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Football and volleyball athletes who will be in high school this coming school year need to make sure they have a physical before school starts. The first day of football and volleyball practice is Aug. 4, with school beginning Aug. 10. All incoming ninth grade athletes (male and female) will need to report to the high school at 7 a.m. on

Wednesday, Aug. 4. Buses will run to pick up those who need rides in all three communities. Sheridan students will be picked up at 6:45 a.m. at the Sheridan School. Garwood/Nada students will also leave at 6:45 a.m. (See Athletics, Page 6)

Eagle Lake Headlight

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Eagle Lake community opens its arms to Amtrak passengers

By Lynda Evans, Headlight Staff

Investigation has indicated that a tanker truck driver ran a stop sign just before crossing into the path of an Amtrak passenger train traveling 70 mph just outside Eagle Lake, injuring 21 persons last Thursday, July 8.

The accident took place on Hwy. 90-A East at the Chesterville Road crossing. Eight train cars derailed, scattering cars, debris, luggage, etc. on both sides of the track. The east-

bound Sunset Limited collided with the truck just before noon.

The truck driver, Jason Bubela, 21, of El Campo was cited Monday of this week for failure to observe the stop sign. If found guilty, the charge could result in a \$200 fine.

Bubela, a driver for Key Energy Services of Bryan-College Station, was not seriously injured.

Eagle Lake Fire Chief Gary Glaizer said the 911 call came in about

11:48 a.m. The Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department arrived on the scene at 12:03 p.m., according to Glaizer.

The train (enroute from Los Angeles to Orlando) was carrying 234 passengers and crew, 21 of whom were treated for mostly minor injuries at Rice Medical Center.

Engineer J.D. Woods and Assistant Engineer Ed Guidon were pulled from the overturned engine after rescuers used a sledge hammer to break a window.

Both spent the night at the Eagle Lake hospital but were released Friday, according to Hospital Administrator David Keith. Two passengers were also admitted.

Glaizer told Eagle Lake City Council Tuesday night that it was lucky that the ground was soft. "The engine hit and dug in which slowed it down enough to keep it in the ditch. Otherwise, it would have been all over the highway," stated Glaizer.

According to Glaizer, Eagle Lake firemen spent 180 man-hours on the accident in addition to the hours spent by their Ladies Auxiliary. "The main (Continued on Page 5)



Citizens and officials of Eagle Lake and surrounding communities opened their arms to the 200 plus passengers and crew who had been aboard Amtrak's Sunset Limited when it derailed just outside Eagle Lake last Thursday morning.

From Eagle Lake Mayor Michael Cooper to members of the City Council, ordinary citizens, Rice CISD Superintendent Dr. Richard Gott and employees of Rice CISD, and, of course, members of the Ambulance Corps from Eagle Lake and Garwood and the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department... everyone in the area responded to the needs of these people before and after they were transported to the Community Center. (See Page 5 for additional photos.)

Photo by Jay Anderson

NEWSBRIEFS

RHS Class of 1989 to hold reunion

The Rice high school (RHS) Class of 1989 is planning a reunion for this summer. Please contact Jennifer (Matthews) Olson at 281-403-6290 or jolson@LFPC.com; or Steven Meinecke at 234-3104 or SDM929@hotmail.com. We need addresses and phone numbers for 1989 alumni so that we can contact everyone with more information as arrangements are made.

Lady Raider volleyball camp scheduled

A Lady Raider Volleyball camp will be held July 26-28 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon at Rice High School gym. Registration will be held July 26 from 8-8:30 a.m. for those entering grades 4-9 at \$20 per child.

Fundamentals to be covered are passing, setting and serving. Participants need to wear clean comfortable tennis shoes, shorts and t-shirts and knee pads (optional).

For more information or if you are interested but you need a ride, call Wendy Dietrich, head volleyball coach at Rice High School, 234-6797, home; or the athletic office, 234-6343.

Church garage sale is Saturday

Templo Berea Cladic will hold a garage sale on Saturday, July 17, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 509 Stevens St. (Rice Mill Area). They'll have lots of everything. Proceeds benefit the church building fund. For more information, call 234-2130.

E.H. Henry Alumni to hold 9th reunion

E.H. Henry Alumni are reminded of the 9th annual reunion to be held on Saturday, July 17. Sign-in is at 10 a.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. All ex-students and teachers are invited to attend.

WPC Annual is July 25

Williams Paradise Cemetery (WPC) will hold their annual Sunday, July 25, at Wright Grove Baptist Church in Altair. The public is invited; Rev. T.J. Cunningham, pastor.

White Cloud VBS set for July 19-23

White Cloud Baptist Church located on Old Altair Road will hold their Vacation Bible School (VBS) July 19-23, from 6-8 p.m. For more information call 409-234-3800, Rev. Obie Rhodes, pastor.

ICE House board meeting is July 18

The ICE House will hold a board meeting on Sunday, July 18, at 3 p.m. at the ICE House. The public is invited to attend.

Bernardo VFD barbecue set for July 18

The Bernardo Volunteer Fire Department will hold their 34th Annual chicken and sausage barbecue on Sunday, July 18 at Mentz Parish Hall.

Serving starts at noon. Plates for adults \$6; and children 12 and under \$3, coffee and tea included. There will be meat to go at the pit and a drive thru line for plates to go. A raffle with lots of prizes will be held as well as an auction at 1 p.m.

Enjoy music by the Alpine America Jason Keepers (outside band) and dance from 3 to 7 p.m. to the music Family Tradition (donation \$4 per person).

Donations still welcome

Unit #803 of the Colorado County Emergency Medical Services (Eagle Lake's Ambulance Corps) is still accepting donations to cover the purchase of the memorial placed on the Square on Tuesday, June 22. You may send or deliver your donation to the Tobin Thomas Monument Fund at the First National Bank of Eagle Lake; or, you may give it directly to any member of the Eagle Lake Ambulance Corps.

First Baptist Church VBS is July 19-23

The First Baptist Church (FBC) of Eagle Lake invites children ages three years through sixth grade to join them for Vacation Bible School, July 19-23 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Traverse through adventure-filled Bible stories, create a mountain of crafts, explore unique mission sites and experience extraordinary Mt. Extreme music. For more information call FBC at 409-234-2571.

Time to start gathering photos

It's time for Colorado County photographers to busy themselves taking pictures which can be entered in the 2000 Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo photography contest. Entries must be 8x10 black and white or color with no frame or matte and must have a western or Texas theme. An individual may enter as many photographs as he or she wishes. These photos may also be entered in the Colorado County Fair in Sept., prior to the Houston Show. Call Buddy Mascheck at 234-5347 for further information. The Colorado County Go Texan Committee will be requesting the entries in late Dec.

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Buses will pick up those who need rides. Sheridan students at 6:45 a.m., Sheridan School; and Garwood/Nada at 6:45 a.m., Garwood School. Eagle Lake will have three different locations: 6:30 a.m. at Eagle Lake Middle School and Dan's Minute Stop; and B&B Foods around 6:45 a.m. The bus will stop in Altair at the Post Office on the way to the high school.

All athletes need to plan ahead for their rides to the high school. Football and volleyball practices will begin at 7:30 a.m. and conclude no later than 12 noon. Buses will return all athletes to their communities. Plan your rides now!

By Lynda Evans
Headlight Staff

The manhunt for suspected serial killer Rafael Resendez-Ramirez came to an end about 9 a.m. Tuesday morning when the FBI's most wanted fugitive surrendered at the Ysleta port of entry near El Paso to Texas Ranger Sgt. Drew Carter.

The rail-riding fugitive, suspected of killing at least eight people who lived along railway lines, was driven across the border in a pickup by his uncle and brother.

According to a news conference, Ramirez stepped out of the pickup and shook hands with officers. The alleged killer was clean-shaven, looking much like the picture above.

Ramirez went before a magistrate in El Paso, stone-faced, showing no emotion, quietly answering questions put to him with, "Yes, sir" and "No, sir."

He was then flown in a Department of Public Safety jet to Houston, arriving around 3:45 p.m., later than expected due to bad weather between El Paso and Houston's Hobby Airport.

During the 600-mile flight, Texas Rangers were at his side.

The suspect was taken from Hobby to the Houston Police Department where officers were still questioning him at 11 p.m. Tuesday night.

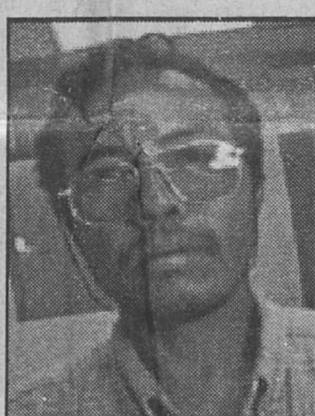
Ramirez will be transported to the Harris County Jail following the conclusion of the questioning session where he will be isolated from the general jail population in what was termed a "suicide watch." He was to appear for a probable cause hearing prior to being jailed.

Ramirez's sister, who lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico, called Ranger Carter Sunday while he was on a fishing trip on the west coast, saying she had been in touch with her brother through an intermediary.

Carter, an FBI agent and a Deputy U.S. Marshal met with the sister Sunday night and Monday to negotiate Ramirez's surrender.

A search warrant allowing the collection of blood for DNA testing and palm prints (which could connect him to a Hughes Springs murder) was issued Tuesday.

Ramirez has been charged



with capital murder in Illinois and Kentucky. The only arrest warrant issued in Texas is for burglary, stemming from the murder of Dr. Claudia Benton in West University Place.

Houston officials told the media, "If the DNA matches, we will definitely go before the grand jury with murder charges."

Since Ramirez surrendered in Texas, the burglary warrant out of Harris County is enough to hold him here and begin proceedings if the DNA samples match.

At mid-morning Tuesday, local television stations were

reportedly told Ramirez had turned himself in in exchange for U.S. citizenship and money for his wife.

According to Dr. Gerald Treece, Dean of the South Texas College of Law, law enforcement cannot promise the wife citizenship. They can only assist in the process.

But, FBI Agent Don Clark stated during an early afternoon press conference that no deals had been made. "The only requests met were humane treatment and family visitation," Clark stated.

Treece stated, "He picked the worst place (state) in which to turn himself in", eluding to Texas' court system and the efficiency of the Harris County District Attorney's office.

"You won't see any lost or contaminated DNA samples like California had in the Simpson case. That's not how Johnny Holmes' (Harris County D.A.) office operates."

Treece also said he thinks the public will see a trial begin within nine months, if the DNA testing pans out.

Clark also commented on Holmes' office, saying, "Johnny Holmes will be in charge of this man. There won't be mistakes made with evidence."

Weimar Police Chief Bill Livingston, Colorado County Sheriff "Curly" Wied and County Attorney Julian Moore along with one of his office's investigators, Randy Davenport, were among those available for questioning at the FBI press conference at the command center in Houston Tuesday afternoon.

According to Clark, this case started from no real roots, just bits and pieces, but evolved into a complex investigation.

The totality of the investigation left Ramirez no place to run, a contributing factor to his surrender. "That was our strategy all along... pressure him so he had no place to hide," Clark told those present at the news conference.

Clark reiterated his premise that it takes 200 million eyes in a case such as this and thanked the public (the eyes)

as well as the media for the pressure they contributed and the way they conducted themselves.

No specific agency was credited with the surrender, with accolades being expressed for all the law enforcement agencies involved.

"Now, the priority shifts to putting together solid cases," Clark said. "Our task is not complete. We will continue to work together for our final goal... justice."

According to Clark, some 50 to 60 law enforcement agencies have inquired about cases during the weeks since the command center was initiated.

These agencies will act after the results of DNA testing are known.

As County Attorney Julian Moore stated upon returning to Columbus Tuesday, "What a fine group of law enforcement officers. How well they worked together for the good of the county and state. We should be proud of them. It was a team effort and a job well done."

EAGLE LAKE POLICE REPORT

The Eagle Lake Police Department reported the following cases and calls for the week ending July 11.

On July 6, at 2:45 p.m., Officer Brian Lasley met with a complainant in the 600 block of E. Main St. in reference to unwanted subjects on the property. The subjects were gone upon Officer Lasley's arrival.

At 7:50 p.m., Officer Stephen Nelson and Chief Keith Webb met with subjects at the police department in reference to a civil problem. No police action was required.

On July 7, at 5:58 a.m., Officer Lasley met with complaints in the 600 block of E. Main in reference to a verbal dispute. No action was taken.

At 8:04 a.m., while on patrol, Officer Lasley discovered an open door in the 700 block of E Street, and later discovered that theft had occurred from that location. The case is under investigation.

Officer Lasley met with a complainant on Glen Meadows Street at 1:30 p.m., who reported that theft had oc-

curred. Information was gathered and a report filed.

At 6:19 p.m., Sgt. Bill Lattimore met with a complainant on Stevenson St., who reported a runaway.

On July 8, at 1:37 a.m., as a result of investigation, Sgt. Lattimore and Officer Nelson arrested Eric Andel on charges of public intoxication and criminal mischief. After processing, Andel was transported to the County Detention Center (CDC) for confinement.

At 7:40 a.m., Officer Lasley met with a complainant on Maple St. where a theft was reported.

At 11:45 a.m., Officer Lasley, Lt. Clem Johnson and off-duty Sgt. Tim Crume assisted DPS with traffic control at the Amtrak/truck accident on Hwy. 90A.

Sgt. Lattimore met with a complainant at 8:44 p.m. in regard to a family dispute. One subject had left the area before his arrival and no violence had occurred.

At 9:42 p.m., Officer Nelson met with residents on C Street in reference to a bur-

glary. Information was gathered and a report was filed.

Officer Nelson met with complainants on Stevens and State Streets at 11:28 p.m. in reference to a disturbance.

On July 9, at 3:31 a.m., Officer Nelson conducted a traffic stop that resulted in the arrest of James Green for trademark counterfeiting. After processing, Green was transported to the CDC for confinement.

At 7:40 a.m., Officer Michael Krennek was dispatched to N. Lake St. in reference to a disturbance, where one subject was not wanted at the residence.

At 9:29 a.m., Officer Krennek was dispatched to Tate St. in reference to criminal mischief, and a report was filed.

Officer Krennek met with a complainant at 12:10 p.m., who reported a theft from a residence on Railroad Ave. Information was gathered and a report filed.

Officer Krennek responded to a disturbance on Stevens St. at 12:24 p.m. The matter was settled at the scene, without further action.

Sgt. Crume was dispatched to Heritage Lane at 6:47 p.m. in reference to a verbal dispute in the roadway. No offense had occurred.

Officer Randy Schlauch met with complainants on Strickland St. at 10:11 p.m., in reference to criminal mischief involving tires being slashed. The police department received numerous reports of tires slashed throughout the city and the investigation is ongoing in this case.

On July 10, at 3:24 a.m., Officer Schlauch checked out a suspicious vehicle in the 800 block of S. McCarty.

Sgt. Crume responded to an alarm call of an open door in the 400 block of FM 3013 at 6 p.m. It was found that the owner had left the door open, and it was a false alarm.

On July 11, at 12:08 a.m., Officer Schlauch was dispatched to C Street in reference to a burglary of a residence. Information was gathered and investigation continues.

At 12:58 a.m., Sgt. Crume met with a complainant at the (See Police, Page 8)