

SPORTS

Warriors, Panthers strong at 21-5A swimming meets

By DENNIS SILVA II
SPORTS EDITOR

Jordan and Paetow competed at the District 21-5A swim championships on Friday, Jan. 29, at the Conroe ISD Natatorium. It is the inaugural year of competition for the Jordan High swim teams, and each had strong first impressions.

The Jordan girls finished third overall as a team with 97 points behind district champ Magnolia and runner-up Kingwood Park. Jordan freshman Kaeli White was the district champ in the 500 freestyle with a time of 5-minutes, 04.05 seconds. She also finished second in the 100 backstroke.

"To be the first district champ at Jordan makes me feel really proud to be a Warrior," White said. "Being able to go to district with a group of girls that I've grown really close to, even through this pandemic, has been amazing."

Paetow's girls finished eighth as a team with 16 points. Panthers coach Mike Jones was named Coach of the Meet.

The top four in each event qualified for regionals.

Girls regional qualifiers from Katy ISD were Jordan's third-place 200 medley relay team of White, Vanessa Moonsammy, Victoria Hewitt and Isabella Mesa, Paetow's Gabriella Donnelly (fourth, 200 freestyle), Jordan's Athena Bazzi (third, 200 individual medley; third, 100 breaststroke), Jordan's Victoria Hewitt (fourth, 100 butterfly), White (first, 500 freestyle; second, 100 backstroke), Jordan's fourth-place 200 freestyle relay of Victoria Hewitt, Athena Bazzi, Hannah Knicely and Isabella Mesa, Moonsammy (fourth, 100 breaststroke), and Jordan's fourth-place 400 freestyle relay of White, Ella Flathouse, Moonsammy and Bazzi.

On the boys side, Jordan, too, finished third as a team with 81.5 points behind district champ Kingwood Park and second-place Magnolia. Paetow's boys finished fifth with 37 points.

Boys regional qualifiers from Katy ISD were Jordan's Jonathan Palmattam (fourth, 200 freestyle), Jordan's Kai Walter (third,



Jordan High freshman Kaeli White won first in the 500 freestyle and second in the 100 backstroke at the District 21-5A meet on Friday, Jan. 29, in Conroe. She is the program's first district champion.

500 freestyle), Jordan's fourth-place 200 freestyle relay of Sebastian Leal, Leonardo Nguyen, Manuel Diaz and Edelmiro Lucio, Paetow's Alex Sombero (third, 100 backstroke), Jordan's fourth-place 400 freestyle relay of Leal, Nguyen, Diaz and Walter, and Paetow divers Kalen Velazquez (second) and Johnny Pleites (third).

The Region IV-5A boys and girls meets will be held Feb. 5-6 at Don Cook Natatorium in Sugar Land. At regionals, the top swimmer in each event is the only guaranteed spot for state. An additional eight call-ups will advance in each region.

MUSTANGS

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Not only does Apple have an elite senior nucleus of talent like Alvarez (University of Houston signee), Taylor Schababerle (Washington State signee), Emma Clark (South Dakota signee) and Pashen, he has a tough-minded, experienced group that knows and appreciates what it takes to win.

"In terms of high school swimming, they don't know anything else other than success," Apple said. "The year before Emma, none of our teams made it to state. When these seniors came in as freshmen, they made it instantly. Relays, individuals. For these girls, their three years here so far, they've always made it to state. It's very much their expectation that this is what they do."

When these seniors were freshmen, the Mustangs placed fifth as a team at state. In 2019 and 2020, Taylor placed fourth each time at state. A standard has been established.

Pashen believes if one of the relay teams had not been disqualified at regionals last season, the Mustangs could've easily gotten third at state. Schababerle said underclassmen have performed beyond their years and given the team significant, quality depth, a boon to a no-nonsense senior class that years to bring home another decorative flag from state awarded to each team that finishes in the top five.

"We've all watched each other grow up and we've encouraged each other to do better and keep working," said Schababerle, who competes in the 200 and 500 freestyles. "Seeing your friends work hard and do better makes you want to work hard and do better. It has to come from within, but we all have it. That makes it better."

The Mustangs have needed that guile and moxie, particularly during a weird rollercoaster season thanks to COVID-19.

This season, Taylor has had practices split between athletes who are doing virtual learning and those who are doing in-person learning. It has made it difficult for relay teams to practice. Many practices have been canceled altogether because of COVID-19 protocols. Athletes have been in and out of action because of contact tracing.



Taylor coach Matt Apple talks to his girls regional qualifiers during a morning practice on Monday, Feb. 1, at the Taylor High natatorium.

Because of the limited numbers, practices have been shorter. Training has not been as rigorous or consistent as it generally is.

As if that wasn't enough, the Mustangs' campus pool was unusable for three weeks because of issues with the water temperature. Taylor had to practice at Morton Ranch High School in the meantime.

Apple said he's surprised the team is at this point of its season. He figured either the school would have been shut down already because of the pandemic or the UIL might have shut down sports by now like it did last spring.

"The fact that we're in the middle of our postseason is awesome," Apple said. "It's been hard dealing with the pandemic. There hasn't been a sense of team, or unity. All the stuff you do outside of the pool for team building, you can't do. The girls usually have sleepovers and the boys hang out together and play video games, and none of that is going on. It's very different."

"The fact they've stayed mentally focused is a testament to their experience. They know what to do, they know how to maintain."

That, they always know they can fall back upon.

"We have a culture of hard work and we want it," Schababerle said. "We train hard for what we want. We don't just go around all day. When you win, you want it again. Like, we won it last year, we're going to win it again this year. Coach cultivates that, because he makes us aware it's the work ethic that drives us."

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INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Electronic Bids addressed to Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 495, Attention: President, Board of Directors, will be electronically received, until 2:00 p.m. Local Time, February 23, 2021, and then publicly opened and displayed via: www.civcastusa.com project portal for "Katy Pointe Section 4 & 5 Amenities for Harris County M.U.D. No. 495, Harris County, Texas"

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: trail grading, sidewalks/trails, planting, irrigation, lake fountain, site furnishings

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. **NO** pre-bid conference will be held.

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. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the original certified or cashier's check within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the bid opening.

Copies of the bidding documents may be reviewed and obtained from www.CivcastUSA.com: search "Katy Pointe - Section 4& 5 Amenities" or Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, plans, soils report, and environmental reports for this Project. There is **NO** charge to view or download documents.

Bidder must submit its Bid and bid securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic Bidding Rules and all Bids and bid securities must be submitted through [www.civcastusa.com]. Bidder must register on this website in order to submit a Bid and bid security and there is no charge to submit Bids and bid securities on this website.

By submitting a Bid, Bidder acknowledges and agrees that the Contract Documents may be accepted, executed or agreed to through the use of an Electronic Signature, as defined by and in accordance with Owner's Electronic Signature Rules for Construction Contracts.

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.

HARRIS COUNTY M.U.D. No. 495

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 130, Attention Mr. Daniel Smith, President, Board of Directors, will be received at the office of AEI Engineering, a Baxter & Woodman Company, 11450 Compaq Center Dr., Suite 660, Houston, Texas 77070, until 2:00 p.m. Local Time, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021, and then publicly opened and read for "5,000-GALLON HPT for FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 130, Fort Bend County, Texas".

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: The addition of a 5,000-gallon hydropneumatic tank at Fort Bend County MUD 130 Water Plant No. 1, including all piping, valves, and appurtenances.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A **NON-MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held on THURSDAY, February 4, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. Local Time, at the office of AEI Engineering, a Baxter & Woodman Company.

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.

Copies of the bidding documents are on file at the following locations:

www.CivcastUSA.com: search AEI. Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, plans, soils report, and environmental reports for this Project. There is **NO** charge to view or download documents.]

AEI Engineering, a Baxter & Woodman Company
11450 Compaq Center Dr., Suite 660
Houston, Texas 77070

Bidding documents may be examined at the above locations or may be obtained by prospective bidders or suppliers upon payment of One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$50.00 non-refundable plus cost of delivery) for each set of documents at AEI Engineering, a Baxter & Woodman Company. Checks should be made payable to AEI Engineering, a Baxter & Woodman Company. No cash will be accepted.

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.

FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 130

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

WALLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT
FEBRUARY 10, 2021 9:00 A.M.
COMMISSIONERS' COURTROOM,
WALLER COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The Waller County Commissioners' Court will conduct a Public Hearing on the proposed ATLAS 14 related revisions to The Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance and conduct a 30 day Public Comment period from February 3, 2021 to March 4, 2021 for these revisions to The Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. To review the proposed revisions, visit <http://www.co.waller.tx.us/page/County.Engineer>.

All comments should be directed to y.scott@wallercounty.us.

All interested persons are encouraged to attend and participate in the Public Hearing.

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