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THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021

KATY

Shots fired during attempt to rob jewelry store



R. HANS MILLER

Authorities are searching for two men after they attempted a smash-and-grab robbery at a jewelry store just inside this entrance to Katy Mills the evening of June 5. Security cameras show the men escaping in a white Mercedes or BMW with stolen license plates.

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Authorities are searching for two suspects after an attempted robbery at Monica Jewelers in Katy Mills shortly after 7 p.m. Friday. Law enforcement officials said no one was hurt during the incident in which an employee at the jewelers drew a firearm on the alleged thieves.

“Two young men entered the business with hoodies, masks and gloves. They produced a nail gun – used the nail gun to shatter a display case (and) they began to put items into a duffel bag, at which time an employee of the jewelry store introduced a handgun and fired multiple shots,” Katy Police Chief Noe Diaz said.

Monika Jewelers General Manager Akbar Khan said two Black males had come into the shop while his staff were assisting a client. At first, store staff thought they had a gun but it turned out to be the nail gun that was later recovered by investigators.

“We alerted our jeweler right away and he

came out and pulled a weapon to kind of scare them away,” Khan said. “(The suspects then) took whatever they could and just left at that point.”

Witnesses who were in the mall at the time said they heard three shots fired from the area near the store.

Khan praised his jeweler for being what he called the “hero” of the situation and keeping staff safe by defending them with his firearm.

The two men fled with the duffel bag and some merchandise, though Diaz said they lost much of the merchandise near the entryway just north of Bass Pro Shops as they ran. The men got into a waiting white Mercedes or BMW which then left the scene.

“They were able to recover a good portion of the items, but they were able to get away with a nice hefty amount,” Khan said.

Five marked Katy PD vehicles responded to the scene and Diaz joined them shortly after. Diaz said officers were on the scene in about one minute and forty seconds.

See **KATY MILLS**, page A3

KATY

Snappy's new owner hopes to honor Katsabases' legacy

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Bobby Katsabas and his wife Effie Katsabas, who started Snappy's Café & Grill on Highway 90 in downtown Katy nearly 20 years ago are retiring. As they move into retirement, the restaurant is being taken over by Anna Liu, an entrepreneur with restaurant experience who says she wants to honor the legacy Bobby and Effie have established for the eatery.

“This place has been around for almost 20 years,” Liu said. “People like this place, so I expected people to not want to have any changes, and I don't plan on making any changes.”

Liu said she understands that Snappy's is an institution in the community and that people have come to love it just as the Katsabases

See **SNAPPY'S**, page A3

R. HANS MILLER

Anna Liu (left) has purchased Snappy's Café & Grill in downtown Katy from Bobby Katsabas (right) and his wife, Effie Katsabas. Liu says she has been taken aback by how welcoming Katy residents have been and said she is committed to working hard to preserve the Katsabases' legacy at the local eatery.



KATY

KT Antiques owner building home for Must be Heaven in downtown Katy

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Bill Bain, owner of KT Antiques in Katy, is building a new, two-story building at 908 Ave. B in downtown Katy. The new, roughly 10,000-square foot building will be a replica of the Stewart and Wright Drug Store on the outside and feature office space on the second floor and two businesses on the lower floor – including Must Be Heaven, a deli that features pies, quiches and Blue Bell ice cream.

“We're just excited about this café going with us,” Bain said. “We've got a couple of people interested in the other space on the first floor – a boutique and a bookstore.”

Traci Pyle and her husband Charlie Pyle own the original Must Be Heaven in Brenham, Tex. They said they were excited to bring their deli to Katy, a town with an appreciation of its heritage and history. The original Brenham location

See **GROUNDBREAKING**, page A3

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KISD

KISD continues meal programs through summer

In a May 26 press release, Katy ISD announced that it would continue its grab and go meal program throughout the summer to ensure students facing food insecurity are able to fill the hunger gaps accentuated throughout the summer break. All area students are eligible for the program which will provide meals Monday through Friday of each week (see sidebar for pickup times and locations).

“Both the curbside grab and go Meals, in-person summer school meals and meals for special education students will be free thanks to funding from the United States Department of Agriculture Summer Food Service Program,” said Executive Director of the Katy ISD Nutrition & Food Service Department Donna Pittenger.

Curbside grab and go meals will consist of ready to heat and eat breakfasts and lunches. Tuesday meal pick-ups will consist of four breakfasts and four lunches for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Monday. There is no school or meal pick-ups on Fridays. Pick-up directions will be marked at each school's respective entrances for lunch pick-up.

For students attending in-person summer

See **MEALS**, page A3



COURTESY KATERINA HOLMES

Katy ISD will be offering free lunches to students throughout the area through funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. These meals will be served in-school for those attending summer school or extended school programs or curbside for students who are not enrolled in those programs. (See page A3 for scheduling)



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Global Water Center bringing educational event to Katy Mills

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

The Global Water Center is bringing its Mobile Discovery Center to Katy Mills this month. The educational and interactive experience brings attention to the global water crisis through 25,000 square feet of interactive displays and activities.

"We are fortunate to live in a nation where almost everyone has access to clean, safe water and it's easy to lose sight of the perils faced by those in countries who don't," said Chris Holdorf, executive director of GWC. "Impacts from the lack of safe water have posed serious health hazards for one-third of the world's population for generations and something must be done to end the crisis."

The Mobile Discovery Center, as the GWC has dubbed the display will be at Katy Mills from June 16-20 and again June 23-27. The display will be open from 10 a.m.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Global Water Center's Mobile Discovery Center gives visitors a chance to learn about how they can help with clean water through fun, interactive displays that include enhanced reality, panoramas and interactive booths.

to 7 p.m. daily except on June 27 when it will close at 3 p.m.

The event is free for the public to attend and includes three pri-

mary displays that educate visitors about the importance of clean water, the water cycle and the importance of a safe water supply for

people throughout the world. The displays include augmented reality displays and Radio-frequency identification – or RFID – interactions with mobile devices. The displays include:

- Water Is Life highlights the three states of water – liquid, gas and solid. It explores the uniqueness of water on Earth through powerful visuals that demonstrate why it is essential to life and how access to safe water helps humans maintain good health.
- Water and People reveals almost every aspect of life that is impacted by water. It details the advantages and opportunities of reliable access to abundant, safe water and the obstacles presented by water scarcity and/or unsafe water. It features the Water Challenge game to test visitors' knowledge of safe water issues and provides other fun, educational interactive experiences.
- Safe Water for Everyone uses augmented reality to highlight how

the best technologies and plans help secure sources of safe water for populations in need. It showcases people that have risen from poverty to attain good health and well-being when provided access to safe water.

The display is intended to educate the public regarding challenges facing the global water supply. According to the GWC, 2.2 billion people worldwide lack access to safe water which allows waterborne illnesses to kill more than 800,000 people annually.

"The global water crisis is too complex to solve unless a consortium of organizations and individuals work together in development and execution of a unified, strategic plan. Without it, we face inconsistent water standards, lack of monitoring and accountability, and low public awareness. The Mobile Discovery Center ties it all together and shows how we can successfully tackle these issues," Holdorf said.

Mayde Creek fine arts students earn scholarships

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Three members of Mayde Creek High School's class of 2021 earned fine arts scholarships to different schools. Trey Serrano, Leo Rosebure and Victoria Taylor each accepted scholarships to their chosen alma maters during a May signing day.

"These students are paving the way for other fine arts students. Their work and contributions emphasize the importance of artists not only in the Katy area, but all over the world," said Katy ISD Fine Arts Director Damon Archer.

Serrano, Rosebure and Taylor will be attending Temple University, Tennessee State University and Sam



Trey Serrano (seated on left), Leo Rosebure (seated in center) and Victoria Taylor (in blue on right) each signed commitment letters to fine arts programs at Temple University, Tennessee State University and Sam Houston State University, respectively.



COURTESY KATY ISD

Houston State University, respectively, according to a KISD press release. During the May signing ceremony, each student signed letters

of intent for their universities. Serrano will be studying music education; Rosebure will learn about commercial music; and Taylor will be a

theater major. "We are proud of them for aspiring to 'create a legacy' in the world of fine arts," Archer said.

HEAT DANGERS



COURTESY HCESD 48

As summer heats up, local first responders with Harris County Emergency Services District 48 are working to remind area residents of the dangers of extreme heat in vehicles. The numbers shown in the photo above are after just 25 minutes of the department's Community Risk Reduction Program van being parked in the sun. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 882 children have died in hot cars across the country. An unknown number of animals have died from heat-related injuries in cars as well. HCESD 48 is urging all parents to be aware of the risk of heat injuries or death as summer moves into full swing.

WHO WILL WIN?

Find out on June 24th!!

The readers of the Katy Times and katytimes.com have spoken! Ballots were cast for your favorite local companies in over 120 categories and are now being tabulated.

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

Level: Intermediate

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Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. Most courageous
8. Insurance giant
13. Small trace left behind
14. In a way, signals
15. The same letter or sound at the beginning
19. The Great Lakes State
20. Engage in a contest
21. Drinks served to celebrate a birth (Spanish)
22. Manpower
23. Undivided
24. Strong, magnetic metal
25. People of Tanzania
26. Sorts
30. Cop car accessory
31. Trade
32. Sullen and ill-tempered
33. Distinctive practices
34. Motor vehicles
35. Electrodes
38. Polish river
39. Human feet
40. Make very hot
44. Toppin and Kenobi are two
45. Blackbird
46. One point west of due south
47. Large beer
48. Third stomachs
49. Rare Korean family name
50. Hectoliter

CLUES DOWN

1. Expressions of approval
2. Replace the interior of
3. Not awake
4. Roman numeral 7
5. Sun up in New York
6. Institute legal proceedings against
7. Bugs homeowners don't want
8. Maltese-Italian composer
9. Very long period of time
10. Touchdown
11. Agents of downfall
12. Complacently or inately foolish
16. Argentina capital
17. County in New Mexico
18. An electrically charged atom
22. New Zealand conifer
25. Type of brandy
27. Comments to the audience
28. Tears down
29. Gifts for the poor

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13							14					
15						16	17	18		19		
20						21				22		
23						24				25		
26						27	28	29		30		
						31				32		
						33				34		
35	36	37				38						
39						40				41	42	43
44						45				46		
47						48				49		
50						51				52	53	54
55						56				57		
58						59						

30. More painful
32. Good friend
34. Lying in the same plane
35. Line in a polygon
36. Clouds of gas and dust
37. Norse god
38. Health care pro
40. Close tightly
41. One's holdings
42. Became less intense
43. Wilco frontman
45. Woman (French)
48. Expresses delight
51. TV channel (abbr.)
52. Beverage
53. Unit of work or energy
54. Cleaning accessory
56. Dorm worker

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

KATYTIMES.COM

GROUND BREAKING

from page A1

has been in operation for almost 30 years.

Must Be Heaven has been with the Pyles for more than 20 years, they said. They also want to make sure the restaurant is a nod to Katy's history, Traci said.

"Our restaurant is kind of like a (glimpse at the past)," Traci said. "We have an old soda fountain that's in the front and we have a lot of antiques in it."

The new location will be owned and operated by Edgar Carlson and Larry Martin, who already own multiple restaurants. They said finding a partnership with Bain and the Pyles was serendipitous.

Martin lives in the area and found out Bain was looking at developing the lot behind KT Antiques. Bain had been considering a building there for the last 11 years but had been delayed due to the refurbishment downtown and the pandemic. However, Martin and Carlson stuck out the delays which Bain said he appreciated.

While the downtown renovations and COVID-19 delayed the project, construction is now underway. Completion of the



COURTESY MUST BE HEAVEN

Must Be Heaven is a deli and pie bakery located in Brenham, Tex. The eatery specializes in sandwiches, pies and quiches such as this spinach quiche. Owners say they want to create a family-friendly dining experience downtown for people of all ages — with Blue Bell ice cream on hand to satisfy everyone's sweet tooth.

building is expected in the third quarter of this year, provided weather cooperates, Bain said.

Carlson and Martin hope to not only serve amazing food but to be actively involved in the community. Activities including sports teams sponsorships, having a non-alcoholic place for families and kids to enjoy Blue Bell ice cream and a social hub with outdoor seating are on their bucket list for the shop.

Martin said he's hoping to be a part of the ongoing revitalization of downtown Katy and being in-



R. HANS MILLER

(From left to right) Edgar Carlson, Larry Martin, Katy Mayor Bill Hastings, Bill Bain, Peggy Bain, Traci Pyle and Charlie Pyle pose for a photo at a June 4 ground-breaking ceremony for the new building going up on Ave. B in downtown Katy. Carlson and Martin will be running the franchise. They already have multiple restaurants throughout Texas with Baker's Street Pub and Grill Locations in Greater Houston and Austin.

involved in the community through churches, supporting sports teams and participating in events such as Katy Market Day and the Katy Rice Festival.

Martin and Carlson have also reached out to the local Blue Bell distribution center to make sure the restaurant can provide the traditional Blue Bell ice creams that are a Must Be Heaven tradition.

The restaurant will also have gluten-free and vegetarian

options for those with dietary restrictions, Traci said.

Traci and Carlson want to make sure they honor the city's history and Bain's passion for it.

"This is more of an experience," Traci said. "Like, going in and seeing all of the décor back in time. That's kind of our tagline, I guess you could say. So, it's not going to be like a Panera Bread or something like that where you're going to get a feeling when you go in. It's unique looking."

SUMMER MEAL PROGRAMS FOR DESIGNATED SCHOOL DATES/TIMES

<p>Curbside "Grab and Go" Meals</p>	<p>All Katy area students (including Katy ISD students)</p>	<p>Cinco Ranch High School and Morton Ranch High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday, May 27: 4 - 6 p.m. Every Tuesday (from June 1 - July 27): 4 - 6 p.m.
<p>In-person Summer School Meals</p>	<p>Enrolled Katy ISD summer school students</p>	<p>Morton Ranch Elementary, West Memorial Elementary, Williams Elementary and Taylor High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday - Thursday (June 7 - July 1) Breakfast: 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Lunch for Elementary Schools: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Lunch for High School: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
<p>ESY (Extended School Year for Students with Disabilities) Community Meals</p>	<p>Katy ISD enrolled special needs students</p>	<p>Exley Elementary, Memorial Parkway Junior High and McMeans Junior High</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday - Thursday (June 7-17 and July 12-22) Breakfast: 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Lunch: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

MEALS

from page A1

school, meals will be served hot at the campus cafeteria. The meals will be served hot and are also available to all area students, 18 years of age and under, during the posted times (see sidebar). Due to safety protocols, non-enrolled students will need to eat separately from the summer school students.

Parents picking up meals for their children who cannot be present will need to bring their student's identification for each child such as an ID, report card or birth certificate, the press release said.

KISD will also be providing Extended School Year for Students with Disabilities participants meals. These students can enjoy a hot breakfast between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. and

lunches between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., the press release said. These hot meals area also available to all area students, 18 and under, during the posted times. However, due to safety protocols, they will not be able to eat these meals in the school cafeteria.

"Both the curbside grab and go meals, in-person summer school meals and meals for special education students will be free thanks to funding from the United States Department of Agriculture Summer Food Service Program," Pittenger said. "Meal benefit applications will not be required this summer, nor for the upcoming school year as part of this federal program," added Pittenger.

SNAPPY'S

from page A1

have made it — a hometown café with waitstaff that know their customers by name and service from friends they've known for years.

Liu said her background as a restaurateur with another restaurant in the Woodlands prepared her for the business side of running Snappy's, but she was surprised by just how friendly Katy has been. She said she'd expected long-time Snappy's regulars to be a bit suspicious of her and worried about changes to their beloved home-away-from-home. However, she said she received the exact opposite welcome from what she'd expected.

"I didn't expect people to welcome me with open arms. I am new to Katy, but the community has shown me a lot of love, and that just motivates me to take care of the community even more," Liu said.

Liu said she had heard about

Snappy's through friends she had in common with Bobby and Effie. She got the opportunity to meet them and look at the restaurant and decided right away that she was interested in the restaurant, especially after she and the Katsabases "clicked" as friends. After Liu showed interest in purchasing the restaurant, she said she persuaded the couple to retire and let her purchase the business from them.

Bobby said he and Effie agreed to the deal because they believed they had found someone that would take care of the business they'd worked hard to develop and the community of customers who have become a big part of their lives. He was especially concerned that the employees that have become part of the Katsabases' family in many ways be taken care of.

"I'm hoping she carries the same (way we did), you know? Especially with the employees, be-

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cause that's the face of Snappy's," Bobby said.

Liu says that's exactly what she intends to do. She said she bought the restaurant because it is successful as-is without the need for any changes. With the support Snappy's has in the community and its tradition of being a hub of long-time Katy residents coming together for meals, she wants to carry on and maintain that support and continue the Katsabases' tradition of supporting the community.

Liu said she's been talking with

her boyfriend about bringing a Boys and Girls Club to the Katy area. He runs multiple locations throughout Greater Houston and that's one way she can give back to a community that has welcomed her with open arms. Additionally, she wants to hold onto the tradition of supporting community sports teams like the Katy Tigers — of which there is a host of memorabilia on Snappy's walls.

"I'm still learning all the traditions, but I would love to really hold onto this legacy and just, you know, be able to honor everything (Bobby and Effie have) built. ... I'm still learning all the dynamics here and what exactly they do. (Snappy's) seems like it's just a little diner, but they do so much more than that."

Bobby says he and Effie will still be around Snappy's regularly. They live just a few blocks away and are excited about getting to spend

more time with their children and grandchildren, he said, but Snappy's has become as much a home as a job over the years and he expects he'll be a regular himself in his retirement. He even jokes that he may see if Liu will hire him part-time to keep him busy. Still, he said he and Effie are looking forward to retirement, starting with a vacation to his home country.

"I'll be here for a month, then I'm going to Greece for another month," Bobby said.

Snappy's will be there when Bobby returns, Liu said, with the same menu and staff in place.

"Everyone's trying to slip in suggestions that could be beneficial to them," Liu said. "People are trying to make a lot of suggestions, so it's interesting, but I don't want to change what's not broken. It took years for them to establish this system and I think they've been very successful."

KATY MILLS

from page A1

Police were also able to recover merchandise from the scene as well as the nail gun which the two suspects had used to break the display case, Diaz said.

The city's license plate scanning cameras were able to identify the vehicle and capture the license plate number. The plates were later identified as stolen from an owner in Missouri City, Diaz said.

"We have all of (Harris County Sheriff's Office) District Four robbery detectives as well as Fort Bend County's looking for the vehicle," Diaz said.

In a brief Monday morning update, Diaz said the investigation was "fluid" and no arrests had yet been made but Katy PD is continuing to follow up on the case and working with at least two area law enforcement agencies to track down the robbery suspects.

Andrea Slocum, who was in the mall at the time, said she had been unaware of the shooting when it happened, but heard other mall patrons saying shots had been fired near Bass Pro Shops on the northern end of the mall.

A manager at another Katy Mills establishment who wished to remain anonymous said nobody had informed retailers in the shopping center that a shooting had occurred.

"The mall failed to notify any stores at the other end of the mall," the manager said via email. "Their emergency communications did not exist. (This is) unacceptable behavior in this elevated climate. Shootings in Katy Mills is NOT normal."

Keith Bowermaster of HPR-Strategies, Simon Malls' public relations firm, responded to a request for information on why other businesses in the mall were not informed of the shooting, referring all inquiries to Katy PD.

Khan said Monday that his staff were doing fine and he was just grateful that nobody was hurt during the incident.

"Everyone was okay, you know. That's the main thing," Khan said. "No one was injured. Jewelry can be replaced. Showcases will be replaced, but everything else, you know?"

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.



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Teach a man to fish — or not

You may have heard the proverb, “Give a man a fish, and you’ll feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you’ll feed him for a lifetime of crushing debt after he buys the boat, trailer, tackle, depth finder, trolling motor, etc.”

Seriously, though, despite my dad’s best efforts throughout my childhood and a few excursions of my own as an adult, I’d still rather someone just give me the fish — preferably deep fried with a side of coleslaw and hush puppies.

Don’t get me wrong, though, I do enjoy a few minutes of vigorous catching. I could just do without the fishing part.

One of my earliest memories of fishing with no hope of escape was the time my dad and some of his friends took me on an expedition to the Toledo Bend Reservoir on the border of Texas and Louisiana when I was around 11 years old. Along with the fishing, we planned to visit nearby Zwolle, Louisiana, for the Zwolle Tamale Fiesta (a festival honoring — you guessed it — tamales), which was to be the highlight of the trip for me because... tamales.

Unfortunately, I wound up in a boat with a marathon fisherman who refused to allow a few tortuous hours with not so much as a minnow toot to stop him from dragging me around the lake until I got so bored I resorted to assigning nicknames to the live bait. To top it off, we completely missed the tamale festival — an experience of childhood trauma that still haunts me when I eat Mexican food, so at least twice a week.

Just recently, I was cajoled by a few of my friend dudes into tromping out to a fully-stocked pond and making some casts from the bank — once they taught me how to operate an open-face reel without dislocating my fingernails. (I’m pretty sure they just took me for comic relief.)

After impaling a few earthworms, I actually hauled in several large bluegill and one unnecessarily belligerent



JASE GRAVES

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

channel catfish. I must admit that there’s nothing quite like the pop on the end of the line of a borrowed rod that reverberates all the way down to the hair on your toe knuckles. I kind of felt like that guy from the “River Monsters” television show — if he got his man card revoked and basically forgot everything he knew about fishing.

Things quickly took a turn, though, when I cast my bait too close to my friend’s bobber, hooked a fully jacked bream the size of a Pomeranian, and watched as our fishing lines performed some kind of monofilament mating ritual that resulted in a tangled mess of polyethylene worthy of a bipartisan congressional commission. We spent the next 10 minutes standing face-to-face in a slow-dance posture while we picked at the knot and trash-talked the Zebco corporation.

Despite the tangled line and a bloody thumb that the catfish mistook for an hors d’oeuvre, I had a great time, and I’m still hoping the lingering fish funk on my hands wears off sometime before next Christmas.

Most of my other fish tales prove that “the big one that got away” wasn’t just the theme of my teenage romances, and although I’m not terribly fond of fishing, I do love and appreciate God’s great outdoors. I’d just rather enjoy it within reach of a thermostat and TV remote.

I keep thinking that I’ll learn to love fishing someday when my three daughters are grown and gone, and my wife keeps me locked out of the house until after dark. Until then, I’ll be the weirdo who doesn’t like to fish, but always volunteers to bring the coleslaw.



Analysis: Regulating dangerous practices in the Texas Legislature

Texas Republicans fear ballots more than bullets. State lawmakers passed permissiveness carry legislation during their recently ended regular session — letting most adults carry guns in public without licenses, permits or training — and sent it to Gov. Greg Abbott for his signature, surprising a fair number of people inside and outside the Texas Capitol. And Abbott’s for it, but it wasn’t on the list of priorities he outlined early in the session.

“Election integrity” was on his list, though — and it didn’t get done. That one died on a legislative deadline after delays by Republicans who wanted a stringent voting bill created an opportunity for Democrats who opposed it. Time grew short, the Democrats walked out — leaving too few people on hand to conduct business according to the rules — and time ran out.

Tempers were hot. The Senate and the House — the Itchy & Scratchy of Texas government — tore into each other. Republicans in the Senate blamed their Republican counterparts in the House, where the bill died. House members said the Senate should’ve worked faster or just accepted the House version of the bill.

In a fit of petulance that seems out of tune with the Texas Constitution, the governor — a former Texas attorney general and state Supreme Court justice — posted on Twitter than he’ll veto the part of the state budget that pays for the Legislature. “No pay for those who abandon their responsibilities,” he wrote.

The relevant constitutional line? “Members of the Legislature shall receive from the Public Treasury a salary of Six Hundred Dollars (\$600) per month, unless a greater amount is recommended by the Texas Ethics Commission and



ROSS RAMSEY

THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

approved by the voters of this State in which case the salary is that amount.”

The unelected people who work for the Legislature — the unheralded clerks, lawyers, legislative aides, policy and budget experts, messengers and others who keep the machinery of the legislative branch in operation — could see their jobs and salaries erased, but your elected lawmakers aren’t likely to miss any meals.

In any case, lawmakers will be back for a special session — maybe sooner than they thought — to take another swing at voting. And if they’re successful, the governor will presumably put them back on the payroll.

By comparison, passing that gun legislation was easy.

The conventional wisdom coming into this session was that it would never come to a vote, protecting quiet legislative opponents who would have to support the bill in a public vote. But that public vote came, somewhat unexpectedly, and Republican lawmakers snapped into line.

The House went first, approving it with 87 votes, including just seven from Democrats. Only one Republican, state Rep. Morgan Meyer of Dallas, voted against it. After some backroom politicking to get the votes he needed out of a reluctant Senate, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick got it passed 18-13, with all of the Republican senators on one side and all of the Democrats on the other.

That gun bill made national

news. It caused some legislative discomfort. In an April University of Texas/Texas Tribune Poll, 59% of Texas voters said they oppose the idea, though 56% of Republican voters said they support it. But it wasn’t the bill that defined the session, or even a whole month of the five-month session.

The voting bill, on the other hand, got the president’s attention — an indication that it, too, was in the national eye. It’s the Texas component of a widespread push by Republicans here and in other states to tighten voting and election laws after a national election many of them are convinced — without supporting evidence — was not legitimate.

This Legislature, with comfortable Republican majorities in the Senate and the House and with Republicans in each of the statewide elected offices, suffered a political power outage, fumbling an issue dear to GOP voters. They’re on their way to a special session. They have the same political advantage — numbers — that they’ve had all year.

They have national attention on what they’re doing now, whether they wanted it or not. And they remain convinced there is a problem to solve, though the state’s election officials have said that, in 2020, “Texas had an election that was smooth and secure.”

Legislators are tightening requirements and rules for voting while loosening regulations and rules for packing a pistol.

It’s clear which activity they consider more dangerous.

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texastribune.org/2021/06/02/texas-legislature-voting-guns/>. The Texas Tribune is a member-supported, nonpartisan newsroom informing and engaging Texans on state politics and policy. Learn more at [texastribune.org](https://www.texastribune.org).

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,
Year after year, we see politicians in Congress make promises about what they can do for constituents like me. And year after year, the progress is usually less than we hoped for.

The solution is clear: It’s time to get rid of the filibuster — a Senate rule that allows a minority of senators to block any piece of legislation. Democrats have introduced some great bills that would help a vast majority of Americans. Right now, the Senate is deciding whether to pass the For the People Act, for instance, a big reform bill that addresses everything from making voting more accessi-

ble and streamlined to getting rid of corruption in government. But the fate of the For the People Act is uncertain as long as it can be filibustered by senators like Ted Cruz and Lindsey Graham.

And that’s only one bill. Imagine all the progress that’s being held up in Congress because the filibuster stands in the way.

For me, for my community, and for communities like mine all across America, I’m asking senators to do away with the filibuster once and for all.

Sincerely,

Kent Johnstone,
Katy Times Reader

Katy Times

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TRIBUTES

George Wayne Barker died peacefully on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at Methodist West Hospital, at the age of 48 following an illness.

George was born on July 13, 1972, in Houston, Texas. He graduated from Katy High School in 1991.

George loved sports and playing golf with family and friends. He also liked to travel and experience new adventures. He enjoyed entertaining and visiting with friends and will be remembered by many for his funny personality and quick wit.

He is survived by his mother Brenda Barker Weldon of Katy, Texas, his sisters Stephanie Bark-



GEORGE WAYNE BARKER
1972-2021

er Mullis and Margaret Burnell, and many other family members. He is preceded in death by his father, James Allen Barker.

A private family service will be held.

Born in 1930 on a cold snowy January day in Foster Township, Illinois, Orville Hess grew up in nearby Fosterburg, Illinois. He was the second of four children that Walter and Hilda raised on a farm. The family moved to McAllen, Texas for a better climate in 1946. In 1948, he enlisted in the US Army as a private, discharged in 1949 and was in the Army Reserves for six years, achieving the rank of Sergeant. Orville worked with his dad building houses around McAllen and worked in a gas station before hiring on at Southwestern Bell Telephone (now ATT) in 1951. He retired in 1983 after more than 30 years.



ORVILLE VIRDEN HESS
1930-2021

He met his bride, Joyce, in McAllen, and they were married in 1949. Together they raised two sons nearby in Edinburg, Texas, where they also had a small home- stead and raised citrus.

After the sons moved away, they remained at the home- stead until 1997 when they moved to Katy, Texas. They were married for more than 2/3 of a century before her death in 2017. They were functioning members of Katy First United Methodist Church for many years.

Orville Hess passed away on Sunday, June 6, 2021, in Katy, at the age of 91.

He is survived by his sons, Stephen W. Hess of Houston, Tx, and Martin L. Hess and his wife Lee-Ann Hess of Fulshear, Tx; grandsons, Stephen R. Hess of Corpus Christi, Tx and L. Zachary Hess of Humble, Tx; and granddaughter, Sarah A. Hess of Fulshear, Tx. He was preceded in

death by his wife, Joyce Hess.

The family received friends from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at the Schmidt Funeral Home East Avenue Chapel, in Katy. Funeral services and burial were held in McAllen, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, remit to Katy First UMC - Mis- sions Fund.

For more details and to express condolences, please visit www.SchmidtFuneral-Home.net.

Funeral services held under the direction of: Schmidt Funeral Home 1344 W. Grand Parkway South ~ Katy, Texas 77494 ~ (281) 391-2424

Pattison continues community cleanup efforts

Council moves forward with park and street repairs

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Pattison continues to move forward with community cleanup efforts with two completed events in May and a paper shredding event planned for June. Pattison City Council also approved a plan to conduct street repairs during its June 1 meeting and to approach Royal ISD for park improvements at the RISD administration building's playground.

"The city council approved the initial agreement that will be presented to the school board by (RISD) Superintendent Rick Kershner" to try and work together in hopes of improving the property

around the administrative building so that it might be viewed as kind of an in the city park during non-school hours," Mayor Joe Garcia said.

The playground equipment at the location is in severe need of maintenance with swing seats torn from sun damage and use or missing from the two swing sets. A jungle gym present at the facility is rusted out and has no sawdust or other soft landing material beneath it and the monkey bars present at the site are very rusty and missing a ladder on one end. A stagecoach playscape is rusted through and has rotten wood where proper seating should be as well.

Council also approved a contract with Sealy Paving for resur- facing of Avenue G with a 2-inch asphalt coating for about four blocks off of FM 259, Garcia said. The agreement also will allow the paving company to repair potholes at different locations throughout

the city.

An ordinance regarding nuisance properties was also dis- cussed, Garcia said. The proposed city law would require certain eyesores such as rusted out propane tanks sitting at the intersec- tion of Durkin Road and FM 359 to be removed or put out of view, he said. No decision was made on the ordinance during the meeting.

In line with the community cleanup, a shredding day will be held Saturday, June 12 at the RISD Administration Building from 9 a.m. to noon, City Secretary Lorene Hartfiel said. Area residents can take their sensitive documents to be shredded at the event which is being sponsored by Allegiance Bank's Brookshire location.

The city's community cleanup events in May included a trash pickup day near Morton Road and Royal High School on May 15. The city also held a hazard- ous waste collection day May 22



R. HANS MILLER

Waller County Jail prisoners and volunteers help load discarded tires into a truck during Pattison's May 22 hazardous waste collection event at the Pattison Volunteer Fire Department. The prisoners are all nonviolent offenders who volunteer for community service. Volunteering provides them with an opportunity to leave their cells and contribute to the community while serving their time or waiting on court proceedings, supervising law enforcement officers said.

during which Hartfiel said the city collected about 2,000 tires along with hazardous household items like paint, old fuel, batteries and electronics. About 130 cars came through the event that was held at the Pattison Volunteer Fire Department which was staffed by volunteers and Waller County Jail inmates on a work release for the

day.

"We had residents from Patti- son, Brookshire, Katy and other ar- eas of Waller County that brought items," Hartfiel said.

Garcia said a special city council meeting may be held later in June for the council to address grant applications the city has been working on.

The Katy Times

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Low-income families eligible for more food aid

BY NEELAM BOHRA
THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

Texas families who relied on the Pandemic EBT card, which previously provided a one-time benefit of \$285 for students receiving free and reduced-price meals, can apply for another round of food aid for the 2021-22 school year.

The federal benefit helps provide for the approximately 3.7 million eligible, low-income children in Texas who lost access to free and reduced-cost meals when schools first shut down during the pandemic. This time, the benefit could provide up to \$1,200 per student, depending on the number of days most students at their school received remote instruction during the past school year.

Gov. Greg Abbott announced May 21 that the Texas Health and Human Services Commission would allocate more than \$2.5 billion in food benefits to all eligible families, an increase from the \$1 billion in food benefits distributed last year.

"Thank you to the U.S. Department of Agriculture for approving this second round of pandemic food benefits for Texas families," Abbott said in a statement. "These additional benefits will continue to help Texans provide food for their families."



BY JORDAN VONDERHAAR FOR THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

Students are socially distanced in the lunchroom at Jacob's Well Elementary School in Wimberley. The Texas Health and Human Services Commission will allocate around \$2.5 billion in food benefits to all eligible families. School districts were to have notified families about eligibility by June 2.

Families who received the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program before 2021 should have automatically received benefits on their P-EBT cards by May 28. Those who started relying on SNAP after May 2021 and have children born before Aug. 1, 2014, will need to apply.

The P-EBT card can be used at all places that accept SNAP payments, including grocery stores and supermarkets.

School districts notified eligible families with the application by June 2, and applications will remain open until Aug. 13.

The process is more complex this year because the amount of money allocated will depend on the days a school had remote instruction, said Rachel Cooper, a senior policy analyst with Every Texan. She said families may have to go through an extra process if their children attended school

remotely while their districts still had in-person instruction, and this could act as barrier to access.

"That's what we're worried about, and that's why we're trying to educate families as well," Cooper said. "We'll be working really hard with our nonprofit partners across the state, food banks and others to get info to families and help them if they need help to understand that, yes, if your child was virtual, more than the amount your school qualifies for, you can go online and you can appeal," Cooper said.

Some low-income families live in multi-generational households, which motivated many children to learn remotely when possible to avoid spreading COVID-19 to their older relatives, said Jeremy Everett, the executive director of the Baylor University Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty. Because of this, the number of students who may have to go through this additional process may be high.

"They're disproportionately people of color, and they were disproportionately affected by COVID at a more extreme rate than higher-income households," Everett said.

Last year, Abbott extended the deadline for food aid because many eligible families still hadn't

applied. By late July, more than 20% of the eligible Texas schoolchildren had not signed up for the program, partly because families were uncertain about their eligibility. Cooper said she is hopeful that this won't happen again.

"P-EBT will be a huge help to families," Cooper said. "We're very pleased that it's finally getting off the ground. We know all the families who have struggled in this last year to put food on the table, to keep life together — this is going to be a huge help to those families. And we just want to make sure that they get what they actually are entitled to."

Disclosure: Baylor University and Every Texan have been financial supporters of The Texas Tribune, a nonprofit, nonpartisan news organization that is funded in part by donations from members, foundations and corporate sponsors. Financial supporters play no role in the Tribune's journalism. Find a complete list of them here.

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texastribune.org/2021/05/21/texas-p-ebt/>. The Texas Tribune is a member-supported, nonpartisan newsroom informing and engaging Texans on state politics and policy. Learn more at texastribune.org.

CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

Population changes & 5 other Texas issues

BY GARY BORDERS
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

The U.S. Census Bureau has released its sub-county population estimates from April 2010 to July 2020. That includes population estimates for the 1,200 incorporated places in Texas.

Nine additional Texas towns were incorporated in the past decade, while 13 additional cities surpassed a population of 50,000.

The Texas Demographic Center reported that of the 71 Texas cities with populations of more than 50,000, only two lost population — continuing the trend of smaller towns and areas in the state losing population to larger cities. More than 55% of the state's population growth has been in cities with more than 50,000 residents.

Small and mid-sized cities surrounding major metropolitan areas, such as Dallas-Fort Worth, Austin and Houston, saw the fastest growth rates, while many of the cities in West Texas and the Panhandle were among the 372 Texas cities that lost population, according to TDC.

1 Emergency food benefits extended

Benefits for families under a federal nutrition plan have been increased through September, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission announced last week.

Under the American Rescue Plan signed by President Biden in March, states can provide eligible families up to \$35 per month to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. Clients of the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program are eligible.

"Texas WIC provides foods that have great nutritional value — providing key nutrients at key stages of development," Texas WIC Director Edgar Curtis said. "This nutritional support early in life builds stronger, smarter, healthier and happier children and Texans. Fresh fruits and vegetables, which are loaded with vitamins and other plant-based nutrients, are at the forefront of that strategy."

The HHSC also announced it is providing roughly \$208 million in emergency food benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, extending the maximum SNAP benefits allowable through June. All SNAP recipients will get a minimum of \$95 in emergency allotment, in addition to the 15% increase that continues through September.



Texas Governor Greg Abbott may face former Texas GOP Chairman Allen West in next year's gubernatorial election after West resigned from the GOP position June 4. Abbott won the governor's seat in 2014 and became the 48th governor of the state after serving as Texas Attorney General.

2 State to release \$5 billion in school federal aid

Months after congressional action on a coronavirus relief package, the Texas Education Agency announced Friday that school districts may begin applying for their portion of \$5 billion in aid.

According to the Austin American-Statesman, how much each district will receive varies. Districts that saw large enrollment declines because of the pandemic will likely not receive as much money, because TEA will divert some of the funds to make up for funding provided at pre-pandemic levels.

Much of public-school funding in Texas is based on average daily attendance. However, during the 2020-2021 school year, districts were not penalized when students stayed home.

3 Experts: Weatherization bill falls short

The Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 3 in response to February's deadly storm and widespread failure of power plants. The package addresses the problems that threaten electric reliability, but public radio's Texas Standard reports that many electric grid experts and policy analysts say

not enough has been done to prevent another blackout disaster.

One section of SB3 allows regulators to determine what portions of the natural gas supply must be weatherized. Since it only applies to equipment that directly connects to power plants, experts say it might not be enough.

Dan Cohan, civil engineering professor at Rice University, told the Standard that "whoever has those direct lines into the power plants and winterizes those is going to point upstream and say 'well those upstream people couldn't get us enough gas.' So yeah, it's hard to see how this is going to provide us full coverage."

In addition, critics say the penalties of \$5,000 a day for not doing the required weatherization amount to little more than a rounding error for non-complying oil and gas companies.

4 COVID-19 cases dropping; 36% fully vaccinated

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas continues to drop, with 9,534 reported as of Sunday for the previous week — a small fraction of mid-January's record high of nearly 159,000.

In the past week, 210 deaths from COVID-19 in Texas were reported, according to the Johns Hopkins University Coronavirus Resource Center. That is also a decrease.

The number of Texans fully vaccinated stands at 10.5 million, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services, or about 36% of the state's population. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients who are hospitalized dropped nearly a fifth from the previous week, to 1,504, according to DSHS.

5 GOP chairman resignation sparks speculation

Texas Republican Party chairman Allen West resigned Friday, sparking speculation he is considering a statewide race.

The Republican party issued a statement that West "will take this opportunity to prayerfully reflect on a new chapter in his already distinguished career." West has not ruled out challenging Gov. Greg Abbott, who last week touted a re-election endorsement from former President Trump.



SERGIO FLORES FOR THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush announces his candidacy for Attorney General at an event in Austin on June 2. Bush made his challenge official during an event at a downtown Austin bar.

George P. Bush announces run for AG against Ken Paxton

BY PATRICK SVITEK
THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced June 2 that he is running for attorney general, challenging fellow Republican Ken Paxton with a sharp focus on Paxton's legal troubles.

"Enough is enough, Ken," Bush said during a campaign kickoff in Austin. "You've brought way too much scandal and too little integrity to this office. And as a career politician for 20 years, it's time for you to go."

Paxton has been under indictment on securities fraud charges for most of the time since he took office in 2015. More recently, he has come under investigation by the FBI over allegations from former senior aides that he abused his office to help a wealthy donor. He has denied wrongdoing in both cases.

On Tuesday, Paxton asked a state appeals court to dismiss a whistleblower lawsuit brought by the former aides. His lawyers argue that under state law, a whistleblower must believe someone has violated the law, but the aides only reported that "they expected laws might be violated."

"We need an attorney general stacking up mugshots of hardened criminals," Bush said, "not an attorney general that's stacking up mugshots of himself."

Paxton's campaign did not address the legal issues in its statement on Bush's announcement. The statement from Paxton campaign spokesperson Ian Prior said Texans "know Attorney General Paxton's rock-solid conservative record."

"Voters will also remember how General Paxton led the effort to shut down Backpage, one of the largest human trafficking sites in the world, and even Mr. Bush publicly acknowledges there is no more conservative fighter than Attorney General Ken Paxton," Prior said.

During his speech to supporters, Bush warned that Democrats are eager to face Paxton in November because they see him as "our weak link."

At least one Democrat, Joe Jaworski, has already launched a campaign for attorney general. Jaworski is a Galveston attorney and former mayor of the city. Lee Merritt, the nationally recognized civil rights lawyer from North Texas, has said he plans to challenge Paxton but has not specified which primary he would run in.

In recent weeks, Bush has taken heat in his job after his office gave Houston and Harris County \$0 of the \$1 billion available in the latest round of federal relief funding related to Hurricane Harvey in 2017. Under bipartisan criticism, Bush said last week he was asking the federal government to send \$750 million directly to Harris County.

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texastribune.org/2021/06/02/george-p-bush-ken-paxton-texas-attorney-general/>.

"Texas WIC provides foods that have great nutritional value — providing key nutrients at key stages of development. This nutritional support early in life builds stronger, smarter, healthier and happier children and Texans. Fresh fruits and vegetables, which are loaded with vitamins and other plant-based nutrients, are at the forefront of that strategy."

— TEXAS WIC DIRECTOR EDGAR CURTIS

KATYTIMES.COM

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

ALL-STARS

*Matthews,
DeYoung headline
all-district picks*

BY DENNIS SILVA II
SPORTS EDITOR

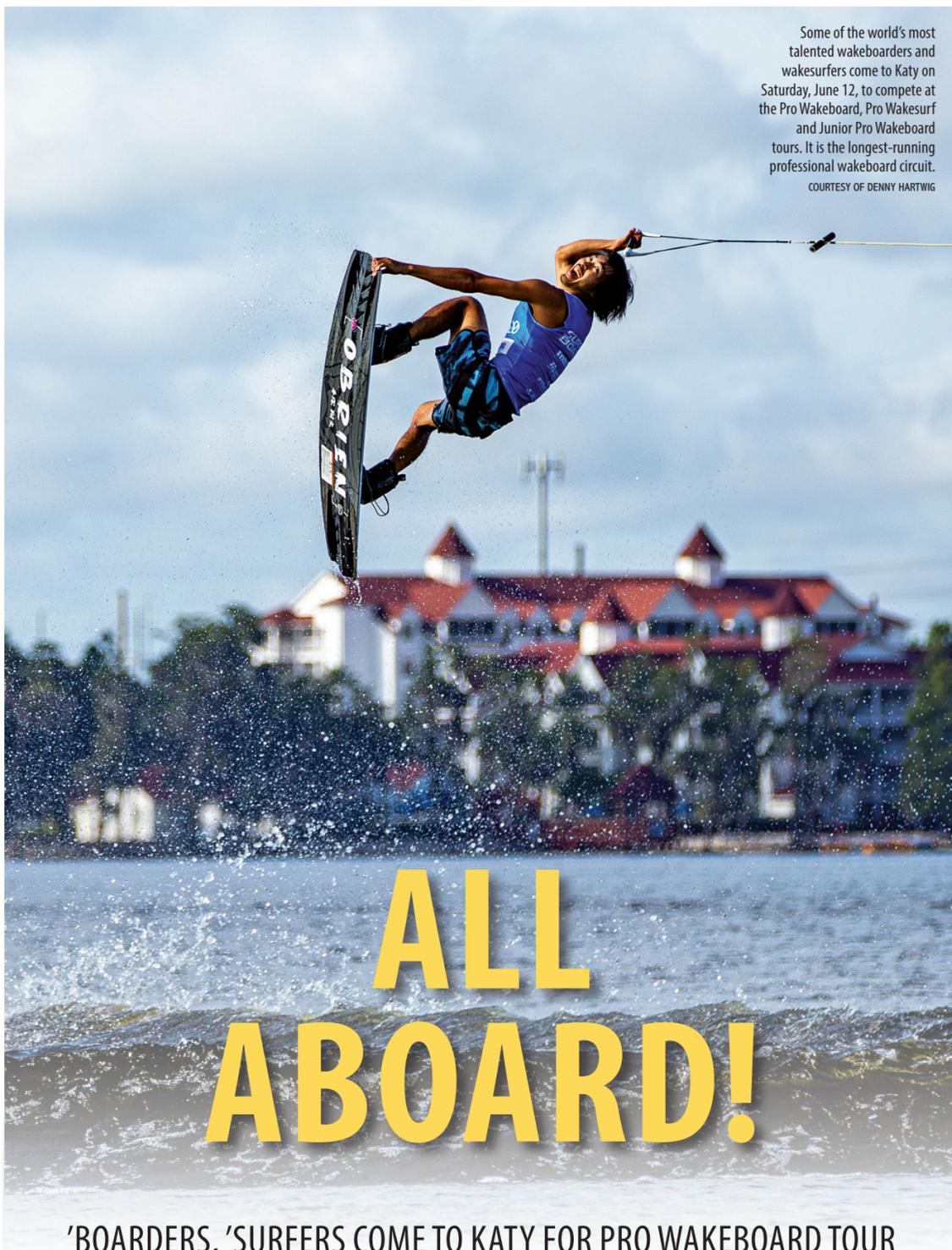
Katy High returned to the top of District 19-6A baseball this season, as the Tigers captured their first district title since 2017 and their first outright district title since 2014.

Tompkins finished second in the district. For many weeks during the regular season, Katy and Tompkins were ranked in the top 10 in Class 6A in the state.

See **ALL-DISTRICT**, page B6



FILE PHOTO BY SHEA DONALDSON
| SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES
Katy High senior pitcher Caleb Matthews was named District 19-6A's Most Valuable Player this season.



Some of the world's most talented wakeboarders and wakesurfers come to Katy on Saturday, June 12, to compete at the Pro Wakeboard, Pro Wakesurf and Junior Pro Wakeboard tours. It is the longest-running professional wakeboard circuit.
COURTESY OF DENNY HARTWIG

'BOARDERS, 'SURFERS COME TO KATY FOR PRO WAKEBOARD TOUR

BY DENNIS SILVA II
SPORTS EDITOR

Some of the world's most talented wakeboarders and wakesurfers will make Katy their own waterpark on Saturday, June 12, when they compete at the Pro Wakeboard, Pro Wakesurf and Junior Pro Wakeboard tours. It is the longest-running professional wakeboard circuit.

The circuit will take place on August Lakes, Katy's 100-plus acre watersports community facility located at 3707 Pitts Road. Admission

will be free for fans for the 2021 season-opening event. No seating or stadium seating is provided, and fans are encouraged to bring chairs and towels. Food trucks will be on site and there will be no charge for parking.

"Returning to Katy is awesome for the tour and its athletes after last year's altered schedule of events," said Chris Bischoff, director of the Pro Wakeboard Tour. "August Lakes is a beautiful facility for returning fans and newcomers to enjoy some incredible action

See **WAKEBOARDING**, page B5

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



A pregame shot prior to a game at Rhodes Stadium last season.

2021 varsity football schedule set for Katy ISD

BY DENNIS SILVA II
SPORTS EDITOR

After a quirky 2020 high school football season filled with drastic changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 season looks to return to normal come August.

Programs that did not participate in spring football can start practicing August 2. In Katy ISD, those programs are Tompkins, Mayde Creek and Jordan. The rest of the district will start practices on August 9.

The following is the tentative 2021 Katy ISD composite varsity football schedule. Home games are in bold, with special event nights in italics.

KATY HIGH

- Aug. 27: vs. **Clear Springs**, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 4: vs. **Cy-Woods**, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m. (*PARENT NIGHT*)
- Sept. 10: at Dickinson, at Sam Vantanza, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 16: vs. **The Woodlands**, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 23: at Seven Lakes, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 1: vs. **Tompkins**, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m. (*HOMECOMING*)
- Oct. 8: at Mayde Creek, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 16: vs. **Cinco Ranch**, at Legacy Stadium, 11 a.m.
- OPEN
- Oct. 28: at Taylor, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Nov. 5: at Morton Ranch, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.

See **SCHEDULES**, page B6



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The 2020-21 high school sports season was a championship one for Katy ISD. First, Seven Lakes captured the district's first volleyball state title when the Spartans toppled Klein in the Class 6A state final in December. Less than a month later, Katy High won its ninth state championship with a demonstrative 51-14 win over Cedar Hill, in which the Tigers' vaunted defense scored as many points as Cedar Hill's offense. Sophomore running back Seth Davis was named the championship game's Offensive MVP. Senior defensive end Cal Varner III was named the game's Defensive MVP. Here's a look back at that state title Katy team, with photos by Ramiro Reyna.

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City of Katy, Texas

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Becky L. McGrew
City Secretary
City of Katy, Texas

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June 3 Puzzle Answers

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5	2	1	6	9	8	4	7	3
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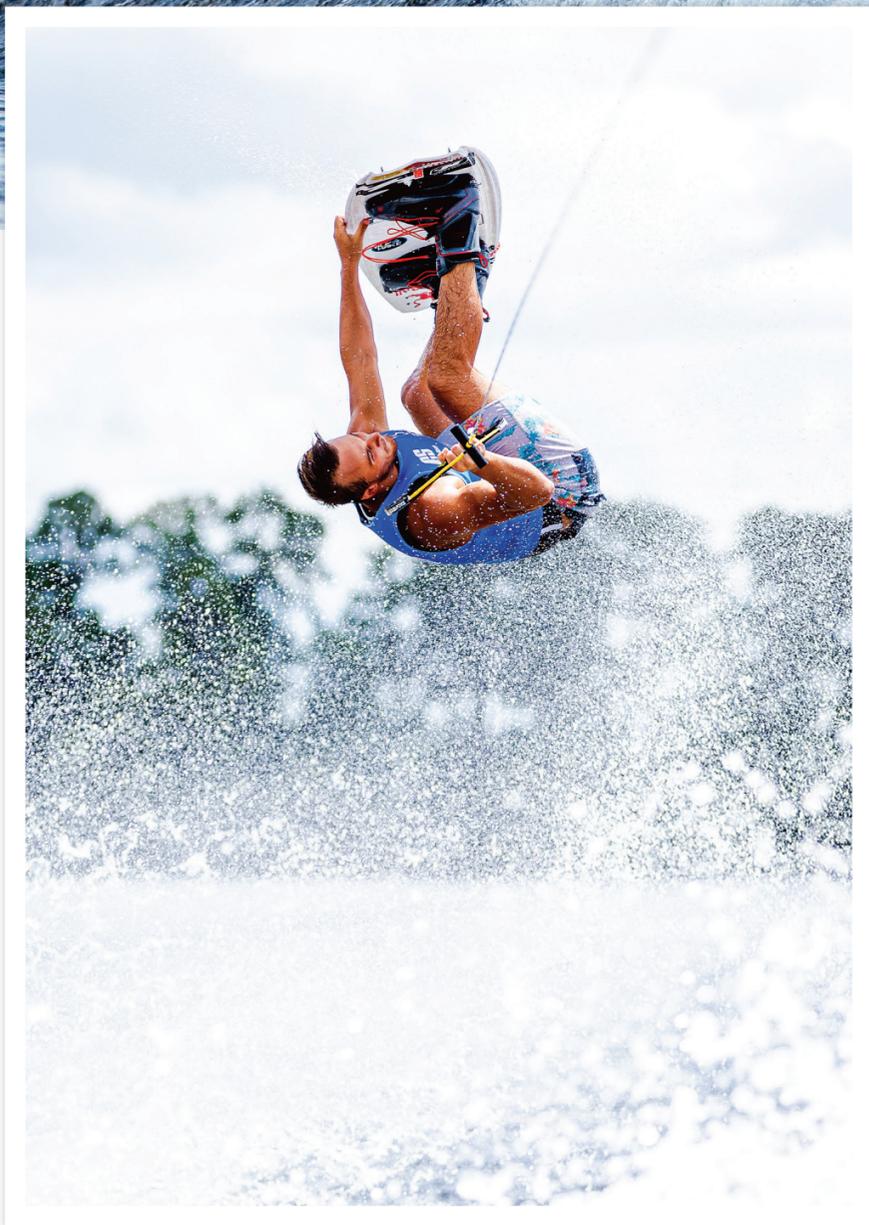
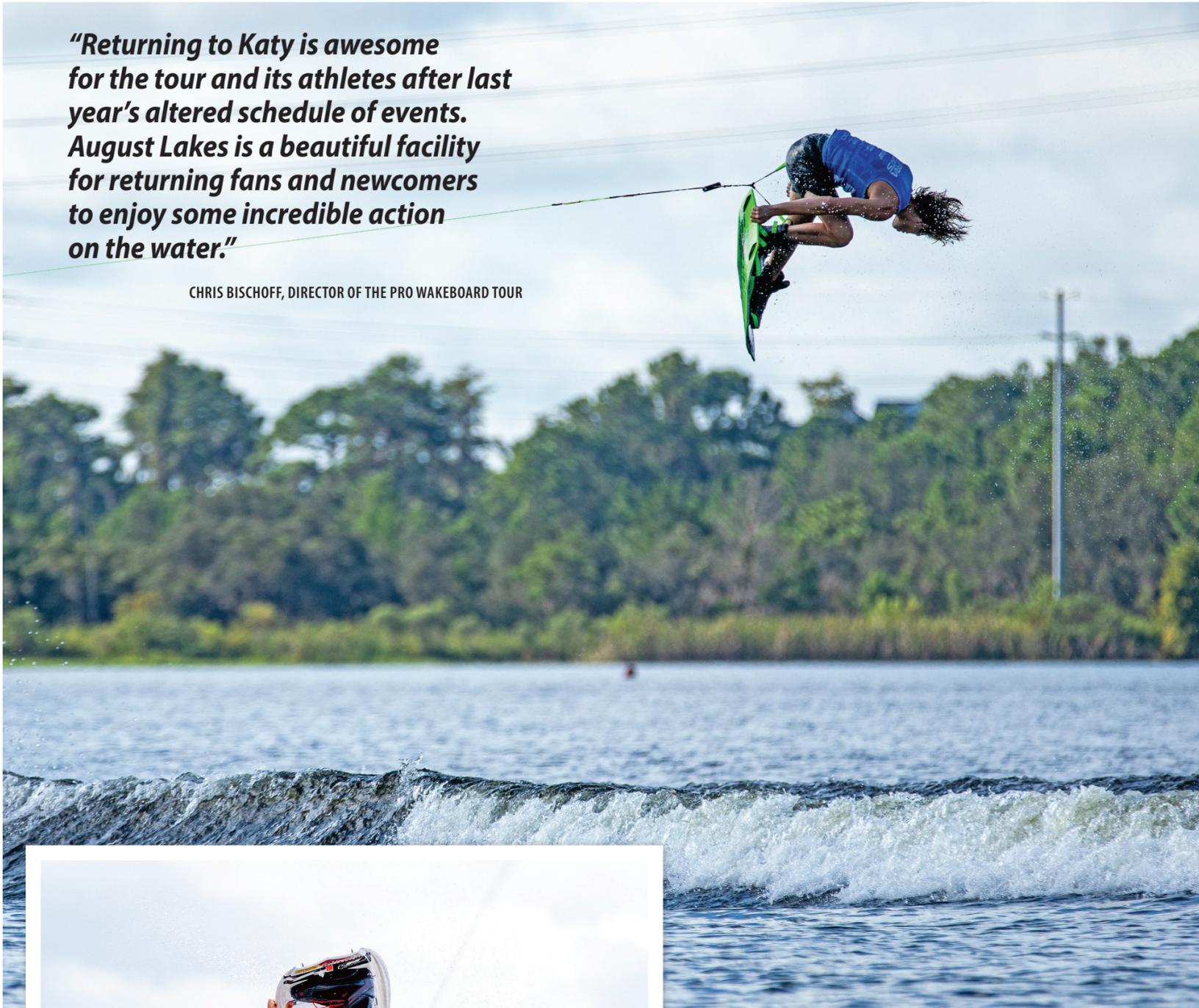
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“Returning to Katy is awesome for the tour and its athletes after last year’s altered schedule of events. August Lakes is a beautiful facility for returning fans and newcomers to enjoy some incredible action on the water.”

CHRIS BISCHOFF, DIRECTOR OF THE PRO WAKEBOARD TOUR



COURTESY OF DENNY HARTWIG

Some of the world’s most talented wakeboarders and wakesurfers come to Katy on Saturday, June 12, to compete at the Pro Wakeboard, Pro Wakesurf and Junior Pro Wakeboard tours. The circuit will take place on August Lakes, Katy’s 100-plus acre watersports community facility located at 3707 Pitts Road.

2021 PRO WAKEBOARD TOUR EVENT SCHEDULE

AT AUGUST LAKES, KATY, TX

Friday, June 11:

- 4-5 p.m.: Junior Pro Semifinals

Saturday, June 12:

- 9 a.m.: Pro Wakesurf Semifinals
- 10 a.m.: Pro Wakeboarding Quarterfinals
- Noon: Junior Pro Wakeboarding Finals
- 12:30 p.m.: Pro Wakesurf Finals
- 1 p.m.: Pro Wakeboarding Semifinals Heat #1
- 1:30 p.m.: Pro Wakeboarding Semifinals Heat #2
- 2:15 p.m.: Pro Wakeboarding Finals
- 3:30 p.m.: Awards

WAKEBOARDING

from page B1

on the water. For the first-time ever, the event will be free for all fans.”

The eight highest-ranked competitors from 2020 pre-qualified for the 2021 tour, leaving eight spots reserved for the best runs submitted to the digital qualifier. Pre-qualified riders include Nic Rapa, the 2020 overall winner, and Cory Teunissen and Tyler Higham.

The event begins Friday, June 11, with the Junior Pro semifinals from 4-5 p.m. The pro wakesurf semifinals start at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning,

followed by the pro wakeboarding quarterfinals at 10 a.m. and the junior pro wakeboarding finals at noon.

The pro wakesurf finals start at 12:30 p.m. The pro wakeboarding semifinals start at 1 p.m., with the pro wakeboarding finals at 2:15 p.m. Awards are scheduled to be given out at 3:30 p.m.

The Supra Boats SA550 is the official tow boat for the tour again in 2021. For more information, visit prowakeboardtour.com.

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Katy Times



ALL-DISTRICT

from page B1

Cinco Ranch finished third, enjoying its finest season in quite some time, and Taylor finished fourth in the district to make the playoffs for the first time since 2017.

In 19-6A all-district superlative honors, Katy senior ace/leadoff hitter Caleb Matthews was named Most Valuable Player. Cinco Ranch freshman Brock DeYoung was named Newcomer of the Year.

The rest of the 19-6A all-district team follows, by position. Unanimous selections are in italics.

STARTING PITCHERS

First Team: Zach Roysse, Cinco Ranch, jr.

First Team: Jace LaViolette, Tompkins, jr.

First Team: Jared Schaefer, Taylor, jr.

First Team: Caleb Fields, Katy, sr.

Second Team: Ethan Van Horn, Seven Lakes, jr.

Second Team: Michael DeBattista, Tompkins, jr.

Second Team: Blake Wolf, Taylor, jr.

Second Team: Nathan Flores, Mayde Creek, jr.

RELIEF PITCHERS

First Team: Jacob Wiggins, Cinco Ranch, sr.

First Team: Garrett Thompson, Katy, sr.

Second Team: Solomon Rotberg, Tompkins, jr.

Second Team: Brayden White, Katy, sr.

Second Team: Ty Dagley, Tompkins, so.

FIRST BASE

First Team: Ryan Brome, Katy, sr.
Second Team: Blake Hansen, Cinco Ranch, jr.

SECOND BASE

First Team: Will Stark, Tompkins, sr.

Second Team: Charlie Atkinson, Cinco Ranch, sr.

SHORTSTOP

First Team: Parker Kidwell, Katy, jr.

Second Team: Graiden West, Tompkins, sr.



RAY BORCHERT | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Tompkins sophomore Drew Markle was named a first team District 19-6A selection as a utility player this season.

THIRD BASE

First Team: Aiden Huerta, Katy, sr.
Second Team: Jack Little, Tompkins, sr.

OUTFIELD

First Team: Ryan George, Katy, jr.
First Team: Clayton Keeling, Cinco Ranch, sr.

First Team: Cash Russell, Tompkins, jr.
First Team: Tyler Duron, Cinco Ranch, sr.

Second Team: Jose Torres, Seven Lakes, sr.

Second Team: Rafael Lopez Nieves, Mayde Creek, sr.

Second Team: Trevor Woods, Taylor, sr.

Second Team: Tyler Brownlee, Tompkins, jr.

Second Team: Simon Massi, Morton Ranch, jr.

CATCHER

First Team: JC Barry, Taylor, sr.
Second Team: Ivan Marquez, Cinco Ranch, sr.

UTILITY

First Team: Drew Markle, Tompkins, so.

Second Team: Thomas Gilbert, Seven Lakes, sr.

DESIGNATED HITTER

First Team: Johnattan Ferrebus, Katy, jr.

Second Team: Ranier Castillo, Cinco Ranch, so.

HONORABLE MENTION

Seven Lakes: Jonathan Fezell, sr.; Jake Brunoldi, sr.; Eric Rubio, sr.; Jackson Hearn, sr.; Hector Garcia, sr.;

Cade Climie, jr.

Cinco Ranch: Andrew Barker, sr.; Tyler Duron, sr.; Gavin Rutherford, so.; Austin Bonjonia, jr.; Logan Sosolik, so.

Tompkins: Trevor Esparza, jr.; Sean Brownson, sr.; Bryce Kelley, sr.; Patrick Chastain, sr.; Ty Dagley, so.; Landon West, so.

Katy: Jack Johnson, sr.; Graham Laxton, so.

Morton Ranch: Gavin McLaughlin, sr.; Darian Russell, sr.; Alex Vera, sr.; Brandon Hasselbring, so.; Justin Cryer, so.; Jacob Pittman, jr.; Isaac Cantu, fr.

Taylor: Brady Hughes, sr.; Hunter Ham, so.; Nate Lopez, sr.; Thomas Torres, sr.; Josh Jimenez.

Mayde Creek: Jason Hinojosa, jr.; Dylan Desormeaux, sr.; Daniel Serur, sr.

SCHEDULES

from page B1

TAYLOR

- Aug. 28: at Cy-Springs, at Cy-Fair FCU Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 4: at George Ranch, at Traylor Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 11: at Cy-Fair, at Pridgeon Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 17: vs. Klein Cain, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 24: at Morton Ranch, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 30: vs. Seven Lakes, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 7: at Tompkins, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 15: vs. Mayde Creek, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m. (HOMECOMING)
- Oct. 22: at Morton Ranch, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 28: vs. Katy, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- OPEN

MAYDE CREEK

- Aug. 27: at Conroe High, at Moorehead Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 2: at Cy-Lakes, at Cy-Fair FCU Stadium, 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 9: at Nimitz, at Thorne Stadium, 6 p.m.
- OPEN
- Sept. 24: vs. College Park, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m. (HOMECOMING)
- Sept. 30: at Cinco Ranch, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 8: vs. Katy, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 15: at Taylor, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 21: vs. Morton Ranch, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 29: vs. Seven Lakes, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Nov. 4: vs. Tompkins, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m. (PARENT NIGHT)

CINCO RANCH

- Aug. 27: at College Park, at Wood Forest Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 4: vs. Aldine Davis, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 10: vs. Brazoswood, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m. (PARENT NIGHT)
- Sept. 17: at Clear Falls, at Clear Creek ISD Veterans Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 23: at Tompkins, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 30: vs. Mayde Creek, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- OPEN
- Oct. 16: at Katy, at Legacy Stadium, 11 a.m.



DENNIS SILVA II

A pregame shot prior to a game at Legacy Stadium last season.

SEVEN LAKES

- Oct. 22: vs. Taylor, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m. (HOMECOMING)
- Oct. 29: at Morton Ranch, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 5: vs. Seven Lakes, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.

MORTON RANCH

- Aug. 28: vs. Cy-Lakes, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m. (PARENT NIGHT)
- Sept. 3: at Paetow, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 9: vs. Hastings, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 16: vs. Lake Creek, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 24: vs. Taylor, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- OPEN
- Oct. 8: at Seven Lakes, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 15: vs. Tompkins, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m. (HOMECOMING)
- Oct. 21: at Mayde Creek, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 29: vs. Cinco Ranch, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 5: vs. Katy, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.

SEVEN LAKES

- Aug. 27: vs. Memorial, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 2: at Klein, at Klein Memorial Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 10: vs. Aldine Davis, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 16: at Heights, at Delmar Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 23: vs. Katy, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 30: at Taylor, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 8: vs. Morton Ranch, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m. (HOMECOMING)
- OPEN
- Oct. 22: at Tompkins, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 29: at Mayde Creek, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Nov. 5: at Cinco Ranch, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m. (PARENT NIGHT)

TOMPKINS

- Aug. 28: vs. Magnolia, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 3: at Clear Springs, at Challenger

- Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 11: vs. Klein Collins, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 17: vs. Clear Creek, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m. (HOMECOMING)
- Sept. 23: vs. Cinco Ranch, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 1: at Katy, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 7: vs. Taylor, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 15: at Morton Ranch, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 22: vs. Seven Lakes, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m. (PARENT NIGHT)
- OPEN
- Nov. 4: at Mayde Creek, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.

PAETOW

- Aug. 27: at Barbers Hill, at Barbers Hill, 7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 3: vs. Morton Ranch, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Sept. 10: at Richmond Foster, at Traylor Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 18: vs. Kempner, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- OPEN
- Sept. 30: at Milby, at Butler Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 7: vs. Wisdom, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m. (HOMECOMING)
- Oct. 15: at Terry, at Traylor Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 21: vs. Hightower, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 29: at Manvel, at Freedom Field, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 4: vs. Angleton, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.

JORDAN

- Aug. 27: at Waco La Vega, at Waco La Vega, 7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 3: vs. Danbury, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 9: vs. L.C.M., at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- Sept. 17: at Davenport-Comal, at Davenport-Comal High, 7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 24: at Lake Belton, at Lake Belton High, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 1: vs. Hitchcock, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.
- OPEN
- Oct. 16: vs. Lake Belton, at Rhodes Stadium, noon
- Oct. 21-23: TBD
- Oct. 29: vs. Pieper, TBD, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 6: vs. Davenport, at Legacy Stadium,