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7th Grade boys finish with 13-2 record

The last two outings of the season were victories for the ELMS 7th grade Raiders. On February 2 they whipped up on Belleville, 34-16. This past Monday night they won their final game of the season with an 18-9 victory over Hempstead.

ELMS jumped on Belleville for an early lead in that game, going ahead 16-3 after the first six minutes. The scoring pace slowed considerably in the remaining three quarters, but the Raiders continued to add their lead with all players seeing extended time on the court. The scores for the coming were:

Player	Points
Jesse Scott	14
Merrill Tillman	10
O'Neil Tillman	3
Patrick Middleton	2
Kevin Jackson	2
Cory Gordon	2
Brian Semora	1

When the team played at Hempstead, the scoring in the first half seemed more like an Astro box score than a basketball score as both teams struggled offensively. The score at the half was 4-3.

The scoring for the rest of the game never seemed to match the action on the court. Both teams played hustling defense, but turnovers and an almost annual lack of shooting accuracy kept the final game a low scoring victory for the Raiders. Those scorers were:

Player	Points	Rebounds
Jesse Scott	6	17
Merrill Tillman	6	13
Sammy Chavis	2	6

The 7th grade ELMS Raiders finished a highly successful season with 13 wins and two losses. The team is to be congratulated for a great season, coach Dennis Jackson said. The year was filled with success that comes from hard work. We would like to thank our fans for their support throughout the season, the coaches said.

ELMS' 8th Grade boys finish 9-6 season

The 8th grade ELMS Raider basketball team concluded its season Monday night with a 21-28 loss to Hempstead. This brings the season record to nine wins and six losses for the year.

In the Hempstead game, leaders were:

Player	Points	Rebounds
M. Norris	4	12
K. Williams	7	11
A. Dogins	4	12
K. Scott	2	6

Congratulations to all the players and thanks to all the people who supported us on a fine year of basketball, coach Dennis Jackson said Tuesday.

The eighth grade Raider boys beat the Belleville Brahmas 36-25 last week bringing their record to 9-5.

Leading players were:

Player	Points	Rebounds
J. Gonzales	7	6
Patrick Powers	11	7

Bi-District competition next week

Undeclared Raider girls are district champs!

Coach Dollie Johnson's varsity Raider basketball players brought home the district championship crown on Tuesday night of this week, finishing the ten-game district schedule with a perfect 10-0 record. For the season, the team is 18-6.

In Hempstead on Tuesday, the Raider girls beat the Bobcats 41-32.

As district champs, the Raiders play the runner-up in district 24-3A for the Bi-District game. That probably is Hico. The game probably will be played Thursday, Feb. 19, at Rosenberg Terry.

The other team for bi-district play from the Raider's district 23-3A remains unknown. The Sealy Tigers and the Royal Falcons both won on Tuesday night, ending regular season play with equal 6-4 records. Those two teams probably will have a play-off this week sometime on a neutral court. Unlike ties in football records, statistics are not used to determine a winner. A winner-take-all playoff game must be held.

Royal beat Columbus by a reported score of 54-36 and Sealy squeaked by Belleville 50-49. That score may make it seem like it was a close game, but Belleville coach Susan Norris said her team scored only 9 points in the first half. Their 40-point output in the second two quarters put them back in the game and she said that with five seconds to go they had a chance to score the winning goal.

On Tuesday night of last week the Rice varsity girls brought home a 67-25 victory over Columbus.

Scoring for Rice were Lakeshia Jackson, 30 points; Cheryl McGrew, 15 points; Monrovia Carter 10 points; Yolanda Dogins 9 points, and Yolanda Stevens 3 points.

Named "Miss Free Throw" and "Super Sub" was Monrovia Carter; Yolanda Stevens was selected as "Miss Assist" leader and Cheryl McGrew as "Miss Defense."

Friday, Feb. 6 also proved a successful night for the varsity girls as they defeated Belleville 75-40. Scoring for Rice were McGrew 29 points, Jackson 19 points, Dogins and Stevens 10 points each and Carrie Israel, Traci Klein and Carrie Perry, 4 points each. Coach Dollie Johnson named Yolanda Stevens and Lakeshia Jackson as "Miss Assist" leaders and "Miss Free Throw" and Marsha McTeer as "Miss Defense."

District 23-Class AAA Girls Basketball Standings

Team	W	L	Pts	Opp
Rice	10	0	100.0	623 377
Sealy	6	4	60.0	515 512
Brookshire	6	4	60.0	467 446
Belleville	4	6	40.0	459 473
Hempstead	4	6	40.0	346 444
Columbus	1	9	10.0	398 518

Rice beats Hempstead Tuesday night

The eight days from Tuesday of last week through Tuesday of this week were roller coaster ones for Coach Dusty Loewe's Rice Raider varsity boys basketball team.

First they lost to the Columbus Cardinals 65-62 to spoil their undefeated district record. That put the two rivals in a tie for the lead in the district standings.

Then on Friday night, Hempstead beat Columbus to do a favor for the Raiders while Rice was beating Belleville. That nudged the Raiders back into the lead.

Going into this week's Tuesday night game Rice faced the possibility of creating a three-way tie for first. Had they lost on Tuesday and as Columbus was winning, Rice, Columbus and Hempstead would have been in a three-way tie for first place.

Fortunately the roller coaster sped toward the top again Tuesday as the Raiders beat the Bobcats of Hempstead 69-58, and Columbus beat Royal 51-48.

The Raider record for the season now stands at 7 wins and only one loss, while second place Columbus is at 6-2 and third place Hempstead is 5-3.

"I sure wish Brookshire had beaten Columbus tonight," Coach Loewe said after Tuesday's games. That would have given Rice the first place district crown even though there are two games remaining in regular season play.

As it is, with Tuesday's results, Rice did clinch a playoff spot. The second place team in this district likely will play district 24-3A powerhouse, the Sweeny Bulldogs, who are ranked second in the state in class three-A competition. The district winner from this area will play the 24-3A runner up in bi-district competition.

Raider boys back in commanding district lead

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Mickey Scott second in state power lift

Rice High School's Mickey Scott set three new state records in a power lift meet in Austin while winning second place in a state-wide power lifting meet.

Scott, an 18-year-old, competed in the teenage class in the 220 pound division, meaning he had competition from those a year older.

According to Rice High School coach Gary McNeal, the two-day meet was an open meet, not just for high school students.

First place in Scott's division went to a Texas A&M student. In winning second place, Mickey set Rice High School records in the squat lifts with 606-14 pounds; in the dead lift with 551 pounds, and for his total lifts of 1,462-14. He also lifted 325 pounds in the bench press. The Austin meet had divisions for an open class, and for a masters class for lifters over 40 years.

McNeal said he will take 14 Rice students to competition on Feb. 21 in the Port Lavaca Calhoun power lift meet. Last year the Rice team did well in that competition.

7th grade girls end with victory

On Monday, Feb. 2, the Eagle Lake Middle School seventh grade girls defeated the Belleville Brahmas dominating each quarter of the game with the final score 31-27.

Leading scorers were Bonnie Benge 10 points, 4 rebounds; Melissa Gultmann 10 points, 6 rebounds; Dee Dee Valdez 8 points, 4 rebounds; Michelle Owens 2 points, 5 rebounds; Lisa Dromgoole 1 point, 3 rebounds.

On their final game last Monday, Feb. 9, the seventh grade girls beat Hempstead 30-9. Scoring for the Raiders were Bonnie Benge 13 points, 6 rebounds; Melissa Gultmann 8 points, 7 rebounds; Lisa Dromgoole 5 points, 5 rebounds; Dee Dee Valdez 2 points, 4 rebounds; Perri Ferguson 2 points, 3 rebounds.

Scores by quarters: Rice 9, 14, 25, 30; Hempstead 4, 9, 9, 9.

8th grade girls beat Hempstead

On Monday night, Feb. 2, the Eagle Lake Middle School eighth grade girls were defeated by Belleville 24-23. The girls were tied at the first quarter, but fell behind by 3 points in the third quarter with the final quarter bringing them short 1 point.

Scoring for the girls were Bridgett Smith 8 points, 2 rebounds; Rita Rhodes 8 points, 6 rebounds; Tricia Thomas 2 points, 2 rebounds; Cassandra Edwards 2 points, 4 rebounds; Latisha Howard 2 points, 2 rebounds; Dee Earls 1 point, 2 rebounds; Jackie Dromgoole 5 rebounds.

The last game of the season for the eighth grade girls brought them a 25-14 victory over Hempstead. The girls dominated each quarter of the game.

Leading scorers were Rita K. Rhodes 13 points, 11 rebounds; Cassandra Edwards 4 points, 10 rebounds; Jackie Dromgoole 2 points, 4 rebounds; Bridgett Smith 4 points, 4 rebounds; Dee Earls 1 point, 5 rebounds; Latisha Howard 2 points, 2 rebounds; Trudy Morales 1 point, 1 rebound.

District 23-Class AAA Boys Basketball Standings

Team	W	L	% Won	Pts. <th>Opp. </th>	Opp.
Rice	7	1	87.5	610	560
Columbus	5	3	75.0	529	479
Hempstead	5	3	62.5	509	497
Brookshire	3	5	37.5	518	548
Sealy	2	6	25.0	436	466
Belleville	1	7	12.5	434	499

Rice School Board...from Page One

Chavis and Antonia Ramirez, and alternate Lois Weaver, Kathryn Fudge will be absent voting clerk, and alternate absentee voting clerks will be Mary C. Faichinger and Elizabeth R. King.

The board also took action on these agenda items:

"Granted the usual 30 percent homestead exemptions on district property taxes. Next year, under state law, that exemption must be reduced to 20 percent. The board also voted to again tax personal automobiles."

"Reviewed a document called the Annual Performance Report of the school district. It is compiled along state guidelines and derives into many statistics about the school system here. It is compiled by assistant supt. Charles DeShazo."

"Approved the band fund eligibility and tryout requirements. The band director discussed the changes at the January meeting, then wrote the proposal discussed Monday night. The board made further changes in that document."

"The board agreed to advertise for sale of used vehicles and tires."

Eagle Lake Headlight

Eagle Lake police make third drug arrest of year

Eagle Lake police on Tuesday continued their war on drugs here by making two separate arrests and confiscating about a half-ounce of cocaine each time.

It was the third arrest of 1987 in Eagle Lake in connection with illegal drugs.

Arrested about 2:30 p.m. Tuesday was Patricia Ison Ferguson, 30, of a Glen Flora Road address. She was charged with possession of a controlled substance, which police say is cocaine. About 4 p.m., Bennie Gonzales, 43, of the 200 block of East A St. was arrested on the same charge.

The arrests were made after search warrants were issued by Justice of the Peace Mary Ordner of precinct five in the Frelsburg area. Police Chief Ben Johnson said he asked for the first warrant after an on-going investigation developed new information Tuesday. Johnson and Sgt. Lupe Villarreal executed the search warrant on a Glen Flora address, and arrested Ferguson. About a half-ounce of cocaine was found in three very small plastic bags and two small bottles.

Then, additional information led police to ask Ordner for the second warrant for the A St. address. Lt. Game Warden Sam Center assisted Johnson and Villarreal with the execution of that search warrant. About the same amount of cocaine was found hidden under some floorboards, as were two joints of marijuana coated with cocaine. Gonzales then was arrested.

JP Ordner set bond for Ferguson at \$1,000 and for Gonzales bond was set at \$10,000. Both were lodged in the Eagle Lake Jail Tuesday night.

Ordner was called to Eagle Lake to issue the warrants because Precinct Four JP Mary Szymanski was at a funeral.

In the first drug arrest of the year last month, Center and Villarreal arrested a man for possession of a controlled substance (marijuana) with intent to deliver.

Johnson said this was part of the Justice Department's on-going narcotics investigation and that the mayor and city council have been instrumental in supporting the department in its effort to strictly enforce the drug laws in Eagle Lake. Johnson added that district attorney Bud Kirkendall has been most helpful in prosecuting drug cases developed by local law enforcement officials.

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Saluting Rice FFA — With FFA week approaching, the Headlight and area businesses are saluting the Rice High School agricultural program. Look for the full-page advertisement in this issue. In this picture, Rice FFA students spent some extra time in the classroom preparing for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo competition in the Commercial Steer Division.

Former Eagle Lake priest

Rev. Monsignor Edward Geiser buried

Rev. Monsignor Edward Geiser was buried in the parish of St. Mary's in Houston on Monday, Feb. 16, 1987. He was 82 years old.

He was ordained in 1937 by the Most Rev. Christopher E. Byrne, Bishop of Galveston.

After he was ordained, he became assistant pastor at All Saints Catholic Church in Houston where he stayed for three years and worked diligently with the youth and formed an organization that was later followed by the present C.Y.O. (Catholic Youth Organization).

When the Diocese of Austin was established in 1948, Father Geiser was stationed in Frelsburg and thus became pastor of the Diocese of Austin. He was assigned to Saints Peter and Paul Church in Frelsburg on March 8, 1940 where he remodeled the church and along with two sisters, opened a school with a daily average attendance of 80 students. It was in the Frelsburg area that Father Geiser purchased land on which a home was built and where he had spent his retirement years.

On July 4, 1959, Father Geiser was sent to Tours, near Waco, to serve there until June 25, 1966 when he came to Eagle Lake.

After Father A.W. Dindler died on January 25, 1966, Rev. Marion Atomanzyk, assistant at Fayetteville, was assigned administrator of the Eagle Lake Parish where he stayed until June 25, 1966 when Father Geiser was assigned to be the pastor in Our Lady of Perpetual Help and also Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.

Father Geiser had the difficult task of stabilizing a parish which had lost a beloved leader, Father Dindler, the pastor most of the parishioners had known. He cleared the parish of debt, replenished the building fund and supported parish improvements, such as blacktop on the parking lot.

He was honored — "This is Your Life" dinner at the Community Center on his 40th anniversary of Ordination on June 18, 1978, a few months prior to his retirement.

His Excellency, the Most Rev. Vincent Harris, Bishop of Austin, was in attendance along with members of Father Geiser's family.

Father Geiser retired from the Eagle Lake churches on June 25, 1978, but had returned to the local parish when called upon by a priest.

In the month of June 1985, 14 priests of the Diocese of Austin were named Prelates of Honor and were installed in formal ceremonies. Father Geiser had been among those priests which then changed his title to Monsignor Geiser.

Father Geiser died February 9, 1987 in the Eagle Lake Community Hospital following a short illness. Rosary was recited in the Henneke Funeral Home Chapel on Tuesday night, Feb. 10. Father Geiser's body was then taken to the Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Frelsburg where the body lay in state from 9 a.m. Wednesday until the funeral on Thursday, Feb. 12 at 10:30 a.m.

Services began with the Most Rev. John McCarty, Bishop of Austin, and Most Rev. Vincent Harris, Bishop Emeritus of Houston, leading the procession of 31 priests and three altar boys. Rev. Werner Bockholt is the pastor at Saints Peter and Paul Church. Many Knights of Columbus members, in their regalia, were also present.

Father Bockholt read the gospel reading. The homily was given by Most Rev. John McCarty. He talked on how now the "The File is Closed." All the good that Father Geiser did in his 41 years of being a priest.

Bishop Harris, Bishop Emeritus, spoke of knowing Father Geiser when they were young in St. Mary's Seminary at LaPorte. He talked on his kindness to all and how he would always encourage him.

MUSIC and singing was by the Saints Peter and Paul Choir and also some members from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Choir in Eagle Lake.

After the church services, burial followed at the Saints Peter and Paul Cemetery, just a short distance from the church. The sun was shining as the Bishops and priests, robed in white, were walking, followed by the Knights of Columbus, then the relatives and friends.

Former priests from Our Lady of Perpetual Help present were Father Ray Waddock of West, Father Tom Hams of Rockdale and Father Marian Atomanzyk of Burlington.

Father Geiser, who served the Eagle Lake churches for 12 years, will be dearly missed.

Freeman, LCRA lauded as county water group looks to future

Discussion last week on the future focus of the Colorado County Water Council included mention of various topics of interest to area residents, as well as praise for S. David Freeman, general manager of the Lower Colorado River Authority.

Cleaning up the Colorado River seemed to be one of the top priorities suggested by Charles Trefny of Weimar, County Judge Lester Cranek suggested that education of the public about water as a "diminishing resource," should be a major focus.

The council met on Wednesday last week at Schoebel's Restaurant in Columbus. The council was formed last year at the suggestion of LCRA and last month members elected Frank Parker, city manager of Weimar — which purchases its electricity from the LCRA — said there is a considerable difference in LCRA today that was not notable until recently. "David Freeman has entirely turned LCRA around," Parks said. "He's a very down-home, person willing to compromise." Although not mentioned at last week's meeting, one LCRA board member said recently that if the authority didn't take care of its customers, there would be no need for the authority.

Cranek leads discussion

Leading the discussion on the future direction of the council, Judge Cranek said the group here and in other counties can be the "grass roots support 'out here' for issues facing the authority."

His first point suggested a public education program be implemented so people understand that water is indeed a diminishing resource. "If you consider that three million people live in the Houston area, and if you look to the year 2025 or 2035 (you can see) it's sure is a diminishing resource."

He then suggested that the three incorporated areas of the county — Weimar, Columbus and Eagle Lake — should jointly project their water needs to the year 2025. They are using water pumped from wells in the ground now, but if growth causes an increased need for water, they need to estimate how many acre feet of water will have to be pumped from the Colorado River.

He also said the water councils are local groups that must keep informed of local issues, as well as proposals made elsewhere in the state for uses of river water. By keeping informed, a local water council can provide information and comment on proposals made by "the planners in their ivory towers... to make sure it (ivory-tower created plans) will work here at the local level." The water council can be a nucleus of effort.

Council member Crockett Leyendecker and Trefny agreed that cleaning up the Colorado River ought to be an major effort of major proportions.

When given a choice, Trefny said, a cow will choose to drink water from a puddle before it has to drink water out of the Colorado. Trefny asked someone to compare the cost of providing drinking water with the river is the source versus ground water as a source. Parks said the use of ground water is much cheaper, and much cleaner.

Trefny also said that a representative of the 1,000 irrigators in development near Columbus be named as a member of the water council, since recreation on the river also is an important use of the Colorado. He noted that in previous decades the river used to be an enjoyable swimming and fishing area, where fresh water shrimp were prevalent. Now, because the constant use of the river water is questionable, such shrimp are rare as are the long, large clams, and swimmers are almost non-existent.

The river is a thread that starts near the Texas-New Mexico border and ends at Matagorda Bay, Trefny said. It is important that everyone along its banks (and in its watershed) take an interest in its future.

Water for alternate crops

Also at the council meeting was Bruce Hicks who until recently was manager of the Lakeside Water Division of LCRA and who now has responsibility for the authority's Gulf Coast Water Division out of Bay City.

He noted that there are requests for information on buying water from the authority in those division areas for use on alternate crops. The majority of irrigation water drawn from the river now serves rice farmers. He recently received a request for information about water to be used in the Lisse area for a proposed large Crawfish farm. Christenberry noted that two smaller such farms are operating in the Garwood area. Hicks said one of the major concerns voiced by the promoter of the Lisse operation was whether crawfish could live in Colorado River water.

Meitzen asks replacement

Christenberry noted that council member John Meitzen had asked to be replaced on the council. Family and personal business are preventing him from being an active member. Christenberry said.

When the council meets again in April, Christenberry asked each member to suggest what they think is the number one issue facing residents along the river.

Reward offered on boat motor theft

Cropper Stoppers will offer a reward for information leading to the arrest and indictment of those involved in the theft of a 25 hp 1985 model Evinrude short shaft motor taken from a boat behind a business in the 1000 block of Main. The motor will have a silver tag stating Texas Parks and Wildlife on it.

Anyone with information should call Crime Stoppers at 234-5555. Callers do not have to identify themselves.

Black History program at Elm Grove

The Elm Grove community will hold its Black History program on Friday, Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Elm Grove Baptist Church.

A movie on Black History will be shown and the special guest speaker will be E. Harrison, who spent two years in Africa. He will speak on life in Africa today.

The public is invited and encouraged to participate.

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newsbriefs

RHS class of '72 planning reunion

The Rice High School class of 1972 is now planning its 15th year reunion and is asking all classmates interested in helping to attend a meeting at Sportsman's Restaurant in Eagle Lake on Wednesday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m.

Selection of a date, place and activities will be finalized at this meeting so local class members are urged to be present. For more information please contact Debbie (Duncan) Weaver at 234-3523 days or 234-5457 nights, or Jeff Frnka at 234-3360 days or 234-3676 nights.

Texas Special Olympics set

Tentative dates for the Texas Special Olympics Area III track and field meet have been set for Saturday, April 11 in Victoria. The rain date has been scheduled for Saturday, April 25.

Definite dates and times will be announced in this paper at a later date. Make plans to get out and support your local Special Olympics athletes.

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