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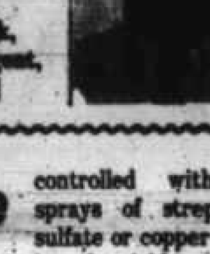
County Agent's NOTEBOOK



[By Leroy J. Hajdik, County Extension Agent, Colorado County]

Control Fire Blight In Pears

Pears can be grown successfully in nearly all areas of Texas but a bacterial disease called Fire Blight must be controlled.

Fire Blight limits the varieties that can be grown. It is such a severe problem in Texas that only the most resistant varieties can be grown.

The bacteria is first spread by honey bees during bloom as they visit the blossoms. Once established in a tree, the bacteria is further spread by rain and other insects.

The spring of 1978 was one of the worst in recent history for Fire Blight on pears. As a result, many infected trees still have large cankers which will serve as inoculum for this year.

We recommend removing the cankers as soon as possible by pruning. Make sure cuts are 6-8 inches below the last sign of visible damage as you move from the tip to the main trunk. This is necessary since the bacteria grows in advance of visibly dead tissue. When pruning, sterilise pruning shears between cuts by dipping in a solution of household bleach and water (one part bleach to nine parts water). This will help prevent spreading bacteria from one cut to the next. After pruning, wipe the shears with a light-weight oil to prevent corrosion.

Fire Blight can be controlled with foliar sprays of streptomycin sulfate or copper containing fungicides such as Kocide 101. Begin applications at first bloom and continue at five-day intervals during the bloom period. Make the first application before the disease symptoms are visible. Once the bacteria becomes established it is difficult and almost impossible to control.

Avoid excessive levels of nitrogen fertilizer around pear trees as this will increase their susceptibility to Fire Blight.

Time To Fertilize Fish Ponds

This is the time of year to consider needed fish pond fertilization. The Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District assists landusers with information concerning this fish pond management practice.

Commercial fertilizers are often used for the purpose of controlling undesirable waterweeds and to promote fish growth. Fertilizer will cause the rapid growth of plankton, which helps control undesirable waterweeds by inhibiting penetration of sunlight and, thereby shading out many undesirable aquatic plants.

It also will cause rapid plytoplankton bloom (floating microscopic plants) which is the starting point in the natural food cycle for fish.

The nutrients required by these water plants are the same as those required by plants which grow in soil; namely, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. To assure a continuous supply of a minimum amount of these nutrients, applications of fertilizer must be repeated.

When Water Warms

Make the initial application of fertilizer in the spring when the water temperature reaches 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Use approximately a ratio of 10 pounds of phosphorus and two pounds of potassium per surface acre. Continue this application at two week intervals until a green color is established so that a white object cannot be seen 18 inches below the water surface. Continue to maintain this color during entire growing season until water temperatures decrease below 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

For additional information concerning fish pond management and fertilization, contact the Soil Conservation Service office in Columbus at 316 Spring Street, write P. O. Box 776, Columbus, Texas 78934 or call 732-2773.

ASCS Practice Set Up On Control Of Rose Hedges

The Colorado County Agricultural Conservation Development Committee has developed a special conservation practice for control of competitive shrubs which will include control of McCartney rose hedge. Keep in mind that this is a special practice and is different in some ways from the old "brush control" practice that was administered under prior year programs. This new practice is not a land clearing practice but is aimed at shrubs only with certain other restrictions, reports ASC executive director D. C. Streckfus. Ask or call the county ASC office for details.

"Don't forget: all ACP approvals or cost-sharing requests must be approved by the committee before the practice is started if cost-shares are to be earned. All other practices approved earlier are still effective," he added.

Rice Transfers

Transfer of rice allotment by sale or lease must be applied for by April 1, 1979. Allocation of rice allotment to a farm must be completed by May 1, 1979. March 31, 1979 is the final date to place 1978 crop rice under CCC loan. The ASC office has had no definite word as yet on the 1978 Deficiency Rice payments.

Soil Conservation News

Technical assistance was given by D.C. Connie Fair to Travis Wegenhoft of Eagle Lake on his place southwest of Columbus. He is presently building cross-fences, planting grass, and intends to build a pond for a system of rotation grazing for his livestock. He plans to do this conservation work over a three year period.

Assistance was given to O. K. Nix of Columbus on controlling broadleaf weeds in his lawn.

A new conservation plan has been developed with Bob Stanley and John Terrel of Houston on their place southeast of Bernardo. They plan to plant 80 acres of Pensicola Bahia grass this year with cost-share assistance being provided through the local ASCS office.

Assistance was provided to Dr. Ben Nail who wants to update his conservation plan. Dr. Nail is interested in grass management, cross-fencing and enlarging his pond.

R. E. Smith Ranch of the Rock Island area is constructing an irrigation reservoir for use in irrigation of rice.

R. M. Heffley, a district cooperator of the Ramsey area, is constructing a pond for livestock water and erosion control.

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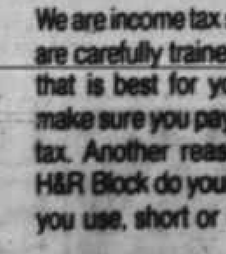

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Free Diet Check Computer Printout At Food Info Day

This Saturday At Columbus Comm. Center

[By Denella Pantel, County Extension Agent]

Free diet check computer print-outs on nutritional values of participant's diet recorded for one day will be made possible by many donating physicians, beauticians, dentists, chiropractors and business personnel throughout Colorado County at the County Information Day this Saturday at the Community Center in Columbus.

The Colorado County Extension Homemakers Council members and club members will have access to a telephone operated computer terminal through the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Mrs. Claudia M. Kerbel, Consumer Information Specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, will be in charge of the use of the computer and County Extension Agents in surrounding counties will be aiding in the coding of daily food intake forms, operating the terminal and explaining the actual print-out to the participants.

Each person is asked to complete the small one day food intake form found in this paper and bring it with them that day for the diet check analysis to be run. Note: it is important to put serving sizes by cups, teaspoons, or ounces according to type of food eaten on the form to save time and to be more accurate.

Diet Check Analysis Free

These print-outs normally cost $2.00-$3.00 each but the following (and possibly others) have contributed donations toward the telephone expense: Dr. James R. Ballinger and Anna Marie's Beauty Shop of Weimar; Beauty Bar, Dr. Tom Hancher, Merle Norman and Dr. Paul Hardy of Columbus; Dr. Raymond Thomas, Dr. Jose M. Ugarte and Dr. Rose Marie Roquemore of Eagle Lake.

The diet check program is going to be used as an awareness activity. The diet check program helps people better understand the nutritional value of their diet. By analyzing the computer print-out consumers can compare their diet pattern with the recommended daily allowances. The calories and nutrients are compared with the recommended daily allowances and the person's height and weight are considered to determine a person's calorie needs. Future assistance will be provided upon request and in a diet check mail-out series that people can enroll in at the Colorado County Food Information Day.

Record for Computer Check

Use this to keep track of what you ate or drank in a 24-hour period, take it to Food Information Day, and let the computer tell you what you got in nutrients and calories.

WHEN	WHAT DID YOU EAT OR DRINK IN 24 HOURS?	AMOUNT EATEN
Morning Meal		
Morning Snacks		
Mid-day Meal		
Mid-day Snacks		
Evening Meal		
Evening & Night Snacks		

11th Rabid Skunk In Weimar Area

Three more rabid skunks were killed in the Weimar area during the past week, making a total of 11 in two months, Dr. Bill Rugeley, veterinarian, said.

One of the new three, No. 9, was the first killed inside the city limits. Police Chief Joey Targac shot it in the vicinity of Weimar Auto Supply on South Eagle Street. Reportedly a second oddly-acting skunk was sighted there.

Several of the other 10 were killed very near the city limits. Nos. 10 and 11 were killed in rural areas north and east of town. Earlier ones were found in every direction. -Weimar Mercury.

Keep up with all activities of the Rice School District by reading the Headlight.

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Raiders Take 5th Place In Columbus Track Meet

JV, Varsity In Waller Meet Saturday

The Rice High School Raider track team managed a fifth place finish in the Columbus Cardinal Relays this past weekend, despite a disqualification and an injury.

The Raiders finished in a fifth place tie with Snook, both tallying 46 points. Columbus won their own meet with 120 points, Giddings was second with 88, Sealy third with 86 and Royal was fourth with 54. Cuero finished behind the Raiders with 40 and La Grange had 11.

The Raiders took two first place finishes in the meet with sophomore Robert Barrios getting his second first place finish in the pole vault, clearing 12-0. Lewis Tillman, senior, was the other winner, taking first place in the 400 meter run in 50.6.

Another top sprinter on the Rice team, sophomore David Long, had to drop out of the competition because of a leg injury. Another disappointment in the meet was the disqualification of the 400 meter relay team. A dropped baton kept them from getting valuable points.

This Saturday, the Raiders, coached by Bruce Brenneman, will travel to Waller for a meet with both varsity and junior varsity competition. Another tough field is expected to be on hand for Saturday's event.

Other finishers in the Columbus meet for the Raiders were: Ralph Cordova third, 1500 meter run; Barrios fourth, 1500 meter run; Madison Smith fifth, 800 meter run; and John Grammer fifth, 300 meter intermediate hurdles.

The 1600 meter relay team made a strong bid for that race, finishing third with a 3:34.2.

Girls Track Team In Yoakum Sat.

The Rice Raider girls' track team competed in the Cardinal Track Meet held during the weekend in Columbus and continued to show some improvement over past performances.

This weekend the Raiders, coached by Paula Valis, will go to Yoakum to compete in another girls track meet.

Mary Ann Becak was the top finisher for Rice in Columbus, as she took second place honors in the 880 yard run.

The 880 yard relay team comprised of Joyce Parker, Virginia Garza, Joyce Clayton and Pat Bradshaw finished fifth.

Dora Jaramillo was the only other Raider qualifier, finishing sixth in the discus.

SPORTS

Jeff Frnka, Sports Editor

Monday Nite Mixed

Top bowlers in the Monday Nite Mixed League March 19th were Virginia Waldrop with a 202-535 series and Fred Pelts with a 194-536 series. G.C.O.C. posted top team scores of 814-2353 series. Mary Obenhaus had a 532 series.

Next Monday night, March 26th, Monday Nite Mixed League action will end.

At the end of action this week, the S-Ques and Pinbusters were battling for first with 68 wins apiece while G.C.O.C. held down third with 63. Longhorns and Van Clan were tied for fourth with 53 wins apiece.

Commuters League

The Abigails jumped into the lead of the Commuters league at the end of bowling last Thursday, with a total of 64 wins. They knocked the Sheridan Drilling Co., with 63 wins, out of first place. Mohats and Fireballs are tied for third with 70 wins each, the Handles have 59 wins and Schlitz Beer 57.

Scott's Snack Shack rolled the top team scores with a 760-2176. Melva Quinney was top individual scorer with a 208-533 series. Ernie Sommerlatte posted a 204-503, Ruth Stein 182-529, Glenda Moore 177-511, and Alta Barten a 204 game.

Wed. Nite Trio

Jackie Goetz rolled the top individual scores in the Wednesday Nite Trio League last week (Mar. 21) with a 196-536 series. Goetz Services had high team series with 1742 and Just Don't Care posted top team game of 632.

Just Don't Care continues a 3 game lead in the league with 73 wins, Big Mamas are second with 70, Diplomates have 68 wins, Outcasts 60 and Goetz Services 56½.

Initial League

Wimpy Kristek's 215-586 set the pace for individual bowling in Initial League action March 22nd. For team honors, Lake Motors rolled the 1033 high game while Knights of Columbus posted the 2997 high series.

Other leading bowlers last week were Glen Wesselski 211-570, Floyd Spenrath 555, Erwin Knippel 209-554, John Garza 529, Doyle Waldrop 527, Bob Criswell 520, Chuck Stephens 512 and Joe Trojan 213-506.

Larry's Phillips 66 held onto their slim lead in the league with 453 and one-half total points as J.B.'s Trojans follow in second with 451; Lake Motors third with 420 and one-half; and Webb's Electronics fourth with 410. The Knights of Columbus team tallied enough points to move up to fifth with 402 and one-half, knocking Altair Dryer into sixth with 397 points.

Skull Creek Mixed

Skull Creek Lanes posted high team game and series in Skull Creek Mixed League action for the second week in a row, with an 803-2287 series March 20th. Mano Graham topped the men for the second week in a row with a 222-580 series while Ruth Stein had women's high game of 212 in a 514 series while Margie Knippel posted high series of 525.

Other high scorers last week included Ben Castillo 512, Jack Holden 530, Billy David 500, Leroy Janda 515 and Butch Schmidt 546.

Top standings in the league remained the same after March 20th action with the Woolly Boogers on top with 75, followed closely by Skull Creek Lanes with 74. The Night Stalkers hold down third with 67 and Catfish Farmers trail right behind with 66.

Garwood-Sheridan Finishes 4th In Schulenburg Track Meet

In Iago Meet In Boling Friday

The Garwood-Sheridan Raider boys track team won fourth place in the Schulenburg Track Meet held this past weekend.

The Raiders, under the direction of Coaches Benny Machac and Mike Stansifer, made a good showing in the meet, finishing only two points behind third place and four points behind second.

Highlighting the results of the meet were the 440 and 880 relay teams. Rob Johnson, Dewayne Pagel, Kevin Henderson and Rodney Sanford make up both relay teams and finished first in the 880 and second in the 440. The mile relay team of Kenny Johnson, Jesse Rodriguez, Felix Soto and Eugene Kazmire finished sixth.

In the sprints, it was Pagel finishing second in the 100 with Henderson taking 4th. R. Johnson took second place in the 220 low hurdles.

In the field events it was Pagel taking second in the discus, Kevin Henderson seventh in the long jump, and R. Johnson, second, Vincent Dancy fourth, and Kazmire sixth in the shot put.

In the girls' division, Kim Wunderlich took first place honors in the high jump and second place in the shot put. Mabel Bluntson won third place in the shot.

This weekend the Raiders will team up with the Eagle Lake Middle School Raiders and compete in the Boling track meet.

Grammer, Bluntson Top Class AA All-State Team

LONNIEL BLUNTSON JOHN GRAMMER

John Grammer, Rice High School's blue-chip point guard, joins teammate Lonniel Bluntson on the 1979 Texas Sportswriter's Class AA all-state high school basketball squad.

The 6-foot-2 Grammer, who averaged 23.4 points for Rice, was the leading vote-getter with 13 first team ballots. The 6-7 Bluntson had a 21.0 point average.

Both were Class AAA third-team selections last season and were both named to the Class AA all-tournament team after leading the Raiders to the finals of the state tournament in Austin this season.

While Grammer and Bluntson picked up first team berths, Boling's James Greenwood was named to the third unit.

The complete All-State team includes:

First Team

John Grammer, Rice, 6-2, Sr., 23.4; Lonniel Bluntson, Rice, 6-7, Sr., 21.0; Dwayne Pettigrew, Whitehouse, 6-1, Sr., 18.0; Mark Richardson, Bowie, 6-4, Sr., 20.5; Danny Wrenn, Seminole, 6-3, Sr., 17.4; David Reynolds, Perryton, 6-4, Sr., 21.4.

Second Team - Richard Holloway, Coleman, 5-8, Sr., 21.1; Ted Balcom, Taft, 6-0, Sr., 18.8; Thomas Baker, Mathis, 6-6, Sr., 19.0; Reggie Childress, Coleman, 6-4, Soph, 23.1; Russell Webb, Tulia, 6-7, Sr., 20.0.

Third Team - Anthony Gonzales, Floresville; Lane Newton, Spearman; Kevin Carlile, Whitehouse; Mark Summers, Dimmitt; James Greenwood, Boling.

ELMS Places In East Bernard Track Meet

The Eagle Lake Middle School Raiders participated in the East Bernard seventh and eighth grade track meet on Monday of this week. The meet was originally scheduled for Friday, but was postponed because of the rain early Friday morning.

Six teams competed in the meet and the Raider eighth grade finished in a tie for third while the seventh grade finished in sixth place.

This Friday, the Raiders will team-up with their fellow Raiders from Garwood and Sheridan to compete in the Iago Track Meet to be held in Boling.

In East Bernard, the eighth graders compiled a total of 78 points to finish in a tie with East Bernard for third place honors. Palacios finished in first place with 151 points.

Ed Thomas was the top point scorer for the Raiders in the meet, picking up two first place finishes in the 100 and 200 meter runs, a second in the high jump and a third in the long jump.

Alex Ramirez had the only other first place finish for the Raiders taking top honors in the discus. He also was fifth in the shot put.

Andy Anderson finished second in the 800 meter run and sixth in the discus. David Cardenas also picked up a second place finish, coming in second in the mile run.

Other finishers for the Raiders were James Powell, fifth in the high jump; Steven Pesnell, fourth in the 800 meter run; and Roger Meinecke, sixth in the mile run.

Both the 400 meter and the 1600 meter relay teams picked up fifth place finishes.

The seventh grade Raiders managed to pick up only 36 points in the meet, finishing sixth, with Royal taking top honors with 118 points.

Terry Cunningham was the only first place winner for ELMS, taking the high jump with a leap of 5'1".

Others placing in Monday's meet were: Stacy Ware second, 60 yard high hurdles; Rupert Contreras third, 800 meter run; Cunningham fourth, 400 meter run; Cedric Pope sixth, long jump; and Stanley Powell sixth, pole vault.

The 400 meter relay team finished fifth and the 1600 meter relay team took sixth.

Game Warden Center Wins Pistol Competition

Colorado County game warden Sam Center of Eagle Lake captured the first place trophy in the Feb. 25th Wharton combat pistol shoot held at the Wharton Police Department's firing range.

Center took first place honors out of a field of 15 persons with a high score of 188.5 points. Second place went to Jerry Rodriquez, a WPD reserve officer, who scored 182 points.

WPD officer Gary McFarland took third place honors with 182 points, after losing in a tie-breaker with Rodriquez for second place. Coming in fourth in the combat pistol shoot was Ian "Gizmo" Bayliss, a paramedic and member of the WPD reserve, with 177.5 points.

Fifth place honors went to Kent Hunt with the Wharton Ambulance Service and city police reserve, who scored 174 points. -Wharton Journal-Spectator story and photo.

Girls' Tennis Team In Dist. Meet Tues.

Compete In Boling Tourney Last Friday

The Rice High School Raider girls' tennis team will open play in the District 20AA Tournament next Tuesday in Bellville.

The competition will continue until the finals to be held on Wednesday afternoon.

The tennis team will compete in a dual meet this Thursday in LaGrange with both the girls and boys teams participating. It will be the final action for the girls before the tournament gets underway next week.

The boys will not open play in the district tournament until April 17th.

The team competed in the Boling Invitational Tennis Tournament during the past weekend and despite a good showing in first round action, the Raiders found themselves eliminated from all competition in the second round of play.

Coach Gil Stalbaum, optimistic about the Raiders' chances prior to the competition, expressed some disappointment in last weekend's results.

Stalbaum pointed out that the Raiders had a tough draw in second round action, but noted that several of those matches should have been won.

The Raiders won six of their eight first round matches and then lost all six second round matches and were eliminated from the competition.

Competing in boy's singles, Ben Anderson won his first match and then was defeated by the number one seeded player from Louise. Freshman Jimmy Epps lost his first round singles match in a tie-breaker 9-8.

In boy's doubles, Darrel Appelt and Arnold Rodriguez beat Edna 9-8, then lost to number three seeded Palacios, 5-7, 6-4, 0-6. Bert Tise and Philip Leopold also won their first round match with an 8-3 victory over Louise, but lost in the second round to number one seeded Bellville, 1-6, 3-6.

In girl's singles, sophomore Janice Waligura won over Edna 8-4 and then lost to the number one seeded team, Bellville, 1-6, 3-6. Pam Kallina, Rice's number two girl's singles player lost her first round match to Edna 4-8.

Julie Epps and Janice Bittner won their first round doubles match for the Raiders with an 8-4 decision over East Bernard, but lost in their next match to Ganado 4-6, 1-6. Kathy Frazar and Jacque Kallina also won in the opening round with an 8-1 win over Louise. They also lost in second round action, 3-6, 1-6 to Bellville.

Report Your Sport Call 234-2783

Astros Cap Weekend At Dome Apr. 6-8

It's Astros Cap Weekend!

The Astros will be giving away free authentic Astros baseball caps to everyone attending the Astros versus Atlanta Braves baseball games on April 6-8th.

The Astros will play at 7:35 on Friday night, 7:35 on Saturday night and 2:05 on Sunday afternoon.

The Astros next special night will be on Saturday, April 14th when all kids 14 and under attending the game will receive Astros Jackets.

Raider Nine Final Non-District Game In Gonzales Thursday

Record Drops To 2-7 With Losses In Action Fri. and Mon.

The Rice High School Raider baseball team will play its final non-district game this Thursday afternoon in a 4:00 game in Gonzales.

The Raiders will open their District 20AA competition a week from Thursday, traveling to Sealy for the league opener to be played at 7:30 p.m. Apr. 5.

In action during the past week, the Raiders failed to take advantage of a no outs-bases loaded situation and lost to Weimar on Friday, and then dropped their seventh game of the season to Gonzales on Monday.

Bruno Shimek pitched an outstanding game for the Raiders against Weimar but found himself in trouble in the fourth, giving up two runs after three errors, and in trouble again in the sixth, giving up three runs after two fielding errors which gave Weimar a 5-4 lead.

Rice picked up four runs in the third and added one in the sixth to tie the game.

In the seventh, the Raiders had a chance to put the game away but failed to score after loading the bases with no outs.

In the eighth Weimar came up with five runs to pull ahead 10-5. Rice managed two runs in the bottom of the eighth but couldn't overcome the big margin and lost 10 to 7.

Despite his performance on the mound, Shimek picked up the loss for the Raiders. In the game Shimek went four-for-four with a sacrifice fly and collected three of the Raider runs-batted-in.

The Raiders turned in a good performance on Monday, but came out on the short end of a 4-2 score against Gonzales.

David Ruiz accounted for all the Raider runs with a two RBI double in the second inning. Ruiz had two hits in the game to lead the Raider attack.

John Grammer went the distance on the mound for Rice, giving up three runs in the first inning and one in the sixth.

The Raiders are now 2-7 on the season.

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