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Just a short comment

By Jeannine Fearing, Publisher

Despite the best efforts of the referees during the fourth quarter of Friday night's game, the Rice Raiders soundly defeated the Weimar Wildcats, 34-16.

Through almost three full quarters it looked as if Rice had actually pulled a decent crew of referees for a change. But that situation went down the drain FAST!

In addition to BAD calls, there were some HORRIBLE no calls; one right at the side judge's feet.

Hopes were, when we went into a different district, that the referees would change. Well, maybe they did,

but they "call" the games the same as the ones we've been forced to accept the last few years.

Yes, I know. As long as we're near the bottom of our district we get the dregs when it comes to the "referee barrel". But surely, somewhere out there, are some refs who at least have enough of a conscience to call an even game.

If the pass intercepted by Kevin Godley of Rice was incomplete (they said it hit the ground), then the pass the Weimar player caught later using the same position (lying on the ground with his arms stretched out in front of

him) was incomplete, too.

But, it was not to be. I do send my praises to the Raider varsity players who didn't let the bad and no calls get them down. That's a pleasant change from past years.

Just keep it up, guys! Remember, you beat all 15 of them Friday night. You can do it again when and if you're put in the same situation.

Oh, and congratulations to Rice High School freshman Dante Fuller for scoring a touchdown in his first varsity game.

As my younger daughter says, "Class of 2002... yeah!"

Number of students taking SAT up 6.7%, but scores remain stable

The class of 1998 set a new state record when 100,417 Texas students in public and private schools took the Scholastic Achievement Test.

That is an increase of 6,383 from 1997 and the largest increase in 10 years. A record number of Texans also took Advanced Placement Exams, the College Board reported last week.

Reflecting national trends, Texas scores on the SAT remained stable with students earning 494 on the verbal section of the exam and 501 on the mathematics portion of the college



State Capitol Highlights

By Ed Sterling
Texas Press Association

entrance exam.

Nationally, the 1,172,779 students who took the SAT earned an average score of 505 on the verbal section of the exam and 512 on math.

"It is encouraging that our scores remained stable despite the record increase in the number of students taking the exam," Texas Education Commissioner Mike Moses said.

"Testing experts, including those at the College Board, tell us that test scores typically go down when the number of students taking the test goes up."

AG Alerts Flood Victims

Texas Attorney General Dan Morales last week said he will vigorously prosecute price-gougers, dishonest remodelers and others who attempt to take advantage of flood victims along the Rio Grande in South Texas.

"Wherever there is a natural disaster, we usually find a few unscrupulous opportunists who view disaster victims as easy targets. This is a warning to the crooks: The bull's-eye is on you," Morales said.

Prosecution would come under the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act. During a disaster, it is a violation of the law to unconscionably raise prices of basic goods such as food, water, batteries, tools and building samples.

Texans who want to report disaster price-gouging or other suspected violations may call the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Hotline at 800-337-3928. Consumers also may call the Federal Emergency Management Agency Fraud Line at 800-323-8603.

Morales recommends that consumers obtain references from remodelers and clean-up crews, hire only those who have roots in the community, check for complaints with the Better Business Bureau and the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Office and pay for work only as it progresses.

Health Clinics Won't Be Cut
Texas Health Commissioner Reyn

Archer last week retracted an earlier decision to cut funding for school-based health clinics, amid protests from lawmakers and health-care advocates.

Archer said he only intended to postpone making a decision "to thoroughly assess our efforts to improve the health of Texas children and our commitment to addressing the need for comprehensive health for our kids."

The health department will examine the clinic program to see if it duplicates services of other state or federal programs.

This year, at a cost of \$1.4 million, the state is paying for 12 school-based health clinics. Next year, the state will finance 10 clinics at a cost of \$1 million.

"I want to assure the people of Texas I have no intention at this time of eliminating Texas Department of Health funding for school-based health clinics," Archer wrote.

Other Capital Highlights

Results of a recent Texas Department of Transportation poll show that only 10% of Texas drivers believe they are speeding when they drive 10 miles an hour or more above the speed limit. Fifty-five percent of the 500 licensed drivers polled admitted speeding most or all of the time.

Ima Smith, wife of former Gov. Preston Smith, who was governor from 1969 to 1973, died Aug. 29 at age 86, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. She was buried in the Texas State Cemetery on Sept. 1.

Dan Kubiak, D-Rockdale, died Aug. 30 at his Rockdale home. An 11-year lawmaker, Kubiak was head of a House Appropriations Subcommittee monitoring state agencies' efforts to avoid computer problems associated with the "year 2000 glitch."

Gov. George W. Bush leads Democratic challenger Garry Mauro, 67% to 20%, the latest Texas Poll reveals. The telephone poll of 1,004 adults was conducted Aug. 12-27 by the University of Texas Office of Survey Research for Scripps Howard media company.

Texas handgun permits are now valid in Louisiana, Col. Dudley Thomas, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety said last week. Texas has similar "reciprocity agreements" with Oklahoma and Arkansas and is working to establish more.

To THE EDITOR & You
Everyone encouraged to 'back the athletes'

Raider Fans:

Thanks to all the Rice Raider Boosters. We are off to a great year. Memberships are up and enthusiasm is high!

The volleyball season is well underway, football season has started

and the Raiders are doing great! I encourage everyone in the community to take time to see a game and give these athletes your support.

Thank you,
Denis Hentzell
Raider Booster Club

From the office of
State Rep. Robby Cook

TPW approves boat ramp renovations

The Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) Commission has approved the Lower Colorado River Authority's request to renovate an existing boat ramp facility located on Lake Bastrop off FM 1441 in central Bastrop County.

Proposed development includes demolition of an existing single-lane ramp and construction of new 2-lane ramp, restrooms, roads and parking, courtesy dock, boat dock with 4 slips, bulkheading, erosion controls, area lighting, landscaping and signs.

The TPW Commission's Boat Ramp Program provides boating access to public waters at more than 300 locations throughout Texas.

State Representative Robert L. Cook (D-Eagle Lake) says the renovation is an opportunity for rural Texas to prosper.

"The improvements being made to the boat ramp facility on Lake Bastrop will increase recreational opportunities for Bastrop and surrounding area's residents. Through the commitment of the LCRA, the improved boat

ramp and facilities will become a reality."

Midtown park renovations approved

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission has approved the City of Columbus' request to acquire 2.245 acres to expand and develop 2.34 acre Midtown park located in the north central area of the city.

Proposed development includes a roller blade area, two shuffleboard courts, basketball courts, playground, pavilion/amphitheater, five picnic tables with grills, 0.5 mile trail with exercise stations, two sand volleyball courts, two lighted tennis courts, interpretive native plant garden, utilities, restroom/storage buildings, landscaping and irrigation, benches and signs.

Funds for local park projects are derived from a portion of the state sales tax on sporting goods through the Texas Recreation and Parks Account.

Such funding allows state government and local communities to combine resources in providing for the recreational needs of citizens of Texas.

According to State Representative Robert L. Cook, the expansion of Midtown Park is another way the TPW Commission is working to improve rural Texas.

"The plans for the development of Midtown Park have brought together many diverse groups of Columbus citizens who are working toward common goals: enhancement of the quality of life for Columbus residents and accommodation of visitors to this historical town. This neighborhood park will increase recreational opportunities of Columbus residents, especially those in the residential neighborhoods north of Hwy. 90 who must presently travel across town to use park facilities."

Constituents are encouraged to contact Rep. Cook with opinions and comments a P.O. Box 217, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434.

"Of all the ways of paying for a thing, cash is the cheapest." — Anton Kuh

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

July 17, 1973

Mayor Elmer Struss handed Councilman Bennie Miller the game ball for the opening baseball game dedicating the new city park. Rev. Ray Woodruff and City Manager T.J. Smith also participated in the ceremonies...

Mr. & Mrs. Hugh S. Morton are the new owners of the Sportsman's Motel in Eagle Lake, having purchased the motel from the C.E. Dows. The Mortons have two daughters, Linda, who will be attending Rice

High School and Patricia, who will be in Eagle Lake Middle School...

Miss Debbie Leyendecker of Columbus took top honors for the title of 1973 Colorado County Farm Bureau Queen Saturday night, July 14. Miss Janelle Bauer of Eagle Lake was named runner up...

The 1973 Session of S.W. Graduate School of Banking held July 22-Aug. 3 on the Southern Methodist University campus will be better looking this year with 32 women bank executives in attendance. Among the 18 enrolled in the Freshmen Class XVI is Gail Bradshaw, Assistant Cashier of the First National Bank of Eagle Lake...

Mrs. Thelma Smith announced the approaching marriage of her daughter, Jennifer Sue, to Rev. Paul Lee Barrow on Saturday, July 28, at seven o'clock in the evening at the Providence Baptist Church in Eagle Lake...

Army Pvt. John L. Harris, son of Mrs. Edna Harris of Eagle Lake, recently completed infantry advanced individual training with Company C, 1st Battalion of the First Cavalry Division's 5th Cavalry at Ft. Hood...

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Boudreaux and son, Brendan, were pleasantly entertained Tuesday, July 10, with a farewell party in the V.J. Kana home by Mr. & Mrs. Kana, their daughter, Miss Betty Kana, and their son, Phil Kana. The Boudreauxs are moving to their new home in Crowley, La.

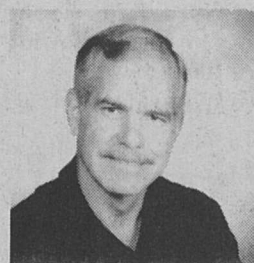
Sept. 7, 1950

Hats off to the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department pumper racing team, led by Captain Henry Dostal, L.J. Spaniel, Rueben Muensch, Fritz Gold, Henry Kretschmar and Johnny Burns, who won the first prize of \$25 at the meeting of the Tri-Rivers Firemen's Association at Rich-

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Ryan Thomas

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(Grupa Vida, Alma Tejana)



Saturday, Sept. 12

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IPRA-CPRA Rodeo — 7:30 p.m. Fri. & Sat.
Downtown Parade — 11 a.m. Saturday
Junior Livestock Sale — 2 p.m. Saturday

For more information call: 409-732-9266

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1-800-256-7321

or

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Sealy

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