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***** **Sports** *****

Raiders have branding iron ready

By Cathy Lanyon

Last week, the Raiders played some games that were almost too close for comfort. Tuesday, the junior varsity and varsity girls along with the varsity boys played fast-paced games in Raider gym. An improvement in skills were noted for the three teams.

JV girls lose

It was a discouraging time for the Raiders during the first quarter. Bellville Brahmas were ahead by six points. Rice would continually set up its offense and Bellville tried to steal the ball. They did too, with three steals. Bertie Garcia, however, gave them their own medicine when she denied a pass that was intended for a Brahma player.

By the second quarter, the girls went back in the game, confident they could match the wit of their opponents. The opponents were relaxing a bit too much for Rice's defense. After the jump ball at the beginning of the second quarter, Bellville received the tip. However, they threw the ball out of bounds.

Stephanie Fields was fouled by the defense during a jump-shot taken by Bellville. Ethel Foster then "stuffed" them. During that excursion, Rice received the ball and made a shot that caused two points to be clicked on the board. Veronica Woods made a dynamic steal and put another two points on the board. A lob pass, thrown by Annie Muzicek, landed neatly in the outstretched hands of Ethel who plucked it through the net. And then, with twenty-five seconds left in the second quarter, Veronica stole a pass, drove in, and a too aggressive defensive guard fouled her. Veronica, nevertheless, sank in two points at the free throw line.

It was noted throughout the third quarter that Rice was shipping a bit on fundamentals. Traveling, double-dribbling, and carrying the ball occurred a little too often. Rice also seemed a little cautious in shooting, and hesitated frequently before throwing a pass that called for split second timing.

In the fourth quarter, Rice was persistent when it came to shooting the ball. It was an explosive quarter with the Raiders trailing behind the Brahmas by a small margin. Stephanie rebounded an attempted

shot and put two up on the board. The opponents were doused with embarrassment when Veronica stole the ball and contributed to the score. A humorous event followed when a pass was thrown to a Brahma.

Ethel, following her defensive instincts, deflected the pass. The ball sailed into the air while two Brahma girls raced to get the ball. However, they sailed into each other while the ball fell neatly into the hands of a Raider. It was a good way to end the game. After all, laughter is the best medicine.

Scoring with Bellville listed first and Rice next, was 6 to 0 after the first quarter, 9 to 10 after the second quarter, 20 to 12 after the third quarter and 26 to 22 after the fourth quarter.

Scorers were: Debra Stovel, 2; Veronica Woods, 8; Ethel Foster, 2; Stephanie Fields, 8; Michele Milligan, 2; Janet Scott, 2.

Varsity boys Brahmas with great victory

It was a great night of victory for the varsity. The girls were working against the defense very effectively. Part of their defensive strategy was to draw the defense out and away from the interior of the lanes to keep the opponents from having an easy shot. Bellville, on the other hand, was quick to notice the stronger players of the Raider team and chose to guard her more heavily than the others.

Also, Bellville Brahmas were quick to notice hesitations concerning passes and moved on their man to deny the pass. Rice, therefore, had to stay sharp, make shots with precision, and to continually concentrate.

In the first quarter, it started on the right foot for Rice. Mabel Blunston tipped the ball to Sue Perdue at the tip-off. Sue dribbled, passed to Mabel, and bingo, two points were added in favor of Rice. Jackie Parker, a quick and aggressive forward, drove past the defense, fed it to Hoshorn Foster, and made a point scoring lay-up.

After the Brahmas were fouled and made a basket, Rice immediately hustled down the court to set up offensively. Jackie brought down the ball and threw it to Mabel after she broke to the free throw line. She then received the pass, pivoted, and made a clean jump-shot.

In the second quarter, it seemed like one of the most thought-provoking games played yet for the varsity. The boys had to really think of ways to outsmart the defense. To cope with their opponents, the Raiders defense stayed in the basket. The Brahma's got into foul trouble and started playing its slow-down game to keep from fouling out. But, offense was not able to hit its shots, and they lost the game by a 42-40.



Raider Coach Jack Grammer called an early time out in the first quarter of the Rice Columbus game last Friday to try and stem the tide of Cardinal points mounting against the Raiders. At the end of the first quarter, Columbus was ahead by 10, and increased its lead to 14 at the half.

pressing the Raiders, the girls cooked up a scheme. Rice rebounded and, instead of dribbling down court, made it with a long pass. Hemphill watched as the ball sank through the net. By now, the opponents were pressing them in a stifling manner.

Several turnovers resulted from the action taken against Rice. When the final buzzer sounded, the girls were relieved to see that their efforts had truly paid off. The Brahmas were bar-b-que'd 40-47.

Scoring by quarters saw the Brahmas on top 10 to 15 after the first quarter, but then trailed 21 to 24 after the second quarter, 30 to 34 after the third quarter and 40 to 45 at the end of the game.

The girls that aided in scoring were: Blunston, 23; Foster, 8; Wunderlich, 6; Davis, 2; Hemphill, 6.

Needless to say, Ed benefited from the opponents' carelessness by adding two more points to the score. By now, the Brahmas knew who Rice's "weapons" were and pressed them mercilessly. Jarvis knew then that he would have to fake his man to score. He did so after Johnson tipped in the ball.

In the final quarter, many people were on their feet, not wanting to miss any of the outstanding play. The clock had six minutes and 32 seconds left while the fans and coaches watched the opponents press the Raiders heavily.

Whether Rice would be able to work through the stifling defense was a question that could have been asked by anyone. But, Rice gained access to the ball and was rotating the posts around as seconds ticked away.

The lower posts broke in and out to receive a pass if they were open. This went on for a minute and a half until Mel Pratt was able to break open for a pass. He received, pivoted, jumped and was fouled. It wasn't a total loss though, for he sank in one of the free shots.

The score read 42-40 with Bellville ahead when the clock froze at ten seconds left in the game. Coach Grammer called a time-out.

Rice came back on the floor a little too aggressively, and fouled to stop the clock with one second left. The shot bounced off the rim but there was not enough time for Rice to score, so they lost the game.

Varsity boys lose to Columbus; district hopes fade

The varsity boys Rice Raider basketball team seriously damaged their chances of winning the district title this year when they lost last Friday night to cross-county rivals, Columbus.

The final score was 72-58. "We got outplayed," coach Jack Grammer said after the game. "Amazingly enough, we out rebounded them 34 to 30," he said, but failed in scoring by shooting 32 percent from the field compared to the Cardinal's 50 percent.

At the free throw line, Rice hit 67 percent of their 21 shots, and Columbus hit 74 percent of their 27 attempts.

At the half, with Rice trailing 42-28, Grammer said he told the team that Columbus would have to be held to about 10 points in the third period to give the Raiders a chance to come back.

That is exactly what the Raider defense did. They played in Brookshire, and Friday night play Hempstead in Raider Gym.

A week ago Tuesday, the Raiders led Bellville most of the game. Then the lead got into foul trouble and started playing its slow-down game to keep from fouling out. But, offense was not able to hit its shots, and they lost the game by a 42-40.

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Varsity boys lose to Bellville

By Cathy Lanyon

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Wooling News

In Skull Creek Mixed action the week of January 4, high team series was taken by Skull Creek Lanes with 237-2463. Ben-Castillo posted high men's series with a 244-629 while Carl Pennell rolled the high men's game at 258-553.

Roberts took the ladies honors with a 215-527 series.

Other high rollers for the evening were Jack Dromgoole, 228-539; LeRoy Janda, 221-540; Mano Graham, 222-543; Kenneth Venghaus, 514; Herb Graham, 503; Elie Thomas, 506; Jean Shrader, 202-502; and Jody Novodak, 208.

Who Are We and Rice Birds are tied for first place with 39 wins with the Royals and Wooly Boogers tied for second with 38. The Spurs at 31 wins follow. Close behind the Spurs are Skull Creek with 32 1/2. Stingers with 31 1/2 and Pac Men with 30.

In last week's action, the Skull Creek league high team series was rolled by the Wooly Boogers with a 2472 total pin score. High team game went to Skull Creek Lanes with an 841. Freddie Pelt took mens honors with a 237-640 series and Margie Knippel took ladies with a 538. Other notable scores were rolled by Ray Cumberworth, 205-521; Ben Castillo, 241-582; Mano Graham, 201-559; Erwin Knippel, 227-585; James Booker, 205-535; and Jeanette-Mature, 218-535.

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MOONLIGHTERS

Following action Thursday night Fernland Insurance held the first spot with 45 total wins. K.C.'s and Ches Thrills were tied for second with 42, leaving Blood and Guts and A.M.L. tied in the next spot with 39 wins.

High bowler for the evening was again A. Kiber with 605-247.

COMMUTERS LEAGUE

On Thursday night the Scrappers took high team series in the Commuters League with a 2174 total. High game of 779 was rolled by the Balls of Fire. Dora Briscoe with 503 and LaVerne Graham with 202

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