

KATY CLINCHES PLAYOFF SPOT WITH WIN OVER CINCO RANCH
SPORTS | B1

Katy Times

VOLUME 111, ISSUE 43

THE GREATER KATY AREA'S NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1912 ■ katytimes.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023

Katy school board considers proposed attendance boundary changes and more

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

The Katy ISD Board of Trustees met Monday, October 23rd at the district's board room at 6301 S. Stadium Lane for a work study meeting that included a review of proposed attendance boundary modifications for new schools opening in 2024.

The proposed attendance boundaries for Junior High School 18 and High School 10 were first presented to the board in June. The attendance zones for the junior high school are designed to relieve capacity at Haskett and Stockdick Junior High Schools,

while High School 10 will primarily relieve overcrowding at Katy High and Paetow High. Both new schools are located in the northwest quadrant of the district.

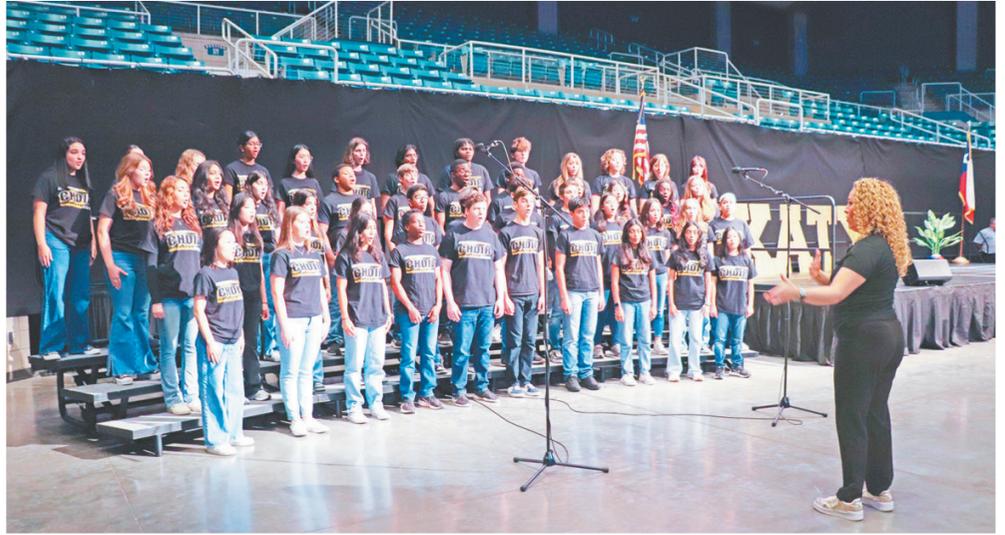
A survey of those families potentially impacted by the proposed changes was conducted by the district and the results were presented to the board in September, showing a majority of respondents either supported the changes or that the changes would have no impact.

No additional changes to the original boundaries, as presented at the June

See **BOARD**, page A3



Katy ISD COO Ted Vierling and demographer Kris Pool review student population projections and proposed school attendance zone boundary modifications at Monday's school board meeting.



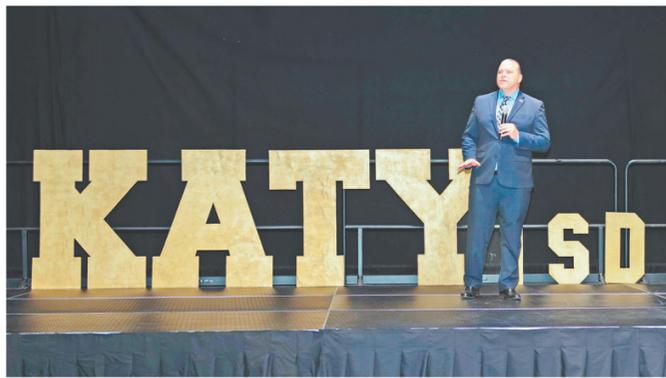
The Jordan High School choir performed the national anthem and "What a Wonderful World" at the "State of the District" breakfast at the Merrell Center on October 20th.

Gregorski provides update on the 'State of the District'

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

For the third consecutive year, Katy ISD was recognized as the #1 School District in the Greater Houston Area by Niche, Superintendent of Schools Ken Gregorski announced at Katy ISD's annual "State of the District" event at the Merrell Center on October 20th. Gregorski attributed the achievement to the collective efforts of Katy ISD students, teachers and staff, and the strong partnership that exists with the community. "This year's theme, 'Inspiring Excellence: Learners into

See **DISTRICT**, page A3



Superintendent Ken Gregorski addressed a crowd of board members, school namesakes, educators, staff and volunteers at the annual "State of the District" breakfast at the Merrell Center on Friday.

Council approves use of Metro funds for Pitts Road expansion project

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

In a 5-0 vote, members of Katy's city council authorized the Katy Development Authority (KDA) to use \$1,424,224.40 in Metro funds for the Pitts Road Boulevard Expansion project, which is slated to begin in December. The initial project will bring Cane Island Boulevard up to Morton Road and a second project will also correct the intersection alignment where Pitts, Morton and Cane Island Boulevard come together, following final acquisition of right-of-way. The

initial improvements are projected to be completed by May 2024 and the second project will follow a similar timeline, said City Engineer David Kaspar. The intersection will continue to be a four-way stop, according to Kaspar. A traffic signal may be considered for this intersection at some point in the future, said Kaspar, depending on traffic counts and other factors. Kaspar noted that the cost of a traffic signal could run more than \$400,000.00.

In other action, council:
• Approved amendment of the city's technical codes and construc-

tion standards. Community Development Director Ian Clowes said the updates were necessary to maintain the city's high ISO rating.

- Amended a zoning ordinance affecting parking requirements in the Old Katy District.
- Amended City of Katy personnel policies in accordance with recent legislative updates.
- Via consent agenda, approved street closure of Fourth Street between Ave A and Ave B in October and December for events at the First

See **CITY**, page A3



A project approved at Monday night's city council meeting will allot Metro funds to extend Cane Island Parkway up to Morton Road and a future project will correct the misalignment of the intersection of Pitts and Morton Roads, city officials said.

HAVE A NEWS TIP?

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October 26, 2023
12 pages | \$1

CITY OF BROOKSHIRE HOLDS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY



Beckendorff swears in Criminal Investigations Detective Matthew Drake.



Beckendorff swears in new City Administrator Jennifer Ward.



City Secretary Erica Molina takes the oath of office administered by Beckendorff.



Lieutenant Michael Deutsch is sworn in by Beckendorff.



New Chief of Police James Hines is sworn in by Beckendorff.

The City of Brookshire officially welcomed new staff with a special swearing-in ceremony at the regular city council meeting on October 19th in Brookshire City Hall. Waller County Precinct 4 Commissioner Justin Beckendorff officiated.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

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SCAN TO SCHEDULE NOW!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Free Halloween Festival on October 28th at West Memorial Park

Enjoy free family fun including candy, games, face painting and more at the Halloween Festival on October 28th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at West Memorial Park, 22415 Kingsland Blvd. Parking is available at West Memorial Junior High or in the West Memorial neighborhood; do not park on Kingsland. The festival is hosted by the American Legion Post 164, the American Legion Auxiliary Post 164, the West Memorial Friends and the West Memorial Civic Association.

Enjoy Pups & Pumpkins on October 29th

It's tons of fun for humans and canines alike! Come to the Grand Lakes Phase 4 Gazebo at Grand Trace Lane and Lakebluff Circle on Sunday, October 29th from 1 to 4 p.m. for a dog costume contest and parade, a pet photo station, and pet adoptions. Festivities also include a silent auction, raffle ticket sales and bobbing for apples. Wine by the glass is available and a live DJ will provide entertainment. All proceeds benefit Buds Rescue. The event is hosted by Kristin Stone, Realtor © of Imagine Realty International. For more information, contact kristinstone@irdreams.com or call 832.444.2363.



METRO CREATIVE GRAPHICS

Dig World will host a "Trunk or Treat" event at Katy Mills Mall on Oct. 28 with free admission for kids who dress in a costume.

Dig World hosts "Trunk or Treat" on October 28th with free admission for kids in costume

Dig World, a construction-themed amusement park located at Katy Mills Mall, 5000 Katy Mills Circle, will host a "Trunk or Treat" event on October 28th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wear your costumes and get free entry to the park - take a photo in front of Admissions and tag the park on social media @digworldtx. Then check in at Admissions and get one free ticket for each person in costume. Enjoy trick-or-treating around the park for one-of-a-kind family experience. Free tickets do not apply to online sales - only to on-site purchases. For more information, go to facebook.com/DigWorldTX.

Cross Creek Ranch to hold November 11th gumbo cookoff benefiting the Fulshear Police Foundation

Cross Creek Ranch, a project of Johnson Development, will hold its annual Fulshear Police Foundation Gumbo Cookoff on

November 11th at the Cross Creek Welcome Center at 6450 Cross Creek Bend Lane, Fulshear, from 1 to 5 p.m. Enjoy Zydeco music, a silent auction, and great food.

KATY AARP Chapter meeting November 14th

The Katy chapter of AARP will meet Tuesday November 14th at Midway BBQ, 6191 Highway Blvd in Katy. The meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. with a short meeting, announcements, and election of officers. There will be information about upcoming trips and activities available. After the meeting, entertainment will be provided by Buddy and Jeanie Trotter, who sing many of the classics from country, rock, and pop. Come to the meeting, then stay to listen, sing along, or dance. Visitors are welcome. Allow time to purchase any food before the meeting starts. For more information, contact Patty Phelps at pppmid@aol.com.

Maud Marks Library announces November events

Maud Marks Library, located at 1815 Westgreen in Katy, will hold these events in November:

- Game Day -- Tweens, teens, and school-aged children can drop in and play a variety of tabletop games. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the fun! Drop in on Thursday, November 2 from 4:30 to 6 p.m.
- Teen Time Teen Time is a place to kick back, meet other teens, and be yourself while crafting each month. Tweens and teens, ages 11 and up, can show up and participate in a variety of fun activities. Craft supplies will be provided. Drop in on Tuesday, November 7th, from 4 to 6 p.m.
- Book Discussion Clubs to Meet -- Booked This Afternoon meets in person on the second Thursday of the month, November 9, at 2 PM. This month This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger will be discussed, to celebrate Native American Heritage Month.
- Book Sale The Friends of the Maud

Marks Library will hold their November book sale on Saturday, November 11 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. There is a large selection of hardback fiction and nonfiction, as well as children's books, paperbacks and other hidden gems. A Friends Members-Only preview will take place on Friday, November 10 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. All items sell for rock bottom prices.

• TeenMAKER is a monthly program which includes exploring technology, science, engineering, and more. Teens and tweens, 6th grade and up, are invited to come MAKE at the library. Drop in on Tuesday, November 14, from 4-6 p.m.

• AARP Presents: How to Choose a New Computer Looking for a new computer? Join the Maud Marks Library on Wednesday, November 15 at 2 PM as an AARP Digital Skills Professional gives an in-depth lecture on buying a new computer in 2023. This informational session addresses some of the most common questions surrounding how to choose a new computer: Where to start? What's a reliable brand? How much should you budget? What technical specifications? Operating systems and a comparison of alternatives to the traditional computer, e.g. tablets and Chromebooks, will also be covered.

Katy Branch Library announces November programs

The Katy branch of the Harris County Public Library system, 5414 Franz Road in Katy, announces the following events for November:

- Seedling Squad Toddler Story Time, Wednesday, November 1, 10:15 to 11:00 a.m. Join Seedling Squad, a toddler story time on the carpet in the children's section of the library. Come dance, sing, and grow while we read books together.
- Muses Across Katy- Kids Art Club, Monday, November 06, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Join us after school from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. every 1st Monday of the month for fun art projects and crafts, designed for 7-11 year olds/2nd-5th grade children.
- Knotty and Nice Club, Wednesday, November 08, 1 to 3 p.m. Join us every Wednesday in the meeting room at the Katy Branch Library for our weekly Knotty and Nice Club where you can knit, crochet, craft or just come and socialize!. All are welcome.
- Katy Garden Club, Thursday, November 09, 1 to 2:00 p.m. Meet from 1pm-2pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month in the meeting room at the Katy Branch Library for presentations, plant and seed swaps.

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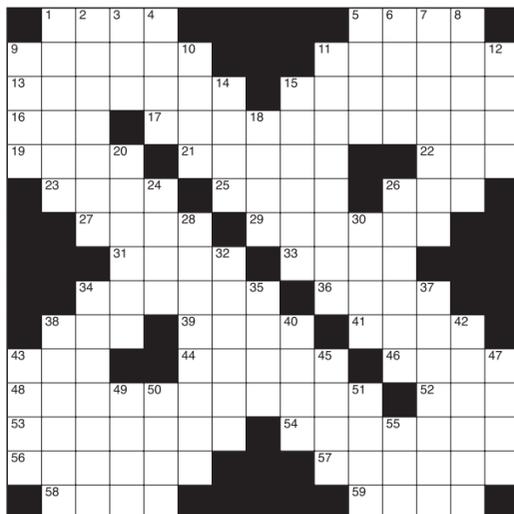
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

- Male children
- Robert Wagner series "Hart to ___"
- Unfolded
- Digestive disease
- Wednesday
- Malignant tumor
- Conscientious investment strategy (abbr.)
- Slowed
- Letter of the Semitic abjads
- Weights of cars without fuel
- Former CIA
- Asian country
- Instead
- Ancient Egyptian King
- Privies
- Shopping trips
- Paradoxical anecdote
- It's on the table
- Ancient Persia ruler
- Small American rail
- File extension
- Days (Spanish)
- Everyone has one
- South American plant
- About ilium
- Vanished American hoopster Bison
- A type of breakfast

CLUES DOWN

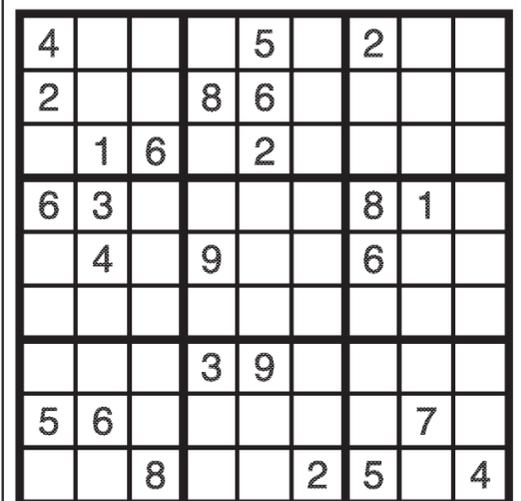
- Uncooked
- Examined
- Christian recluse
- Strong posts
- Some are for pasta
- Skinny
- School-based organizations
- Ringlet
- Type of complex
- Midway between north and northwest
- It becomes something bigger
- German courtesy title
- Genus of birds
- Marked by public disorder
- Least aggressive
- Russian city
- Insect repellent
- Interruptions
- Scoundrels
- 1,000 calories
- What one does overnight
- Dwarf planet
- Pipe
- Black powdery substance



- Set of four
- Canned fishes
- North Carolina college
- Secured
- A disgraceful event
- Physical suffering
- The home of the free
- Some are boys
- Satisfy
- Makes very happy
- South American plants
- Modes of transportation
- Female sheep
- Type of torch
- Piece of merchandise
- Jump over
- Wife of Amun

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test.

Here's How It Works:

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.

BOARD

from page A1

meeting, were shown. The board did not vote on the proposed boundaries at Monday's meeting but may consider the proposal as an action item at the next meeting.

Other agenda items included discussion of the district's dual language and bilingual programs. District officials said that the Texas Education Agency requires an annual report detailing the number of bilingual students at each campus as well as the classification of the primary

language in which the students are proficient. District personnel described the Emergent Bilingual (EB) enrollment in the district, citing 23,752 EB students and recommended that the district seek a Bilingual education Exception/ESL (English as a Second Language) waiver application for the 2023-2024 school year. The district is seeking an exception for programs in 16 languages, which include Arabic, Farsi, French, Russian, Cantonese, Hindi, Korean, Portuguese,

Vietnamese, Urdu, Mandarin, Turkish and others. Katy ISD has sought and received such waivers for the past 22 years, presenters said.

The district is creating two pathways for language arts teachers to become ESL certified, officials said. One of the pathways offers a stipend of \$1000.00 to participating teachers.

The board also heard a report on campus performance objectives.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for October 30th.



The Mayde Creek High School Naval ROTC presented the colors at the "State of the District" event.

COURTESY KATY ISD

DISTRICT

from page A1

Leaders' speaks to the awesome responsibility our educators take on every day to deliver knowledge, skills and mentorship to students throughout our schools who will be leaders of tomorrow," said Gregorski. "Through academics, extracurricular experiences and community service, emerging leaders across our classrooms are being driven by the excellence their teachers, principals, support staff, or even campus namesakes and volunteers, have sparked in them," he added.

Guided by the district's Strategic Plan, Katy ISD is positioned for long-term success and continuous student improvement and growth, Gregorski said. He outlined the eight goals that work synergistically and safeguard the educational system that has been built in Katy ISD, which include:

- Personalized Learning
- Enhanced Operational Systems
- Meaningful Student Assessments
- Robust Digital Infrastructure
- Teacher Recruitment and Retention
- Advocacy for Adequate School Finance

Attracting and retaining world-class educators is high priority for the Board and administration, according to Gregorski. To nurture these aspiring educators, the district is set to launch the Alternative Certification Program, or ACP, designed to "grow-our-own" certified teachers. This program, which is expected to be approved by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) this school year, will provide a nontraditional pathway for degreed professionals to transition into Katy ISD teaching positions. This program, along with the Katy Leadership Pipeline that provides professional development, growth and training opportunities for administrative staff, and a prioritized compensation plan that exceeds the

market median for classroom teachers, bolsters the district's commitment to recruit, train and retain the very best educators for its students.

Creating safer schools and communities for all Katy ISD children, staff and residents is of the utmost importance, Gregorski said. The district continues to build partnerships around emergency response protocols and inter-agency relationships to provide safe learning and teaching environments for students and staff. The district's safety protocols meet and exceed the recommendations outlined by the TEA and the Texas School Safety Center, Gregorski said, including recent legislation from the state that requires an armed officer on each campus. He described the safety drills and mandatory training and the layered measures of security that exist across the district.

Gregorski also spoke about the forthcoming bond election. To manage the district's growth - now at over 95,000 students and 12,000 employees -- the district is going out for 2023 Bond in this November's election cycle. The Katy ISD Bond includes four Propositions that address specific needs such as new schools, safety and security upgrades, classroom and campus technology (including a one-to-one student device ratio for grades three through twelve), renovations to campuses, component replacements for existing districtwide natatoriums, and repairs to campus athletic facilities and Rhodes Stadium. "The four bond propositions total \$840.6 million dollars and represent a zero-tax rate increase," said Dr. Gregorski. "You should also know that Katy ISD property taxes will decrease by 18.5 cents this coming year due to the property tax relief bill passed by the Texas Legislature," he added.

Despite the challenges that exist at the legislative level with securing adequate funding for public schools,

Katy ISD remains an A+ school district because of what its teachers and staff deliver to the kids in its classrooms every day, Gregorski said. With massive increases in utility and operational expenses, the Basic Allotment that funds every public-school child in Texas has remained stagnant since 2019, he said. "With \$4 billion dollars that remain unspent that could directly support public education, these dollars would enable school districts like Katy to keep up with rising costs while continuing to raise the bar for student achievement, attract and retain high-quality educators, provide safe learning environments, and further bolster the economic engine of the community," Gregorski said.

Other highlights presented by Gregorski included:

- TEA 'A' rating
- Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) 'Superior Achievement' recognition (20 consecutive years)
- Forbes List of America's Best Employers in Texas title (fourth time in the last five years)
- Eight Katy ISD high schools among the top 17% in the United States, according to U.S. News and World Report
- "Best Communities for Music Education" award from the National Association of Music Merchants (named for 21 years)
- 179 student-athletes and 203 fines arts students who signed collegiate letters of intent last school year.

In his closing remarks, Gregorski stated, "Katy ISD schools provide a world of excellence, and it is truly amazing what we have built here together for our children, families and community." In keeping with this theme, "Together, we will continue to inspire excellence, shaping not just learners, but the leaders who will light the path for generations to come," he added.

Katy Cares voted Non-Profit of the Year by Network in Action

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Katy Cares received the Non-Profit of the Year for 2022 Award in August 2023 from Network in Action (NIA) for the ongoing and outstanding programs and services rendered to single-parent families in the greater



Katy area, Fort Bend, Harris, and Waller Counties. More than 80 single parents are enrolled in the nonprofit organization's "Ready, Set, Go!" Parenting Program. Nicole Pope, Katy Cares Board Member responsible for Program Support, handed over the Non-Profit of the Year Award to Dr. Harry Chapman, Chairman of the Board for Katy Cares.

Katy Cares will be hosting its annual gala Friday evening November 10 at 7:00 pm for the 2023 Giving Hope Gala. Location: Embassy Suites, 16435 Katy Freeway. The 2023 Giving Hope Gala will raise funds to empower, counsel, train, coach, and mentor single-parent families by helping them develop skills and provide the necessary resources to overcome trauma and loss.

CITY

from page A1

United Methodist Church.

Mayor Dusty Thiele issued the following proclamations at the meeting:

- Recognizing November 11, 2023 as Veterans Day. The proclamation was accepted by members of the American Legion and the VFW.
- Establishing November 3, 2023, as Texas Arbor Day in Katy. The proclamation was presented to members of Keep Katy Beautiful.
- Establishing November 4, 2023, as America Recycles Day in Katy. The proclamation was presented to members of Keep Katy Beautiful.
- Recognizing November 15, 2023, as GIS Day (Geographic Information Systems) Day. The proclamation was accepted by members of the city planning department.

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Cinco Ranch High School
October 28th, 2023

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COURTESY OF CARRIAGE INN

Seven centenarians, ranging from 100 to 105 years young, were honored at Carriage Inn in September.

Carriage Inn honors centenarians

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Residents, families, and team members at Carriage Inn Senior Living Community in Katy recently came together for a National Centenarian's Day Celebration on Friday, September 22.

The gathering honored seven Carriage Inn resident centenarians, ranging in age from 100 to 105 years old: Katy Cary, Rosa Lee Hankey, Audrey Michalk, Betty Schultz, Dave Spurrier, Hazel Watson, and Ruth Yarka. The event was coordinated by Carriage Inn staff and arranged as a

celebratory luncheon for all residents, with an honorary head table for the seven centenarians.

"There is a wealth of knowledge at this table with over 700 years of experience. I am honored to be in their presence and celebrate all of these milestones with each of these residents," said Tony Rivas, Executive Director.

In attendance at the event were special guests, Mayor William H. "Dusty" Thiele, and Mayor Pro Tem, Chris Harris, who offered personal recognition and official acknowledgement letters for the cente-

narians from the city of Katy. Along with the special presentation from the mayors, Carriage Inn's resident choir performed for the occasion, singing "When You're Smiling" by Louis Armstrong and "Young at Heart" by Frank Sinatra. Centenarians were also presented with a small gift donated by Home Health Resources, on behalf of the Carriage Inn community.

Carriage Inn Katy, which offers independent living, assisted living, and memory care options for older adults, is located at 1400 Katy-Flewellen Road in Katy.

Pedestrian crossing improvements initiated by Fort Bend County

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Following the recent fatal collision in a Mason Road crosswalk, there has been an increase in public concern about the safety of pedestrian crossings in the Cinco Ranch area, according to a recent Facebook post by the Fort Bend County Precinct 1 Constable's office.

The post states that in the days since the tragedy, Commissioner Vincent Morales, Constable Chad Norvell, Fort Bend County Road & Bridge and Fort Bend County Engineering have been coordinating on steps to be taken to help maintain mobility for and minimize risk to all road users.

During the week of October 13th, Road & Bridge worked on updating signage and pavement markings to be consistent with State law that requires drivers to stop for a pedestrian in a crosswalk. Specifically, the signs reading "YIELD here for pedestrians" are being replaced with "STOP here for pedestrians" and the yield lines on the pavement are being replaced with stop lines.

Engineering and Road & Bridge are also evaluating landscaping at these crossings to ensure that vehicles and pedestrians have adequate visibility of each other. County staff has also begun the design work to upgrade mid-block trail crossings on four-lane major thoroughfares from flashing yellow warning lights to HAWK signals (also referred to as Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons). More information about HAWK signals can be found at highways.dot.gov/.../pedestrian-hybrid-beacons

Notable features of the HAWK signal installations will include:

- Signal heads located over the travel lanes, similar to full traffic signals
- Drivers receive a red indication, legally requiring a stop
- Pedestrians have a WALK/DON'T WALK countdown signal head, similar to

full traffic signals

- Audible pedestrian pushbutton tone provides cue to pedestrian to push it in order to activate signal and cross

- Full nighttime illumination of the crosswalk, similar to other signalized intersections

- AC power for reliability in winter months and on cloudy days.

The upgrades will occur in stages, with the highest priority being given to the three Willow Fork trail crossings near school campuses:

- Mason Road near Creech Elementary
- Fry Road near Beck Junior High
- Westheimer Parkway near Williams Elementary

"To the best extent possible, the County will be making procurement and material decisions that will prioritize shortening the time until installation," the post said. "Still, given the time required to procure equipment and obtain electrical service, activation of these signals is not anticipated until spring of 2024."

The next immediate priority will be three of the Buffalo Bayou Trail crossings:

- Fry Road
- Mason Road
- Peek Road

The County has been working with the Willow Fork Drainage District on replacing the fourth of these crossings, Cinco Ranch Boulevard, with a pedestrian underpass. Depending on the timing of that project, it is possible this crossing may have a HAWK signal added in the interim as well, the post said. Additionally, the Engineering Department will be assessing other locations of high pedestrian activity to determine if further safety treatments are warranted. Contact traffic@fbctx.gov for any areas that need additional evaluation.

Report all damaged, missing, or malfunctioning traffic control devices to FBCRB@fbctx.gov.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HALO HEAD SPA & DRY BAR

Founded by three sisters who graduated from Mayde Creek High School, Halo Head Spa & Dry Bar offers scalp treatments as well as hair care.

Three Katy sisters to open unique spa focusing on head, scalp care

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A new concept in self-care will open in Katy in November, founded by three sisters who share the dream of bringing specialized relaxation treatments to the Katy community.

The Modern Halo Head Spa & Dry Bar is dedicated to the art of hair and scalp care. With a focus on relaxation and rejuvenation, The Modern Halo offers an array of luxurious treatments and exclusive membership benefits to elevate the self-care journey.

"In my vision, we've crafted a sanctuary where people of all walks of life, both men and women, can come to unwind, rejuvenate, and find respite from the stresses of everyday life. We're offering a one-of-a-kind experience that many may not have encountered before, melding the serenity of a spa with the transformative power of a long-lasting blowout. We aim to leave our clients feeling refreshed and empowered, ready to face the world as the best versions of themselves," says Christina Batson, Co-founder of The Modern Halo Head Spa & Dry Bar.

At the heart of The Modern Halo Head Spa & Dry Bar are three dedicated sisters, each with an



impressive track record in the Katy community. Batson is a nurse practitioner who evolved into a serial entrepreneur with notable businesses, such as the Founder of Jubilee Care Home Health and family-owned Howdy's Homemade Ice Cream in Katy. Nicole Brayton, another key figure in the venture, brings a wealth of expertise, boasting ownership of Scheet Happens Bookkeeping and Business Solutions and a remarkable 15-year high school teaching career in Katy ISD. Adria Scheet, a creative force in the family, established the sister company, The Modern Stylists, earlier this year and has 27 years of experience as a hairstylist. Adria is a graduate of Katy ISD's Miller Career & Technology Center.

These three enterprising

sisters, all moms, community leaders, and graduates of Mayde Creek High School, have come together to create The Modern Halo, a head spa and dry bar that reflects their passion for health, beauty, education, and entrepreneurship. Their collective expertise and dedication have shaped a welcoming haven for self-care and rejuvenation, firmly rooted in Katy.

The Modern Halo Membership also brings exclusive discounts on signature hair care products and special offers.

The grand opening of The Modern Halo will take place this November at 26717 Westheimer Parkway, Suite 402 in Katy. For more information, visit www.themodernhalo.com or call 281-396-4474.

WAGGIN' TAILS PET RANCH RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KATY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Denise Paish Einkauf (right) of Waggin' Tails Pet Ranch, located in Fulshear six miles southwest of Katy, was honored at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's America's Top Small Business Awards Summit and Gala in Washington D.C. on October 19th. Waggin' Tails Pet Ranch was the finalist from the largest region (Southwest and South-Central) out of more than 15,700 applicants. Matthew Ferraro (left), president and CEO of the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce, traveled to DC to introduce Einkauf as she received her award. Einkauf is a past president of the chamber's board of directors.

Katy Times

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
The Katy Times (ISSN 067-180) is published on Thursday. Subscriptions are available for \$35 per year in Harris, Waller and Fort Bend counties and \$45 elsewhere. Subscribe at www.katytimes.com or by mailing payment and delivery information to Katy Times, P.O. Box 678, Katy, TX 77492-0678. Periodical-rate postage paid at Katy, Texas 77494.

CIRCULATION:
Address billing inquiries at 281-391-3141.

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to The Katy Times, P.O. Box 678, Katy, Texas, 77492-0678.




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Katy Heritage Society's Vintage Carnival returns

Relive the classic carnivals of yesteryear at the annual Vintage Carnival hosted by the Katy Heritage Society on Saturday, October 28th. This throwback event features all the classic carnival games and chances to win prizes, as well as to enjoy food and festivities. Family-friendly and fun for all ages. The carnival will take place at Katy Heritage Park, 5990 George

Bush Drive in Katy, from 4 to 7 p.m. All activities subject to change based on volunteer availability. For details and ticket information, go to: katyheritagesociety.com/event-details/vintage-carnival-2023. No refunds.

Katy Mayor Dusty Thiele (center, in orange) visits one of the booths at the 2022 Vintage Carnival.

SUSAN ROVEGNO



Waller County to hold final town hall on mobility bond

STAFF REPORTS

Officials from Waller County will hold the last of four town hall meetings on the county's forthcoming mobility bond on October 26th from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Waller County Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4, located in the Waller County Courthouse Annex at 32225 US Hwy 90 Business in Brookshire.

The measure is on the November ballot. Early voting began Monday, October 23rd. According to a statement made by County Judge Trey Duhon in an August 9th meeting, this is the first mobility bond election ever conducted by Waller County. Many of the projects are in the Katy portion of Waller County.

"This is a referendum which, if approved, would give Waller County Commissioners Court the ability to issue up to \$280M in bonds to finance design and construction of up to 26 various capacity, safety, joint projects with TXDOT and cities, and maintenance projects throughout Waller County over a ten (10) year period," said Jeremiah Hill, Brookshire's mayor pro tem, via a LinkedIn post on Monday. "Please take an opportunity to learn about the mobility bond so your vote can be an educated one."

For more information on the upcoming mobility bond referendum, please visit the county website at: <https://lnk.in/gAU7YpU>.

WoodmenLife team refurbishes park water feature



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WOODMENLIFE AND KATY HERITAGE SOCIETY

Before (left) and after view of the vintage water feature at Katy Heritage Park.

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Lyndie Matous and her WoodmenLife team recently donated their time, their energy and their efforts to refurbishing the vintage water feature at Katy Heritage Park at 5990 George Bush Drive in Katy.

"[The water feature] has been through a couple floods and some torrential downpours, droughts and freezes but that was no match for this group," said Katy Heritage Society President Adrienne Davitz. "The entire area was neglected and now looks incredible. We cannot thank Lyndie and her

team enough for giving back to the community."

"Thank you so much for the opportunity to do our part in this community and we look forward to many more," said Matous. "I would like to thank Logan, Abbott, Amanda McNeill, Trey McNeill, Luke, Justin Matous, Eric Vaughn, Zane and Asher for helping with this project. We had fun and it was rewarding seeing that water flow."

Nelson Water Gardens & Nursery donated parts for the pump that Matous and her team used to fix the water feature, which had not worked in over two years.

The Katy Times

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Morton Ranch schools host eclipse watch party



CONTRIBUTED REPORT

On Saturday, October 14, students, staff and families from Morton Ranch Elementary, Junior High and High School came together for a fun and educational Solar Eclipse Watch Party at Morton Ranch High School's Maverick Stadium.

"We are so excited to welcome these communities for the first parent engagement event of the school year," said Julie Hinson, principal of Morton Ranch High School. "We want to thank the district for supporting the event so our students, staff and families can come together to learn, have fun and experience this rare occasion," she added.

The memorable event, organized by the schools with the support of Katy ISD, showcased student-led activities such as face painting, which was run by the Art Honor Society students, and the challenge of building a bottle rocket, which was facilitated by members of the Science Honor Society.

The Solar Eclipse Watch Party had an impressive turnout with approximately 250 people in attendance. To ensure safety, attendees were provided with eclipse-safe glasses and water. As a community event, all students were accompanied by a parent or guardian to safely enjoy the festivities.

Students from all three Morton Ranch schools were able to safely observe the recent solar eclipse, using eclipse-safe glasses provided for the eclipse viewing party on October 14th.

COURTESY OF KATY ISD



School board trustee Mary Ellen Cuzela joined Rhoads Elementary School students in celebrating National School Lunch week on October 13th.

Rhoads Elementary celebrates National School Lunch Week

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Katy ISD's Rhoads Elementary celebrated National School Lunch Week on Friday, October 13th with a special event that brought together over 60 students, Superintendent of Schools Ken Gregorski, Trustees Dawn Champagne, Mary Ellen Cuzela and Lance Redmon, and representatives from the Texas Department of Agriculture and the Region 4 Nutrition Department.

The celebratory event showcased Rhoads Elementary's dedication to the health and well-being of its community, representing Katy ISD's commitment to prioritizing the nutritional needs of its students, according to a press release provided by the district. National School Lunch Week is an opportunity to underscore the importance

of nutritious school lunches in promoting the health and academic success of students.

"Katy ISD is raising the bar in school lunches by offering students an increase in the availability of locally grown fruits and vegetables, whole grains and fat-free and low-fat fluid milk. We are also effectively limiting fat, calories and sodium, striving to meet the nutritional needs of students within their age and grade groups," said Donna Pettinger, Executive Director of Nutrition and Food Service. "National School Lunch Week is an amazing opportunity to educate both parents and students about the benefits of our lunch program," she added.

"Rhoads Elementary is proud to host such an important event as we prioritize our students' health and nutrition," said Timothy

Wolff, Principal of Rhoads Elementary. "On behalf of our entire community, I want to thank Dr. Gregorski, the Katy ISD Board members, and the representatives from the Texas Department of Agriculture and Region 4 for their support and attendance at today's event," he added.

The Nutrition and Food Service Department of the Katy Independent School District promotes healthy eating by providing nutritious meals to the students, teachers, staff and visiting patrons of the district. The focus is on enhancing the diet of the community by offering nutritious choices and by providing nutrition education that will help students form healthy habits that last a lifetime. Since August 16, 2023, the Katy ISD Nutrition and Food Service Department has served 2.3 million meals.

Katy ISD Education Foundation announces Fireflies & Foodtrucks

Tickets on sale now for fall celebration November 9th at No Label Brewery

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Katy ISD Education Foundation announces this year's annual Fireflies & Foodtrucks fundraising event on Thursday, November 9, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Katy's No Label Brewery, 5351 1st Street in Katy. The event will feature live entertainment by The Pictures Band plus all-access to Houston-area food trucks and award-winning No Label brews.

"The Katy ISD Education Foundation celebrated a spectacular milestone this year with \$3 million awarded in eleven years of Inspiring Imagination teacher grants," said a press release from the Foundation. "Fireflies & Foodtrucks and its proceeds play a key role in reaching these milestones and will continue to garner much-needed support as the foundation's grant program expands." The foundation's 12th grant cycle begins this

fall, awarding grants to teachers in May 2024.

Admission for the event is \$65 per person, paid in advance, and covers all food and beverage costs. For an additional \$25 per person, guests can also purchase limited edition VIP Bar Experience tickets providing access to an exclusive selection of No Label brews. Groups of 6 can purchase tickets together to get a 10% discount with the code partypack23.

Early event sponsors include Title Sponsor, VLK Architects; Brazos Valley Schools Credit Union, Rotary Club of Katy, Thompson & Horton, Memorial Hermann, PBK, Stewart Builders, Inc., Dally + Associates - Kirksey, HKS, Inc., DBR, Inc., Matt Schomburg/Matt Schomburg State Farm, Stantec, Arcadis, Climatec, LLC, Hartigen Solutions LLC, Tarkett, Pfluger Architects, S & G Engineering Consultants LLC, Rogers Morris & Grover, Shelley Keating, Dunaway - BEC. Additional sponsorship opportunities are available as of press time.

For information, contact the Katy ISD Education Foundation at 281-396-6031, or at foundation@katyisd.org. To purchase tickets, go to linktr.ee/katyisdedfound.

Culinary students to make, sell Thanksgiving treats for fundraiser

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Culinary students will be busy making everyone's favorite goodies for Thanksgiving this year. The event - which is a fundraiser for culinary students' activities - features the following items available for purchase, according to the school's Facebook page:

- Pumpkin bread, \$7.00
- Pumpkin pie, \$15.00
- Cranberry orange custard pie, \$20.00

- Pumpkin cream cheese roll, \$25.00
- One dozen dinner rolls, \$10.00
- Fresh cranberry relish, \$10.00

Cash or credit are accepted. Pre-orders are NOT being accepted this year. The sale will take place at the Miller Career & Technology Center campus at 1734 Katyland Drive on November 15th from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on November 16th from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, go to facebook.com/mctcculinaryarts.

KATY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND 2023

	PROP A \$722,992,054	4 New Schools, Purchase of School Sites, 26 Renovations & Expansions for Aging Campuses, 85 Safety & Security Upgrades, Buses, 61 Building Component Replacements
	PROP B \$83,567,360	Districtwide Classroom & Campus Technology
	PROP C \$4,195,456	Existing Districtwide Natatorium (Competition Swimming Pools) Component Replacements
	PROP D \$29,875,472	Districtwide Campus Athletic Facilities & Rhoads Stadium Repairs
	TOTAL BOND: \$840.6M ZERO TAX RATE INCREASE	

ON YOUR BALLOT ...

PROPOSITION A/B/C/D

"The issuance of ... School Building Bonds by Katy Independent School District ... PURSUANT TO SECTION 45.003, TEXAS EDUCATION CODE: THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE"

THIS STATEMENT IS REQUIRED FOR ALL TX SCHOOLS BONDS.

THE FACTS:

- ✓ Home APPRAISAL VALUES are set by the COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT
- ✓ When APPRAISAL VALUES INCREASE, we PAY MORE IN TAXES
- ✓ The STATE receives the additional tax revenue, NOT the school district

Important to know...

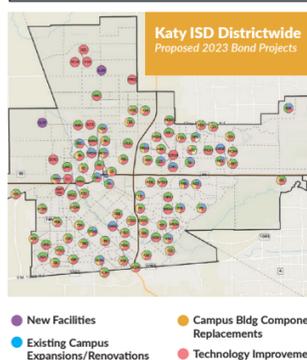
- ✓ SCHOOL TAX RATE is set by the school district
- ✓ The state is DECREASING our SCHOOL TAX RATE, with or without a schools bond
- ✓ Seniors 65+ are exempt from any increase in school taxes on their homestead

This is an increase in our debt, but not a property tax rate increase.

SENIORS 65+ ...

are exempt from any increase in school taxes on their homestead.

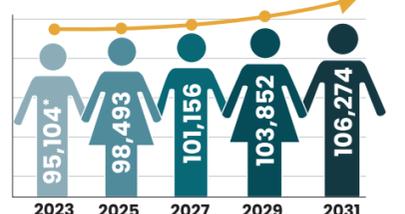
Those age 65 and older will not see an increase in their taxes, even if the appraised value of their home increases.



Future Campuses
Elementary Campus 49
Junior High Campus 19

Future Programs
Katy Plus
Behavioral Learning Center

Projected Enrollment Projected



EARLY VOTING
October 23-
November 3

ELECTION DAY
November 7

www.katyisd.org/Bond2023

Paid Advertisement



WEEK OF OCTOBER 27

SCORES & SCHEDULES

FOOTBALL

Scores

- Katy 42, Cinco Ranch 13
- Taylor 30, Jordan 24
- Tompkins 45, Mayde Creek 16
- Paetow 35, Seven Lakes 11

Thursday

- Jordan vs. Tompkins, 6:30 p.m., Rhodes Stadium
- Mayde Creek vs. Morton Ranch, 7:15 p.m., Legacy Stadium

Friday

- Paetow vs. Taylor, 6:30 p.m., Rhodes Stadium
- Katy vs. Seven Lakes, 7:15 p.m., Legacy Stadium

VOLLEYBALL

BI-DISTRICT

Date and Times TBD

- Cinco Ranch vs. Fort Bend Travis
- Tompkins vs. George Ranch
- Seven Lakes vs. Fort Bend Austin
- Jordan vs. Ridge Point



PHOTOS BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Chase Johnsey runs into the endzone during Thursday's game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at Legacy Stadium.

Katy run game leads way in win over Cinco Ranch

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy's backfield has found its rhythm lately.

The Tigers have had to shuffle things in the backfield this year as they dealt with injuries but as the season has gone along the position has become more and more solidified.

The constant was always Chase Johnsey. A three year letterman, the fullback has taken it on himself to help lead the group that has had new players step up into the running back role. Johnsey leads by example as well, selflessly blocking and opening

up space for the back behind him.

Behind him, it's been Tremayne Hill who has stepped to the forefront and showed his worth since injuries hit the position. It took time but the sophomore has completely settled in and grown as district has gone along.

That growth and the strength of the backfield was on full display on Thursday, with the duo of Hill and Johnsey combining for four touchdowns and over 200 yards rushing, leading the Tigers to a 42-13 win over Cinco Ranch (5-4, 4-3) with Katy improving to 7-1 and 6-0 in



Israel Olotu-Judah and Cade McCall celebrate after a touchdown during Thursday's game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at Legacy Stadium.

See **KATY**, page B3



UIL declines proposals to add girls flag football, boys volleyball

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The University Interscholastic League legislative council finished up its fall meetings last week and denied, rejected or decided to take no action on a number of proposals, including those about adding new UIL sanctioned sports.

The members of the committee decided against adding boys volleyball, lacrosse for boys or girls and girls flag football as sanctioned sports. The explanation for it was that the numbers wouldn't justify the split. Twenty-six states have added lacrosse and the sport is growing, but the committee decided that demand for the sport is not at a level yet in Texas where it would require the UIL to address it.

The UIL also declined proposals that would move soccer to the fall and volleyball to the spring in the athletic calendar, splitting up Class 1A and Class 2A baseball and the addition of wheelchair tennis as a sanctioned sport.

While the UIL declined to advance those proposals, they also passed a number of amendments as well. The council approved amendments that increased the officials' fee for softball and baseball tournaments, another that allows basketball teams to participate in three games during

See **UIL**, page B3



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Wyatt Young hurdles a defender during Friday's game between Tompkins and Mayde Creek at Rhodes Stadium.

Tompkins tops Mayde Creek, inches closer to playoff spot

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Tompkins' lines on both sides of the ball have started to click.

The Falcons had struggled early in the season, but have really hit their stride over the past few weeks, and a lot of that success has come from the work of the big boys up front on both sides of the ball.

That dominance up front has led to a four game winning streak for the Falcons and it was on full display on Friday as Tompkins (5-3, 4-2) topped Mayde Creek (3-6, 2-5) to bring themselves a step closer to the playoffs in a very competitive District 19-6A.

"We just take things one game at a time and focus on

getting better every single day of the week," said senior defensive end Rotimi Olayinka. "We had to raise our level from the start of the season and we've just built on that every time we go out there. We want to get better and keep pushing towards the playoffs."

The Falcons came out and committed to the run game from the opening kickoff and it paid off.

Caleb Blocker opened the scoring on a 3-yard run early in the first quarter and Mayde Creek almost answered back, taking a long drive into Falcons territory, but a blocked field goal attempt gave it back to the Falcons and Wyatt Young made it a two score game on

See **TOMPKINS**, page B3

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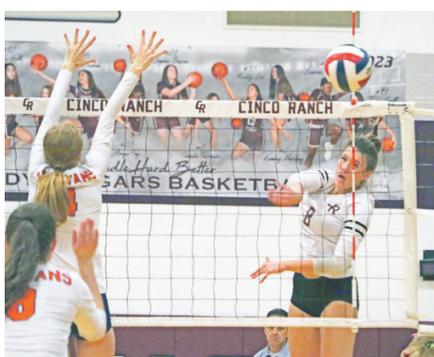
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Left: Seven Lakes players try to block a Makenna Loo attempt during Tuesday's match between Cinco Ranch and Seven Lakes at the Cinco Ranch gym. Above: Makenna Loo spikes a ball during Tuesday's match between Cinco Ranch and Seven Lakes at the Cinco Ranch gym. Below: Cinco Ranch players celebrate after winning a set during Tuesday's match between Cinco Ranch and Seven Lakes at the Cinco Ranch gym.

PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE



Cinco Ranch tops Seven Lakes, clinches unbeaten district title

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Cinco Ranch has wanted this all year. The Cougars have been working towards a number of goals, but at the front of them was finishing of the District 19-6A season with an undefeated district record.

Cinco Ranch (32-5, 16-0) had an opportunity to accomplish that goal on Tuesday and didn't let it slip through its fingers, despite going up against a talented and motivated Seven Lakes (25-15, 12-4) squad, beating the Spartans three sets to one (20-25, 26-24, 25-20, 25-21) and finishing off the regular season on the right note.

"I can't even put into words what this means to us," said senior middle blocker Emily Killam. "I wasn't sure what to expect coming into the season because we lost a big piece. But these girls, especially the outsiders have stepped up so much and been such powerhouses. We came together and molded together as a team and it's been amazing. It's a feeling like nothing else I've ever experienced."

The Cougars fell behind early in the first set and had to battle back into it. Seven Lakes led 17-11, Cinco trimmed the lead but the Spartans still took the first set 25-20. Cinco bounced back to take the lead in the second set, but Seven Lakes answered at every opportunity. The set was tied a number of times and it could have gone either way before Cinco Ranch pulled out the win 26-24 to get back even.

"This prepares us and is exactly what we needed heading into playoffs," said Cinco Ranch head coach Danielle Wells. "We're going to come across some good competition in the playoffs and you have to be in the right mindset. This will get us there and gets our heads and mental game stronger."

The Cougars started to pull away in the third set and led most of the way. They gained an early lead before Seven Lakes tied things at 19, but Cinco came right back to win it 25-20. The fourth set was just as close, but the Cougars again found a way, pulling away to seal the set



Simone Romriell sets a pass during Tuesday's match between Cinco Ranch and Seven Lakes at the Cinco Ranch gym.

and match by winning 25-21.

"We've gone through ups and downs this season but we've been together through all of it, found a way to get through anything and we've come together and won," said junior setter Kassie O'Brien. "Everyone on this team just works so hard in practice and it's gotten us to where we are today. We're district champs and that's a great feeling."

But while this was goal number one for the Cougars, it was far from their only goal. Cinco Ranch made it all the way to

the Region III-6A Final last season before falling to Tompkins, and this group is out to go on another deep playoff run and potentially further. Cinco will face Fort Bend Travis in the bi-district round.

"It's great, but we're not done yet. We still have playoffs and we have business to take care of in front of us," O'Brien said. "We're so motivated. We know that this could be a special year and every single one of us is pushing each other. We're excited and we are going to be ready come next week."

Katy ISD volleyball playoff field set

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The four teams heading to the volleyball playoffs out of District 19-6A were set after the final day of the regular season Tuesday, with some intriguing matchups lurking in the bi-district round.

Cinco Ranch took the first seed out of district after finishing off an undefeated district season, going 16-0 and only dropping six sets in district play. Tompkins, last year's district champion and state runner up, took second with a 13-2 record in district play, only losing to Cinco Ranch. Seven Lakes finished third with a 12-4 district record, as they only lost to the top two teams and Jordan took the fourth and final playoff spot by going 10-6 in district play, beating everyone below them but not being able to take games off the top three.

Cinco Ranch will go up against Fort Bend Travis in the first round, as finishing first netted them the fourth place finisher out of District 20-6A. The Tigers have a record of 15-15 on the season and finished 10-5 in district play. Cinco Ranch will enter that match as heavy favorites and will be determined to go on another deep run after reaching the Region III-6A Final.

Tompkins' matchup will be against George Ranch, a side that has been successful this year. The Longhorns finished the regular season with a 24-16 record while going 12-4 in district play. The Falcons made it all the way to the state final last year before falling in three sets to Keller and will be looking to start their playoff run on a similarly strong note as they look to go on another deep run.

Seven Lakes will go up against a strong Fort Bend Austin team in the bi-district round after finishing third. The Bulldogs come into the matchup as the second seed out of their district and went 27-15 in the regular season with a 13-3 record in district play, dominating the district with sets won to lost. Seven Lakes comes into the playoffs determined and will be in the same situation they were in last season after finishing third. Last year the Spartans made it to the second round before falling to Stratford in five sets and they will be trying to push even further this year.

Jordan will be up against one of the strongest teams in the Houston area when the Warriors take on Ridge Point in the first round. Ridge Point finished first in its district, with an overall record of 30-13 while going 15-1 in district play. The Panthers are also riding a nine game win streak heading into the matchup. For the Warriors this is their first ever playoff appearance and they will look to challenge a very good team in Ridge Point.

Katy finished in fifth place in district 19-6A, while Taylor finished sixth, Paetow finished seventh, Mayde Creek finished eighth and Morton Ranch finished ninth.

FINAL VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

Team	W	L	District W	District L
1 Cinco Ranch	32	5	16	0
2 Tompkins	28	9	14	2
3 Seven Lakes	25	15	12	4
4 Jordan	27	14	10	6
5 Katy	17	23	8	8
6 Taylor	21	21	6	10
7 Paetow	12	27	4	12
8 Mayde Creek	7	30	2	14
9 Morton Ranch	5	31	0	16



Gracie Hobin blocks a kill attempt during Tuesday's match between Cinco Ranch and Seven Lakes at the Cinco Ranch gym.



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TOMPKINS 45, MAYDE CREEK 16

Mayde Creek	0	3	6	7	--	16
Tompkins	7	21	14	3	--	45

First quarter

T: Caleb Blocker 3 run (William Duncan) 9:00

Second quarter

T: Wyatt Young 55 run (Duncan kick) 11:21
T: Blocker 32 run (Duncan kick) 7:26
T: Blocker 2 run (Duncan kick) 2:05
MC: Michael Garcia 26 kick, 0:00

Third quarter

T: Blocker 2 pass to Rhys Phillips (Duncan kick) 2:30
MC: Daylin Robinson 78 kickoff return, 2:17
T: Ronnie Quinn 9 run (Duncan kick) 1:26

Fourth quarter

MC: Christian Bradford 1 run (Garcia kick) 8:11
T: William Duncan 20 field goal, 2:25

Team stats

MAYDE CREEK

TOMPKINS		
First downs	14	12
Yards rushing	33-151	24-295
Yards passing	73	133
Passes	9-18-0-2	6-8-1-0
Punts	1-57	1-35
Fumbles-lost	0-0	1-1
Penalty-yards	6-47	4-30

Individual Statistics

Rushing – Tompkins: Wyatt Young, 4-114-1; Caleb Blocker, 12-108-3; Ronnie Quinn 5-66; William Sweet, 2-4; Justin Thierheimer, 1-3; Mayde Creek: Christian Bradford, 12-74-1; Trey Williams, 10-29; Tavious Mitchell, 7-26; Chad Nelson, 3-18;

Passing – Tompkins: Wyatt Young, 5-7-131-0-0; Caleb Blocker 1-1-2-1-0; Mayde Creek: Trey Williams, 7-13-76-0-0; Cole Jensen, 2-5-24-0-2;

Receiving – Tompkins: Dylan Rodriguez, 2-46; Adebisi Bello, 1-45; Dante Johnson, 1-32; Jhase McMillan, 1-6; Rhys Phillips, 1-2-1; Mayde Creek: Chad Nelson, 2-43; Tavious Mitchell 2-24; JJ Graves, 3-12; Cole Jensen, 1-11; Dylan Rodriguez, 1-10;



Above left: Ronnie Quinn celebrates with Michael Anderson and Erben Birkhoff after scoring a touchdown during Friday's game between Tompkins and Mayde Creek at Rhodes Stadium. Above right: Dylan Rodriguez catches a pass during Friday's game between Tompkins and Mayde Creek at Rhodes Stadium.



PHOTOS BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

TOMPKINS

from page B1

a 55-yard touchdown run.

The Falcons went to work in the second quarter after the Young touchdown run. Blocker scored twice in the quarter, on runs of 32 and two yards and Mayde Creek was only able to respond with a field goal as time expired in the half as the Falcons took a 28-3 lead into the locker room.

Blocker finished the game with 12 runs for 108 yards and three rushing touchdowns while Young added 114 yards on the ground and a score, also throwing for 131 yards in the win.

"It's really important for us that we come out and establish the run the way we did today," said senior offensive lineman Ashton Funk. "Getting Wyatt Young back has been so great for us — he's such a dynamic player for us along with Caleb Blocker and we as an offensive line just try to create as much

space as we can for those two. It's us five against them and we know if we're able to do our jobs that those two will make plays happen every time."

Blocker added to the lead in the pass game in the third quarter, taking a handoff before completing a jump pass for a touchdown to Rhys Phillips. The Rams got their first touchdown of the day on the ensuing kickoff that Daylin Robinson took 78 yards for a score.

The backups came in in the fourth and Tompkins added one more touchdown from Ronnie Quinn on a 9-yard run before Christian Bradford answered back with a 1-yard score of his own. Williams Duncan sealed things with a 20-yard field goal late in the fourth as Tompkins never let the Rams back in the game.

"After the first few drives I think the guys

really settled in and played well," said Tompkins head coach Todd McVey. "They understood the little nuances and different things that Mayde Creek was doing and the speed that they play with. It's a team you have to have really good communication against and I think the guys did a good job of that and we finally fit our fits the way we should. It just got better as things went along."

The win sets up a huge game for the Falcons against Jordan, as the Warriors also sit at 4-2 in district play. The winner of the game would clinch a playoff spot while the loser would face a tougher task heading into the last week of the regular season.

"We're going to enjoy this one first, but we have to be ready," McVey said. "It's Monday first so that's where we're going to start and you just have to take it day by day from there."

KATY

from page B1

District 19-6A play on the year.

"It's a whole team effort," Hill said. "The guys up front gave us some big holes tonight and then Chase always leads me right into the hole and gives me great blocks. I just have gotten more comfortable and better about hitting the hole and trying to get as many yards as I can. It's been so fun learning with these guys."

Hill would finish the game with 170 yards rushing while Johnsey came away with 54, but it was Cinco that jumped ahead early. The Cougars stopped Katy on its opening drive and then Superior Hill made a huge play, blocking a field goal attempt before grabbing the loose ball and returning it 75 yards for a touchdown to put Cinco ahead.

After the slow start, Katy bounced back in the second quarter. The Tigers took their first lead of the game early in the quarter on a Johnsey 38-yard run before doubling their lead on the team's next drive with Hill running in an 11-yard touchdown. Katy got the ball back late in the half and put a stamp on the lead by getting another touchdown on a 19-yard pass from Nelson to Israel Olotu-Judah, as Katy led 21-6 going into the half.

"Chase is such a big part in what we do on offense and what's special about him is how unselfish he is," said Katy head coach Gary Joseph. "Both he and his brother are good high school football players and I'm thankful they're on our side because you don't have to convince them to work hard. That's part of their DNA and it's neat to have twin brothers that both embody that."

Katy came out and kept doing the same thing in the second half. The Tigers drove down the field on the opening drive of the half and got into the endzone on a 38-yard pass from Nelson to Olotu-Judah and added to it at the end of the quarter when Johnsey scored on a run from 2-yards out.

Cinco got its first offen-



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

sive score in the fourth quarter, when Davis Roup threw a 4-yard touchdown pass to Gavin Beavers, but Katy came right back with the answer, scoring just a minute later on a Hill 4-yard run, and the Tigers held the lead the rest of the way to increase the team's district win streak to 23 games.

"The whole reason for our growth as an offense is because of practice," Johnsey said. "That's what it comes down to and we've worked hard every day to get here. We came together as a team and had a goal to get better week by week. I'm glad it's paying off."

The Katy defense was a huge part of the win as well and held Cinco to under 200 yards of total offense. Katy will play Seven Lakes next before closing out the year against Taylor.

"We knew that we had to start reestablishing ourselves up front on defense and the guys did that well today," Joseph said. "We're finally getting back healthy there and that's helped us immensely. Our linebackers at the beginning of the year were trying so hard to do everything and now they're settling in and doing their jobs. We did a better job of tackling tonight and overall it was a really good performance by those guys up front."



Above: Gunner Nelson waits for the snap during Thursday's game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at Legacy Stadium. Left: Tremayne Hill runs the ball during Thursday's game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at Legacy Stadium.

DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

KATY 42, CINCO RANCH 13

Cinco Ranch	6	0	0	7	--	13
Katy	0	21	14	7	--	42

First quarter

CR: Superior Hill 75 field goal block return, 1:52

Second quarter

K: Chase Johnsey 38 (Hunter Ondrush kick) 11:16
K: Tremayne Hill 11 run (Ondrush kick) 6:21
K: Gunner Nelson 19 pass to Israel Olotu-Judah (Ondrush kick) 0:23

Third quarter

K: Nelson 38 pass to Israel Olotu-Judah (Ondrush kick) 8:42
K: Johnsey 2 run (Ondrush kick) 0:47

Fourth quarter

CR: Davis Roup 4 pass to Gavin Beavers (Noah Machart kick) 9:06
K: Hill 4 run (Ondrush kick) 7:45

Team stats

	C. RANCH	KATY
First downs	8	16
Yards rushing	23-12	33-233
Yards passing	171	145
Passes	18-25-1-0	10-14-2-0
Punts	3-20	1-49
Fumbles-lost	1-0	0-0
Penalty-yards	3-24	5-55

Individual Statistics

Rushing – Katy: Tremayne Hill, 28-170-2; Chase Johnsey, 4-54-2; Gunner Nelson, 1-9; Cinco Ranch: Marcus Gadlin, 4-44; Tessiah Young, 8-15; Taytum Johnson, 1-1; Davis Roup, 5-(-48);

Passing – Katy: Gunner Nelson, 10-14-145-2-0; Cinco Ranch: Davis Roup, 17-23-171-1-0;

Receiving – Katy: Israel Olotu-Judah, 2-57-2; Cade McCall, 4-44; Colton Sanders, 1-29; Jon Stephens, 1-9; Luke Carter, 1-8; Tremayne Hill, 1-(-2); Cinco Ranch: Gavin Beavers, 7-65-1; Drew Tureau, 2-50; Taytum Johnson, 4-28; Matthew Courtois, 2-27; Tessiah Young, 3-1;

LOCAL AUTHOR BOB DOLL COACHES ON CREATIVITY

First published in 2021, *Shut Up and Draw: A Journey to Creativity* is a book about how anyone can be creative in whatever they're doing. You don't have to be an artist. The book tells a story about how drawing is just one way to explore one's own creative endeavors with information about:



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The book is loaded with the author's own humorous illustrations to enhance your reading experience. Bob represents himself as an artist/writer who emphasizes creativity is for everyone regardless of your stage in life.

Available on Amazon: *Shut Up and Draw: A Journey to Creativity*

For more information, contact Bob at bob@bobdoll.com

UIL

from page A1

the Thanksgiving break if they don't participate in tournaments, another that changes the number of teams that advance in each event of the regional tennis tournament in state to the top three, another that gives coaches the opportunity to

put two of their students in a UIL approved all-star game and a final that brought the UIL in alignment with the United States Golf Association with what electronic equipment can be used during tournaments.

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October 19 Puzzle Answers

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

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Permit (BG) and a Brewpub License (BP) by Project Halo Brewing, LLC, to be located at 6510 Farm to Market 359 Suite 300, Fulshear, Fort Bend County, Texas. Officers of said Limited Liability Company are Steve Mendez, Owner of Project Halo Brewing.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien.
Sale to be held ONLINE at storagetreasures.com
The facility is Fairfield Mini Storage 20131 Schiel Rd, Cypress, Texas 77433. Bidding will open at 10:00 am on November 2, 2023, and end at 12:00 pm on November 8, 2023. Cleanup and removal deposit will be required. The seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale ends. Unit items are sold as-is to the highest bidder for cash. The property includes contents of space of the following tenants: Heather Gartman, Paul Beisert.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Request for Competitive Sealed Proposal. Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48 is accepting Request for Competitive Sealed Proposals for concrete pavement work located at Fire Station 3. The Proposal is due no later than Tuesday, November 14th at 12:00 p.m. at Martinez Architects, LP 900 Rockmead, Suite 250, Kingwood, TX 77339. The Request for Competitive Sealed Proposal will be utilized pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 775, Texas Health & Safety Code and Ch. 2269, Subchapter D, Texas Government Code. For additional information regarding this project, please contact Mr. Ricardo Martinez (ricardom@martinez-architects.com, 281-800-1023). Request for Proposals may be reviewed or requested from Martinez Architects, made available from Associated General Contractors, McGraw Hill Construction/Dodge, Virtual Builders Exchange.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

Katy ISD Provides Evaluations for Students with Suspected Disabilities
The Katy Independent School District Department of Special Education provides evaluations for students with suspected disabilities to identify every student with a disability living within the district's boundaries. These evaluations are designed to help identify children who may qualify for the district's special education or Section 504 program.
Students with all categories of disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 can be provided with services to ensure their success in school. These services and supports may be provided through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Special Education services are also available to children who are visually and/or auditory impaired starting at birth.
If you are aware of a child who may be challenged with a disability, please contact the Katy ISD Department of Special Education at 281-396-2066. The Department of Special Education will coordinate efforts to evaluate the student and, if eligible, ensure that the student is provided with supports and services needed to obtain academic and non-academic benefit. Please do not hesitate to call should you have any questions.
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Katy Independent School District is an equal opportunity employer. The Board of Trustees, and its agents, officers, and staff members shall not discriminate based on gender, race, disabling condition, age, color, religion, national origin, military status, or any other legally protected status in making decisions regarding staff members or students.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION BY COMMISSIONERS' COURT TO REVISE A SUBDIVISION PLAT FILED FOR RECORD WITH THE COUNTY CLERK
APPLICATION: Tanya Coury, owner, requests to revise Lots 3 & 5, of Briar Meadow Subdivision, Sec 1. The revision will create 4 Lots from existing Lots 3 & 5. The new lots will be 3n, 3s, 5n, & 5s. Briar Meadow Subdivision, Sec 1 is in the George A Dennett Survey, Abstract No. 123, recorded in Vol 357, Pg 485 of the W.C.D.R.
This replat request, if approved, will only revise the applicant's property.
PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on November 15, 2023, 9:00am at the Waller County Courthouse, 836 Austin St., Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

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Week 8 KATY ISD PREVIEW

Katy, Taylor lock up playoff spots

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Thursday

Jordan (6-2, 4-2) vs. Tompkins (5-3, 4-2), 6:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

Last year: Tompkins 65, Jordan 14
• It'll be the biggest game of the season for both Jordan and Tompkins on Thursday as the two teams will battle in a game that could decide the fates of their season.

The winner of the game puts themselves in prime position to seal a playoff spot, but the loser would have their playoff chances taken out of their hands and have to hope on other results. For both programs it's a huge one. Jordan is trying to earn its first ever playoff berth while Tompkins is trying to reach the postseason for the sixth straight year.

Jordan comes off a loss to Taylor in what was a wild game that came down to the wire. Colin Willetts did everything he could to try and get the Warriors into the win column, throwing for 345 yards and three touchdowns, but also throwing two interceptions, while Andrew Marsh had 130 yards receiving and three touchdowns. Tanner West had 98 yards receiving and 29 yards rushing and Deacon Stanfield had 75 yards receiving. But the Jordan defense struggled with some unlucky breaks as Taylor's four completions went for 151 yards and the Mustangs were able to get timely points.

The Falcons meanwhile come off a dominant win where they stretched their winning streak to four games against Mayde Creek. Everything was going for the Falcons in the win, Wyatt Young looked fresh and 100%, rushing for 114 yards on just four carries and adding 131 yards in the air, while Caleb Blocker had 108 yards in the win as well. The defense was just as influential in the win, limiting Mayde Creek to under 250 yards and not ever allowing the Rams into the game.

It will be a game of different strengths. Tompkins has a huge advantage in the trenches and will try to pound the ball and assert the run game while not allowing Jordan to get anything going in their run game. The Warriors meanwhile will try and attack with their skill players and get down the field. But on defense they will have to be up to the task and slow down Wyatt Young and Caleb Blocker.

Mayde Creek (3-6, 2-5) vs. Morton Ranch (1-7, 1-5), 7:15 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

Last year: Morton Ranch 47, Mayde Creek 10

• Mayde Creek and Morton Ranch are both out of the playoff hunt, but it will have the makings of a good contest on Thursday as the two meet, with both trying to get back in the win column and get their seasons on a good note towards the end.

Morton Ranch comes off a bye week and will be refreshed coming into this game. Despite their record, the Mavericks have

been in most of their games this season and have things to build off of as they try to turn being competitive into a win. Mike Gerald has been huge for the Mavericks all season and has kept them in games offensively and Ryan Hall is a threat in the run game. The Mavericks' defense has continued to improve throughout the year and they are set up to make it a good game.

The Rams meanwhile come off a loss to Tompkins where they weren't able to get things going on either side of the ball. Mayde Creek was led by Christian Bradford offensively, who ran for 74 yards and a score, while Trey Williams ran for 29 yards and Tavious Mitchell ran for 26 yards. Nelson added 43 yards receiving while Mitchell had 24, with Williams throwing for 76 yards. The defense wasn't able to stop the run or pass though, giving up 295 yards on the ground and 133 through the air.

The Rams and Mavericks will have different goals heading into this game in how they want to attack each other. The Rams will try to get the intermediate game going and use RPOs to their advantage. The Mavericks meanwhile will try to pound the ball and hope that opens up the play action game for deep shots. The Rams' defense will have to hone in on the run and slow that down first, while Morton's defense will have to have good communication playing against an offense that uses lots of motion and misdirection.

Friday

Paetow (1-7, 1-5) vs. Taylor (5-3, 5-1), 6:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

Last year: Paetow 40, Taylor 10

• Paetow and Taylor come into their matchup on Friday on opposite ends of the district, but with both coming off a win and combining for a matchup that could be competitive.

Paetow's defense has slowly turned into one of the district's best as the season has gone on and things finally came together for the Panthers' first win of the season last week against Seven Lakes. It was a game won in all three phases. Jackson Farrar ran in two touchdowns and threw for two touchdowns while the Panthers' defense never let Seven Lakes get back into the game after building up a 28-point lead.

The Mustangs meanwhile, come off their biggest win of the season as they became the second District 19-6A team to punch a ticket to the playoffs by beating Jordan last week in what was a thriller. Dante Archie ran for 54 yards in the game, while Daniel Bruns threw for 151 yards and a touchdown on just four completed passes. Ethan Jacobson ran in a touchdown as well and it was a game of all three phases for Taylor, with Josiah Rodriguez returning an interception for a touchdown and Kameron Green taking a kickoff back for a touchdown. The Taylor defense stepped up in big spots, keeping Jordan in check even though they gave up some yards through the air, intercepting Jordan twice and limiting the Warriors to just 46 rushing yards.

Taylor has now won three in a row, trailing just Tompkins and Katy for the longest win streaks in district right now, and they'll be determined to keep that going. The Mustangs will have to commit to slowing down the Paetow run game and will need to be very thoughtful about not turning over the ball on offense as that is what Paetow feasts on. The Panthers, meanwhile, will have to do the same thing — committing to slowing down the Taylor run game and being ready for play action, while on offense they will need to find a way to be successful through the air and not let Taylor pack the box every play.

Katy (7-1, 6-0) vs. Seven Lakes (2-6, 1-5), 7:15 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

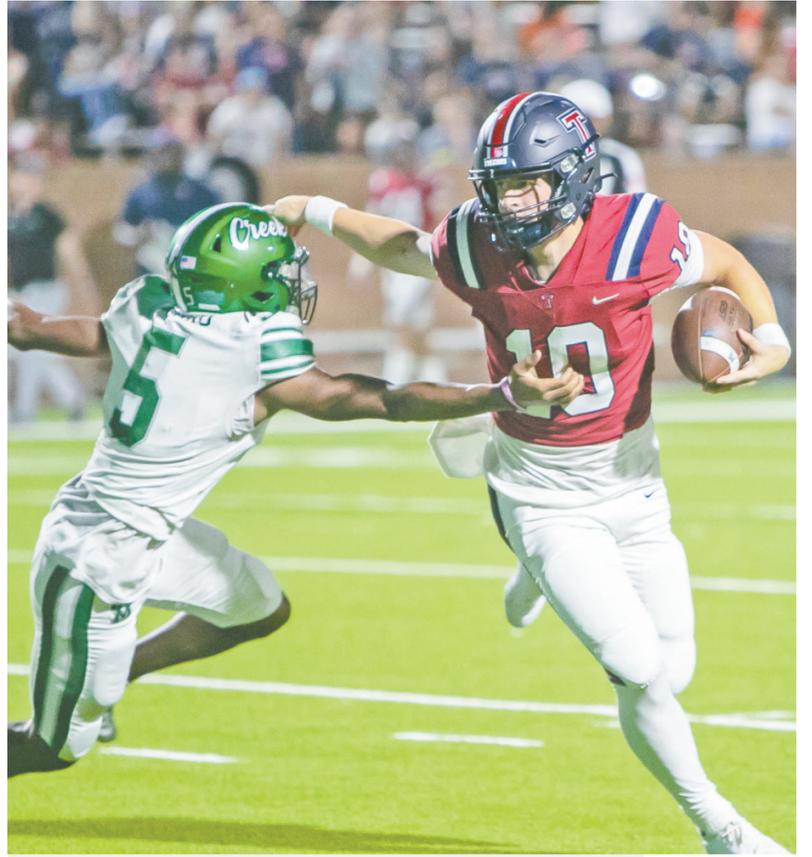
Last year: Katy 59, Seven Lakes 0

• Katy and Seven Lakes are on differing ends of the district. The Tigers are winners of six in a row and undefeated in district play, coming off another big win over Cinco Ranch, while Seven Lakes suffered its third straight loss against Paetow.

Katy continued to have a strong offense behind its run game. Tremayne Hill ran for 170 yards and two scores while Chase

Gunner Nelson runs the ball during Thursday's game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at Legacy Stadium.

DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



DISTRICT 19-6A STANDINGS

Team	W	L	District W	District L	District PF	District PA
1 Katy	7	1	6	0	269	83
2 Taylor	5	3	5	1	131	102
3 Jordan	6	2	4	2	213	122
4 Tompkins	5	3	4	2	211	128
5 Cinco Ranch	5	4	4	3	180	178
6 Mayde Creek	3	6	2	5	96	243
7 Paetow	1	7	1	5	85	135
8 Seven Lakes	2	6	1	5	83	198
9 Morton Ranch	1	7	1	5	125	204

Wyatt Young stiff arms a defender during Friday's game between Tompkins and Mayde Creek at Rhodes Stadium.

DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Johnsey added 54 yards and two touchdowns on the ground. Gunner Nelson kept up his strong play as well, throwing for 154 yards and two touchdowns, both of which went to Israel Olotu-Judah who finished the game with 57 yards receiving. Katy's defense also continued its improvement, holding Cinco Ranch to under 200 yards of total offense in the win.

Seven Lakes meanwhile was never able to get things going against Paetow in its loss. The Panthers jumped ahead early and never looked back. It took until the third quarter for the Spartans to get on the board with a field goal while Barrett Hudson scored the only touchdown for the team in the fourth on a 2-yard run. The run defense was what

really struggled for the Spartans, allowing the Panthers to pound the ball throughout the game.

Katy's focus will be the same. Dictate the pace of the game offensively, pounding the ball with the run and building up the play action game, while defensively trying to keep Seven Lakes from being able to get going in the run game and playing downhill. The challenge for Seven Lakes will be having to commit to stopping the run but still being able to stop the pass game that Katy does off of it. The Spartans on offense will need to do what Katy does so successfully, starting with a strong run game and building off of that to get the play action and pass game going.



Gunner Nelson runs the ball during Thursday's game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at Legacy Stadium.

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Houston's upset bid falls just short against the Longhorns

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Houston gave the University of Texas all it could handle on Saturday.

Despite being down early, despite going up against the No. 8 team in the nation, despite everything up against the Cougars, they took the Longhorns to nearly the final play of the game.

The University of Houston had chances to make school history and take down the Longhorns, but in the end, the Cougars came up just short, falling 31-24 to Texas in what was one of Houston's strongest performances this year.

"I'm just proud of this football team," said University of Houston head coach Dana Holgorsen after the loss. "These guys practiced hard all week, they got better as a team and we had the No. 8 team in

the nation on the ropes. This game was down to the wire and that's a testament to these guys. There's no moral victories but I'm proud of them."

The Longhorns easily drove down the field on their first drive, going 75 yards on 11 plays and scoring on a 14-yard pass from Quinn Ewers to Adonai Mitchell. Houston had no such luck on its first drive; the Cougars dropped a pass that would have gone for a huge gain on their first play from scrimmage and then got backed up by a personal foul before having to punt. The Longhorns took no time in doubling their lead, only needing four plays to score on their next drive on a deep pass from Ewers to Xavier Worthy.

Texas stretched its lead to three scores early in the second quarter and the Houston offense finally came up with an answer after that,

coming back with a four play, 71 yard drive where Donovan Smith found his footing and threw a 32-yard touchdown pass to Matthew Golden, getting the Cougars back in the game. That drive was a turning point for the Cougars. They made another big stop before trimming things to just seven points late in the half when Donovan Smith found Joseph Manjack IV for a score as Houston headed into the locker room with all the momentum but still trailing 21-14.

"The fans were amazing, it was like a party out there when we went into the half with all of that momentum," Smith said. "They were with us all the way until the last minute of the game and that means everything. College football is all about that energy and we love that, we're just sad we couldn't send them home with a win. We just have to finish games the right way and

handle our business."

Houston came right out and continued to attack through the air. Smith went at the Texas secondary and it took just six plays for Houston to get in the endzone and tie things on a 3-yard pass to Golden. The Houston defense made a big stop, but the Longhorns answered with their own, getting a strip sack and retook the lead on a field goal after the Cougars held them out of the endzone. Houston had a chance to take the lead after a strong ensuing drive, but an interception ended it. Houston's defense then made a stop and Houston came back to tie the game on a 40-yard field goal, but Texas had the answer, committing to the run and getting a touchdown on a 16-yard run from CJ Baxter. Houston came close to tying it up, getting it into the Longhorns redzone, but a fourth and one pass attempt fell incomplete with just over a minute

remaining to kill the Cougars' upset hopes. Despite the loss, Houston had a lot of positives to build on.

"We had a chance to beat the University of Texas in the last couple plays of the game," Holgorsen said. "That's amazing when you compare where our program is to where theirs is, and I'm proud of these guys. They fought and they made every effort and gave us a chance, that's a huge thing for our program and we have to continue to build off of that and get better."

The Cougars have another one up next against Kansas State and they hope to be ready for it.

"We just have to keep improving each week," Smith said. "We're going to go in and find the takeaways we need from this game and get better. Losing is never fun for anyone but we can learn from it and it's just going to give us that motivation going forward."

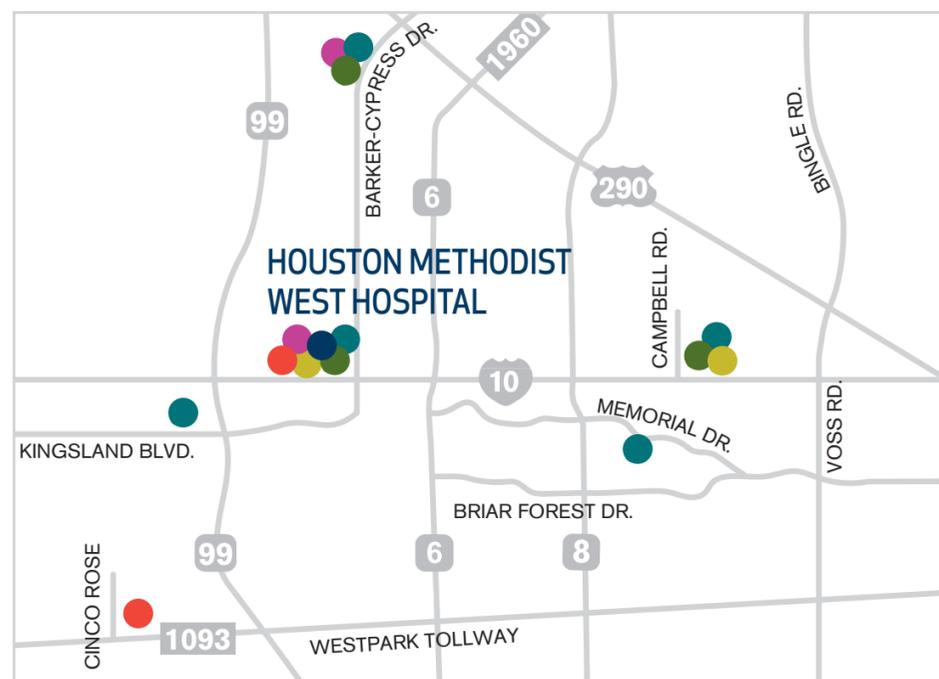


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