

Page 9 Eagle Lake Headlight Thurs., Oct. 1, 1981

RHS Raiders Host Waller For Homecoming Fri.

Important Dist. 22AAA
Opener At Raider
Stadium, Kickoff At 7:30

The Rice High School Raiders will open their bid for another District 22AAA crown this Friday night in a crucial contest against the Waller Bulldogs in Raider Stadium. The two teams shared the league title last year and have looked good so far this season. A capacity crowd is expected for the game which will also be Rice's Homecoming celebration.

If practices are any indication of how a team will play, then look for the Raiders to be on the "ram-page" again this Friday night.

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the Raiders have shown a great deal of enthusiasm during the past two weeks of workouts. "It surprised me the way the kids were getting after it on Monday of last week, knowing we wouldn't have a game for two weeks. Things haven't slowed down a bit either. You can look for an eager bunch of guys to knock some heads some Friday."

Besides looking for a district title, Raider coaches say one reason for the spirited practices is because the team has a score to settle with the Bulldogs. Last season, Rice tied Waller 66 and both teams finished league play with 6-0-1. But, Waller got the nod to advance to the playoffs because of a slight edge in penetrations. The Raiders felt they had the better team and will be out to prove that Friday night.

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Although several teams in the league have proven to be strong contenders for the title this season, namely Bellville, Columbus and East Bernard, Coach Darden admits that his Rampaging Raiders "must beat Waller" to have a shot at the title.

"We're playing them one at a time," says the second-year head coach, adding, "right now the only thing on our mind is beating the Bulldogs."

Despite the outcome of Friday's contest you can rest assured that Darden's only concern following the game will be beating Hempstead,

the next opponent on Rice's schedule.

Raider Line-Up
The Raiders will be using pretty much the same lineup as in the first three games with offensive starters as follows: John Dawson, quarterback; Kenneth Hemphill and Ed Thomas, halfbacks; and Rob Johnson, fullback. The split ends for Rice will be Darryl Hines and Ronnie Fry. The only question on the line will be center Andy Gertson, who sprained an ankle in the contest in Need-ville, Sept. 18th, however, Darden expects him to be ready Friday night. Other

linemen will be tackles Kenneth Blumson (222) and Michael Faichtinger (221); and guards Calvin Foster (248) and Eugene Kaszmir (172).

Anchoring the defense will be guards Foster and James Rhodes (243), ends Blumson and Gertson; and linebackers Robert Turner, Dwayne Pagle and Johnson. In the secondary will be cornerbacks Fry and James Powell and safeties Thomas and Hines.

Waller Has Good Side
Despite a poor 1-1-1 record in nondistrict play, the Waller Bulldogs have the

size, quickness and experience to again be a strong challenger for the league title.

"Waller is tough," said coach Darden after scouting the Bulldogs last Friday night. "They got after it real well."

Darden also indicated that the Bulldogs have "good football aim," in the 175 to 195 pound range, and can move real well. "We've got a lot of big people that can move real well also," added the coach.

Waller, according to reports, has been using a wing T or straight T align-

ment during its past couple of games, mostly using straight ahead plays. Darden, however, is betting that Waller will be running out of a wishbone set when it comes to Rice this Friday.

Using power plays, counters and a lot of misdirection. The Bulldogs have used the wishbone set in the past and have always been successful.

Probable Starters
Starting at quarterback for Waller will be Earl Whitfield, a 185 lb. Jr., with Kelly Hoppers seeing action at that spot in passing situations. The running backs are expected to be

Jeese Bain, 182 lb. junior, and Craig Charleston, a 165 lb. senior, who, according to scouting reports is "lightning quick." At wingback will be Danny Herrera, a 158 lb. senior.

The Waller tight end is Weston Clark, 165 lb. junior, and at split end will be Greg Bowdre, a 155 lb. senior.

Probable starters on the line are: center Mike Gray, 170 lb. junior; tackles, Dean Wilburn, 190 lb. senior, and Kevin Kelly, 235 lb. junior; and guards, LeVan Richardson, 170 lb. senior, and Charles Brejcha, 205 lb. senior.

East Bernard opens its league schedule, hosting Columbus and both those teams could also have a say-so in deciding who wins in 22AAA. Bellville, which opens at Sealy, has also thrown its hat in the ring putting together a nifty pre-league record.

In the other district matchup, unless Hempstead plays at unbeaten Brazos.

Only four teams played last Friday with Columbus the only winner. Waller tied A&M Consolidated and Bellville and Hempstead both lost.

Columbus 27, Youkum 18.

The Columbus Cardinals put a touchdown on the board in each quarter last Friday night to pace their way to a 27-18 victory over Youkum. The Cards upped their record to 30 while Youkum fell to 0-3.

Tony Boone opened the scoring for the Cards with a

field goal on their first possession of the game and held on to a 30 lead until A&M booted a 30 yard kick with only 57 seconds left to play ending the scoring in a 33 deadlock. Waller is now 1-1-1.

Royal scored two touchdowns and a safety in the fourth quarter against Hempstead to pace its way to a 28-16 win last week. Royal led 6-0 at half and extended the lead to 14-0 in the third quarter. But Hempstead quarterback Johnny Holland ran in from 15 yards out and then connected with Darrell Nunn on the conversion to narrow the gap to 14-6.

Royal bounced back with a pair of TD's in the fourth quarter to pull ahead 28-6 before Holland and Nunn teamed up on a 37 yard scoring pass. Holland ran in on the conversion to make it 28-16. The final Royal score came on a safety with Holland being sacked in the end zone. Holland ended the game completing 13 of 29 passes for 238 yards.

Raider coach Dale Norris had praise for the play of his team against Sacred Heart last Thursday in Eagle Lake.

"We weren't planning on playing any games this week," said Norris following the 20-10 loss, adding, "and we played like it. But considering the circumstances (not being prepared) I thought we did a good job overall."

Norris had special praise for his "silver" team noting that he was pleased with its effort. He added that "We expect to do much better in Waller Thursday night."

The Raiders scored first last Thursday on a safety when the Sacred Heart punt-er stepped out of the end zone following a bad snap. Sacred Heart came back with a touchdown in the second quarter to take an 8-2 lead.

In the third quarter, both teams scored one touchdown with Derrick Williams scoring for Rice on a four yard run. Malcolm Brown added two extra points and the third quarter ended with Sacred Heart leading 14-10.

Sacred Heart wrapped up the win with a single touchdown in the final period to take the 20-10 victory.

Top players in the game, listed by the Raider coach, were Derrick Williams and Doug Baumgartner on defense and Keith Fennell and Jason Smith on offense.

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