

Eagle Lake Headlight

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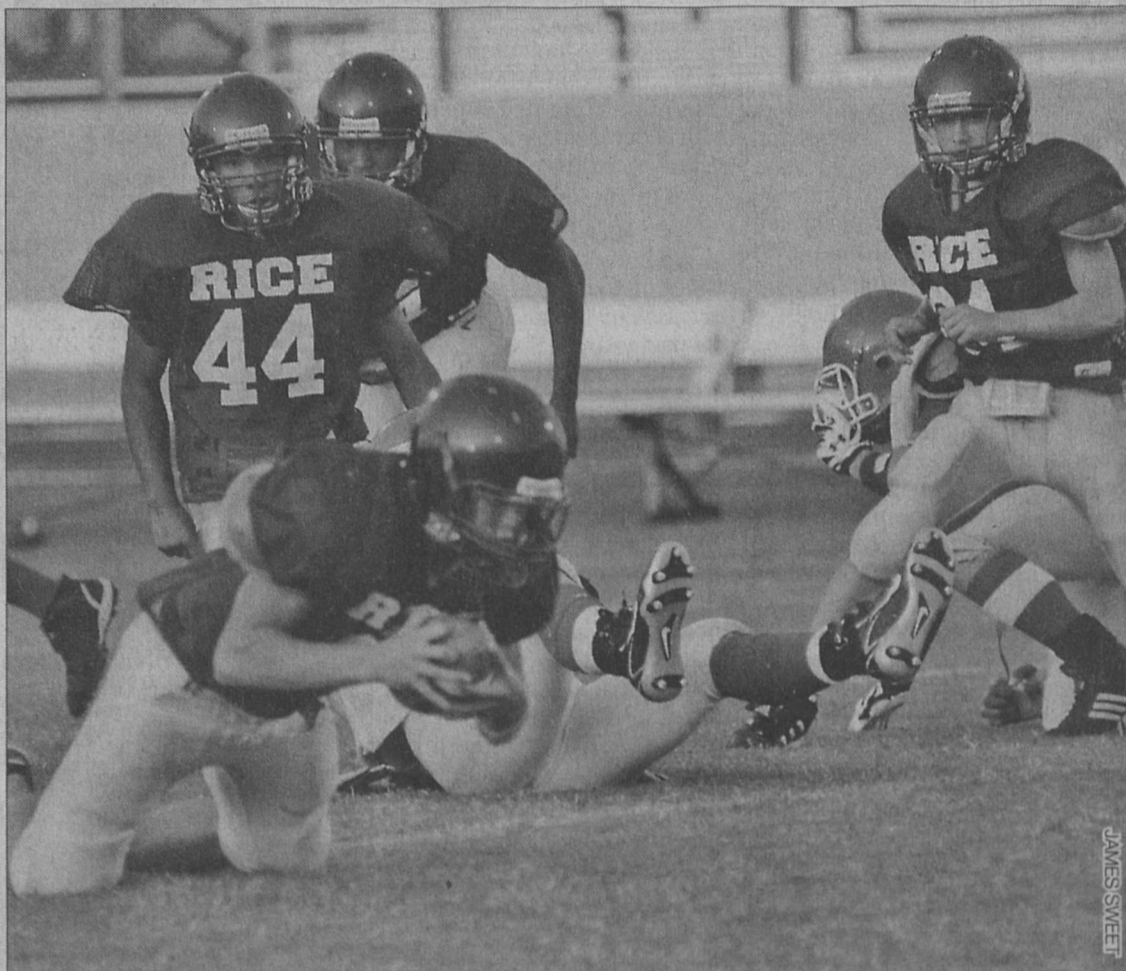
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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

AUGUST 28, 2008



Carlos Sosa picks up a fumble during the scrimmage against Columbus last Thursday. #44 Francisco Vasquez, and Kevin Ellis, at right, look on.

Rice CISD Board Approves \$12.3 Million Budget

The Rice CISD Board approved a balanced, \$12,318,372 budget for the 2008-2009 year.

This total is down slightly from last year's \$12,335 million budget.

The overall tax rate is also slightly lower than last year's rate at \$1.28542 compared to \$1.298 per \$100 of valuation.

Projected local tax revenues

for the year are \$6.479 million compared to \$6.278 million last year.

The tax rate in the district has steadily decreased over the last six years.

Some of the larger budgeted expenditures planned for the year include a new bus and lawnmower as well as construction and architectural work at the elementary school.

New band uniforms and four new air conditioning units in Sheridan are also in the works.

The budget also covers teacher salary increases, increases in district retirement contribution as well as a 40-cent increase for non-contract, hourly wage employees. There will also be a \$25 per month fuel stipend for qualifying employees.

Raiders Kick Off Season Against Wharton Friday

The Raiders open up the 2008 football season at home Friday night against Wharton.

Friday night is also parents, night, with those activities set for 7:00 p.m. Game time is set for 7:30 p.m.

The Raiders will be trying to improve on an all-time Raider best 13-2 record that saw the team stopped in the state semi-finals last season.

There are five offense and seven defensive starters return-

ing. The offense will be led by Ziggy Foster, who rushed for 2,643 yards and 31 touchdowns last year.

Wide receiver Marquis Toliver figures to be a big part of the offense also. He had 42 catches for 687 yards and five touchdowns last season.

The Raiders are playing in a new district this year, 26-AA.

Gone are Ganado, Industrial, Edna and Tidehaven. Replacing them are East Ber-

nard, Brazos and Hempstead. Back from last year are Schulenburg, Hallettsville and Weimar.

The Raiders are ranked 10th in the state by Texas Football Magazine and picked to win District 26-AA. East Bernard is ranked 18th in the state.

Here is a brief rundown of the District 26-AA teams in order of predicted finish by Texas Football Magazine.

-East Bernard posted a 9-4 re-

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Check Out The Team Photos In Section B

NEWSBRIEFS

Business Closings for Labor Day

The following businesses will be closed in observance of Labor Day. First National Bank, Wintermann Library, City of Eagle Lake, Wallis State Bank, Colorado County Courthouse. The Headlight will be open until noon. There will no trash collection on Monday. Monday and Tuesday's route will be collected on Tuesday.

Free, reduced meal packets available

Free and reduced meal applications for 2008 - 2009 school year are now available. Please contact your child's appropriate campus for more information or stop by and pick one up.

Yearbooks are in

The Rice High School yearbooks have arrived. Books can be picked up in room 1 between 7:45 - 8:00 am, 11:20 am - 1:20 pm, and 2:15 - 3:30 pm. Any balance due must be paid in full before the book will be released. There are several extra books for sale at a price of \$45. For additional information contact Melody Grigar at mgrigar@ricecisid.org.

Narcotics anonymous meetings

If you have a drug or alcohol problem or think you might have one and you want to stop, then Narcotics Anonymous is the solution! Meetings are held every Wednesday night from 8 to 9 p.m. in Columbus. For more information and location, please call 713-858-5162.

Mt. Sinai to hold bake sale Friday

Mt. Sinai Evangelical Ministries at 510 Prairie St. will hold a bake sale, Friday, Aug. 29 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. They thank you in advance for your support. All proceeds benefit Mt. Sinai Evangelical Ministries.

Major show lamb and goat tags

Time is fast approaching for 4-Her's and FFA members to make the decision on how many ear tags they will need for the 2009 Texas 4-H/FFA Lamb Validation and Texas 4-H/FFA Goat Validation Programs for the major shows. The tags will cost \$9 each. 4-H members need to turn their orders to the Extension Office by August 29. FFA members should check with their advisor for their deadline. Tags must be paid for at the time you place your order.

WCUMC to hold garage and bake sale

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church (WCUMC) in Altair will hold a gigantic garage sale and bake sale on Saturday, Aug. 30 from 7:30 a.m. to noon. For more information call Mary at 234-3264 or Marie at 234-2206. Thank you in advance for your support. All proceeds benefit WCUMC.

GMBC To hold basketball tournament

The Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church Pastor's Aide Committee will host a basketball tournament on Saturday, August 30. For more information you may contact Sis. Janice Bluntson at 979-234-3812.

Piper to visit FBC

The First Baptist Church (FBC) of Eagle Lake, 527 N. Lake Ave. invites you to hear the powerful true story of Don Piper, author of NY Times Bestseller, "90 Minutes in Heaven" Sunday, Aug. 31. Piper will be speaking in two unique worship services open to all at 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m. The public is invited.

Bazaar and homecoming set for Aug. 31

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church bazaar and homecoming will be held Sunday, August 31 at the KC Hall in Sealy. A BBQ lunch will be served starting at 10:30 a.m. Mexican food and plates to go and meat by the pound will also be sold. Ray Krenek will provide music inside the hall and Krenek's and The Texas Sound will provide music under the pavilion before and after the live auction. Entertainment throughout the day includes a rock climbing wall, moon walk, petting zoo, and various other kiddie rides and games, a plant stand, country store, grocery stand, fruit cocktail stand, snow cone and cake walk. The auction begins at 1 p.m. consisting of antiques, quilts, baked goods, and other great items. A drawing consisting of 23 items that will end of all the festivities.

St. Mary's festival, homecoming is Aug. 31

The St. Mary's Parish Annual Festival and Homecoming will be held at the Nada Community Center on Sunday Aug. 31 A BBQ beef and sausage dinner will be served from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for \$7 per plate and includes tea and dessert. Drive-thru plates to go available

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Falin Braden



Kayla Gerik



Stefani Gertson



Terri Prihoda



Kalli Roberts



Koree Robinson



Brandy Rossignol



Stephanie Sturm



Bre'Anna Sutton



Raquel Tello

2008 Colorado County Fair Queen Contestants

Ten young ladies from across the county have entered the competition for Colorado County Fair Queen and membership queen.

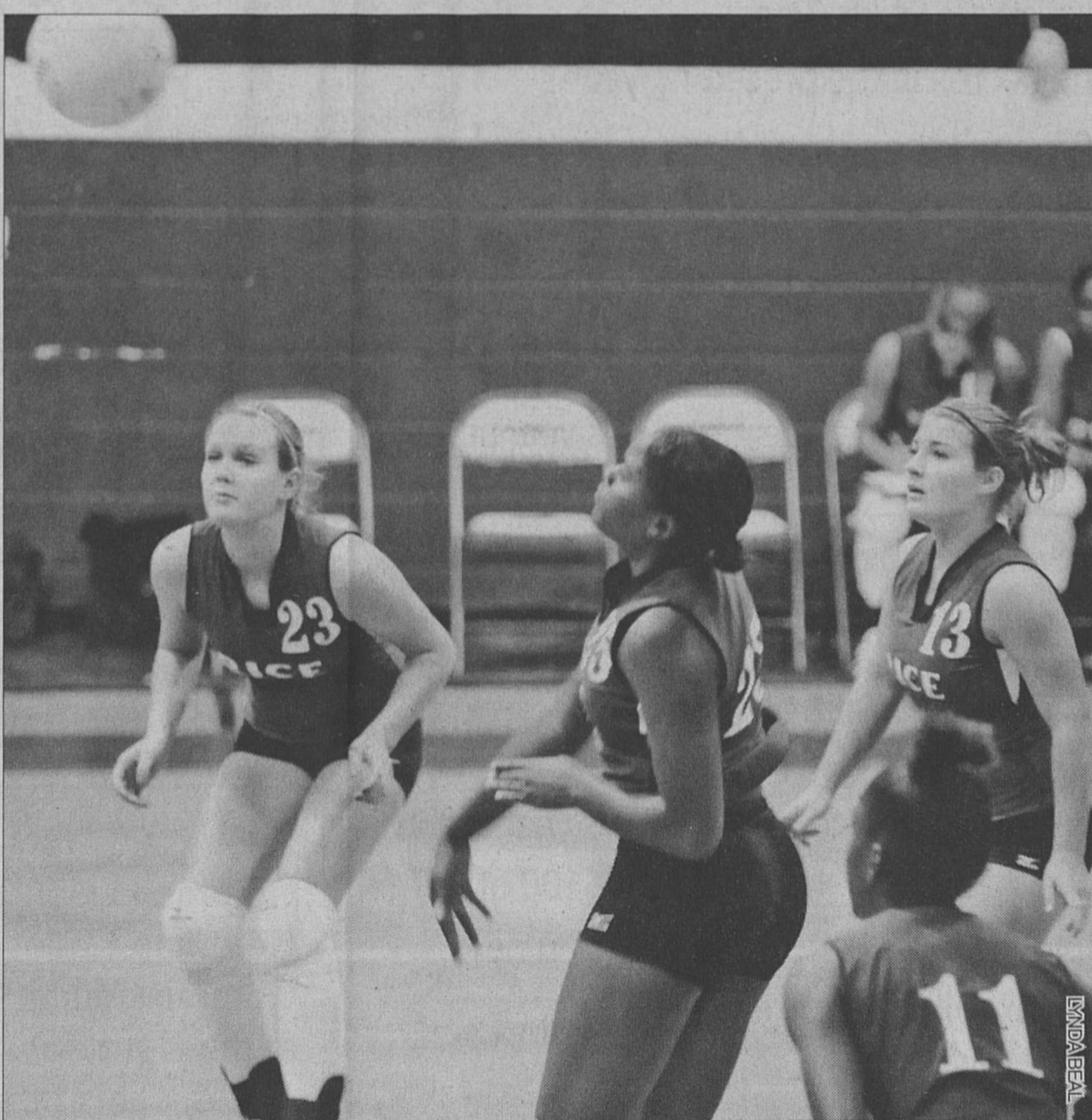
The contest is planned for Sept. 6 at the Columbus High School auditorium.

The contestants are competing for \$4,250 in scholarships to be awarded at the pageant.

To qualify for the contest, contestants are selling season passes to the 30th annual Colorado County Fair for \$20 each.

To help contestants with their sales, citizens are asked to contact one of the following girls to purchase season passes: Falin Braden, daughter of Ann and Earl

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Brit'nee Stevenson, center, hits the ball while Lauren Shimak, 23, Brook Popp, 13, and Jaquita Woods, 11, back her up. Lady Raider stats on page 7.

County Holds Meeting On Tax Rate

Colorado County commissioners, meeting Monday, held a public hearing on a proposed tax increase of 1.9 cents per \$100 valuation.

If approved the county tax rate would be 44.90 cents per \$100 valuation.

No individuals appeared to speak at the hearing.

Another public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 28, at 9 a.m. in the courthouse.

The actual vote on the tax rate will come at a meeting by commissioners on Sept. 8.

A public hearing on the budget will also be held on that date at 9:10 a.m.

The proposed increase in the tax rate, combined with increased property values, would bring an additional \$828,000 in the coming

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Prisoner Escapes From Custody

Colorado Courthouse officials were reviewing security procedures after a prisoner who had just been sentenced to five years in prison bolted from the second floor district courtroom and escaped from the courthouse.

The incident happened during district court proceedings, Friday, Aug. 22, at about 11:32 a.m.

Constable Lonnie Hinze was working as bailiff and made a radio broadcast calling for assistance that an inmate had fled and was last seen running on Walnut Street toward the East River Bridge.

Hinze said the man, who had been free on bond, was being escorted from the courtroom into an adjacent library by two jailers in order to handcuff and shackle him.

Hinze said the man suddenly

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