



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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Special session likely for another school finance plan

Gov. Ann Richards will likely call lawmakers into a mid-May special session for a fourth try at reforming public school finance.

Some think she will unveil her own plan for legislators to adopt. Three previous tries were all ruled unconstitutional, a puzzling phenomenon since lawyer-lawmakers dominated the bill writing process.

In May, the poll tax on lawmakers should be at the lowest point since Texas held its primaries this week and the general election won't be held until November.

By then, politicians hope, voters will be so enmeshed in the presidential fury they will have forgotten whatever grudge may arise—probably higher taxes—from the coming special session.

Workers Comp Appeal

The Texas 4th Court of Appeals opened hearings to decide whether a lower court judge erred in declaring unconstitutional the 1989 Texas workers compensation insurance reform.

Judge Ray Perez of Maverick County struck down the law last year as restricting workers' access to courts; a pro-business group is suing to reinstate the reform they contend is equitable and less expensive.

House Speaker Gifts

House Transportation Committee chairman David Cain, D-Dallas, has received more political contributions, over \$250,000, than any other candidate for House speaker.

Other top gift leaders are Jim Ruda, D-Brownfield, with almost \$134,000; James Hury, D-Galveston, with \$106,000; and Pete Laney, D-Hale County, with \$85,000.

Five other Democrat hats are also in the ring but veteran lawmakers caution that despite the money, the real race may not shape up until after

November, when Republicans tally their membership.

Term Limits Boosted
Regarding Texas House issues, citizens group Texans for Term Limits released its poll showing one-third of incumbent state representatives want term limitations for state

State Capitol Highlights

By Lyndell Williams
Texas Press Association

officials.

More telling, about three-fourths of challengers for House seats support limiting terms of office for politicians.

On a different front, state Rep. Dan Kubiak said 85 percent of current House members plan to support a proposed amendment seeking to limit terms of the House speaker only.

Kubiak also wants to cap speaker campaign expenditures at \$15,000, or twice the amount of legislators' annual salary.

Morales, Megatons, Ministry

Audrey General Dan Morales said he opposes the Department of Energy plan to build a nuclear waste dump near Amarillo, calling it a potential environmental disaster.

The feds plan to dismantle 2,000 warheads a year at Pantex Plant and store about 100,000 pounds of plutonium there until a permanent site is found.

"Television evangelist Robert Tilton, seeking a federal court injunction against Morales' probe of his Word of Faith church in Dallas, accused Morales of waging media attacks on his ministry."

Tilton said Morales faxed copies of the probe's lawsuit to the media

before serving it to the church. Morales started the probe for fraud last year and was temporarily restrained by the judge last month.

Other Highlights

•State Treasurer Kay Bailey Hutchinson said the Texas Legislature's "budget creep" and high state taxes were taking their toll on business expansion and consumer spending.

She warned that as state legislators nationwide restructure their tax bases, "only those that hit the bullet instead of dodging it will survive these tough times."

•U.S. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen's office said he is neither encouraging nor discouraging petitions to draft him as the presidential nominee at the Democratic National Convention.

•The Massachusetts candidate, Paul Tsongas, gestured toward the Alamo, during a speech in San Antonio last week and accused Presidents

Bush and Reagan of dishonoring the honest Texans who defended the Alamo.

•Texas Comptroller John Sharp reported the 205 counties outside metropolitan areas had a net loss of 2,000 jobs between 1985 and 1990.

But the top 15 non-metropolitan counties added jobs faster than the statewide average, with the top 10 counties tripling it. The top 15: Hunt, Titus, Nacogdoches, Angelina, Erath, Maverick, Wharton, Calhoun, Val Verde, Robertson, Hood and Hale counties.

Sharp's report also said the number of counties without a doctor rose from 10 to 19 and that half of the rural counties have a critical shortage of primary care physicians.

•Two national reports said factory orders were up, as were sales on American made cars and trucks; the rate declined for Americans behind on their mortgage payments.



Congressman Greg Laughlin receives a Victory Award plaque from John H. Fisher, Chairman of the American Security Council; former Secretary of State Alexander Haig; and Congressman George Darden, co-chairman of the bipartisan National Security Caucus in the Congress.

Texas lawmakers given victory awards

Texas Senators Lloyd Bentson and Phil Gramm received the "Peace Through Strength Victory Award" in recognition of their activities over the past two decades that contributed to the dissolution of the former Soviet Union.

Laughlin is co-chairman of the bipartisan National Security Caucus in the House of Representatives and served as a co-chairman of the Coalition for Desert Storm. As a Lt. Colonel in the Army Reserves, he went to the Middle East in January.

Bentson was recognized for his work as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Gramm was praised for his work as the ranking Republican on the Military Construction Subcommittee.

American Security Council President Ritchie noted efforts by both Senators Bentson and Gramm which fostered democracy and free markets in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Also, unpaid taxes from 1991 are accumulating large penalties and interest. The CAD will accept partial payments. The penalty, interest and attorney's fees increase to 33% July 1.

Any questions concerning your property tax should be addressed to the CAD office on the first floor of the courthouse. The address is P.O. Box 10, Columbus, Tx, 78934 or call 409-732-8222.

Miss Mary Lou Laughlin will represent the Lions Club in the District 2-23 convention contest in Austin... Eagle Lake Jaycees will have the installation of officers at the banquet Thursday. New president is Pete Canaris, succeeding Harold Raabe. Monte Hunter is vice president. Fred Frady is secretary. Louie Schorlemmer is treasurer and Mr. Raabe will be interclub director.

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Billy Wayne McCage, son of Mr. & Mrs. R.W. Strunk of Lissie, is leaving this Sunday for Paris, France, where he will spend the summer on a tour and completing college.

Harvey Birdwell Jr. arrived in Eagle Lake Wednesday for a visit with his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Birdwell Sr. after a tour of duty in Viet Nam.

Miss Mary Ellen Holland and Bobby Joe Semora, son of Mr. & Mrs. Bill Semora, were united in marriage Friday, May 19, in the home of the bride's parents, Mr. & Mrs. M.L. Kewley. Rev. Richard Douglass, Baptist minister, officiated.

Two members of the Leo Baxter Band, including the band's director, were injured in a car wreck Saturday... The Eagle Lake Ladies Friendship Club met in the home of Mrs. Ray Crutchfield, May 4th. Mrs. Roland Balusek led the prayer and the afternoon was spent making cancer bandages.

Hugh Klausmeier is the new owner of the Vick Truck Line of Eagle Lake. The Klausmeiers purchased the line from Mr. & Mrs. West earlier this year.

Friday, June 25, 1943
Gordon Causey has received notice that he has been accepted and appointed under Navy's V-12 Officers procurement program and has been ordered to report to the State University, July 1.

Miss Lee Minette Fitzgerald is serving as Life Guard on the water front at the Y.W.C.A. Camp at La Porte.

Cpl. Lester R. Graves writes home that he is now stationed in Baltimore, Md... News reaches this office of the promotion in rank to Tech. Sergeant awarded to Glenn Kveton, who is now located at Fort Jackson, South Carolina... Sgt. John F.



About Town...

Caught in the Houston floods...

Connie Lange stopped in to tell about her husband, Willard's, experience. He left his pickup full of parts in about 10 feet of water at 1-10 and North Shepherd area Wednesday afternoon. He was able to wade out and join other flood victims at the nearby Wendy's for free coffee.

The water had finally receded enough by midnight for Delgado to go get the truck and tow it home. When they got back around 3 a.m., and opened the door, a small flood poured out. Needless to say, everything was ruined... even Connie's Elvis tapes.

Barbara Harborth also was in Houston during the deluge, but she was able to pull over and find a place to wait it out on higher ground.

Who knows how many runs to Houston Delgado's made last week? We know of one student from our

Out of town guests

Mrs. Violet Mooney enjoyed a weekend visit from her son, E.L. Mooney and his wife, Betty. This was his first visit home in two years. Joining them Saturday for a great afternoon were her sisters, Mrs. E.W. Peterson of El Campo and Sylvia Dancer from Bay City.

An eye for an eye...
Warren Dupre of Sheridan had all but two of the stitches removed from his eye Tuesday. You will recall he had a piece of PVC pipe fly into his right eye around New Year's.

He wasn't in the best shape after the removal of the stitches, but his doctor says things will improve quickly. It's a good thing, too. How many more nights of Janet's cooking can one man stand?

They arrived, the first of the week from Camp Polk, La., and will be here for about two weeks... From somewhere in Alaska comes a friendly note to the Headlight from Staff Sgt. Leroy Muesse... A letter received from John K. Davidson who is somewhere over there speaks of the scarcity of news.

It is now Corporal Melvin Campbell. He was so proud of his new rating he had to come home to inform his family... Student Jerrald P. Eivorit has completed his prescribed course at the West Texas State Teachers College at Canyon and has been transferred to Santa Anna, Calif.

Pfc. Perry D. Morris has been transferred from A&M College to Purdue University at Lafayette, Indiana... Sgt. Allen A. Glueck, U.S.M.C. writes home that he has been transferred to a new station somewhere in the Pacific... Pfc. Martin Hale and wife returned Sunday from Austin leaving his mother doing nicely following an operation. Pfc. Hale has returned to his duties at Fort Brown.

Pvt. R.L. Goode increased the happiness in the parental home when he arrived Monday to assist in welcoming his WAVE sister, Lois Goode, from Iowa. Pvt. Goode is stationed in San Antonio with the 721st Railway Battalion... Much rejoicing in the Will Walker household was caused by the arrival of Chas. E. Walker, S. 2-c from Fort Blakeley, Washington, Wednesday night...

Sgt. James Cash is spending his furlough from Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Goodson... Mrs. P.A. Walker of Garwood notifies the Headlight that she has received a letter from her son, E.R. Walker, from somewhere in North Africa... Eagle Lake's only WAVE girl, Yeoman 3-c Lois Goode, was home on furlough this week. She arrived Monday afternoon from Cedar Falls, Iowa and is leaving today, Friday...

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Could we be headed for wettest year on record?

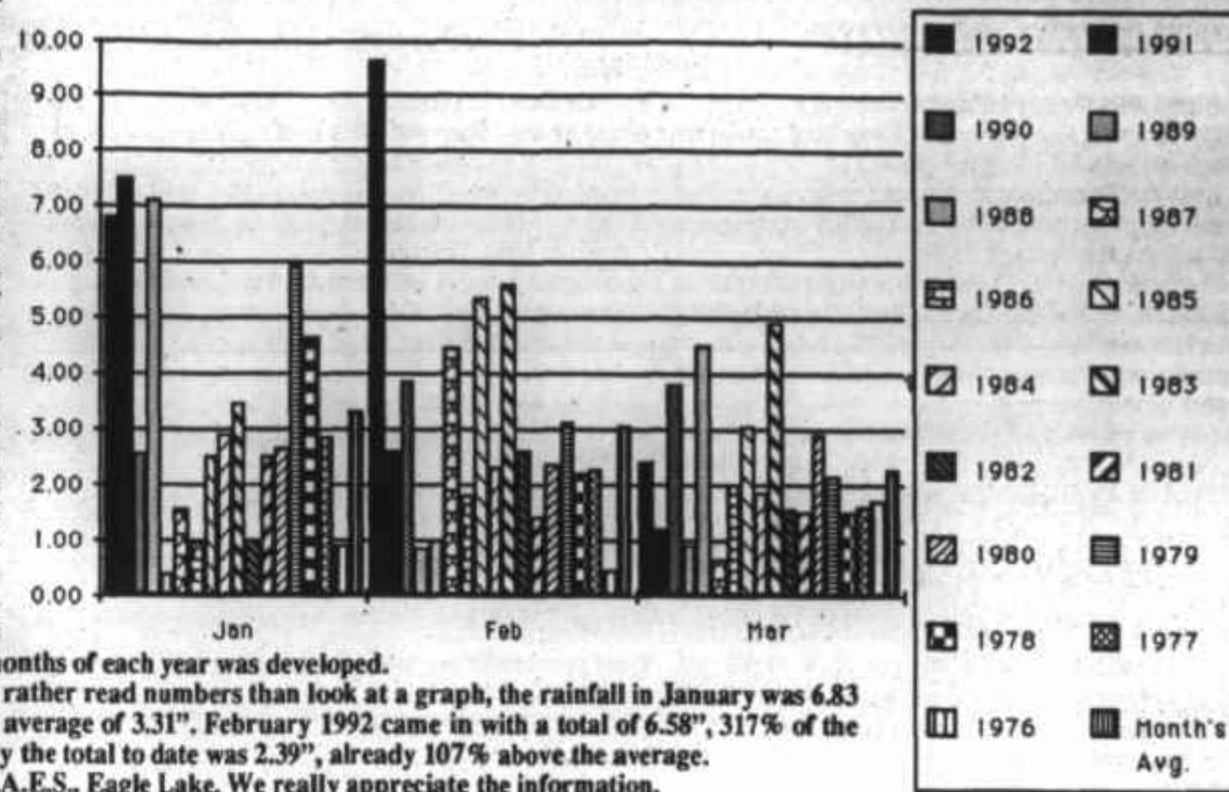
Are your feet webbed yet?

According to data collected at the Texas A&M Extension Service here in Eagle Lake through March 5th, the rainfall for this month is already ahead of the monthly average and the total rainfall for 11 of the last 15 years.

The report, which listed monthly rainfall totals, deviation from the average and percent of the average, originally inspired a chart containing all 12 months of the year and the data back through 1976. Unfortunately, this version contained so many "bars" it was virtually unreadable so this one containing the first three months of each year was developed.

For those of you who would rather read numbers than look at a graph, the rainfall in January was 6.83 inches or 207% of the monthly average of 3.31". February 1992 came in with a total of 6.58", 317% of the average. Through last Thursday the total to date was 2.39", already 107% above the average.

Our thanks to the staff at T.A.E.S., Eagle Lake. We really appreciate the information.



Continued from Page 2

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