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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

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Michael Scott picks up a chunk of yardage during the Raiders' first scoring drive on Friday night against Harper. Spence Spencer and Jonovan Allen open a hole for him. The Raiders ran away early, scoring 28 in the first half en route to a 37-12 win. The win sets up a showdown with Refugio in El Campo Friday night at 7:30.

County Seeks Restoration Funds

Colorado County commissioners, meeting Monday, approved a resolution to apply for a grant from the Texas Historical Commission to help pay for courthouse renovation and restoration that has been estimated \$6.3 million.

There have been earlier estimates that the county could get \$4 million to \$5 million of the total cost from the state.

But County Judge Al Jami-

son said he understood that the county probably would not get the funds for two years.

He said that is because a state fund that contains approximately \$20 million for grants to county courthouses is also expected to be tapped to help pay for restoration of the fire gutted governor's mansion.

The judge says it looks like any funding will have to wait until 2011

when the state legislature meets and could allocate funds for the state historical commission.

The county is already spending about \$2.6 million on repairs and restoration to the roof and dome of the courthouse.

That work will not qualify for a state grant.

Other work that the county is considering include upgrading the electrical system and replacing windows.

If state funds are received, the restoration would also involve removing the first floor offices of the county clerk and tax assessor-collector, which were added on in the 1950s.

The county earlier was awarded a \$400,000 planning grant from the state to help pay architect costs.

Auditor Raymie Kana said she is in the process of preparing paperwork to get the money.

Under the terms of the planning grant, the county must continue to apply for the state construction funds for six years.

If it does not receive the grant within that time frame, it is required to repay the \$400,000.

Commissioners in 2008 had issued \$5 million in certificates of obligation for courthouse repairs and renovation, a possible annex and roads.

Kana estimated there would be about \$2.1 million left after the \$400,000 is received from the state.

Jamison said he did not envision the county moving forward with further renovation or restoration work until word is received from the state on funding.

Planning for a possible county annex building has also been put on hold.

Rice Raiders Harpoon Harper; Next Up: Refugio

The Rice Raider football team put together an impressive 37-12 win over Harper on a soggy night in Buda last Friday.

The win advances Rice to the third round of the playoffs where they will take on undefeated Refugio in El Campo on Friday night at 7:30 at Ricebird Stadium. Rice will be on the visitors' side.

The Raiders sent a message to Harper early, taking their first possession down the field to draw first blood halfway through the first quarter.

Michael Scott had several solid runs on that drive to get the ball into scoring position.

The drive was capped by a quarterback sneak by Myles Dumont from the one.

Cristian Samaniego made the extra point for a 7-0 Rice lead.

The Raiders never really looked back as they cruised to a 28-0 halftime lead.

Francisco Vasquez punched in the end zone from three yards out for Rice's second touchdown.

It was the Raider running game that ground out the yards for Rice.

Rice rushed for 192 yards on the evening.

Terrance Shorter carried 11 times for 77 yards and Scott ran for 83 on six carries.

Mario Hull had a quiet night receiving, but set up Rice's third score with a great punt return to near the Harper goal line.

The Raiders took advantage immediately with a pass from Dumont to Chris Dorsey who tight roped the sideline to get in the end zone.

Dumont didn't need to throw much in the game, but did complete 7 of 13 for 137 yards and three scores.

Two of those touchdowns went to Dorsey who either broke tackles or ran passed defenders on his

way to the end zone. J. J. Reggins scored the Raiders' fourth touchdown on a 65-yard screen-play where he simply outran the defense. This score

came with about two minutes left in the half.

The Raider defense shut down Harper's running game in the first

Continued on page B1

Raiders vs. Refugio

The Rice Raiders (11-1) are set to take on the Refugio Bobcats (12-0) in the third round of the playoffs on Friday night at El Campo's Ricebird Stadium. Kickoff is set for 7:30. Tickets are \$7 at the gate.

The match-up pits Rice against a stout Refugio team that has been ranked among the top 2A teams in the state all season. Rice has been ranked around no. 10 most of the year.

Continued on page B1



The Rice Lady Raiders basketball team started play recently. Machelsea Thomas shoots the ball.

NEWSBRIEFS

Trash Collection for area

The City of Eagle Lake will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 26 and 27. There will be no garbage collection on Thursday. However Friday's trash will be picked up with Thursday's route.

Playoff shirts still available

If you would like a Raider playoff shirt they are still available. Email Clarice Dumont at cadumont@riceisd.org if you would like to reserve your size. Most sizes still available.

Raider send off is Friday

There will be a send off for the Raiders as they head to the Regional game against Refugio on Friday, Nov. 27. It will start at 2:55 p.m. at the Eagle Lake City Park (by the swimming pool). All are invited to come show their Raider spirit and pride!

Toy Drive Underway

The Cozy Lounge is having a toy drive thru December 19. Drop off a new/unwrapped toy at The Cozy Lounge (Thursday thru Monday during hours of operation) and receive a club discount. These toys will be given to the children in our community at the Cozy Lounge on December 20. Lets help put a smile on a child's face this holiday season. For more information or to make a donation please call 832-859-9330.

Christmas decorating contest slated

The Garwood Gadabouts encourage any Garwood/Nada homes or businesses interested in entering the Christmas Decorating Contest to pick up entry forms at any Nada/Garwood area business. Deadline to enter is December 1.

Christmas concert is Dec. 3

The annual 'The Candle Light Christmas Concert' performed by the Wharton County Junior College Concert Choir and Chamber Singers, will be held on Thursday, Dec. 3. The program will start at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 570 N. Fulton, Wharton. Come hear much loved carols along with new, soon to be favorite, songs. The evening will close with a medley of carols and the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's "Messiah". This is a very enjoyable way to start the holiday season. Admission is free. This is a Center for the Arts production. For more information, please call 979-532-6300.

Senior citizen's dance is Dec. 4

A senior citizen's dance will be held Friday, Dec. 4 from 7:30 to 10:30 at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Daniel and the Country Boys will provide the music. For more information call 979-234-2903.

Fantasy of Lights Dec. 4-5

The town of Sealy will be holding the 23rd Fantasy of Lights Festival, December 4-5. The weekend will be packed with kid's activities including a live snowfall, plenty of shopping, BBQ cook-off, softball, and lighted parade. For more information and schedule of events, please visit <http://www.sealycommunityfoundation.org> or call 979-885-3511.

Holiday homes tour Dec. 5

The Eagle Lake Civic Garden Club will hold their Holiday Tour of Homes Saturday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each and available from any Garden Club member or at the Prairie Edge Museum on day of tour. For more information visit www.visiteaglelake.com.

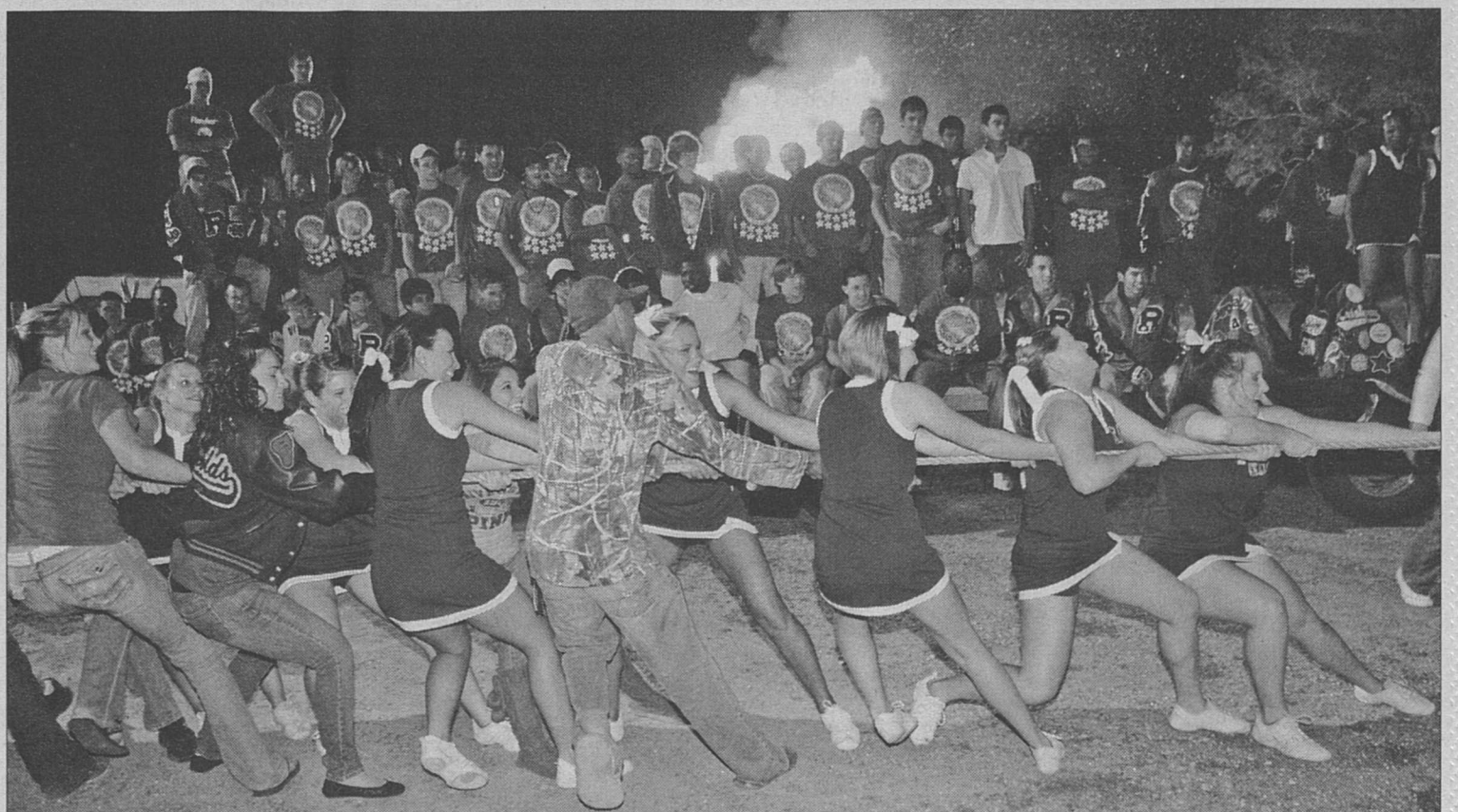
Garwood lighted parade is Dec. 5

Forms are available for any individuals, businesses, organizations, etc., interested in participating in the 1st Annual Christmas in Garwood Lighted Christmas Parade, which will take place on December

Continued on back page



On Friday afternoon at 1:34 p.m. Office David Wiese was called to minor traffic accident at the corner of North Lake and E. Prairie St. One of the drivers involved, Maribel Escobedo was taken to Rice Medical Center with a leg injury. The driver of the other vehicle, Laura Robles was not injured.



The tug 'o war is always a popular event at the Raider Bonfire. The bonfire/pep rally was held last Nov. 19 in preparation for the playoff game against Harper.