Rice

RAIDER Rewind

September 15, 2023 Volume 1 Issue 2

RHS HOCO 2023

THE CROWN IS FOR THE TAKING



Bottom row, from left: Leilany Toriz, Jaclyn Longoria, Adalyn Rodgers, Jasmine Juarez, Tatianna Mills. Back row, from left: Logan Stanley, Joshua Vasquez, Roger Gradney, Jalen Porch and JaDarius Fitzgerald. Photo by Noah Gonzales

By Noah Gonzales

As this week's game comes around there is one event that is sure to attract a crowd: that is the crowning of Rice High School's homecoming (HOCO) king and queen. The Raider Rewind was able to get an exclusive sit down with each candidate. When asked if they thought they would be nominated for HOCO court, king candidates Joshua Vazquez stated, "No not really, but I'm excited to be a part of it."

Ja'Darius "JD" Fitzgerald said,"Yuh, I already knew."

Logan Stanley said, "No, not at all."

Jalen Porch said, "I didn't put myself out there so I was surprised but excited."

Roger Grandey: "Yeah I already knew because I am popular and people vote for me a lot."

When the queen candidates were asked, Adalyn Rodgers stated, " To tell you the truth, I didn't know if I was going to make it on the court or not, but I'm so grateful to have this opportunity."

Jaclyn Longoria said, "I didn't expect to be nominated, but I'm very grateful for this opportunity"

Leilany Torrez said, " I honestly didn't think I would make it,but I'm very excited about the chance."

Tatiana Mills stated, "After seeing the other candidates, I had second thoughts, but I'm very excited to be here."

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RHS Theatre Department hosts all school musical

By Felipe Cardoza

"The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear."- Buddy the elf,from the movie Elf.

So why not get yours"elf" to the musical production of Elf, running Dec. 1-3.

The all school musical is being directed by Michelle Schendel.

Mrs.Schendel is no stranger to theatre, ¨While I did step away from theatre for the past six years, I am so grateful that God has called me to return to it. And to return to it here at Rice makes it extra special,¨ she said.

When asked what the agenda was in theatre, she said, ¨The focus with theatre is to bring Rice HS students, and the community, opportunities to participate in, and see, another level of theatre production

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Raiders 2-1

River Rivaly ends in Raider loss



The Raiders and the Columbus Cardinals played in Columbus Sept. 7. Photo credit: Jaden Newman

By Deveron Bennett

The Raiders traveled to Columbus Thursday, Sept. 7 to take on the Cardinals in a rivalry that is a century old. Unfortunately Rice came home with their first loss of the season.

The Raider offense tried to get going early, but the Cardinal defense swarmed to the ball.

The Raider defense also struggled, giving up 21 points in the first quarter and 26 in the second.

Although the Raiders couldn't

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Raider Features

Raiders and R🌹ses: Inside RHS Floral Design Class



Kathy Smolik, and Kelsey Chitmon and Mahaylee Navarette work on Homecoming mums in Floral Design class. Photo by Adolfo Martinez

By Adolfo Martinez

Rice High School has an outstanding floral class that has many plans to amaze us this year.

The class is hosted outside of the main building in what is known as the AG building.

This class provides the students with additional knowledge of floral design, and the ability to get hands-on experience while providing community members a good product at a great price.

This class takes the art of flowers and teaches students the proper way to handle and care for them while also teaching them of the different kinds of flowers.

This program is known as the "Raiders and Roses Club."

The students can acquire a sponsor or pay on their own.

This will allow you to purchase a $30-$40 retail arrangement for a $10-$15 wholesale cost.

The arrangements will be made once a month for six months with each one having their own theme.

The teacher, Katie Walcik is preparing the students for the homecoming game coming up Sept. 15.

They are currently working on the mums for the homecoming game.

When asked about the class Katie had this to say, "This program is designed to give students extra experience beyond the financial limits of the class."

The " Valley of The Sun" is where it all 'begun'



Coach Jager Lee

By Keenan Hailey

Jager Lee, also known as Coach Lee on the football field, comes from a field himself, so to speak.

He went to college at Southern Utah University following some time at Southern Virginia University.

He is an offensive coach and loves what he does.

Coach Lee said he was really inspired by his uncle and it all started

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Mariana Guerrero and William Tavera dance in the dancing competition during the Aug. 31 pep rally. Photo by JaDarius Fitzgerald

RHS Cheer hosts first pep rally of the year

By Karyn James

The cheer team hosted their first pep rally on Thursday, Aug. 31 at Rice.

The theme was "Rope the Rams"and the students dressed in western attire.

Students wore hats, boots, belt buckles and more to show their raider pride.

Senior Tatiana Mills was the MC for the rally.

She did a great job announcing upcoming cheers and dances and also getting the crowd excited. The game was a partner dance off between all grade levels with 2 pairs each.

The finalists were sophomores Stephanie Samaniego and Santiago Muro and juniors Mariana Guerrero and William Tavera.

The students were to vote on which was the best pair who then would win a sombrero filled with candy.

At the end, they were loudest for Samaniego and Muro who took home the sombrero.

After all the fun games, dancing and cheering it was then time to see who was the most spirited. As hard as it was to choose, the spirit stick went to the football team and to end it off the band played Blackfire, a school favorite.

The cheer team will be hosting the next pep rally Sept. 15 during homecoming week.

The theme is "Color Wars". Freshman will wear black, sophomores all white, junior all blue and seniors will wear all school colors.

The return of Mr. Garza



Mr. Garza at his desk. Photo by Jalen Porch

By Jalen Porch

Dan Garza, known to RHS students as Mr. Garza, has been in the education field since 1990.

He started his career at Tuloso Midway ISD in Corpus Christi.

After being retired for one year, Garza made his return as an English teacher after being a Head Football Coach, Athletic Director, and Principal.

Garza stated that it was always the plan to take one year off and make his return as a teacher.

Altogether he has served 33 years in education.

The relationship with the students and watching them grow is what Garza says he enjoys most about being an educator.

Coaching and teaching was always his dream after being in the U.S. Army.

"I enjoy being able to greet the students and be a positive energy in the students´ lives everyday," he said.

We are blessed to have him here at Rice CISD. Thank you, Mr. Garza!

Raider Features

From the 'Peach State' to the 'Lone Star State'


Coach Lance Matt

By RJ Myers

Lance Matt, mostly known as Coach Matt was born and raised in Angleton.

Coach Matt is one of five siblings in his family, with two sisters and two brothers.

Matt mostly focused on baseball while in highschool, being a center-fielder for the team.

Coach Matt graduated in the class of 1988, and pursued coaching.

What inspired Matt to coach was his former coaches, Elwood Kettler, Phil Raynolds, and Jamie Langhan.

Coach Matt attended Brazosport College and finished up at Mid-western State University in Wichita Falls.

Lance Matt achieved what he always dreamed of, now going on year 27 of coaching.

He has coached all over Texas, but the last school he coached in was a high school in Georgia, where his lovely wife still lives today.

Matt has two kids, who followed the footsteps of their father and also became coaches.

Today Coach Matt is in his first year of coaching and Teaching U.S. History at Rice Consolidated.

The Rewind sat down with Coach Mott to ask him some questions about the new changes to Rice.

RR: What made you choose to coach at Rice Consolidated?

Matt: I wanted to come back to Texas after spending 5 years in Georgia. Rice has a pretty steep tradition and Coach Dumont is a proven coach, so it was an easy choice.

RR: What is one thing that stands out to you here at Rice?

Matt: It is hard to pinpoint, but you can see the family here in the teachers, how they care about the students and their colleagues. And the kids here are great. Hard workers for the most part.

RR: How did you find out about Rice Consolidated?

Matt:Being from Angleton, Rice isn't that far and having coached at Van Vleck you know about Rice.

I have known of Rice's tradition for a while.

Also, while I was in HIgh School, our girls basketball team played two playoff games here.

RR: What would you like to be seen as when you retire?

Matt: Good question, I would like to think that somehow, I made a difference and positively impacted lives both on and off the field and in the classroom.

Coach Lee

Continued from page 2

in Las Vegas, simply because he used to own a sports agency.

He was also working with professional and college players but realized that wasn't the job for him.

He then moved from his hometown of Phoenix, AZ all the way to Idaho.

He was in negative ten degree weather there, a big difference from the extreme heat that Texas gives.

Coach Lee also teaches Business Information Management (BIM) here at Rice.

BIM sounds like a lot, but when it comes down to it, it's just a bunch of technology.

He said he feels very new but also comfortable because he has family close by, so he doesn't feel out of place.

His kids were just a bike ride away from their friends in Idaho.

He said there was no worry about them going off and riding their bikes then.

The summers were really nice up there, and he enjoyed them very much.

Coach Lee he really thinks it's going to be a great school year, he loves working with young adults, and has a very strong passion towards coaching.

Thanks for reading the RAIDER Rewind

Raider Roundup


Marlena Nunn with Mr. Chollett.

By Azucena Torres

Marlena Nunn was nominated for the Raider Roundup for the week of Sep.15.

Her hobbies are helping out others and going to the gym to lift weights.

Her favorite subject is Math, and her favorite teacher is Mrs. Birmingham.

She is planning on attending college at TSTC to get a degree in Welding.

By Jeila Casillas

Blanca Olga Molina was selected for the Raider Roundup for the week of Sept. 7.

She enjoys " sleeping, eating,and sleeping ... I'm really good at sleeping."

She has played the flute in band going on five years. She has two dogs; a girl named Misty and a boy named Rocky.

Blanca also has two cats named Bubbles and Luna. Blanca is a Sophomore Honor roll student and hopes to go to college at the Galveston Community College.


Blanca Molina

Student of the Week


Julissa "JuJu" Barboza

By Ava Frazier

Julissa Barboza, also known as JuJu, was nominated Student of the Week by the Math Department for the week of Sept. 11- Sep. 15.

JuJu's favorite subject is math, and her favorite teacher is Chef Lutrell.

She plans to go to college to study Neurology.

Her hobbies include sleeping, watching movies, and cooking.

Raider Sports

Lady Raider Varsity Volleyball falls to Brazos

By Anabel Gonzales

The Lady Raider volleyball team hosted Brazos High School Sept. 1.

After a hard fight with the final score of 3-1 and the sets of 25-15 25-12 25-22 and 25-21, the Lady Raiders could not finish the job.

Senior Tricelle Fields played a major role in scoring for the Lady Raiders by dominating with her kills and blocks.

The next game for the Lady Raiders will be in Yoakum Sept. 19. The games will start with Junior Varsity at 5 p.m., so make sure to come out and support!



From bottom left: Raelee Nelson, Abigail Hoelscher, Adalyn Rodgers, and Trichelle Fields blocking in a recent Lady Raider game.

"Don't be satisfied"- Coach Dumont

Raiders rope the Rams



A Raider makes it to the end zone in the Aug. 31 game against Kashmere High School. Photo credit: Jaden Newman

By Deveron Bennett

The Raiders hosted a home game against Houston Kashmere Aug. 31 and added another win for the second consecutive week.

The Raiders' defense started the game off strong, holding the Rams to very little yardage and forcing a safety, putting the Raiders up 2-0.

Freshman Quarterback, Kordae Johnson scored off of a quick quarterback-keeper, giving the Raiders the first touchdown of the game.

Raiders' junior Jon Woods raced down the field to complete a catch for 47 yards, thrown by Kordae Johnson.

Robert Bennett of the raiders also scored off of a short-quick pass adding six more points to the Raiders tally.

Kordae Johnson was the offensive player of the game with 185 total yards.

The Raiders will host the Palacios Sharks on Friday, Sept. 15, kickoff will be at 7:30 p.m.

Raider Sports

JV Volleyball shows improvement

By Jeila Casillas

Both Lady Raider JV volleyball teams attended a tournament at Flatonia Thursday, Aug. 31. Both teams had two games. JV1 played Luling and Smithville, but fell short in both games.

While JV2 played Shiner and Luling, they took Luling to three sets but ended in a loss. JV2 also lost against Shiner, but both teams showed much improvement overall.

Coach Shanna Rohan said, " We are a very young team but we as coaches see improvement for the future."

Both teams had two games against St. Paul and Sacred Heart Saturday, Sept. 2.

JV1 won their game against Sacred Heart, which advanced them to the gold bracket play, but lost their second game against St. Paul.

While JV2 was round robin they only won a set their first game against St. Paul, but coaches say much improvement was seen.

In the next game, JV2 took Sacred Heart to three games, but ended in a loss. Both teams had a game against Brazos Sept. 5, in which JV1 won their game and JV2 took Brazos to a third game but lost 13-15.

Both teams had games against Columbus Thursday, Sept. 7. JV1 lost the game 6-25 in the first set, but did better the next set with 16 -25. JV2 also lost their game 6-25 in the first set, and 12-25 in the next set.

The Lady Raiders JV teams are still improving as the year goes on so please come to the games and support the Lady Raiders at the next game, Sept. 19 against Yoakum. The game will be in Yoakum at 5 p.m.





Top: Hayes Dingler runs in a recent competition. Bottom: Taylor Eichelberger(far left) keeps her pace in a cross country meet. Photos by Noah Gonzales





Left: Lady Raiders await a block. Right: Faith Thompson gets ready to serve the ball.

RAIDER XC COMPETES IN SPLASHWAY 5000

By JaDarius Fitzgerald

This is the first year anniversary for The Splashway 5000,The Splashway 5000 is a cross country practice meet customized by Coach Erik Thormaehlen, located at Splashway campgrounds.

The Raiders lost by three points to a team they have beaten in previous competitions.

The fastest 15 received medals, and eight of them happened to be Raiders.

The top three Raiders were: Payton Engelbrecht, Jael Valles, and Hayes Dingler. Surely they will come back stronger with the upcoming meet in Corpus Christi.

River Rivalry

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get much going on offense; Raider Junior Jon Woods stepped up and made some big plays, completing six receptions for 59 yards, giving the Raiders life.

Sophomore Robert Bennett scored a 17-yard touchdown, but that wasn't enough to get the win. The final score was 56-7.

The Raiders take on the Palacios Sharks Friday, Sept. 15, at home.

This game will be played during homecoming week, so the Raiders look forward to getting the win this week to get back on track.

Homecoming

Continued from page 1

And Jasmine Juarez said, "I didn't have high expectations about it because of all the amazing candidates, but I'm very happy about being selected."

The HOCO King will be announced at the HOCO pep rally Friday, Sept. 15 during eighth period. The HOCO queen candidates will be presented during the football game halftime, and the crowning ceremony will take place at that time as well.

The RHS Homecoming game will start at 7:30 p.m. as the Raiders take on Palacios.

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Raider Observations 👀

School year off to a good start



The parking lot of Rice High School is full of cars and activity again with the new school year. Photo by Gage Cook

By Gage Cook and Bryant Adams

Hi dear friends, and welcome to the Raider Rewind school newspaper.This article includes some research on how the school year has started out for some Raiders. It seems that most people are having a good school year so far.

Leandro Rodriguez said his favorite classes are World History,Welding,and Yearbook.He likes these teachers because they are nice and chill. His most stressful class is Band because he has to learn steps and drills.His favorite parts of the day are lunch and Band because he gets to hang out with his friends and play music.

Isaiah Castillo said his favorite part of the day is his Money Matters class, because he enjoys that class. His favorite class is English II because he has friends in it.

The next person up is Samson Geigley.

Samson's favorite part of his day is lunch because he gets to hang out with his friends and play pool. His favorite class is Debate. He says he likes this class because it is a cool and friendly class.His most stressful class is Algebra II because there is a lot of work to do.

Daniel Ibbotson´s favorite classes are English and Algebra II. He says he likes these classes because the teachers are good and interactive. His favorite part of the day are third and fourth periods. He likes these periods because he is around his friends.

His most stressful class is Algebra II because it's a lot of information to get within a short period of time (and it doesn't help that he procrastinates a lot).

Peter Thompson´s favorite class is Algebra II. He says it's challenging because it´s taught like college classes, which also makes it his most challenging class. Peter says his Algebra II teacher is nice.His favorite part of the day is fifth period because it wakes him up.

Foundation of Rice Consolidated is solid

By Jon Woods

Rice Consolidated High School has had its ups and downs throughout the past years.

We've been through so many coaches and teachers, and I felt like it was a whirlwind.

Lately I think our school has been making a change for the betterment of the students and athletes, and most importantly, our education system.

Our school is on the rise to be something great, and I believe it's because we've gotten new coaches, teachers and more opportunities for our students.

The coaches we have now are great. They aren't perfect, but I feel that we have lots of good ones.

One coach I think is doing a great job is Coach Todd Nicolas. He goes out of his way for us athletes.. He always stays on us because he wants us to be the best versions of ourselves one day.

Our new teachers and the school staff are doing what they can to restrict bad behavior and bad choices.

I feel like our new principal, Mr. Center has also been a reason why Rice has been on the rise. And of course, all of the love and support from the community helps us, too. Overall, when I look back from my freshman year to now, my junior year, I think the school feels more positive than negative.

Rice will be great again, as long as we continue to lean on each other and keep loving one another instead of bringing one another down. We might have our bad moments at times, but in reality, we're just like any other school in Colorado County.



What do you think of the Raider Rewind newspaper?

We want to hear from you!

Email us your suggestions and feedback at awoolridge@riceraiders.net.

Thanks for catching the Rewind of the past two weeks!

RAIDER Rewind

Teachers of the Week



Mrs. Ferreri

By Carmelo Carter

Keely Ferreri was named Teacher of the Week for the week of Sept. 15.

She teaches Geometry, Geometry Honors, and helps coordinate and monitor any courses taken in Edgenuity.

She has also been the Student Council advisor for nine years now. ‘’This school year started my 19th year of teaching, seven of which were in the state of California. This is my 10th year here at Rice," she said.

Mrs.Ferreri likes to find fun and adventurous things to do with her six year old son Wyatt, and watch him play sports. She also loves to read any chance she gets,to the point that she'll stay up all night to finish a really good book.

‘’Math was always my favorite subject in school growing up and some of the most respected adults in my life were teachers. So seeing how they made a difference in other people's lives by teaching them a new skill made me want to do the same," Mrs.Ferreri said.

‘’ And knowing I would always have certain holidays plus summers off throughout the year guaranteed certainly didn't hurt either."



Mrs. Rutledge

By Valencia Dancy

Marilyn Rutledge was voted Teacher of the Week for the week of Sept. 7.

She taught for 33 years in Mississippi and in Texas.

She started teaching in the Rice District 20 years ago in 2003. Mrs. Rutledge started teaching at Sheridan Elementary, then moved to the junior high and came to the high school in 2021. She has taught grades third through ninth and taught Biology, English, Math, Algebra 1 and Special Education (SPED).

When she is out of school she likes to read, taking care of her honey bees, cats, dogs, horses, and chickens; doing bee cutouts; and fishing at her pond and off shore on their boat. She wanted to become a teacher because she wanted to be able to make a positive difference in student's lives.

"If I have touched just one student's life and made a difference, then I think I'm successful. I enjoy working with high school age students the most, and hope that I have made a positive impact on someone's life," she said.

If she were not a teacher, she would be a full time honey bee keeper. She said she loves watching the bees work and all the interesting things about them.

Also, she loves spending time with her grandkids and watching them do the things they love.

Musical

Continued from page 1

and performance. Starting from when I was 14 years old, I've had the good fortune of learning from some of the ´greats´ and I am excited to bring that knowledge and experience to Rice. My own high school theatre teacher is known as one of the best in Texas. Beyond that, I attended a highly specialized college program in New York where my teachers and directors were Broadway actors and directors. Giants. Tony award winners, Obie winners, and I went on to work with them in my professional career. And that is how I see them. Giants in the world of theatre and giants in my heart. I get to pass that down.¨

The first production will be Elf: The Musical. This is a Broadway musical based on the WIll Ferrell movie. ¨I chose it because it is joyful and delightful. And who couldn't use more joy and delight,"Mrs. Schendel said.

¨ The show is not just about a human who thinks he's an elf. It's about embracing joy and loving your family. It's great to be reminded of these things while being entertained at the same time,¨ she went on to say.

Judging by the number of students signed up to be in the musical, this is a highly anticipated event.

¨I'm thrilled by the student response. As of right now, we have roughly 50 high school students participating in the cast and crew. I'm blown away and beyond thrilled,¨ Mrs. Schendel said.

UIL,Prose, Poetry and more

UIL Prose and Poetry will get rolling in September. The UIL categories this year are, coincidentally, "Recognizing Joy: Focusing on the Little Things" and "Inspiring Change: Striving for a Better Tomorrow."

¨ Again, UIL poetry, particularly, and One Act Play, were such a major part of my own high school experience that I am so excited to pass it on. These UIL activities enrich lives in such meaningful ways. I can't wait to watch as Rice students grow more inspired and eager to achieve excellence,"she continued.

Whether it is for a theatre production, prose and poetry, debate, the STAAR test, or an AP exam, Mrs. Schendel is committed to setting students up for success.

¨That's my mantra. Now, that requires hard work and dedication on the students' part, as well," she said. ¨ I tell my students, ´Trust me. I'll give you the tools and guide you along the way, but you have to trust me, and do the work!´ Doing the work is key.¨

Rehearsals started Sept. 5. The performances will be Friday, Dec. 1 - 2 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 3 at 3 p.m.

Raider Joyride

By Taylor Rohan and Daedrick Johnson

Friday, Sept. 15
Raiders Vs. Palacios Sharks [Home]
Varsity @ 7:30
Lady Raiders Vs. Palacios Sharks [Home]
Varsity @ 4:30
Jv 1 @ 5:30
Jv 2 @ 5:30

Saturday, September 16
Cross Country - Islander Splash Corpus [All Teams]
FCA Game Day [Texas A&M Vs. Louisiana-Monroe]

Tuesday, September 19
Picture Day !
Lady Raiders Vs. Yoakum Bulldogs [Away]
Jv 2 @ 5:00
Jv 1 @ 1:00
Varsity @ 6:00

Thursday, September 21
Raiders Vs. Tidehaven Tigers [Away]
Junior High @ 4:30
Junior Varsity @ 7:00

Friday, September 22
RHS Pep Rally Dress Up Theme
Blind The Tigers ! [Wear all White or Neon]
Raiders Vs. Tidehaven Tigers [Home]
Varsity @ 7:30
Lady Raiders Vs. Tidehaven Tigers [Home]
Varsity @ 4:30
Jv 1 @ 5:30
Jv 2 @ 5:30
Cross County - McNeil
Round Rock [Varsity]

Saturday, September 23
Cross Country - Coach Ed Invitational
Sealy [Jv & Jh]

Tuesday, September 26
Lady Raiders Vs. Hallettsville Brahmas [Away]
Jv 2 @ 5:00
Jv 1 @ 5:00
Varsity @ 6:00

Thursday, September 28
Raiders Vs. Brazos Cougars [Home]
Junior High @ 4:30
Junior Varsity @ 7:00

Friday, September 29 :
Raiders Vs. Brazos Cougars [Away]
Varsity @ 7:30
Lady Raiders Vs. Enda Cowboys [Home]
Varsity @ 4:30
Jv 1 @ 5:30
Jv 2 @ 5:30

Saturday, September 30
Cross Country - Shiner
Shiner [All Teams]