

Colorado County Crime Stoppers



The Eagle Lake Police Department is investigating three (3) offenses which took place between 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8, and 5:45 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 9, 2003.

A white Chevrolet Suburban was stolen from the 400 block of FM 3013. A business in the 100 block of E. Main Street was burglarized and, finally, a business in the 1600

block of E. Main Street was the target of an attempted burglary. Numerous rifles and shotguns, as well as a television, DVD players and stereo equipment were stolen from one of the businesses.

The Suburban was recovered Monday, Nov. 10, several miles from where it was stolen. (See Crime, Page 9)

Eagle Lake Headlight

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NEWSBRIEFS

Pep Rally/Send-off set for Saturday morning!

All Rice Raider Boosters, family, friends, EVERYONE... there will be a Pep Rally/Send-off at 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning in the Rice High School parking lot. Bring your noise makers and spirit! The team will be leaving for San Antonio about 9 a.m.

Attend the Pep Rally/Send-off, then take off for San Antonio. That way, you'll have time for a leisurely lunch when you get there and be ready to cheer the Raiders on to victory!

The Raider Boosters send many thanks to the hardy souls who braved the cold last Friday night to attend the Pep Rally. Don't miss this one either!

'Pink Ladies' fundraiser underway

The "Pink Ladies" Auxiliary is selling tickets for their Christmas fundraiser "A Basket of Christmas Spirit"; a huge basket filled with all kinds of "goodies". Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5 and may be purchased from any Pink Lady or at the hospital gift shop. The drawing will be held Dec. 15 at 10 a.m. at the gift shop. You may also contact Barbara Pidgeon at 234-2897 for tickets or more information.

Applications for Habitat House now available

Persons currently living in substandard housing who would like to be considered for home ownership for the next new Weimar Habitat House should call 979-732-5677 or 732-3549 for an application. Applications must be completed and returned by Jan. 1, 2004.

Senior Citizen's Dance is Friday

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

MMBC Pageant set for Saturday

The Mt. Moriah Baptist Church (MMBC) in Alleyton will sponsor its annual Miss Christian Teen and Princess Pageant Saturday, Dec. 6, at 6 p.m. in Sealy at the Hill Community Center. The public is invited. Admission is free. For more information, call 281-342-7557 or 936-825-6354.

Arts and crafts show is Saturday

The 2003 Holiday Arts and Crafts Show will be held Saturday, Dec. 6, in Sealy with prize drawings each hour from noon to 5 p.m. The final drawing will be for a \$500 holiday shopping spree. Stop by the sign up station in front of Sealy City Hall and sign up! You need not be present to win!

Cookie Fest scheduled

Another new event for Sealy's 2003 Fantasy of Lights will be Cookie Fest. If you want to pick from a wide assortment of homemade Christmas cookies and not have to bake them, this is the event for you! Saturday, Dec. 6, at the First United Methodist Church on Atchison and Main Street in Sealy from 10 a.m. until they are gone! This event benefits the Sealy Ministerial Alliance and Sealy Chamber of Commerce.

Garwood/Nada Health Fair is Sunday

Rice Medical Center is sponsoring a Health Fair at St. Mary's School in Nada Sunday, Dec. 7, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Come and see what your local healthcare facility has to offer. Get free health screenings including blood pressure, bone densitometry, pulmonary function test, glucose, cholesterol, PSA and occult blood screens. You can also get a pneumonia or flu vaccine for a small fee. There'll be activities for the kids (fish pond, face painting and finger printing). Please come out and let our family care for yours. The health fair is being held in conjunction with the Nada KC blood drive.

Band Booster lasagna dinner is Dec. 8

The Rice Band Boosters will hold their second annual lasagna dinner in conjunction with the annual Christmas Concert Monday, Dec. 8. Lasagna, rolls, salad, dessert and tea will be served. Tickets will be on sale through Dec. 6 for \$6 each. Dine in or take it to go. Contact your favorite band member or Kara Supak, band booster secretary, at 234-2866 to purchase a ticket.

WCJC hosts 'A Christmas Memory'

"A Christmas Memory," a one-act play based on Truman Capote's heart-warming story of the love between Aunt Sook and her nephew Buddy, will be performed Monday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the Horton Foote Theatre on the Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) campus. Admission is \$7 and benefits The WCJC Foundation. For additional information, or to purchase tickets, call 979-532-6322 or 1-800-561-9252 ext. 6322.

Book fair in Sheridan is Dec. 9-16

The Sheridan School will be hosting a "Hats Off To Reading" book fair Dec. 9 through 16. Students and parents may purchase books and other items during school hours. The family event will be held on the final night of the fair in the library. This will be in conjunction with the annual Christmas program.

Garwood Library open house is Dec. 11

The Garwood Veterans Memorial Library invites the public to a holiday open house Thursday, Dec. 11, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Children, come and enjoy the Christmas activities. Adults, come and browse through the many Christmas books. Refreshments will be served.

(See Newsbriefs, Page 9)

207 teams started...only 8 remain!

Raiders trounce Devine, 48-7

The history-making 2003 Rice Raiders played the first 24 minutes to perfection against the Devine Warhorses Saturday afternoon in the Alamodome. In all, the Raiders played 47 minutes and 38 seconds of shut-out football.

The Raiders exploded to a 42-0 halftime lead, then cruised to an easy 48-7 victory in front of 5,300 in attendance.

The Raiders move on to the state quarterfinals against the traditionally tough Port Isabel Tarpons. The Tarpons edged out the (11-1) Liberty Hill Panthers 35-27 in Seguin Saturday.

The Raiders defense limited the Warhorse offense to three first downs and 57 yards of offense entering halftime.

Meanwhile, the Raider "machine" hammered out 437 yards of offense in

two quarters of play!

Starting backs Charles Huffman and Michael Spears each rushed for over 100 yards again and two rushing touchdowns apiece.

Huffman and Spears both broke the all-time single season rushing record (1,623 yards by Conrad Diggs in 2000) in the same game.

The offensive line and receivers blocked to precision, opening huge holes for the backs to run through.

Derland Sanford and Jonathan Thomas added a combined 151 yards rushing and two additional touchdowns.

Quarterback Stuart Ray passed for 65 yards and a touchdown to Spears.

Spears also added his 11th interception of the season, another school record.

Jeramie Hemphill notched his fourth interception of the playoffs as

well.

Defensively, the Raiders were led by Donovan King's 10 tackles, one tackle for a loss and causing a fumble.

James Johnson continues to improve, adding seven tackles, with three for losses, along with causing one fumble.

Sanford provided several big hits and eight tackles.

Joe Cooper and Robert Shaw had 19 tackles between them, with two of Shaw's stops going for losses.

Rusty Moore, Jeremy Hemphill, and Thomas had seven tackles apiece. (See Raiders, Page 8)



Jeramie Hemphill, #8, pulled in his fourth interception of the playoffs during Saturday's game, tacking on 35 yards after the catch. Robert Shaw, #82, has his back.

Raiders-Port Isabel quarterfinal playoff set

The Rice Raiders will square off with the Port Isabel Tarpons Saturday at Alamo Stadium at 2 p.m. This is not to be confused with Alamo Dome where Rice played Devine last Saturday. The Raiders enter the game with an 11-2 record; the Tarpons are 9-3, but have won seven straight.

Tickets for students can be purchased at all Rice CISD campuses throughout the week. Student prices are \$4 presale and \$7 at the stadium gates. All adult tickets will be \$7 and sold at the gates only.

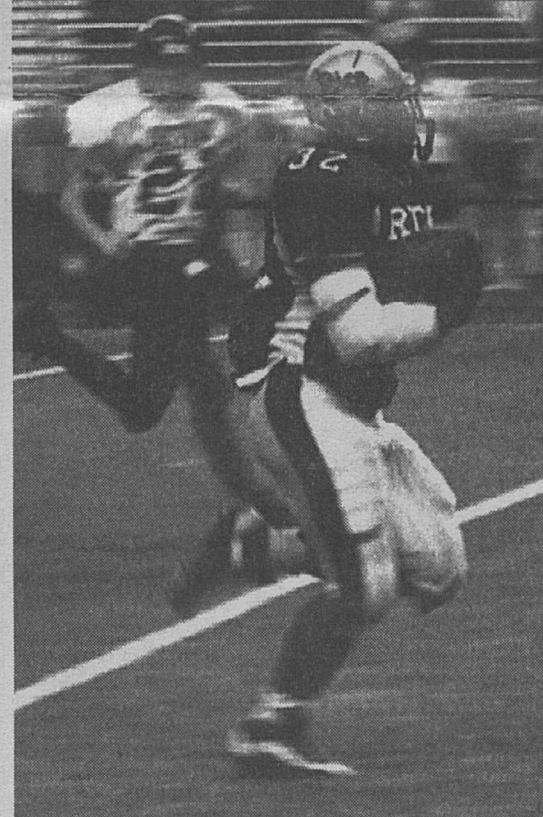
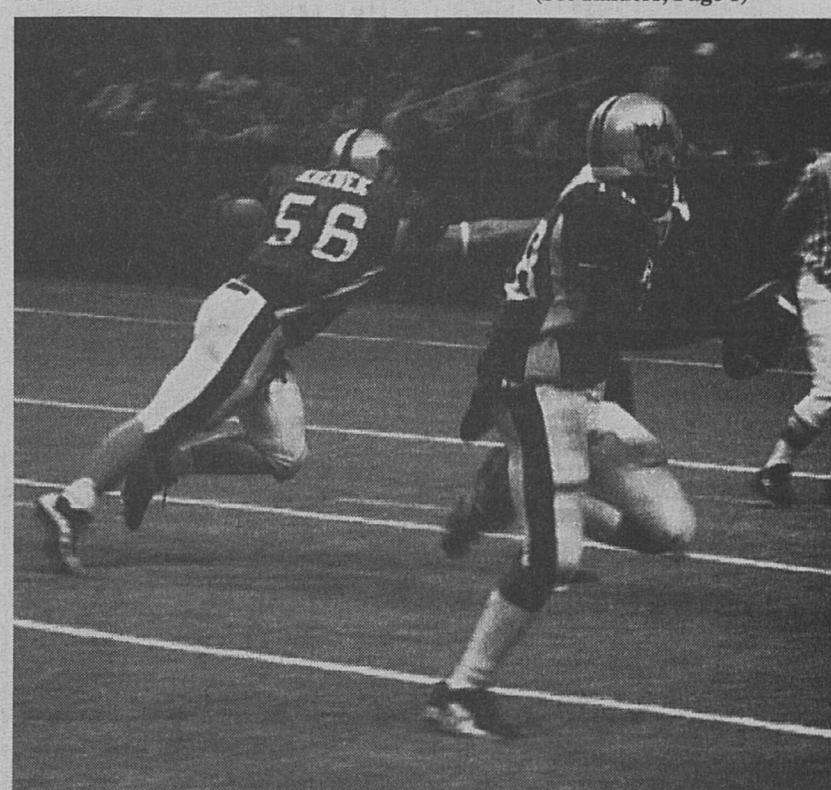
Directions to the "Rock Pile" Alamo Stadium are: Take I-10 west to San Antonio. Once in San Antonio, take the I-37 north exit. Stay on I-37 where it turns into Hwy. 281 north. Going north on 281, exit on Hillebrand St. west (you'll see the stadium on the left). Rice is the home team and will occupy the press box side of the stadium.

Worth noting: Of the 207 3A teams that started the 2003 season, only eight teams are left in 3A-Div. II. The Raiders' 11 victories ties the school's all-time record for wins in a season estab-

lished in 2001. This quarterfinal appearance marks the first time in Rice High School history the team has advanced past the third round in the state playoffs.

According to Head Coach Russell Roark, Port Isabel poses a great threat to the Raiders. Roark said, "P.I. is a well-coached, disciplined football

(See Playoffs, Page 8)



Chosen Player of the Game by the coaching staff, Michael Spears, above, had five carries for 118 yards and scored three touchdowns. He also added a catch for 58 yards. Then, for good measure, he recovered a fumble and made his state-leading 11th interception of the season. Here he's on his way to his third TD of the contest with #56, Dustin Krenk, getting ready to block the remaining Devine player between Spears and the goal line.

At left, Charles Huffman tacks on his second touchdown of the game as a Warhorse defender tries in vain to catch him.

Headlight Photos

Ducks Unlimited banquet is Jan. 16

The Eagle Lake Committee of Ducks Unlimited (DU) will hold its annual banquet at the Eagle Lake Community Center, Friday, Jan. 16, 2004 beginning at 5:30 p.m.

After many dormant years, a new committee of interested volunteers has been formed to reintroduce Ducks Unlimited to this area's hunters and conservationists. "The Ducks Unlimited success story," said committee chairman John Carey, "is one that makes me proud to be a volunteer."

Each year, the U.S. loses some 100,000 acres of wetland habitat. Since

inception, DU has raised over \$1.5 billion and enhanced and restored over 10 million habitat acres, encompassing over 18,600 wetland projects in the U.S., in an effort to reverse this destructive trend. DU's projects provide habitat for over 900 wildlife species, including ducks, geese and endangered species like the whooping crane and bald eagle.

While DU has accomplished a great deal since its founding in 1937, the rapid draining of our wetlands demands that the organization continue to accelerate its work. Efforts like these

of the Eagle Lake committee are a vital part of DU's efforts.

For more information on how you can support DU in our area or for banquet ticket information, contact Rhonda Bridges at 979-234-6933. Please leave a message if there is no answer and someone will return your call.

American Legion to distribute toys

Eagle Lake's American Legion Post #108 will again distribute toys to needy children. Boys and girls, eight years of age or younger, will be given a collection of suitable toys.

Each child must come in person, accompanied by a parent or guardian, to receive his/her sack of toys.

Distribution will be at Prairie Edge Museum from 9 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday, Dec. 20. Enter through the door on Main St.

Donations of both toys and money are needed by the Legion. New or very gently used toys and money donations may be left at Struss Auto Supply, Wallis State Bank or the Furniture Shoppe.

For more information, call Ken Craig at 234-2807 or Vic Scot at 234-2792.

Hospice 'Celebration of Life' fundraiser

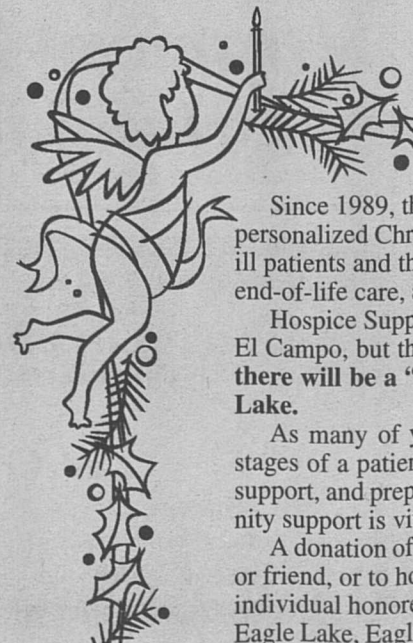
Since 1989, the Hospice Support Inc., a non-profit organization in El Campo, has been selling personalized Christmas ornaments as their annual fundraiser. The proceeds will benefit terminally ill patients and their families served by the El Campo Hospice agency, community education and end-of-life care, and staff support.

Hospice Support Care is an alternate delivery of the Houston Hospice. The office is located in El Campo, but the services reach out to Wharton, Matagorda, and Colorado counties. This year, there will be a "Celebration of Life" Christmas tree lit at the First National Bank in Eagle Lake.

As many of you are aware, Hospice Support Care provides services that enhance the final stages of a patient's life by controlling pain and managing symptoms, providing counseling and support, and preparing the patient and family to face illness comfortably and confidently. Community support is vital to the success of this special service.

A donation of \$15 or more may be made in honor of a birth of a child, in memory of a loved one or friend, or to honor someone special. A personalized ornament will be hung on the tree for each individual honored or memorialized. You may pick up an order form at the First National Bank in Eagle Lake, Eagle Lake Drugstore, or at Truly Properties. Ornaments that were not requested to be mailed may be picked up at Truly Properties, 129 N. McCarty, Eagle Lake.

For additional information, call Claudia Raun at the Hospice office, 979-578-0314; or Vicki Gold, 979-543-1012.



WEEKLY BIRD REPORT

The following migratory bird hunting report, prepared for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department by Bink Grimes, was last updated Dec. 3.

Coastal Prairies: Decoying action for geese is fair at best along the rice prairies near Katy, El Campo, Garwood, Eagle Lake, Lissie, Altair and Brookshire. An unlimited ceiling coupled with windless mornings has not proved prosperous for goose hunters.

Still, plenty of snow and speckle-

bellies are in the region, most of which are using rice and plowed ground.

Duck hunting is spotty, though limit hunts have been reported on secluded ponds for gadwalls, teal, shovellers, wigeons and the occasional mallard.

Pintails and mallards are not legal to harvest in the South Zone until Dec. 11.

Sandhill crane numbers are building. Zone C season will run Dec. 20-Jan. 18 with a 2-bird daily bag.

Prospects are fair to good.