

RAIDER REVIEW 2002

The *Raider Review* is published by the Journalism Department of Rice High School. The opinions reflected are those of the students and not the administration nor *The Eagle Lake Headlight* unless otherwise stated.

Karissa's Story

A senior at Rice High School, Karissa Talmage is a perfectly normal student.

However, there's something interesting about her that cannot be seen. As a child, Karissa communicated us-

ing sign language before she learned to speak.

Why would someone who can hear perfectly well learn to sign before talking? In order to communicate with her parents, Karissa had to use sign language. Both her parents are deaf.

"Growing up with two deaf parents was pretty interesting," says Karissa.

She learned sign language at an early age, and, by the time she was six months, she could sign, "I'm hungry", "I'm thirsty" and "I'm hurt".

Karissa learned to talk from the television.

There were times she missed school to go somewhere with her parents to interpret for them. She doesn't mind helping them though. She's glad she's able to.

Being a senior in high school comes with many decisions: what college, what major, what career?

Knowing sign language and the benefit she can offer others has helped Karissa decide her future plans.

She wants to attend Southwest Texas State University to get her teach-

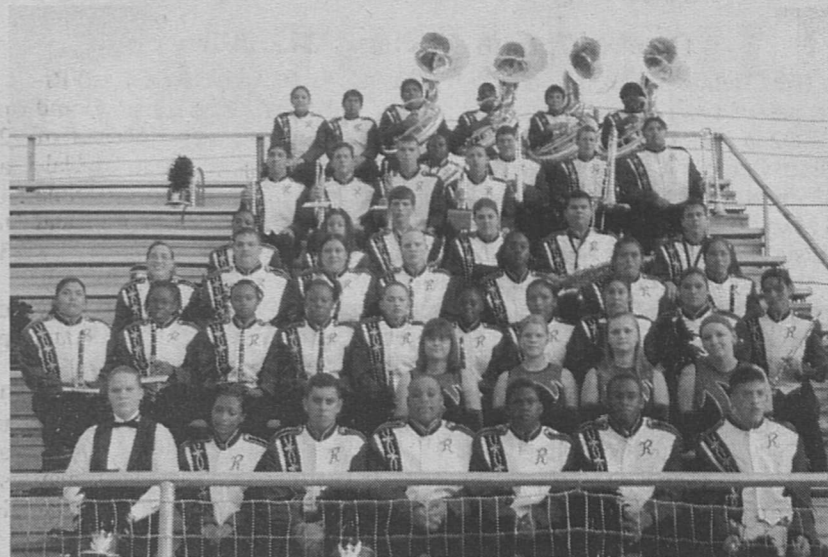
ing degree, then hopes to teach history at the Texas School for the Deaf.

She dreams of the day that something affordable will be invented that will enable her parents to hear.

Until then, she wishes more of the public could communicate with hearing impaired people.

"Learning the alphabet in sign language is the simplest and most basic form of communication. It takes a little longer, but it's worth it. Deaf people are very interesting to talk to. You just have to make a little extra effort."

By Erin Gold



The Mighty Raider Band is back!

The Rice High School Marching Band took to the field Saturday, Oct. 19, at Memorial Stadium in Victoria for the UIL Region 13 District Marching Competition.

For the second week in a row, the Raider Band earned a rating of "Excellent". The other came Oct. 12 when the band competed at the Edna Invita-

tional Marching Contest.

Ratings at UIL competitions are based on a scale of one to five, with one being the highest score possible. An "Excellent" rating is a score of two. This is the first Raider Band to score higher than a three since 1997.

The Mighty Raider Band is led on the field by student Drum Major Amanda Kaiser. There are 49 musicians and flag line members. Each of the members understands the mission of the Raider Band, which, simply stated, is: Do Your Best.

And, at the UIL Region 13 Contest, each member did just that!

Performing with tremendous energy is a show that has the band using 40% of the football field, the Raider Band earned not only an "Excellent" rating but also brought back to our communities the respect of other schools which has been long overdue.

"We're thrilled with the energetic and exciting performance from each musician and member of the flag line," said Band Director Houston Cummings when he commented on the performance. "And we're pleased they

have received recognition for their hard work this season as well as their achievements at this competition."

It was just six months ago that the Raider Band scored a four at their last UIL competition.

"For a band to improve two divisions in such a short time is proof that the students, directors and administration are working hard to have an award winning program again," said Cummings. "Keep watching... our band is only going to get better in the months to come."

Stressed Out?

By Amanda Burrow

When it comes to exams, many students become extremely stressed while preparing for them. And it seems that the last week of the six weeks is always the worst because it's do or die for some students to pass.

Stress is not something that should be disregarded or ignored. Too much stress can sometimes cause several different physical, emotional, and mental problems if not dealt with properly.

According to several Internet sites, here are some common signs or symptoms of stress to look for:

- Loss or gain of appetite
- Increase or decrease in sleeping
- Tense or achy muscles
- Headaches
- Short breath
- Confused or helpless feeling

Many students here at Rice feel these symptoms, especially during exam week.

Seniors are also feeling the stress of not knowing for sure that they will graduate, figuring out what they want to do after high school, and waiting for that acceptance letter from their selected college.

One thing students should keep in mind is that stress is not a good thing. It can lead to many more problems later in life.

To help deal with your stress, you should find something that calms you down and gets your mind off what is stressing you out.

Here are a few examples from high school students:

- Watch TV
- Run
- Go shopping
- Listen to music
- Talk to a friend
- Sleep

If you get stressed, maybe some of these suggestions can help you deal with it. Remember, stress is not something to take lightly.

4-H Food show held Oct. 22

Four members of Colorado County 4-H Clubs participated in the County Food Show Tuesday, Oct. 22, at the County Agriculture Building. There were four categories in the show: Main

Dish, Fruit & Vegetables, Bread & Cereal and Nutritious Snacks.

Participants compete in one of three age divisions: sub-junior, 8-10 yrs. of age; junior, 11-13, yrs. of age; and senior, 14-18 yrs. of age.

4-Hers competing in this event are currently enrolled in a Food and Nutrition Project. They completed a Food Show Record Form, prepared their dish at home and presented a photo display of their dish to a panel of judges. They gave a presentation about their dish to the judges and answered questions about the food groups, nutrients and steps in preparing the dish.

Sub-junior participating were Main Dish: Tiffany Neuendorf, 4-H Challengers, first place.

Participating in the junior division were Main Dish: Mack Helms, Sheridan 4-H, first place; Fruits & Vegetables: Cortney Urban, 4-H Challengers, first place; Meagan Ross, 4-H Challengers, second place.

The food and nutrition project helps participants learn to make healthy food

choices, reduce disease and illness risks, and gain knowledge of nutrition.

Major learning experiences are centered around nutrition, menu planning, food buying and preparation, food safety careers and cultural influences. It also provides members an opportunity to be recognized for their achievements in the 4-H Food & Nutrition Program.

4-H members placing first in the Colorado County Food Show will advance to the District 11 Show to be held Saturday, Nov. 16, at the Coastal Bend College in Beeville.

'Not a creature stirring'

'Twas only a few nights before the general election, and all through the state house, not a creature was stirring...

With the exception of political speculation, and football talk, no one in local or state government is doing much more than keeping the system running until the election results are in.

Anyone who thinks government is too much a part of their lives must enjoy the quiet period that precedes any major election. In Austin, normally high-profile news makers at the Capitol and other state offices are hunkered down, not wanting to do anything that might become last-minute election fodder.

Work goes on, but proposals, initiatives, new programs, reports, even press releases, are virtually non-existent.

AmeriCorps

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for education awards totaling more than \$38,900,000.

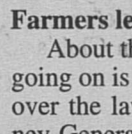
AmeriCorps, often dubbed the domestic Peace Corps, is a national service program that provides an education award and small living stipend to individuals who commit to a year of improving communities through service. Participants typically work with non-profit organizations, school districts, institutes of higher learning and local and state governments to meet crucial community needs in areas such as education, housing, health and human services, the environment and public safety.

For a list of current AmeriCorps programs funded by TxCVCS as well as a link to download the application, visit www.txserve.org. Don't miss the opportunity to bring the power of the AmeriCorps to your community!

State Capitol Highlights

By Mike Cox

Texas Press Association



Farmers legal battle continues
About the only thing that has been going on is continued legal wrangling over the lawsuit involving the Attorney General's office and Farmers Insurance.

The state has information it maintains will show that the company's pricing policies are not legal. The company has maintained that information is proprietary and wants to keep it secret.

Last week both sides were awaiting a ruling on the matter from a Travis County district judge.

In Sept., Farmers announced it would abandon the Texas homeowner insurance market and cease policy renewals effective Nov. 11. The company still offers other types of insurance in Texas.

Early voting begins
The polls don't open for nearly another week, but thousands of Texans have already voted. As of late last week, 169,657 people have voted in the early balloting that started earlier this month. Of 7.8 million registered voters in 15 of the state's metropolitan counties, 2.17% have voted early so far either in person or by mail.

The highest turnout is in Nueces County where 3.68% of the registered voters have already made their decisions. Lower turnout was recorded in Fort Bend County with 1.16% voting early.

Another big day coming

For another half-million or so Texans, another important date on the calendar is Saturday, Nov. 2. That's the (See Highlights, Page 7)

Bible Verse of the Week

"We walk by faith not by sight."

—II Corinthians 5:7

Submitted by Neddy Phillips

If You Are Afraid That the LCRA Will Take Control of Your Groundwater, You Should Vote FOR the Groundwater Conservation District

Without a groundwater conservation district, the LCRA has access to as much of our groundwater as they can take out of the ground. Nothing can stop them, nothing that is except a groundwater conservation district. If we have a GCD, the LCRA will have to abide by its rules. We want to create a GCD strictly to limit the amount of water the LCRA and other potential enormous water users can take out of the ground. If you agree, at the election on Tuesday, November 5,

Vote FOR the Groundwater Conservation District

Pol. adv., William C. Neiser, Treasurer, 102 N. Exchange St., Weimar, Texas 78962

Re-Elect

AL JAMISON

★ Colorado County Judge ★ YOUR ONLY CONSERVATIVE CHOICE!

EXCELLENT WORK ETHIC

Al Jamison brings the same work ethic to the County that he used for the last 45 years. That work ethic has proven successful as a professional athlete, a businessman, and your County Judge. The odds say the next 4 years will be as successful as the last 45 years. His record speaks for itself.

FAIR

Al Jamison has earned a well-deserved reputation for fairness, integrity, hard work and commitment to the values and the people of our County. He understands the people of Colorado County and is devoted to his family, church and community.

PROMOTES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Al Jamison played a large role in bringing new commerce and industry into the County. Not only were over 250 new jobs created these past four years, but the tax base was expanded so as to keep our County taxes the lowest in the area.

TRUE CONCERN FOR OUR YOUNGER CITIZENS

Al Jamison is sensitive to the needs of our youngsters. He actively supports extracurricular activities that keep our kids out of trouble and gives extra guidance to those who have strayed off course.

ACTIVELY SUPPORTS LAW ENFORCEMENT

Al Jamison recognizes the importance of having a constant, unified team in this very critical part of County government. He has worked to see that this unified team stays together.



★ Experienced ★ Conservative ★ Fair ★

Political ad paid for by Riana Jamison, Treasurer, 2322 Ehlinger Rd., New Ulm, Texas 78950

English As Second Language Classes

Increase your personal power with knowledge.

Registration: Tuesday, Nov. 5, 7 p.m.

Christ Episcopal Church Parish Hall
Corner of Stockbridge and Lake Avenue, Eagle Lake

Fee: \$10

Autumn 2002 Classes:

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m.

All Student Information Is Confidential

Ingles Como Segunda Idioma Clases

Para aumentar su poder personal con sabiduria

Registracion el martes, noviembre 5, a las 7 de la noche

En El Salon de la Iglesia Christ Episcopal

Esquina de Stockbridge y Lake

Cuota: \$10

Clases de Ontono 2002:

Los martes y jueves, de 7-a-8:30 de la noche

Todo Informacion de Los Estudiantes es Confidencial

(No se reportaran sus datos a ningún oficial de gobierno)