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Boys face Van Vleck Saturday in Bi-District; Columbus plays Sweeny

Raiders down 9th-ranked Smithville in Bi-District warm-up

The Rice Raiders led 9th-ranked Smithville, Tuesday night in a non-title game played to keep the two teams on their toes.

According to coach Dusty Lowe, the final score that gave the Raiders the 62-60 victory, came when Arthur Foster hit an 18-foot jumper at the buzzer. The win puts their season record at 21-8.

Coach Lowe invites everyone to the Bi-District game in Boling at 7:30 p.m. "A good crowd always helps the game," he said.

District 23-AAA champion Rice

Consolidated will enter the playoff hunt against District 24-AAA runner-up Van Vleck in Boling on Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. Rice finished 9-1 and is currently 20-8 on the season.

Rice coach Dusty Lowe said, "Van Vleck has a lot of talent and can really get off the floor but they also play out of control. We have to block them off the backboards and not get over confident."

Van Vleck has a 6'8" post man that is a good player but never gets the ball from his teammates, said Lowe. Van Vleck's other starters love to drive the baseline and get off quick jumpers.

Rice will rely on its press and overall scoring balance and try to play smart-turnover free basketball, said Lowe. Rice and Van Vleck have one common opponent in Sweeny.

Sweeny beat Rice by 12 points and Van Vleck by 34.

District 23-AAA runner-up Columbus will face No. 2 state-ranked Sweeny, winner of District 24-AAA. Columbus finished 8-2 in district and is 19-11 on the season. Columbus and Sweeny will tip off Friday night in Wharton at 7:30 p.m.

Columbus coach Tom Gerik said, "We'll try to keep the score in the 50's-60's range, the longer we stay on the floor the better chance we have. We have to try and control their three 6'5" big men and rattle them early."

Sweeny has a 2-1-2 press and a rotating-screening offense that takes advantage of its excellent big men, said Gerik.

"Waddle and Borski have to have big games for us if we're to have a chance, we're going to break down film and try and devise a strong strategy," said Gerik.

Lady Raider post-season hopes dashed by one point in overtime

The Rice Lady Raiders have won their cage district over the past three seasons.

And, present day included, the Lady Raiders have strung together 30 straight league victories.

But, despite those impressive numbers, the Lady Raiders failed to escape the clutches of bi-district opponents in 1985 and 1986 as the District 26-AAA champ.

Rice duplicated its feat again this year, only the crown changed.

Wearing the District 23-AAA crown for the first time with an 18-7 record, including the perfect 10-0 league play, the Lady Raiders had hoped a new Class AAA playoff path might change their post-season luck.

It didn't.

The Hitchcock Lady Bulldogs, the District 24-AAA runner-up behind Rice, 2 ranked Sweeny, saw to that with a never-say-die 71-70 overtime squeaker over Dolly Johnson's Lady Raiders in a bi-district game last Thursday night at Wharton High School in Wharton.

The Lady Bulldogs, who improved their record to 23-6, advanced to the area playoffs Tuesday night with a win sending Hitchcock to the Region III-AAA Basketball Tournament at Blinn College in Brenham this weekend.

Rice, meanwhile, concluded its season on Johnson at 18-8 after a 71-70 overtime thriller. The Lady Raiders were defeated 57-46 by District 25-AAA champion and

remaining. But, Datrice fouled McGrew at the other end and the Rice junior turned it into a three-point play to lift the Lady Raiders on top 64-63 with 1:14 to go.

Sonner, however, didn't waste any time in regaining the upper hand for Hitchcock as she canned a 10-footer at the 1:05 mark.

After both teams committed costly turnovers, Tracy Klein took Charles with 20 seconds left, but the Hitchcock senior didn't convert the one-and-one opportunity and the Lady Raiders had another chance.

And, it appeared fate was on their side when McGrew broke the press and rifled a perfect pass to Klein for an apparent go-ahead field goal with nine seconds left.

But, McGrew was whistled for charging after the pass, the basket was nullified and Sonner was at the charity stripe with a chance to put Rice away.

She didn't and Klein worked her way down the court to force Datrice to come out for her fifth foul with three seconds showing. After Hitchcock called time out, Klein missed the first free throw, but sank the second to tie the game at 65-65 and send it into overtime.

Spells gave the Lady Bulldogs a 67-65 edge 35 seconds deep into the extra period only to have Dognis counter for Rice at the 1:57 mark.

After Charles and Stevens matched free throws, knotting the score again at 69-69 with 1:29 left, the two teams saw Dognis win with a 3-point shot.

The Lady Raiders had two crucial turnovers and Stevens connected with 25 seconds remaining to inch Hitchcock on top 71-69.

Spell gave Rice its chance 10 seconds later when she fouled McGrew. McGrew's foul followed by Lakshia Jackson's field goal off a McGrew assist.

Trailing 71-70, Carter fouled Sonner with eight seconds left and again she failed to put it away for the Lady Bulldogs. With six ticks to go, Stevens fouled a jump ball and it was Rice's ball in alternate possessions.

However, McGrew's pass for Dognis on the fast break sailed out of bounds at the buzzer to end the Lady Raiders' playoff trip.

"We shut down their post plays, but we were hurt outside," said Johnson.

How true. Spells finished with 20 points and Charles and Sonner added 18 and 12, respectively.

In the 57-46 warm-up loss to Giddings earlier last week, the Lady Raiders fell behind 17-14 in the first period and never recovered.

Giddings carried a 31-25 edge into the dressing room at intermission and owned a 45-37 bulge at the third quarter break.

McGrew topped Rice with 22 points while Jackson produced 11. Stevens tallied eight and Dognis managed five.

where there is no base to the street, such as in bad hot spots, which will be dug up and a special asphalt mix will be compacted.

A meeting of the airport advisory committee was called for Wednesday night of this week, at 7:30 p.m. at city hall. Apparently plans for private investors will be discussed. Council also was asked to attend a state meeting on airports scheduled Friday in Seely.

Eagle Lake Headlight

March 5, 1987
 (USPS 163-760)
 Vol. 83, No. 49
 Eagle Publishing, Inc.
 P.O. Box 67
 Eagle Lake, Texas 77434-0067
 (409) 234-5521
35-CENTS PER COPY
 (33-CENTS PLUS TAX)

Proposal to bring new operations to airport gets 5-0 council nod

Eagle Lake may have found a way to improve its airport without using tax dollars, and still increase the tax base.

A proposal was made last Wednesday to the city council appointed airport advisory board that basically calls for the city to sell some of its land at the airport, and use that money to repay the existing main runway. If that is done, a fixed-base operation is planned in the old Rice Aero hangar, as well as an aircraft repair and renovation business.

Tuesday night, meeting in a called session, council unanimously approved a motion supporting the airport advisory board's recommendation, as stated by board chairman Bob Ashby. However, the vote was not taken until after a long question and answer session.

Because they feel the poor condition of the main runway here is a deterrent to any future development in the airport area, they agreed to approach Eagle Lake city council. Their proposition is that they will agree to purchase enough property at the airport, which now is mostly owned by the city, at a price that will be equal to the city's cost of repaving the runway. The city will have to take bids on repaving the runway with a 50-foot wide, 2-inch thick asphalt coating, to determine the dollar amount.

At the same time, Ferguson and Phillips and partners have been negotiating to purchase an aircraft maintenance company now located at Clover Field in Friendswood. Tuesday night Ferguson told council he has negotiated a purchase price, and if the agreement with council on the land-paving proposal is approved, he will proceed with the maintenance company purchase. "I can promise 100 percent effort to buy the company," Ferguson said, adding that "it is not yet bought."

Ferguson also expressed a positive belief in the future of Eagle Lake when he explained a proposal his architectural firm has drafted for the property now supporting the grass farm along Hwy. 90-A and Calhoun Road.

One item the city will have to iron out is exact airport property ownership. Since the area was created about the turn of the century as Highland Park Subdivision, it was placed out in individual parcels, and easements for streets were given to the airport, or shut it down." The facility has been used by Ashby and the city has been unwilling to invest in its own interests.

While questioning various aspects of the proposal, councilman Vic Curman asked Dan Canaris what his plans for the airport were, since Canaris owns some land bordering on the south side of the airport and had previously expressed interest in buying hangars to rent.

Canaris said he has been waiting for the city to act, that he didn't want to invest in improvements if the runway was never going to be improved. The beacon at the airport is in the middle of a taxway that might be created if Canaris develops his hangar. As asked last year, the city has removed the beacon from the tower and sent it to a re-manufacturer for rebuilding. The city is trying to locate a crane big enough to operate on that land to pick the tower up and move it.

Noting that when the city does decide how much property it can sell, and for what price, the property would be offered for public bid, Ferguson said that it made no difference who bought the property, as long as the money was used to pave the runway.

Curman asked that the city attorney be consulted to make sure such actions are legal. Councilman Joe Duncan seconded the motion, and it was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Larry Powers said he would appoint a committee to negotiate the land sale, which then must be approved by council, after public bids are asked.

As the meeting came to a close, Curman added that "everyone thinks this is what is going to get the ball rolling." He spoke positively of the airport, and said he hoped that it is ahead with the second.

Lowe called another time out, with four seconds still on the clock and Rice ahead 72-71. Rice's inbounds pass was mishandled, and the Raiders lost possession when the ball went out of bounds. Only one more second ticked the clock down to three seconds remaining. When Madisonville brought the ball inbounds, Foster fouled. The Madisonville player sank both free throws, giving them the 73-72 lead. Rice fouled one more time, and again Madisonville made both shots, giving them the 75-72 victory.

Now that both District 23-3A teams are out of state play off contention, the all-district team can be announced.

The airport advisory board, chaired by Ashby, unanimously approved its recommendation to the city last Wednesday. The other four members of the board voting for the proposal were Ralph Taylor, John Garza, Bill Appelt and Belvin Mann.

newsbriefs

Seniors can enjoy nutritious meals

If you are 60 years or older and don't feel like cooking, feel free to come out to our nutrition site and enjoy a hot, nutritious meal. Call us for our weekly menu.

Dinner is served from 11:30 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Just call Ora Jones, activity director of Colorado County Golden Age Center, at 234-2914. The site is located at the Christ Episcopal Church, 306 E. Stockbridge. We ask for suggestive donations.

March is Red Cross Month

President Reagan has proclaimed March as Red Cross Month nationwide. Locally, the American Red Cross helps people in times of disasters, such as floods, tornadoes, fires, etc.; helps youngsters learn to swim, how to become lifeguards, how to baby sit and how to make good choices as they grow up, and they train citizens of our community in first aid and CPR classes.

Everyone is encouraged to support the chapter in their 1987 membership campaign.

ELPS open house Thursday night

The Eagle Lake Primary School will host the public from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 5. The teachers will be in their rooms with samples of the children's work and projects for the parents to view. The teachers also will have some follow-up material on the discipline management meeting held earlier in the school year. They will have material and information that will enable the parent to help their child.

"We will not have the principal classroom visits and parent lunches as we have done in the past," states District Major Benge, "we feel the evening hours will enable more parents to attend and permit us to proceed normally with instruction during Public School week."

All parents are urged to attend this informal session Thursday evening. It is a come-and-go affair, so come and visit the Primary School staff!

Immigration law information meetings

Father Jesse E. Euresi, pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and Guadalupe Parishes of Eagle Lake, will have several immigration information meetings in the surrounding area.

On March 5, the meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at Andrew Hall in Eagle Lake; March 12, 7 p.m., Saints Peter and Paul Parish Hall in Bellville; March 15, Brenham; March 17, 7 p.m., Catholic Hall in Sealy.

Anyone who would like to volunteer their assistance in helping, interpreting, and assist those coming to make applications in accordance with the new immigration law should attend a meeting.

These meetings are open to the general public.

World Day of Prayer Friday

The World Day of Prayer celebrates its centennial this Friday, March 6 proclaiming the theme, "Come and Rejoice" at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship hall in Eagle Lake. The celebration will begin with a 9:30 a.m. Fellowship followed by a 10 a.m. Service.

The Rev. Barbara Carmichael, a graduate from the McCormick Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Chicago, will be the featured speaker. She is a former chaplain of Hermann Hospital and is presently associate pastor of Clear Lake Presbyterian Church.

A hundred-year-old prayer movement of global dimensions, the World Day of Prayer is a worldwide expression of mutual prayer and Christian unity. Its uniqueness lies in the fact that its expression is found in local communities in 150 countries and regions of the world gather each year to observe a common day of prayer.

Church Women United (CWU), since its founding in 1941, has been the official sponsor of the World Day of Prayer in the United States and has assumed responsibility for the preparation and distribution of World Day of Prayer resources and materials throughout the world. CWU represents a broad spectrum of religious tradition, race, age, economic status, and ethnic background. Together we pray, celebrate our oneness and take action.

Everyone is invited to attend this service, the 100th anniversary of the World Day of Prayer which is being sponsored by the women of area churches.

Local names on unclaimed money fund list

The Texas Treasury has about \$80 million in unclaimed money, safe deposit boxes, oil royalties and stocks and bonds that it wants to return to about 100,000 Texans.

"On Sunday, March, we will publish this annual list of names," Treasurer Ann Richards said, "and we hope to return a sizable portion of that money to its rightful owners."

Persons who find their name on the list may reclaim their property by calling the State Treasury, toll free at 1-800-221-2274 or by writing to the State Treasury at P.O. Box 12608, Capital Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

"There is no set time limit for making a claim," Treasurer Richards emphasized. "We will hold the account in the owner's name forever."

She said that last year, the State Treasury published a similar list and about \$50 million was reunited with owners.

The Unclaimed Money Fund list was first published when Treasurer Richards took office in 1983. Since that time, the State Treasury has returned 73 percent of all the money ever returned since the law took effect 26 years ago.

The list is being published statewide in 16 newspapers. The list is also available at public libraries and county offices. As a public service to this community, local names from the list are as follows:

Harold Bailey, Jimmie P. Galvan, Jackie Hampton, James Hanak, Jimmie Tatum Holloway, Tina L. Grinnant, E. G. Moore, John Earl Pool, Sherman Pope, Anna Mae Rhoades, Bill Shuart, Severa Sosa, George Spates, Mrs. Mary Theuman, Marian Wosenrath.

The company said it should be in operation at the Calhoun Road site by May. The company has about 15 employees and sells big and bulk sand for blasting operations.

LCRA directors vote to keep irrigation water rates unchanged while operations, pricing studied

Lower Colorado River Authority directors recently voted to keep water rates for 1987 at current levels.

Directors approved a recommendation by LCRA staff that rates remain unchanged while LCRA reviews its water-pricing policy and establishes a water-pricing policy later this year.

LCRA general manager S. David Freeman noted that LCRA staff wanted to maintain current rates while a review of water operations and pricing policy is underway.

"We want to hold the line on water rates while we work out our costs under control and determine how to charge for water supply," Freeman said.

Last month LCRA announced it would combine Lakeside and Gulf Coast staffs and make other operations and maintenance changes to increase efficiency and hold down costs.

Freeman noted that "the economics of rice farming are such that many farmers cannot pay increasing amounts for irrigation water."

LCRA staff expects to complete a water-pricing policy later this year which would consider LCRA's cost of service and the market value of water in setting rates. The new policy could lead to a major restructuring of current rates, but staff recommended that any changes or increases would be carried out in a way which would minimize adverse effects on water users.

LCRA provides water and river-management services to a 10-county statutory district including San Saba, Llano, Burnet, Blanco, Travis, Borden, Fayette, Colorado, Wharton and Matagorda Counties.

Specialty Sand moving to Eagle Lake

Specialty Sand Co., now located on FM 3013 just across the Colorado County line into Austin County, announced last week it is moving its operation to Eagle Lake.

A spokesman for the company said they have obtained a lifetime lease of the former Parker Brothers operation on Calhoun Road, and they will be closing their Austin County site. John E. McDonald is plant manager.

The company said it should be in operation at the Calhoun Road site by May. The company has about 15 employees and sells big and bulk sand for blasting operations.

Tickets available for local play

The Prairie Edge Players will present the mystery comedy **The Butler Did It** on March 27 and 28 at the Prairie Edge Museum.

Tickets may be acquired at the following places in Eagle Lake by giving a donation of \$5 to Prairie Edge Museum: Eagle Lake Drugs, First National Bank, JoAnn's and Johnny's Sport Shop. The donor is tax-deductible.

Raiders lose in second playoff game

The final 23 seconds of the Rice Raiders' playoff game Tuesday night proved to be the team's undoing.

Madisonville prevailed to take a 75-72 victory and force the Raiders to hang up their uniforms for another year. The game was played at Prairie View. The 86-87 season was the best on record for the Raiders under head coach Dusty Lowe.

Last Saturday night, the Raiders beat Van Vleck in the Bi-District matchup. The night before, the Columbus Cardinals were beaten by the Bi-District game by Sweeny.

Now the Raiders and the Raiders were down by only one point, 71-70, with just 23-seconds to go, according to the radio broadcast

Four towns to focus on ag economics

Ways of boosting farm-related business will be explored in an "Agricultural Economic Development" meeting March 31 at 7:30 p.m. at the Weimann Club, sponsored by the city governments of Columbus, La Grange, Schenleyburg and Weimar.

Everyone interested is welcome.

The cities will have the help of the Texas Department of Agriculture and the extension personnel of Colorado and Fayette counties.

Meeting with the group will be Alvin Fowler, a marketing specialist with the state ag department.

One of the things to be discussed will be the possibilities of marketing some farm products through a farmers' market. County agent Leroy Hajdak recently called a meeting in Columbus on that subject but it attracted few attendees.

Fowler's idea is to form a group representing a wider area, possibly a ship produce to Houston, to be sold in one of the farmers' markets there.

Fowler said the City of Houston had four farmers' markets last year and that they intend to have eight markets this year. The markets are set up under an association formed by the participants, operating under by-laws and with participants paying a certain fee to belong.

Fowler also discussed such ideas as the growing of Texas shrubs and plants, aquaculture, and the raising of "native" beef.

Topics at the March 31 meeting will cover a wide spectrum of possibilities, all aimed at diversifying and making more profitable local agricultural production.

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Commissioners... Continued from Page One

becomes a county road. The state spokesman said only about \$2 million is available in this highway district for new Farm to Market construction. If the county priority is approved, it would make FM 1693 a state road all the way to its junction with U.S. 90-A. Commissioner Loeis said that depending on the path of the extension, less than four miles of roads would need to be constructed.

In other business, commissioners:

- Approved an agenda item giving permission to the county auditor to pay for Fire Ant but the county will purchase from the state. Commissioners' take orders for the 3000 Amlo, and when it is available locally, those who placed orders repay the county for its cost. Initially the county will buy two pallets of the bait (about 1000 one-pound bags) at a cost of \$3.15 per pound. Commissioners also mentioned that Logic is another product used to get rid of Fire Ants but it costs about twice as much as Amlo. Logic is available at Tide Products in Eagle Lake.
- Approved the securities offered by Columbus State Bank, which is the county's funds depository. After the action, judge Cranek noted that Wharton county had six bidders seeking to become that county's depository, and the county received better interest rates than were available here.
- Did not approve a suggested resolution asking the state legislature to require a five-cent deposit on all beer and soft drink containers sold in Texas. Loeis said he was not in favor of such a proposal because it would be another hardship on small stores which then would be required to have a place to store returned bottles and cans. Such storage, he said, would invite roach and rodder infestations. Commissioner Jerome Wickle also was not in favor of the resolution, saying the bill would not put a dent in roadside litter.
- Discussed the need for construction of a storage building for excess furniture and materials now stored in the courthouse. Space is available behind the sheriff's department garage. Commissioners looked over a portable building pamphlet from Morgan Buildings, but commissioner Spaniel suggested the county look into the cost of having a storage-type building constructed. He suggested such a building would be more durable and offer more protection. The county is seeking to have excess equipment and furniture stored elsewhere in two basement rooms can be used for storage.

*Approved a request by Donna Farris, chief probation officer for this judicial district. She asked the court to approve purchase of three computers, and the equipment network them together with a fourth computer already in the probation office. The cost will be about \$5,000 and will be repaid to the county over 12 months.

*Agreed that the county will support the light fixtures at the Waldvogel Opportunity Center. Recently Linda Lipperdy reported one of the fixtures fell from the ceiling. No one was injured. The remaining fixtures will be inspected for security and for electrical connections.

TRAVEL WITH THE TEAM

Cheer the Raiders on This Saturday when they face Van Vleck in the Bi-District Game at Boling, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 28

Raiders first in power-lift meet

Eleven Rice High School athletes took top team honors last Saturday in a power lifting meet held at Port Lavaca Calhoun High School, according to Raider coach Gary McNeal. Fourteen teams competed, including four class 5-A schools, two class 4-A schools and seven class 3-A schools.

Many individual members of the Rice team also took top honors in their class, and set individual records in their classes.

Overall the Raiders came away with 44 points, while Calhoun was a distant second with 24 points. LaMarque was third with 18 points.

Here are the individual Raider results:

Class	Name	Squat	Bench	Dead	Total	Place
114	Michael Griffin	215	125	255	595	3rd
132	Novi Barmore	225	155	465	720	2nd
148	Brian Bales	315	185	395	895	1st
165	Alfredo Puga	245	185	315	745	-
181	Kevin Edis	260	170	300	730	-
191	Doug King	440	280	560	1,170	2nd
205	Doug Tarnan	380	275	475	1,130	3rd
220	Mickey Scott	360	325	570	1,455	1st
225	Mark Kuehler	375	250	450	1,075	4th
242	Michael Flores	510	325	500	1,335	1st
DHWT	Albert Lopez	460	255	455	1,170	2nd

Other teams participating were Nessville, La Grange, Schenleyburg, Pasadena-Dobie, Galveston-O'Connell, Palacios, Rockport-Fulton, Victoria-Sorren, Corpus Christi-Moody, Goliad and Van Vleck.

Doctor changes mind on locating here

Dr. John Handley has given notice to Darlene Laughlin that he will not be opening the Laughlin Clinic as reported earlier. He was scheduled to be at the clinic on March 4, but will make no further visits here.

Mrs. Laughlin said she will resume her search for a doctor to reopen the clinic.

City street light policy under review

The city may change the long-standing policy against installing new street lights.

After a discussion at Tuesday's regular session of a light installation request on Partridge Lane, mayor Lanny Powers approved a four-person committee to consider that request. Councilman Alvin Kohlfel suggested that all requests made over the last decade or so also be reviewed. Kohlfel and Duncan are