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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

Leaders offer update on state of Katy area schools

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

In a joint forum organized by the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce, the superintendents of Katy, Royal and Lamar Consolidated ISDs discussed the current state of their districts. Generally, all three said they were concerned about learning loss and other pandemic-related impacts on students.

"We speak life into them. We help them understand who they are, how valuable they are and what they can do in life," said Lamar CISD Superintendent Roosevelt Nivens. "School is the conduit for that. We're not just A-B-Cs and 1-2-3s."

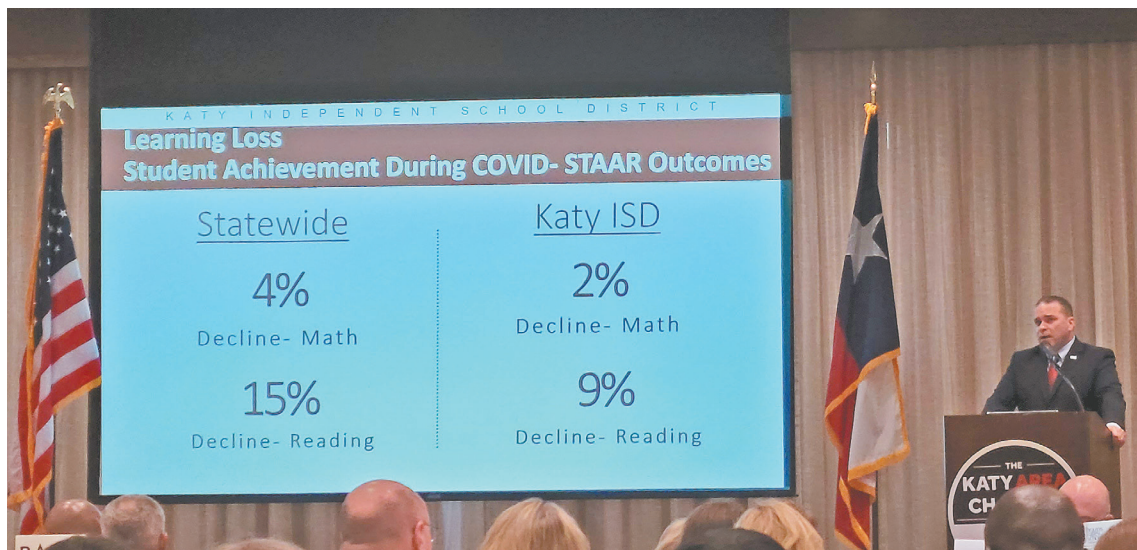
Nivens, KISD Superintendent Ken Gregorski and RISD Superintendent Rick Kershner all said

that providing support to students during the pandemic while simultaneously dealing with staffing, rapid growth and managing funding were all challenges for them and their staff. They also expressed thanks for community support as they look to fight learning loss and provide facilities that open doors for their respective student bodies.

Katy ISD

Gregorski said the last year and a half has been a challenge for KISD's students, teachers and staff, with the challenges of the pandemic resulting in a 2% decline in math and 9% fall in the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness – or STAAR – test scores. Compared to the state, he said, KISD performed better than the

See **SCHOOLS**, page A3



Katy ISD Superintendent Ken Gregorski discusses learning loss during the pandemic. Scores across the state on the STAAR test fell during the 2020-21 school year; however, in both Katy and Royal ISDs, those score reductions were less than the state average.

R. HANS MILLER



COURTESY GOOGLE MAPS

The Igloo headquarter at the intersection of Igloo Road and Highway 90 between Katy and Brookshire will soon be under new management if the sale of the company to Dometic Group is approved by regulators. The purchase of the cooler manufacturing company was initiated as both companies saw positive results in business over the last year.

Igloo sold to Swedish outdoor company Dometic Group

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Dometic Group entered into an agreement on Sept. 17 to purchase the Katy-based Igloo company for \$677 million, according to a Dometic press release. The new owning company said the \$401 million – a growth

of 24% from the prior year – over the last 12 months should prove a healthy investment.

"I am excited to welcome Igloo and its employees to Dometic. This acquisition is in line with our strategy to position Dometic as a more consumer-driven, less cyclical company in the fast-growing outdoor

business. North America is the largest market for cooling boxes and outdoor products, and with Igloo's strong brand recognition, consumer knowledge and local manufacturing capabilities, we are getting the necessary tools to further drive our sales and

See **IGLOO**, page A3

Harris Co. launches \$30 million small business relief fund

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Harris County Commissioner for Precinct 1 Rodney Ellis announced the county's Small Business Relief Fund in a Monday press conference. The grant program is offering \$30 million to small businesses operating in Harris County to help them recover from the economic strains of the last year and a half.

"We know that our COVID-19 relief programs are working," Hidalgo said. "Here in Harris County, we have led on direct financial assistance. On rental assistance for example, our program has been so successful that the federal government has set it as a national example... So, now we're playing the same ethos of efficiency, of equity (and) creativity to our small business relief program."

Hidalgo said that including this program, Harris County has now issued more than \$75 million in aid for small businesses. The grant program, which will not require funds to be paid back, will



HARRIS COUNTY/FACEBOOK

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo speaks at a Sept. 20 press conference announcing the county's latest effort to help small businesses recover from the economic impacts of the pandemic. The county has authorized a multimillion-dollar fund to support small businesses with a focus on veteran, minority and women-owned businesses which have been hit particularly hard over the last year according to national statistics.

prioritize small businesses and work to ensure they are successful. Grants can be requested from \$5,000 to \$25,000 which will allow

See **GRANTS**, page A3

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Brookshire moves forward with street repairs

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

During one of its first in-person meetings in over a year, Brookshire City Council moved forward with plans to improve city streets and approved platting for Phase II of the Empire west Business Park.

"We're proposing the Empire West Business Park Phase II. It's a total of 144.31 acres and is located north of I-10, west of Woods Road and South of (Highway) 90," said Salvador Cisneros, a platting coordinator with BGE, one of the developers of the site.

The site will have a total of five blocks with eight reserves and six buildings providing a total of 2.3 million square feet, Cisneros said. Completion on the project is expected around July of 2022 and large equipment was expected to be delivered to the new portion of the business park on Sept. 20. Cisneros added that the city's engineer had already reviewed



GOOGLE MAPS

Brookshire City Council unanimously agreed to move forward with plans to revitalize this intersection and associated mural at Fifth and Cooper streets near the Brookshire City Offices.

the plat and other information about the development and recommended approval before the issue coming to council.

Council members said they were impressed with the first phase of Empire West and were grateful for developers' interest in working in good faith with the city.

Aldersperson Lee Nelson Jones asked his fellow council members

to move forward with repairing and beautifying the intersection of Fifth and Cooper streets just west of city offices. A decorative mural in the center of the intersection has become quite worn and does not reflect the pride the city should have in its appearance and heritage, he said. As a result, with an expected cost of less than \$50,000, he asked council to direct city staff to move forward

with the project.

Public Works Director Earnest Kelley said the project would be able to get done relatively quickly with some resurfacing and suggestions for assistance from community members and businesses that had offered to assist with the project.

Aldersperson Kim Branch said she had worked with the art department at Royal ISD to work on beautification projects such as the mural in the intersection and thought other community businesses and organizations such as the owner of A.R.T. Studio may be willing to help.

"Also, the gentleman at (Brookshire Hardware) at one time explained that he would like to donate paint if we would like to do the circle, so that might be something that we could go back to," she said.

Councilmembers also:

See **BROOKSHIRE**, page A3

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Arc of Katy to move, seeks community support

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Arc of Katy is preparing to relocate in January to a new, larger, purpose-built facility to enable growth of programs and services it provides for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

The new facility is located at 934 Jordan Ranch Blvd. in Waller County and has been designed specifically for The Arc of Katy day programs for adults and teens with IDD. The new building will support the nonprofit's plans for future growth, according to Fred Shafer, president

of The Arc of Katy Board of Directors.

"When we relocate to the new facility, The Arc of Katy will be able to enroll and provide opportunities for more participants in our day programs for adults and teens with IDD," Shafer said. "The new building is about twice the square footage that we currently lease; includes more activity, meeting, office and storage; and offers flexibility for potential future expansion."

The Arc of Katy's use of the new facility is facilitated by community volunteer and property manager Marie Tsakiris and her family.

Garlock Construction, LLC is providing design and construction management.

"As a nonprofit organization, we greatly appreciate their generosity as use of the facility will help us sustainably deliver high quality, accessible and affordable opportunities for more people with intellectual and developmental disabilities such as Down syndrome and autism spectrum disorders," Shafer said.

The Arc of Katy Board of Directors is launching a \$90,000 capital campaign this month to furnish the new facility.

"Our volunteers and staff are focused on creating spaces inside the building and on the surrounding property that are comfortable, healthy, safe, and enjoyable for our participants," said Shafer.

The capital campaign is focused on securing grants, donations and in-kind contributions in 2021-2022 for furniture, appliances, security and audiovisual equipment, storage units, fencing and landscaping.

Shafer further explains that the need for programs such as those offered by The Arc of Katy continues to grow as the community's overall population grows and as area schools continue to attract families interested in high-quality education and special needs programs, and as more young adults with IDD graduate from high school.

"We believe all people deserve to be included as respected, active members of our community at all stages of their lives," Shafer said. "The new facility will serve as an enduring center for learning, skills development, social enrichment, recreation and community service."



(From left to right) Sandy Dempel, incoming The Arc of Katy Board of Trustees President Cherie Duddridge, The Arc of Katy Board of Trustees President Fred Shafer, The Arc of Katy volunteer and property manager Marie Tsakiris and Garlock Construction President Brandon Garlock hold a banner to let passers-by know that The Arc of Katy will be moving into its new facility at 934 Jordan Ranch Blvd. in Katy.



Supporters of The Arc of Katy and board members pose for a photo at the upcoming new location for the area nonprofit which supports individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Wagner of Fulshear announce the engagement of their daughter Colleen Wagner to Brent Phelps, son of Sherry Rankin of Katy, Texas and the late Brooke Phelps. Ms. Wagner, a graduate of Texas A&M University, is a Communications Advisor at LyondellBasell in Houston. Mr. Phelps graduated from Texas A&M University, attended law school at South Texas College of Law, and is an Associate Attorney at PMR Law LLP, in Houston. An August wedding is planned at The Junior League of Houston.

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Tim Davis is a member of *Syndicated Columnists*, a national organization committed to a fully transparent approach to safe money strategies for retirement.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. One of the four Vedas
5. Part of (abbr.)
8. At the peak
12. African antelope
14. Expression of satisfaction
15. Yankees' ace
16. Belittled
18. A baglike structure
19. Utah Jazz coach Snyder
20. Actress Tomei
21. Explosive
22. Formal for "on"
23. Cruelties
26. Country singer Brad
30. Make very happy
31. Binary compound of hydrogen with a metal
32. Albanian currency
33. Subatomic particle
34. Type of salt
39. 007's creator
42. Emerging
44. Railroad flare
46. Observed
47. Capable of reproduction
49. Indicates adjacent to
50. Legendary Notre Dame coach
51. Not wide
56. An embarrassing mistake
57. Pearl Jam's debut album
58. Denotes passerine birds

59. Stumble
60. Midway between east and southeast
61. W. Indian trees
62. You
63. Pigpen
64. Be aware of

CLUES DOWN

1. Crease
2. "Honey" actress Jessica
3. Broad volcanic crater
4. Product safety watchdog
5. Southern Colombian city
6. Part of a church
7. Perceptible by touch
8. Pronounce not guilty of criminal charges
9. Hairpiece
10. Variety acts
11. "Mystic River" actor Sean
13. Remove salt
17. Went out with
24. Type of bread
25. Popular Eagles song
26. Philosophy degree
27. Yes vote
28. Passports and licenses are two
29. No seats available
35. Pounds per square inch
36. A way to launch an attack on

37. The lowest cardinal number
38. Popular Miller beer
40. Pokes holes in
41. Closest to
42. Folk singer DiFranco
43. Rivne's former name
44. Flat ruler
45. Lacking the means to do something

47. Cockatoo
48. Dred Scott decision deliverer
49. Explosion exclamation
52. Canadian flyers
53. Houston university
54. At some prior time
55. Red, swollen mark

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

GRANTS

from page A1

the county to assist between 1,200 and 6,000 local companies.

"If you've been hard hit by the pandemic, this program is for you," Hidalgo said. "We are designing it to help you, your employees, your family – to help give back, because you give so much to our community."

Applications are open through Monday, Oct. 4 at 5:30 p.m. Instructions on how to apply may be found online at www.harriscountybusiness-relief.org, and the program will be managed by LiftFund, an organization that focuses on small loans and other financial assistance programs in cooperation with government entities. However, this program is grant-based rather than loan oriented.

According to the program's website, small businesses with 30 or fewer employees located in Harris County and in operation prior to April 2020 are eligible. These businesses must have experienced a negative impact on operations as a result of the pandemic and have annual revenue of less than \$500,000 in 2019 and 2020 and be in good standing with the Texas Comptrollers Office. Only one grant will be awarded per business, those business-

GRANT RELIEF

To apply for the Harris County Small Business Relief Fund, have the following documents ready and visit www.harriscountybusinessrelief.org.

- Valid photo ID
- Texas or Harris County business registration
- Employee count verification:
 - Q1 2021 form 941
 - Payroll report
 - IRS Form 1099
 - Financials for 2019 and 2020
 - DD 214 (veterans only)

es that have received other pandemic aid are eligible to apply.

To apply, business owners should have their driver's license or government-issued photo ID available as well as proof of business registration with Harris County or the Texas Secretary of State. They should also provide payroll information for the first quarter of 2021, a payroll report or IRS 1099 form to verify the number of employees working at the business. A utility bill for

the business must also be provided and a home utility bill will work for a home-based business. Veterans who apply should include a DD 214 form as well.

Veteran, woman and minority-owned businesses will be prioritized as data shows those businesses have been hardest hit by the pandemic, Ellis said. Additionally, businesses with fewer than 10 employees will be given preference as well.

"Many businesses have been impacted nationally (and) minority and women-owned businesses have been more severely impacted," Ellis said. "We show from statistics nationally, a 19% decrease of black business ownership in this country (and) a 10% decrease in Latino business ownership in this country."

Both Ellis and Hidalgo stressed that it is important for small businesses to check into the grants sooner rather than later.

"This is to put the word out – apply," Ellis said. "A lot of people who get our numbers do call us individually and think there's some magic, (but) it's all online. So, we're sounding the alarm. Make sure you apply."

SCHOOLS

from page A1

4% and 15% respective drops in scoring though.

To address the challenges, KISD is utilizing Elementary and Secondary School Relief Funds – federal funding provide to help schools recover from the pandemic's impacts, often referred to as ESSER funds. With that money, KISD is increasing the number of academic and behavioral intervention specialists, expanding tutoring, reducing class sizes in targeted areas that saw the most decline in performance, expanding summer school programs and focusing on professional development for faculty and staff.

Additional staff will also be needed as the district continues to grow, Gregorski said.

"We're over 88,000 today and we keep on growing and growing rapidly," Gregorski said.

Gregorski said the \$79.3 million bond approved by voters last May will help accommodate new students as more learners come to the district. With 2,400 new students expected each year through 2029, the 2021 bond will support more than 300 projects throughout the district to improve capacity and learning spaces he said. Elementary No. 44 is already being built in the Cane Island subdivision and technology is being purchased to better support students. Additionally, three more elementary schools will be built along with both a new junior high and high school campus. Bond funding will also be used for safety and security upgrades and improvements to the district's Northwest Transportation Center.

The district also has about 11,000 employees, Gregorski said. However, more staff are needed as the district grows. To attract and retain educators and staff, he said the district has a strong focus on culture and is working with a firm called Satchel Pulse, a firm that monitors culture and climate in school districts and helps them identify areas of concern for teachers and staff that administrators can help with.

KISD has more than 150 job postings as of Sept. 21.

Renovations of older campuses and a natatorium are also planned as part of the bond package that was approved, according to KISD documents.

As the district meets the challenges facing it, Gregorski said it continues to maintain an overall good performance with an A rating from the Texas Educa-

tion Agency, ranked as the second-best school district in Greater Houston, another A rating in the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas, is on the AP Honor Roll for the tenth year issued by the College Board, is recognized as one of the best communities for music education by the National Association of Music Merchants and is the only school district on Forbes' best employer list at No. 8.

Gregorski said the district will make it through the challenges it is facing and is heading in the right direction overall.

"Hopefully that direction is not COVID – anything but," Gregorski said.

Royal ISD

RISD Superintendent agreed with Gregorski that COVID-19 presented unique challenges; however, he also said the district is facing challenges of incredibly rapid growth and staffing issues, though he feels blessed to be accompanied by a great staff and community as he works to move forward.

"I couldn't be more blessed than to be at Royal ISD," Kershner said.

Just since the start of the year though, RISD's student population has gone from 2,390 students to 2,564 students as of Sept. 16, Kershner said. He added that the growth is a 12% increase from the district's student population at the end of the 2020-21 school year.

Driving that growth, Kershner said, are more than 4,000 acres of new residential developments coming to RISD. Projects by Land Tejas and other developers are expected to bring thousands of new students from at least 10 new subdivisions coming to RISD, he said.

The challenge with that growth comes in maintaining the district's track record as an institution, Kershner said.

"There's a snapshot for the class of 2021," Kershner said. "We had 118 scholarships with a value of \$1,339,000, nine military enlistments from the class of 2021 in Army, Marines and National Guard."

Kershner added that the district has 17 student organizations and award-winning academic and skills teams.

To deal with the growth and help ensure student success, the district is proposing a bond to improve both the quality and capacity of its facilities, Kershner said. While some funding has been used for projects like replacing

the roof on the district's STEM Academy facility, more is needed to bring the district up to the standard he wants set as its new superintendent – this is only Kershner's second year in the role.

To that end, the district hosted a community advisory group to help them identify weaknesses in the district's facilities and how to address capacity at district campuses to accommodate incoming students, Kershner said. To address the priorities set by that committee, the district opted to place a \$99.5 million bond election on the Nov. 20 ballot this year, Kershner said.

If approved by voters, the bond funding would allow the district to create a new Pre-K to fifth grade elementary, a new junior high, renovations to the existing junior high which has been in service since 1967, and renovations to the Early Childhood Center, current elementary, STEM center and the district's transportation facility which was built in 1984.

It is also a priority to take care of student's, staff members' and teachers' emotional needs during the pandemic, Kershner said.

"We are focused on the (social and emotional learning) side," Kershner said. "We named a social and emotional learning coordinator last year. Also known at this time, when we're dealing with the pandemic, that this is a very crucial time to address the needs of our students' social and emotional needs and our staff's social and emotional needs."

To that end, the district has programs in place to help students address the stresses for the last year by empathizing with them and providing them the support they need to succeed academically without emotional anchors, he said.

"If we don't have human connections, our kids' struggle," Kershner said.

Nivens, who strayed from his presentation to talk specifically about the struggles students are going through, agreed with both of his peers and said it is important for students to receive the support they need to continue to thrive despite COVID-19 or other challenges.

"My purpose is to make sure that every single young person under my leadership that I touch – that we help them reach their maximum potential, bottom line," Nivens said.

IGLOO

from page A1

margin expansion," said President and CEO of Dometic, Juan Vargues.

Igloo was founded in 1947 and is perceived as one of the leading manufacturers in the world with an iconic brand and range of insulated outdoor products. The company enjoys 92% of net sales in the U.S. and its products are available in more than 90,000 retail stores globally, according to Dometic. It also has a growing direct-to-consumer sales channel. Companywide, Igloo has about 1,100 employees and its headquarters is located in the southwest corner of Igloo Road and Highway 90, west of Katy.

Under the terms of the sale agreement, Dometic will pay the overall price of \$677 million in cash without any financing. The agreement includes an earn-out element of a maximum of \$233 million, the press release said. The transaction is expected to generate \$150 million in annual sales for Dometic and jointly save the two companies in cost synergies of about \$5 million per year. Closing is expected to take place later this year and is subject to regulatory approvals.

Igloo's previous owner which is selling to Dometic is ACON Investments, which acquired the company in 2014. Igloo representatives said the purchase is a positive step for Igloo.

"I am extremely proud of everyone on our team who has worked so hard in building Igloo into an Iconic American Brand," said Dave Allen, president and CEO of Igloo Products Corp. "As part of the Dometic Group, we look forward to combining our resources in order to accelerate innovation and growth across the globe."

Vargues said the overall acquisition is a positive sign for both the parent company and its new subsidiary.

"Our strategy for profitable expansion is built on a combination of organic and acquisitive growth. This is our eighth acquisition this year and our pipeline of potential future acquisitions remains strong," Vargues said.

BROOKSHIRE

from page A1

• Appointed Paula Favors to the TML Benefits group to represent Brookshire employees in determining employee benefits.

• Received an update on COVID-19 cases from Police Chief Brandal Jackson that indicated the city had 52 active cases of the virus that day.

• Approved permitting for storage buildings for a fireworks company that had failed to apply, though they required double fees to be paid for the permits. The owner of the buildings said the storage there is minimal and all building exceed the state requirements for storing fireworks.

• Renewed an interlocal agreement with the Brookshire Municipal Water District for tax assessor collector services.

• Discussed hazard pay for city staff during the pandemic but tabled the issue due to insufficient caseloads among staff.

• Discussed the hiring of a new city engineer but took no action as more information was being gathered.

• Approved repairs to Heritage Drive which had been damaged by construction vehicles.

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When America follows its better angels

I recently filling in hosting a local Philadelphia talk show, which gave me the opportunity to interview Lt. Colonel Jonathan P. Meyers, a retired Marine who'd recently written a memoir about his almost three decades in service: "American to the Corps."

During his years of active service, Meyers had been involved in a number of memorable events. But perhaps the most exceptional thing he's done in his life came after retirement when, as a private citizen, he joined with two other former Marines and worked to get U.S. citizens, green card holders and Afghan allies out of Afghanistan before the doors closed and the likelihood of success evaporated like smoke in a Kandahar opium den.

Tragically, as Colonel Meyers explained, he was ultimately unable to get everyone on his manifest out. He's still trying, even as the Taliban consolidate their power and take their victory laps by beating women and whipping journalists who try and bear witness to their brutality.

"The State Department really put themselves in this position, by not completing the job before taking the last troops out," Meyers said, criticizing the administration for claiming the Taliban were acting in a "businesslike and professional" manner. He said he knows of an Afghan mother and her American toddler who was injured after slashing her foot on some razor wire after being pushed into a sewage canal by the Taliban.

"Then the Taliban showed up two days ago and executed her brothers," Meyers said. "So, they're not being very business-like and professional, but this information is not getting out to the public."

When I heard him say this, I wasn't surprised. I know firsthand the extent to which some in the media have been complicit in helping the White House spin the conditions on the ground in Afghanistan. Perhaps they, like the president, wanted to approach this 20th anniversary of 9/11 with an almost triumphant attitude as in "the war is over, our troops are home."

To some extent, they've been successful, primarily because we don't want to believe that we actually lost. We don't want to accept the fact that young men and women died for nothing, that others came home with only half of their bodies or minds intact and it made absolutely no difference. The hasty and disorganized withdrawal allowed us to wipe the slate clean like some geopolitical Etch-A-Sketch, and leave the battlefields that swallowed up two generations of Americans in the rearview mirror.

I cannot look at 9/11 and feel relief that we are no longer in the maelstrom. The "optics"

CHRISTINE FLOWERS

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



of the forever war being over might make President Biden feel as if he's accomplished something, as if he's written the eulogy and epitaph for the earth-shaking violence that consumed our troops for two decades. But every time I get a phone call or a text from someone asking for help to get their family members out, I'm reminded that the story isn't over just because we've stopped reading the book.

Interviewing Colonel Meyers was a sobering experience. He deliberately tried to avoid making partisan attacks, even though you could tell in his voice and in his carefully chosen words that he was filled with rage over the hubris of a president and his advisors, reckless and driven to a particular goal regardless of the devastating consequences.

This is what he said when I asked him if he thought that there was any legitimate reason for the State Department to have provided the Taliban with a manifest of names so they could confirm who was trying to get out:

"That's strike three against us in terms of providing lists of people, and I understand that they provided the manifest that was put together for these airplanes, which again is unbelievable, and what it really demonstrates to me is the political naivete of the people in the National Security apparatus. It's obvious that you couldn't be a qualified national security expert and make a decision like that, so that has to be the reason that this is happening."

Colonel Meyers reminded me that Americans are often at our best when we stop being Republicans and Democrats, dissidents or sycophants, and we simply follow our better angels. Sometimes, that means ignoring our flawed and self-interested leaders, and putting faith in ourselves. I trust the people like Colonel Meyers much more than anyone who considers the terrorists who stole our sons and daughters, who are beating women and kidnapping young boys as being "professional and business like."

Earlier this month, President Biden wanted to be able to say that we were out of Afghanistan. He wanted that sound bite.

And now, he has it. But at what cost?

Christine Flowers is an attorney and a columnist for the Delaware County Daily Times, and can be reached at cflowers1961@gmail.com.

Recommended design for coastal living...



Moving Heaven, Earth and a daughter to college

Many parents my age are currently experiencing empty nest syndrome/euphoria as they send their children off to college in hopes that, someday, their "babies" will graduate and come back home to pick up all of the junk they left crammed under their beds.

For my wife and I, this condition is more like multiple nest disorder – since we still have two kids at home after moving our eldest and most expensive daughter into a lavish four-bedroom college townhome festooned with all of the latest overpriced swag from Urban Outfitters.

The ordeal of moving our daughter into her new "crib" actually started last spring, when she began stockpiling unknown merchandise in massive shipping boxes that were specifically designed to give me a hernia.

Then came moving day, when we packed enough clothing, linens, electronics, decorative string lights, salt lamps, cosmetics, and a few uncomfortable humans into our vehicles to make another bad reboot of "The Beverly Hillbillies." We were only able to salvage a minimal level of coolness thanks to the chassis of our beleaguered 2013 Ford Expedition sitting so close to the ground that I felt compelled to play the "Lowrider" song on repeat throughout the 3 ½-hour trip.

When we arrived at the townhome, I was actually excited by the prospect of finally using the hand truck that my dad gifted

JASE GRAVES

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



to me out of pity sometime in the early twenty-teens. Thank goodness my daughter's bedroom is only up one flight of incredibly narrow stairs!

Once we had transported all of the cargo upstairs and I had said a brief prayer requesting a new spinal column, my wife and daughter began organizing clothing while I was tasked with putting stuff together and hanging other stuff on walls.

One of my greatest fears has always been the combination of an Allen wrench and the phrase "some assembly required." But after only three attempts, I did manage to construct a three-tier shoe rack for storing enough designer footwear to support a full season of "Project Runway."

I then continued the assault on my lumbar region by attaching a never-ending adhesive strip of LED lights across the top of the bedroom walls. When I was finished and the multi-colored lights began flashing, I expected the Village People to burst through the bathroom door for an encore of "Y.M.C.A." at any moment.

And speaking of the Village People, my next job was to hang some vinyl record albums on

the wall – for decoration. When I suggested that my daughter might actually want to listen to the records sometime, she just patted me on the head Benny Hill-style, and said, "Sure, Dad."

After the room was finished and my daughter's Wi-Fi life-support system was fully operational, we all went downstairs, had a good cry, smothered our sorrows with some enormous slices of homemade pound cake, had another good cry, and said our goodbyes.

Although I felt like I left a little chunk of my heart (and a few vertebrae) in that townhouse when we drove away, my daughter does stay in regular contact with us. Along with "Facetiming" us most evenings to report on dates she has taken with our credit cards to concerts, restaurants, and Target, she occasionally calls us to address typical college-student household issues—like trying to convince us that fitted sheets were invented by the Taliban. Oh, and she is trying to carve out a little time for classes and homework.

Now that she's out of the nest – sort of – I'm just looking forward to the day when she comes back home after graduation to pick up all of that junk she left crammed under her bed.

Jase Graves is an award-winning humor columnist from East Texas. His columns have been featured in Texas Escapes magazine, The Shreveport Times, The Longview News Journal, and The Kilgore News Herald. Contact Graves at susanjase@sbcglobal.net.

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TRIBUTES

Kim Royce Mansell, a life-long Katy, Texas resident, passed away Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at the age of 64. He is survived by brother Monty Mansell; brother Denny Mansell and his wife Paige Mansell along with his nieces Courtney Bowie and Brittany Mansell; his great nephew Cooper Middleton and great niece Waylynn Bowie.

He is preceded in death by his parents M. L. "Rusty" Mansell and Lillian "Pee-Wee" Mansell and brothers Scotty and Robin Mansell.

Kim Mansell graduated from Katy High School in 1976. He joined and proudly served as a Sergeant in



KIM ROYCE MANSELL
1957-2021

the United States Marine Corp from 1976 to 1982. He served as a sniper – rifle and pistol expert and left the Corp, obtaining an

Honorable Discharge. Kim will be remembered as a strong willed, outdoorsman who enjoyed collecting and building.

A small graveside service will be held Thursday, September 23, at 10:30 a.m. at Katy Magnolia Cemetery in Katy, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Katy First United Methodist Church in Katy, Texas by visiting <https://www.katyfirst.org>.

Funeral services held under the direction of: Schmidt Funeral Home 1508 East Avenue Katy, Texas 77493 (281) 391-2424

Bobby Cline Mixon Bradshaw, 85, passed away on September 18, 2021 in Richmond, Texas. She was born to Douglas and Muriel Mixon on October 19, 1935 in Ruston, Louisiana.

Bobby was preceded in death by her parents Douglas and Muriel Mixon, husband Robert S. Bradshaw, Sr., and brother Jack Mixon.

After graduating Valedictorian of Jonesboro - Hodge High School in Louisiana, Bobby worked as a stenographer and then secretary to the manager for the Production and Exploration Department's Southwest regional office of the Lion Oil Company in Midland, Texas. Soon after she met her beloved Bob and they were blessed with 2 sons and 38 years of marriage. Bobby and Bob



BOBBY CLINE MIXON BRADSHAW
1935-2021

eventually settled in Katy, Texas where they served as active members of the First Baptist Church there.

Later they rejoiced in the birth of their grandson, Brian, and enjoyed times spent watching him grow.

Bobby's hobbies included reading, tennis, international travel, and sharing

her life's stories to family and friends. Although she struggled with chronic illness, Bobby kept the faith in her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Her sons and family rejoice knowing she is now resting in God's eternal Heaven.

Bobby is survived by her sons Robert S. Bradshaw, Jr., of Katy, Texas, John R. Bradshaw and wife Cathy of Boerne, Texas, grandson John B. Bradshaw of Brownsville, Texas, brother Jim Mixon of Sterlington, Louisiana, and many nieces and nephews in Texas, Louisiana, and Australia.

A graveside funeral service will be held Friday, September 24, 2021, at 10 a.m., at the Friendship Baptist Church Cemetery in Friendship, Louisiana with Reverend Robert Leach officiating.

BUSY WEEKEND IN KATY AREA



SUSAN ROVEGNO, KATY TIMES PUBLISHER

Katy Lions Club members pause for a photo at their Candy Day at Katy Hardware on Saturday, Sept. 18. Candy Day is a fundraiser for the nonprofit which works to fight diabetes, hunger and childhood cancer and to provide vision care and improve the environment. For more information about the organization, visit www.katylions.org.



SUSAN ROVEGNO, KATY TIMES PUBLISHER

More than 100 vendors were on-hand for the Heart of Katy Craft Market, above, at Katy High School on Saturday, Sept. 18. The craft show benefits the Katy Bengal Brigade to support cheerleaders and students at Katy High. Right, Katy Market Day offered up a variety of crafts, food trucks and fun for attendees on Saturday, Sept. 18 in downtown Katy. The monthly downtown Katy event is held near Katy City Hall and hosted by The Limited Edition Art and Antiques. Last weekend's event included live music and a chance to shop downtown Katy's various antique shops.



The Katy Times

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<p><i>- Carnival -</i></p> <p>SEPT 23 - SNEAK A PEEK THURSDAY \$15 Armband with 2 cans of food \$20 without cans. Benefiting Helping Hands</p> <p>SEPT 27 - MONDAY SCHOOL DAY School Day Armband \$15 each</p> <p>SEPT 28 - TAG ALONG TUESDAY 2 Arbans for \$25 or \$20 individual (must have 2 people present) Children 11 & under FREE Gate Admission</p>	<p><i>- Carnival -</i></p> <p>SEPT 29 - WILD WEDNESDAY Bring McDonald's receipt for \$20 Arbans / \$25 without receipt</p> <p>SEPT 30 - FOLLOW US FUN PASS THURSDAY All You Can Ride Armband \$25 Midway opens at 5PM</p> <p>OCT 3 - FAMILY FUN DAY SUNDAY Noon - 7PM 4 Arbans \$60 / Individual \$25 each (Must have 4 people present for special)</p>	<p>\$30 ALL YOU CAN RIDE ARMBAND!</p> <p>FRI SEPT. 24 (10 AM - MIDNIGHT) SAT SEPT 25 (NOON - MIDNIGHT) SUN SEPT. 26 (NOON - 11 PM) FRI OCT 1 (5 PM - MIDNIGHT) SAT OCT. 2 (NOON - MIDNIGHT)</p>

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CAPITAL
HIGHLIGHTSBY GARY BORDERS
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Texas Legislature convened Monday for its third special session with the focus on redrawing political boundaries for House and Senate districts, as well as for the state's congressional seats and for the State Board of Education.

Before the session began, proposed state senate districts by Republican leaders drew fire from the other side of the aisle, according to the Texas Tribune.

State Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Houston proposed a map that redraws two districts — hers and that of Angela Paxton, R-McKinney, to include comfortable majorities of voters who backed Donald Trump in 2020. Both districts saw voters narrowly favor Joe Biden in the 2020 election.

State Sen. Beverly Powell, D-Burleson, said the reconfigured map gives Republicans in her district an unfair advantage. "The proposed State Senate map is a direct assault on the voting rights of minority citizens in Senate District 10 and, if adopted, it would be an act of intentional discrimination," she said in a statement.

Redistricting promises to be a fiercely fought battle, as it is every 10 years.

1 Disaster declaration follows Nicholas

Seventeen Southeast Texas counties have been declared disaster areas after Hurricane Nicholas came ashore, dumping more than a foot of rain and cutting off power to a half-million customers in Texas, according to poweroutage.us. That number had been reduced to about 4,200 as of Sunday.

Counties included in Gov. Greg Abbott's declaration are Aransas, Brazoria, Calhoun, Chambers, Galveston, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Matagorda, Montgomery, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Refugio, San Patricio, and Victoria.

The Texas Department of Insurance has a number of tips for those affected by the storm:

- Call your insurance company to report damage.
- Take pictures and video of the damage. Don't throw anything away until your insurance adjuster tells you.
- Make temporary repairs to prevent more damage. Remove standing water. Cover broken windows and holes to keep rain out.
- Keep a list of the repairs and save receipts. Don't make permanent repairs before the insurance adjuster sees the damage.

For more information from TDI, go to the website, www.tdi.texas.gov/consumer/storms/home-damaged-faq.html.

2 Haitians flood into Del Rio, prompting bridge closure

Thousands of Haitian refugees fleeing political unrest and a severe earthquake have flooded into Del Rio on the Texas-Mexico border, prompting the city's mayor to declare an emergency and close the bridge with more than 15,000 migrants crowded beneath it.

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz blamed the situation on President Joe Biden, reported the San Antonio Express-News.

Border agents are working to process those who crossed, while the Biden administration on Saturday accelerated flights to deport migrants back to Haiti. Abbott called it a "border crisis" and ordered Texas Department of Public Safety troopers and the Texas National Guard to maintain a presence around ports of entry in an attempt to

deter additional entries.

Despite the influx of migrants at Del Rio, U.S. Customs and Border Protection said there were 2% fewer overall encounters of migrants along the border in August than July.

Abbott backtracked on an order to shut down entry points along the border, which the state does not have the legal power to do, unless granted permission by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, according to the Houston Chronicle. The federal government, not states, has ultimate authority over the country's borders.

3 COVID cases drop, but deaths increase

The number of new COVID-19 cases in the state decreased about 7% from the previous week, with 111,565 reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. However, new deaths were up slightly, with 1,800 reported as of Sunday.

The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations in Texas dropped slightly, with the Texas Department of State Health Services reporting 12,246 inpatients, down 7.8% from the previous week. However, with 3,618 of those hospitalized in intensive-care unit beds, the total number of available staffed adult ICU beds declined to just 277 statewide, with only 86 pediatric ICU beds available in the entire state.

The number of Texans who are fully vaccinated continues to creep upward, with 14.46 million reported in the state, according to DSHS. That is 49.6% of the state's total population.

4 Up to \$5 million for rural hospitals

Rural hospitals in Texas are set to receive up to \$5 million in federal funding to help underserved Texans, the Health and Human Services Commission announced last week.

"As we work to address health disparities throughout the state, this funding will help break down barriers to accessing care while connecting rural Texans with health care providers in creative ways and improving overall health outcomes within their communities," said Trey Wood of the HHSC.

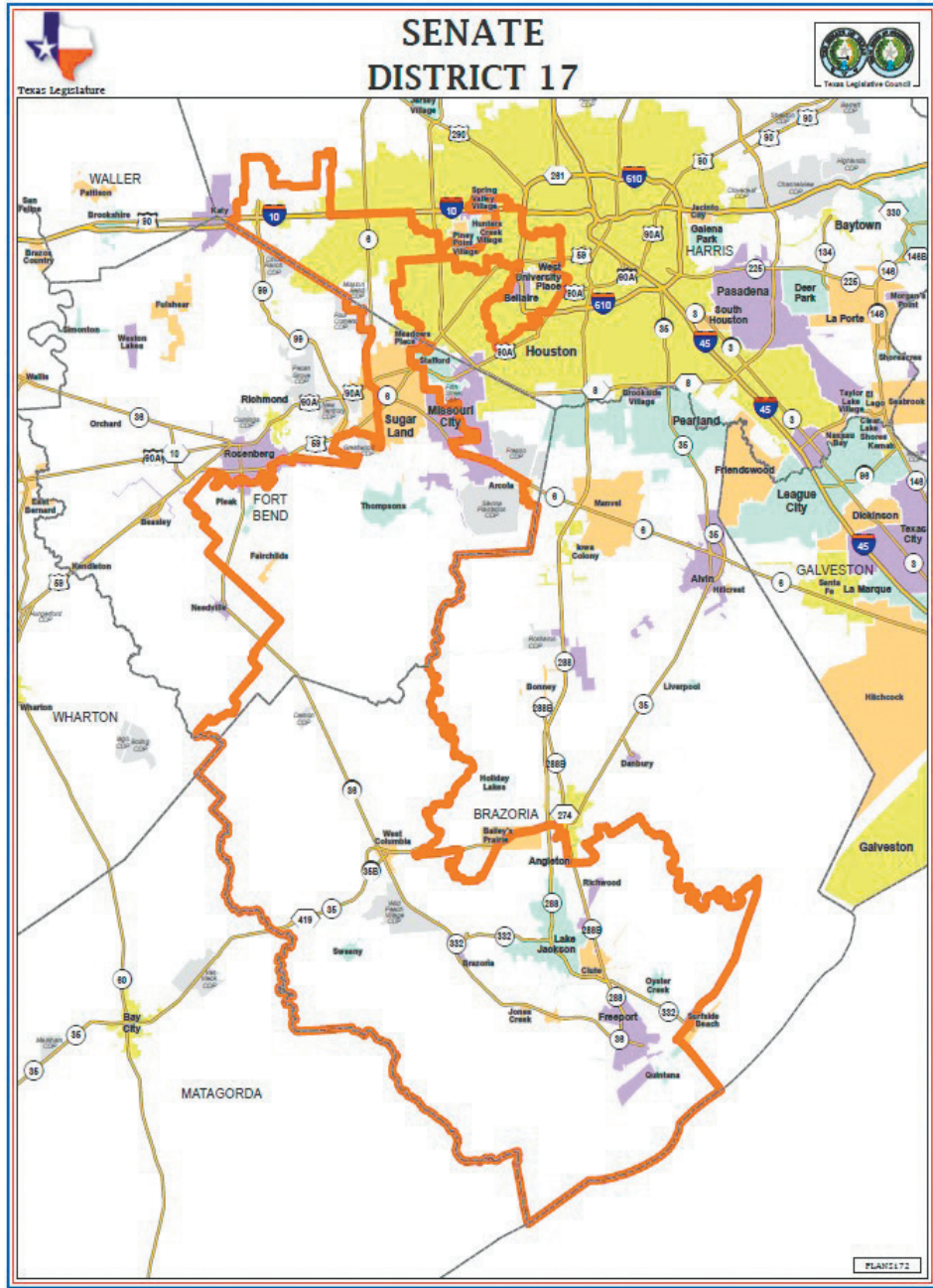
The funding is coming from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Texas is one of four recipients of the grants, designed to "address health disparities, improve health outcomes, and meet the unique needs of Texans living in rural areas using telemedicine," according to HHSC.

5 Texas horned lizard making comeback with coalition's help

A coalition of zoos and wildlife scientists has released into the wild 204 captive-raised hatchlings of the once ubiquitous Texas horned lizard, more commonly known as the horny toad. New evidence indicates that previously released lizards are successfully reproducing, according to a Texas Parks & Wildlife Department news release.

The horned lizard is one of 1,300 Texas species of concern, which are rare or declining and need special efforts to prevent being listed as endangered under state or federal regulations.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspres.com.

Third special session focuses on redistricting
... and 5 other Texas-sized issues

SOURCE: THE TEXAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Partisan districting efforts combined with attempts to balance population numbers in Texas congressional districts have led to oddly shaped districts such as State Senator Joan Huffman's (R-Houston) 17th district which is vaguely shaped like an upside-down question mark. The combination also leads to accusations of gerrymandering — the practice of setting districts up to intentionally favor one party or to exclude voting blocs by examining voting patterns such as those of minorities.

Water District
Notice of Public Hearing
on Tax Rate

The GRAND LAKES MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Monday, October 4, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. at the office of, Schwartz, Page & Harding, LLP, 1300 Post Oak Boulevard, Ste 1400, Houston, TX, 77056. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal:	William Shutt, Katherine Elofson, Anand Maru, Dennis Shumard
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	Nicole Whitman

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.54000/\$100 Adopted	\$0.54500/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.00500/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		0.93%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$341,502.00	\$343,306.00
General exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$341,502.00	\$343,306.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$1,844.11	\$1,871.02
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$26.91 1.46%

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-482-0216.

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DEFENSIVE DOMINATION



PAETOW SHUTS OUT KEMPNER IN BLOWOUT WIN

BY TYLER TYRE, TIME SPORTS EDITOR

Paetow's defense is used to holding offenses in check. The Panthers came into this week holding teams to an average of 16 points per game to teams, but they weren't satisfied just because they have had a strong start to the season.

R. HANS MILLER

Kole Wilson returns a punt during a game against Morton Ranch at Legacy Stadium on Sept. 3.

"We know we have to keep going and keep getting better," said junior line-backer Alex Kilgore. "When we're locked in, nobody can run on us, nobody can pass on us. We get harped on every practice to run to the ball and pursue. It doesn't matter what drill, practice is where everything starts."

Paetow's (4-0, 2-0) defense led the way as the Panthers held Kempner to -10 rushing yards in a District 10-5A, Division I 56-0 shutout victory on Saturday at Legacy Stadium.

"It really does feel good

to put together a performance like this," Kilgore said. "You work on this stuff all through practice, and to know that we can come out and do the things we tell each other to do, it's feels good to be able to put up numbers like that."

After the Paetow defense forced Kempner (0-3, 0-1) into a 3-and-out to start the game, C.J. Dumas hit Kole Wilson on a 26-yard pass to put the Panthers ahead.

"We've been working

See **PAETOW**, page B7

WEEK FOUR SCORES & SCHEDULES

- FOOTBALL**
- Thursday, Sept. 16**
- Katy 21, The Woodlands 14
 - Seven Lakes 28, Heights 6
 - Lake Creek 41, Morton Ranch 40
- Friday, Sept. 17**
- Klein Cain 63, Taylor 28
 - Clear Falls 37, Cinco Ranch 21
 - Tompkins 57, Clear Creek 7
 - Davenport 52, Jordan 44
 - Royal 34, Northeast Early College 0
- Saturday, Sept. 18**
- Paetow 62, Kempner 0
- Thursday, Sept. 23**
- Seven Lakes vs. Katy, 6 p.m., Legacy Stadium
 - Cinco Ranch vs. Tompkins, 7 p.m., Rhodes Stadium
- Friday, Sept. 24**
- Mayde Creek vs. College Park, 6 p.m., Legacy Stadium
 - Taylor vs. Morton Ranch, 7 p.m., Rhodes Stadium
 - Jordan at Lake Belton, 7 p.m.
 - Royal vs. Boling, 7 p.m.

- VOLLEYBALL**
- Friday**
- District 19-6A
- Taylor at Cinco Ranch, 5:30 p.m.
 - Morton Ranch at Mayde Creek, 4:30 p.m.
 - Seven Lakes at Tompkins, 5:30 p.m.
- District 19-5A
- Jordan at College Station High School, 6 p.m.
 - Paetow at Brenham, 6 p.m.



Katy linebacker Ty Kana brings down a Lamar ball carrier during Katy's 6A D2 area playoff win over Lamar at Rhodes Stadium last year.

Katy defense stifles Woodlands

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

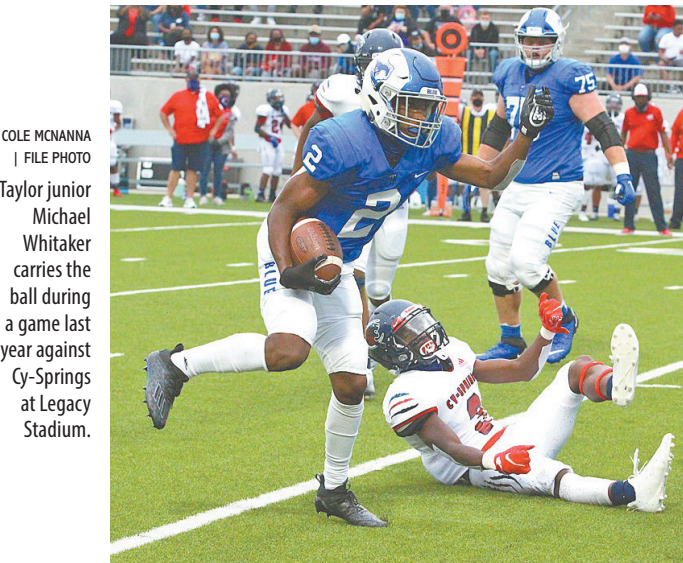
After a Katy fumble late in the second quarter, Brady Englett knew that the Tigers' defense needed to make a play.

With the game tied at seven against The Woodlands and the game nearing halftime, Englett intercepted a tipped pass with a diving catch and changed the momentum of the game, helping spark the team on both sides of the ball, as Seth Davis took a handoff 49

yards for a score on the very next play. "It changed the momentum," Englett said. "Our offense was able to get a nice touchdown at the end of the half and it was just a great opportunity for

See **WOODLANDS**, page B2

Taylor's Mustangs confident despite loss to Klein Cain



COLE MCNANNA | FILE PHOTO
Taylor junior Michael Whitaker carries the ball during a game last year against Cy-Springs at Legacy Stadium.

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Taylor is ready to move on to district play. The Mustangs faced a tough district schedule, but they are confident that the early season tests will help the team in the long run.

"We've played some really good teams," said senior running back Michael Whitaker. "Doing that and having playing these guys is going to prepare us for the district season and for the playoffs down the line."

Taylor had lost two straight games heading into this week and was looking for a bounce-back performance. But while the Mustangs fought, they came up short to a strong Klein Cain team 63-28 on Friday at Rhodes

Stadium.

"We did some good things to-night," said senior offensive lineman Nolan Hay. "We just need to keep coming together as a team and that's going to continue happening this week, I can promise that. We just know that we can compete against anyone."

Klein Cain jumped out to a very early lead; on the first play from scrimmage Carson Roper threw a screen pass to Matthew Golden, who juke multiple defenders and ran in a 75-yard touchdown. After a Taylor 3-and-out, the Hurricanes drove down the field again and scored on a Roper 1-yard run. Ramir McCray added another touchdown late in the first quarter and it wasn't until the second when Taylor finally

responded on a 7-yard run by Joe Jefferson.

Whitaker also ran in a run in the second quarter as Taylor traded scores with the Hurricanes but two scores by Klein Cain late in the half made it a very tough hill to climb as the Mustangs were down 42-14 at halftime.

"No matter who we go against we give it 100% and we try and wear them down and win," Hay said. "Sadly we weren't able to do that tonight, but it's all right — in order to win games you have to lose and learn from those mistakes as well."

Klein Cain scored three more times in the third quarter before Dante Archie ran in two touchdowns

See **TAYLOR**, page B8

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Injury-riddled Texans look to rebound against Panthers

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Things couldn't have gone much worse for the Houston Texans this week.

After a strong start against the Cleveland Browns, Tyrod Taylor came up limping after a play shortly before halftime. The quarterback had to leave the game and was not able to return as the Texans fell 31-21 to Cleveland.

The news got even worse Tuesday, as the Texans put both Taylor and rookie wide receiver Nico Collins on injured reserve, meaning both players will be out for at least three weeks.

Taylor was diagnosed with a grade-2 hamstring strain while Collins has a shoulder injury.

To make matters worse for the Texans, there is a chance Danny Amendola could be out for the Texans' next game, leaving the team short at wide receiver.

"He had been excellent," said Texans head coach Davis Culley of Taylor. "It's obvious that when he went down, it was a blow to us. When we went in at halftime we looked him over and he says, 'I'm all right.' But I looked at him in his eyes, and it was just his competitiveness saying, 'I'm okay,' but I knew he wasn't okay."

Davis Mills will take the reins at quarterback on Thursday when the Texans take on the Carolina Panthers at 7:20 p.m. at NRG Stadium.



Houston Texans quarterback Davis Mills (10) drops back to pass during an NFL preseason game between the Houston Texans and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on August 28, 2021 in Houston, Texas. SCOTT W. COLEMAN

The rookie played the second half against the Browns and went 8-18, throwing for 102 yards and a touchdown but he also threw an interception. Culley believes playing the second half against the Browns will prepare Mills for the start.

"It's going to help him tremendously," Culley said. "After the game

during interviews he mentioned how comfortable he was and how he didn't feel like there was anything happening to him that he wasn't prepared for. After going back and watching the video, there really wasn't anything that (the Browns) did that confused him or made him do anything different-

ly. He handled himself well and I expect him to do the same thing this week."

Jeff Driskel has been called up from the practice squad to serve as Mills' backup.

The Texans weren't able to get the ground game working against the Browns, and that will be a point

of emphasis for the team heading into its Thursday night showdown.

"When there's been issues running the ball it's because we've had a missed assignment here or there," Culley said. "We've had some guys that are learning to work together and then sometimes the team you're playing has something to do with that too."

The Panthers are 2-0 to start the season and come off a 26-7 win over the Saints. Culley knows it will be a tough task to put up points against such a strong defense.

"They fly around the ball, they remind me a lot of how our defense plays," Culley said. "Their up front guys really get after it, they play a scheme where they change it up and they do a good job of playing 11-on-11 defense. Those guys fly to the ball and we just have to make sure we take care of that."

With the injuries, it's about the worst time this team could have had for a short week, but Culley says the team is prepared to compete.

"It goes back to that next man up mentality," he said. "We have guys in those backup positions that know that when these things happen, and it's going to happen in football, they'll be ready. We've played two physical ballgames and when you play those type of ballgames, these things happen. There were four of five other guys for us that got hurt in that game and they came back in. They're a little banged up right now, but they'll be ready to go Thursday night."

WOODLANDS

from page B1

us to get ahead in the game."

Davis' run gave Katy a 14-7 lead, and the Tigers (4-0) never lost that lead for the rest of the game, as they went on to win 21-14 over The Woodlands (2-2) on Friday at Rhodes Stadium.

It was a nervy start for the Tigers, as the Highlanders went on a 10 play, 75 yard drive to start the game and sophomore quarterback Mabrey Mettauer connected with Ben Ferguson on a 21-yard pass to open the scoring. But Katy responded, as Davis took his second run of the night 49 yards and then ran in a six-yard touchdown to tie the game.

Katy continued to pound the run game

and got back into field goal range on its next drive, but after a fumble stalled the possession a missed field goal left things tied.

Things remained tied until the Davis' 49-yard run late in the second as the Tigers took the lead into half time.

"I was able to see some holes and break through them," Davis said. "I just tried to run it hard, they have a really good defense and so I just kept trying to run it hard every time I got it"

The Tigers were forced into a bad situation to start the second half as they fumbled the kickoff and The Woodlands recovered and took over at the Katy 25-yard-line. But the Ti-

gers didn't allow anything on the drive and the Highlanders missed a field goal of their own.

The turnover was Katy's ninth of the season, a number that the team knows they will need to work on.

"It's always concerning, but you can't dwell on the negative either," said Katy head coach Gary Joseph. "Sometimes you start doing that and it becomes paranoia. We'll get it corrected, we worked on it this week and it's something we're working on."

Neither team scored again until the fourth quarter as it became a defensive battle. But Katy went up two scores on a 23-yard touchdown pass from Caleb Koger to Isaiah Smith as it looked as if the Tigers took control of the game on a nine play, 71-yard drive.

But as soon as the Tigers seemed to pull away, the Highlanders came back, as Mettauer took the team on another scoring drive and he ran in a 2-yard quarterback sneak to bring things back to a one-score game.

"These past two games really helped us," Davis said. "It gave us good experience going into district. I'm glad we had that Dickinson game last week too because it made us face adversity and we did this week to but we came and we did good."

Katy took over five minutes off the clock on its ensuing drive, but was unable to convert on a final fourth-and-two run that would have sealed the game, leaving the Katy defense to make another stop to ice the win.

The Tigers defense wasn't fazed as they forced a turnover on downs and Katy came away with the victory.

"it was big for us to do that," Englett said. "It was a good momentum changer late in the game to get that turnover on downs, we just didn't want to give them that first down."

The Woodlands came into the game averaging over 34 points per game and Joseph was happy with the entire team's effort to limit that.

"It was a big accomplishment for us, but it wasn't just the defense," Joseph said. "It was the offense too and it really was a team win. They really complimented each other."

Davis finished the night rushing for 225 yards on 31 carries while Koger was an efficient 8-11 for 97 yards.

The Tigers kick off district next Thursday against Seven Lakes, which comes off a 28-6

win over the Heights.

"They're starting to build a bit more chemistry and trust with each other," Joseph said. "If they can continue doing that, they'll continue getting better."

Katy 21, The Woodlands 14

The Woodlands	7	0	0	7	--	14
Katy	7	7	0	7	--	21

First quarter

Woodlands: Mabrey Mettauer 21 pass to Ben Ferguson (Robertson kick), 8:30

Katy: Seth Davis 6 run (Axel Robertson kick), 6:07

Second quarter

Katy: Davis 49 run (Robertson kick), 2:10

Fourth quarter

Katy: Caleb Koger 23 pass to Isaiah Smith (Robertson kick), 11:10

Woodlands: Mettauer 2 run (Sims kick), 6:58

Team stats

	The Woodlands	Katy
First downs	15	15
Yards rushing	27-119	42-248
Yards passing	166	97
Passes	19-30-1-1	8-11-1-0
Punts	4.33	2.35
Fumbles-lost	0-0	2-1
Penalty-yards	3-40	3-25

Individual Statistics

Rushing — Katy: Seth Davis, 31-225-2; Isaiah Smith, 5-24; Chase Johnsey, 4-5; Dallas Glass, 2-6; The Woodlands: Mabrey Mettauer, 7-51-1; Jo'Barre Reed, 11-39; Tobin Miller, 1-12; Jason Williams, 3-11; Jacoby Mitchell, 3-6;

Passing — Katy: Caleb Koger, 8-11-97-1-0; The Woodlands: Mabrey Mettauer, 19-30-166-1-1;

Receiving — Katy: Isaiah Smith, 3-40-1; Antonio Silva, 3-38; JR Ceyanes, 2-19; The Woodlands: Ben Ferguson, 6-71-1; Parker McGill, 2-25; Tobin Miller, 1-24; Jo'Barre Reed, 4-16; Camden Cash, 4-14; Jason Williams, 2-12;



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WEEK FIVE KATY ISD PREVIEWSDISTRICT MANIA BEGINS

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Thursday, Sept. 23

DISTRICT 19-6A

Seven Lakes (3-1) vs. Katy (4-0), 6 p.m., Legacy Stadium

• After an uncertain start to the season, Seven Lakes has found its groove the past two weeks, outscoring opponents 73 to 33 in that timespan. Grayson Medford has settled into the quarterback position and went 11-17 for 112 yards and a touchdown through the air last week while adding 30 yards and a score on the ground in Seven Lakes win over the Heights. Tyler Foster and Beau Clewitt are both threats in the passing game and have over 100 yards receiving on the season while sophomore Barrett Hudson has become the workhorse in the backfield. Katy meanwhile, comes off a grueling non-district schedule and is dealing with some injuries heading into district play. The Tigers won a close game against the Woodlands last week in which Seth Davis had a career day, rushing for 225 yards and three scores. Caleb Koger has looked reliable in his second year as a varsity quarterback, but there are still some question marks that have to be answered throughout district play and the playoffs for the team. Katy's running game and play action will be very hard to stop for the Spartans with the Tigers having so much balance on offense. The Tigers' main goal defensively will be to contain Medford.

Cinco Ranch (3-1) vs. Tompkins (4-0), 7 p.m., Rhodes Stadium

• Cinco Ranch suffered its first setback of the season last week as the Cougars lost 37-7 to Clear Falls. Greyson Medford and the passing game were still successful, as the junior passed for 192 yards and two touchdowns and Seth Salverino had 165 yards and two touchdowns on six catches, but the team wasn't able to keep its success in the running game going. Sam McKnight had just 42 yards and averaged just over three yards per carry and the team only tallied 52 yards rushing in total. Defensively, it was the first time Cinco Ranch was outmatched this season, as the Panthers had given up 14 points on average heading into the game. Tompkins on the other hand, came off its strongest performance of the season as the Falcons beat Clear Creek 57-7. Tompkins has found balance on offense and the defense has very much come alive since a close call against Clear Springs in week 2. Cole Francis has weapons in Josh McMillan II, Matthew Ogunrin, Wyatt Young and Chidubem Lebechi in the pass game, while Collin Marshall, Young and Caleb Blocker have grown into their roles in the run game as the season has progressed. Cinco Ranch's passing game will test the Tompkins defense, but the Cougars will need balance if they want to have success against such a strong unit, and Tompkins will look to keep doing what it did last week offensively as the Cinco Ranch defense will have its hands full.

Friday, Sept. 24

DISTRICT 19-6A

Taylor (1-3) vs. Morton Ranch (2-2), 7 p.m., Rhodes Stadium

• Taylor and Morton Ranch both head into district play needing to answer questions on the defensive side of the ball. Taylor gave up over 50 points for the second straight game in a loss to Klein Cain last week and will need to find a way to slow teams down on that side of the ball after giving up over 600 yards of offense in the loss. One positive for the Mustangs is the success they had running the ball against Klein Cain. The team had 336 yards on the ground and Michael Whitaker III rushed for 116 yards. Morton Ranch almost pulled out a win against Lake Creek, but came up just short in a 41-40 loss as Santana Scott almost willed the team to victory himself. The junior running back finished with 472 all-purpose yards in the game, including 240 rushing yards and five total touchdowns. Joshua Johnson had his best game of the season, going 12-19 for 206 yards and two touchdowns, but the defense was not able to hold up against Lake Creek. Taylor will continue to try and pound the run game against Morton Ranch, as the Mavericks struggled with the run last game, while Morton Ranch will try to take advantage of a Taylor defense that has struggled against both the run and the pass.

NON-DISTRICT

Mayde Creek (2-1) vs. College Park (3-1), 6 p.m., Legacy Stadium

• Mayde Creek comes off its bye week winners of two straight games. Sophomore quarterback Jaylen Bragg has had a strong start to the season as he has thrown for 332 yards and four touchdowns thus far. Jordan Kelly is leading the way for the receivers with 142 yards and two touchdowns early in the season while Leroy Turner also has over 100 yards receiving on the season. The run game will need to get better for the Rams as they have just 125 yards total and no one has reached 50 yards on the ground for the season. The defense has been a strong spot and will need to continue its strong work for Mayde Creek to have a successful campaign. That defense will be tested this week by College Park and senior quarterback Ty Buckmon. The College Park offense is averaging over 30 points per game and its defense has had strong showings against every team but Cinco Ranch thus far. It will be a good test for Mayde Creek to see where the team is at before they head into district play.

Jordan (1-3) at Lake Belton (4-0), 7 p.m.

• Jordan lost its second straight game last week to Davenport and it won't get any easier for the team this week as it goes up against Lake Belton. The Warriors fell 52-45 in a close game to Davenport, as the teams offense showed promise after a subpar game against Little Cypress-Mauriceville. Lake Belton is led by quarterback Connor Hays, who has already thrown for 846 yards and five touchdowns on the season and rushed for 189 yards and three touchdowns. The team has an explosive offense in both the pass and run game and has on average given up under 30 points per game, making this game a real challenge for Jordan.



R. HANS MILLER

Morton Ranch's Josiah Mills tries to break away from the Paetow defense during a game at Legacy Stadium on Sept. 3.

John Wall won't play for Rockets this season

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

John Wall and the Rockets agreed this week that the veteran guard would not play for the team this season while the Rockets search for a trade to get Wall to a contender.

The point guard will still attend the Rockets training camp later

this month, but Wall will not play in any games as he and the Rockets work out a trade with another team.

Wall, who is entering his second season in Houston, has \$91.68 million remaining on his contract over the next two seasons, including a \$47.4 million player option next year.

At 31 years old, Wall's age and

contract — along with his injury history — might make it hard for the Rockets to trade him. He was dealt to Houston last year as part of a deal that sent Russell Westbrook to Washington.

Wall's spot in the rotation became a question after the Rockets drafted Jalen Green with the second overall pick in the draft. With Kevin Porter Jr. taking

over the point guard position, and young players such as K.J. Martin, Jae'Sean Tate, Josh Christopher Jr. and Armoni Brooks among others taking space at the wing and guard positions, it was harder and harder to see where Wall would get his playing time.

The Rockets are in the midst of a youth movement and rebuild, and the veterans did not fit with

the current roster. His departure will allow for more time on the court for the younger players on the team.

There haven't been talks of a buyout between Wall and the team, and the Rockets are willing to let Wall sit even if it means going past the trade deadline and into the offseason without him being traded.

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Katy Times

Katy, Paetow still on top in Houston area rankings

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

As district play begins for 6A programs, Katy remained atop the Class 6A Houston area high school football rankings, garnering 11 of 13 first place votes.

Tompkins dropped one spot in the rankings, despite a 64-7 win over Clear Creek as C.E. King jumped one spot to No. 7 after a win over Huntsville. Atascocita dropped two spots to No. 4 after a loss to Denton Guyer but received a first place vote and Spring moved into No. 2 in the rankings and also received a first place vote.

In Class 5A, Paetow remained at No. 2, behind Fort Bend Marshall, after the Panthers toppled Kempner 65-0 last week. Paetow received one first place vote as did No. 3 Manvel.

Huffman-Hargrave remained atop the small school poll, as the school got seven first place votes. Bellville and El Campo remained No. 2 and No. 3 while East Bernard and Sealy switched spots at No. 4 and 5 after Sealy's loss to Stafford last week.

There were no changes to the private school rankings as Kinkaid remained at No. 1. Following is the full rankings.



RAY BORCHERT | RAYBORCHERTPHOTOGRAPHY@GMAIL.COM
Matthew Ogunrin reaches out to make a catch during Tompkins Class 6A, Division I area round win over Cy-Fair last season.

CLASS 6A

1. Katy (11 first-place votes)

Record: 4-0; Points: 257; Previous rank: 1; Last week: Beat The Woodlands, 21-14.

2. Spring (1)

Record: 3-0; Points: 237; Previous rank: 3; Last week: idle.

3. Bridgeland

Record: 3-0; Points: 227; Previous rank: 4; Last week: idle.

4. Atascocita (1)

Record: 3-1; Points: 221; Previous rank: 2; Last week: Lost to Denton Guyer, 46-35.

5. Westfield

Record: 3-0; Points: 218; Previous rank: 5; Last week: idle.

6. North Shore

Record: 3-1; Points: 193; Previous rank: 6; Last week: Beat Klein Oak, 58-34.

7. C.E. King

Record: 4-0; Points: 181; Previous rank: 8; Last week: Beat Huntsville, 49-6.

8. Tompkins

Record: 4-0; Points: 178; Previous rank: 7; Last week: Beat Clear Creek, 64-7.

9. Cypress Park

Record: 4-0; Points: 152; Previous rank: 11; Last week: Beat Cypress

Spring, 62-7.

10. Ridge Point

Record: 3-1; Points: 139; Previous rank: 10; Last week: Beat FB Austin, 64-0.

11. Dickinson

Record: 2-2; Points: 122; Previous rank: 11; Last week: Beat Dobie, 48-27.

12. Clear Falls

Record: 4-0; Points: 119; Previous rank: 13; Last week: Beat Cinco Ranch, 37-21.

13. Klein Cain

Record: 3-1; Points: 95; Previous rank: 15; Last week: Beat Katy Taylor, 63-28.

14. The Woodlands

Record: 2-2; Points: 71; Previous rank: 14; Last week: Lost to Katy, 21-14.

15. Tomball

Record: 4-0; Points: 62; Previous rank: 17; Last week: Beat Oak Ridge, 38-13.

16. Dobie

Record: 3-1; Points: 59; Previous rank: 12; Last week: Lost to Dickinson, 48-27.

17. Shadow Creek

Record: 1-2; Points: 55; Previous rank: 16; Last week: idle.

18. Summer Creek

Record: 4-0; Points: 50; Previous rank: 18; Last week: Beat Westside, 74-3.

19. Pearland Dawson

Record: 2-1; Points: 38; Previous rank: 19; Last week: idle.

20. Jersey Village

Record: 3-0; Points: 27; Previous rank: 20; Last week: idle.

Also receiving votes: Tomball Memorial 10, Cypress Ranch 7, George Ranch 4, Cy-Fair 3, Cinco Ranch 1, Grand Oaks 1, Klein Forest 1, Sam Rayburn 1, Seven Lakes 1.

Class 5A

1. Fort Bend Marshall (11 first-place votes)

Record: 4-0; Points: 127; Previous rank: 1; Last week: Beat Northside, 72-0.

2. Paetow (1)

Record: 4-0; Points: 115; Previous rank: 2; Last week: Beat Kempner, 65-0.

3. Manvel (1)

Record: 3-1; Points: 105; Previous rank: 3; Last week: Beat B.F. Terry, 41-6.

4. Montgomery

Record: 3-0; Points: 84; Previous rank: 4; Last week: idle.

5. Magnolia West

Record: 4-0; Points: 75; Previous rank: 6; Last week: Beat Cleveland, 41-14.

6. Huntsville

Record: 2-1; Points: 51;

Previous rank: 4; Last week: Lost to C.E. King, 49-6.

7. New Caney

Record: 3-0; Points: 49; Previous rank: 7; Last week: idle.

8. Crosby

Record: 1-2; Points: 37; Previous rank: 8; Last week: idle.

9. Hightower

Record: 2-1; Points: 29; Previous rank: 9; Last week: idle.

10. Lake Creek

Record: 4-0; Points: 15; Previous rank: NR; Last week: Beat Morton Ranch, 41-40.

Also receiving votes: Baytown Lee 13, Magnolia 7, Angleton 5, Fulshear 3.

Class 4A/small schools

1. Huffman-Hargrave (7 first-place votes)

Record: 4-0; Points: 47; Previous rank: 1; Last week: Beat Navasota, 37-20.

2. Bellville (2)

Record: 4-0; Points: 41; Previous rank: 2; Last week: Beat Rockdale, 67-7.

3. El Campo (1)

Record: 3-1; Points: 30; Previous rank: 3; Last week: Beat Wharton, 70-21.

4. East Bernard

Record: 3-1; Points: 16; Previous rank: 5; Last week: Beat Schulenburg, 17-6.

5. Sealy

Record: 2-2; Points: 8; Previous rank: 4; Last week: Lost to Stafford, 28-14.

Also receiving votes: La Marque 5, Brookshire Royal 1, Stafford 1.

Private schools

1. Kinkaid (8 first-place votes)

Record: 3-0; Points: 40; Previous rank: 1; Last week: Beat St. John XXIII, 56-6.

2. Second Baptist

Record: 3-1; Points: 31; Previous rank: 2; Last week: Beat Cypress Christian, 49-14.

3. St. Thomas

Record: 3-1; Points: 23; Previous rank: 3; Last week: Beat Houston Christian, 42-0.

4. The Woodlands Christian

Record: 3-0; Points: 13; Previous rank: 4; Last week: idle.

5. St. John's

Record: 3-0; Points: 9; Previous rank: 5; Last week: idle.
Also receiving votes: Cypress Christian 2, St. Pius X 2.

Q&A

with Katy ISD tennis coaches

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

We are in the midst of tennis season, so we decided to sit down with every Katy ISD coach to see what to expect from each team.

CINCO RANCH HIGH

Head Coach: Colin Harvey

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. Cinco Ranch High School fans can expect that the tennis team will always compete to their fullest with respect and good sportsmanship. We will play a lot of matches on the varsity level to strengthen our game.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season. (This can be training-related, classroom-related or whatever advice they'd like to give their student-athletes.)

A. I would say one of the most important tips would be to have good footwork. It is vital to being in the right position and balanced as you are hitting the ball. Also, watching the ball even after you've hit it.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. Varsity Goals: To make the post-season. In team tennis, the top four teams go to the playoffs. The playoff structure has changed over the years. Since it went to four teams in 2013, we have made it every year. We have been in the top four of district every year. When only two teams went to the regional tournament, we made it every year from 2001-2008.

JORDAN HIGH SCHOOL

Head Coach: Tyler Esterline

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. Without graduating any players last year, our team is even stronger this year. We will be in the hunt for a 19-5A District Championship and looking to push past the Regional Quarterfinals that we lost in last year.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season. (This can be training-related, classroom-related or whatever advice they'd like to give their student-athletes.)

A. To make this a good season, players will have to come together as teammates in

a short amount of time. If we can learn to trust each other on the court, we will have a great season this fall.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. We are looking to compete in the 5A state semi-finals for a chance at the championship round.

KATY HIGH SCHOOL

Head Coach: Christopher Kerr

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. Katy High School fans can expect a number of great returning players and a lot of hard working, motivated young players.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season. (This can be training-related, classroom-related or whatever advice they'd like to give their student-athletes.)

A. One tip for the Katy High School tennis players is to trust the process.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. The Katy High School Tennis team goals are to compete for a bi-district playoff spot

MAYDE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

Head Coach: Marianne Bianchi

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. Mayde Creek High School fans can expect some great tennis. The players are working hard and looking forward to a great season.

Q. What are the teams goals for the 2021 season?

A. Our team goals are to improve on last year's records and to focus on winning those matches that we should win.

MORTON RANCH HIGH SCHOOL

Head Coach: Mitch Findley

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. The Morton Ranch High School Tennis fans can expect a good group of young men and women that enjoy competing and displaying their Maverick pride.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season. (This can be training-related, classroom-related or whatever advice they'd like to give their student-athletes.)

A. There are three things that we consis-

tently talk about. 1. Work Ethic 2. Attitude 3. Team - All three of these aspects effect each other. We discuss and look to improve each aspect every day.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. Our team goals are to strive to be the best student-athlete we can be.

PAETOW HIGH SCHOOL

Head Coach: Edmanuel Lasanta

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. Paetow High School fans can expect our team playing hard and competing at a high level. Making the best of every opportunity we get. Fans can expect our players to compete with a high sense of sportsmanship, court etiquette, and respect.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season. (This can be training-related, classroom-related or whatever advice they'd like to give their student-athletes.)

A. One tip for our Paetow High School Tennis players is to take advantage of every opportunity you get to succeed on and off the court. Don't be afraid of failure. You need to take a shot and believe in yourself. Go for it.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. Our team goals are the following: q. Be all in; 2. Have a competitive mindset; 3. Be hard to beat on the court; 4. Maximize every opportunity we get; 5. Not feat failure, but embrace it to improve and excel.

SEVEN LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

Head Coach: James Bramlett

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. Seven Lakes High School fans can expect a team full of players who have spent countless hours and many years trying to master the mental and physical warfare of tennis. This year's team will support one another win or lose and do so with respect for ourselves and our opponent.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season. (This can be training-related, classroom-related or whatever advice they'd like to give their student-athletes.)

A. One tip for the Seven Lakes High School Tennis team is to always approach practice like a tournament or match day. Play in as many USTA and UTR tourna-

ments as possible on weekends.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. Seven Lakes Tennis is striving towards a district championship and a deep playoff run.

TAYLOR HIGH SCHOOL

Head Coach: Erich Klopp

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. Taylor High School fans can expect to see the same level of play as they did last year. Boys and girls are strong. Returning district singles champion and state qualifier and returning district champion in boys doubles / 3rd place in the state tournament for boys doubles are some athletes returning.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season. (This can be training-related, classroom-related or whatever advice they'd like to give their student-athletes.)

A. A tip to our players is to continue to practice outside of school and support their teammates.

Q. What are the teams goals for the 2021 season?

A. Our team goals are to continue to build cohesion within the team, to encourage our Junior Varsity players to play in USTA tournaments and increase their practice time outside of school to three days a week, and to place 2nd in the district by beating Seven Lakes.

TOMPKINS HIGH SCHOOL

Head Coach: Renee Richardson

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. Falcon fans can expect a state-ranked team with deep and talented boys side and a girls team led by young and talented underclassmen.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season. (This can be training-related, classroom-related or whatever advice they'd like to give their student-athletes.)

A. One tip for our players is: Life is like a game of tennis - those that Serve well win.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. The Tompkins Tennis Team is looking to defend our district championship this year and make a deep run into the post season.

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Katy Times



WATER TOWER HONORS KATY SOFTBALL CHAMPS

Katy softball coach Kalum Haack and players from the 2015 and 2019 state championship softball teams (left) celebrate the painting being put up on the water tower in downtown Katy. City of Katy leaders were also in attendance (back row, left to right) Chris Harris, Mayor Pro Tem and At Large council member; Byron Hebert, city administrator; Bill Hastings, Mayor and Janet Corte, Council Member Ward A.

TYLER TYRE

Workers install the new painting (below) celebrating the Katy Tigers for winning the 2015 and 2019 softball state championships.

TYLER TYRE

The water tower in downtown Katy (inset photo below) received a new addition as the it was painted to recognize the Katy Tigers for winning the 2015 and 2019 softball state championships.

COURTESY KATY ISD



Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 449 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 8:00 a.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, TX 77027 or by teleconference at (1-866-390-1828), Access Code (5392815). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal: J. Beavers, C. Vinklarek, M. Willett & H. Tolleson
AGAINST the proposal: (none)
PRESENT and not voting: (none)
ABSENT: T. Crist

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year \$.290 /\$100 Adopted	This Year \$.240 /\$100 Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)		
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.050 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		0.0000%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$256,699	\$271,934
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$256,699	\$271,934
Tax on average residence homestead	\$3,311.42	\$3,371.98
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$60.56 1.8288%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.

WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The WEST HARRIS COUNTY M.U.D. #17 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on October 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at 10000 Memorial Drive, Suite 260, Houston, TX 77024. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal: Thelma E. Boyle, Sharlene Rhea,
Bryant A. Gaudette
AGAINST the proposal: None
PRESENT and not voting: None
ABSENT: T.J. Covino

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year \$.96500/\$100 Adopted	This Year \$.96500/\$100 Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)		
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$.00000/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		.00%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 167,212	\$ 178,285
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 167,212	\$ 178,285
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,613.59	\$ 1,720.45
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$ 106.86 6.62%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Bob Leared Interests 713-932-9011

PAETOW

from page B1

on coming out fast and I had a lot of confidence just going into the play,” Dumas said. “I trust my offensive line and my receivers route running, Kole is a great receiver and I knew if I put the ball anywhere near him that he was going to go up, get it and score.”

Jacob Brown added to the lead with a 21-yard run and ended the half with three scores. Gene Kendall scored on a one yard run late in the first quarter.

Paetow’s defense continued to dominate in the second quarter as they blocked a punt and C.J. Johnson intercepted a pass. Dumas and Damyrion Phillips added on to the lead with touchdown runs, a 28-yard run from Dumas and a 2-yard run from Phillips and Kempner had -27 yards of offense at the half.

“When the defense plays like that it just helps us so much,” Brown said. “Great field position helps every single time. It’s not just that, but when they’re making great plays on defense, it motivates us on offense to do even better. That’s bleeds over from what we do in practice helping get each other better every single day.”

The Panthers came out fast in the second half too as Scottie Edison took the opening kickoff of the half 80-yards for a touchdown. Phillips added another touchdown and Anthony Fuentes kicked a field goal to cap off the scoring.

Kempner ended the night with just seven yards of total offense as Paetow secured its first shutout of the season, staying perfect on the year and in district play.

“I challenged the team this past week to play a clean game for four quarters,” Gotte said. “I didn’t want us to have a let-down after a good first half. The past three games, we’ve played well in in all three phases and then in the second half we would sputter. We were able to start the second half clean and do what we set out to do. We have a lot of three-year letterman on the roster that have experience, so we have high expectations for them.”

Paetow’s aim is to win district for the first time this year and to compete for a state championship, but the team knows it will need to continue to improve.

The Panthers will take on Milby next week as they try to continue their perfect start to the season.

“I’ve been saying it since we had the forfeit last year, this team can win a state championship,” Dumas said. “That’s something we’ve been telling ourselves since that happened last season. We take things one game at a time and

don’t get too far ahead, but we definitely feel like if we go out there and play the way we know we can that this team can beat anyone.”

Paetow 62, Kempner 0

Kempner	0	0	0	0	--	0
Paetow	21	28	13	3	--	62

First quarter

Paetow: C.J. Dumas 26 pass to Kole Wilson (Anthony Fuentes kick), 9:42
Paetow: Jacob Brown 21 run (Fuentes kick), 5:04

Paetow: Gene Kendall 1 run (Fuentes kick), 0:15

Second quarter

Paetow: Brown 16 run (Fuentes kick), 9:59
Paetow: Brown 7 run (Fuentes kick), 8:07
Paetow: Dumas 28 run (Fuentes kick), 6:50

Paetow: Damyrion Phillips 2 run (Fuentes kick), 3:53

Third quarter

Paetow: Scottie Edison 80 kickoff return (Fuentes kick), 11:49
Paetow: Phillips 3 run, 4:20

Fourth quarter

Paetow: Fuentes 22 kick, 11:17

Team stats

	Kempner	Paetow
First downs	2	16
Yards rushing	24-(-10)	40-258
Yards passing	17	147
Passes	7-16-0-1	5-7-1-0
Punts	9-27	0-0
Fumbles-lost	0-0	3-0
Penalty-yards	4-48	7-75

Individual Statistics

Rushing -- Paetow: Jacob Brown, 9-92-3; Damyrion Phillips, 16-74-2; C.J. Dumas, 2-48-1; Jalyn Richardson, 8-54; Gene Kendall, 2-4-1; John Helton, 2-(-5); Kyle Hughes, 1-(-9), 7-31; Kempner: Justin Peters, 7-12; Corbin Evers, 4-14; Abayomi Wiggins, 3-(-2); Chibuikem Ome, 1-(-4) Javon Goss, 8-(-30);

Passing -- Paetow: CJ Dumas, 4-6-109-1-0; John Helton, 1-1-38-0-0 Kempner: Corbin Evers, 3-4-15-0-0; Javon Goss, 4-11-2-0-1;

Receiving -- Paetow: Kole Wilson, 3-96-1; Justin Stevenson, 1-35; Jason Blue, 1-16; Kempner: Gavin Watson-Roysten, 4-13; Abdule Durasomi, 1-3; Antonio Jacobs, 2-1;

Brown motivated after earning Ford Tough honor



BY TYLER TYRE

TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Jacob Brown knew this was coming.

The Paetow senior running back knew that his time and effort would eventually pay off if he kept working — he just didn’t know when.

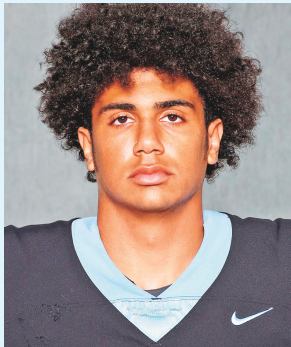
“Honestly, it’s been a lot that’s gotten me here,” Brown said. “Really since this time last year, I was focused on my senior year, trying to put that work in. The whole team came together in the offseason and summer and this year has been great to this point.”

Brown has had a scorching start to the season, and he capped it off by being named the Class 5A Ford Tough Player of the Week.

Brown rushed for 294 yards and four touchdowns against Richmond Foster to help Paetow win its district 10-5A, Division I opener.

“It’s truly a blessing to accomplish this,” Brown said. “Freshman year on I was kind of waiting behind the guys, but now that I’m here, it’s just astonishing being able to win an award like this.”

Through four games this season, Brown has rushed for 636 yards and 12 touchdowns, averaging 159 yards on the ground and three



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jacob Brown has been named the Ford Tough Player of the week after rushing for 294 yards and four touchdowns against Richmond Foster.

touchdowns per game and going over 100 yards in two games thus far.

His success has helped spearhead the Panthers, as the team has gotten off to a perfect 4-0 start and 2-0 start to district play.

“I’m just very proud of him,” said Paetow head coach B.J. Gotte. “Knowing Jacob like I have since his eighth-grade year, he’s come a long way. Personally, physically and in a lot of areas.

It’s good to see him have that success which is a byproduct of the work he’s put in this offseason. He really worked hard this offseason, harder than he’s worked since he’s been with us and he committed himself to being

the best version of himself. When you see a kid do that you hope that the reward comes, and it has for him.”

While Brown has put up the numbers for Paetow, he’s the first to credit his offensive line.

“They’re such a tremendous help,” Brown said. “Even in practice before games, it’s such a special bond that I can’t even explain, but it obviously shows on the field.”

There are a number of new starters on the line this year, and the group’s success has been something Gotte is proud of.

“They’ve done a fantastic job,” Gotte said. “That was one of our biggest question marks we had coming in this year because if you count tight end, we lost five out of six guys on the line from last year. Our guard is the only returning starter in that group so they’re all new varsity starters and they’ve answered the bell. They’ve worked really hard. In skills this summer and in strength and conditioning, they showed up, worked hard and learned. They’re playing really well right now.”

Getting the award doesn’t satisfy Brown though; the senior wants to make the most of his last high school season and he is using everything to push himself to be better.

“It motivates me so much,” Brown said. “I just have to keep working like I did over the summer and offseason. I’m just gonna keep pushing myself because I know it pays off.”

R. HANS MILLER

Paetow’s Jacob Brown runs the ball during a game against Morton Ranch on Sept. 3 at Legacy Stadium.



Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 130, will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 12:00 noon, at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal:	P. Gray, R. Graham & L. Hitchcock
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	D. Smith & M. Rusk

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ <u>0.530</u> /\$100 Adopted	\$ <u>0.520</u> /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	- <u>\$0.010</u> /\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	-1.8868%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ <u>411,427</u>	\$ <u>430,117</u>
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ <u>411,427</u>	\$ <u>430,117</u>
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ <u>2,180.56</u>	\$ <u>2,236.61</u>
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	<u>\$56.05</u> <u>2.5704%</u>	

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 130 for Defined Area No. 1, will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Thursday, September 30, 2021 at 12:00 p.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal:	P. Gray, R. Graham, & L. Hitchcock
AGAINST the proposal:	(none)
PRESENT and not voting:	(none)
ABSENT:	D. Smith & M. Rusk

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ <u>0.870</u> /\$100 Adopted	\$ <u>0.870</u> /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	<u>\$0.870</u> /\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	<u>0.0000%</u>	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ <u>502,040</u>	\$ <u>489,954</u>
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ <u>502,040</u>	\$ <u>489,954</u>
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ <u>4,367.75</u>	\$ <u>4,262.60</u>
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	- <u>\$105.15</u> - <u>2.4074%</u>	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS’ RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

Property that is located inside Defined Area No. 1 of Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 130 is also subject to the tax rate levied on all property within the district. A separate Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate is being published for such tax rate in the amount of \$.52 per \$100 of taxable value, resulting in a total tax rate of \$1.39 per \$100 of taxable value on property located inside Defined Area No. 1.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.

TAYLOR
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in the fourth once backups were in.

Taylor finished the night with 357 yards on the ground, a positive the team is taking from the game.

“We really wanted to be the first team this season that pounded the ball on them every play,” Hay said. “I think we were able to do that most of the game, it just wasn’t enough. But hopefully it can set the tone for district. We’re determined and I would be scared if I was any other team that we are about to go against.”

The question mark for the Mustangs will be how can they respond on defense. The Hurricanes put up over 500 yards of offense in the win and Taylor suffered injuries on that side of the ball in the game as well.

Taylor also had three fumbles

in the game, although the Mustangs only turned it over once, and the team knows that is something that will need to improve.

“We have to make sure we hold on to the ball and focus on ball security,” Whitaker said. “I know that’s something we’re going to focus on.”

Taylor will go up against Morton Ranch to open District 19-6A play next Friday, and the team knows how important it will be to start district on the right foot.

“It starts with film tomorrow. We’re gonna wake up early and get here at nine, I think we should wake up at six personally,” Hay said. “We’re going to bounce back, I know that we will. I can’t wait, especially with how things went last year. I’m so hyped up and so ready.”

Klein Cain 63, Taylor 28

Klein Cain	21	21	21	0	--	63
Taylor	0	14	0	14	--	28

First quarter

Cain: Carson Roper 75 pass to Matthew Golden (Rowdy McGuire kick), 11:46

Cain: Roper 1 run (McGuire kick), 8:40

Cain: Ramir McCray 11 run (McGuire kick), 2:48

Second quarter

Taylor: Joe Jefferson 7 run (Ale Sabek kick), 11:11

Cain: Jonathan Rosette 38 run (McGuire kick), 8:11

Taylor: Michael Whitaker 2 run (Sabek kick) 2:50

Cain: Roper 9 run (McGuire kick), 1:53

Cain: Drew Stokes 11 run (Mc-

Guire kick), 1:08

Third quarter

Cain: Roper 37 pass to Golden (McGuire kick), 9:02

Cain: McCray 56 run (McGuire kick), 4:43

Cain: Rosette 2 run (McGuire kick), 0:55

Fourth quarter

Taylor: Dante Archie 8 run (Sabek kick), 8:30

Taylor: Archie 3 run (Sabek kick), 2:45

Fumbles-lost	2-0	3-1
Penalty-yards	6-36	4-21

Individual Statistics

Rushing -- Taylor: Michael Whitaker 16-109-1; Dante Archie, 10-110-2; Joe Jefferson, 16-49-1; Andrew Meza, 4-41; Keith Muse, 5-26; Jackson Ingram, 3-18; Tyler Irving, 2-4; Klein Cain: Ramir McCray, 14-126-2; Jonathan Rosette, 7-95-2; Drew Stokes, 4-41-1; Jaelen Smith, 1-10; Carson Roper, 6-16-2;

Passing -- Taylor: Joe Jefferson, 7-10-51-0-0; Jackson Ingram, 0-1-0-0-0 Klein Cain: Carson Roper, 10-14-265-2-0;

Receiving -- Taylor: Tyler Irving, 4-34; Wyatt Fahey, 1-13; Jamon Hines, 1-4; Michael Whitaker, 2-0; Klein Cain: Matthew Golden, 8-198-2; Jaelen Smith, 1-59; Carter Schultz, 1-8.

Team stats

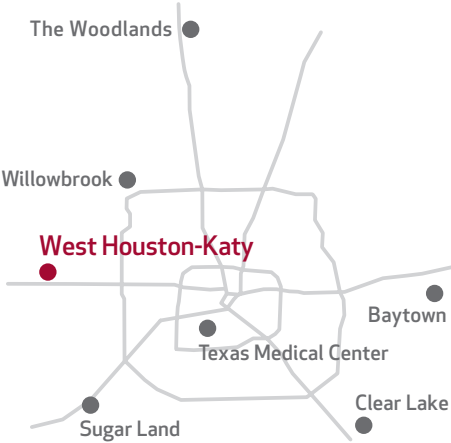
	Klein Cain	Taylor
First downs	17	21
Yards rushing	34-299	56-357
Yards passing	265	51
Passes	10-14-2-0	7-11-0-0
Punts	1.50	5.33



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