

RAIDER REVIEW

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Ag Moos

By Jenny Hajovsky

Recently, the Rice FFA Chapter was very involved in the Houston Livestock Show. Mr. Stavino, the Ag teacher, and all of the participants worked hard for several months and their efforts paid off.

Exhibiting Commercial Steers were Stephanie Thompson, Brooke Crane, Amy Obenhaus, Cody Thompson, Jacob Little, Brett Boenisch and Kurt Rodgers. Stephanie and

Brooke advanced to the finals and Stephanie received a \$150 prize for having the best record book.

The Livestock Judging Team, consisting of Rodgers, Boenisch, and Little, judged on Monday. The competition was fierce, but the team went away with more knowledge about livestock.

Brandon and Heather Shanks both showed Brahman heifers in the Breed-

ing Heifer division and won 8th and 11 place, and Junior FFA'ers Dustin and Dane Krennek showed Brahman and Simmental steers.

Rice FFA had several entries in the Ag Mechanics contest. Warren Scott and Jay Knight entered a hay fork and received a white ribbon for their efforts.

Receiving red ribbons were Hank Crane, Boenisch, Kevin Hoffman

and Dale Hentzell for their 5X10 utility trailer, Barrett Thomas and Bo Vavrusa for their pig transport, and Scott Bittner and J.P., for their one bail hay buggy.

Winning blue ribbons were Thompson and Klint Korenek for their bumper and Shanks, Klay Korenek and Justin Schneider for their 6x20 lowboy trailer.

Cliff Cerny, Rodgers, Ralph Gertson and Ryan Waddell received a blue ribbon for their six bail hay van and placed second in their class.

Kyle Korenek and Clint Gertson received a blue ribbon and won second place over all with their cattle guard.

Congratulations to all of the participants for a job well done!



Pictured above are the Ag participants, from left, front row, Dale Hentzell, Brett Boenisch, Scott Bittner, Justin Schneider, Amy Obenhaus, Brooke Crane, Ryan Waddell, Hank Crane, Klint Korenek, Brandon Shanks and Klay Korenek.

Diary of a band trip

By Lisa Valigura

Over spring break, the Rice High School Mighty Raider Band spent four days and three nights, March 12-15, at the Disney World Resort in Kissimmee, Florida. Fifty-three band members, nine chaperones and Mr. Talton's daughter, Hannah, enjoyed the sights and sounds of Walt Disney world.

The band started their adventure Wednesday night, March 11, with a lock-in at the high school band hall. Students who did not participate in the lock-in met at 1 a.m. Thursday morning. Coach Dennis Jackson and Mr. Alex Gardner took the students to the Houston Bush-Intercontinental Airport.

Students loaded the plane at 5:40 a.m. and took off to the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport. They boarded a connecting flight to Orlando, Florida, which landed around 10:30 a.m. Students then boarded a chartered bus that took them to the Wilson World Maingate Hotel in Kissimmee. After unloading their luggage, students spent the day at the Disney World Epcot Center.

Friday morning at 7 a.m., students loaded the chartered Means Bus for Valencia Community College where they performed *Circle City March* by Douglas E. Wagner (ASCAP) and *Creed* by William Himes. After the performance, students enjoyed the rest of the day at the Disney World Magic Kingdom.

On Saturday, the band started their day at Planet Hollywood. There students saw artifacts from famous movies such as a Leonardo Di Caprio outfit from *Titanic*. They could also win special anniversary Planet Hollywood pins if they knew the answer to trivia questions.

The band visited Ron Jon's Surf Shop in Cocoa Beach and spent the afternoon at the beach. The band then enjoyed a barbecue dinner at Cape Canaveral Jetty Park.

Then band ended their day with a trip back to Disney World MGM Studios for the Musicfest Awards Presentation. Then band earned an excellent rating and placed 3rd in the Single A Category. Band Directors James Talton and Jimmy Martin were introduced and Drum majors Kara Bennett and Susie Silva received the trophy.

After the awards ceremony, the band spent the evening swimming in the indoor pool at the hotel and singing and dancing with the Karaoke machine.

Sunday began with a buffet break-

fast at the Disney All-Star Complex where Dustin Brisco measured his size shoe 16 against Shaquille O'Neil's 22.

The band then spent the day at the Disney MGM Studios. The 10 a.m. Indiana Jones stunt performance featured Mr. Martin as a stand in actor who met the actors and actually played roles on the stage during the performance.

The band started their journey back home at 3 p.m. Sunday. They boarded the plane at Orlando International Airport for DFW at 5:20 p.m. After a little flight turbulence, the plane landed and students then caught a flight into Houston. The flight to Bush-Intercontinental was scheduled to leave at 8:35 p.m., but was delayed until 9:30 p.m. because of weather and air traffic. Coach Jackson and Mr. Ron Peroni were at the airport to meet the band and bring them back to the high school when the plane landed at 10:30 p.m.

The band would like to thank Mr. Peroni for transporting all the band instruments and uniforms to Kissimmee, Florida and the chaperones: Deborah Axel, Debbie Christ, Fran Hajovsky, Ann Pavliska, Melissa Talton, and Howard Wilkerson for taking time to accompany the band.

The band would like to thank Mr. Martin for assisting Mr. Talton. A very special thank you to Mr. Talton for making the Disney World trip possible. The trip was a great experience for everyone and something that we will all remember.

The band students and chaperones

had a wonderful time meeting Disney characters, attending Disney World productions and experiencing the Disney World Magic.

Meet the Lady Raider

By Valerie Galvan

This week's spotlight is on #7 Amalie Kucherka. Amy plays catcher on the varsity softball team.

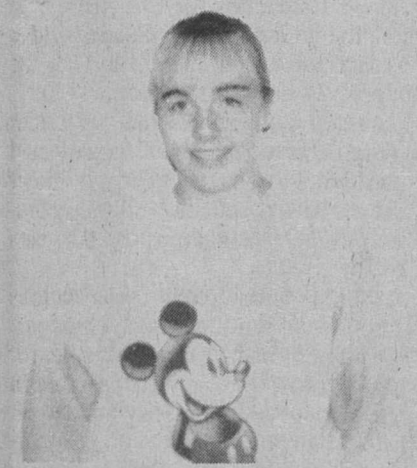
She is the daughter of Dave and Melinda Kucherka of Eagle Lake.

Amy commented that this season has had its ups and downs. "We did win our first game ever against Ganado. District is here and we play some really tough teams. We are working hard to improve our skills."

Softball is a relatively new sport in the athletic department. When asked how she felt about the softball program being added to the curriculum Amy replied, "I was ecstatic! Softball is a sport I have loved since I was little. I am glad to help build the Rice softball program."

Amy commented that the coaches are an inspiration to the team. "The coaches push us when we need to be pushed, but they are also there as friends. Practice usually has a relaxed atmosphere when Coach Politsch and Coach Bridges are telling jokes."

Amy hopes to improve her batting average this season and make other teams afraid to steal against her. Most



Amalie Kucherka

of all she hopes to win a few games.

Her proudest moment in softball: "My proudest moment was when I threw out a girl stealing second for the first out of the first game we ever won."

"We are a new program and we need the support of the community," commented Amalie. "We have worked really hard to get our field ready to play on for 'everyone' to enjoy!"

Amy also participates in band, volleyball, Flag Corps, FTA, Annual Staff and NHS.

In the future she hopes to attend A&M to receive a degree in biomedical sciences.

By Namita Verma

We had quite a bit of confusion over this nude cutie pie's identity. Can you guess who this is? The only clue given was that this precious little girl is currently a junior.

Ben Turner glanced once at the picture and confidently replied, "Kelli Mathys." Sorry, Ben!

Jonathon Godley stared at the picture for a long time and weakly asked, "Is it Lori Grigar?" Nope, nice try, Jonathon.

Joe Romo didn't think twice when he guessed Stacy Rodriguez.

Kim Lott just chuckled and announced, "I don't know!", but Klay Korenek was shot down when he said, "I do, that's Angie Leopold!" Evidently, Klay was wrong.

So who could this little angel be? Drue Dulany, Hellena Banks and Tho-

mas Pittman all knew that this little girl is none other than Lauren Sublett.

Lauren is Vice President of Future Farmers of America and involved in Cosmetology.

Lauren is the daughter of Bill and Cindy Arrison of Rock Island.

On the weekends, she likes to be lazy and relieve stress. "I just hang around town with my boyfriend and our friends!" Lauren exclaims.

Meet the Raider

By Amalie Kucherka

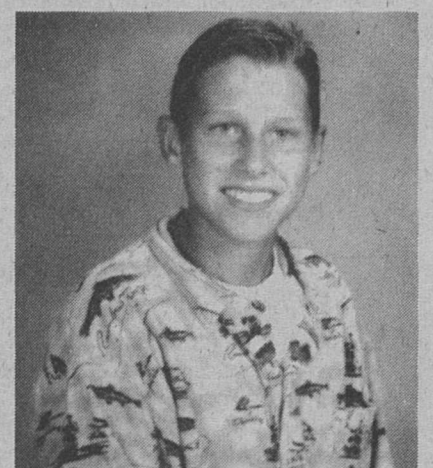
This week the spotlight shines brightly on junior, Barrett Thomas. He is one of the Raiders' dynamic tennis players.

Barrett says, "I've liked tennis since 7th grade. I play for fun and especially to win."

Barrett and his doubles partner, Matt Milentz, hope to go to Regionals and place. His favorite athlete is Pete Sampras.

Barrett also commented, "Many people say tennis is boring. I agree it is boring to watch, but it's a great and fun sport to play."

Barrett is the son of Dr. Russell



Barrett Thomas

and Robin Thomas of Eagle Lake.

On the weekends, he likes to party, be with his friends and go fishing. Barrett also plays football and is a member of NHS.

Foot Facts

By Dr. Eric R. Tepper, Podiatrist

ARE SANDALS SAFE?

It's that time of year again, when shoe stores fill up with wispy little sandals and brightly colored flip-flops. They may look great in fashion magazines, but are most sandals — with their total lack of support and barely-there cushioning — good for your feet? The answer is a definite "maybe". If your feet are basically normal and healthy, wearing sandals probably won't hurt them. If, however, your feet need the kind of stability and shock-absorption provided by athletic shoes or even orthotics (prescription shoe inserts), sandals must be avoided. Your own body can help you judge: If your feet, back, or legs start to hurt after wearing sandals, they're probably not good for you.

Although shoes are meant to protect our feet from cold, injury, disease, and pounding on hard pavement, too often we choose them for style rather than comfort and function. Whether shopping for sandals or hiking boots, let common sense dictate — if they aren't comfortable, don't buy them. At the least, you'll end up not wearing them and wasting money; at the worst, they can aggravate foot problems and cause pain. We believe that good shoes are part of the good care your feet deserve. For an appointment at Rice Medical Center on Tuesdays, please call 234-5571.

P.S. It takes feet a couple of weeks to adjust to wearing sandals. Break them in slowly.

NEWS FROM THE ARMED FORCES

Marine Lance Cpl. Jesse D. Bishop

...son of Veronica F. Fields of Eagle Lake, was recently promoted to his present rank while serving with 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Bishop was promoted based on

sustained superior job performance and proficiency in his designated specialty.

The 1996 graduate of Rice High School joined the Marine Corps in Oct. 1996.

Army Pfc. Aundre Hatton

...son of Patricia A. Hatton and Dexter Black of Eagle Lake, has returned to Fort Hood in Killeen from Kuwait after participating in a training operation termed "Intrinsic Action". The returning soldiers were assigned to Task Force 1-12th Infantry at Camp Doha, Kuwait.

The mission was to demonstrate the U.S. commitment to the security and stability in Kuwait and the Persian Gulf region. This action was in response to mobilized Iraqi troops along the Kuwaiti border.

The task force was created to make sure that soldiers, weapons and equipment were ready to deter any aggression in the region, and train various combat elements to pull together to complete their mission.

Hatton is a self-propelled field artillery turret mechanic assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery at Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, Colo.

The private is a 1996 graduate of Rice High School.

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