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Free adult night classes available

Free adult night classes, for high school diploma equivalents and for English as a second language, are being offered at the Eagle Lake Middle School starting this week.

The classes began this Wednesday (Sept. 11) and will be held on Monday and Wednesday nights from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Late registrations will be accepted. Visit the Middle School or call 234-3501.

"If you do not have a high school certificate, and would like to have your G.E.D., come join us," ELMHS principal Charles Abel said.

"If you have a friend who would like to learn English as a second language, bring them along," he said.

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Sports

Sweeny game at 7:30 p.m.

Raider's El Campo smash first in eight-year school series

Four of the six teams in the Rice Raider's district 26-3A opened their 1985 football campaign last Friday night on winning notes, with Rice taking charge of the 4A El Campo Ricebirds for the first time in eight years.

As one observer said after the game in Raider Stadium, it doesn't matter what you say about the El Campo team - with a pre-season report indicating this is the Ricebirds' weakest team in years - the Raider win was impressive.

Next week's Raider test against 3A Sweeny will provide another clue to the real strength of the Rice school district home team. Although a win never is a sure thing especially in high school sports, a Raider triumph over Sweeny, may point Rice toward its first perfect season in the school's history.

Friday night's opener saw the Raiders score three touchdowns in the first quarter, hold the Ricebirds to 12 points in the second quarter for their only score, and let Rice play most of the final quarter with the second team offense on the field.

In between, Raider offense and defensive teams worked their team-play concept. About the best El Campo could do was to keep looking for ground.

El Campo took the opening kick-off but managed only three plays before punting. Rice then used its ground attack and seven plays later made the first score with Dennis Hemphill diving over right tackle for the final four yards. Cleve Scott's blocking was a contributing factor in that final play.

Kicker Greg King came on the field for the first of five successful extra-point boots. He was "discovered" in the last regular game of the 1984 season, coming up from the JV team and managing an 8 for 9 record before the uniforms were put away for the year.

The Ricebirds received the kick after the score, but fumbled on their third down. Defensive end Mickey Scott recovered on the El Campo 35. Again quarterback David Morgan kept the ball on the ground. Five plays later he scored from the two.

After another El Campo fumble on third down, Rice's Cornell Hard recovered on the 27. This time Morgan scored from the one. With the first quarter not yet complete, the Raiders lead 21-0.

El Campo then took to the air, since their running attack had been slim. They had a measure of success, completing eight passes over several series. Twice they went into the end zone. The first was a 45-yard drive ending with El Campo quarterback Billy Rioux scoring from the one. Their first extra point attempt was blocked by Hemphill, so they attempted a two-point conversion after Rioux scored the second TD on a 7 play 67 yard drive, but it too failed.

Morgan then tossed a pass to Hemphill on a 3rd-down-and-20 play not only scoring, but tying his school best past last season of 85 yards.

After Hemphill continued to add to his excellent performance by running the second half kick-off back for the fifth Rice Score, the Raider defense also

kept up its star performance. Big Ernest Lemmons bounced a Ricebird receiver for a 9-yard loss on a screen play. The Raiders continued knocking El Campo passes out of the air.

The final Raider score came with only seconds to go in the game. First team offense rested while junior Arthur Foster became team leader at quarterback. He took the ball ten yards downfield before pitching to Calvin Stovall who went the other 19 yards for the score.

This was the second time Morgan has thrown for more than 100 yards. Out of the five attempts, he hit three for 131 yards and a score. Foster threw once, but it was intercepted. El Campo on the other hand attempted 20 passes, connected

only 11 times and gained only 127 yards.

Showing Rice has a balanced running and passing game, Hemphill wasn't the only ball handler. Another memorable second half play was a Morgan to Raymond Thomas pass. The throw was slightly long, but Thomas tipped it, then kept his eye on the ball, hauling it in before he hit the ground. Opponents will have to prepare for an all around game, not knowing whether the Rice attack will be on the ground or in the air.

On defense, leading tacklers were Rodney Williams with 13; Foster with 12; Lemmons with 11; Hurd with eight including a sack and fumble recovery; Thomas with seven, Mickey

Scott with six and Cleve Scott with six including two sacks and a fumble recovery.

Cleve Scott took the ball up field 12 times, one more than Hemphill, for 42 yards. Hemphill was credited with 84 yards. Morgan carried eight times for 27 yards. Billie King and Mickey Scott each carried four times for 7 and four yards respectively. Calvin Stovall carried three times for 25 yards, and Foster and Thomas both carried once for 10 and seven yards respectively.

Hemphill's catch was a 70 yard reception; Thomas' catch was a 32 yard gain and Rodney Williams also caught one for 29 yards. Dean Faichtinger hit 31 yards on the Raider lone punt.



Not an easy game

The Raiders may have won with a 29-point margin, but the Ricebirds weren't pushovers. The final score was 41-12.

Team	Won	Lost	Tied	Percent Points Points			El Campo
				Won	Scored	At'wd	
RICE	1	0	0	100.00	41	12	17
H'LTSVL	1	0	0	100.00	34	0	44/206
YOKUM	1	0	0	100.00	34	8	4
COLUMB	1	0	0	100.00	27	18	34-131
GONZALS	0	1	0	0.00	13	48	1
EDNA	0	1	0	0.00	0	31	337
EDNA	0	1	0	0.00	0	31	1-31.0

Rice district teams win four; Sweeny next opponent

The Rice Raiders weren't the only winners last Friday night as the 1985 school boy gridiron season opened play.

Four of the six teams in Rice's District 26-3A also were winners. Columbus managed a win over Giddings, 27-15; Hallettsville beat Ganado 34-0; Yoakum topped the La Grange

Leopards 34-8, while the Rice Raiders whipped 4A El Campo 41-12. Edna lost to Cuero 31-0, while Gonzales lost to New Braunfels Canyon 48-13.

With each team using pre-district games to sharpen their skills with an eye on the state play-offs, the current win-loss column is less important now but it does show what a team

can do.

Next week, the Raiders travel to Sweeny which also was a winner last Friday. They topped 4A Columbia 14-6. The Columbus Cardinals play Brookshire Royal at home. Edna hosts Industrial; Gonzales hosts Cuero. Yoakum hosts Luling and Hallettsville travels to Smithville.



Alligator season

This 380 pound alligator was hooked last Friday in the gravel pits west of Eagle Lake, then displayed for this picture. From left, the hunters are Steve Bales who bagged the catch, assisted by Davis Waddell, Jimmy Thomas and Stand Lee of Barrington, Illinois. The opening day 'gator measured 10-foot, 9-inches

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