

Happy Thanksgiving

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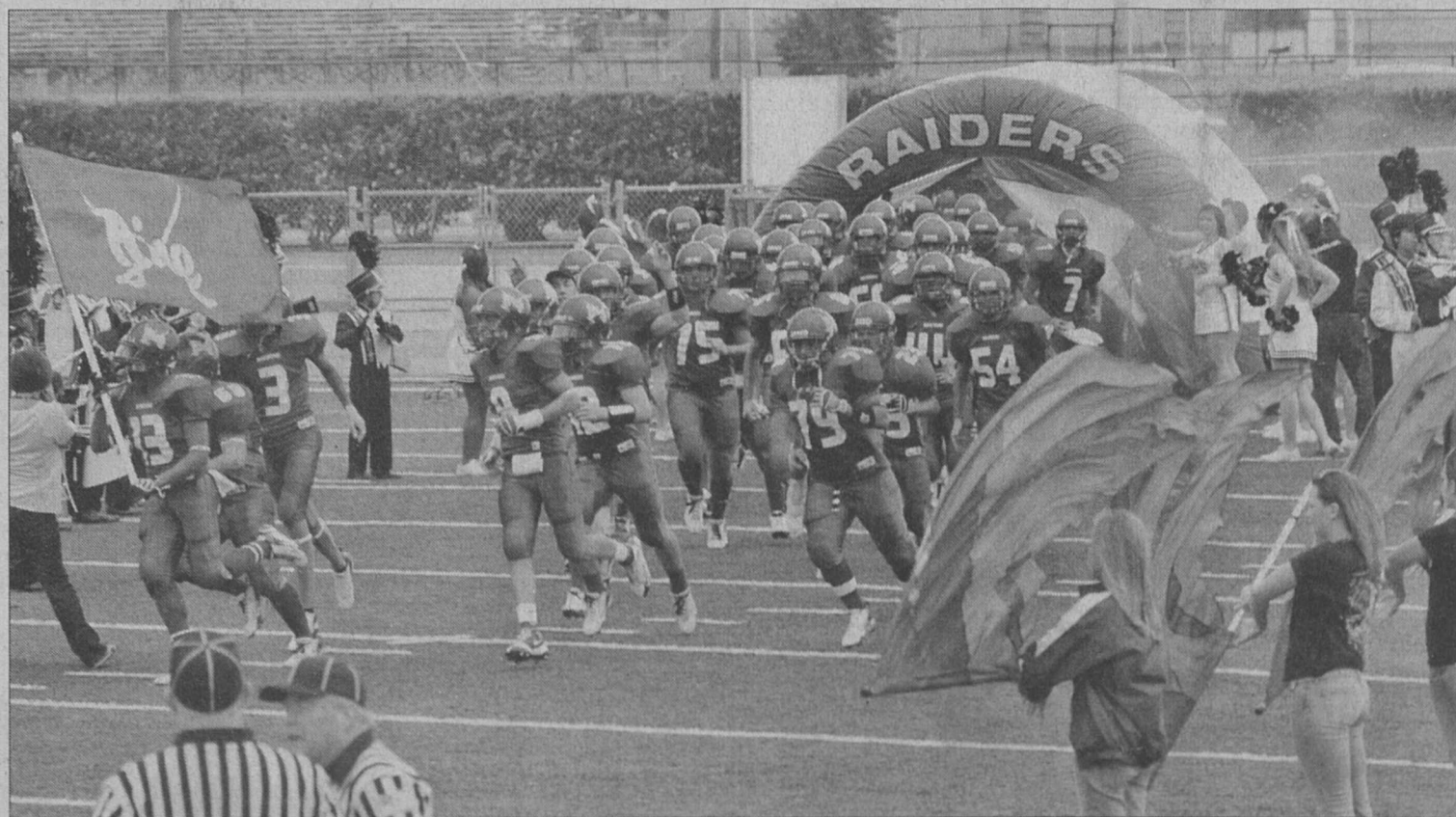
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Raiders On To State Quarterfinals With 31-21 Win Over Navarro



The Raiders take the field before their win over Navarro last Saturday in Victoria. The Raiders will travel back to the same site this week to face George West in the State Quarterfinals at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Rice Takes On George West Saturday At 1 p.m.

The Rice Raiders will face the George West Longhorns in the State Quarterfinals on Saturday at Memorial Stadium in Victoria. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m.

Rice is only one win away from matching their playoff performance from a year ago.

Undefeated George West, like Navarro, boasts a prolific running attack.

They have amassed 2,492 rushing yards on the year, and only 592 passing yards. They average almost 40 points per game.

Last week, they defeated Hitchcock 44-41. They racked up 396 rushing yards on 61 carries. They threw the ball nine times, with two completions and two interceptions.

"We need to get them in third and long situations, because they don't like to throw," said Rice Coach Brad Dumont.

Their main running threat is Shannon Taylor who had 179

yards against Hitchcock.

The Raiders tough defense will have to stop the run again. They held Navarro to just 153 rushing yards, well below their season average of over 300 yards per game.

"George West is the same as Navarro, they want to control the ball and we need 55-60 snaps on offense," said Dumont.

The Raiders will use their balanced offense, which has 1,945 rushing and 1,712 passing yards on the year, to attack the Longhorns.

They will look for strong performances from Myles Dumont who has thrown for 1,708 yards and 25 touchdowns with only four interceptions and Ziggy Foster who has run for over 1,500 yards and 17 scores.

Winner of the game will face the winner of Arp and Kirbyville in the State Semifinals.

Rice Ups Win Total To 11 With Victory Over Navarro

The Rice Raiders have pushed the season another week by defeating Navarro in Victoria last Saturday afternoon to make it to the State Quarterfinals. Final score was 31-21.

Rice (11-0) faces the George West Longhorns (11-0) on Sat-

urday, November 29 at 1 p.m. at Victoria's Memorial Stadium.

The Raiders stopped a potent running attack by Navarro that had boasted 3,700 rushing yards on the year.

Rice held them to just 153 yards on the ground, less than half

their average per game.

"We out played them on the defensive line. We wanted to get to them before they got going," said Coach Brad Dumont of the defense.

Meanwhile, the Raiders rolled up 186 rushing yards and Myles Dumont threw for 191 yards, including three touchdowns. He was 11 of 18 on the day.

Ziggy Foster paced the rushing attack with 165 yards and two touchdowns on the afternoon.

Foster also had success in a relatively new formation for the Raiders that is similar to what a lot of teams call the wildcat formation. He lines up where the quarterback would be in the shotgun and runs the ball up field directly off the snap.

"We call it the Gator package," said Coach Dumont. "It keeps the defense off guard and we feel like it gets the ball in his hands quicker so he can get going faster," he

added.

The Raiders capitalized on Panther turnovers in the game. Rice took away four fumbles and intercepted a pass in the game. They scored touchdowns following three of those turnovers.

"In high school football turnovers are the key. You can always take five or six plays in a game that are the deciding factor. Last week they had turnovers and they helped us," said Coach Dumont.

J. J. Reggins had a great day on both sides of the ball. He caught two passes for 88 yards, both went for touchdowns. He also had a fumble recovery and broke up two passes, one in the end zone preventing a likely touchdown at the end of the first half.

Marques Toliver caught four passes for 62 yards and a touchdown.

Mario Hull had five catches for 41 yards, two of them for big

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County Officials Approve \$824,000 Radio Tower

Colorado County commissioners, meeting Monday, approved an \$824,000 bid for construction of a new 450-foot radio tower.

The tower will be built on property owned by the Texas Department of Public Safety southwest of Columbus.

There is already a 300-foot tower at the location.

The county had earlier received an \$861,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for the tower, which will improve emergency radio communications in the county.

In addition to the county and Department of Public Safety, the city of Columbus and Lower Colorado River Authority will have antennas on the tower.

The contract was awarded to World Tower Company Inc. of Mayfield, Ky.

The other bid was more than \$1 million, commissioners were told.

Construction is projected to take approximately a year.

Once the tower is constructed, the county will not have to pay the approximately \$14,000 a month it pays to lease tower space currently.

In other matters, commissioners:

—Took no action on reinstating a ban on outdoor burning, but urged residents to use caution.

—Authorized advertising for an EMS director if necessary. They were told that two persons had already applied for the position.

—Approved participating in a statewide program by the Texas Association of Counties to improve health of county employees.

—Heard briefly from County Attorney Ken Sparks about the seizure of \$742,000 in cash, be-

lieved to be money from illegal drug sales.

Sparks noted that if the cash is ordered forfeited, the Weimar Police Department will receive 70 percent of the proceeds and his office 30 percent.

Sparks said the money can be

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Marques Toliver makes a great catch over two defenders for a touchdown on Saturday.

NEWSBRIEFS

Rice Raider Community Pep Rally

There will be a Community Pep Rally Friday night at the Eagle Lake Community Center. The pep rally will start at 7 p.m.! Everyone come and cheer on the Mighty Raiders as they get ready to play the George West Longhorns. Go Raiders!

Thanksgiving closings

The Colorado County Courthouse will be closed Nov. 27-28 in observance of Thanksgiving. The First National Bank will be closed Thursday and will be open Friday until noon. The Wallis State Bank will be closed on Thursday and will be open Friday until 5 p.m. The Wintermann Library will be closed Thursday and Friday. The City will close Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday. There will be no trash collection on Thursday, Nov. 27. The sanitation department will open and collect Thursdays and Fridays route on Friday. The Headlight will be closed on Thursday but will be open regular hours on Friday.

Yearbooks on Sale

Rice High School students can place their order for a 2009 yearbook this week during lunch periods on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. A deposit of \$20 is required to reserve a book with \$25 due upon delivery next August. Or, pay in full when ordering and get a discounted price of \$40. Students who order a book in November are guaranteed to be pictured in it at least three times.

RMC auxiliary selling tickets

Rice Medical Center (RMC) auxiliary is having their Christmas fundraiser and selling tickets for a collectors edition of a Barbie doll in her Harley Davidson attire. Tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for six tickets. The Barbie doll is on display in the hospital gift shop. Tickets may be bought from any pink lady or you can call Barbara Pidgeon at 234-5571, ext 5236 and she will get the tickets to you. This is an ideal item to put on your Christmas list. Funds collected from fundraisers are used to aid the hospital in purchasing needed equipment and to purchase items for the gift shop.

Second Chance Reorder!!

The Rice Booster Club is ordering a second round of football playoff t-shirts that will be available for this Saturday's game. Only a limited number will be ordered, so if interested, please contact Clarice Dumont at cadumont@ricecisd.org or 361-772-6909 to reserve your size. First come, first serve! Price will be \$12 for YS - AXL; \$14 for 2X and 3X. Go Raiders!

WIC office giving flu shots Dec. 1

The WIC in Columbus will be giving flu shots for adults and children on Monday, December 1 from 9 a.m.- 3:30 a.m. Closed noon-1 p.m. for lunch

Oficina de WIC dara vacunas 1 de diciembre

La oficina de WIC en Columbus dara vacunas contra la gripe para adultos y niños el lunes, 1 de diciembre de 9 am-3:30 p.m. Cerrada mediodia-1 pm.

RMC Blood Drive Dec. 11

Rice Medical Center (RMC) will hold its quarterly "Commit for Life" blood drive Thursday, December 11 from 2-7 p.m. The donor coach will be located on the hospital visitor's parking lot. During the holiday season, there is usually a short supply of blood. Lets all get out and do our good deed for 2008 by donating a unit of blood. Someday you may be in the need for blood and it would be reassuring to know that someone else has taken time to donate blood. Appointments may be made by calling Barbara Pidgeon at 979-234-5571, ext. 5236. Walk-ins are always welcome. May each and everyone of you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Festival of Carols Dec. 7 and 14

Columbus Community Choir presents Festival of Carols. Three performances Sunday, December 7 at 4 p.m. St. Mary's Church in

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Members of the Eagle Lake Civic Garden Club and helpers were busy this week decorating the downtown area. This is the second year since the Garden Club purchased the wreaths and decorations for the downtown area, the point (across from Bucee's), and Harrison Park. Additional wreaths will be placed on some of the business doors. Pictured are Garden Club members and helpers from left to right: Angie Howland, Lois Herman, Penny Henske, Rita Sunderman, and Vivian Hurst. Not pictured are Becky Anderson, Loisann Dziuk, Donna Coldeway, Bill and Margo Harrison, Shirley Compton, and Mary Ann Kaluza.

Don't Forget To Play Kringle Kash