Raiders Salvage 6-6 Tie With District 22AAA Favorite Waller

Host Hempstead Friday at 7:30 P.M.

Played against their own end zone for most of the night, the Rice Raiders football team used an inspiring defensive performance to salvage a 6 to 6 tie against District 22AAA preseason favorite Waller Bulldogs in the league opener at Waller Stadium last Friday night.

Although the game ended in a tie, Waller totaled more penetrations than Rice, 4 to 2, and should the two teams end this season tied for the league lead, the penetrations would give Waller the right to advance.

Waller and Rice are currently in a second place tie, after the first week of 22AAA action with East Bernard, Hempstead and Bellville tied for the lead. Columbus, Sealy and Brazos all dropped their openers.

This Friday Rice will host Hempstead at Raider Stadium in Altair for the district home opener beginning at 7:30 p.m.

"I was real pleased with the effort of the team," said head coach Clifton Darden despite the Raider 6 to 6 tie game with favored Waller. "We've been wanting this one since we started working out eight weeks ago and the kids were really fired up."

Though pleased with most of the Raider play, Darden did express some disappointment in the many mistakes the team made, especially in the kicking game.

"We were working on our punting game when John Schneider got hurt last Tuesday," said Darden. "I moved Rob Johnson from a deep blocking back to punter and we should have worked a little more with the new personnel."

Johnson was called upon to punt seven times in last Friday night's game but managed to get off only five, two of which were quick kicks on third down. One attempt he had blocked and another time he was sacked for a 12 yard loss. All total he averaged 34.5 yards on the five punts while Waller punted four times for a 29 yard average.

Penalty Sets Up Waller TD

The Raider defense was tested continuously last Friday night with Waller enjoying excellent field position for most of the contest. But the defense yielded very little. The lone tally by the Bulldogs followed a recovery of a blocked Raider punt on the Rice 11 and a pass interference call in the end zone setting up the score from the one yard line.

Six other times in the contest Waller found themselves starting out on the Raider end of the field including possessions that started at the 49, 23, 21, 46 those times could they sustain a scoring drive.

Dwayne Fugel Fills In

Despite the loss of defensive standout John Schneider (out for the season with torn tendons and ligaments in his left knee), the Raiders subdued the highly touted Bulldog offensive attack. Raider sophomore linebacker Dwayne Fugel was pulled up from the Rice junior varsity to fill the gap left by the Schneider injury only two days before the game and had 10 tackles. He along with sophomore Rob Johnson offered strong backup to the Raider line, which yielded 131 yards rushing. Larry Haynes, Kenneth Bluntson, Calvin Foster and Johnny Gonzales along with ends Roger Fry and John Dawson make up that powerful front wall for Rice. Gonzales, Foster and Barrios each had 11 tackles in the game.

Davis Intercepts Two

Vic Davis led the Raider [illegible] off two Waller passes and ending a couple of scoring threats. Robert Barrios, who had a touchdown saving tackle in the game, and Earnest Fields are other members of the Raider secondary that allowed only one completion in seven attempts for just eight yards.

Offensively the Raiders managed two sustained drives in the contest, one resulting in a missed field goal attempt and the other for a Rice touchdown.

Halfback Earnest Fields led the Raiders' rushing with 55 yards in 11 carries and one touchdown. Fullback Rob Johnson carried 17 times for 50 yards. End Robert Barrios, along with Johnson and halfback Vic Davis, caught five of quarterback Kenneth Hyek's 12 passes for 55 yds.

Raiders Threaten

The Raiders put together a good drive late in the second quarter that moved 62 yards in 13 plays. Despite the [illegible] they picked up a first down on the Waller 12 yard line. the Raiders had to go for a field goal since only six seconds remained in the first half. That attempt by Chris Gold from 29 yards out was partially blocked and ended up short of the uprights.

Waller moved off to Rice to open the second half but Rice unable to move was forced to punt. Bo Johnson's punt was blocked setting up Waller on Rice's 11 yard line. From there the Bulldogs lost one yard on first down and struggled for two on second to set up third and nine on the 10. But a pass from quarterback Gerald Hester got off just before he was hit and sailed way out of the reach of his receiver. However, Rice was called for pass interference on the play and Waller had a first down and goal from the one. On the first play Byron Johnson found a hole and went in for the score with 7:59 left in the third period. Waller's try for the extra point failed.

Fields Scores TD

Rice put together a drive on its second possession following the Bulldog score to tie the ball game. The Raiders started the drive on their own 30 following a Bulldog punt. A penalty and gains of three and four yards by Johnson and Hyek gave Rice a first on the 42. Then Davis picked up 12 for another first in Waller territory. Another penalty and a nine yard run by Johnson set up Rice with first down on the Waller 31. On the next play Fields took a pitch from Hyek add scampered 31 yards for the score.

Rice chose to try for two extra points but came up short on the running play and from that point with 1:44 left in the third quarter the score remained 6 to 6.

Defense Stops Waller Again

With five minutes left in the game Waller had a chance to take the lead, moving to the Raider 10. But a penalty set up a fourth down situation and the already tested Raider defense proved itself again stopping the Bulldogs five yards short of the first and nine yards from the end zone.

Rice took over with 2:39 left in the game and moved out to the 25 with the aid of catches by Johnson and Davis. But on fourth down Hyek's desperation pass was intercepted and Waller took over at the 25 with 42 seconds left.

Two running plays picked up three yards, then a pass into the end zone was picked off by Davis ending the threat and ending the game.

Statistics

	RICE	WALLER
Rushes/Yds.	41-122	45-131
Passes/Yds.	5-12-55	1-7-8
Total Yards	177	139
First Downs	12	7
Penalties	5-35	5-35
Fumbles-Lost	9-1	1-0
Had Intercept.	1	2
Punts-Avg.	5-34.5	4-29

Rice Kernels

By Jeff Fruka

Schneider Undergoes Surgery

• Outstanding senior Raider football player John Schneider was expecting to undergo surgery Wednesday afternoon in the Eagle Lake Community Hospital for torn tendons and ligaments in his left knee

The injury was sustained by Schneider during a Tuesday practice session prior to the Waller game. The team was working on punts and John, the punter, had just kicked the ball when he took a tremendous blow on the inside of his left leg in the calf area.

He was brought to the Eagle Lake Community Hospital where the injury was diagnosed and a light cast was applied, and despite the pain and the news that his football career as a Rice Raider football player was over, John returned to the practice field that afternoon to watch his teammates finish working out.

In an emotional meeting following the practice John expressed confidence in his teammates to continue their quest for a district championship and vowed to do his part to lead the Raiders to that goal.

He made a believer out of most of them at Friday night's contest that he would do his part. After jumping around on the sideline and leading the traditional spelling out of Raiders exercise following the game, he had busted up the cast and had to have it replaced on Saturday morning.

That is the type of dedicated Raider John is. He has been a big part of the team since he was a freshman, earning three letters during his career, and this season was having his best effort yet. His presence on the field was not just important as a player, but also and more importantly as a leader and motivator.

His dedication to the team was shown prior to the season when he switched from a glamorous position in the Raider backfield, that he had held throughout his career, to rough and tough unnoticed position at offensive guard. The switch added strength and quickness to the Raider line and made an obvious improvement in the Rice running attack and pass protection.

Earlier this week John promised his teammates that he would be back on the sidelines again Friday night, but with surgery Wednesday and only two days of recuperation, his doctor may have something to say about that. But knowing John, he just might be there.

Hang in there John and have a speedy recovery.

• The Raiders got another injury scare during warmups prior to the Waller game when running back Earnest Fields dislocated his jaw. It happened when Earnest was yawning -- the jaw just popped out of place.

Despite the uncomfortable condition and slight pain, Fields played in the game. Fortunately, late in the first quarter, Dr. Jose Ugarte came to the rescue and was able to get the jaw back in place. Earnest went on to be the leading rusher for Rice with 55 yards and scored Rice's only TD on a 31 yard run.

• The Raider fans sure showed up the Waller homecoming crowd last Friday. When the announcer invited Waller fans to form a victory line prior to the game, about a dozen fans responded.

The Raider fans figured if they can do it, so can we, and with just a wave of the arm over 100 Raider fans marched down to the edge of the field to form a victory line and cheer the Raiders on as they ran on to the field.

• Eagle Lake attorney Joe Fling, a 1972 graduate of Rice High School, has been keeping the stats for the Raider football team since the school opened in 1970 and he's even researched the old Eagle Lake, Garwood and Sheridan high schools and has most of their records on file, too. He keeps us up to date on who's breaking those Rice records and though none were broken last week he indicated that several are on the verge of being rewritten. When they are we'll let you know.

• Should Rice and Waller end the season with identical records and tied for the league lead, they would be declared co-champions. However, Waller would be picked to advance in the playoffs since they beat Rice in penetrations 4 to 2. Let's hope Rice can win the rest of its games and hope Waller gets knocked off somewhere down the line.

Joe Fling is picking that to happen this week. He's picking East Bernard to beat Waller 14 to 10 in their contest in East Bernard Friday night. Let's hope he's right.

Freshmen Raiders Lose To Waller 20-6 Last Thurs.

The Rice Raider freshman team lost a 20 to 6 battle to the Waller freshmen last Thursday evening at Raider Field in Altair.

The Raiders found themselves trailing 20 to 0 after three periods of play but finally got on the scoreboard with 6:02 left in the game.

Horace Pullen scored the lone Raider tally after quarterback Cedric Popp had connected with Delbert Jarvis on a 26 yard pass play that set Rice up at the three yard line.

A blocked punt set up Waller's first score in the first quarter and then an interception by Waller set up its next touchdown in the second quarter.

In the third quarter another blocked punt cost the Raiders as Waller recovered on the four yard line and punted in for the score three plays later.

The Raider score was set up by a fumble recovery on the Waller 37.

In the game Rice had 28 yards rushing led by Tony Long and Stanley Powell. Defensively Kenny Johnson and Gilbert Alvarado were listed as top players by coaches Dale Norris and Maurice Gindratt.

This Thursday the freshmen will travel to Columbus to play the JV-B team for games beginning at 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. The Raider JV-A team will play in Hempstead Thursday starting at 7:00 p.m.

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(Jeff Fruka, Sports Editor)

Raider JV Beat Waller 16-6 For Fourth Win

The Rice Raider junior varsity remained undefeated in play this season with an impressive 16 to 6 win over Waller last Thursday night at Raider Stadium.

The Raider JV used a play that was quite useful for Waller teams during the past week to set up the first Raider score.

[illegible] punt was run on man in the play, blocking a Waller punt with Kevin Henderson recovering it on the Bulldogs 24 yard line. A few plays later Ed Thomas ran in from 20 yards out to put Rice on top. Thomas added two points on the conversion and Rice led 8 to 0.

Waller set up its lone score following the Raider kickoff with a return to the 45 yard line with a touchdown saving tackle by Eugene Kazmir, but then marched in for the score. The extra point attempt failed and Rice held on to an 8 to 6 lead.

With 4:20 left in the third, Thomas recovered a Waller fumble that gave Rice possession on the 44 yard line. Rice drove the ball down the field and with 1:03 left in the quarter, quarterback Troy Corman, on a keeper around right end, darted 19 yards for a Raider touchdown. A successful two point conversion on a run by Kenneth Hemphill got the game out of reach as Rice went on to win 16 to 6.

Defensively the Raiders were led by James Powell with eight tackles.

Thomas and Henderson each had a fumble recovery and Philip Schorlemmer and Robert Turner each had pass interceptions.

Thomas led the Rice offense with 82 yards rushing in 15 carries. Rice had a total of 174 yards while allowing Waller only 137.

Alex Ramirez was also a standout in the game listed by coaches Gil Stalbaum and David White. He punted three times for a 41 yard average.

In Hempstead Thurs.

This Thursday the Raider JV-A team will be in Hempstead for a game starting at 7:00 p.m. The Raider freshmen and JV-B team will play in Columbus this Thursday starting at 5:30 and 7:00 p.m.

Congratulations To the Astros
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GRID SCHEDULE

Results Last Week:
Rice JV 16 Waller 6
Rice Frosh 6 Waller 20
Louise 30 Garwood 5
Idaa 0
ELMS 7th 24 Waller 14
ELMS 8th 0 Waller 18
Rice Varsity 6 Waller 6
East Bernard 12 Columbus 8
Hempstead 22 Brazos 6
Bellville 20 Sealy 7
Hallettsville 13 Yoakum 0
Edna 40 Goliad 0
Lamar 8 Victoria 0
Bay City 13 El Campo 0
Weimar 14 Smithville 14

Games This Week:
ELMS 7th hosts Hempstead 5:30
ELMS 8th hosts Hempstead 7:00
G[illegible] 6
Louise in Garwood 5:00
Rice Fr[illegible] Columbus 5:30
Rice JV-B in Columbus 7:00
Rice JV-A in Hempstead 7:00

Games This Friday:
Rice Varsity hosts Hempstead, 7:30 p.m.
Waller at East Bernard
Sealy at Brazos
Bellville at Columbus

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District 22AAA Results

around the league

E. Bernard, Bellville, Hempstead Take Early Lead In Dist. 22AAA

The first week of District 22AAA competition provided some pretty exciting play which included some real surprises. Next week's action should be just as thrilling with Waller at East Bernard, Hempstead at Rice, Sealy at Brazos and Bellville at Columbus. Results of last week's action:

Bellville 20 Sealy 7

Bellville's Darrell Smith returned Sealy's opening kickoff 74 yards to put the Brahmas up 7 to 0 on their way to a 20 to 7 win in Bellville.

Freddie Nails, in the second quarter, covered a Sealy fumble in the end zone to give Bellville its decisive touchdown and a 14 to 0 lead. Nails added another score in the third quarter to ice the victory. Sealy got its lone score later in the third quarter on a four yard run by quarterback Stephen Cerny.

Douglass Burditt of Bellville led all rushers with 100 yards on 13 carries. Cerny led the Sealy offense completing 9 of 17 passes for 132 yards.

East Bernard 12 Columbus 8

It was all Columbus in the first half, taking an 8 to 0 lead, but two touchdowns in the second half by East Bernard earned them a 12 to 8 victory over the Cards in Columbus Friday night.

Woodrow Toliver accounted for the lone Cardinal score with a 2 yard run in the second quarter.

J. R. Scott with 134 of the teams 153 yards rushing, scored East Bernard's first TD on a one yard run and Mike Black added the game winning score in the fourth quarter on a one yard run.

Doug Stovall led the Cards with 132 of the teams 202 yards rushing with Tony Boone leading Card receivers with 67 yards. John Williams led East Bernard with 60 of its 78 yards passing.

Hempstead 22 Brazos 6

In the battle of two winless teams, Hempstead came out a winner with a 22 to 6 victory over Brazos in their district opener in Hempstead.

Johnny Holland connected with Maurice Lane on a 33 yard pass play in the second quarter to put Hempstead on top. They upped their lead to 15 to 0 in the third quarter on a four yard run by James Garfield, who rushed for 99 yards in 25 carries.

Brazos cut the lead to 15 to 6 on its first score of the season on an 80 yard pass from Kenneth Matek to John Ashton. But Hempstead put the game away in the fourth quarter with Alan Freeman scoring from seven yards out.

Dist. 22AAA Standings

	W-L-T	Sea. Rec.
East Bernard	1-0-0	3-1-0
Hempstead	1-0-0	1-2-1
Bellville	1-0-0	1-3-0
Rice	0-0-1	2-1-1
Waller	0-0-1	2-0-2
Columbus	0-1-0	1-3-0
Sealy	0-1-0	1-3-0
Brazos	0-1-0	0-4-0

Non-District Results

	W-L-T	Pts.	Opp.
Waller	2-0-1	50	13
Rice	2-1-0	66	47
East Bernard	2-1-0	37	16
Columbus	1-2-0	41	65
Sealy	1-2-0	13	54
Hempstead	0-2-1	42	84
Bellville	0-3-0	7	64
Brazos	0-3-0	0	106

G-S Raiders Stung By Hornets 30-0

Host Louise In Garwood 5 PM Today

The Garwood-Sheridan Raiders football team traveled to Louise for their second game of the season last Thursday evening and were overwhelmed by a big Louise Hornet junior high team by the score of 30 to 0. Coach Bennie Machac says that the Raiders did not play that badly, but they were outmanned by a big, hard-charging Louise team.

Leonard Perry led the Raider offense with a total of 36 yards while Derrick Williams added 29. Quarterback Jon Wunderlich connected on five passes for 23 yards. He was sacked a number of times by blitzing linebackers, which helped to keep the Raider offense back on its heels for much of the game.

Coaches Machac and Mike Michalka named Doug Baumgarten and Pecos Coble, linemen, and Derrick Williams and Jon Wunderlich, backs, to serve as captains for the Louise game for their good performance in the Raiders' opening win with St. Anthony's of Columbus.

The Raiders host Louise for another game, this time the contest will be played at the Garwood School with a 5:00 p.m. kickoff. Raider fans are invited to support the Garwood-Sheridan Raiders.

GARWOOD-SHERIDAN

Oct. 9 Louise (Garwood) 5:00
Oct. 16 Flatonia (Sheridan) 5:00
Oct. 23 Shiner (T) 5:00
Oct. 30 Weimar (Garwood) 5:00
Nov. 6 Schulenburg (T) 5:00
Nov. 13 Lexington (Sheridan) 5:00

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ELMS Splits Pair Of Games With Waller Teams Thurs.

Host Hempstead This Thurs. at ELMS

The Eagle Lake Middle School seventh and eighth grade Raiders will open their district home schedule this Thursday evening with a pair of games against Hempstead at the ELMS Field starting at 5:30 and 7:00 p.m.

Coaches Freddie Armstrong and LaNoal Eschberger will be sending their troops into the third week of action with this week's game. The seventh grade is currently 2-0 with wins over Needville and Waller. The eighth grade is currently 0-1 losing to Waller last week and having their season opener against Needville cancelled due to rain.

7th Grade Whips Waller

Last Thursday in Waller the seventh grade Raiders tallied one touchdown in each quarter to earn a 24 to 14 win over Waller.

Dennis Hemphill led the scoring attack with two touchdowns and had 85 yards rushing. Ike Clayton with 105 yards in six carries, also scored a touchdown. Donald Spears scored the final Raider touchdown to put the game away for the Raiders.

Waller opened the scoring in the first quarter with a touchdown but failed to convert the extra point taking a 6 to 0 lead.

Hemphill tied the score in the first quarter with a 40 yard run but the score stayed tied with the failure to convert the PAT. Eagle Lake took the lead in the second quarter when Clayton broke loose and scampered 52 yards to give the Raiders a 12 to 0 lead.

In the third quarter, the Raiders took command when Hemphill surprised Waller and broke loose and ran 80 on the second half kickoff for another Raider tally and an 18 to 6 lead. Waller bounced back in the third with a score on a 12 yard run. With the extra point they cut the lead to 18 to 14.

In the fourth quarter Eagle Lake put the game out of reach on Spears 10 yard touchdown run putting the Raiders on top 24 to 14.

Standouts in the game, listed by the coaches, include defensive back Ike Clayton, linebacker Bryan Wiess and defensive lineman Rodney Williams. Offensive standouts listed were back Dennis Hemphill, lineman William Gonzales.

8th Graders Lose

The Raider 8th graders finally got their season underway last Thursday but suffered an 18 to 0 loss to Waller.

The Bulldogs scored once in each of the first three quarters to account for all points in the game.

Rodney Witte led the attack for the Raiders, rushing four times for 20 yards and catching three passes for 25. Rodney Parker had one reception for 30 and Fernando Cano caught two for 19.

Parker was the Raider defensive standout leading in tackles with eight, with one fumble recovery and two interceptions.

EAGLE LAKE 7th & 8th

Oct. 9 Hempstead (H) 5:30/7:00
Oct. 16 Sealy (T) 5:30/7:00
Oct. 23 Bellville (H) 5:30/7:00
Oct. 30 Brazos (T) 5:30/7:00
Nov. 6 Columbus (H) 5:30/7:00
Nov. 13 East Bernard (T) 5:30/7:00

SPORTS

Jeff Fruka, Sports Editor

BOWLING

Initial League

Marvin's Inc. moved to within one-half point of the Initial League leading Eagle Lake Imps at the end of action last Thursday. The Imps have 94 points, Marvin's 93½, Lake Motors is third with 83½, Western Auto holds down fourth with 75½ and 44 Magnums are fifth with 72 points.

Last Thursday, Skull Creek Lanes had high team series with a 3139 and Marvin's rolled high game of 1082. Mano Graham was top individual scorer with a 256-670. Other top scorers were: Frank Bowen 241-596, Larry Rothbauer 201-566, Leroy Janda 206-565, Freddy Felts 215-545, Paul Bittner 545, James Dabse 536, Daniel Becker 533, Al Novosad 212-523, Draper Stephens 508, Sam Davidson 502, Elroy Jentsch 501 and Jack Holden 500.

Commoners League

Low Rollers and Fireballs are tied for first place in the Commoners League at the end of play Oct. 2nd with 15 wins each. Sheridan Drilling is third with 14, Gutter Lovers have 12 wins and tied for fifth are High Rollers and Schlitz Beer with 10 wins each.

In action last week, Winton Drive Inn rolled top team scores with a 797-2290. Mary Obenhaus posted high individual series with a 563 and Pearl Waldrop had high game of 212. She has a 95 pin average and the 212 game qualifies her for a Century Patch for being 100 plus over her average.

Moonlighters League

The KO's of Eagle Lake hold a four game lead in the Moonlighters League at the Sealy Bowling Palace. At the end of play Oct. 2nd, the KC's had 18 wins, Commercial Electric is second with 14, Father Tom's Alligators are third with 13½, Sandbaggers in fourth with 12 and J.C. Quartet in fifth with 11.

The Lites had the top team series last week with a 2003 and J.B. Trojans rolled high game of 683. Les LeBouef had high individual series with a 203-558 and Floyd Spenrath posted high game of 223-549. Gary Glaiser rolled a 501 series and Chuck Stephens a 513.

Skull Creek Mixed

Mano Graham blistered the lanes at Skull Creek Lanes Sept. 30th with a 246-236-218-700 series in the Skull Creek Mixed League. Margie Knippel rolled high series for women with a 513 and high game honors were shared by Darlene Holden, Jane Booker and Ruth Stein with 181 each. Other top individual scorers were Floyd Spenrath 223-236-638, Larry Rothbauer 585, Erwin Knippel 203-203-210-622, Leroy Janda 541, Chick Stein 225-211-580, Al Novosad 528, Freddie Armstrong 501. Skull Creek Lanes rolled top team scores with a 870-2537.

The Woolly Boogers lead the league with 16 wins followed by Sayals with 13½, Catfish Farmers 13, Stingers 12, Skull Creek Lanes 11½ and What Can I Say 11.

Monday Nite Mixed

Virginia Waldrop rolled a big 205-573 to lead the women's scoring in the Monday Nite Mixed League Oct. 6th. Freddy Felts had high series for men with a 209-588 and Harold Lloyd Williams posted top game of 211. Team No. 2 had high team series with 2478 and the UFO's rolled high game of 860. Clyde Wieland had a 544, Lee Briscoe 201-537, Lonnie Sommerlatte 512 and Gayle Gertson 500.

Team No. 9 leads the league with 15 wins; GCOC, the A's and Longhorns are tied for second with 12 each, Nonie's Lites have 11 wins and Good Times 10.

Rains Improve Outlook For Deer, Season Opens Nov. 15

Drought-breaking rains have improved the outlook for the deer hunting season which will open Nov. 15 in most Texas counties.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials believe the deer situation which was approaching the critical state two months ago has improved enough to forecast a generally good hunting season.

The late August and early September rains which fell on most of the state caused rapid growths of forbs and other plants for deer food.

Biologist Fielding Harwell said the spring and summer drought caused poor fawn production over the western half of the state, which may be reflected in a lower buck harvest in 1981-82. Also, the dry range caused antler development of bucks to be below par in that area.

However, the overall picture is much brighter than it was just a few weeks ago, Harwell believes. "Body weights of deer are increasing now, and hunters should find deer in good body shape b the opening of the season," said Harwell.

Harwell said if more rainfall occurs it will continue to benefit the deer herds, but rank vegetative growth and ample food will make hunting more difficult as the deer will move less.

Another plus for the deer situation is the acorn crop, which was expected to be disastrous because of the dry weather. "We have noticed a surprisingly good acorn crop in many areas, which will help maintain deer body condition through the fall," Harwell said.

Caperton Addresses Ag. Issues

"Our farmers and ranchers are the backbone of this state and the Fifth District," Kent Caperton, Democratic nominee for the Texas Senate said this week in Bryan. "Without a healthy farm economy, the state's entire economy will falter."

Caperton, who is traveling extensively throughout the nineteen counties of the district, has attempted to meet as many farmers and ranchers as possible.

Caperton said farmers and ranchers have been beset with several problems - high interest rates, soaring land prices, the unavailability of long-term loans and the increasing cost of farm machinery and buildings.

"Modern agriculture is costly and we must see that our farming and ranching families can obtain the credit necessary to continue their agribusiness. The guaranteed farm loan program was approved by the voters last November and will hopefully provide some of the capital for young farm families to remain in agriculture," Caperton said.

Other key issues, he said, are landowners rights, foreign ownership of Texas land and the production of ethanol, methanol and gasohol.

Concerning landowners rights, Caperton said, "At present, the right of the condemning authority to take a landowners property cannot be challenged in court unless the landowner can show that the authority has acted arbitrarily or capriciously. Landowners must be provided a vehicle through which they can protect their land."

Caperton added, "We must also encourage the production of [illegible] and gasohol to aid the family farmer and rancher who have become so dependent on gasoline, diesel fuel and natural gas.

"We cannot or will not allow high interest rates, increased fuel costs or other problems to destroy the future of farming and ranching in Texas."

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Lyndell Williams
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

AUSTIN — Tax reform is hot in Texas, but there will be days in the next session of the Texas Legislature when the issue will have to take a back seat to public education.

Although Texas ranks low among other states in funding for public education, the state has its fair share of parents and teachers.

Both groups are concerned with quality education, but right now the teachers are more concerned with making what they call a decent wage.

The teacher pay raise issue may well be the fulcrum upon which other legislation may rise or fall.

In the past, the public education bill has been one of the last to be passed in each session. Some critics argue that it is held hostage until the last hour . . . and that's why Texas funding is low. By the time it comes for a vote, the bill is pocked with the sniper shots from every feud in both chambers. Some legislators have asserted publicly that the public education bill, like the women and children on a sinking ship, should be saved first by an early passage in the Legislature. Then the other issues can fight for passage like a seat in a lifeboat.

Still, The Governor

They're assuming that the governor, whoever it is at the time, will rubber stamp the Legislature's early action. If the governor chose to veto part of it, the bill could still find itself locked in debate on the last day of the session.

That's not an unlikely scenario with the present Governor Bill Clements, especially if the bill contained a pay raise for teachers which is higher than he wants.

If fact, last week Clements suggested that teachers ought to be more concerned with increasing effectiveness in the classroom instead of holding their hands out for a raise.

Clements couldn't care less if his remark angered the teachers, a group which supported his 1978 opponent, former Atty. General John Hill.

The Republican governor's [illegible] raise for educators has been labeled his personal vendetta on their past support for Hill.

The Other Side

Even if that is true to some extent, Clements definitely has his own point of view about the work ethic.

[illegible] moved his feet and work to become a millionaire several times over.

He slugged it out financially in the oil and gas fields and built one of the world's largest oil well drilling firms.

He took over administration of the Pentagon at a time when the Vietnam War was, in the minds of most Americans, undeniably a hellhole.

Two years in the Governor's Office probably has not changed him much; he still believes in a day's pay for a hard day's work. He may be telling the teachers he does not think they work hard enough.

BACK THE RAIDERS!

Here For Weekend

David Essers, a dental student at the University of Texas branch in San Antonio, spent the weekend here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Essers.

The Chain Saw King

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