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PREMIUM RIPE

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3.99

LBS. FOR

CALIFORNIA SEEDLESS

Navel Oranges

EXTRA LARGE

3.99

LBS. FOR

PLUMP RED RIPE

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39¢

PINT BASKET

TASTY TENDER

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8 OZ. PKG.

TEXAS 1015 VARIETY

Sweet Onions

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LBS. FOR

CALIFORNIA

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TEXAS FIRM

Cabbage

PREMIUM

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BUCK

California Lemons

ASSORTED FLAVORS

Refreshing Coca Cola

\$1.09

2 LTR. BTL.

FRESH

TV Wheat Sandwich Bread

69¢

24 OZ. LOAF









Last chance to win a truck

Story on Page 8

Aprilfest poster winners

Named on Page 8

Posters on Page 12

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Victoria Darden
Valedictorian



Tina Grahmann
Salutatorian

Darden, Grahmann named top students for RHS class of '86

The valedictorian, salutatorian and the ten other honor graduates of Rice High School's class of 1986 were announced Monday by principal Fred Grahmann and counselor D.R. Wright.

Victoria Darden, daughter of Clifton and Beth Darden of Sheridan, has earned the highest honor of Valedictorian, and Tina Grahmann, daughter of Fred and Sharon Grahmann of Rock Island, earned the honor of salutatorian.

The other top honor graduates are Laura Appelt, daughter of William and Lynda Appelt of Eagle Lake; Valerie Benge, daughter of Major and Sandra Benge of Eagle Lake; Peter Canaris, son of Pete and Janette Canaris of Eagle Lake; Teresa Havens, daughter of James and Charlene Lawson of Sheridan; Mario Hernandez, son of Baldomaro and Maria Hernandez of Garwood; Susan Kaluza, daughter of Johnnie and Mary Kaluza of Eagle Lake; Sandra Korenek, daughter of John and Virginia Korenek of Garwood; Travis Richter, son of Larry and Jeanie Richter of Eagle Lake; Beverly Rucka, daughter of Wilhelmina Rucka and the late Ervin Rucka of Eagle Lake; and Darlene Stanick, daughter of Melvin and Joyce Stanick of Eagle Lake.

Honor graduate pictures on Page 12

Lake. The honor graduates are listed in alphabetical order and actual grade-point standings are not made public.

Graduation this year at Rice High School is scheduled Thursday, May 29, at 8 p.m. Other important dates for seniors include the annual Academic Awards banquet on May 12 at 7:30 p.m., and May 27 and 28 for Senior Exams.

According to information provided by students, Miss Darden will attend Texas A&M University in the fall, and will major in civil engineering. She has earned a place on the Honor Roll for her four years at Rice, has received numerous awards, and has been an active participant in many of the school's extra-curricular activities.

Miss Grahmann will be attending Victoria College in the fall to major in pre-pharmacy. She plans to attend the College of Pharmacy at the University of Texas at Austin. She also has attended RHS for four years and has been very active in the school's extra-curricular activities.

Airport options still issue for city council committee

The discussion of what to do with the city's option on \$80,000 worth of property at the end of the airport runway at the Municipal Airport continued Tuesday night as the new council met for the second time since the election.

While voters turned thumbs down on increasing their taxes to buy that land and make runway extension improvements, debate continues on whether more should be read into the vote. For instance, several at the meeting said they also think voters told the city that it should do nothing with the facility.

Since the city holds a soon-to-expire option on the land, the agenda included discussion of the airport. After the option with Joe Frazar (which the city purchased for \$55,000) expires on May 28, there is no guarantee the city ever again will be able to purchase the land for a reasonable price.

Council also acted on the first reading of an ordinance to install a stop sign at the intersection of Lake

and Davitt streets, and held the first public hearing of the year on an application to obtain \$400,000 for drainage work in the Rice Mill area.

A fourth agenda item, appointment of standing council committees, was tabled.

Two factions attended the meeting to speak up about the airport. One represented the Eagle Lake Industrial Foundation, and the other represented those who do not support airport expansion.

Mayor Lanny Powers read three possibilities for the future of the airport... 1. Let the option with Frazar expire without taking action; 2. Purchase the land by paying \$75,000 from available city funds, causing no increase in taxes to city residents; and 3. Ask the voters to go to the polls to express their opinion on the airport bond question again.

Powers said he felt it was an error to include the bond questions with the mayoral election on April 5th, causing the issue to become entwined with personalities.

Dale Cassidy told council they should let the option expire, and bring up the issue some other time in the future. The timing was wrong, he said... You were elected to represent all of the people, he said, and the majority have expressed their opinion against the bond question.

Gene Baker also attended the meeting and suggested council take no further action.

After Mayor Powers read a letter from the Industrial foundation, which said the shareholders voted 26-1 with one abstention, to urge the city to at least purchase the land, Don Bendy explained further: We are doing everything we can think of to make Eagle Lake attractive for businesses to locate here. Improving the airport is no guarantee, but we do know that there are at least two or three people willing to purchase land at the airport so the city can recoup some of its investment, and that a longer runway will increase hunting season business, which will improve the Eagle Lake economy.

Powers appointed a committee of Case Holub, Mike Duarte and Joe Duncan to meet with him and city manager Robert Klockman. They are to detail the positive and negative aspects of further airport work, and report at council's May 13 meeting.

In other business, council:
△ Learned from Klockman that he has received several copies of ordinances from other communities that have dangerous and dilapidated building ordinances. He said many are tied in with building code ordinances, and that he should have a complete report to council perhaps as early as the end of the week.

△ Learned that the city has cleaned the ditch on Santa Fe railroad right-of-way at the end of 4th St. in the "flat" area of the city. Duarte also asked that the ditch opposite the Monroe Briscoe home be cleaned and aligned for proper drainage so rice-field water doesn't flood the area.

△ Learned that an appropriate

Continued on Page 8

AprilFest proves to be a fun weekend for young and old

Looks apparently were deceiving for this weekend's fourth annual AprilFest. While it seems there were more than the normal amount of negative rumors floating around about the success or failure of the event, perhaps mainly due to the fewer number of rides at the carnival, organizers said Tuesday the weekend was a profitable one for Revitalize Eagle Lake, Inc.

Attendance was good at Friday night's Mexican dinner, Little Miss and Mr. Contest, and auction at the Community Center, and on Saturday the Queen's contest was successfully staged after being moved to the Prairie Edge Museum because of the winds on the prairie. There were 14 cooking teams in the barbecue cook-off Saturday afternoon. The K.C. fairgrounds, and other events included good participation.

When it comes down to the bottom of money the festival did make, which is the reason for the event, co-chairmen Becky Anderson and Anna Mae Wiese said a final accounting should be available Tuesday night at a post-weekend meeting. However, both indicated that "we made money this year," perhaps as much as one or two thousand dollars.

There were general complaints expressed about the carnival, which has a multi-year contract with AprilFest. At a meeting with carnival operators Monday afternoon, there was some debate about whether the contract called for specific rides. The carnival people said some rides preferred to set up in San Antonio for their heavily attended festivities.

Harry McDonald, carnival owner, said he planned to bring the rides as much as a week in advance next year, so similar problems won't be repeated.

Except for the complaints, festival volunteers said they were well pleased with this year's event, considering the move to new grounds and new events staged: here is a summary of results, events and winners.

Auction: Connie Lange, chairman, reported that \$2,415.50 was raised from the sales of more than 40 items donated by area businesses. Mrs. Lange and Heidi Mills recorded purchases, while Candy McCreary and Mark Anderson served as spotters for auctioneer Joe H. McCreary.

Little Mr. and Miss: The new Little Miss Eagle Lake is Sunny Gertson, 6, daughter of Ralph and Connie Gertson; runner up was Rebecca Anne Barrow, 8, daughter of Randy and Carolyn Barrow; third was Kristi Gail Gertson, 8, daughter of Darrell and Gail Gertson; fourth was

Courtney Renee Parker, 7, daughter of Mrs. Katherine Parker, and fifth was Shara Glazier, 7, daughter of Gary and Betty Glazier. Little Mr. Eagle Lake is Blake Canaris, 7, son of Dan and Sue Canaris; second was Lance Grigar, son of Mike and Melody Grigar, and third was Christopher Alan Toliver, 8, son of Floyd and Vivian Toliver. Lynda Appelt interviewed each contest, and the judges were Francine Salak of East Bernard, Diana Wunderlich of Sheridan and Cathy Blymyer of Columbus. Margo Harrison was chairman.

Major Benge provided musical entertainment while judges were making their decision, and for the Mexican dinner.

Miss AprilFest: Renee Bala was crowned Miss AprilFest at the Prairie Edge Museum on Saturday.

Pictures & Story on Page 8, 12

Reed tells kids: effort brings reward

Houston Rocket star Robert Reed made his second stop in Eagle Lake last week to show area youngsters that efforts pay off.

"You was something? You have to work for it!" he told the audience of about 100 people in the Community Center on Tuesday evening of last week, April 15.

The event was the second annual Youth Benefit organized by Wilma Tillman through the Greater Rising Star Baptist Church. MC for the evening was the church's pastor, the Rev. Ollie Scott.

Also included in the program was another fashion show narrated by Claudine Shorter, as well as some beautiful music. Also introduced and offering a few words to the audience was Dr. Russell Thomas, Dr. Jose Ugarte, Roy Van Nort and commissioner candidates Paul Causey and Sonny Spambel.

Accompanying Reed was fellow Rocket Craig Ehlo, who echoed Reed's remarks, and added that unless a person knows he can try, he can't even find out how successful he or she may be. Because the group presented Reed with a plaque of appreciation last year, Miss Tillman had this year's thank you plaque inscribed with Ehlo's name, and made the presentation to him.

Before he spoke, Reed talked with fans from the audience who visited with him at the head table. He told

Picture on Page 7

one that he makes trips to the smaller towns like Eagle Lake because people in those areas look up to athletic stars as much as metropolitan residents, but don't get the chance to see them. He said he hopes that the youngsters, who can see him in person, can have a better perspective of reality when thinking about a very successful person, such as an athletic star. In person, Reed said, they can see we are no different than anyone else... and we can tell them in person that if it wasn't for hard work and effort, we wouldn't be here either.

After he described two mythical job applicants, he asked members of the audience a hypothetical question. One character he described as sloppily dressed who said he should get the job because he needed the "bread." Reed described the other as well dressed, and said he told the job interviewer that while his education may not have been as complete as others, he would appreciate being named to the job so he could learn, and do more in the future. The audience said they would have hired the second applicant.

That shows you, Reed said, that when you believe in yourself, others can believe in you too.

Free Home Security survey available

Attendance slim but information plentiful at Wednesday's Crime Prevention Seminar

The audience for last week's crime prevention program at the Eagle Lake Middle School may have been thin, but the amount of useful information provided was more than adequate to help home and business owners understand how to take preventive measures to protect themselves and their property.

Eagle Lake Police Chief Ben Johnson recently attended a two week long crime prevention seminar and set up the local program to help people stop crimes before they happen.

Even if you didn't attend last week, the local insurance agencies in

Eagle Lake have made it possible for the police department to print a 30-page manual that is available, summarizing many of the topics presented last Wednesday evening. In the introduction of the free booklet, Chief Johnson said "An effort by you, the citizen, together with your Police Department, can effectively reduce crime. Eagle Lake is a great place to live and work. Together we can make it better."

The department is offering free Home Security Surveys to be conducted by home owners and a local police officer. The survey will reveal security measures you can take

to make your home more crime proof, and if it qualifies, also can make you eligible for a five percent reduction on your home insurance.

What is crime prevention? "While we cannot prescribe a poison or cure-all to stop burglaries or thefts, there are ways to discourage them and to minimize the chances of a crime happening to you or your family," Johnson said. The foreword to the book also explains why crime prevention is important.

It explains that in one major city, the police department studied what happened when patrolling by police

officers was greatly increased in one neighborhood, kept at normal levels in a second area and practically eliminated in a third area. There was no difference in the crime rate between the three areas.

"The conclusion this leads to is that patrol is not the answer to preventing crime," Johnson said. Crime prevention measures, and increase alertness of citizens, can provide the help needed to reduce crime statistics.

Speakers on the Wednesday program included district attorney

Continued on Page 8

Voters to pick Democratic candidates May 3

Area voters who will be casting ballots in the Democratic Primary race this year will be asked to make several important local choices on May 3rd, including the nomination of the one of three men for Precinct Four commissioner, who will face Republican opposition in this Fall's general election.

While the ballot will be long, because of state races, the other races that directly affect county voters include county clerk and county treasurer. All justices of the peace set up for election too, but face no opposition.

In a wider perspective, the multi-county state representative district 30 race includes incumbent Robert Saunders of La Grange, and challengers Dan Buie of Elgin and Ed Janacka of Weimar.

Candidates questioned At the Headlight did in the city elections, the three Democratic candidates for county precinct four commissioners have been questioned, and their answers are printed this week on Page Three. Although there were more issues in the city mayoral election, making the questions easier

to write, the commissioner election can be just as important. We hope the information provided serves as a public service, so voters can make informed decisions.

The three polling places for Democrats of Precinct Four will be in Altair, Alleton and Eagle Lake. The city polling place, traditionally found at the Community center has been moved to the Eagle Lake municipal building because of a prior commitment at the community center. The other precinct four voting places are at the Gene Evans residence in Alleton and at

Crossroads grocery in Altair. A complete list of county polling places, for Democratic as well as Republican primaries, and sample ballots, will be printed in next week's Headlight. The precinct two commissioner seat now held by Rafael Venetka of Weimar also is up for election, and Venetka faces a tough challenge by Busch Strunk of Oakland.

For county clerk, Connie Iles, Darlene Hayes and Dennis Wagner are seeking the nomination to replace Annie Franta, who is retiring.