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Slippery Ball

Just as the Rice Raider freshman team took to the scrimmage field last Friday in Altair, showers hit the field. With the ball slippery from the rain, it popped loose just as this picture was taken.



Lisa Brown receives Texas A&I Scholarship

Lisa Brown, former Rice High School basketball and track standout, has won one of the first special scholarships awarded by Texas A&I University at Kingsville.

Known as the 50/50 Scholarships, the first two have been awarded to encourage enrollment of students who will contribute to the university in extracurricular activities as well as academics, according to admissions director Ray Broglie.

The scholarships are open only to incoming freshmen who have at least a 2.4 grade point average in high school and who finished in the top 50 percent of their graduating class.

Brown is a 5-10 guard on the A&I Javelina basketball team, and a long and triple jumper in track. She was all-district in basketball and state qualifier in track while at Rice Consolidated. She finished in the top third of her graduating class with a 3.2 grade point average. She is the daughter of Mrs. Yvonne Sue Williams of Houston.

The other 50/50 scholarship went to Michael Hudlow of Rockville, Md. He is a member of the A&I football team, is 6-4 and weighs 218 pounds.

The scholarships also are based on the student's participation in activities such as athletics, art, music, etc., according to Broglie.

Lookin' competitive Raider teams take to field

Last Friday night the three Rice High School Raider football teams took to the field of Raider Stadium for the first time this year to knock heads with an out of town competitor.

Kinkaid, the private Houston school that is about the same size as Rice, was the opponent. Ten-year RSHS veteran Clifton Darden, athletic director and head coach, likes to start with that team. "In three years of scrimmages, I don't think I've heard a curse-word here on the field from either team," Darden said proudly Friday evening. That's the kind of image Darden likes to teach his charges.

Although it was only a scrimmage, it was time for the 1986 version of the Freshman, Junior Varsity and Varsity football teams to get serious about playing the game. Earlier in the week Head Coach Clifton Darden said he thought the boys had the right attitude, but were lacking in enthusiasm.

Neither was the case Friday night on any of the teams.

Freshmen look real tough!

The youngest team, the Raider Freshmen, were the first to take to the field about 5 p.m. Under the leadership of Dusty Lowe, and undaunted by an afternoon shower, the boys smoothly powered their way down field.

In fact, they were so smooth most of the time that if you didn't know they were a freshman team, you probably wouldn't have guessed.

Defensively, the young Raiders weren't to be pushed around either. Although Kinkaid could move the ball, they couldn't move it very far. The Rice defense, however, did allow two pass completions near the end of their session.

Assistant coaches Jack Sanders and Kirk Ellis, starting their first season with the Raiders, didn't hesitate to point out Casey Clifton and Dewayne Dopslauf as defensive standouts either.

Offensively, Ulahe Johnson, the athletic standout from coach Dennis Jackson's Eagle Lake Middle School '85 team, looks like a good possibility for a future varsity star. If Friday night's effort was an example, he will be a better running back than former RSHS star Rob Johnson, who is his nephew. Ulahe broke through

the Kinkaid line several times for long downfield runs.

Kyle Perry is a promising freshman also, and strongly added to the Raider Freshman offense. With those two running the ball, the Freshman from RSHS look to make it through the season with a winning record.

With another scrimmage next week before opening the season Sept. 4th in Cuero, coaches are still looking for a quarterback. Deon Williams and Clay Sontag are vying for the role.

Looking at the junior varsity performance Friday night, it is easy to see the improvement over their efforts last year as Freshmen.

In a scrimmage, each team gets two chances on offense. The first time they run 20 plays in a row before switching, and then they run 10 play each. They do get to run more plays if their last series includes a march and they keep making first downs.

The Raider JV defense allowed at least seven first downs in the first go around, and the offense countered with four of their own.

Overall, Kinkaid punched the ball into the end zone twice and the Raiders were unable to score.

Coach Jesse Biffert allowed Tiger Pratt to quarterback. Pratt proves to be a field leader, chugging up field himself, or pitching out to another runner. His passing might use a little improvement, but it wasn't off the mark all that much.

Louis Richardson, Scott Ripper, Brian Balas and Raymond Perkins all broke runs of nearly ten yards or more.

When the varsity takes to the field for the season opener Sept. 5 at home against Cuero, it looks like the strong suit will be defense.

Neither varsity team cross the goal line last Friday night, and it was easy to see that offensive lines were being pushed around with relative ease.

For the raider side, Coach Darden said he felt the defensive players were shaping up just where they ought to be at this stage of the game. Michael Rhodes, Brian Hayek continue their good defensive tackle play from last year, and Johnell Duggins, Ernest Lemmons and Mickey Scott are

Varsity defense strong

working hard at the defensive linebacker slots.

Scott has been working for two years now on a personal body-building program that will serve him well on the football field as well. Strength is a key ingredient of a good football player. Mickey's personal work at the Eagle Lake Fitness Center builds the muscle strength he needs, and it is done with personal dedication. "That will spill over to his play on the football field," Darden said.

Darden also said that Greg King looked "real good" at strong safety and that Clarence Weeks and Jimmy Foster at cornerback are doing their jobs well. Not to be slighted are defensive ends Douglas Tillman and Connie Simms.

At the free safety defensive position, Arthur Foster has been doing well. Foster and Kevin Long had equal time Friday night as the field general at quarterback. Coaches still have to make a decision on which player will be the QB starter.

On offense, Hayek, Lemmons and Rhodes are back on the line, and Darden complimented Dean Faichinger on pass catching.

The switch in offensive strategy this year may give Faichinger a chance to catch a few more this year.

In discussions, Darden is promoting the change as a move from the wishbone to the veer offense. Actually, the two are similar.

The Raiders will be keeping the triple option in their playbook putting the quarterback in the looking-judging-thinking mode.

"We are working with two running backs now (Mickey Scott and Douglas Tillman). The veer also gives us a chance to get three receivers deep quickly and from that I think we will have a better passing attack," Darden said after watching films Saturday morning.

Darden couldn't help but comment on the Kinkaid defensive line. One player, tackle No. 108, is tall and huge. The Kinkaid athletic director calls him the best lineman he has worked with, and also said their nose guard and the other tackle also are top players. With a defense like that to look at on your first offensive scrimmage it is easy to see why the Raider offense had the opportunity to experience game-like conditions.

Thursday, August 28, 1986

The Eagle Lake Headlight

Back to School, Page 1

The only thing constant is change!

Each year The Headlight produces our special Back-To-School Editions for the benefit of area merchants and school patrons.

This year, we find that (with a few exceptions) returning students will find fewer changes. In the recent past schools have been greatly affected by the changes wrought in Texas by the Legislature. Although some parts of legislation still are to go into effect this year, they are fewer in number. Students, this year particularly, can get down to the job of being educated.

There are changes, however, and they are covered in this issue. Our thanks to the advertisers who make this issue possible.

This Week...
RHS; Garwood School; St. Anthony's in Columbus, and St. Mary's in Nada.

Rice High School changes for '86-'87 not in easy view

Back to school at Rice High School doesn't mean students will see too much different, according to principal Fred Grahmann.

But, there are items students, parents and teachers will be coping with to start the new year.

"For the first time, the entire student body is going to be exposed to the Discipline Management Plan," Grahmann said. That plan is another legislative requirement. It spells out what's against the rules, what can be done about it, and the role the school, student and parent play in it.

The plan was written last year, submitted to the state education agency for approval, and now is ready for implementation.

The parts of the many-page document that directly affect the student now are included in the student handbook. Grahmann prepares each year for students.

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Parents to acknowledge receipt of student handbook.

As such, the principal says, the part of the discipline management plan in the student handbook becomes a code of conduct. The first day of school, in the first period of the day, students will be given the handbook, and are required to take it home and show it to the parent. Inside the front cover is a sheet the parent must sign that they acknowledge receiving the booklet, that they are aware of the rules, and that they agree to abide by them.

That letter must be returned to the school and are kept on file. If the state gets serious about enforcing its rules, the school then can point to the copy on file as proof it is following along.

Another new item is the fact this is the year seniors can't graduate without passing the test called Texas Educational Assessment of Mastery Skills. It is supposed to show that students have learned at least the basic concepts in language and math.

At Rice, only nine members of this year's prospective spring graduates have yet to pass the math portion of the test. Those nine are scheduled to take a special class this year and will have the opportunity to take the test again.

It appears state educational authorities, in using the TEAMS test to see that basic skills are being learned, also wants to stress other basics for students. New course offerings at the high school

this year include such items as Consumer Math, Math of Consumer Problems (yes that is a different course), and Informal Geometry. Other courses new this year are Economics, Correlated English IV and Biology II.

Enrollment level

Although people claim the economy has declined drastically, enrollment at RHS doesn't appear to have changed for the 1986-87 school year. Grahmann said there are 480 students registered, which is equal to registration in previous years. Of course, registration is likely to change the first few days of school when head counts are taken. Some people may have moved from the district and not informed the school system, and others may have moved here and

not yet registered their children.

Rice High students pre-register for classes each Spring, and this Wednesday and Thursday (August 27 and 28) they have the opportunity to adjust that schedule. Grahmann said there usually are very few changes made. Students should contact the counselors to discuss changes.

Guy Beane continues as the vocational counselor, and is joined this year by Norton Shiflet, the new academic counselor. Shiflet has been a counselor for 14 years, and most recently served as principal at Moulton High School before making the commitment to return to counseling.

There are only six other new staff members. They are: Rick Ellis, coach and typing teacher.

Debbie Harhai, band director.
Shannon Hooker, coach and World History teacher.
William Lawson, teaching auto mechanics.

Jemmi Petrash, math and science teacher, and Jack Sanders, coach and physical education teacher.

Another teacher, Rosalie Latimer, will spend half a day at RHS teaching special education, and the remainder of the day at the Sheridan School.

Teacher appraisal

As implementation the legislative changes progress, one other difference in Texas education this year is the teacher appraisal system.

Grahmann, as every other principal, is

Continued on Page Three

Going Back to School

No Pass — No Play: The Rules Get Tougher!

Surprise! In spite of all the clamoring, political maneuvering and election-year double-daring, the rules regarding No Pass — No Play just got tougher. At the same time No Pass not only means No Play, but now also means No Promotion either.

Just to refresh your memory: There are rumbles of discontent among some that No Pass — No Play is unfair at least in two ways. If a student earns a failing grade in any one course during the first five six-week periods of the school year, that student no longer can play any athletics or participate in any extracurricular activities. BUT, until this year, if a student failed a course the last six-week grading period of one year, that student still could play during the first six-week period the next year.

However, the rules have changed slightly this year, and will get even tougher next year. The first change is that a student starting a

new year this year, must have earned a specified number of scholastic credits before he or she is considered a member of this year's class.

For instance: Seniors must have earned 14 credits to be considered a senior this year, even though that student has gone to high school for three years.

To be a junior, a student has to have completed 10 credits.

And to be a sophomore, a student has to have completed five credits.

If a student has not reached those credit plateaus then he or she cannot participate in athletics for the first six weeks, nor be considered a member of the class. To avoid being in one year but still being classified the same as the previous year some students attended summer school in Wharton and El Campo to pick up a credit they may have missed or failed in the past.