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Eagle Lake Headlight

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Rice Area victors

Members of the Duncan Ranch softball team got together again Monday for this picture with their trophy. They are the 1983 champions of the Rice Area Men's Softball League in Eagle Lake. Front row, from left is Mike Morales, coach Vance

Committees plan fund raising projects

The museum and beautification committees, part of Revitalize Eagle Lake, Inc., are making plans to raise funds to support the projects they have in planning.

Both committees met last week to make fund raising plans, although neither committee is planning major public efforts.

According to members of both groups, much of the fund raising will be done through letters to members of the community, personal contact, and invitation to fund-raising activities.

The beautification Committee is planning as its first project, the

restructuring of the grounds around the city municipal building, to include additional trees, shrubs, a sprinkling system, and eventually lighting and benches. When originally announced several months ago, the committee hoped the work could be completed for \$12,000. However, unconfirmed bids indicate the cost may be as much as several thousand dollars more.

The Museum Committee has signed a contract to purchase the Miller Ford dealership property at the corner of Lake and Main streets, for the city's first museum. The cost of that

building will be \$65,000. Museum committee co-chairman Rolin Baker said last week that money should be available as a grant from several organizations to provide for renovation of the structure, and other start-up costs, after the purchase is made.

In an information sheet about the museum, Baker defined its name as "Prairie Edge Museum," because of the city's location at the junction of open and forested environments. Its objective is to collect, preserve and display materials relating to the natural and cultural traditions and heritage of

the Eagle Lake area and its inhabitants. Major emphasis will be on education, heritage, environment, culture and tourism.

"Of utmost value..." Baker wrote, "is to preserve not books, newspapers, photographs...but the actual three-dimensional articles which reflect our heritage and environment."

Wiese Brothers first to harvest here; Popp first in Garwood

Ted and Jim Wiese claimed Lot Number One in Eagle Lake Monday as they began harvesting the 1983 rice crop.

But they were almost a week behind Joe L. Popp and Sons of Garwood who delivered rice to the Garwood Dryer last Tuesday of last week.

Both of those lots were between 22 and 23 percent moisture.

Rice harvested this week in the Garwood area came in between 18 to 20 percent moisture. That was delivered to the Garwood Dryer on Monday by E. L. Wied. He harvested about 37 acres, bringing in about

34 barrels per acre, compared to Popp's 15 barrels for the 19 acres he cut.

According to the Kallia Dwyer, Albert Bitter harvested some of his rice northwest of Garwood, and brought it into the dryer Monday. It also was between 21 and 22 percent moisture. No rice came in Tuesday but Larry K started

cutting. Ted Wiese said Tuesday that they stopped cutting Tuesday morning, because of the high moisture.

According to reports from area dryers, some cutting is expected Wednesday and Thursday, with most farmers waiting until crops ripen a little more.

Raider footballers to report August 3

Any athlete interested in participating in football, on any level, at Rice High School this coming football season, should report to athletic director and head football coach Clifford Darden on Wednesday, August 3, anytime between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Darden said last week that shoes will be issued at this time, and physicals and parental approvals will be discussed. Other pertinent information for the season also will be discussed.

All prospective football players are expected to be at the high school, dressed for practice, and in the gym by 8 a.m. The athletic staff will conduct orientation and indoctrination, and cover

rules, regulations and expectations for the 1983 season. That will be followed by the first workout of the season.

On Monday, August 8, two-day workouts begin, with two more sessions starting at 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Pads will be issued on August 12.

An intersquad football scrimmage with the varsity only will be held in Raider Stadium on August 13.

The first scrimmage of the season, against Tomball, is scheduled August 18 in Raider Stadium. The freshmen and sophomores will scrimmage at 5 p.m., the junior varsity at 6 p.m. and the varsity at 7 p.m.

The first road trip will be to Sweeney for a scrimmage on August 26. Times will be announced.

The Raider coaching staff is expected to return today from summer coaching school. The staff attending the school includes Darden, Jack Grammer, Mike Michalka, Wayne

Zimmerhanel, Mark Faldyn, Finest Axel, Gary Wrinkle, Maurice Gindrat and Bennie Machac. Also on the staff but not attending camp are Larry Varley,

Eagle Lake Middle School, who is attending summer school, and Bobby Zander, whose wife is expecting.

Raider band members to begin practice at RHS this Monday

Rehearsals for the Rice High School Raider Band will begin during the first week of August, according to director Bill Atkins.

All members of the band are expected to attend. Atkins said, adding that any student with conflicts should notify him.

Only seniors are to report Monday and Tuesday, with seniors and freshmen

reporting August 3. The full band will meet August 4. Monday through Thursday of the following two weeks, the full band will meet.

All rehearsal times will be from 5:45 to 8 p.m. For Eagle Lake students, a bus will depart from the middle school at 5:15 p.m. Buses for Garwood and Sheridan schools will depart from those schools also at 5:15 p.m.

City council approves second reading of ordinances

Eagle Lake city council on Tuesday approved the second reading of a series of ordinances to increase water, sewer and garbage rates.

There was little discussion on this reading, except that Mayor Elmer Struss said only one person, who lives outside the city limits where rates are increasing much more than for city residents, suggested the increase was too much.

Later in the meeting during his semi-monthly report, city manager Robert Klockman said the city's utility budget was in a negative position, costing more money to operate than rates were bringing in.

In other business on the short agenda, Council:

- Learned no bids were received for an oil lease on the property the city owns at the airport.
- Learned survey work on the Austin Road annexation area is not yet finished. Such work is needed before the petition for annexation can be completed.
- Approved payment of an \$1,800 insurance policy

for disability and life insurance for volunteer firemen. The policy was written through the Thomas Agency here, and good through April, 1984.

Council also learned the premiums for the city health insurance program are increasing 21 percent. The insurance committee will start work soon to bid for the city's insurance needs may be sought in December.

- Paid another portion of the cost of construction of a new dog pound for the city.
- Approved a change in the meter for the city ballpark. Under the present meter, if the lights are on at all during a billing month, even a few minutes, the charge from CP&L is more than \$250. Under the new meter, the city will be charged at least \$8 daily whether the lights are used or not. Teams that use the field are charged for the electricity. The meter is removed entirely starting September 8, until the spring season, so there will be no cost to the city.
- Discussed street lights, and their cost. The most recent monthly bill from CP&L was for \$1,300.

Return to: Chamber of Commerce, 123 N. McCarty or call 234-2780

☐ Keep Parking Meters
☐ Remove Parking Meters

Signature (optional)

Return to: Chamber of Commerce, 123 N. McCarty or call 234-2780

Your opinion please!
The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce is asking citizens to express their opinion on whether the parking meters in downtown Eagle Lake should be removed. Clip and mail your response to the chamber at the above address.

Gerlow still says rice market lackluster

Rice farmers can generally expect a lackluster market again this year as the harvest season gets under way, and over the long haul, the rice industry faces a lot of problems, according to Dr. Art Gerlow, economist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, at the Upper Coast Rice Field Day and Tour at Edna on July 19.

Gerlow gave some 150 rice farmers attending the field day a brief review of the PIK program, talked about possible farm program options for 1984 and '85, discussed the economics of the new Lemont variety, and then presented the rice outlook.

"The general consensus in agricultural circles and in Congress is that we won't have a PIK program in rice next year," Gerlow said. "Total cost of the program this year will be staggering."

and the Reagan Administration wants to cut back. We will also likely see frozen target prices and lower loan rates.

Gerlow listed several options for a future farm program, including a move to a free market, a move to "mandatory production controls," fine tuning the present program and a self-help partnership.

"Basically, Texas farmers prefer strict production controls," Gerlow said. "However, this is not the general feeling of farmers in some other states. Furthermore, the government doesn't want strict controls because they stifle initiative and are costly. What we'll likely see next year and even with the '85 farm bill is some fine tuning. The main thing is for you (farmers) to make your thoughts and wishes known to your legislators. It's critical that your representatives in Congress know how you feel."

Regarding Lemont, the newly developed long-grain rice that is semi-dwarf and high yielding, Gerlow reviewed test data from the past three years that showed the variety outyielding such standards as Bellemont and Labelle by

15 to 30 percent, respectively. "Lemont is a good variety and should consistently outyield current varieties by 500 pounds or more per acre," the economist pointed out. "The critical thing, however, is for farmers to watch their costs. Lemont requires more fertilizer and possibly other inputs, so costs can go up quickly."

Gerlow offered farmers a "mixed bag" regarding the outlook and price for rice. Despite a 34 percent reduction in U.S. rice acreage this year due to PIK and possible yield reductions due to weather problems, the U.S. rice picture is still plagued by the largest carryover stocks in history largely due to a sharp drop in exports—22 percent.

Current conditions reflect an average rice crop throughout the world, and that, coupled with the continued strength of the dollar abroad, means a continued poor export market.

What kind of price can Texas rice farmers expect with the approaching harvest? "Prices should average \$10 to \$11 per hundredweight for the most part," said Gerlow. "That may not be enough to keep some of you in business, but it's the best you can expect until economic conditions improve."

"The hardest thing for people, especially our lawmakers, to understand is that farmers can't stay in business unless they make a profit," he said. "The American farmer can't provide grain for the rest of the world without making a profit; it's just that plain and simple."

Bogus bills found at bank

Two one-dollar bills with corners taped on from \$20 bills have been discovered at the First National Bank here.

The bank therefore is alerting people to closely monitor their money to avoid accepting possibly counterfeit paper money.

According to Barbara Miller, the bank also has found a \$100 bill, with one corner cut off, indicating someone might possibly try

to pass a one dollar bill as a \$100. Miller is guessing that someone has cut one corner each off four \$100s, so those four still can be legally passed. The four cut corners then are taped on a one-dollar bill, to make it look like the \$100.

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