

RAIDER REVIEW

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RHS students place at County Fair

By Lisa Valigura

Members of the Rice High School Chapter of the Future Farmers of America (FFA), along with Special Olympics, participated in several events at the Colorado County Fair held Sept. 10-13.

The students brought home several awards.

FFA members showing animals included Shelley Boenisch, Grand Champion Commercial Female; Brandon Shanks, Grand Champion American Female and Reserved Champion Overall Female; Heather Shanks, second place American Female; and Jacob Little, third place Market Steer.

Jr. FFA members competing were Kaylyn Boenisch, Reserve Champion Commercial Female and Champion Showmanship; Ryan Henske, first place Commercial Female; Camille Staff, third place Commercial Female; Chad Mahalic, 5th place Steer; Jess Little, Grand Champion Steer; Jacob Engstrom, 8th place Broilers; and Mandy Staff, 10th place Broilers.

Erika Ellenbogen received a Best of Section for her Alamogordo painting in the Texana Division.

Eric Guthrie received a blue ribbon for his wood project; Clifford Miller received Best of Section for his ceramic Easter basket; and J.L. Miller received Grand Champion for his horse created out of foam art.

Erika, Eric, Clifford and J.L. all brought home blue ribbons on their Western Art entries and Sam Ellenbogen received a red ribbon for his illustration.

In the Food Division, Erika's fudge won Reserve Champion and her banana bread received a blue ribbon. Congratulations to these students!

Mr. Wendel stated, "Students deal with more problems now, both academically and personally, than when I was in high school. The counseling center provides a great opportunity for Mr. Davidson and I to become more involved with the students. He also stated that, "Students at Rice High

New counseling center

School usually visit the counselor's office three to four times in their senior year alone. Visits begin when a student is a freshman registering for classes until the student is a senior preparing for graduation.

Mr. Davidson indicated, "Removing the counselors' offices from the

area of the principal's office eliminated the intimidation which students may have felt in the past when visiting the counselors.

Now that the counselors' offices have been moved, and Mrs. Waligura, (PEIM's clerk, register and attendance clerk), has joined them in the

center, she has more room in which to work as well.

The Counseling Center is the first office suite on the left hand side when entering the building from the teachers' parking lot.

Parents are encouraged to make appointments and visit.

By Cecelia Ruiz

Meet the Raider

By Angie Leopold

When injury keeps him from playing in the game, a true Raider always find his way back to the team. Ralph Gertson knows about team pride. He is a senior Raider with a heart for football.

Last March, Ralph suffered from Chiari Malformation, a condition where the brain starts growing into the spinal cord. He underwent a critical operation to correct the problem and returned to school after a long six weeks.

Because he is still in the stages of recovery, he is unable to play football this season. However, you can still find Ralph on the sidelines of the field every Friday acting as the team trainer.

He stays busy at practices and at games by running errands for the coaches and assisting the players with their injuries. His usual tasks include wrapping wrists, bandages, and pads for the football players and fixing equipment such as helmets and shoulder pads. He also tries keeping the players' spirits up.

"The best part about my job is being able to help the players with

their injuries," said Ralph. He also commented, "I'd like to thank them for making me feel like part of the team."

Ralph is the son of Ralph and Connie Gertson of Eagle Lake. He is president of the senior class and active in NHS, Student Council and golf.

In his spare time, he enjoys hunt-

ing, fishing and playing golf. He also likes water sports and snow skiing. His idea of the perfect weekend is to hang out at parties with his friends and spend time with his girlfriend.

After graduation, Ralph plans to attend Wharton County College to take part in the radiology program.

Meet the Lady Raider

By Kim Lott

If you attend a varsity volleyball game, you are sure to see this week's spotlighted Raider out on the court. Playing the position of setter and wearing jersey #1 is Lori Grigar.

She is a senior and the daughter of Michael and Melody Grigar of Eagle Lake.

When I asked Lori how she felt about this season's team, she said,

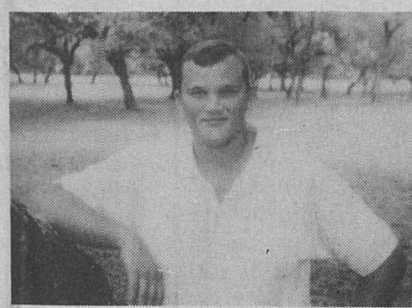
"Our team this year has the potential to be very good. We work well together and always keep a positive attitude no matter what the outcome is." Lori feels the team works well together because "we all know how each other plays and we always make it fun."

Lori says, "Coach Heard works us hard and really believes that our team is capable of advancing beyond dis-

trict." With the way that the team has been playing so far this season, this is not an unattainable goal. They have the potential to do anything they put their minds to.

Next year Lori plans to go to college at Southwest Texas and major in Sports Medicine.

Meanwhile, she spends most of her time playing volleyball, cheerleading and sleeping. She also enjoys visiting her friends from out of town.



Ralph Gertson

Who's Zat?

By Valerie Galvan

"Guess who I am?" That seems to be the look on this angelic face. This picture was shown to several students at Rice High School. They were asked to guess the identity of this smiling sweetheart. The only clue given was that he is a senior.

Admiring the picture was the easy part, but guessing the identity didn't come so readily. Glen Dromgoole and Olivia Mendoza thought this baby was Coy Sunderman. Kimmie Smith guessed Jeremy Weishuhn. Mrs. Volkmmer, Chrissy Leopold and Betty Gutierrez all had no clue! Barrett Thomas guessed Joey Sommerlatte but after being told correctly, he replied, "Of course! You can tell by his chubby cheeks!"

Upon seeing the picture, Cecelia Ruiz exclaimed, "Hey that looks like Kristie Vargas!" Very good try Cecelia, but your guess is a little off. Some said it was the cheeks, others said it was in the smile or in the eyes, but the identity was unmistakable. Lori Grigar, Angie Leopold, Kim Lott, Tabitha Connor, Susana Silva and Amalie Kucherka all new this picture was a former version of Richard Vargas.

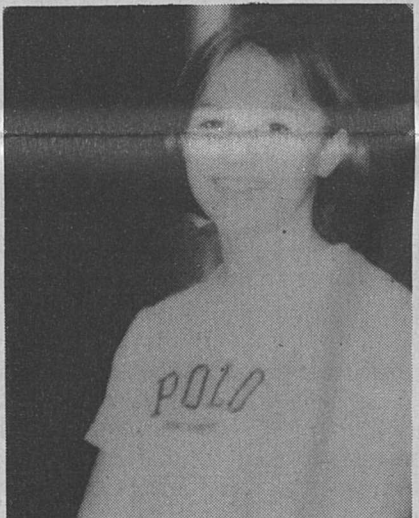
Richard is the son of Gilbert and Mary Jane Vargas of Eagle Lake.

His mother commented that Richard was always full of surprises as a

child. She shared her most memorable moment. "I will never forget when his elementary teacher told me Richard stood up in front of his whole class and sang a Christmas carol for them. I was so shocked. He was so shy then, but he keeps surprising me!"

While at Rice, Richard has participated in tennis, basketball and band and was nominated for Who's Who for two consecutive years.

Richard expects to graduate with the class of 1999. He plans to attend Wharton Junior College for two years, then transfer to the University of Texas with an interest in the medical field.



Lori Grigar



Views On Dental Health

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WHY TWO SETS OF TEETH?

If Mother Nature is so great, why did she devise a human mouth that requires two sets of teeth? It might seem like a waste of time and materials to grow two jaws-full of teeth — lose them — and then grow a whole new set. The answer is simple... size!

Not only is a baby's head considerably smaller than an adult's, but the proportions of the head are quite different. Most of the baby's head is taken up by the brain and the bony skull that covers and protects it. Its face is tiny in comparison with an adult's, but it grows more rapidly than the skull, especially during the growth spurt during adolescence.

The large permanent teeth look perfectly appropriate in an adult's mouth, but imagine how huge they would look in the mouth of a young child! There wouldn't be room for them. On the other hand, the twenty small "baby" teeth that nicely fill the jaws of a two-year-old would look lost in an adult mouth. May be Mother Nature wasn't so dumb after all.

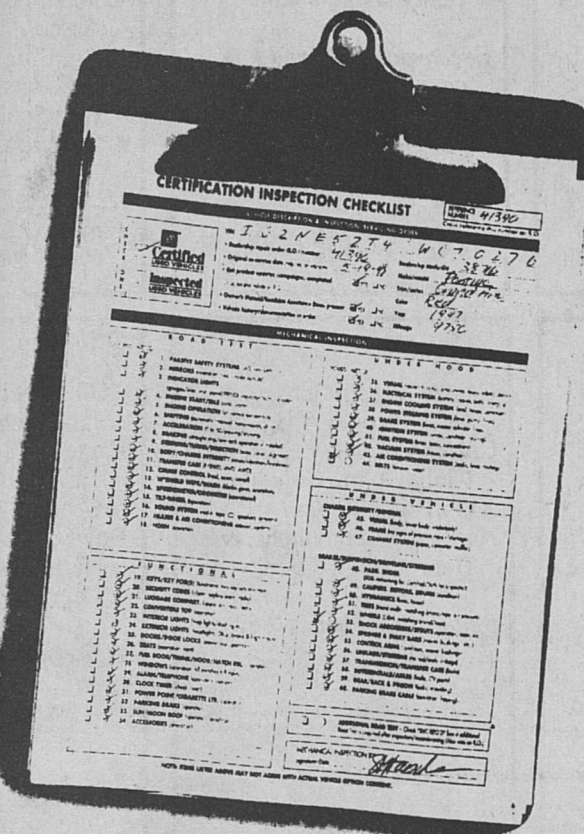
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BIG thank you from the Fair Association

The 20th Colorado County Fair Association wishes to express its sincere appreciation to everyone who braved the weather to make this year's Fair successful. A big thank you to our sponsors, buyers, exhibitors, rodeo contestants, barbecue cooks and everyone who worked to overcome the rain and water to enjoy the Fair. As of press time the final numbers are unknown, but seeing the public come out in support of this county-wide event under the conditions we faced is a sure indicator that all the hard work by all of our volunteers met with great returns.

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