

Eagle Lake Headlight

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Rice twirlers, flag corps members pick up honors

The Rice High School Flag Corps, eight of the nine twirlers and Drum Major Valerie Benge earned multiple honors last week when they participated in the Marching Auxiliaries Camp at Elgin College in Brenham.

The Monday through Thursday sessions gave the girls time to study various routines concerning the latest in line techniques. On two of the nights, the flag corps and twirlers were given individual evaluations on the routines learned. Awards were rated with a blue "superior" ribbon, a red "excellent" ribbon or a gold "good" ribbon.

The flag corps earned 12 superior ribbons and four excellent ribbons.

The twirlers earned eleven superior and five excellent ribbons.

The drum major was evaluated all three nights and earned three superior ribbons.

Each night spirit batons were presented to the groups who displayed the most effort throughout that day. The Rice flag girls won it all three nights, the twirlers two nights and the drum major one night.

"All-star" ribbons were presented to individuals who worked the hardest during the camp. All eight of the twirlers received this honor, as did Deborah Soto, Delores Soto and Laura Dupree of the flag corps.

On Thursday, the final day of the camp, the Grand Champion competition was held. Rice competed with such schools as Yates, Clements, Dulles, Madison, Stromman and Victoria. They presented one of their routines before a judges, the other participants and many parents. Again, the Rice

Artists ask to join Waterfowl Festival

Both space for the second annual Eagle Lake Waterfowl Festival already is "sold out" and the festival isn't even scheduled until November 8-10, according to organizers of the event.

"It is great to know the word has gotten around," Pat Meisen, waterfowl festival art coordinator, said Tuesday. After just the first year, artists were calling her to reserve booth space, a statement she and others believe shows how successful and popular the weekend has become. Two artists from out of state have made reservations to show their work.

The idea for the festival originated several years ago when the Revitalize Eagle Lake group formed and kicked around festival ideas. AprilFest was born as a hometown celebration, and the Waterfowl Festival was originated to attract out of towners.

Again this year, the Friday, November 8th, event will be the art preview and auction at the community center, with festival events Saturday and Sunday.

Last year, the center was comfortably arranged with booths for artists who displayed an impressive array of waterfowl art from carved birds to oil paintings. This year, Mrs. Meisen said all space available for booths will be filled.

Some of the new exhibitors this year include Bill McGinn with paintings and sculpture; Jerry Neuman of Beaumont, a well known artist with very good works; woodcarver Carvey Gray of La Porte who has won many shows; and Geoffrey Holman of Wisconsin who read about last year's festival in a widely-circulated publication.

Dr. Ed Miller who exhibited with Dick and Sissy Hill last year, has a booth for his gallery, Wildlife Unlimited of Houston. He will show some of the works of a California artist who works not only with waterfowl art, but underwater creatures as well. Mrs. Meisen said his wood carvings of salt-water fish make them look as vibrant and real as the wood

Crimestoppers type program sought here

A crime stoppers program for the Eagle Lake area is being formed by Police Chief Ben Johnson, to help solve cases the local police department is investigating.

Johnson said Monday the idea of the program is to create financial resources to reward residents who provide information that helps the department recover stolen or illegal items, as well as help convict criminals.

Johnson said a five member citizens task force will be formed by the end of July to help define program objectives, define how it will operate, and then to oversee its administration. One purpose of the committee is to provide the department with an unbiased, outside governing body to make sure rules are followed and that reward money is properly dispersed.

In other cities where similar programs have been developed, Johnson said there is an increase in information available to police investigators. This has proven to be a tremendous advantage in solving crimes from minor burglaries to murder.

Informants who telephone the police department do not identify themselves, but are assigned a contact number. When their information leads to the recovery of items, or leads to the arrest and indictment of individuals, then a cash reward is made available to them, still without the need to be identified.

There is some money available now if area residents can provide information helpful to current or past investigations. The telephone number is 234-2727. Ask for chief Johnson, who will be the department's only "crimestoppers" contact.

Johnson now is recruiting committee members; he asks that if anyone is interested in serving on the committee, please contact him. An account will be established at the First National Bank where donations will be deposited. Donations are tax deductible and may be made at the bank.

Church to sell tamales Friday

Homemade hot tamales will be sold at the home of Nannie Jo Castle, 108 S. Duval, in Eagle Lake this Friday, June 27 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for \$4 a dozen.

Proceeds will go towards the 50th anniversary of Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church in July 7. Donations will be accepted.

Committee members include Nannie Jo Castle, Evelyn Ashton, Marion Woolridge, Carolyn Perry, Sedalia Stewart and Rev. R. Kiser, pastor.

Reward offered after Hair Center burglary

Melissa McGee-Angus said Monday she is offering a reward for information concerning a break-in over the weekend at her Hair Center in the newly rebuilt Ice House property.

She said someone entered the building through a small window sometime Saturday night or early Sunday. The burglary is more of a nuisance than a loss, she indicated; one of the items taken was an electronic machine useless to someone not in the hair care business, and another item was a box of earrings and other costume jewelry that has a lot of personal value. A few other items also were taken.

She said the reward is for the arrest and conviction of the person involved, and for return of the items taken.

Eagle Lake police also are investigating another break-in at Coastal Contracting. Chief Ben Johnson said several items were taken.

If you haven't noticed, you should take the time for a stroll around the city's municipal building. The Civic Garden Club recently installed its park benches, purchased with funds the club earned at its Bulb Mart last year. The new oak and iron park benches reflect the past, herald the future and host present visitors to the city square. The benches mark the completion of another phase of the Eagle

Lake Civic Garden Club's "Care for Your City" Campaign. Plans are being made for this Fall's Bulb Mart which primarily will feature tulips, hyacinth, irises, daffodils and ranunculus. The sale will be open to the public during October. But, private orders may be placed between June 26 and July 9 by contacting any garden club member. Pre-orders guarantee delivery and quantity.

Door knocking a part of the Sweeney style

Congressman Mac Sweeney (R-14) met several Eagle Lake residents Sunday as he continued his style of representation by knocking on doors and soliciting opinions of the electorate.

Before his local tour, he discussed several issues with The Headlight, and revealed several new ideas in his effort to keep in touch with as many people in his district as possible.

He said he disagrees with the Reagan Administration's farm program, advocating long term solutions; he is forming a Columbus Dam study group; will soon form a "surrogate" congressman program and establish a blue ribbon commission in each district town, and he discussed his time-consuming role as a member of the committees he sits on in Washington.

Overall, Sweeney, a native of Wharton, stressed his need to keep in touch with local issues. Saturday's football event near Seely is just one example.

That, he said, is the beginning of the surrogate representative program that will bring Washington and the residents of the 14th district of Texas closer together. In other areas of the district this year, Sweeney has called upon former president Gerald Ford, and vice president George Bush to help attract attention.

"It would be easy for me to sit in Washington, D.C., and

define the needs of the people of the district," he said. "But they would not be your needs or desires." The best way to insure your needs are heard is to involve you in the process, he said. "I wouldn't want to be in Washington just to vote on national issues," he added.

Therefore, Saturday's program kicks off the establishment of the surrogate congressman program. The 22 district counties have been divided into sections, with one of four representatives in each section. That representative, who will report local issues and opinions to Sweeney, is the surrogate who will form a citizen's task force in each of 90 larger cities, including Eagle Lake. As many as perhaps 20 people will be asked to serve on the task force, to be called Lone Star Councils.

The council, he said, will be pretty balanced groups, too, including Democrats. "It's not a political patronage thing," as a congressman represents everyone, and everyone should have a voice.

That will not excuse him from his weekend jaunts from city to city, visiting his fellow Texans in their homes, and listening to their comments. Unlike other representatives, he has made regular visits to Eagle Lake since he started campaigning last year, and plans to continue doing so. His weekly travel schedule calls for three and a half days in

Washington, three days in Texas, and the rest on airplanes. "I don't come here (to Eagle Lake) any more than other parts of the district," he said. We visit six to nine cities every week, and about every ten weeks we can start the circuit again.

Columbus Dam Although he didn't specifically link the Lone Star Council idea with the Columbus Dam, he did say his representative in this area will form a special commission there to study the dam proposal. Community leaders, people for and against the dam, and some people who may be undecided about the issue will be involved. He said the idea will be for the group to look at all the information available, so they can research different dimensions of it. Sweeney will bring in experts from Washington, such as the deputy assistant secretary of the interior. The idea is to get the local citizens involved.

Saturday he met in LaGrange with LCRA officials, and although he didn't talk much about the dam, did tell the quasi-governmental organization that it had better operate openly, and in the public eye. "What they do and the decisions they make should be wholly in public view," he said he told them.

Attwater visitors center Sweeney said his office was

contacted late last week by Eagle Lake residents seeking information on the long-proposed visitors center for the Attwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge. Last Thursday, Helen Farris spoke to the Eagle Lake Noon Lions Club about her involvement in the historical hotels association (she is president elect) and other aspects of the tourist industry.

She suggested that Eagle Lake area residents lobby for the visitor's center, to create another economic entity for this part of Colorado County. She said the center was proposed about five years ago, but that it has not received much of a push from this area. A new visitors center recently was built in South Texas, and Farris stressed that should one be built here, thousands of tourist would be attracted to this area with dollars spent in the local economy.

Sweeney, formerly a White House employee in the Reagan administration, said he would use his contacts in the Department of the Interior to investigate whether the center ever reached beyond the proposal stage.

Agriculture Some of the many-faceted problems with agriculture Sweeney mentioned are that the administration is biased toward short-term programs; the USDA is structured mostly for domestic markets, while other countries stress inter-

Sweeney plans football fun

It may not be the time of year to think about football, but Saturday near Seely some famous names from the sport will be helping youngsters. Tickets are available at The Headlight office, and will be available at the gate.

Kemp and Dickerson will be joined by other famous football players from the area. Included are Johnny Johnson of the Los Angeles Rams and a former LaGrange Leopard; Cleveland Franklin of the Baltimore Colts and a former Brenham Cub; Simon Fletcher of the Denver Broncos and a former Bay City Black Cat; and Bobby Johnson of the New Orleans Saints and a former LaGrange Leopard.

"Congressman Kemp, Dickerson and the other players from our area are excellent examples of the type of dedication that a competitive sport like football fosters in an individual," Sweeney said. "They all are proud Americans who strive for the best in their own lives, and we who admire them gain from their achievements."

Describing the event, Sweeney said "We want football fans of all ages to attend. We plan a full day of activities including an auction and raffle. There will be plenty of food and drink for the whole family, and for the children we will have puns, past, kick and cheerleading competition."

"Kickoff time" will be 11 a.m. at the Cryan Ranch. To get there, take I-10 west out of Seely about five miles to the Beckwith Exit and follow the signs. For more information call 212-276-6132 in Victoria.

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