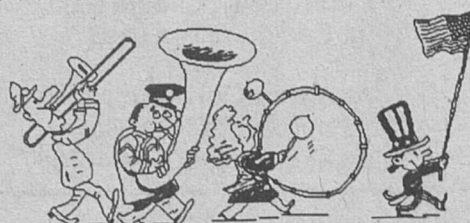


Don't Forget...  
Christmas Parade Saturday!



## FNB to close at 4 p.m. Friday

The First National Bank (FNB) in Eagle Lake will close at 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, in support of the Rice Raider football team.  
Join the folks from the Bank on Friday at Kyle Field in College Station.

# Eagle Lake Headlight

Nov. 29, 2001

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## NEWSBRIEFS

Class 3A Region III Area Champions

## Rice Raiders pluck Eagles 29-7, win Area!!

### Raider spirit items available

Rice Raider spirit items will be available before the football game this Friday night. Items for sale include: antenna balls for \$1; flags, \$12; and new district champion t-shirts, \$10.

### Raider send-off slated for Friday

The Rice Raiders will play Giddings on Friday, Nov. 30, at Kyle Field. The Raiders are one of 24 teams, eight in Division 1 and 16 in Division 2 (ours), still playing out of the 210 teams in 3A. Come support our Raiders in College Station! The bus will come through downtown Eagle Lake on the way to the game. Please meet at 1:30 p.m. on the square to send them off.

### Senior Citizen's Dance is Friday, Dec. 7

The public is invited to a Senior Citizen's "Christmas" Dance, a place to meet old and new friends, Friday, Dec. 7, from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Music will be provided by Daniel and The Boys. Admission is \$5 per person. For more information, call 979-234-3795.

### Lighted Christmas parade is Saturday

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce Lighted "Spirit of Christmas 2001" Parade is this Saturday, Dec. 1. Line up will be from 4:30 to 5:20 p.m.; judging, 5:30-6:30 p.m.; and parade time is 6:45. Downtown businesses are asked to decorate their store-fronts for the parade. For more information on the parade, call 979-234-2780.

### Thrift Shop opens Saturday

The Prairie Edge Museum Thrift Shop will be open Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Stop by. You never know what you'll find at the Thrift Shop.

### Rice Project Graduation meeting is Monday

Rice Project Graduation will hold its monthly meeting Monday, Dec. 3, at 6:30 p.m. in the high school commons. The main topic will be Senior Serve. All chairpersons need to attend. Hope to see everyone there!

### ELPS PTO meeting is Dec. 4

The Eagle Lake Primary School (ELPS) PTO will hold its monthly meeting Tuesday, Dec. 4, at 6:30 p.m. in the ELPS cafeteria. The second grade will provide a Christmas program for entertainment.

### ELMS PTO meeting is Dec. 11

The Eagle Lake Middle School (ELMS) PTO meeting will be held Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The theme of the meeting is "IMPROVEMENT MOVEMENT", setting goals to improve the school.

### Retired teachers meeting is Dec. 17

Attention retired school personnel and teachers of Colorado County! The Dec. meeting has been changed to Monday, Dec. 17, at Schobels' Restaurant at noon. Please bring your volunteer hours. These are very important for the organization. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please send your volunteer hours by someone who will attend. Columbus is the host town. For more information, call Betty Wegenhoft at 979-758-3361.

### Rutkoski to visit St. Mary's Church in Nada

Catholic Evangelist Thomas Rutkoski brings healing ministry to St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nada. With all the trouble in the world today, isn't it time we started doing things God's way? International Catholic speaker and author Thomas Rutkoski has a track record of physical and spiritual healing in his ministry and delivers a powerful message in a humorous way. This event will be held Monday, Dec. 3, starting at 6:30 p.m. with a Rosary followed by the presentation, "The Joy of Being Catholic" and healing blessing. Find out how doing it God's way can bring you more fulfillment than you ever thought possible.

### RHS Drama Club needs your help

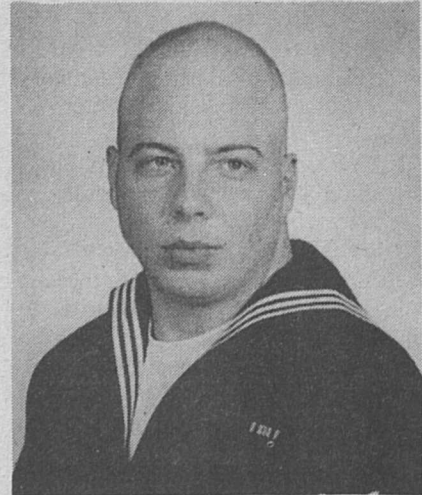
Rice High School is getting ready to work on "The Diary of Anne Frank" for its One Act Play entry. If you have any of the following items and would be prepared to lend them to the Drama Dept., they would be grateful: men's, women's and children's clothes from the 1940s (including hats, shoes, belts, vests, cardigans, suits, skirts, blouses and jewelry); an old love seat, wooden chairs (the older and more broken down the better), wooden crates, a standing lamp (preferably that works), old quilts and blankets. Please call Deborah Reed at 234-2601 to arrange pickup.

### Take your picture with Santa Dec. 8

Santa will be at the Norris Building on Main St. Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and he's ready to take pictures. Nava Photography Studio will be doing the honors for a nominal fee. These pictures make a wonderful gift. Santa is being sponsored by The Eagle Lake Preservation Alliance Inc.  
(See Newsbriefs, Page 4)



## Salute to Area Service Personnel



Petty Officer Jason P. Dulany  
HT2 (SW/AW)

...is a Fire Fighting Instructor at Naval RTC in Great Lakes, Illinois.

A 1991 graduate of Rice High School, he is the son of Larry and Lana Dulany of Eagle Lake.



Airman First Class  
Thomas Marsalia

...is a Maintenance Technician on the Peacekeeper ICBM Weapon System, 90th Space Wing, stationed at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Cheyenne Wyoming. He is the son of Bobby and Becky Marsalia of Eagle Lake.

Playing at beautiful Robertson Stadium at the University of Houston, the Rice Raiders erupted with three second half touchdowns en route to a 29-7 victory over the Barbers Hill Eagles.

The Eagles, undefeated at 11-0 going into the area championship, were held to 104 total yards of offense, with 57 of those yards coming on the final drive with the game well under control.

The Raiders, now 11-1 on the season, attach the first-ever area championship in school history to their 2001 resume. This also marks the first time in school history that Rice has 11 wins in a single season.

The Raiders victory also gives them the right to advance to the regional championship game this weekend against the 11-1 Giddings Buffaloes.

The Raiders started their opening drive by marching the ball 62 yards, mostly on runs by Conrad Diggs and Gerald Williams.

The Raider offense line, on second and goal, mashed the Eagles defensive line and escorted Diggs into the endzone from nine yards out.

But, a very mysterious motion penalty nullified the touchdown.

The Raiders were forced into a field goal try. Kicker Patrick Milentz attempted a 25-yarder, but it was blocked, giving the Eagles the ball with the score still 0-0.

The Eagles used a ball-control offense for the remainder of the first quarter. They moved the ball down to

the Raider 17-yard line before super-quick defender Michael Spears stripped the football from the Eagle running back. A mad scramble ensued, before end Trent Korenek finally came up with the fumble recovery.

The mighty Raider offense took over for their second possession of the game and marched down the field for a 64-yard touchdown drive.

The drive was finished off by a punishing two-yard touchdown plunge by Diggs. Diggs, for the record, finished the evening with 124 yards on the ground.

After another fine defensive effort by the Raider "Band of Brothers", the offense took over deep in their own territory.

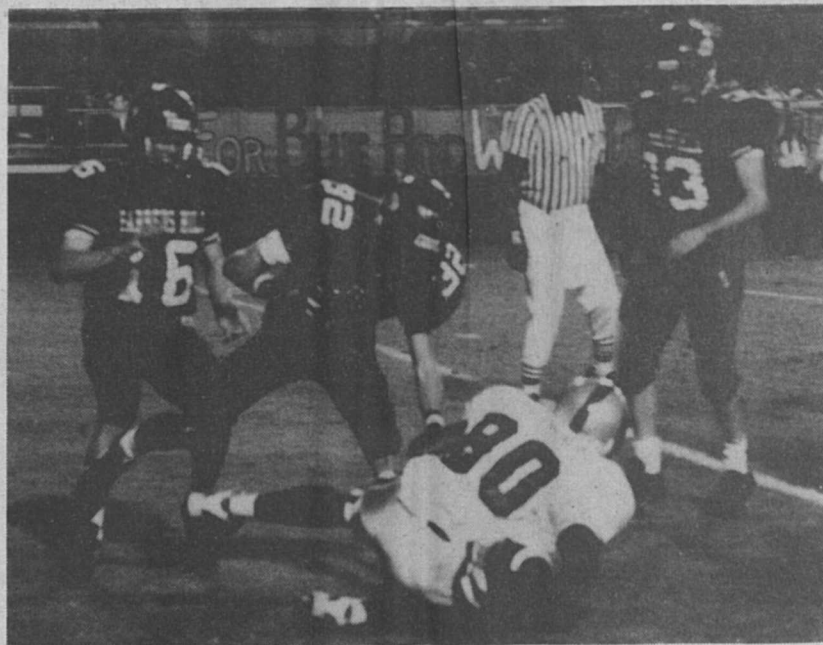
After a first down reception from Milentz to Jason Barrow, another motion penalty forced the Raiders to punt.

Milentz, also the punter, set up in punt formation.

The Eagles blocked a line-drive punt off Milentz's toe and fell on the ball in the endzone, giving the Eagles a 7-6 halftime lead.

Obviously, the Raider coaching staff made some great halftime adjustments. The Raiders came out fired up and overwhelmed the Eagles to the tune of 23 unanswered points.

Coach Russell Roark said, "We actually stayed pretty calm in the dressing room at halftime. I just explained to them that mental mistakes and special teams breakdowns were keeping Barbers Hill in the game. We



Following Rice's third touchdown Friday, the team set up as though they were going to attempt a PAT kick, but when the ball was snapped to Michael Spears, he popped up and threw a pass to #80, Jason Godley in the end zone for two points, making the score 7-22 in favor of Rice.

## Beasley wins Truett Preaching Award

Brent Beasley, pastor of First Baptist Church in Eagle Lake, has won the inaugural George W. Truett Preaching Award. (The winning sermon is printed on Page 10.)

The Truett Preaching Award was launched this year by Baylor University and the Baptist Standard. The award program is designed to recognize and encourage excellence in preaching.

The contest is open to ministers currently serving a church or association affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Entries were received from across the state.

Finalists in the 2001 contest were Karl Finkling of Grand Prairie, "Too Big To Forgive"; John Petty of Uvalde, "Sand Castle Faith"; and Brett Younger of Fort Worth, "Am I at the Right Baylor?"

"Baylor University is pleased to join the Baptist Standard in recognizing one of our state's best young preachers," noted Howard Williams, director of Baylor's office of church relations and coordinator of the award program.

"Brent Beasley joins our other finalists in continuing the rich tradition of preaching that was characterized by George W. Truett."

Truett was a Baylor graduate, legendary Texas Baptist statesman and pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas for most of the first half of the 20th century. Baylor's seminary is named in his honor.

"The preaching event is a central focus of Texas Baptist churches," noted Marv Knox, editor of the Baptist Standard. "When people think about our churches, their thoughts often turn to great preaching. We are a people who exalt and proclaim God's word."

"We were delighted to receive a number of fine sermons this year, the first time the Truett Award has been offered. We look forward to the coming year, as sermon after memorable sermon will present the gospel clearly and compellingly."

Judges for the contest were Raymond Bailey, pastor of Seventh & James Baptist Church in Waco and a former professor of preaching at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky; Hultin Gloer, professor of preaching at Baylor's Truett Seminary; Knox; Vicki Marsh-Kabot, a writer and associate director of public relations at Baylor; Margarita Treviño, an author/lecturer and director of the Christian Education Research Institute in Keller; and John Wood, professor of theology at Baylor.

The judges evaluated the sermons based on written manuscripts. They did not know the identities of the sermon authors until final judgments had been delivered.

Beasley has been pastor in Eagle Lake since 1998. Previously, he was pastor of Spring Valley Baptist Church in Lorena. He is a graduate of Baylor University and Truett Seminary.



Members of the Raider team hoist the Area Championship trophy on high for the first time after it was presented to Coach Roark by Superintendent Dr. Richard Gott immediately following Rice's win over Barbers Hill.

Headlight Photos

made these people on our team aware of the mistakes and got 'em corrected, plain and simple. Once that was done, it was just a matter of executing on offense and running to the ball on defense. And that's just what we did."

The Raiders took the second half opening drive and hammered it down the field for 16 yards on four plays, following a Williams' interception.

Milentz polished off the drive with a one-yard sneak, giving the Raiders a 12-7 lead.

On the PAT, Milentz, after a great fake to Williams, bootlegged out and hit a wide-open Nick Sharp in the endzone, upping the lead to 14-7.

The Raider defense, led by Jerry Cleveland and Spears (21 total tackles), stuffed the Eagles by holding them to minus 16 yards in the third quarter.

The Raiders had a 14-7 lead going into the fourth quarter.

On the Raider's first possession of the final stanza, Milentz hit Diggs with a fake punt pass that surprised, and shocked, everyone in the stadium. Diggs rambled 24 yards for a first down and set up the Raiders in business at the Eagles 31-yard line.

Two plays later, Williams darted for 25 yards before being pushed out of bounds at the three yard line.

Diggs, then bullied his way across the goal line and gave the Raiders a 20-7 lead with 9:49 left in the game.

Once again Roark dipped deep

into his bag of tricks when he called a fake extra-point pass. Holder Michael Spears faked a reverse, then found slot man Jason Godley alone in the endzone. Godley caught the pass and added two points to the total, 22-7.

Williams added a punishing hit on 1,400 yard Eagles rusher Thurman Blake, which set the tone for the rest of the game.

From that point on, the Raider attack pounded out a final 61-yard drive with Diggs finishing it off with a 7-yard touchdown gallop.

Ben Ortiz added the extra point kick to make the final score, Rice Raiders 29, Barbers Hill 7.

The physicalness of the Raiders proved to be the difference in the second half as the defense proved why they are one of the best 3A units in the state.

Roark and his coaching staff handed out game honors for overall Player of the Week to sophomore Michael Spears.

Spears carried 66 yards on five carries from his tailback position. He also threw a big two-point conversion pass early in the fourth quarter, returned two kickoffs for 43 yards and two punts returns for 16 yards.

He also had his best overall game defensively with 11 tackles and one fumble caused, along with two sacks. That's a huge game for a 5'6", 145 lb. player.

Defensive Player of the Game honors went to defensive end Quentin Whitfield and safety Gerald Williams. Whitfield had eight tackles and one tackle for a loss.

Williams netted nine tackles, two passes broken up and an interception which he returned 44 yards to set up Rice's third touchdown.

Offensive Player of the Game went to the entire Raiders receiving corps.

Even though the Raiders only attempted three passes all night, the receivers graded out superbly in blocking downfield on running plays. This group consists of Ben Ortiz, (See Varsity, Page 6)

## Waddell chosen 2001 Chamber Parade Marshal

Elizabeth Waddell was chosen to serve as Parade Marshal for the 2001 Spirit of Christmas Lighted Parade.

Some of her accomplishments include: past president of the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce; Secretary of the Eagle Lake Community Center Board for 35 years; two-time President of the Eagle Lake Study Club; chosen "Woman of the Year" by the local sororities; and Outstanding Alumni of the State Alpha Delta Pi Sorority.

Also, she was the owner of the Gift of Distinction for 20 years; Director on the Board of Revitalize Eagle Lake since its inception; member of the Main Street Promotion Committee; and, last but not least, she is an Elder in the local Presbyterian Church.



Liz Waddell