

# Katy Times



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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2020

## Arc of Katy honors three

By R. HANS MILLER  
SENIOR REPORTER

The Arc of Katy announced the honorees for its annual Founder's Award and Volunteers of the Year award recipients in a Jan. 30 press release. Therese Lattal is set to receive the Founders award while Don Butler and Sheryll Butler will be recognized as volunteers of the year at the nonprofit's April 3 charity gala.

"The Arc of Katy is proud to recognize Therese Lattal and the Butlers for the amazing contributions they have made to the quality and growth of our organization," said Fred Shafer, president of The Arc of Katy.

The Arc of Katy provides opportunities for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities to be included in the community throughout their lifetimes, the press release said. The Arc of Katy depends on volunteers like many nonprofits.

Lattal began volunteering at the Arc of Katy's day program for adults and teens in 2013 after hearing requests from parents to

See **ARC**, page A3



COURTESY THE ARC OF KATY

Therese Lattal will receive The Arc of Katy's Founder's Award at the nonprofit's annual charity gala April 3. Lattal will be recognized for her contributions in bringing fitness programs to the nonprofit.

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February 6, 2020  
12 pages | \$1

# KEEPING KATY BEAUTIFUL

*American Furniture Warehouse presents landscaping plan*

By R. HANS MILLER  
SENIOR REPORTER

Representatives of American Furniture Warehouse – the anchor store for The Village at Katy planned development district at Pin Oak Road and I-10 – presented their plans for landscaping and facing the company's building to the Keep Katy Beautiful Board at the board's Feb. 4 meeting.

"Some of the challenges have been – How do we accomplish what we feel is a beautiful project [and] be able to get that word out in a timely manner," said Nolan Morrison, an executive with American Furniture Warehouse who is overseeing landscaping for the chain's Katy project.

Morrison said he had been informed that Katy was protective of the property the store is being built on, which sits at one of the main entrances into the city from I-10 along Pin Oak Road. As a result, he said, the company had tried to work with city officials to adjust its landscaping to satisfy as many residents as possible. He and his team had worked closely with city council members and made adjustments to the planned layout of the furniture store's landscaping to meet that goal, Morrison said.

"Janet [Corte] and me had kind of come in at the tail end [of The Village at Katy PDD] after we got elected, but we did sit down and they changed a lot just at our discussion. [They] added the darker colored brick and they changed some of the outside to make it look a little bit more like some of our buildings in town like the police

department and library," said Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris, who attended the meeting.

Accommodations the company made at the city's request included changing the color of the bricks currently being used to put facing on the building to match that of Katy City Hall and the new buildings added to the Old Town Katy District in downtown Katy near the intersection of Avenue C and Second Street. A high wall has also been added between the warehouse furniture store's new site and the rest of the city which will be painted and have greenery planted nearby to keep the business from being an eyesore, Morrison said.

"One of the things we've done here that we haven't done in the past is ... there's a lot of landscaping around the front," Morrison said.

American Furniture Warehouse will be adding greenery to its portion of The Village at Katy, Morrison said. The current plan includes more than 30 California Fan Palm trees, Eastern Redbuds, Green Ash, Pink Velour Crape Myrtle, Regal Mist Deer Grass, Valentine Bushes, Dwarf Bottlebrush – commonly known as Little John – and White Lady Banks roses. The roses are a flower-bearing vine that will be used along the walls that border the property and in other places to beautify the property and keep the walls from being eyesores, he said.

Keep Katy Beautiful Board members asked Morrison

See **BEAUTIFUL**, page A3



R. HANS MILLER

American Furniture Warehouse is currently constructing their store in The Village at Katy business park. The store will anchor the development which includes about 13 acres of green space.

## County to sue over NW Harris Co. explosion

By R. HANS MILLER  
SENIOR REPORTER

The office of Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan announced Jan. 30 that the county will be filing a lawsuit against Watson Grinding and Manufacturing, alleging that a number of laws were broken following Jan. 24 explosion in the 4500 block of Gessner Road in northwest Harris County that killed two people, according to a Harris County press release.

"Watson's use of propylene was an ultra-hazardous activity and the company failed to exercise its duty of care to protect the public, particularly when the facility is located in a neighborhood," Ryan said.

Ryan's office has filed a request for a restraining order that would prevent Watson from resuming operations at the facility until any related investigations into the explosion are completed, according to a copy of the court filing. Additionally, the county attorney is asking that Watson be ordered not to dispose of any solid waste unless it has been properly characterized and is disposed of at a facility that is

See **EXPLOSION**, page A3



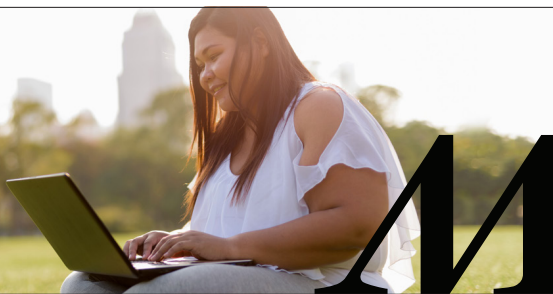
R. HANS MILLER

Law enforcement vehicles are stationed at the site of the Jan. 24 explosion at Watson Grinding and Manufacturing in northwest Harris County Feb. 4. The plant exploded when a 2,000-gallon tank of propylene was somehow ignited. An investigation into the incident is still ongoing.

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# COMMUNITY

## Q&A with Matthew Ferraro President – Katy Area Chamber of Commerce

By R. HANS MILLER  
SENIOR REPORTER

Matthew Ferraro joined the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce as its president and CEO April 2019. Ferraro is a Katy area resident that formerly served as vice president of the Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce. He received his bachelor's degree in Recreation, Park and Tourism Management from Texas A&M University. His chamber of commerce background also includes participation in the US Chamber of Commerce's Institute of Organizational Management.



MATTHEW FERRARO

### KATY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



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staff. Many think the Chamber is a volunteer organization, and although it's run by a volunteer Board of Directors, we employ a professional staff. Anyone on our team can help connect or refer members to whichever service you're looking for.

**Q: What is the benefit of having a chamber of commerce in the community for the average Katy area resident?**

**A:** Chambers of commerce are major resources and contributors to their local communities and residents. I like to think of us as the glue that holds everything together. We develop strong relationships with our cities and surrounding counties, as well as other business associations. This allows us to be a central resource for our residents to get connected to the businesses and educated with our programs and speakers.

Our residents are our local business owners and community leaders. They are the ones investing in our chamber. With a strong business community comes a strong residential community. It is up to us to show the continued value to help them reach their goals. We refer our residents directly to our members because our members are investing in us for a prosperous community. We act as a resource for our residents. When they have questions, we find answers. If they need help, we support them to the best of our abilities.

**Q: When your predecessor left, members expressed concerns about transparency in the chamber's finances and administration. What are you doing to ensure financial and operational transparency in order to shore up the chamber's relationships with its members?**

**A:** We have an outstanding group of board members that continuously go above and beyond their required duties. There was a lot of structure that was needed for our chamber and our board had to work overtime to make sure things were in order. I'm grateful that they were able to put a solid foundation in place prior to me coming to the chamber.

Our board and executive team stepped up when the chamber needed them the most. Not a lot of people would spend as many hours as they did to start laying a solid foundation for the future of our chamber. I would say a number of people wrote our chamber off as something they didn't see value in due to stagnant programming and many questions/rumors that may have gone unanswered.

My goal is to become an accredited chamber with the US Chamber of Commerce. Through the process and to keep accreditation, we'll have to go through regular financial audits but more importantly, through accreditation, we are required to have financial policies and procedures in place to ensure that our chamber is in good standing and utilizing our finances to the best means for our members and community. We are hoping that we are ready to apply for accreditation, which is a very intensive process, in the next 2-3 years.

**Q: What opportunities do you see in Katy for the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce to grow and help businesses be successful?**

**A:** We are fortunate to be located in an area that has immense growth potential. With new businesses popping up nearly every day, we have an incredible opportunity to be a resource for them and grow our membership.

Last year, we developed program content that highlights key areas of interest for our business community. Those [areas] are governmental affairs, education and workforce development, infrastructure and mobility and healthcare. We will continue to build content off of these pillars in 2020. However, there are a number of different programs that we have planned to launch in the coming years. This will allow our deliverable content to be unique and current with the needs of our community.

We are also set to launch our Leadership Katy program in August of this year. It's a program designed to build leaders in the community but also be a resource to give back to the community. The program will allow individuals to learn about their community and develop key relationships that will help drive business opportunities. Upon graduation from the program, each class will be responsible for completing a community service project voted on by the class based on the needs of our area nonprofits.

The opportunities are endless for us to continue to help our business community. I feel like we've made great progress in doing that over the last few months. The most exciting part is that we are just getting started.

*Editor's note: This piece has been edited for clarity and length to fit in the available space.*

executive. Being so involved in the chamber community and making professional development a priority has really given me the tools and resources to become an effective leader for our chamber and community.

We are off to a great start but there is much more work to be done. We have some exciting programs and initiatives on the horizon that will be great for our chamber and community. With our team's experience and passion for what we do, I believe the Katy Area Chamber has the potential to reach accreditation standards sooner rather than later.

**Q: What do you feel were the Chamber's greatest successes of 2019 and how do you plan to leverage those successes?**

**A:** Last year was amazing. I feel like so much happened in such a short time. One of the biggest wins for the chamber was bringing in our new team. I'm very grateful for the opportunity our board has given me to get our chamber moving in the right direction. We were fortunate to bring on an incredible support system with Ashley DeWispelaere and Rick Ellis. Ashley manages all of our events and programs and has done an outstanding job keeping us busy. Rick serves as our vice president and focuses on membership and retention. His relationships and knowledge within the community are second to none. We wouldn't be where we are without them. They are an amazing team that allow us to truly help our members get engaged and connected.

According to our records, new members added reached an all-time high last year, which is great. Even better, member satisfaction and retention is higher. As I mentioned earlier, the relationship building is the most important aspect of a membership. Members are also seeing the value we are providing and are utilizing our resources to help them achieve their goals.

The chamber's annual revenue grew by roughly 30% last year. The most exciting part is that we get to reinvest those gains back into the Chamber to provide even more opportunities, programs, and resources for our members to utilize.

We also restructured our programming and deliverable content last year and for 2020. Since we've put those in place, we are in the process of developing new content for 2021 and beyond with even more programs and initiatives that involve our members and community leaders.

**Q: What is one of the benefits the chamber offers that you feel members don't utilize enough?**

**A:** Businesses tend to join and not utilize their membership to its fullest extent. We will be providing quarterly membership meetings to educate our members with ways to "Maximize their Membership". We've also enhanced our ambassador program which is more focused on relationship and member support.

To go a bit deeper into the question, there are so many benefits that you get from just utilizing the database appropriately. The MIC (Members Information Center) is where our members can go for referrals, create job postings, offer member to member deals, help drive their own website's SEO, register for events, and update company and employee information, and much more. We updated our website last year to be very user and mobile friendly so we are just one click away.

I also think our "Business After Hours" events are underutilized. We understand that there are other responsibilities and commitments outside of normal work hours, however, if members are looking to get involved and build relationships, I urge them to attend our evening events. They are hosted by a Chamber member and are free to attend. Food and beverages are typically provided by the host member. It's a great way to get your feet wet with the Chamber, our team, and community.

The biggest benefit I think some members forget to utilize is the Chamber team. We have four full-time paid

**Q: How many members does the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce currently have and what are your methods and goals for increasing membership in 2020?**

**A:** We currently sit at about 500 members and are growing quite rapidly. Every Chamber has their own methods of attracting new members. I believe in organic growth based on finding the right prospect that fits within our mission. In my years as a chamber executive [I've] come across two types of members, transactional and aspirational. Transactional members are focused on the immediate [return on investment] and the more tangible services that chambers offer [such as]. ribbon cuttings, email blasts, being an event host. ... Aspirational members see the bigger picture. Yes - they may want the same things that transactional members desire, but they also believe in the mission of, and the reasons why your Chamber exists. They understand that we provide opportunities to advocate, connect, and grow their businesses and they take advantage of them.

There are chambers in and around our region and across the county that set up "membership drives" which allows them to add a significant amount of new members in a really short time frame. This process typically entails hiring an outside facilitator to gather a group of volunteers and call upon businesses within their respective areas to sell them a membership. Although it's effective to increase membership numbers, often times there is less of a personal connection or relationship which leads to lower retention rates. To me, that process makes it feel like your membership becomes a numbers game.

I prefer organic growth by establishing strong relationships with our prospects while trying to show immediate value with the tools we have to help. Yes, I want to increase our membership numbers, however I don't look at our members as numbers. They are people, businesses, entrepreneurs, and dreamers that have a goal to grow and become a valuable asset of our community. I want us to be a part of their success stories based on the relationships, resources, programs, and initiatives that we provide.

**Q: What do you see as the Chamber's biggest challenge since taking the reins of the organization and what are you doing to overcome that challenge?**

**A:** The unknown perception. There were a lot of questions surrounding our Chamber during the leadership transition. The Katy area community is very established and well-respected. I came in as sort of an unknown, so I'm focused on getting to know the community and hoping the community gets to know me. I would like them to know that their chamber is in good hands and has a plan for future growth and success.

For those in the community that don't know me, I've spent my entire career in the chamber world being mentored by one of the best in the business at the Fort Bend Chamber. We were consistently recognized as a top 3% chamber in the country based on accreditation standards set by the US Chamber. In 2017 I received my [Institute for Organization Management] certification which is a four-year professional development program through the US Chamber. I served as the chair of the scholarship committee for [Texas Chamber of Commerce Executives] in 2019 and will continue to do so in 2020. As of Jan. 24, I was elected to serve as vice president of [Gulf Coast Chamber Executives]. I'm currently pursuing my [Certified Chamber Executive certification], which is the highest certification possible by a chamber

### PET OF THE WEEK MEET ANNABELLE



Annabelle is a 3-year-old, tortoiseshell cat. She is a beautiful, sweet girl who is scared of dogs. Her ideal home has a cozy, quiet spot for her to relax in, preferably by the window so she can squirrel watch. Her favorite toy is a light reflection on the floor or wall from something shiny that she will chase as it moves around. Annabelle is available for adoption at Special Pals Shelter. The shelter is located at 3830 Greenhouse Road in Houston, north of I-10 near the intersection with Clay Road. Special Pals Shelter can be reached by phone at 281-579-7387. The shelter is open from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays and from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays.

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# Ex-coach to face legal maze in sentencing

By R. HANS MILLER  
SENIOR REPORTER

David Temple, a former Katy area football coach, is going through the process for sentencing for the murder of his wife, Belinda Temple in 1999. A hearing regarding change of venue for Temple's sentencing trial was set to take place in the court of Judge Kelli Johnson of the 178th District Court Feb. 5.

"Mr. Temple was found guilty for the second time last year, but the jury was hung

on punishment so the jury trial that is coming up in March is only for the punishment phase of trial," said Morgan McAlister, a communications specialist with the Harris County District Clerk's office.

Temple is currently being held at the Harris County Jail with a \$1 million bond pending a hearing to de-



DAVID  
TEMPLE

termine how sentencing will be conducted. Temple was first convicted for the crime in 2007, but that conviction was later overturned due to prosecutorial misconduct. A second trial was held in 2019 but the jury deadlocked while deliberating sentencing after finding Temple guilty.

The sentencing trial is scheduled to take place March 27 at 9 a.m. in Johnson's court. Prosecutors have asked that the March 27 trial have a change of venue due to the pretrial publicity associated with the case, according to court documents. The case has

been featured in national media, including an episode of ABC's "20/20."

"The State's concern is unfounded with 4.4 million people in Harris County. With the passage of time, the defendant can get a fair trial in Harris County," Temple's attorney, Stanley Schneider said in a Feb. 3 motion for continuance filed with the Harris County District Clerk.

Schneider's request also includes a request to postpone the March trial in order to allow him to prepare to represent Temple in the sentencing proceedings.

## KISD teacher recognized with Lifetime Achievement Award

By R. HANS MILLER  
SENIOR REPORTER

The Texas Dance Educators Association recently honored Patricia Henson with their annual Lifetime Achievement Award for her role as the director of the Katy Bengal Brigade and Cheerleaders. Under Henson's leadership, the brigade has performed at all of the largest stadiums in Texas including the Astrodome, Alamodome, Texas Stadium, NRG Stadium and the AT&T Stadium in Arlington, according to a Jan. 30 press release from KISD.

"My goal has always been to inspire this group of students to express their

love for dance and cheer. I am honored that my TDEA peers have selected me for this high honor," Henson said.

The TDEA awards committee selects up to ten nominees from across Texas for consideration of the lifetime achievement award and then judges the contenders based on their dedication to the profession and commitment toward the advancement of their respective dance and drill teams, the press release said.

"This award is a student and staff award for me, because it takes the entire team of brigade members, cheerleaders and assistant directors to make our performances a success," Henson said.



PATRICIA "PATTY"  
HENSON



COURTESY THE ARC OF KATY

Don Butler (right) and Sheryll Butler (center) will be honored for their volunteer efforts at The Arc of Katy's annual gala. The two discovered The Arc of Katy while searching for an adult daycare program for their son Keith Butler (left).

### ARC

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help keep their children moving into adulthood. During her tenure, she developed the Be Strong Program which includes opportunities for exercise including aquatics classes and access to treadmills, stationary bikes, weights and other strengthening equipment.

"Our goal is to improve our participants' stamina, flexibility, balance and self-esteem," Lattal said regarding the program.

Lattal said she has enjoyed building the program over the years and watching The Arc of Katy's community members improve their self-confidence and general physical well-being.

The Butlers began volunteering for The Arc of Katy after discovering the nonprofit while trying to find an adult

daycare program for their son, Keith, 15 years ago.

"The Arc of Katy was a great fit for us, and we had no idea how much it would change our lives," Sheryll Butler said. "We are grateful for the experiences Keith has had at The Arc of Katy which gives participants the opportunity to socialize, learn, make new friends and be a part of their community."

The Butlers regularly volunteer for events held at The Arc, including the Color Run for a Cause, according to the release. They also make themselves available for a variety of assistance, including manual labor around The Arc's facility.

All three honorees will receive their awards at The Arc of Katy Gala in April.

"As the need for our services continues to grow, we can meet those needs with first class programming thanks to the efforts of supporters like these," Shafer said.



PHOTOS BY R. HANS MILLER

This shopping center was seriously damaged as a result of the Feb. 24 explosion which occurred at about 4:30 a.m. Caution tape was in front of some of the doors to the building.

### EXPLOSION

from page A1

properly permitted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Damage from the Jan. 24 explosion extended for about half a mile around the Watson Grinding and Manufacturing facility and was still visible on many of the surrounding structures in the area as of Feb. 4. Two workers were killed in the explosion and about 450 homes were damaged when a 2,000-gallon propylene tank exploded.

According to Linde-Gas.com, propylene is

a colorless fuel gas that is similar to propane but burns at a higher temperature and is made from refining gasoline.

"The Watson explosion occurred in the incorporated area of the largest un-zoned city in the United States," Ryan said. "Unfortunately, city of Houston and state of Texas environmental and property use regulations do not prohibit this kind of activity in neighborhoods where children play and citizens live and work. Because of the lack of regulation, Harris County has a duty to protect its residents from future occurrences at this facility."

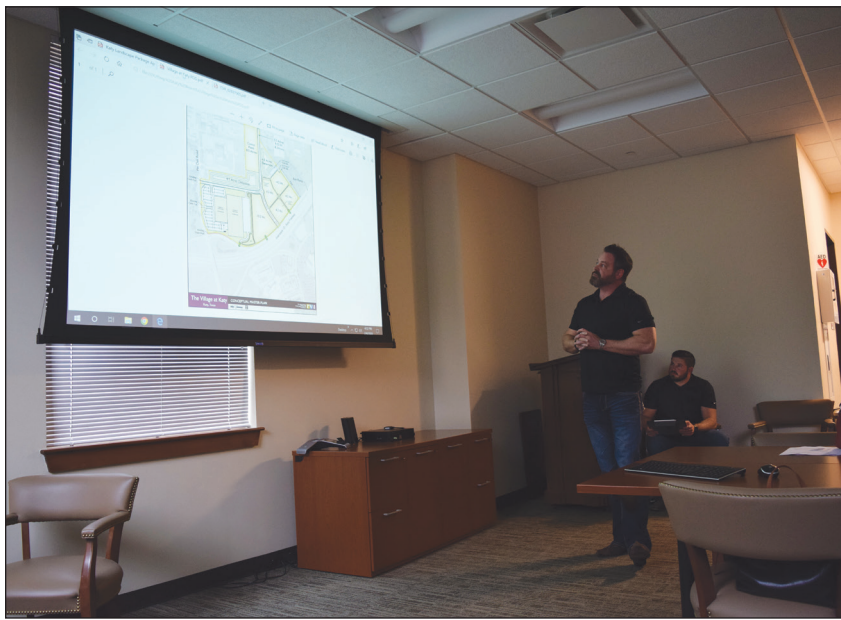
Watson Grinding and Manufacturing did not respond to a request for comment in time to be included in this story.



This building is more than 700 feet away from the Watson Grinding and Manufacturing facility and is still showing damage from the blast just a short distance up Gessner Road.



Pieces of insulation, including this large chunk, are scattered in the neighborhood surrounding Watson Grinding and Manufacturing.



R. HANS MILLER

Nolan Morrison of American Furniture Warehouse presents the landscaping plan for the big box store's Katy location to the Keep Katy Beautiful Board at their Feb. 4 meeting. Keep Katy Beautiful is an organization run by the city in cooperation with the Keep Texas Beautiful statewide program.

### BEAUTIFUL

from page A1

if American Furniture Warehouse would be willing to participate in a partnership with the city wherein the board would have trees planted in the esplanades along Pin Oak Road and the furniture store would maintain it thereafter. Morrison said the company would like to participate in such partnerships and would look for other opportunities to partner with community organizations as well.

Signage for the furniture store would include two monument signs along Pin Oak Road and Pin Oak Court – the new road bordering the northern side of the PDD – and a third, pylon-style sign along I-10. The signs are planned to be modern, possibly similar to the new signs near Katy Mills, and will be backlit by LEDs, Morrison said.

The smaller portion of the American Furniture Warehouse store will face Pin Oak Road, with the warehouse facility at the back of that store, Morrison said. The layout will allow a wall to block the warehouse facility from view and will have tractor trailers entering and exiting along I-10 rather than along Pin Oak Road to help control traffic. He added that a new roadway in the development between Old Hwy. 90 and I-10 would provide residents with addition-

al avenues to avoid traffic as they come into town.

American Furniture Warehouse is environmentally conscious, Morrison said. The store's landscaping intentionally chose water-efficient plants to conserve water and the warehouse and store will reuse or recycle furniture packing materials.

"Furniture like everything else comes in packaging like cardboard boxes and Styrofoam," Morrison said. "We spend a lot of money on recycling. We buy these machines out of Germany and all the Styrofoam will go into that and it chews it up and spits it out. Then that product is actually reused. We pack it into a very small amount of area and that goes into actually making moldings for homes and a couple of other things."

Plastic and cardboard are also baled and hauled away for recycling purposes, Morrison said.

Morrison said he understood that some Katy residents may still be unhappy with the project overall, for which American Furniture Warehouse is only partly responsible, but he hoped they would be pleasantly surprised once the building was completed in the near future.

"By April we're hoping a substantial portion of the construction will be done. I think, a lot of things people are pointing out, that view will change dramatically," Morrison said.



# Inside the cigar box

I spent the weekend in New York City. I hadn't been to New York in quite a while. I was performing at a theater conference and so was traveling alone, without my husband, Peter.

New York intimi-dates me—as all big cities do. I am not a nervous traveler, generally, but I keep my possessions close at hand and my eyes open—which is why I noticed the young man in the black athletic shirt on the subway.

I was taking the subway for the first time in a long time and, so far, I was doing pretty well. Okay, I did choke when I got to my first turnstile. I pushed the bar too quickly and had to run my card through a second time. Two dollars! Down the drain! But I finally made it on the subway, in the late evening, my bags gathered close like little ducklings.

So naturally, I noticed when a young man in a black athletic shirt started talking trash to the man across from him. They were having a heated discussion, topping each other by speaking louder and louder. I clutched my suitcase a little tighter. Then I saw the young man reach inside his bag. I watched closely as his hand disappeared into a large satchel and emerge with a cigar box.

If I now asked you to guess what was in the box, no matter how many guesses you were given, I'm betting you would be wrong.

Thread.

In that box was every color of thread in the rainbow. The young man, without missing a beat in his argument, reached into the box and pulled out a spool of black thread and a needle, threaded it and—right before my eyes—began stitching up a small tear in the sleeve of his athletic jersey.

His satchel was full of sewing paraphernalia, I realized. He was clearly much better outfitted than my mother who, to the best of my knowledge, has never attempted a stitchery repair while on a moving subway.

I got to my Airbnb. When Peter and I travel together, we always rent an Airbnb we can have to ourselves but, as I was alone and New York is expensive, I found a place with one other room and a shared bath. It was neat as a pin and very convenient. The first night there was a sweet young woman named Emily staying there. She was interviewing for a job at a big publishing house. Emily checked out, the room was cleaned, and I had the place to myself until the second evening when the door opened and a large, swarthy young man with more than a five-o'clock shadow appeared. His name was Manu, he said, in a strong accent.

I said hello and went about preparing to go out for the night. I had to perform in a couple hours, so I had hair to curl and other equally important duties to perform. Manu parked his bag in his room and prepared to leave.

But just as he was about to go out the door, he stopped and turned.

In a deep baritone voice, he asked, "Is it safe? Will I be safe in this neighborhood?"

I studied the extremely capable looking Manu. I remembered the young man stitching on the subway. I thought of all the assumptions I make, every day, every time I encounter another person.

I smiled at Manu. "It's okay, I think you'll be safe," I told him.

Manu grinned at me and headed out onto the streets of New York.

Until next time,  
*Carrie Classon's memoir is called, "Blue Yarn."*  
*Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.*



CARRIE CLASSON  
THE POSTSCRIPT



# Behold the mighty superhero: semicolon

I'm not a food critic, but I do know how to judge a restaurant accurately. Forget portion size, ambiance or availability of fresh, cage-free avocados; when I want to size up a restaurant, I head straight for the bathroom. If the bathroom has a Dyson Airblade hand dryer, it deserves at least two Michelin stars; if it has a regular hand dryer or (gasp) archaic paper towels made from tree meat, I have some serious doubts about the establishment. For the record, the Mitsubishi Electric Jet Towel dryer is an acceptable second place hand drying solution to the Dyson unit.

How do you judge a person's writing? We've all learned that we shouldn't judge a book by its cover (although a good cover really does help). In the same way I can tell a restaurant is going to be amazing based on its choice of hand dryers, I can tell someone's writing will be fantastic based on his use of semicolons.

What are semicolons? Think of them as super commas. They're the mutant offspring of a colon, a period and a comma. A semicolon's primary job is to connect two independent clauses that are related to the same idea in the same sentence. Here's an example: I'm thinking of buying



CURTIS HONEYCUTT  
GRAMMAR GUY

a new superyacht; I spilled champagne on my old one and now it's sticky. In this sentence, each clause before and after the semicolon can stand on its own as a complete sentence. However, they're linked by the same common idea, which is the purchase of a new superyacht. This is the main way to use a semicolon.

Like any superhero, it's cool to have more than one superpower. This is also true for our friend, the semicolon. You should also use a semicolon between items in a list or in a series if any of these items contain commas. For example: There are two types of people in this world: people who know how to use a semicolon, which makes them amazing and heroic; and people who won't get invited to my Oscars watch party, which will boast at least three chocolate fountains. If your list or series doesn't include a comma, it doesn't need a semicolon.

Semicolons can do a masterful job of connecting ideas and clauses in your writing. Used properly and sparingly, they're like watching a bald eagle soaring over Mount Rushmore at dusk on the Fourth of July; however, if you overuse them, you're

stuck with a restaurant full of fancy hand dryers and no food.  
*Curtis Honeycutt is an award-winning syndicated humor columnist. Connect with him on Twitter (@curtishoneycutt) or at curtishoneycutt.com.*

## PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE B2

### SUDOKU

			9			5		3
7								
	3			8			6	9
	4		3		8			
			5	2				
	6			7		9		
		1	2				4	8
		3				6		
6				4	3		5	1

Level: Intermediate

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1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14				15			
16						17				18			
19						20				21			
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25	26	27				28				29		30	
31						32				33			34
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						45				46			47
						49				50			51
						54				55			56
						60				61			62
						63				64			65
						66				67			68

- CLUES ACROSS

  - 1. Indicates number of days
  - 6. When you hope to get there
  - 9. Hairstyle
  - 13. Black (Spanish)
  - 14. Expresses pleasure
  - 15. Away from wind
  - 16. Tech pros organization
  - 17. Wile E. Coyote is familiar with it
  - 18. Clean
  - 19. Saints' signal caller
  - 21. A way to hunt
  - 22. Poetries
  - 23. Automobile
  - 24. Secondary school (abbr.)
  - 25. Indicates before
  - 28. Male parent
  - 29. Short-billed rails
  - 31. It pays to keep yours
  - 33. On occasion
  - 36. David \_\_, US playwright
  - 38. Slang for cigarette
  - 39. Vaccine developer
  - 41. Returned to health
  - 44. Toni Morrison novel
  - 45. Period between eclipses
  - 46. Veterans battleground
  - 48. Gang
  - 49. A radio band
  - 51. Jaws of a voracious animal
  - 52. Elaborate garments
  - 54. Chinese province
  - 56. Checks
  - 60. Horizontal passage
  - 61. Steep hillsides
  - 62. Fertility god
  - 63. Dried-up
  - 64. Signs a name
  - 65. \_\_ Winger, actress
  - 66. German river
  - 67. Gov't lawyers
  - 68. Take something somewhere
- CLUES DOWN

  - 1. \_\_ Blyton, children's author
  - 2. Colleague
  - 3. "The African Queen" writer
  - 4. Crater on the moon
  - 5. Toward
6. Overhang

  - 7. Identifies something close at hand
  - 8. Sign language
  - 9. Unbroken views
  - 10. Ancient Greek City
  - 11. Stretch out to grasp
  - 12. Alcohols that are unfit for drinking
  - 14. Humorous stories
  - 17. Long song for a solo
  - 20. Barrels per day (abbr.)
  - 21. City of Lights
  - 23. A place to sleep
  - 25. Advanced degree (abbr.)
  - 26. The back
  - 27. Furniture-makers Charles and "Ray"
  - 29. Songs to a lover
  - 30. Gland secretion
  - 32. 10 meters
  - 34. Disfigure
  - 35. Stores grain
  - 37. Sacred book of Judaism
  - 40. Catch
  - 42. Promise
  - 43. Challenges
  - 47. Russian space station
  - 49. Banking giant
  - 50. Served as an omen
  - 52. Drenches
  - 53. Type of sword
  - 55. Minor planet
  - 56. Messenger ribonucleic acid
  - 57. Japanese ankle sock
  - 58. Obtain in return for services
  - 59. Waste matter
  - 61. A proposal to buy at a specified price
  - 65. Unit of loudness



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# TX officials urge Coronavirus calm

By STACY FERNÁNDEZ  
TEXAS TRIBUNE

The World Health Organization declared the deadly coronavirus outbreak a global health emergency Jan. 30 — the sixth declaration of its kind in the past decade.

About 170 people have died overseas from the pneumonia-like illness, and last week Texas had its first scare with four suspected cases — all of which turned out to be false alarms.

But as panic and fear of catching the disease spread even faster and wider than the disease itself, Texas health officials are trying to quell hysteria and encouraging people to stay calm, wash their hands and get a flu shot.

So far the mortality rate for the virus is about the same as a bad year of the flu, said Dr. Trish Perl, chief of infectious diseases and geographic medicine at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Health officials also noted that the highest risks were for countries with less sophisticated health care systems.

“Our greatest concern is the potential for the virus to spread to countries with weaker health systems, and which are ill prepared to deal with it,” said Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, director-general of the World Health Organization, at a Jan. 30 press conference.

Nonetheless, Texas leaders say they are staying vigilant. The morning of Jan. 30, officials representing state health services, emergency management, public schools, universities and law enforcement met to discuss available resources and distribute information about the coronavirus.

“If you come up sick in Amarillo, you can get treatment just like you would in Dallas or in Houston or in Brownsville,” said Seth Christensen, spokesperson for the Texas Division of Emergency Management. “We have to make sure that all the resources are spread across our state. This virus could impact anyone anywhere.”

In particular, Texas universities, many with international students and Asian study-abroad programs, are evaluating their next steps. The first two suspected cases of the virus in Texas were college students who’d recently traveled to China.

Both of the students’ schools, Texas A&M University and Baylor University, join a handful of institutions that have issued temporary bans on all university-sponsored travel to China, save for essential travel. The schools are taking the lead from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which issued an advisory Jan. 28 strongly recommending Americans avoid traveling to the country.

No student programs for Baylor were affected by the travel ban, school officials said. The school’s biggest challenge is rerouting already scheduled flights with layovers in China, said Lori Fogleman, a representative for the school, in an email. Representatives from A&M did not respond to requests for comment.

The University of Texas enacted a similar travel ban. Fewer than 10 students from the Austin campus are in China studying abroad. The university is working to get them back to the U.S. and find an alternative study-abroad program or on-campus classes for those who intended to study in China.

Texas’ international airports are also taking action. Since the outbreak, hundreds of flights from Chinese airports were canceled, and U.S. officials routed travel from the region to one of 20 American airports with CDC quarantine facilities, The Washington Post reported Jan. 27.

Passengers flying into select airports in Dallas, Houston and El Paso will be screened for the virus, said Chris Van Deusen, a spokesman for the Texas Department of State Health Services.

CDC staff members will have passengers fill out surveys with questions about their travel, symptoms and contact information. They’ll also take each person’s temperature and take any sick travelers to a hospital for testing, Van Deusen said.

In the last 10 years, the World Health Organization has similarly declared public health emergencies for the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo in 2019, Zika in 2016, polio in 2014, the Ebola outbreak in West Africa from 2013 to 2016 and the swine flu in 2009.

Texas has found itself in the midst of an international health scare in the past. Thomas Eric Duncan was diagnosed in Dallas as the first person in the United States with the Ebola virus. He died within weeks of the diagnosis, becoming one of two recorded deaths in the nation. Two nurses who treated Duncan were also diagnosed with Ebola. Both survived.

While Ebola was one of the most prominent public health scares in the state in recent years, it’s not akin to the coronavirus, Christensen said.

Ebola was never anticipated to be widespread in the way the coronavirus could be because of its likely airborne nature. But with each public health outbreak, officials say they’ve learned lessons from how they’ve handled past situations.

Van Deusen noted that this time, officials have the advantage of public awareness.

“That kind of early identification is critical. One of the advantages we have in this situation is we know it’s there, we know what it looks like and have the tests to identify it,” Van Deusen said.

As of the evening of Jan. 30, there had



REUTERS/DARLEY SHEN

A worker in a protective suit stands near the closed seafood market in Wuhan, China.

## Disclosure

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only been five cases of the coronavirus positively identified in the United States, and no associated deaths. There are dozens of suspected cases that are pending test results.

Test samples for all suspected cases of the virus were sent to the CDC in Atlanta for testing. The Atlanta headquarters has the only testing materials for the newest strain of the coronavirus. Some states are expected to receive testing materials in coming weeks, Van Deusen said.

“All of us feel like that would be a very, very valuable thing to happen because it would facilitate getting answers much more quickly,” Perl said.

Perl said she understands people’s fear. “The numbers are escalating in a very dramatic fashion,” Perl said.

As of Jan. 30, at least 170 victims have been confirmed dead and more than 7,700 infected in 22 countries, according to the CDC. Meanwhile, millions of people in at least five cities in China are on an unprecedented lockdown, banned from taking trains, subways or other public transportation to leave.

At least one Texan is stuck in the quarantined city of Wuhan, which was first reported by The Dallas Morning News. Warren Lee of Dallas traveled to the area for work more than a week ago and is now vlogging his unexpected extended stay. In his videos, the city streets are devoid of any other people.

“It’s not the apocalypse out here as much as people have been saying,” said Lee in a video blog, explaining the city still has running water, electricity and internet.

Health officials stress the coronavirus is akin to the flu in symptoms and mortality. This season’s strain of the flu has killed at least 8,200 people and infected at least 15 million in the United States so far, reports the CDC.

Medical professionals urge people to follow cold and flu etiquette: Wash your hands regularly, sneeze into the crook of your arm, stay home if you’re sick and get your flu shot.

The shot won’t do anything for someone who has the coronavirus, but it is a generally good practice and could make it easier to detect the coronavirus in someone if a flu test comes back negative, Perl said.

“All of these viruses, even these ones you don’t want to hear about, like [the] flu, really have an associated mortality with them. So we really have to take them all seriously,” Perl said.

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# Coping with the suicide of a loved one

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

The loss of a loved one can be overwhelming, and that sense of loss can be even greater when a friend or family takes his or her own life.

Many people have no experience coping with the suicide of a loved one, which is why it can be so devastating when someone you love takes their own life. Lifeline Australia, an organization that offers crisis support and suicide prevention services, notes that people who recently lost a loved one to suicide often experience a complicated form of grief. This grief can be characterized by shock and can affect survivors' physical and mental health.

Survivors may experience emotions such as guilt, anger, despair, and/or depression, all of which only makes it more difficult to cope. Lifeline Australia offers the following tips to people struggling to cope with the suicide of a loved one.

- Take some time off from the pain. Survivors may feel as though it's inappropriate to do something other than grieve after the suicide of a loved one. But Lifeline Australia notes that it's alright to take time to do something you enjoy in the aftermath of a loved one's suicide.
- Stay connected to loved ones. Friends and family, even those who did not know the deceased, will likely offer their support in the wake of this tragedy. Accept that support and make a conscious effort to stay connected with your loved

ones. Grief can cause feelings of isolation and loneliness. Relying on your support network and accepting their support is a great way to overcome those feelings.

- Honor the deceased. Don't hesitate to share memories, photos and stories about your loved one who committed suicide. The Suicide Prevention Lifeline notes that some people find it helpful to write to a lost loved one, as doing so can provide a means to say some of the things survivors were unable to say before a loved one's death.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help. Organizations like Lifeline Australia and the Suicide Prevention Lifeline encourage survivors to utilize their helplines and/or speak with counsellors and psychologists trained in helping people deal with the suicide of a loved one. Many hotlines make help available 24 hours a day year-round, so it's never a bad time to call and seek help.
- Join a support group. Feelings of loneliness are common after a loved one commits suicide, but survivors must remember that they're not alone. Support groups for survivors allow you to share your experience with others in similar situations.

More information about coping after the suicide of a loved one can be found at [www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au) and [www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org). Survivors are urged to accept and seek support.



The loss of a loved one can be overwhelming, and that sense of loss can be even greater when a friend or family takes his or her own life.

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Psalms 94:19

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Isaiah 40:31  
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3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,  
4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.  
2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Sharing the Gospel  
When the cares of my heart are many,  
your consolations cheer my soul.  
Psalms 94:19

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**2019-20 KATY  
AREA VARSITY  
SPORTS RESULTS  
& SCHEDULE****WEDNESDAY,  
JANUARY 29****BOYS SOCCER**

- Seven Lakes 3, Tompkins 0
- Cinco Ranch 3, Mayde Creek 0
- Taylor 1, Morton Ranch 0

**GIRLS SOCCER**

- Tompkins 3, Seven Lakes 0
- Cinco Ranch 3, Mayde Creek 0
- Taylor 2, Morton Ranch 0

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 31****GIRLS BASKETBALL**

- Tompkins def. Morton Ranch
- Katy 43, Seven Lakes 39 (OT)
- Taylor 51, Mayde Creek 20
- Paetow 63, Brenham 53

**BOYS BASKETBALL**

- Katy 49, Seven Lakes 39
- Morton Ranch 73, Tompkins 72
- Mayde Creek 71, Taylor 64
- Paetow 78, Brenham 58

**GIRLS SOCCER**

- Brenham 2, Paetow 1

**SATURDAY,  
FEBRUARY 1****BOYS SOCCER**

- Seven Lakes 2, Cinco Ranch 2
- Taylor 2, Katy 1
- Morton Ranch 2, Mayde Creek 1

**GIRLS SOCCER**

- Taylor 0, Katy 0
- Morton Ranch 1, Mayde Creek 0
- Seven Lakes 3, Cinco Ranch 0

**BOYS SOCCER**

- Paetow 8, Brenham 1

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4****GIRLS BASKETBALL**

- Tompkins 44, Katy 38
- Seven Lakes 34, Taylor 33
- Cinco Ranch def. Morton Ranch
- Paetow 54, Magnolia 48

**BOYS BASKETBALL**

- Tompkins 53, Katy 44
- Seven Lakes 77, Taylor 70
- Morton Ranch 76, Cinco Ranch 69
- Paetow 54, Magnolia 49

**BOYS SOCCER**

- Tompkins 2, Cinco Ranch 0
- Katy 2, Mayde Creek 2
- Seven Lakes 4, Morton Ranch 1
- Paetow at Waller, N/A

**GIRLS SOCCER**

- Tompkins 4, Cinco Ranch 1
- Katy 3, Mayde Creek 0
- Seven Lakes 4, Morton Ranch 1
- Paetow 1, Waller 1

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7****GIRLS BASKETBALL**

- Tompkins at Taylor, 7 p.m.
- Seven Lakes at Mayde Creek, 7 p.m.
- Cinco Ranch at Katy, 7 p.m.
- Waller at Paetow, 6:30 p.m.

**BOYS BASKETBALL**

- Taylor at Tompkins, 7 p.m.
- Katy at Cinco Ranch, 7 p.m.
- Mayde Creek at Seven Lakes, 7 p.m.
- Paetow at Waller, 6:30 p.m.

**BOYS SOCCER**

- Seven Lakes at Katy, 7:30 p.m.
- Mayde Creek at Taylor, at Legacy Stadium, 7:30 p.m.
- Tompkins at Morton Ranch, 7:30 p.m.
- College Station at Paetow, 7:30 p.m.

**GIRLS SOCCER**

- Katy at Seven Lakes, 7:30 p.m.
- Taylor at Mayde Creek, 7:30 p.m.
- Morton Ranch at Tompkins, 7:30 p.m.
- Paetow at College Station, 7 p.m.

**WRESTLING**

- District championships at Merrell Center, 7 a.m.

# ‘THAT TERIN MAGIC’

*Despite dysautonomia, Tompkins senior Terin Graham perseveres every day*

By DENNIS SILVA II  
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

**W**hen Terin Graham has one of her episodes, it looks like she's asleep. She's not. She passes out for about three seconds.

Then, Graham's body starts shaking. She can hear people around her, but she can't talk or open her eyes. She can nod.

Eventually, the Tompkins senior defender/forward opens her eyes, lays still for a minute, sits up slowly and returns to the soccer field. An episode can be as short as five minutes or as long as 20 minutes.

"It's a lot better now than it was at the beginning," Graham said.

In late October, Graham, 18, was told she had dysautonomia, a group of conditions caused by a malfunction of the autonomic nervous system (ANS), which regulates all unconscious functions in the body. Graham has a severe case of the disorder, causing her to pass out randomly.

The family thinks Graham was exposed to it when she was put under anesthesia while getting her wisdom teeth removed on Aug. 29.

"They think people with dysautonomia have probably had it their whole lives, but there's a trigger that makes it like a volcano that just erupts," said Graham's mother, Teri. "That's what they see, especially with athletes. Because we know the day it started, they say the anesthesia must have dropped her blood pressure so low, because it was already so low, that it completely knocked her balance off."

For the past five months, Graham has dealt with dysautonomia. She can't eat hot foods because all the heat and blood will go to her stomach.

See **GRAHAM**, page B3

MARK GOODMAN

Tompkins senior Terin Graham controls possession of the ball during a game against McAllen High in the I-10 Shootout tournament on Jan. 11 at Legacy Stadium.

## ABOUT DYSAUTONOMIA:

Dysautonomia is a group of conditions caused by a malfunction of the autonomic nervous system, which regulates all unconscious functions in the body. It affects people of varying ages and is considered one of the most often overlooked and misdiagnosed conditions. It is not a disease or diagnosis, but a disorder. "Orthostatic intolerance," or the inability to stay upright, is a commonality of the multiple forms of dysautonomia. The top symptoms of dysautonomia are: difficulty standing still, fatigue, lightheadedness, nausea, brain fog/mental clouding, chest discomfort and difficulty breathing. Daily physical activity and exercise, despite posing as significant challenges for patients, are encouraged to promote recovery and healing. The more complex the case, the more of a need for patience and persistence in experimenting different treatment options to find the best.



# Taylor, Seven Lakes shine at regionals

By STEPHEN GREENWELL  
TIMES CORRESPONDENT

CYPRESS — The temporary loss of its head coach to a stomach bug and a relay team to disqualification ultimately didn't matter to Taylor High's girls' swimming squad. The Mustangs overcame both obstacles to become back-to-back Region V-6A champions at Cy-Fair's Pidgeon Natatorium on Feb. 1.

The Mustangs actually trailed deep into the meet, after event 17, because they were unable to field a 200 freestyle relay team. At the previous night's qualifiers, the team was disqualified for a swimmer leaving the block early. As a result, Taylor trailed Seven Lakes, 267-244, heading into the final three girls' events.

However, the Mustangs rallied and dominated the 100 backstroke and 100 breaststroke before winning the 400 freestyle relay. Taylor had seven swimmers score points in the two individual events, in a strong flexing of the team's depth, and won the meet 388-295 over Seven Lakes as a result.

Assistant coach Jessica Mixon filled in for head coach Matt Apple, who was unable to at-



COURTESY

Taylor High's girls swimming team won its second straight Region V-6A championship, nipping Seven Lakes, on Saturday, Feb. 1, in Cypress.

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# UIL realignment offers few changes for Katy

By DENNIS SILVA II  
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Katy ISD will once again have its own UIL Class 6A district in all sports with its seven largest schools—Katy, Cinco Ranch, Mayde Creek, Morton Ranch, Seven Lakes, Taylor and Tompkins.

The UIL announced its biennial realignment on Feb. 3, and there was no change for Katy ISD's biggest schools. They remain together, and alone, in District 19-6A, just as they were for the previous realignment for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020.

Tompkins is the biggest school in Katy ISD with an enrollment of 4,018, followed by Seven Lakes (3,767), Katy (3,466.5), Cinco Ranch (3,257), Taylor (2,915), Mayde Creek (2,892.5), Morton Ranch (2,567.5), Paetow (2,179) and Jordan (1,586.69).

Prior to the 2018-2020 and 2020-2022 realignments, the last time a district consisted of just Katy schools was 2008-09 and 2009-10. After the 2008-2010 realignment, Katy schools had been aligned with Houston Memorial and then Strake Jesuit.

Katy ISD coaches and athletic administrators appreciate their own district. It makes it easier for one more Katy school to get into the playoffs.

"It helps us keep a non-district game, which we were able to find," Katy football coach Gary Joseph said, referring to the last realignment when he wasn't able to find a fourth non-district opponent until well into the spring. "It's good Katy

will have good representation in the playoffs. When we have DEC (district executive committee) meetings, we don't have to get people from all over. It's basically just our schools and our athletic director, so from that standpoint it works out good."

In Class 5A, Paetow football, which jumped up to Division I instead of Division II because of a boost in enrollment, has new district foes in a nine-team District 10. Paetow is joined by Angleton, Fort Bend Hightower, Fort Bend Kempner, Houston Milby, Houston Wisdom, Manvel, Richmond Foster and Rosenberg Terry.

"Our first two years (as a varsity program in 2018 and 2019), we were trying to figure out where we're at and where we're going," Paetow football coach B.J. Gotte said. "I think we've got that solved. Now we've got to continue to elevate our schedule to get us prepared for what looms years after that.

"This will be a lot more challenging for our kids. Our non-district (schedule) is more challenging, and this new district is just as challenging as the one we were in. Our kids are excited and now we have a roadmap, per se, of where we're going."

Previously, Paetow was aligned with Bryan Rudder, Cleveland, A&M Consolidated, Huntsville, Montgomery, Lake Creek and Lamar Consolidated in District 10-5A, Division II.

"You're trading one set of challenges for another," Gotte said. "You had A&M Consolidated and

Huntsville at the top of that other district, and you trade that for Manvel and Foster. You had Lamar Consolidated in the other district, and you trade them for Hightower. It's not any less challenging, that's for sure."

In basketball and volleyball, Paetow remains in District 19-5A along with familiar foes Brenham, Bryan Rudder, College Station, A&M Consolidated, Magnolia, Magnolia West and Waller.

All Katy schools will compete in Region III.

Jordan High School, Katy ISD's ninth high school that opens in August, falls into Class 5A, Division II.

Because Jordan High is opening on an even year (2020) and beginning with ninth and 10th grades, Jordan's individual sports will go varsity right away, but team sports will wait until the fall of 2021, when the school has ninth, 10th and 11th graders. The only sport that is not able to be placed in realignment on the "middle" year, or halfway between the two-year realignment, is football.

Football for Jordan High won't be aligned by the UIL until 2022, which will be Jordan's first varsity football season. Until then, the district will try to mix and match schedules for Jordan to play football, just not under the UIL umbrella.

As far as non-district scheduling for football programs went following the UIL's release of its latest realignment on Monday morning, Katy High secured Clear Springs, Cypress Woods, Dickinson and

The Woodlands as its opponents. Clear Springs and The Woodlands were non-district foes in recent years, while Dickinson and Cypress Woods are new faces.

"The first three games, I'd already pre-arranged," Joseph said, referring to the projected season opener against Clear Springs, followed by Cypress Woods and Dickinson. "Adding The Woodlands, they've always been a really good program in the Houston area. But I was also waiting to see if we were going to have a fourth game before I looked for one. I thought maybe they'd add another team to our district, but it worked out fine."

Another intriguing non-district matchup is Paetow versus Morton Ranch in Week 2. Paetow High's zoning pulled from Morton Ranch and Katy when it opened in 2017.

"To be honest, at the time, we'd had some schools that I had previously set up to play us in non-district and they had backed out on us," Gotte said. "We were looking for games, and I sent (Morton Ranch) Coach (Ron) Counter a text that said, hey, if you know anybody that's interested, let me know. He said, 'We'll play you.' That's how it came about.

"It'll be a great test for us because we're slowly working our way to that 6A district. To go up against a team that's as talented and as well-coached as them is going to be a challenge for us."

The complete scrimmage and

See **UIL**, page B6



## 2020-2022 UIL REALIGNMENT

### DISTRICT 19-6A (ALL SPORTS)

- Katy
- Cinco Ranch
- Mayde Creek
- Morton Ranch
- Seven Lakes
- Taylor
- Tompkins

### DISTRICT 10-5A, DIVISION I (FOOTBALL)

- Paetow
- Angleton
- Fort Bend Hightower
- Fort Bend Kempner
- Houston Milby
- Houston Wisdom
- Manvel
- Richmond Foster
- Rosenberg Terry

### DISTRICT 19-5A (BASKETBALL AND VOLLEYBALL)

- Paetow
- Brenham
- Bryan Rudder
- College Station
- College Station A&M Consolidated
- Magnolia
- Magnolia West
- Waller



FILE PHOTO BY MARK GOODMAN

Tompkins freshman Loghan Johnson (23), shown here during a game earlier this season against Cinco Ranch, scored a team-high 13 points against Katy on Feb. 4 to help lead the Falcons to their first district championship.

## Tompkins girls continue dominance, earn 19-6A title

By DENNIS SILVA II  
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Mia Hill remembers the lean days of Tompkins girls basketball. A varsity player since her freshman year, she often looks

back on when the Falcons were little more than an afterthought.

But these days, she can bring up those memories with a smile. As in, look how far

See **DOMINANCE**, page B6

## Bala reaches 1,000-point career mark

By DENNIS SILVA II  
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

On the play which she scored her 1,000th career point, Abby Bala's skills as a basketball player—like astute decision-making and crafty playmaking ability—were on display.

Late during the third quarter against Tompkins on Jan. 28, the Cinco Ranch junior point guard read the Falcons' 1-2-2 zone. To get by the initial defender, she faked a dribble right and crossed over to her left. She went around the top of the defense, through it and hit a floating midrange shot.

Bala scored 12 points against Tompkins to give her 1,000th career points in her 95th career varsity game as a Cougar. She is averaging 16.2 points this season to go with four assists, 2.6 rebounds and 2.4 steals per game.

"I was very excited," Bala said of reaching the milestone. "It was a different type of adrenaline through my body. It was amazing. It makes me feel like all the hard work I put in is paying off."

Bala has been on varsity since her freshman season. Two significant improvements to her offensive repertoire have been a boon in becoming one of the top players in Katy ISD: a better jump shot and better decision-making.

Cougars coach Dwayne Archangel said Bala has progressed from hardly making any 3-pointers during her sophomore season to shooting 40 percent from deep this year.

"I've worked so hard on it," Bala said of her jump shot. "That's what I did all summer and into this year, working and practicing on my jump shot. It's opened so many doors. The defense has to pick the way they defend me, and I can take what they give me."



MARK GOODMAN

Cinco Ranch junior guard Abby Bala takes a jump shot during a district game at Taylor High earlier this season. Bala scored 12 points against Tompkins on Jan. 28 to give her 1,003 career points.

Bala is also making smarter plays.

"I definitely make better decisions, as far as reading defenses and knowing where they'll be," she said. "That was major between my freshman year to now. I can see the floor and find the open man a lot better."

Bala is a natural talent attacking the basket, often beating her defender with ease because of her blow-by speed. She has an impressive first step, thanks to countless reps perfecting her footwork via ladder drills.

It's that work ethic, Archangel said, that stands out. Bala is the first player Archangel has had reach the 1,000-point career mark since he took over the

Cougars prior to the 2017-18 season.

"Abby puts in a great deal of work on her own time," Archangel said. "She attends workout sessions twice a week with her trainer. She also switched to a solid AAU team with several collegiate players who she has had to compete against. It's helped her game tremendously."

Off the court, Bala has also become a leader of the team, taking on that responsibility once she realized there was a void.

"I'm more comfortable leading the team," she said. "Now that I'm a junior, I feel I have that voice on the team. Freshman year, we had a lot of

See **BALA**, page B6

## Jim Baker's Unified Theory Of Everything --- With God's Help

**(JBUTOE-WGH) A new book about Science and God. Revised publish date: late 2020**  
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This new book will contain a credible "unified theory of everything" that can explain the very basics of science. Albert Einstein predicted that someone "off the street" was going to do this someday. After 53 years (at approx. year 2000), I decided to include God at every step of the process of trying to come up with a scientific "Theory of Everything". Prior to this, it was about the "only thing" I felt I had not been successful at inventing or figuring out. --- You see, God had already given me the gift of inventing at age 9-10, in His response to my Second Major Prayer. --- By the year 2014, God had allowed me to assemble sufficient knowledge that I felt 95%, of what I needed to figure out, had been accomplished.

One thing I had always wished for, especially as I was approaching the age of 40, is for God to speak to me. Well, when God did speak to me, I liked my first message from God about as much, I suppose, as Abraham liked his message from God, when he was told to sacrifice his son. But God was testing both of us! God was also making us stronger.

There are still two major topics in life to be addressed, prior to publishing the new book. One is a major release of scientific information of the new theory across the U.S.A. The second is starting an evangelical ministry.

Author of new book is a Chemistry graduate (B.S. 1971/M.S. 1978) of Texas A&M (A&I) in Kingsville, TX. He also attended S.A.C. in San Antonio. He has additional hours at SWTSU, Texas Tech U., Boston College, Westinghouse PWR. He has worked at Texas Uranium Operations as Chief Chemist, at South Texas Nuclear Project as Nuclear Chemist during pre-startup, and retired from City of Houston where he was in charge of Technical Services Section of Bureau of Air Quality Control. Owner of BAKER'S BOOKS is also the author of *God's Amazing Answer To Prayer*, in 2012.



SPORTS

GRAHAM

from page B1

She can't eat large portions. She can't be in a room that's too hot or too cold. She can't be on her feet for too long, but she can't sit for too long, either.

"Everything has to be balanced," Graham said.

She can drive to and from school, but not anywhere that's farther than 15 minutes and not alone. In fact, she can't be left alone at all.

Graham sleeps most nights on a couch downstairs because she has trouble sleeping upstairs. She thinks it's because higher elevations make her condition worse sometimes.

She has a cardiologist, neurologist and a primary care physician.

"It is such a mental struggle for her every day to just get herself up," Teri said. "Her brain says, 'Get up and get going,' and her body says, 'No way.' That's what's so unique about her story ... just the struggle I see in her, every day, trying to do it.

"I just think, 'You know, I would've given up by now.' Most people would just say forget it. It's just constant. Every minute of every day, she's aware that she could pass out."

'They're told they're crazy'

The Grahams went to an oral surgeon and had two emergency room visits when Graham first started passing out. Doctors gave Graham IVs and sent her home, citing anxiety. Dysautonomia is often confused with anxiety, and patients are put on Xanax and sent to a psychiatrist.

One morning, however, Graham passed out for 30 minutes. She was again taken to the ER. Doctors said it was because of dehydration, likely from anxiety. But Teri was not convinced.

"She is a (then)-17-year-old, perfectly healthy kid one day, and now she can't walk to the mailbox," Teri said. "Because she was otherwise completely mentally healthy, as far as knowing where she was going to college, confident in her senior year, and so many things she was looking forward to, we knew stress wasn't the underlying factor. We weren't going to leave until they told us what it was, and that it wasn't a brain aneurysm or not a seizure or not something wrong with her heart or not something wrong with her blood. That's when they sent us downtown."

Graham spent five days at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital, where a team of doctors, anywhere from two to 10, would come into her room, brainstorm about her condition, and solicit information from the Grahams about what was happening. They put together Graham's history, which included really bad calf cramps and slow recovery from injuries.

"All of those are symptoms, but you would never think to piece them altogether," Graham said.

She passed out in front of doctors while hooked up to electrocardiograms measuring her heartbeat. Within four days, doctors came to a solution.

"That's when they were like, 'OK, there's a thing called dysautonomia that not a lot of people have heard



PHOTOS BY MARK GOODMAN

Tompkins senior Terin Graham controls possession of the ball during a district game against Seven Lakes on Jan. 29 at Tompkins High.

of, and even most doctors hadn't heard of,'" Teri said. "In the medical world, it's still a fairly new diagnosis. Most doctors don't know, and most patients go years without being diagnosed. They're told they're crazy, and they're put on medications and nothing helps."

Captain Graham

Tompkins soccer coach Jarrett Shipman remembers when Graham first had an episode not long after her wisdom teeth removal. The team was on the soccer field during an athletics period.

"She had lost a bunch of weight and we were trying to figure things out, because she'd say things like, 'I'm just not feeling like myself,'" Shipman said. "And then, the first time she had an episode we were out on the field playing and she kind of just sat down and has a whole episode. It was the first time I'd experienced it, and I was like, 'Oh my gosh, this is so much more than soccer right now.' I've been through 10-15 of them now."

Graham's father, Gusty, praises Shipman, his coaching staff and the school's athletic training staff for their work with his daughter.

"It's a lot of effort, and I feel bad, and I know Terin feels bad, that all these people have to do what they're doing because of her, but they do it willingly," Gusty said. "It's been a blessing. Coach lets her play as long as she can play and leaves her in, whereas a lot of coaches would be like, 'This is too much. I've got more things to worry about.'"

When introduced to Graham's condition, Shipman spent hours researching dysautonomia.

"More (hours) than I want to admit," Shipman said, laughing. "It's a lot of responsibility for me with her, and I wanted to know what I was dealing with. I wanted to know what was going on with Terin, and I wanted to do everything I could."

Assistant athletic trainer Claire Mifsud works closely with Graham. Graham has a "pass-kit" for games, which consists of Gatorades, pre-made ice packs that go on her chest and back, and salt pills. The kit itself is used to prop her feet up so that her lower body is elevated higher than her upper body.

"Her doctors say it's really good for her to exercise and it will help with the condition," Shipman said.

"If she can go out there and play, I want her out there, because she's nothing but a positive energy. She's a fighter, she cares, and it's impossible for a head coach to see someone like that and consider her too much of a distraction. In whatever capacity she can be a part of this program, we're going to embrace that."

Graham can feel when an episode is about to strike.

"The No. 1 side effect is I'll start to get really dizzy," she said. "I'll be in-and-out of it, things won't be making sense, and then I'll get really hot or my toes go numb. I'll be confused at first and not know what's going on, and then I'll start to understand, 'Oh, I'm about to pass out.'"

Every year, Katy ISD has its coaches participate in medical emergency trainings. They are taught who contacts the athletic director, who contacts the cops, who goes for the ambulance.

Shipman set up a similar system for Graham.

"Everyone knows their role in the situation," he said.

At first, it was scary. Then, Graham felt embarrassed. Now it's not as scary anymore.

Initially, teammates thought she was having seizures because of how her body shook. Now it's so normal that they take pictures of Graham whenever she passes out in funny positions.

"The coaches and I have a little tell, and I'll say, 'Don't feel good!' and they'll hurry and pull me out," said Graham, who often has two episodes in the same game. "I'll have an episode for 5-6 minutes, and then I'll stand back up, get on my feet and go back in."

Not long after Thanksgiving, Graham expressed to Shipman her desire to be a team captain. It was a goal of hers all throughout high school—the most important, in fact. There was little question she had leadership qualities.

"She's always there for other people, and she doesn't do a lot of things for herself," Shipman said. "As a leader, she's always embodying what we want as far as someone who is always doing the right thing, always on time, always pushing people to be their best."

But the dilemma was Graham had missed most of the preseason with her condition, and there was



Tompkins senior Terin Graham (13) battles for the ball during a district soccer match against Seven Lakes on Jan. 29 at Tompkins High.

no telling who players would pick. Players choose two captains, explain why, and then coaches make the final decision.

"About a year and a half ago, I gave Terin a book on leadership and she read through the whole thing," Shipman said. "To be honest, she's been a leader since day one, as far as always doing the right thing. She's someone who's backed by the players in our program. But she hadn't been here. I know how much she cares and how important it is, but we had to have everybody on board. She came to me with things she had done, things she had noticed, in a very mature way. We let it play out, and whatever happened, happened."

This season, for the first time, the picks for captains were unanimous: Graham and fellow senior defender Valeria Gomez.

'I love my team'

After competing in the prestigious The Woodlands tournament in early January, the Falcons played Bridge-land High just three days later. They were out of sorts, grinding through a relatively meaningless non-district contest after wrapping up an exhausting three-day slate against elite competition just 72 hours before.

It was Graham's goal late in the second half that lifted Tompkins to a 1-0 win.

"We looked dead, and she scored in the last four minutes to give us the lead in that game," Shipman said. "There's that Terin magic. We didn't even know if we'd have her, and she goes out there and puts the team on her back and finishes it off for us."

In the first 11 games for Tompkins this season, all of which the Falcons won, Graham has eight points—three goals and two assists.

"We've gone off her cues of what she can do and what she wants to do," Teri said. "There are some days it's too hard, but there's also days she realizes it makes her feel better. Her structured soccer and school routine makes her feel better. She has really good days with bad days, but it's more to where there are even-keel days in between."

As fast as it struck, Teri said, dysautonomia can taper off just as quickly. Teri said girls in their late teenage years typically grow out of it in their early 20s, especially the more active they are.

There are victories. For instance,

during Tompkins' district opener against Taylor on Jan. 24, Graham did not pass out once.

"It was a really big accomplishment for me, because I hadn't even made it a full game without passing out at least once," she said.

Graham verbally committed to play college soccer at Utah Valley in the eighth grade. But about a year ago, she started voicing concerns about whether that was the right place for her.

Her club coaches started talking to other schools, and Houston Baptist showed interest. About six weeks before Graham started having episodes, the program offered her a full scholarship.

She signed her letter of intent in the fall.

Interestingly, the hospital where Graham's doctors are is located on the grounds of the HBU campus.

"We've learned a lot about faith and letting things happen as they need to," Teri said.

Graham has a "Tilt-Table" test scheduled for March. She will be placed on a table, hooked up to a lot of different nodes that examine temperature, heart rate and blood pressure. The table will be tilted in different directions until she passes out. Doctors will take her readings so they can see what her body did and if she might need to adjust to or try different medicines.

For now, Graham has her mind on other things, like her team and a state championship. The Falcons have been to the state championship game two of the last three years, but fallen short each time. This season, Tompkins is 11-0-0 and ranked No. 1 in the nation by topdrawersoccer.com.

It's why the four-year letterman was so adamant about playing her senior year despite dysautonomia. Nothing was going to keep her away from the field.

"Times when I pass out, I feel 10 times better than when before I passed out," Graham said. "The coaches joke with me, 'Just have an episode before the game so you'll play better.' Because I will play better. 'Do you just want to have an episode now, so you'll play better?' It's funny."

"I love my team. I love my coaches. I consider these girls my sisters. We want to go to state again, and this was my senior year and I wanted to make it the best."

REGIONALS

from page B1

tend because of an illness. The coaching staff received the Coach of the Meet award for the Mustangs' performance.

Mixon has been with the program for eight years.

"It's great to see these kids mature and develop," she said. "It's a lot of fun. It's always cool to see them grow up."

Mixon added that despite the setback with the relay team, some illnesses spreading among team members in the weeks leading up to regionals, and Apple unable to attend, the Mustangs never lost the proper mindset.

"The kids did a really great job staying positive," she said. "They put the work in this year to get where we are now."

Taylor senior Emma Sticklen was named Swimmer of the Meet as she took first place in the 100 butterfly and 100 backstroke. She was also part of the Mustangs' winning 200 medley and 400 freestyle relay teams.

Junior Abbie Alvarez also had an impressive meet for Taylor, qualifying for state with a win in the 200 individual medley and a second-place finish in the 100 breaststroke. It will be her third time at state, qualifying in individual events all three times.

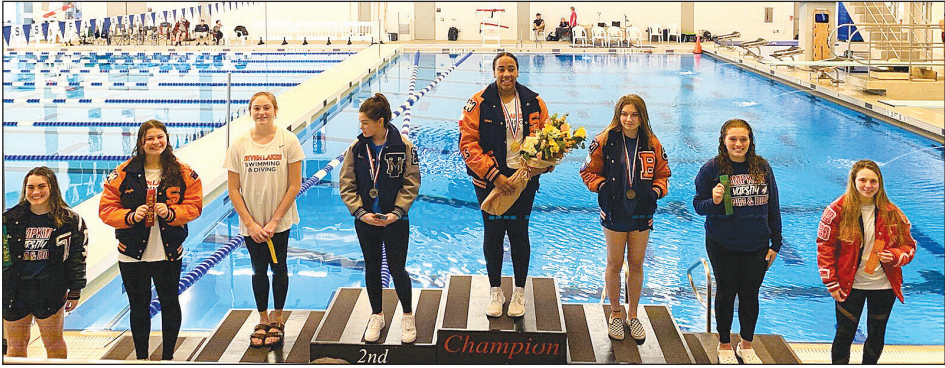
"We're going to get back into the grind," she said of the team's practice regimen for the next two weeks. "Hopefully, we can place higher than last year (fourth)."

Individually, Alvarez wanted to improve on her seventh-place finish in the IM, saying it was all a matter of approach.

"In my head, I know what to do. I just need to relax and do it," she said. "I'm hoping to medal in that."

Any swimmer that finished first or second in a race automatically qualified for the state meet in Austin in two weeks. At that point, the remaining swimmers are ranked by their regional times, and the next fastest after the automatic qualifiers are used to fill out the field in a race.

Joining Sticklen and Alvarez in individual events at state from Taylor will be Taylor Schababerle, who earned a second-place finish in the 500 freestyle. The 200 medley



COURTESY PHOTOS

Seven Lakes senior Summer Taylor won her second straight Region V-6A diving championship and is headed to state for the fourth straight year.

relay and 400 freestyle relay teams also qualified, but the Mustangs will be at a severe disadvantage as a team because they won't be allowed to field a 200 freestyle relay team.

It was a strong meet overall for Katy ISD swimmers, as they earned 21 of the 40 available automatic qualifier spots for the state meet.

Cinco Ranch's Sophia Bernal was one of those as she took first place in the 50 freestyle. She was also a key component of Cinco Ranch's second-place finish in the 400 freestyle relay, the only other automatic berth earned by the Cougars.

It will be Bernal's third time at state. "I'm trying to break into 23 seconds," she said of her time, which was 24.02 at regionals. "We're going to build up the intensity and the endurance the next two weeks, and then go straight down with the time."

Bernal, a senior, is still evaluating three colleges when it comes to where she'll swim next. She said she had a mix of emotions after winning regionals.

"It's bittersweet, because it's my last regionals and my last state (meet)," she said, adding that she would miss swimming for Cinco Ranch and her high school teammates.

For Seven Lakes, junior Maddie Welborn started the meet with a win in the 200 freestyle, and she also earned second place in the 100 freestyle. The girls' 200 medley and 200 freestyle relay teams also both earned

state berths, with second-place finishes. The Spartans led for much of the meet as a result, but will need to build their depth as they did not field a swimmer in the 100 backstroke or a team in the 400 freestyle relay.

Tompkins will also be represented at state by senior Trinity Tran. She finished in second place in the 100 backstroke.

On the boys' side of the meet, Seven Lakes finished in second place, 283-249, to Fort Bend Clements. Seven Lakes coach Jordan Beck was named the boys' Coach of the Meet.

The Spartans were powered by individual performances from three state qualifiers: seniors Seungjoon Ahn and Tyler Kopp, and junior Justin Liao.

Ahn took second place in the 200 freestyle and the 500 freestyle. Kopp may have had the biggest improvement of the meet, posting a six-second improvement on his seed time to take first in the 200 IM. Liao won the 100 breaststroke.

Seven Lakes also had an impressive showing in the relays. It won the 200 medley and placed second in the 400 freestyle.

However, Clements led 186-179 after a first-place finish in the 200 freestyle relay, and held off the Spartans by placing three individuals in the top eight of the 100 backstroke and breaststroke, and winning the 400 freestyle relay. It was tightly packed with Katy ISD at the top of the team leaderboard,



Seven Lakes' Jordan Beck and Taylor assistant coach Jessica Mixon, representing head coach Matt Apple, were named Coaches of the Meet at the Region V-6A swimming championships on Saturday, Feb. 1, in Cypress.

as Taylor finished third with 219 and Tompkins was fourth with 214.

Katy High had its lone automatic qualifier. Sophomore Aidan Garriga tied for first in the 100 backstroke with Ridge Point's Michael Kohl, both swimming the race in 51 seconds.

Taylor's lone individual qualifier on the boys side was freshman Patrick Spillman in the 100 breaststroke, with a second-place finish. The Mustangs also finished second in the 200 medley relay. Cinco Ranch will also send a relay team to state, as the Cougars finished second in the 200 freestyle relay.

In diving, Tompkins' Matthew Aigner won gold to book his trip to state. Seven Lakes' Summer Taylor won gold on the girls side to win consecutive regional championships and earn her fourth straight trip to state.

The Class 6A swimming and diving state championships will be held Feb. 14-15 at the Jamail Texas Swimming Center on the campus of the University of Texas.

At the Region 6-5A meet, Paetow swimmers earned nine school records. The Panther boys finished sixth overall and the Panther girls finished 10th.



# Cougars-Spartans highlights intensity of 19-6A

By DENNIS SILVA II  
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

The quality of soccer in Katy ISD is no secret. Whether on the boys or girls side, Katy ISD is arguably the best in the city of Houston when it comes to fútbol.

An early District 19-6A boys showdown between Seven Lakes and Cinco Ranch on Saturday, Feb. 1, was another example why. Just three days earlier, Seven Lakes handed Tompkins its first loss of the season in each team's district opener. On Saturday, the Spartans were almost handed their second loss of the season by a Cougars club that had yet to lose this season.

It took a remarkable rally in the final 12 minutes for Seven Lakes to climb from a two-goal deficit before forcing a 2-2 tie at Cinco Ranch High.

"One of the things about this district is there are a lot of good teams," Spartans coach Jimmy Krueger said. "A lot of well-coached teams. They came out with a pretty good plan and disrupted us a little bit, but it was good to see fight in our guys. We made mistakes that they capitalized on, but to have that grit and that fight to keep clawing and eventually tying it up ... it's a good moment for us, but still a lot to be proven. We have a lot of work to do."

Between Seven Lakes, Tompkins, Cinco



JIMMY  
KRUEGER



FREDY  
SANGUINETTI

Ranch and Taylor, there were only four total losses through the first five weeks of the season. It will make for exciting matchups as district play heats up.

Cinco Ranch jumped out to a 2-0 lead against Seven Lakes behind goals by sophomores Khalil Khenayzir and Sebas Rodriguez. The Cougars played with intensity, eager to show what they had against a reputable Seven Lakes team.

"With us scoring early, they were pushing up more, so there was more space for the team to exploit," Khenayzir said. "That's what we tried to do the whole game."

It almost worked to perfection. The Cougars, who are under a new head coach in Katy ISD coaching veteran Fredy Sanguinetti, led 2-0 with 11 minutes left.

"That's a great team, and Jimmy does a really good job coaching them," Sanguinetti said. "We knew they were going to come at us. We just made a couple of defensive lapses and let them cross the ball, which was something we planned not to let them do, and then we didn't finish. We had four opportunities at top that could have put the game away, and when you don't get those in, a great team like them will punish you."

Indeed, the Spartans woke up. Senior striker J.P. Dominguez scored his eighth goal of the season with 10:36 left. A little more than three minutes later, senior Thomas Murry scored the equalizer with his fifth tally of the season.

"We started off bad because we weren't ready," Dominguez said. "We came off a big win against Tompkins and were thinking we were really good. We came out overconfident. In the second half, it kicked in, like, 'Hey, we can't drop points here.' The last 12 minutes, that's how we should've played from the start. That's how we usually play. We just have to come back stronger."

Krueger commended the Cougars' game-plan. In the first half, Cinco Ranch sat back and attempted to attack via counters. Seven Lakes made it easy for the Cougars by playing a short game and not pushing tempo.

In the second half, after Dominguez's goal, tempo made all the difference. Just as Cinco Ranch dominated for the first 50 minutes of the game, Seven Lakes made a rush of it by dominating possession in the final 30.

"We should've put them away, and a tie isn't what we expected, but I think this lets everyone know that we're here," Khenayzir said. "We're going to compete."

Through the first week of district play, Taylor—also under a new coach in Julio Rivas—is the only team in 19-6A play without a loss or tie at 2-0-0, despite being down five starters due to injuries. Tompkins, Seven Lakes and Cinco Ranch all were ranked in the preseason top 10 in Region 3-6A soccer.

"There's a really good senior class for almost every team in the district," Sanguinetti said. "On any given night, people can go in there and surprise somebody. That's one of the things we tried to do (against Seven Lakes). But those seniors are really talented, and you also have some really good coaches. We're blessed in this district that every program is known for their soccer coach."

Added Krueger: "This district on the boys side is always competitive. There is not a free win. At any time, you can drop points. The kids just come out and play."

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**Notice of Public Sale**  
of property to satisfy landlord's lien.

Sale to be held ONLINE AUCTION  
[StorageTreasures.com](http://StorageTreasures.com)

The facilities are at Bear Creek Mini Storage. 17730 Keith Harrow Blvd, Houston, TX 77084 Bidding will open at 10:00 am on February 18, 2020 and end at 12:00 pm on March 3, 2020. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Cleanup and removal deposit will be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale ends. Property includes contents of space of the following tenants: Belinda Franz Barnetta, Jerel Ehlert, Gustavo Ocampo, StacyAnn Williams, (Johnny) Yong Lee, Waseem Muhammad, Chris Chappell & Marita Acevedo, Daniela Lopez Fuentes, Janie Martinez. Contents of spaces consist of household furniture, tools, appliances, misc. boxes, containers, clothes.

**NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN **ORDINANCE NO. 2936** BEARING THE FOLLOWING CAPTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, ON JANUARY 13, 2020:

An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Amending The City Of Katy Zoning Ordinance No. 621; Establishing A Special Use Permit That Allows, A Special Use, To-Wit: An Institution Of A Religious Nature (Bethany Worship Center - Katy) In The Katy Mills Planned Development District (PDD) In 3,100 Square Feet At 25311 Kingsland Boulevard, Suite 115; Providing For An Effective Date; Repealing All Ordinances And Parts Of Ordinances In Conflict Herewith; Providing For Severability And Providing For A Penalty Of \$2,000 For Each Day Of Violation Of Any Provision Of This Ordinance.

**NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN **ORDINANCE NO. 2937** BEARING THE FOLLOWING CAPTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, ON JANUARY 27, 2020:

An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Amending The City Of Katy Zoning Ordinance No. 621; Establishing A Special Use Permit That Allows, A Special Use, To-Wit: An Institution Of A Religious Nature (Jesus Rescue International Church) In The "C-2" General Business District In 3,750 Square Feet At 6193 Highway Boulevard, Suite 201; Providing For An Effective Date; Repealing All Ordinances And Parts Of Ordinances In Conflict Herewith; Providing For Severability And Providing For A Penalty Of \$2,000 For Each Day Of Violation Of Any Provision Of This Ordinance.

**NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN **ORDINANCE NO. 2938** BEARING THE FOLLOWING CAPTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, ON JANUARY 27, 2020:

An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Amending The City Of Katy Zoning Ordinance No. 621; Establishing A Special Use Permit That Allows, A Special Use, To-Wit: A Charter School Use In The "C-1" District Located At 5618 11th Street, Tracts 7C And 7D, Katy Outlots, For The Benefit Of West Houston Charter Alliance Incorporated (DBA) Aristoi Classical Academy; Providing For An Effective Date; Repealing All Ordinances And Parts Of Ordinances In Conflict Herewith; Providing For Severability And Providing For A Penalty Of \$2,000 For Each Day Of Violation Of Any Provision Of This Ordinance.

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APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE WITH THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION FOR A BEER RETAIL DEALER'S OFF-PREMISE LICENSE, A WINE ONLY PACKAGE STORE PERMIT AND A PACKAGE STORE TASTING PERMIT BY QUALITY LICENSING CORP. D/B/A QUALITY LICENSING CORP. (STORE #5449) LOCATED AT 9929 HWY 6, MISSOURI CITY, FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS 77459. OFFICERS OF SAID COMPANY ARE JOHN SCUDDER, PRESIDENT/CEO; MATTHEW W. ALLEN, VP; WAYNE HAMILTON, VP; ANDREA M. LAZENBY, ASSISTANT SECRETARY; DANIEL JOHN RICE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

NOTICE: As provided in Section 49.111 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Mason Creek Utility District of Harris County, Texas (District), having its administrative office at 847 Dominion, Katy, Texas 77450, hereby gives notice of its intention to hold its May 2, 2020 general election (for officers) without providing a voting station that meets the requirements for accessibility under 42 U.S.C. Section 15481(a)(3) on election day and during the period for early voting by personal appearance. Any voter in the District may request the use of a voting station that meets the accessibility requirements for voting by a person with a disability. Such a request must be submitted in writing to the District at its administrative office (address above). The District shall comply with a request for an accessible voting station if the request is received not later than the 45th day before the date of the election, in accordance with State law.

AVISO: Como se indica en la sección 49,111 del Código de Aguas de Texas, en su versión modificada, Distrito de Servicios Públicos de Mason Creek del Condado de Harris, Texas (distrito), que tiene su oficina administrativa en 847 Dominion, Katy, Texas 77450, notifica su intención de celebrar su 2 mayo, 2020 elección general (para oficiales) sin proporcionar una estación votadora que cumple con los requisitos para la accesibilidad bajo en 42 U. S. C. § 15481 (a)(3) para el día de las elecciones, y durante el período de la votación anticipada por apariencia personal. Cualquier votante en el Distrito puede solicitar el uso de la mesa de votación que cumpla con los requisitos de accesibilidad para la votación de una persona con una discapacidad. La solicitud deberá ser presentada por escrito al Distrito en su oficina administrativa (dirección arriba). El distrito deberá cumplir con una solicitud de votación accesible si su solicitud es recibida a más tardar 45 días antes de la fecha de la elección, de conformidad con la ley del Estado.

THÔNG BÁO: Như được quy định tại Mục 49.111 của Bộ Luật Thủy Cục Texas, như được tu chính, Cơ Quan Tiện Ích Mason Creek của Quận Harris (Cơ Quan), có trụ sở hành chính tại 847 Dominion, Katy, Texas 77450, theo đây đưa ra thông báo về dự định tổ chức cuộc tổng tuyển cử vào ngày 2 tháng Năm, 2020 (cho các viên chức) mà không cung cấp một trạm bỏ phiếu đáp ứng các yêu cầu tiếp cận cho người khuyết tật theo Mục 42 U.S.C 15481(a)(3) vào ngày bầu cử và trong suốt thời gian diễn ra thủ tục đích thân tới bỏ phiếu sớm. Bất kỳ cử tri nào trong Cơ Quan có thể yêu cầu sử dụng một trạm bỏ phiếu đáp ứng các yêu cầu tiếp cận để bỏ phiếu đối với người khuyết tật. Yêu cầu đó phải được đệ trình bằng văn bản cho Cơ Quan tại trụ sở hành chính của Cơ Quan (địa chỉ trên đây). Cơ Quan sẽ tuân thủ yêu cầu về trạm bỏ phiếu có thể tiếp cận cho người khuyết tật nếu yêu cầu được nhận không trễ hơn ngày thứ 45 trước ngày bầu cử chiếu theo luật pháp Tiểu Bang.

通知：基於修訂後的Texas州水務法第49.111條，Texas州Harris郡之Mason Creek公用事業區（下稱“本區”）之行政管理部門(地址為：847 Dominion, Katy, Texas 77450)特此通知，其擬於2020年5月2日舉行普選（官員選舉），且不會在選舉日與親自出席提前投票期間提供符合美國法典第42卷第15481(a)(3)條中關於無障礙投票之規定的投票站。本區任何選民有權要求使用可協助殘疾人進行無障礙投票的投票站。此申請必須以書面形式交於本區之行政管理部門(地址如上)。應本州法律，如果申請在不晚於選舉日之前45天收到，本區須履行此申請。

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**CINCO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 3  
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF  
RULES AND PENALTIES**

Notice is hereby given that, at a meeting on January 16, 2020, the Board of Directors of Cinco Municipal Utility District No. 3 (the "District") adopted a Resolution Establishing Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of the District's Online Portal System ("Resolution"), providing rules and regulations governing the use of the District's online portal system and related phone application for water usage data. Violation of any of the rules or regulations contained in the Resolution will subject the violator to a fine of up to \$10,000 per violation. Each separate occurrence and day that a violation continues shall be considered a separate violation. A copy of the Resolution, with all of its rules and regulations, including the penalty listed above, is on file at the principal office of the District, Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, Texas 77027, where it may be read in full.

/s/ Linda Larvin  
President, Board of Directors

**INVITATION TO BIDDERS**

Sealed Bids, in duplicate, addressed to Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 18, Attention: Doug Bergen, President, Board of Directors, will be received at the office of the Engineer, LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449, until 2:00 p.m., Local Time, Thursday, February 27, 2020, and then publicly opened and read for "Construction of the Water, Sanitary Sewer, Drainage Facilities To Serve Twinwood Business Park Phase 2 for Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 18, Waller County, Texas".

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: Construction of Water, Sanitary Sewer and Drainage Facilities.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A **MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. Local Time, at the office of the Engineer, LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449. Attendance by each prospective bidder or its representative at the pre-bid conference is **MANDATORY**, and no Bid will be opened unless the bidder or representative was present at the pre-bid conference.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided, and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor.

Bidding documents may be examined at LJA Engineering, Inc., AGC of Texas, Construct Connect, and Amtek or may be obtained by prospective bidders or suppliers upon payment of one hundred Dollars (\$100.00 non-refundable plus cost of delivery) (\$50.00 for electronic copy) for each set of documents at LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449 or at <https://bids.lja.com>. Bidders must register on this website to download bidding documents.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive all defects and irregularities in bidding or bidding process except time of submitting a Bid. The Successful Bidder, if any, will be the responsible Bidder which in the Board's judgment will be most advantageous to the District and result in the best and most economical completion of the Project.

**The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this Bid and/or Contract and the Contractor agrees that the Contract can be terminated if the Contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.**

Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 18

**INVITATION TO BIDDERS**

Sealed Bids, in duplicate, addressed to Wilbow-Bergamo Vista, LLC on behalf of Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 495, will be received at the office of LJA Engineering, Inc., 2929 Briarpark Drive, Suite 150, Houston, Texas 77042, until 10:00 a.m., Local Time, Thursday, February 27, 2020, and then publicly opened and read for "Construction of the Water, Sanitary Sewer and Drainage Facilities to serve Bergamo Vista Section 1 for Wilbow-Bergamo Vista, LLC on behalf of Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 495, Harris County, Texas".

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: water, sanitary sewer and drainage facilities.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. Local Time, at the office of LJA Engineering, Inc., 2929 Briarpark Drive, Suite 150, Houston, Texas 77042.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided, and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor.

Bidding documents may be examined at LJA Engineering, Inc., AGC of Texas, Construct Connect, and Amtek or may be obtained by prospective bidders or suppliers upon payment of one hundred dollars (\$100.00 non-refundable plus cost of delivery) (\$50.00 for electronic copy) for each set of documents at LJA Engineering, Inc., 2929 Briarpark Drive, Suite 150, Houston, Texas 77042 or at <https://bids.lja.com>. Bidders must register on this website to download bidding documents.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive all defects and irregularities in bidding or bidding process except time of submitting a Bid. The Successful Bidder, if any, will be the responsible Bidder which in the Board's judgment will be most advantageous to the District and result in the best and most economical completion of the Project.

**The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this Bid and/or Contract and the Contractor agrees that the Contract can be terminated if the Contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.**

Wilbow-Bergamo Vista, LLC on behalf of  
Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 495

**INVITATION TO BIDDERS**

Sealed Bids, in duplicate, addressed to Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 18, Attention: Doug Bergen, President, Board of Directors, will be received at the office of the Engineer, LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449, until 2:30 p.m., Local Time, Thursday, February 27, 2020, and then publicly opened and read for "Construction of the Water, Sanitary Sewer, Drainage Facilities To Serve Twinwood Business Park Phase 3 for Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 18, Waller County, Texas".

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: Construction of Water, Sanitary Sewer and Drainage Facilities.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A **MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2020, at 2:30 p.m. Local Time, at the office of the Engineer, LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449. Attendance by each prospective bidder or its representative at the pre-bid conference is **MANDATORY**, and no Bid will be opened unless the bidder or representative was present at the pre-bid conference.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided, and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor.

Bidding documents may be examined at LJA Engineering, Inc., AGC of Texas, Construct Connect, and Amtek or may be obtained by prospective bidders or suppliers upon payment of one hundred Dollars (\$100.00 non-refundable plus cost of delivery) (\$50.00 for electronic copy) for each set of documents at LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449 or at <https://bids.lja.com>. Bidders must register on this website to download bidding documents.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive all defects and irregularities in bidding or bidding process except time of submitting a Bid. The Successful Bidder, if any, will be the responsible Bidder which in the Board's judgment will be most advantageous to the District and result in the best and most economical completion of the Project.

**The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this Bid and/or Contract and the Contractor agrees that the Contract can be terminated if the Contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.**

Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 18

**CINCO SOUTHWEST MUNICIPAL  
UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 3  
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF  
RULES AND PENALTIES**

Notice is hereby given that, at a meeting on January 27, 2020, the Board of Directors of the District adopted a Resolution Establishing Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of the District's Online Portal System ("Resolution"), providing rules and regulations governing the use of the District's online portal system and related phone application for water usage data. Violation of any of the rules or regulations contained in the Resolution will subject the violator to a fine of up to \$10,000 per violation. Each separate occurrence and day that a violation continues shall be considered a separate violation.

A copy of the Resolution, with its rules and regulations, including the penalty listed above, is on file at the principal office of the District, Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, Texas 77027, where it may be read in full.

/s/ James Blake  
President, Board of Directors

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed proposals for **2020 WATER LINE RENOVATION PROJECT** will be received at City of Katy Municipal Building, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493, until **2:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 19, 2020.**

The Owner is the City Of Katy, Texas

The successful bidder(s) will be required to enter into a contract with the Owner.

A Cashier's Check or Certified Check payable, without recourse, to the Owner or an acceptable Surety Proposal Bond, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the largest possible total bid, including consideration of alternates, must accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the contract, the Bidder will promptly enter into a contract and execute bonds in forms provided as outlined in the Contract Documents. Performance Bond, Payment Bond, and Maintenance Bond, in an amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price will be required.

For public projects, not less than the minimum wage rates as prescribed in the General Conditions must be paid.

The Contract for this project will be awarded by the City based on the lowest and best bid received

**The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to waive any informalities in bids.**

Bonded general contractor may obtain one set of bid documents for each project at the office of the Engineer, **Clay & Leyendecker, Inc., 1350 Avenue D, Katy, Texas 77493, (281) 391-0173**, upon deposit of a check or cash only in the amount of \$40.00/set, payable to Clay & Leyendecker, Inc. *Bidder must telephone before coming to pick up plans.* Said amount will be refunded if the bid documents are returned in good condition within one (1) week of the date of bid. Otherwise, no refunds will be made. Additional sets may be purchased for \$40.00. Subcontractors and Suppliers may purchase sets for \$40.00 which will not be refunded.

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed proposals for **2020 ASPHALT STREET RENOVATION PROJECT** will be received at City of Katy Municipal Building, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493, until **2:15 p.m., Wednesday, February 19, 2020.**

The Owner is the City Of Katy, Texas

The successful bidder(s) will be required to enter into a contract with the Owner.

A Cashier's Check or Certified Check payable, without recourse, to the Owner or an acceptable Surety Proposal Bond, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the largest possible total bid, including consideration of alternates, must accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the contract, the Bidder will promptly enter into a contract and execute bonds in forms provided as outlined in the Contract Documents. Performance Bond, Payment Bond, and Maintenance Bond, in an amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price will be required.

For public projects, not less than the minimum wage rates as prescribed in the General Conditions must be paid.

The Contract for this project will be awarded by the City based on the lowest and best bid received

**The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to waive any informalities in bids.**

Bonded general contractor may obtain one set of bid documents for each project at the office of the Engineer, **Clay & Leyendecker, Inc., 1350 Avenue D, Katy, Texas 77493, (281) 391-0173**, upon deposit of a check or cash only in the amount of \$40.00/set, payable to Clay & Leyendecker, Inc. *Bidder must telephone before coming to pick up plans.* Said amount will be refunded if the bid documents are returned in good condition within one (1) week of the date of bid. Otherwise, no refunds will be made. Additional sets may be purchased for \$40.00. Subcontractors and Suppliers may purchase sets for \$40.00 which will not be refunded.

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# Katy fine-tuning for district meet

By STEPHEN GREENWELL  
TIMES CORRESPONDENT

The Katy High boys wrestling team will look to build on its success from the past four years, and during the 2019-20 regular season, as it continues to prepare for its big district meet on Feb. 7.

Coach Vinnie Lowe said the emphasis this season has been developing depth and refining the team's conditioning. Through Jan. 29, the Tigers were 21-2 overall and ranked second behind Allen in the Wrestling Texas 6A team rankings.

"We've won the district and the region the last four years," Lowe said. "This has been a long time in the making and we've got some really hard-working kids and families that support what we do."

The Tigers have a returning state champion, senior Kishawn Higgins, at 170 pounds. Junior Jackson Crandall at 120, junior Luke Holland at 132 and senior Jacob Kelske at 160 are all expected to compete for state tournament slots as well. Freshman Phoenix Medrano-Matrinez is currently ranked third at 106 in the region as well, behind Morton Ranch senior Douglas Melrose and Cypress Ranch freshman Alec Robeson.

However, Lowe noted that for the upperclassmen, they've stayed sharp because of a strong crop of younger wrestlers under them.

"The great thing about our team is that they hold each other accountable," he said. "They better stay hungry and they better stay motivated, because we have freshmen that are right there with them."

Lowe said a key development has been "double entering" when possible at tournaments, via a Katy Red and a Katy White team. As a result, he said, even freshmen were logging 20 to 25 matches this year.

"We're trying to get everyone action and everyone experience," he said. "We're getting them out there and getting them experienced."

Like any sport that mixes team and individual success, Lowe said there was an emphasis on getting the wrestlers exposed to as many styles and approaches as possible before the season-ending tournaments. Practices started in late October, with the competitive season running from the second week of November through the end of February.

"You're fine-tuning your toolbox and technique to ones that are going to work," he said of what they're telling the kids in practice and at meets. "They're really trying to work on fine-tuning their conditioning, to make sure they can take these matches into overtime and tiebreakers, especially as you get to the level where you're going to get pushed."

The district wrestling tournament takes place Friday, Feb. 7 at 8:30 a.m. and Saturday, Feb. 8 at 9:30 a.m. at the Merrell Center. Qualifying wrestlers will take part in the UIL Region III tournament at the Merrell Center on Friday, Feb. 14 at 9 a.m. and Saturday, Feb. 15 at 9 a.m.



## DOMINANCE

from page B2

they've come. With a 44-38 win over Katy on Tuesday, Feb. 4, the Falcons improved to 10-0 in District 19-6A, 31-3 overall, to secure the program's first district championship.

It's been a remarkable recovery. In Hill's freshman season in 2016-17, Tompkins won three games in district play, nine overall. In 2017-18, the Falcons went 5-7 in district, 14-16 overall, to make the playoffs. Last year, they missed the post-season by one game in a 16-win season.

This season? Sheer dominance.

"It feels really great," said Hill, who had six points and five rebounds against Katy. "This is something I've talked about with my teammates, as far as this being a goal and to leave high school being remembered."

"In the beginning, we were working hard but it just wasn't translating onto the court. So, just knowing that even though we started where we did, being here and being able to enjoy this moment of doing something special is really important."

Katy (7-3 in 19-6A) led 15-12 after the first quarter, but Tompkins went to a hard press to open the second quarter that sparked a 10-0 run.

From there, the Falcons led by as many as nine points and no fewer than four against a resilient Katy team that won the district title in undefeated fashion last season.

"We knew Katy had to win to give them a chance to get a piece (of the district title), and we knew they were coming for us," said coach Tamatha Ray,

who has been at the helm of the Falcons all seven years of its existence. "It's hard to go undefeated and it's hard to be the new guy that's never even been first or second. The best we've finished is third. Just the fight the girls showed ... I'm proud of them. I have no words."

Tompkins' defense led the way. The Falcons—playing a heavy mix of zone and press—forced 17 turnovers and held the Tigers to 5-of-26 shooting from 3-point range.

Freshman Loghan Johnson scored 13 points, all in the first half, to pace Tompkins, though she battled foul trouble early and often in the second half. Junior Crystal Smith added 10 points. Hill and freshman Fiyin Adeleye scored six points apiece. Adeleye had eight rebounds.

"We really wanted to stay composed," junior post Mackenzie Durnford said. "We knew if we played our game and kept it going, we'd be fine. I thought we did a good job staying mentally tough and not getting frustrated with the foul count or anything. Our seniors and captains stepped up, and that's the big thing."

Mental toughness has been Tompkins' M.O. all season. Durnford said that comes from the offseason conditioning and drills, which have punishing consequences if not done right.

Ray said it's what separates this year's Falcons from the 2015-2016 regional semifinalist team that won eight games in district play and 29 overall.

"This is not to discredit the '15-16 team, but for this team, the major difference is the coachability," Ray said. "The player accountability they have ... I'm just a sideline piece. They're the ones that make it all work. They've been bought in and they've made this theirs. This team

doesn't let games slip away. That stuff is hard to measure."

Ray said since these seniors' sophomore year, that 2017-18 campaign that produced a playoff berth, she has emphasized team play and leadership. Eight seniors are on this year's Falcons roster, but only one—Hill—starts.

Ray said her team is "mission-oriented."

"From the beginning, we set a goal and we knew what we wanted, and we knew what we had to do to get what we wanted," Hill said. "Our coaches kept us in check. We kept us in check. So, team chemistry and knowing we all had the same goal was big."

Along with the intangibles, the Falcons also have the physical skill and ability. Johnson and Adeleye are terrific, versatile players and budding superstars in Katy ISD hoops. Smith is a poised floor leader. Her four free throws late in the fourth quarter were crucial.

Hill, Durnford and senior Sovereign Mack add size and rebounding. Katy is a well-coached, talented team but could not get to the basket consistently against the Falcons' size and length in the front-court. Few teams have been able to.

It's all an ideal mix of experience, youth, athleticism and playmaking. It's also why a district title is not enough.

Surpassing the impact of that 2015-16 team remains first and foremost on these Falcons' minds.

"We're really excited," Durnford said. "But now we can check this off the list and move on. Our coaches have been tough on us about how far we want to go and how far we want to get, so we're all bought in. There's more work to do."

## BALA

from page B2

injuries. Half of the team was JV players. Sophomore year, we had more injuries and it was to where no one knew who was going to lead the team. I kind of

stepped into those shoes, I guess."

Bala's play has helped keep Cinco Ranch steady despite the absence of senior guard Catherine Hursh to injury during the first round of district play.

The Cougars are currently in third place in District 19-6A at 6-4 with two games left, but Taylor and Seven Lakes are nipping at their heels.

After missing out on the playoffs by one game last season, Bala said making it this year is critical.

"Things are different for everyone," she said. "These seniors have never been to the playoffs. So, a team goal, and definitely one of my goals, is to help as much as possible to get my seniors to the playoffs so they have that experience."

## UIL

from page B2

non-district opponents for Katy ISD's football teams for 2020-2021:

**Cinco Ranch:** Scrimmage: George Ranch. Non-district: College Park, Aldine Davis, Brazoswood, Clear Falls.

**Katy:** Scrimmage: Klein Collins.

Non-district: Clear Springs, Cypress Woods, Dickinson, The Woodlands.

**Mayde Creek:** Scrimmage: Aldine Davis. Non-district: Conroe, Cypress Lakes, Aldine Nimitz, College Park.

**Morton Ranch:** Scrimmage: Alief Taylor. Non-district: Cypress Lakes, Paetow, Alief Hastings, Montgomery Lake Creek.

**Seven Lakes:** Scrimmage: Dickinson. Non-district: Houston Memorial,

Klein High, Aldine Davis, Houston Heights.

**Taylor:** Scrimmage: Ridge Point. Non-district: Cypress Springs, George Ranch, Cy-Fair, Klein Cain.

**Tompkins:** Scrimmage: Bridgeland High. Non-district: Magnolia, Clear Springs, Klein Collins, Clear Creek.

**Paetow:** Scrimmage: Cypress Springs. Non-district: Barbers Hill, Morton Ranch.

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