

Happy Thanksgiving!! Don't Forget Our Christmas Gift Guide Inside!

Eagle Lake Headlight

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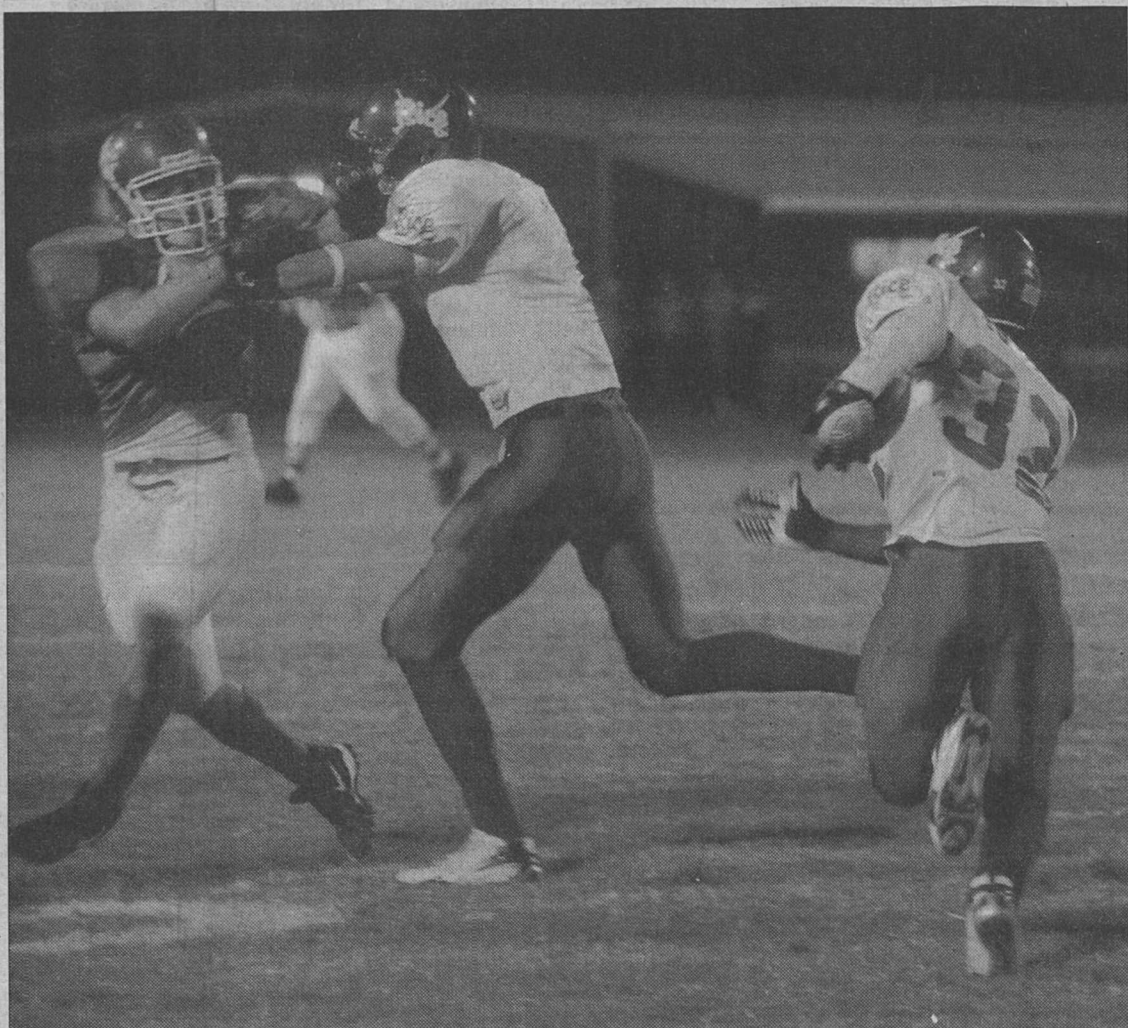
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Taylor Cook throws a block as Ziggy Foster looks for room to run during Rice's playoff victory over Boling last Friday in El Campo. The Raiders face Hearne on Friday night at 7:00 p.m. at Rhoades Stadium in Katy.

Rice To Upgrade Technology Board Approves \$236,000 Improvements

The Rice School Board voted at the regular meeting November 13 to go ahead with several improvement projects as well as technology upgrades on multiple campuses.

The board voted to spend about \$231,000 on technology upgrades throughout the district.

About \$168,000 was budgeted and an additional \$40,000 will come from a federal grant. The remaining \$23,000 in funds will be shuffled from another budget area.

Board members discussed the possibility of spending a little less to keep the project within the budget numbers, but Ralph Gertson, the district's information technology director, said it would be best to do all of it at one time so that everything would be on the same level.

The measure was unanimously approved.

The measure will provide for the purchase of laptops for all of the teachers in the district, a total of about 85 laptops.

An additional 30 laptops will be purchased for a mobile lab as well as about 100 desktop model

computers.

The measure will also call for the upgrade of the computers in the district to Windows XP.

The board also voted in favor of going ahead with several campus improvement projects including replacing the floor in the main gym at the high school.

Superintendent Michael Lannier said that the existing floor made of rubber-type material is approaching the end of its expected life span and is showing signs of wear like ripping at the seams.

The floor will be replaced with a wood floor and will cost around \$78,000 installed, but is expected to last beyond the use of the gym.

It will be installed over the existing floor after it is checked for level.

An additional \$7,000 will be needed for miscellaneous costs not included in the floor installation such as raising the backboards in the gym.

The board also approved installation of a canopy to cover the walkway from the student parking lot.

Sheridan will get a new front stage curtain at a cost of about \$6,000 and solar screens will be installed on 84 windows at the Garwood School at a cost of \$67 each for a total of a little under \$6,000.

In other board action:

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Raiders Beat Boling; Hearne Up Next

On Friday night the Rice Raiders won their first playoff game since the 2003 playoffs by defeating Boling 25-14 in El Campo.

In 2003 they made it to the quarterfinals before losing a four-overtime game to Port Isabel.

"The defense carried us the whole game, they did an outstand-

ing job," said Rice Coach Brad Dumont.

"I knew these guys would step it up under pressure," he added.

The Raiders will take on Hearne (7-4) next in the regional semifinal round of the playoffs. The game is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Friday in Katy at Rhoades Stadium.

A pep-rally and send-off is slated at 2:30 p.m. at Raider Stadium.

The Raider defense got the game going early when Ross Lob-pries recovered a fumbled pitch on the Boling 23 yard-line.

Rice made Boling pay for the

mistake on the very next play when Taylor Cook hit Marques Toliver on a play-action pass for a 23-yard touchdown.

Ziggy Foster ran the ball in for a two-point conversion to put Rice on top 8-0 just 17 seconds into the contest.

Boling started their next possession on the 40-yard line.

They ran the ball three straight plays for a first down at the Raider 47.

After a short run and an incomplete pass, Pablo Suarez made a big stop on a Boling rush attempt bringing up fourth-and-five.

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NEWSBRIEFS

Pep rally set for Friday

A Pep rally will be held Friday, Nov. 24 at 2:45 p.m. at the Rice High School Stadium. After the pep rally all Raider fans are asked to caravan to the Katy Rhodes Stadium and tailgate in the parking lot before the game. The Raiders will play Hearne at 7 p.m. Gates open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 each at the gate.

First National Bank to host gift tree

First National Bank of Eagle Lake is hosting a gift tree for Texas Department of Health and Human Services - Children's Protective Services (CPS) for children in the Eagle Lake and surrounding area. The donated gifts will be distributed to children and families who are receiving services through CPS. If you have any questions call Rebecca Cole at 234-6926.

Closing for Thanksgiving

The following will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday Thursday, Nov. 23: Eagle Lake Post Office, First National Bank in Eagle Lake will be closed Thursday and open Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wallis State Bank will also be closed Thursday, and be open Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Colorado County Courthouse will be closed Nov. 23 and 24. The City offices in Eagle Lake will be closed Thursday and Friday. There will be no trash collection on Thursday. Thursday's route will be collected on Friday. The Eagle Lake Headlight will be closed Thursday and open on Friday.

WCBC presents musical workshop

White Cloud Baptist Church will present its First Musical Workshop. Rehearsals will be held at 7:30 p.m. nightly on Nov. 29, 30 and Dec. 1. The musical will be Saturday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. For more information contact Robbie Rhodes.

CPR classes set for Nov. 29

South Texas CPR Associates will be conducting CPR classes on Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 5 p.m. If interested contact Belinda Richter by email at bnikel@yahoo.com or by phone at 361-772-0495 for details.

WIC to make presentation at library

The WIC Program in Eagle Lake will be doing presentations in the community on how to get your children to eat healthy. Many children are becoming overweight and developing diseases such as diabetes and high blood pressure. This presentation which will be held at Wintermann Library, Thursday, Nov. 30 at 4:15 p.m. will provide parents with ideas to help children maintain a healthy weight which will help to prevent diseases. Free school supplies will be given to each adult in attendance. For more information call 979-732-6635.

United Way silent auction is Dec. 1

The Eagle Lake United Way will host a silent auction December 1 starting at 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the lobby of the First National Bank. If you are interested in donating a silent auction item please call Brenda Besch at 234-5058, Lydia Contreras at 234-3239 or Laural Holden at 234-2572. Thanks for your support.

Pilot Club extravaganza is Dec. 2

The Pilot Club of Columbus will host their 5th Annual Holiday Shopping Extravaganza (gifts, crafts and antiques) Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Exhibition Hall of the Colorado County Fairgrounds. Admission is \$2 for ages 12 and older. To add to the festive mood of the day, there will be hourly door prizes drawings, a visit and photo with Santa, and performances by various local choral groups.

UMC to celebrate 30th anniversary

The Eagle Lake United Methodist Church invites all family and friends to come and join them in their celebration of the 30th Anniversary of their church building, Sunday, Dec. 3. Special services and music to will be followed by a covered dish dinner.

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Kris Kringle Cash Giveaway Starts Now

Warm your pockets with a little extra cash this Holiday Season by entering The Eagle Lake Headlight's Christmas Cash Giveaway Contest.

Beginning this week, lucky readers can win \$50 a week for their holiday shopping.

Starting today, a special Christmas symbol will be placed in advertisements throughout the Headlight each week through the Dec. 14 edition.

Simply count the number of times the symbol appears in advertisements in the entire paper for that week, fill out the form (on page 2) and submit by the deadline.

Deadline for this week is 5 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 27.

Every entry that has the correct number of symbols counted will be entered in the drawing.

Two entries will be drawn each week and the winner will be awarded a \$25 check or gift certificate made out to the business specified on their entry.

Contestants must specify a business that has an ad appearing in the edition for which they are entering the contest.

Only one entry per person will be accepted, no photo copies.

Employees of the Eagle Lake Headlight and their immediate families are not eligible.

So join in the fun and let the Headlight help you do some Christmas shopping!



Rice Cheerleader April Pagel cheers for the Raiders during the pep-rally and bonfire held last Thursday night.



TrafCo Industries held the ribbon cutting ceremony for their new building on Thursday, Nov. 16. On hand are from left to right in back are Ron Simms, Advanced Traffic Markings; Jane Meldahl, Eagle Lake City Council; Chriss Schiurring, Eagle Lake City Council; Logan Daley, Aline McQueen, Kevin Hudman, TrafCo; Barbara Mitchell, TrafCo; Brian Matti, TrafCo; Mark Dujka, First National Bank (FNB); John Matthews, John Carey, Jr.; Brett Hudman and Sam Kana, FNB; front row, left to right, Pat Matula, FNB; Dianne Causey, Eagle Lake Chamber; John Gertson, Eagle Lake Chamber; Linda Daley, Joan Matthews, Lesley Carey, TrafCo; Lonny Daley, TrafCo; Alice, Morton, TrafCo; and Renee Staff, TrafCo.