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Grand Champion Steer

Jordan Mahalitc exhibited the grand champion market steer at the 2009 Colorado County Fair Junior Livestock Show. The steer was purchased by Theut Glass for \$5,500. On hand for the recognition were, from left, Emily Mahalitc, buyers Tracy and Gabriel Theut, Mahalitc, Colorado County Fair Queen Cortny Alvarez and Membership Queen Kylee Werland.

Fair Livestock Sale Totals \$176,541

Sales at the Colorado County Fair Junior Livestock Show on Saturday totaled \$176,541 for 149 animals.

The sales were less than last year's total of \$231,267 for 161 animals.

Following is a list of animals, the exhibitor, the buyer and the sale price.

Grand Champion Market Steer - Jordan Mahalitc, Theut Glass, \$5,500.

Grand Champion Commercial Heifer - Austin Trojacek, Frebo Ranch, \$3,750.

Grand Champion Pen of Three - Jessye Trefny, Janecka Construction, \$4,800.

Grand Champion Market Hog

- Emily Mahalitc, First State Bank of Columbus, \$2,500.

Grand Champion Market Lamb - Kaylee Janow, Magnum Oil, \$2,500.

Grand Champion Market Goat - Kaylee Janow, not for sale.

Grand Champion Fryer Rabbit - Alexia Reising, HEB- Columbus, \$1,200.

Grand Champion Broilers - Lane Hasse, Tonkawa Farms, \$1,000.

Reserve Champion Steer - Emily Mahalitc, not for sale.

Reserve Champion Commercial Heifer - Morgan Dyer, Frebo Ranch, \$3,000.

Reserve Champion Pen of Three - Garrison Koehn, Frebo Ranch, \$3,900.

Reserve Champion Market Hog - Clayton Theut, James and Becca Edmiston, \$1,750.

Reserve Champion Market Lamb - Kevin Koehl, James and Becca Edmiston, \$1,750.

Reserve Champion Market Goat - Savannah Konvicka, Tonkawa Farms, \$1,500.

Reserve Champion Fryer Rabbits - Collen Dungen, Tiemann Construction/ D-Zee's Automotive, \$1,199.

Reserve Champion Broilers - Emily Hasse, Brookshire Bros.- Columbus, \$999.

1st Lt Steer AOB - Jacob Valenta, 7VE Ranch, \$2,100.

1st Lt Lamb - Carlee Dopslauf, Bulldog Oilfield, \$800.

1st Lt Goat - Ashton Pavlu, Tonkawa Farms, \$900.

1st Hvy Goat - Todd Heger, HEB- Columbus, \$1,100.

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County Approves \$13.7 Million Budget For Coming Year

Colorado County commissioners, meeting on Monday, Sept. 14, approved a proposed budget with expenditures of \$13.7 million for the fiscal year, starting Jan. 1.

They also approved a tax rate of 46.429 cents per \$100 valuation.

That is an increase of 1.529 cents per \$100 valuation, or 3.4 percent from the current rate.

The rate is what is termed the effective rate, which is designed to bring in the same amount of revenue in 2010 as in 2009 on property that was on the tax rolls both years.

No individuals spoke at public hearing on the budget and there was little discussion by commissioners at Monday's meeting.

At an earlier meeting on Aug. 10, commissioners had voted for the proposed rate by a 4-1 vote.

Voting in favor were Commissioners Herbie Helmscamp, Doug Wessels, Darrell Gertson and Tommy Hahn, with County Judge Al Jamison opposed.

Jamison had proposed a rate of 48 cents per \$100 valuation, a 6.9 percent increase, from the current rate.

However, that motion did not receive a second.

The 46.429-cent rate will bring in an additional \$169,159 in tax

revenue in the coming year, according to estimates by Kana.

Kana said she had taken out of the budget approximately \$2 million for courthouse renovations and repairs, since that was not an expenditure that will reoccur.

County officials had earlier noted that the county is faced with a loss of about \$110,000 from lower oil and gas values.

They also pointed out that the county would receive about \$180,000 less in interest due to lower interest rates.

The budget contains no pay increase for county employees, but it does have funds to increase the amount the county provides to employees retirement.

Currently the county provides \$1.50 for every \$1 an employee contributes.

Commissioners had discussed contributing \$2 for every \$1 an employee contributes.

Increasing that funding will cost \$184,000.

In other action, commissioners:

-Approved a resolution of respect for Robert (Bob) Cowart, the manager of the Robert R. Wells Airport, who died on Aug. 20.

-Set a public hearing for Oct. 13 on a proposal to set a record archive fee of \$5 for each case filed

in district court.

-Approved a dedicated DSL (digital subscriber line) line for the county clerk's office for high-speed transmission of data for \$55 a month.

-Approved a holiday schedule with 13 holidays for 2010.

-Approved a request by the Columbus Chamber of Commerce to place Christmas signs on the courthouse square.

-Approved purchase of 5.9 acres of land in Precinct 2 for the extension of County Road 2104 for \$10,000.

-Approved a limited land division of a 4.3-acre tract in Precinct 2 by Jayne Wright and Nancy LaRue.

-Approved a division of a 15.1-acre tract in Precinct 1 by Kevin and Jessica Coufal.

-Appointed Eva Lucas as a member of the Colorado County Historical Commission.

-Agreed to continue with the same auditing firm of Rutledge, Crain and Co. of Arlington.

-Approved an agreement with First Choice Power to supply electricity to the county.

Auditor Raymie Kana said the rate will be reduced from 8 cents per kilowatt-hour to 6 cents and should save the county about \$40,000 a year.

NEWSBRIEFS

Historical Commission meeting tonight

Colorado County Historical Commission will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, Sept. 17 at 7 p.m. Meeting location will be the Colorado County Services Facility, 305 Radio Lane in Columbus. The program, "35 Years at NASA" will be presented by Doctor Chuck Sawin. Hostess for the event will be Colleen Willrodt-chairman, Carolyn Hastedt, Joyce Loessin, Otto Loessin, Lillian Brune and Kathryn Haluska. Please bring a covered dish meal.

Study Club auction, dinner is Saturday

The Eagle Lake Study Club 30th annual auction and dinner will be held September 19 at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Chamber of Commerce fried chicken dinner from 5-7 p.m. silent auction from 5-6:45 p.m., bakery booth starting at 5 p.m. and the main auction will be from 7-9 p.m. with Dick Richter as the auctioneer. Proceeds benefit the Wintermann Library. No admission fee. Door prizes. Contact the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce for dinner tickets at 979-234-2780 or info@visiteaglelake.com.

Habitat for Humanity dedication Saturday

Colorado County Habitat for Humanity invites the public to attend the dedication of its newest house on Saturday, September 19 at 10 a.m. The house, located at 305 Mills Street in Eagle Lake, has been built in partnership with future homeowner Angelia Gonzales and volunteers throughout the community. For more information, call 979-732-5677.

WCJC Variety show is Saturday

The Wharton County Junior Concert (WCJC) Concert Choir goes to Carnegie Hall! A Variety Show musical evening will take place on Saturday, September 19. This program highlights the choir's versatility and talent. Also performing will be several gifted and widely recognized members of the teaching staff. Come out to the Horton Foote Theatre, Wharton Campus, at 7 p.m. to hear these gifted young people perform. It promises to be a fun and enjoyable evening. For more information please call 979-532-6300.

Raider youth fundraiser is Sunday

The Raider Youth Football and Cheerleaders will hold a fundraiser on Sunday, Sept. 20, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The fundraiser will take place at the Eagle Lake City Park. Plates are \$7 each and will consist of sausage, potato salad and beans. For more information call 979-705-5422.

Mt. Carmel Church anniversary Sunday

To our many brothers and sisters in Christ, our friends and acquaintances Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church will be celebrating its 207th homecoming, church anniversary, family and friends Sunday, September 27 at 3 p.m. Moderator-Pastor, Dr. Obie Rhodes and White Cloud Missionary Baptist Church of Eagle Lake will be our special guest along with guest churches of this community and county. Come and worship with us as we celebrate in this Festive Season of Praise.

MAYC Golf tournament Sept. 26

The 11th annual M.A.Y.C. 4 player golf tournament will be held September 26 at 1 p.m. shot gun start at the Eagle Lake Golf Course. Entry fee is \$200 per team includes lunch, one mulligan/per player. \$5000 hole in one prize. Be a hold sponsor! A bargain at only \$75 for more information contact Daniel Contreras at 979-943-1144, Ruben Salinas 281-470-1257, Michael Duarte 979-234-2630. Prizes first, second, and third place longest drive and closest to the pin. Cart rent at players expense limited carts available call to reserve carts early 979-234-5981.

WCJC to present showcase

Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) is proud to present the opening program for the Cente for the Arts 2009-2010 year, a "Fine Arts Showcase", Tuesday, September 29 at 7 p.m. This program will feature performances by the Greenroom Players, the Concert Choir and Chamber Singers, and the Concert and Jazz Bands. Additionally an art gallery, displaying works by many students, will line the hallways. Bring the family and come out for a very enjoyable evening. The

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Raiders Drop Tough One To Sealy

The Rice Raiders suffered their first loss of the season against a tough Sealy team last Friday night in Altair.

The final score of the game was 26-6.

Despite the loss, the Raider defense played very well for the most part.

They held Sealy to fewer yards and first downs than the Raiders.

Only two of Sealy's four touchdowns came on offensive plays, and both of those were on Sealy's only two pass completions on the night.

The other two came on a punt returned just after the second half started and an interception return very late in the game.

"The defense played an outstanding game, except for the first drive," said Rice Coach Brad Dumont.

Sealy got on the board early in the first quarter on a 33-yard touchdown pass that capped a four-play, 61-yard drive.

"We lined-up wrong a couple plays, and that was the reason," said Dumont.

The Raiders struggled to run the ball and seemed plagued by dropped passes throughout the contest. Rice managed only 35 rushing yards on the night.

Myles Dumont completed 15 passes, but attempted 39. He finished with 215 yards and the Raiders' lone touchdown to Mario Hull on a 62-yard strike.

"We need to get better on special teams and catching the football," said Dumont.

"Our line has to sustain their backs longer, and our running backs are going to have to get more aggressive when they run,"

he added.

After Sealy's opening touchdown, the Raiders held the ball for six minutes and drove as far as the Sealy 29, but were forced to punt the ball away.

The Raider defense forced a Sealy punt after just three plays.

Rice was on the move, driving from their own 35 to the Sealy 25, but a snap miscue resulted in a turnover and Sealy took that ball back at the 30.

After giving up a first down, the Raider defense stiffened and a seven-yard sack stopped the Sealy drive.

The Raiders pushed the ball to midfield after the Sealy punt, but were able to move the ball no further and had to punt themselves.

The Raider defense stood tall again, and forced a three and out, giving Rice the ball back at the 43.

On the second play, following a false start, Dumont connected with Hull in tight double coverage and Hull broke loose 62-yards for the Raiders' first score in the night.

The extra point failed, and the game was tied at 6 with 5:30 left in the half.

The Rice defense came out strong again and forced another Sealy three and out.

Rice moved the ball into Sealy territory, but turned the ball over on downs after an incompletion on fourth and 17 from the 28.

The half ended with the score tied at 6.

A fumble on the kickoff ultimately ended up costing the Raiders early in the second half.

Rice maintained possession, but started from their own 10 and got pushed back to the goal line

where they were forced to punt.

The punt was rushed and came out short and Sealy returned it 35-yards for a touchdown.

The point after was good, and Sealy took a 13-6 lead just a minute and a half into the second half.

Rice went three and out after gaining no yards on their next drive and Sealy took over at the 40.

They ran the ball several times to the Raider 44, where they completed their second pass on the night, this time for a 44-yard score.

The extra point was no good, and the score was 19-6 with 7:28 left in the third quarter.

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Rapist Gets 25 Years

An Eagle Lake man has been sentenced to 25 years in prison for sexual assault.

Anthony Daniels, 31, appeared in court on August 10, 2009 and pled guilty to sexually assaulting a 25-year old Eagle Lake woman on March 14, 2009 and asked Colorado County District Judge W. C. Kirkendall to assess his sentence.

Judge Kirkendall sentenced him after reviewing a pre-sentence investigation report. Daniels will have to serve 12 ½ years before he is eligible for parole according to Colorado County Attorney Ken Sparks.



The Rice Raiders take the field against Sealy last Friday night.