increase the district's normal existing surplus.

Krivacka said that the pay increases of $200 per year to all personnel will total some $28,000, well within the anticipated budget surplus for the 1976-77 year.

He also noted that many of the figures in the budget are

(Continued on page 2)

Rice Ag Teachers To Be Honored

TROY KRENEK — WILLIE FITZGERALD

These Rice High School Vocational Agriculture instructors, Troy Krenek and Willie Fitzgerald, will be honored by the Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas for many years of outstanding service at the state meeting August 3rd in Fort Worth. See story on page two.

School Bells To Ring In 3 Weeks

Teacher Workshops Aug. 13-18; Classes Start Aug. 19th

Believe it or not, the opening of the 1976-77 school year is less than three weeks away.

Teachers in the Rice Consolidated Independent School District are scheduled to begin pre-school workshops on August 13th and they will continue through August 18th.

The board of directors approved at the March meeting the 1976-77 calendar for the next year and this includes the official opening of classes at the regular starting hour on Thursday, August 19th.

The first holiday of the year will come shortly afterward as classes are dismissed for the Labor Day holiday on Sept. 6th.

The first six weeks period will end October 1st; the second on November 12th, which will also be the end of the first quarter. There will be a teacher workshop on Nov. 15th and also on Nov. 19th; and the Thanksgiving holidays will be observed Nov. 25th and 26th.

The Christmas holidays will commence on December 20th and continue through January 2, 1977. Classes will resume after the holiday break on January 3rd; and the third six weeks session will end on January 14th completing the first half of the school year.

On February 23rd—the fourth six weeks period will end and this will also be the end of the second quarter; there will be no school but a teacher workshop on Feb. 24th; and a spring holiday will be observed by students and teachers on Feb. 25th.

Another teacher workshop is scheduled Mar. 11th; the Easter holidays are booked for April 7-11 and the fifth six weeks session will end on April 15th.

The district will end the sixth six weeks period on May 26th, also ending the third quarter of the year. Last classes are scheduled on May 26th and this is also the date for the commencement exercises for the senior class of 1977. Teachers will hold workshops May 27-31st to close out the year.

Tornado Strips Thomas Barn West of City Saturday Nite

METAL BUILDING HIT BY TORNADO SAT.

Tornadic winds stripped the roof and sides off a large metal clad building at the Thomas Camp, just west of the Thomas Dryer around 7:45 p.m. Saturday, causing some damage but fortunately there were no injuries.

The disturbance, thought to be a tornado, dipped down out of violent electrical storm, stripping tin from the building and wrapping it around electrical poles and wiping out a section of fence with the flying metal. The picnic house at the Thomas Camp, just a few feet from the barn, escaped without damage. The barn held some pieces of equipment and damage to these is expected to be light.

Harold Thomas, manager of the dryer, and employees were pre-occupied with water forced into the dryer through a broken door and windows and did not see any sign of a funnel. They said there was a slight calm and then a rushing sound of noise and strong wind and heavy rain. It is estimated over an inch fell in just a few minutes. Electrical power to the dryer was out temporarily, but otherwise damage at the dryer was minor.

The disturbance came during one of the most violent electrical storms experienced here. Heavy rains were reported in many areas, especially to the north and east of the city.