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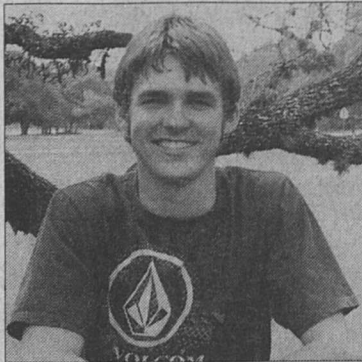
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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

MAY 24, 2007



Clayton Bowen recently took second in editorial writing at the UIL State Academic Meet.

Bowen Takes 2nd In State

On May 3, 2007 the 97th annual UIL Academic Meet was held at the University of Texas in Austin. Competing in this meet for Rice was senior student Clayton Bowen of Eagle Lake, son of Wayne and Jonna Bowen.

While the competition at this level is extremely difficult, Clayton did an outstanding job and took home a 2nd place trophy in UIL Editorial Writing. Mrs. Jane Clipson and Mrs. Glenda Beall were both able to accompany Clayton on this trip to Austin as his sponsors.

Congratulations to Clayton on this outstanding accomplishment and special thanks to Mrs. Clipson and Mrs. Beall for their hard work in preparing Clayton for this contest.



Rice Athletes Of Year Named

Rice held its annual Athletic Banquet on May 17. Brian Williams, left, and Mallory Dumont were named Athletes of the Year. They are pictured with Athletic Director Brad Dumont. See pages 5-7 for more pictures from the banquet.

Tax Payments Up For May

Sales tax payments to the city of Eagle Lake in May were \$24,129, an increase of 26.41 percent from last May figures from

the state comptroller show.

So far this year in Eagle Lake, sales tax payments have totaled \$83,731, an increase on 1.16 percent from the same period last year.

The half-cent sales tax rebate for Colorado County in May was up 9.61 percent, with a payment of \$87,369.

For the year in Colorado County, the payments totaled \$371,758, an increase of 3 percent.

In Fayette County, the half-cent sales tax was up 5.32 percent for May, with a payment of \$104,121.

For the year in Fayette County, the payments totaled \$467,363, an increase of 8.47 percent.

Checks sent to area cities for May with changes from last year are as follows:

Columbus - \$105,237, up 9.21 percent; for the year, \$445,689, up 7.37 percent.

Weimar - \$28,196, up 8.11 percent; for the year, \$118,432, up 6.55 percent.

Schulenburg - \$53,591, up 16.43 percent; for the year, \$226,217, up 6.81 percent.

La Grange - \$120,241, down 3.86 percent; for the year, \$542,978,

Rice Board Talks Facility Use; Elects New President

The Rice School Board discussed during their regular meeting on Monday night the use of school facilities by other organizations.

Superintendent Michael Lanier said that currently the district allows groups to use the school for a variety of activities and has not been charging any sort of fees.

Lanier indicated that there was a policy that provided for the collection of fees for facility use, but said that in the recent past the fees had been waived in an effort to encourage groups to utilize the school's facilities.

Lanier indicated that it was done to help promote the types of groups that use the school in order to help the community.

He said that the facilities are so well used that the electricity costs are beginning to become a burden and that start collecting fees again.

He said that he would like to see a date set for when that

would begin and recommended August 1.

A question arose about exactly what groups would be charged for usage. Lanier said that the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) was a group that is considered to be school affiliated and would not have to pay, whereas a group hosting a basketball camp would likely have to pay.

The board seemed to be in agreement that there is some gray area involved in something like this and decided that communicating with the district's attorney would be best before moving forward.

In other board action:

-Carolyn Baird and Jack Vawter were sworn in for new terms.

-Carolyn Baird was voted Board President, Vivian Spanihel Vice President and Clark Peterson Secretary.

-The board also heard a report on TAKS efforts from a consultant that is monitoring what the district is doing to remedy TAKS shortfalls.

It was reported that the district was doing everything it needed to be doing and that the scores that are coming in for this year are an indication that things are going well.

He said that one subgroup in high school that only had a 28 percent pass rate last year, upped its score to 58 percent passing

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The W. Cherry - M. Perry Veterans Legion Post # 108 of Eagle Lake will honor all deceased veterans buried in our local cemeteries on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, by placing American flags by their gravesites. The flags will be placed in the designated holders by the gravesites on Saturday, May 26, and will be retrieved on Tuesday, May 29. The flag holders are white with red, white and blue stripes at the top and are placed, where possible, to the immediate left of the gravesite or marker. If we have missed a veteran's grave in the past, please contact Ken Craig at 234-2807 or Vic Scott at 234-2792 as it is our intention to honor all veterans of all services. There will also be extra flag holders in each cemetery. Feel free to take one and place it by the veteran's grave if we miss someone.

NEWSBRIEFS

Garwood Pre-K Deadline is May 25

The Garwood School Pre-K registration deadline is May 25. Call 758-3385. Garwood Programa de Pre-K El ultimo dia es el 25 de Mayo. Por favor de llamar a la escuela a 758-3385.

Memorial Day Service set for May 27

The Annual Homecoming and Memorial Day Service will be held at the air-conditioned Rock Island Community Center, Sunday, May 27. A beef and sausage dinner, with all the trimmings (dessert and iced tea or coffee included), will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The memorial Service and Program will commence at 12:30 p.m.

Holiday Trash Collection

The city will close Monday, May 28 for Memorial Day. There will be no trash collection on Monday, Monday's and Tuesday's route will be collected on Tuesday.

Memorial Day Closing

The Colorado County Courthouse will be closed on May 28 in observance of Memorial Day. Commissioners Court Meeting will be held on May 29.

Class of 2007 Baccalaureate

The Eagle Lake community Baccalaureate service for the class of 2007 will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 27 at Christ Episcopal Church, located at 304 East Stockbridge in Eagle Lake. The program is being planned by Revs. Joe and Mercy Fling of Living Hope Church. All students of our community who are graduating from high school this year, whether they attend private, home school, Rice High School or neighboring public schools are invited to attend. Students other than those who Rice should contact Rev. Joe Fling 234-5536, Alliance president Rev. Steve Whitfield 234-3437, or any member of the Ministerial Alliance for details.

Workshop to be held May 30

Youth and Family Services will be hosting a workshop for all parents to attend on Wednesday, May 30. The workshop topic will be on Summer Safety and Activities for children. The workshop will be held from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Youth and Family Services building at 1336 Fannin, Columbus. For more information please call 979-732-8355

Senior citizen dance to be held June 1

The senior citizen dance will be held Friday, June 1 from 8 p.m. until 11 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. The performers for the dance will be the "Fabulous 4". For more information call 979-234-2903.

Dance to be held June 2

The Sealy Dance Club is hosting a public dance Saturday, June 2 at the American Legion Hall in Sealy. Dance time is 7:30 to 11:30. Music will be provided by Central Texas Sounds. Theme for the dance is "Hawaiian Luau". Every dance is a big party and fun time. Free cake, coffee, and door prizes. The public is invited.

KC Golf tourney is June 3

The 23rd Annual Knight of Columbus will hold their golf tournament Sunday, June 3. The four-player scramble will start at 1:30 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Golf Course. Entry fee is \$200 per team and includes caps, mulligans, grab bags and chicken fried steak lunch. A chicken fried steak lunch will also be served to the public. Rent a cart by calling 234-5981 (limited carts available). For more information call Glen Janow at 234-5282; or Michael Duarte at 234-2630 or Craig Guthman at 758-4224. First second and third place prizes for gross and net and closest to the pin #4 and #7.

Lissie ice cream social is June 3

The Lissie United Methodist Church will hold its ice cream social on Sunday, June 3 at 5 p.m. on the church grounds. There will be homemade ice cream, cookies, cakes, pies, and activities for the children. And to help you work off those extra calories you can gather in the sanctuary for an old fashioned time of hymn singing. A love offering will be taken to help the church renovate its Youth Room.

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The Rice High School National Honor Society recently held their annual new member induction ceremony. Past members presented the new inductees with member cards and certificates acknowledging their arrival into NHS. The new members are front, from left: Courtney Sklar, Brittney Cummings, Veronica Lipperdt; middle, from left: Tori Rathburn, Sara Nelson, Sarah Saenz; back, from left: Nicholas Duarte, Brian Williams, Trent Popp, Garreth Casper. The National Honor Society also elected their officers for the 2007-2008 school year. The president will be Eddie Losoya; vice-president, Hillary Johnson; secretary, Shelly Myres; treasurer, Kaci Kazmir; and reporter, Nicholas Duarte. The new officers will begin conducting their duties next school year. Faculty advisor to the NHS is Jane Clipson.