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Raiders Open District Play Friday

The Rice Raiders open district play this week in East Bernard. Game time is set for 7:30.

East Bernard is 2-2 with wins over Palacios 33-0 and Boling 28-26 last week.

They lost to Houston Christian 21-14 and Shiner 32-15.

Turnovers were big in both losses said Coach Brad Dumont.

He also said they play a ball control game and that the Rice defense would have to get the ball in the hands of the Raider offense.

"They are a well coached team and a very physical type team," said Dumont.

"We have to match their physicality on the line of scrimmage and have no turnovers to win the game," he added.



Mario Hull brings in one of his eight catches Friday night. Three of those went for touchdowns in Rice's win over Lexington.

Rice Beats Lexington 26-22

The Rice Raiders came from behind to win a tough game in Lexington last Friday night. Final score was 26-22.

The Raiders trailed 16-6 after Lexington scored early in the

fourth quarter, but Rice rallied with three straight touchdowns to take a 26-16 lead.

Rice took the lead for good with about six minutes left in the game when Myles Dumont

connected with Mario Hull for a 32-yard touchdown.

Dumont completed 10 of 18 passes for 212 yards and three touchdowns.

Hull caught all three touchdowns and finished the game with eight catches for 194 yards.

"He is a great example of someone working from the seventh grade to now to get better not only on the football field, but in the weight room and track as well," said Coach Brad Dumont about Hull.

The Raider defense was strong once again, holding Lexington to under 150 yards on the night.

"I told the kids that they were coming after us because of our ranking; they did," said Dumont.

"The other thing I told the kids is that great teams find a way to win a game like this and we did," he added.

The Raiders struggled in the run game gaining only 74 yards on 41 carries.

"We have a young inexperienced o-line, and we knew going into the season that the defense would have to carry us until we find our niche on offense," Dumont said.

"We know we can throw, we have to find some running game," he added.

The game got off to a bit of a slow start with no scoring on the first quarter.

The Raider defense held Lexington to just 11 offensive snaps in the first quarter, with two of the possessions being three and out. Rice finally got the scoreboard in action late in the first half.

After the third defensive three and out of the half, Rice got the ball at the 20-yard line with 4:36 left in the half.

The first play was an end around to Hull for six yards.

After two ineffective plays, the Raiders faced a fourth and five, but offsides on Lexington made it fourth and inches.

Rice went for it and Dumont plowed forward on a sneak for the first down.

On third and five from the 35, Dumont ran the ball for a first down to the 42.

After a sack, it was second and 17, Dumont threw to Hull for 27 yards to the Lexington 32.

On the next play, Dumont found Hull open again, this time for a 32-yard score.

The extra point attempt failed, and the Raiders were on the board with a 6-0 lead with just 57 seconds left in the half.

Rice got the ball to start the second half, but fumbled on the first play and Lexington took over at the 25.

The Raider defense held strong, and Lexington ended up punting the ball and downing it near the goal line.

Two plays later, Lexington

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Officials Say Not Much Effect Expected Rice School District Moves Into Chapter 41

The Rice School Board heard a report during their regular meeting September 21 that the district had been designated as a Chapter 41 district by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for the 2009-2010 school year.

Chapter 41 status, sometimes referred to as "Robin Hood," means that the district may have to pay money to the state to be redistributed to other school districts.

Basically, Chapter 41 districts are districts that, according to a formula, are considered property rich schools.

The calculation looks at property values in the district, tax rates and weight adjusted enrollment numbers to determine if a district is Chapter 41 or 42. Chapter 42 districts are considered normal districts.

The district was informed at the end of July that they were going to be a Chapter 41 district and that the wealth per student in the district is \$321,706, which is just above the \$319,500 threshold.

Assistant Superintendent Bill Hefner said that because Rice is just above that threshold, the amount they would have to pay would be very small. He said the estimate they were given was \$1,500 to \$1,800. "That kind of figure in a budget of \$11 million or so is pretty insignificant," he said.

He also noted that these numbers were based on estimates and that the district would not know until after the school year is over whether or not they actually have to pay any money out.

The district is required to enter into an agreement with the TEA to make payments of

some kind. The district had some choices in this matter and opted to make monthly payments to the TEA.

Hefner said that after the final numbers are in, it could end up that the district did not have to pay anything and that TEA would "settle-up" with them at that time.

He noted that there are a number of schools that fall into this so-called "false Chapter 41" status.

Hefner said that a downward trend in enrollment, coupled with rising oil and gas values the last few years are probably why the district ended up in Chapter 41.

It was noted that Chapter 41 was started as a way to equalize funding.

Hefner said that there are schools in the region, especially along the coast that pay millions of dollars due to extremely high tax value to student ratios.

"It wouldn't really be fair for a district like that to have a really low tax rate and plenty of money while a neighboring district might have a relatively high rate and still struggling for money," he said.

Hefner indicated that, all things considered, Chapter 41 status would really not have an effect on the district at this time.

Other board action:

-Cancelled the election to fill the open board position left by Betty Schiurring. Only one candidate filed, Daryl Pieprzycza of Nada.

-Heard an update on the Eagle Lake Intermediate School project. Hefner said that the slab had been poured and that some bathrooms in the existing portion had been

renovated.

-Voted in favor of replacing the cooling tower at Rice High School. The tower is the original one that was installed when the school was built in the early 1970s. The cost for replacement will be \$135,000. The vote was not unanimous with Joe Lee Perez voting against. He indicated that if the current tower was working, that they should wait to replace it.

Jack Vawter said that he felt if it needed replacing, that they should go ahead and get started on it.

Hefner said that they have had a few problems with it and that parts were getting harder and harder to find. He said he felt that the district had gotten more than its expected life from the current one.

-Voted in favor of a service contract for HVAC maintenance and repairs with Johnson Controls. Part of the five-year deal will include update control systems as needed at the various campuses.

-Voted to add to the student handbook that junior high students taking high school credits will have those classes count toward GPA calculations.

-Approved allowing the appraisal district to lower starting bids on two properties in Eagle Lake to \$1,000. The appraisal district is trying to sell the tax-delinquent properties in order to start collecting taxes on them again.

-Approved hiring Robert Bozeman to teach special education and to coach at the high school. Bozeman lives in Sealy and it was noted that he was a highly qualified teacher.

Farmer's market open Thursdays

The Eagle Lake farmers' market is open on Thursdays at the community center pavilion from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Gardeners and farmers, come share your locally grown food with your neighbors. Just show up and set up under the pavilion roof. You are welcome if you have a lot to sell, or just a little. If you have questions, send email to rwspal@elc.net or call 979.243.4261.

MAYC Golf tournament Saturday

The 11th annual MAYC 4 player golf tournament will be held Saturday, Sept. 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 234-5981.

Rising Star to sell plates Saturday

Greater Rising Star Baptist Church (GRSBC) will be selling enchilada dinner plates with all the trimmings for \$7 on Saturday, September 26 starting at 10:30 a.m. until all sold out. For more information call 979-234-2423.

Girls scouts meetings underway

The Brownies and Daisies meet every Monday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church (pink church). If you are not already registered you can do so at the meeting.

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 performance will be held in the Horton Foote Theatre, Dusen-Hansen Fine Arts Building, Wharton Campus. There is no charge for this great night of talent. For more information, please call 979-532-6300.

Raider food drive is Oct. 2

The Rice Raider football team will be proudly sponsoring a non-perishable food drive on Friday, Oct. 2. All items will be accepted at the front entry gate at game time. Any donor that brings 10 items or more will be automatically entered into a drawing for 10 prizes. Raiders will draw for prizes and winners will be announced at the game. Please support the football team's effort - Raiders Helping Raiders!

Singing Women Concert at First Baptist

The Singing Women of Texas will perform Sunday, October 4 at 6 p.m. in a free public concert at the First Baptist Church (FBC) of Eagle Lake. The repertoire of this noted traveling choir includes contemporary and traditional sacred music, with a few southern gospel and patriotic selections. Learn more at www.singingwomen.com or call 979-234-2571. FBC is located on the corner of Lake and Prairie, 527 N. Lake Ave.

Garwood Fire Hamburger supper Oct. 5

The Garwood Volunteer Fire Department (GVFD) will hold their hamburger supper on Monday, Oct. 5 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the fire station in Garwood. Eat in or take out. The GVFD thanks you in advance for your support.

Parish of Nativity fall festival Oct. 18

Parishioners of the Parish of the Nativity Catholic Church in Eagle Lake invite you to mark your calendars to attend their Annual Fall Festival on Sunday, October 18 at the church's pavilion on South

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Lauren Shimek spikes the ball during a match against Weimar.



Terrance Shorter dives for the end zone after intercepting a pass Friday night.