

THE 2024 KATY AREA

FOOTBALL PREVIEW



A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO THE **Katy Times**

Thursday, August 29, 2024

sales@texaspridedisposal.com | www.texaspridedisposal.com | 281.342.8178



*Proud partner of
the City of Katy!*



Let Texas Pride be your guide for all your disposal needs!



You are in the hands of unparalleled orthopedic care.

Our care revolves around you, to get you back on your game and keep you there. Whether you need relief from tendinitis or a torn ligament, you'll get the same leading-edge treatments that we provide to the Houston Rockets. To help you come back sooner and stronger. This is orthopedic care designed around you.

memorialhermann.org/orthopedics

Official Health Care Provider
of Katy ISD Athletics



SCORE A TOUCHDOWN WITH VITAL SIGN SOLUTIONS!

***KATY'S BEST
SIGN SHOP***

***Have a Great
24-25 Season!***

KATY
Katy Independent School District



***ALL YOUR
CUSTOM
GRAPHIC
& SIGN
NEEDS***

Go Apollo Lema #22



***Let Us Help
#MakeYourMark™***

***Servicing local Schools,
Businesses & Organizations***

Follow Us:



***5140 Franz Rd. Suite 400
346-307-7557 info@vitalsignsolutions.com***

Luke Carter and Colton Sanders celebrate after Carter scored a touchdown during an area round game between Katy and Cy-Fair at the Berry Center in Cypress.

PHOTO BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



PLAYOFF CHASE WIDE OPEN IN KATY ISD

The best time of the year is back and for Katy ISD, it will be a fun year with talent all around the district.

Last year's playoff race came down to the final day of the season and we might be in for the same kind of year in 2024 as talent is spread all around District 19-6A, with new coaches and rising programs trying to stake a claim and get back to the playoffs and the old guard looking to improve and stay on top.

Katy has won district three seasons in a row and remains the front runners heading into this year. The Tigers have a young team but bring back some very important players and if they improve throughout the season could be a very scary squad come playoff time.

Tompkins has also continued to show that they are one of the top teams in the district. The Falcons finished second in district a year after finishing third and the Falcons, while losing some of their top talent, also have some exciting players who can help them remain in playoff contention.

The biggest breakthrough in district last year came from Jordan. The Warriors made the playoffs for the first time and played some of the best football in the district for much of the year. They bring back much of the team that was so successful last year, and even with adding new players in key positions, Jordan will be one of teams with the biggest preseason expectations.



TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Taylor also broke through last year to get back to the playoffs and even with a largely new squad, there are still high expectations in the Mustangs' camp. The team has athleticism all over the field — some great weapons offensively and good lines that can control the line of scrimmage with the best of them.

Cinco Ranch only missed the playoffs by a tiebreaker last year and will have one of the most potent offenses in the area, with players who can make an impact in both the run and pass game and a young but talented defense as they try to get back to the playoffs.

Paetow has continued to improve and may have one of the best defenses in the entire state with an offense that is truly comfortable with what they are running

this year, Morton Ranch and Mayde Creek both are motivated and bought in with their new coaching staffs and Seven Lakes cannot be underestimated with a talented offense that will be able to throw the ball around the yard and a good front seven on defense.

Freeman won't be playing varsity this year, but we will have an early look at what the team could become with their schedule this year and they will be a fun team to watch for the future.

In Class 4A, Royal is continuing to grow and comes off back-to-back successful seasons and has big goals this year, while Katy Harmony will make the jump to UIL in the same district as Royal as the Wildcats try and build off of successful campaign in the TCAL. In the private ranks, St. John is building and trying to get back to success while Faith West will play in the six man ranks as they look to build and be competitive.

Last year was a competitive one in Katy ISD but was filled with early exits in the playoffs, with only Katy reaching the second round and no team making it further than the area round of the playoffs. This year looks to be just as exciting but teams are hungry to prove themselves and go further. I hope you follow along with the Katy Times as we provide coverage of every team in the district each week and keep you up to date with the district more than any other media organization in the area.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 6	Katy
Page 8	Tompkins
Page 10	Taylor
Page 12	Jordan
Page 14	Cinco Ranch
Page 16	Morton Ranch
Page 18	Mayde Creek
Page 20	Paetow
Page 22	Seven Lakes
Page 24	Freeman
Page 26	Royal
Page 27	Katy Harmony
Page 28	Private Schools

Katy Times Staff

SUSAN ROVEGNO
Publisher/News Editor/Advertising Sales

TYLER TYRE
Sports Editor

MARISSA FERREIRA
Page Designer

DEBBIE PREJEAN
Office Manager

ON THE COVER

Israel Olotu-Judah cuts upfield during a game between Katy and Jordan last year at Legacy Stadium.
PHOTO BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



KATY AT A GLANCE

COACH: Gary Joseph (Career record at Katy 265-26)
2023 RECORD: 10-2, 8-0 in district, District 19-6A Champion, Class 6A-Division I Area Finalist
LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2023
RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE STARTERS: 5/3
RETURNING LETTERMAN: 23
Key Returners: LB, Jr., Jeremiah Smith, OL, Sr., Patrick McMath, DB, Sr., Jacob Hilton, RB, Jr., Tremayne Hill, DL/P, Sr., Adam Carter, QB, Sr., Gunner Nelson, WR, Jr., Cade McCall; WR, Sr., Israel Olotu-Judah, DL, So., Isaac Coughran OL, Sr., Byron Nelson;
Key Newcomers: DB, Jr, Isaiah McMillan, RB, So., MJ Bernas;

KATY SCHEDULE

AUG. 30

Katy at Dickinson, 7 p.m.
at Sam Vitanza Stadium

SEPT. 6

Katy vs. Atascocita,
7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

SEPT. 14

Morton Ranch vs. Katy,
7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

SEPT. 20

Katy vs. Cinco Ranch, 7:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium (Katy Homecoming)

SEPT. 26

Seven Lakes vs. Katy,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 10

Katy vs. Taylor, 7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 18

Jordan vs. Katy, 7 p.m.
at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 24

Katy vs. Paetow,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

NOV. 1

Tompkins vs. Katy,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

NOV. 8

Katy vs. Mayde Creek,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

KATY

MOTIVATED AFTER EARLY PLAYOFF EXIT



BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy had its season cut short last year.

The Tigers suffered their earliest playoff exit since 2001, falling in the area round of the playoffs to Cy-Fair in what was a successful season, but a season that no one inside the Katy clubhouse was satisfied with.

Katy still comes into this season with very high expectations and the first goal always remains the same: win district and take it from there. Katy has done that in

each of the past three seasons — that will be the focus going into the season and the Tigers certainly have the talent to do it.

“We had a lot of guys grow up this spring and summer and even with it being the smallest senior class we have had in 25 years, we have guys stepping up and wanting to compete,” said Katy head coach Gary Joseph. “That time that UIL allows us has helped immensely because it’s given us time to get these younger guys more reps. We’re a young team, but that’s not an excuse and I think these guys have the talent to do a lot of things. You have to find a way to grow and these guys

have been doing that.”

The Tigers return a younger team with inexperience in some spots, but they return plenty of talent as well and leadership that will help guide the younger players in the right direction.

On offense, Patrick McMath will lead the offensive line and Tremayne Hill will be one of the main driving forces of the offenses, returning from a tremendous season where he ran for over 1,500 yards and 18 touchdowns. Gunner Nelson showed some very good signs during his junior season, throwing for 19 touchdowns and over 1,300 yards and will be

Above: Tremayne Hill stiff-arms a defender during an area round game between Katy and Cy-Fair at the Berry Center in Cypress.

PHOTOS BY DOMENIC GREY |
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

expected to take another step heading into this year and both Israel Olotu-Judah and Cade McCall are playmakers in the pass game.

"You have to have that balance as an offense and we have a lot of people who can make plays for us," Joseph said. "We do so much off play action and because of that, we get kids in one-on-one coverage. The key is they have to win that. We have players that can be really good at that this year and that's what you hope for. People only look at us running the football because we've had success with it but we always throw it around as well. The biggest thing for us this year is just being consistent in the pass game as well."

Defensively, Jeremiah Smith will lead things going into his junior year after already having a season where he had 88 tackles and four sacks as a sophomore. Adam Carter will be a difference maker on the defensive line (as well as in the punting and kicking game) and Jacob Hilton will anchor the secondary after a strong junior year last season. Isaac Coughran is youngster that could make an impact. He got some snaps as a freshman last year and is may earn a larger role on the defensive line as a sophomore.

"We have two young guys on the line with Adam Carter this year and some older guys that will play as well and we like the depth we have there," Joseph said. Having Carter and Jeremiah back in our front seven

is really important. Jeremiah can give us an advantage against pretty much whoever he plays against. There's one senior and returning starter in the secondary, but that's why you have to use this early season to grow."

Katy will put itself through a gauntlet to start the season, going up against a reigning district champion Dickinson to start the season before facing Atascocita, a team that went four rounds deep in the playoffs and beat Katy last year.

That tough schedule will prepare the Tiger newcomers as to what's expected at this level, before Katy starts off district play against Morton Ranch, Cinco Ranch and Seven Lakes in the first three weeks. The goal never changes at Katy — winning district is the main focus and that will be echoed by the coaching staff from the first day of practice until the end of the season.

"You need to be ready to go when district starts so we really wanted to face high quality competition early," Joseph said. "It forces you to grow up quick and that's what we'll need out of this group. Our staff has been there and knows what it takes, but it's a matter of the kids facing these high-quality teams and figuring out what it takes from them, cause there's not a lot of time before it's the games that matter. I'm looking forward to it and it's never something that we will shy away from."



PHOTO BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Caleb Blocker is wrapped up by the Katy defense during a game between Katy and Tompkins at Rhodes Stadium.



**BEST WISHES FOR A
SUCCESSFUL SEASON!**

BILL LACY

Mortgage Production Lead
NMLS#230950
713.600.6740
Bill.Lacy@ifinancial.com

APPLY ONLINE AT [IFINANCIAL.COM/BILLLACY](https://ifinancial.com/billlacy)



TOMPKINS AT A GLANCE

COACH: Todd McVey (Career record at Tompkins 57-24)

2023 RECORD: 7-4, 6-2 in district, Class

6A-Division I Bi-District Finalist

LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2023

RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE STARTERS: 3/3

RETURNING LETTERMAN: 17

Key Returners: DB, Sr., Josh Davis OL, Sr., Erben Birkhoff WR, Sr., Adebisi Bello LB, Jr., Preston Smith OL, Sr., Deacon Parrish WR, Sr., KJ Madison QB, Sr., Justin Thierheimer RB, Sr., Ronnie Quinn LB, Sr. Kendree Madriz, DE, Jr. Ryan Machado, TE, Sr., Cade Bauer;

Key Newcomers: WR, Sr., Etoro Bassey; OL, So., Phoenix Smith; RB/DB, Sr., Dante Johnson; WR, Sr., Ty McVey; DB, Sr. Daniel Kalu; QB/DB, Jr. Manny Holmes, TE, Jr. Timmy Timmerman, TE, Jr. William Mayes, RB, Jr. Robert Bernard, RB, So. Carter Young;

TOMPKINS SCHEDULE

AUG. 30

Tompkins at Cy-Ranch,
7 p.m. at the Berry Center

SEPT. 6

Tompkins vs. Bridgeland,
7:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

SEPT. 13

Tompkins vs. Jordan, 7 p.m.
at Legacy Stadium

SEPT. 19

Paetow vs. Tompkins,
7:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 3

Tompkins vs. Mayde Creek, 7 p.m. at
Rhodes Stadium (Tompkins Homecoming)

OCT. 11

Morton Ranch vs. Tompkins,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 17

Tompkins vs. Cinco Ranch,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 25

Seven Lakes vs. Tompkins,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

NOV. 1

Tompkins vs. Katy,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

NOV. 7

Taylor vs. Tompkins,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

TOMPKINS

NEW ERA OF FALCONS
SEEK TO KEEP
SUCCESS GOING

SCOTT W. COLEMAN

The Tompkins Falcons celebrate a touchdown during a high school football game between Morton Ranch and Tompkins on October 13, 2023, in Katy.



BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Tompkins has become one of the top programs in Houston over the past five years.

The Falcons have made the playoffs in five straight seasons and have made a knack for making runs in those playoffs, but it will be a new challenge this year, as the Falcons bring in a young team, but one that still carries plenty of expectations.

Tompkins returns just 18 lettermen this year, with three starters coming back on offense and

four on defense. Along with that, much of where the offensive production came from over the past two years has come from people who graduated in the spring. The Falcons know it's time for new players to step up on both sides of the ball.

"That's what we want and what guys are doing is stepping up for those spots that are open," said Tompkins head coach Todd McVey. "Then there are certain guys who have earned it for now who need to understand that it isn't set in stone. That can be taken away by a guy outworking you. It just comes down to the work ethic you have every day and not being complacent or satisfied."

Tompkins has ended up as the second seed in the Class 6A-Division II playoffs in both of the previous two years playoffs and both times have had their season end with very close losses to Ridge Point. While both seasons were successful years, Tompkins always has big goals and they are looking to improve and go further this year.

Justin Thierheimer will lead the offense in his senior year. He got valuable experience last year while starting four games and learning what it takes at the varsity level in District 19-6A. Erben Birkhoff and Adebisi Bello have stepped up for the Falcons during the spring and summer as

well and will play a big part in the offense this year.

“The biggest thing about Josh is he’s lived in the weight room over the past three years and now he’s bigger, more athletic and moves better,” McVey said. “You can see the connection he has with the receivers already and that’s a great thing and he understands the offense. We’re just looking forward to him continuing to improve and seeing that decision making continue to progress as well from all of our guys back there.”

Defensively, Josh Davis will lead the charge and Preston Smith has made a big jump throughout the year.

“He and some other guys were those young players back a few years ago and the older players stepped up then to help them,” McVey said. “Josh more than anyone because he has been out there the longest out of any of the returners. It’s important for all of them to be here doing things right all the time because that’s the role they have to fill. He has to be the leader of that defense out there this year and I think he can be.”

There will be one big change for the Falcons if they do make the playoffs. If Tompkins continues their winning ways, they will likely drop to Class 6A-Division II, as Tompkins has dropped all the way

to seventh in enrollment of Katy ISD going into this year.

The Falcons once again start the season with strong non-district opponents. Tompkins will open the season against Cy-Ranch before hosting Bridgeland in week two. Both teams made the playoffs last year and Bridgeland has had at least a share of its district’s title in both of the past two years.

That tough competition will be needed. Tompkins opens district against Jordan and Paetow and will need to be sharp early in the season, but that’s what the “Falcon Way” is about and if there is anything Tompkins will be, it’s ready to fight for a spot early on.

“You want to face great competition and that’s exactly what those two teams are,” McVey said. “We played them last year as well and it made us better as a team. We know we will have our hands full but those are the teams you do want to play, especially to prepare you for our district.”

SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Tompkins wide receiver Bisi Bello (1) scores on a trick play touchdown catch during a high school football game between Morton Ranch and Tompkins on October 13, 2023, in Katy.



Experience Excellence in Commercial Landscape Solutions

We exist to enrich the lives of our team members while providing exceptional service to our communities and having fun in the process.



713.574.0058
24907 Saddlespur Ln. Katy, TX 77494
terryslandscape.com

OUR CORE VALUES

The core values of Terry's Landscape include Positivity, Accountability, Teamwork, Safety, Differentiation and Personal Growth. These values drive our work culture, performance standards, processes, and hiring decisions. With a highly skilled team comprised of professionals who share core values, we create and maintain the most beautiful, healthy landscapes and outdoor living areas possible.





TAYLOR AT A GLANCE

COACH: Chad Simmons (Career record at Taylor 34-36)

2023 RECORD: 5-6, 5-3 in district, Class

6A-Division II Bi-District Finalist

LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2023

RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE

STARTERS: 4/3

RETURNING LETTERMAN: 17

Key Returners: LB, Sr., Landon Saurage, DL, Sr., Alexander McMoore, RB, Jr., Josh Jacobson, DB, Sr., Solomon Ross, RB, Jr., Javion Garrett, LB, Jr., Collin Forester, WR, So., Cameron Lewis, OL, Sr., Michael Dagenais, QB, Jr., Connor Chnupa, DL, Sr., Logan Martinez, OL, Sr., Hank Tulenko;
Key Newcomers: DB, So., Landon Pina; Jr., Harrison Miller, LB, Jr., Carson Petree, DL, Jr., Bryant McKinney, TE, Jr., James Lombardi, TE, Jr., Hudson Decatur, OL, Jr., Alex Longo;

TAYLOR SCHEDULE

AUG. 31

Taylor vs. Cy-Woods,
7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

SEPT. 6

Taylor at Fort Bend Bush,
7 p.m. at Mercer Stadium

SEPT. 13

Mayde Creek vs. Taylor,
7:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

SEPT. 20

Taylor vs. Morton Ranch,
7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

SEPT. 26

Taylor vs. Cinco Ranch,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium
(Taylor Homecoming)

OCT. 4

Taylor vs. Seven Lakes,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 10

Katy vs. Taylor, 7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 24

Taylor vs. Jordan,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

NOV. 1

Paetow vs. Taylor,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

NOV. 7

Taylor vs. Tompkins,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

TAYLOR BUILDING OFF PLAYOFF SEASON

Cameron Lewis makes a catch during a game between Tompkins and Taylor at Legacy Stadium.

DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

Last year was a year of overcoming adversity for Taylor. The Mustangs lost their quarterback for the season in the second game of the season, and faced injuries and setbacks throughout the year. But even with that, the Mustangs battled and had their best season in three seasons, making it to the playoffs and finishing third in district and

putting up some of the most impressive defensive performances of the year throughout the district.

Now the Mustangs' goal is to take that success and build on it and they have taken steps to do that in the offseason. It's a mixture of returners and players coming in who will need to step up to continue the success of last year's class. But Taylor head coach Chad Simmons believes that the team has the pieces to compete and take a step forward this year.

"The kids have been working non-stop since

the winter and it's been awesome to see them in the weight room and on the field. They've become a tight knit group of guys and they're putting it together on the field I think," said Taylor head coach Chad Simmons. "This group reminds me of a few of our teams that maybe didn't have the same talent as the best in the state, but they played together and went on some really deep runs."

Taylor will be led by a strong offensive line and it will pair greatly with the duo of running



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Javion Garrett runs the ball during a game between Tompkins and Taylor at Legacy Stadium.

backs that the Mustangs will lean on in Javion Garrett and Josh Jacobson, who both made an impact on the team in their sophomore seasons and will be tasked with bigger roles going into their junior years. Connor Chnupa will take over the quarterback duties and has made a very good impression so far throughout the spring and summer. At first Chnupa was unsure about making the move from safety, but the leadership qualities he has and his ability to both run and throw helped his talent translate over to the position. The Mustangs will have very good speed to attack teams with as well along with an athletic offensive line.

"We can do a lot with that group this year, all of our linemen can really move around and while they're not huge, they can hold their own and then we have three guys back that will all be a huge part of the run game," Simmons said. "Both running backs are special players and Connor has really settled in at quarterback."

On defense, Alexander McMoore and Landon Saurage will headline things and both are big impact players while Solomon Ross and Collin Forester will also play a big part in things. The Mustangs have had a strong defense historically and big things will be expected from the group again this year if Taylor is to meet their expectations. There's been quality competition all year and it's led to players stepping up.

"Internal competition is the best thing you

can have as a football program and they've been great about that this year," Simmons said. "We always talk about the battle between the ears and healthy competition at practice helps with that. If you are competing against each other, every day you are going to be ready for that battle during the season. It's been fun seeing that happen at a lot of positions."

One of the biggest question marks this Taylor team will have to deal with is its relative youth, as they return just four starters on offense and three on defense and they will have to use the time early in the season to get players playing time and adjusted. But that process of getting adjusted has already been happening and Simmons is excited to see where things head as the season progresses. The Mustangs will play Cy-Woods and Fort Bend Bush to start the season before opening district with games against Mayde Creek and Morton Ranch.

"We have to have a good defense that is ready for anything and just the way they have handled practice shows that they can be that," Simmons said. "Of course we have to be strong on both sides of the ball, but we have to be good up front and then offensively, our philosophy this year is 'six points or six minutes.' We need to be able to control the clock, run the ball, play in multiple formations and build our play action off of that. We like what we have on both sides of the ball this year."

Put on the whole armor of God

Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

— Ephesians 6:11-18

Katy Christian
Chamber of Commerce

**Networking,
Upcoming Events,
& More Info**



Where Christian Businesses Meet



PROTECT YOUR BUSINESS. PROTECT YOUR FAMILY.

**BUSINESS LAW FAMILY LAW
ESTATES & PROBATE**



700 Westgreen Blvd, Katy, TX 77450 | (713) 929-6218 | www.GoodnightLaw.com



JORDAN AT A GLANCE

COACH: Mike Rabe (Career record at Jordan 15-15)

2023 RECORD: 7-4, 5-3 in district, Class

6A-Division II Bi-District Finalist

LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2023

RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE

STARTERS: 6/7

RETURNING LETTERMAN: 20

Key Returners: WR, Sr., Andrew Marsh, LB, Sr., Brayden Coffie, DB, Sr., Zion Jones, RB, Jr., Tanner West, RB, Sr., Chad Gasper, DL, Jr., Jimmy Phrisco Phillips, DB, Jr., Zach Taylor, LB, Sr., Owen Lindsey, WR, Jr., Jeremy Alo-Perry, DB, Sr., Rocky Alo-Perry, DB, Jr., Austin Baird, OL, Sr., Matthew Gray, OL, Sr., John Cleary, TE, Sr., Jason Lee, LB, Sr., Roc Tenpenny;

Key Newcomers: WR, So., Landon Williams, OL, QB, Sr., Domenic Cangolosi, QB, Jr., Beau Bryant;

JORDAN SCHEDULE

AUG. 29

Jordan at Cy-Creek,
6:30 p.m., Pidgeon Stadium

SEPT. 6

Jordan vs. Fort Bend Travis,
7 p.m. at Hall Stadium

SEPT. 13

Tompkins vs. Jordan,
7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

SEPT. 19

Jordan vs. Mayde Creek,
7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium
(Homecoming)

SEPT. 27

Morton Ranch vs. Jordan,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 4

Jordan vs. Cinco Ranch,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 11

Seven Lakes vs. Jordan,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 18

Jordan vs. Katy,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 24

Taylor vs. Jordan,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

NOV. 7

Jordan vs. Paetow,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

JORDAN

HOPING TO BUILD ON ITS BEST EVER SEASON



Andrew Marsh leaps to make a catch during a game between Jordan and Morton Ranch at Legacy Stadium.

DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

Jordan found its breakthrough last year.

In just its second season with a district, the Warriors stepped up and made the playoffs, overcoming a tough district with a young team to reach the postseason for the first time as a school.

It was a special year for Jordan and an important one. A young team and a young program gained valuable experience and played in very important games for the first time and learned how to be successful and how to overcome adversity. Now heading into year three in District 19-6A, the

goal is to step up and cement themselves as one of the top schools in the district.

"Last year was huge for this program," said Jordan head coach Mike Rabe. "Last year's group did a great job in leading and showing what it takes to be successful. They got better each week, kept improving and it was so important for these guys to get that experience and a taste of the playoffs."

The Warriors have the players to do it as well. The offense will be spearheaded by top 60 recruit and the No. 8 wide receiving recruiting in the 2025 class Andrew Marsh and senior running back and Florida commit Chad Gasper. Those aren't the only weapons though, Tanner West is back for

his junior season and will be a major weapon at running back and in the slot. The trio will take lots of pressure off of quarterbacks Domenic Cangolosi and Beau Bryant, who are both battling for the starting job after the graduation of Colin Willetts, the only quarterback that Jordan has had through its first four years as a program.

"It's huge to have those guys to help our quarterbacks," Rabe said. "There's guys all around the field that have a lot of experience and played a lot of varsity games. They've played in important games, so I think that can help those two quarterbacks both be comfortable in those situations this year, know they do not have to do too much and



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Andrew Marsh and Zion Jones celebrate after beating Morton Ranch at Legacy Stadium.

take a bit of that stress off them.”

Zion Jones and Brayden Coffie will lead the defense and form a strong duo as defensive backs for the Warriors while Zach Taylor has been a big presence in the back end throughout the offseason and Jimmy-Phrisco Phillips will be a leader on the defensive line. The Warriors only bring back four defensive starters this year but Rabe feels the group has taken big steps to be successful.

“We hope they can step up and be that elite unit this year and that’s what we have seen from them so far,” Rabe said. “They looked good in spring and improved each week that they’ve been out there and we have big expectations out of our defense this year.”

Jordan will face Cy-Creek and Fort Bend Travis to open the season before getting Tompkins in the team’s first district game. It will be an important one to start things out and the Warriors will use the preseason and non-district games to be prepared for the games that matter most.

“These two years we’ve had in 19-6A have really helped our program, it’s been tremendous,” Rabe said. “Everyone is so talented and so well coached, there’s no dip in the

“We hope they can step up and be that elite unit this year and that’s what we have seen from them so far. They looked good in spring and improved each week that they’ve been out there and we have big expectations out of our defense this year.”

—HEAD COACH MIKE RABE

schedule and everyone can play everyone. The guys compete so hard week in and week out and that’s what makes this district special. We are going to have our work cut out for us from week one but that’s exactly what we’ve all been preparing for and these guys are going to be ready.”

**Need A Good
Cleaning
Service?**

GERMS!



Professional Janitorial Services

Signature is your top source for commercial cleaning solutions in the greater Katy and Houston area. From cleaning small office spaces to large warehouse facilities and everything in between, there is no cleaning project too big or too small to receive the Signature touch.



(713)295-0413

Call for a free estimate

<https://www.signaturecleaningconcepts.com>



CINCO RANCH AT A GLANCE

COACH: Chris Dudley (Career record at Cinco Ranch: 24-30)

2023 RECORD: 6-4, 5-3 in district

LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2022

RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE

STARTERS: 9/3

RETURNING LETTERMAN: 26

Key Returners: TE, Sr., Kellen LeCronier, LB, Sr., Luke Mathiasmeier, RB, Sr., Tessiah Young, RB, Jr., Marcus Gadlin, WR, Sr., Scott Eckel, QB, Sr., Charlie Adamoli, QB, Jr., Davis Roup, WR, Sr., Conner Brock, WR, Jr., Drew Tureau, DB, Jr., Daniel Scarbino, LB, Sr., Carson Wald, DL, Sr., Chuk Ekwueme, OL, Sr., Erfan Izadi, DL, Jr., Jeremiah Adams, OL, Jr., Carter Kripki, TE, Jr., Nathan Olivier, WR, Jr., Matthew Courtois, DB, Sr., Noah Matthews, DB, Sr., David Martin;

Key Newcomers: OL, Sr., Dylan Peters, OL, Sr., Jacob Albright, DL, Sr., Lucas De Almeida, WR, So., Mo Poko, DB, Sr., Justin Corchado, LB, Sr., Josh Stoneburner;

CINCO RANCH SCHEDULE

AUG. 31

Cinco Ranch vs. The Woodlands,
7:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

SEPT. 6

Cinco Ranch at Tomball,
7 p.m. at Tomball ISD Stadium

SEPT. 14

Morton Ranch vs. Katy,
7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

SEPT. 20

Katy vs. Cinco Ranch,
7:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

SEPT. 26

Taylor vs. Cinco Ranch,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 4

Jordan vs. Cinco Ranch,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 10

Cinco Ranch vs. Paetow,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 17

Tompkins vs. Cinco Ranch,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 25

Cinco Ranch vs. Mayde Creek, 6:30 p.m.
at Legacy Stadium (Homecoming)

OCT. 31

Morton Ranch vs. Cinco Ranch,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

CINCO RANCH

DETERMINED TO FIGHT FOR PLAYOFF SPOT



BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

Cinco Ranch was hit with almost every kind of adversity a team could face last season.

The Cougars came into the year with a young team and were hit with injuries to both their starting and backup quarterbacks early on before going into district play with a tough early schedule.

But the Cougars rebounded and came very close to getting to the playoffs, only falling short in a three way tie between the third fourth and fifth seeds out of

District 19-6A.

That has eaten at the Cougar players all offseason. They are determined to get back to the playoffs and have done everything to set themselves up for success this year.

"Last year taught these guys a lot," said Cinco Ranch head coach Chris Dudley. "The most important lesson I thought was that it taught them you have to be ready every week, from the first game of district to the last. That's fueled our kids, to go from back to back regional semifinal appearances to not aking the playoffs leaves a bad taste in everyone's

mouth. They have responded though and that intensity has been three all spring and summer. They realize that margin for error is nonexistent when it comes to our district."

The Cougars are in a great spot at quarterback as Charlie Adamoli and Davis Roup battle for the starting spot. Adamoli had a great start to the year last year but suffered a season ending injury and Davis Roup and played fantastically as a sophomore throughout district. Tessiah Young and Marcus Gadlin will be a big help by offering them two great options in the backfield, while the quar-

Above: Marcus Gadlin stiff arms a College Park player during a game between Cinco Ranch and College Park at Rhodes Stadium. Opposite page: Luke Mathiasmeier signals that Katy did not get past the line to gain during a game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at Legacy Stadium.

PHOTOS BY DOMENIC GREY |
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



terbacks have ample targets to throw to, including Kellen LeCronier, Drew Tureau and Scott Eckel, while incoming sophomore Mo Poko is a name to watch at receiver as well. Dudley likes what the team has at offensive line as well and thinks the Cougars can be one of the top offenses in district.

"We think that can really be a strength of our team," Dudley said. "We have a team that can throw and run the ball and you want that balance as an offense. You never want to be one dimensional and I think we've been able to strike a pretty good balance the past couple years and we're hoping to do that again."

Defensively, Luke Mathiasmeier has become the heart and soul of the team and will be one of their most important players entering his senior year. The Cougars return just three starters on defense, but they feel like they can take a big step heading into the season.

"Luke really had already become that alpha leader of our football team last year and it's just grown even more this offseason," Dudley said. "It's pretty rare for a junior to do that but he embraced it last year and has been even better going into this year. Luke is

someone that checks all the boxes — he squeezes every ounce out of his ability, takes the mental side of the game seriously, pushes his teammates and he's just a selfless leader. He's a throwback type player. We're lucky to have him."

Cinco will start the year against two teams who made the playoffs last year in the Woodlands and Tomball and they will have to be ready to go once district comes. The Cougars will start against Seven Lakes and then three straight games against teams that made the playoffs last year as they go up against Katy, Taylor and Jordan.

But that is a challenge Cinco has been preparing for, and they're ready to prove they can take anyone in District 19-6A.

"I love having us play in big games and that's definitely what both our non-district games are," Dudley said. "I knew both would be really good matchups and get us ready for the gauntlet that is our district so that we can figure out where we are before then. You want to have a premier non-district schedule and I think we are in a place as a program now where we can do that. We want to keep pushing and growing as a program to get better."



Good Luck for a GREAT SEASON!

Have fun KK ♥

PATTI LACY IS YOUR KATY REAL ESTATE EXPERT!

Whether you need to buy, sell, lease or relocate I can help you!

I'll work with your needs to find you the home you want at the price that is right for you.



Patti Lacy

Cell: 713-859-5995 • placy@cbunited.com
Lic. #: TX-0476446



COLDWELL BANKER REALTY

- Client satisfaction is my number one priority.
- My goal is make sure that each and every one of my clients are handled with the utmost care and that all their expectations are exceeded.
- First class professional service with the personal attention to all my clients specific needs.
- Let me be your Katy and West Houston Realtor and allow me to put my expertise to work for you.
- As your Realtor, I will provide the most professional service specifically geared towards meeting YOUR family's specific needs.



COACH: Nick Cavallo (First year at Morton Ranch)

2023 RECORD: 2-8, 2-6 in district

LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2022

RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE STARTERS: 3/5

RETURNING LETTERMAN: 21

Key Returners: ATH, Sr., Jerome Ryans, OL, Sr., Adrian De La Garza, DL, Sr., Charles Fleming, DB, Sr., Melvin Shepard, WR, Jr., Tyler Williams, DL, Jr., Great Obikili, RB, Jr., Tyler Gilmore, LB, Sr., Kevin Schneider-Young;

Key Newcomers: OL, Jr., Zorian Coats, WR, So., Chasley Meche, WR, So., Taylan Eli, DL, Jr., Simean Fontenet, WR, So., Chase Williams, QB, Sr., Edward Vasquez, DB, Jr., Denrie Hamilton, QB, So., Jayceon Jenkins;

MORTON RANCH SCHEDULE

AUG. 30

Morton Ranch at Aldine Nimitz, 7 p.m. at Thorn Stadium

SEPT. 7

Morton Ranch vs. Magnolia West, 7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

SEPT. 14

Morton Ranch vs. Katy, 7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

SEPT. 20

Taylor vs. Morton Ranch, 7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

SEPT. 27

Morton Ranch vs. Jordan, 7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium (Morton Ranch Homecoming)

OCT. 3

Paetow vs. Morton Ranch, 6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 11

Morton Ranch vs. Tompkins, 6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 17

Mayde Creek vs. Morton Ranch, 7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 31

Morton Ranch vs. Cinco Ranch, 7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

NOV. 8

Seven Lakes vs. Morton Ranch, 7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

MORTON RANCH

ENTERS A NEW ERA



Morton Ranch quarterback Michael Gerald (2) passes the ball during a high school football game between Morton Ranch and Tompkins on October 13, 2023, in Katy.

PHOTO BY SCOTT W. COLEMAN

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

Things will be different at Morton Ranch this year.

Nick Cavallo came in this winter as the new head coach of the Mavericks and immediately started working with a young group that will have to grow this year, getting in early in the year in 2024 and having time to put things into practice before this fall.

The Mustangs return 21 players this year from last year's team that only

went 2-8, but the team was competitive in many games, losing five by one possession. Cavallo came in and focused on the positives, the talent and fight that the team brings back and is determined to turn those results around.

"I was able to get in and get both of my coordinators here before spring so to have that and be able to instill stuff in spring ball was huge for these guys," Cavallo said. "You could see the buy in from them every day and how they were excited about what's going on here now. It was so important to get

that basic stuff in during the spring. We're still going to go through a process of learning — you can't avoid that, but getting 15 or 16 practices and implementing things in the spring and that is going to help so much."

If there's one thing that Morton Ranch has lots of, it is talent at the skill positions. Jerome Ryans will be a huge piece to the team and will be counted on in all three phases of the game, while Tyler Williams and Tyler Gilmore are both playmakers on offense that can make a difference and Adrian De

Opposite page: Ryan Hall celebrates after scoring a touchdown during a game between Jordan and Morton Ranch at Legacy Stadium.

PHOTO BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



“We want to be tested, but on top of that we want to get that excitement and those fans back. Our goal is to go into week three 2-0 and I really think we have the squad to be able to do that.”

— HEAD COACH NICK CAVALLO

La Garza is a talented offensive lineman up front to build off of. But Morton Ranch will need others to step up as well on that end of the ball. There will be a battle at quarterback leading into the season and a number of players have showed potential so far in the spring and summer.

“Those guys on offense, they’re just pushing each other and competing every day,” Cavallo said. “The improvement from first day I was here to now has been so fun to watch and every spot guys are just battling to start at. We have a lot of talent and that is going to be a fun group.”

Defensively, Charles Fleming will headline that side of the ball and is a senior who is one of the stronger defensive backs in the area, Melvin Shepard and Great Obikili are two other big names

to watch out for. Morton Ranch is usually a team that has to have players both ways, but early in the season the Mavericks had over 60 players suiting up for the varsity and they are excited about the buy in they have received from the whole school.

“Charles Fleming has one of the best motors I have ever seen at any level, including college,” Cavallo said. “He’s really set the tone on that side of the ball and it’s risen everyone else’s level because of it. He only has one speed and so everyone else knows ‘hey, we have to match that.’ It has been awesome because he motivates all those other guys. We have a lot of guys who can be really good in the secondary and are leading things as well.”

The Mavericks will face Nimitz and Magnolia West in non-district

play to start the season before getting a very tough start to their district schedule, going up against all four of last year’s playoff teams in their first five district games and opening with games against Katy and Taylor to start district. Cavallo knows this team will have to grow up early and he is sure they will be ready.

“It’s huge any year but I think that first month is even more important this year to us,” Cavallo said. “We can really cement what we’ve been working on if we are successful that first month of the season. We’re trying to get that buy in and winning helps a lot with that. We want to be tested, but on top of that we want to get that excitement and those fans back. Our goal is to go into week three 2-0 and I really think we have the squad to be able to do that.”

Ochoa Energy Storage Wishes all Katy-area Football Teams a Successful Season



SECURING THE TEXAS GRID, POWERING KATY’S FUTURE

- ▶ Millions of dollars generated to support schools, infrastructure, and local government
- ▶ Affordable and reliable power stored to avoid potential blackouts, price spikes, and supply shortfalls
- ▶ Supports American energy independence and Texas’ all-of-the-above approach to energy

Ochoa Energy Storage is a proposed Battery Energy Storage (BESS) project that could bring up to 500 megawatts of sustainable, reliable energy to support the Texas grid. This project would be located adjacent to a major electrical corridor in Katy, TX, on industrial-zoned, privately owned land. The project would create a new, long-term source of tax revenue for the community.





MAYDE CREEK
AT A GLANCE

COACH: Mike Arogbonlo (First year at Mayde Creek)
2023 RECORD: 3-7, 2-6 in district
LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2019
RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE STARTERS: 7/7
RETURNING LETTERMAN: 31
Key Returners: QB, SR., Cole Jensen, WR/ RB, SR., Trey Williams, LB, Kosi Okpala, DB, Sr., Johnaton Haywood, OL, SR., Tate Dietz, WR, So., Chad Nelson, RB, Jr., Christian Bradford, DB, Sr., Ansel Carter, WR, Sr., Daylin Robinson, OL, Sr., Christopher Morales;
Key Newcomers: LB, So., Christian Arogbonlo, DL, Sr., Tobi Haastrup;

MAYDE CREEK
SCHEDULE

- AUG. 30**
Mayde Creek vs. Fort Bend Travis,
7:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium
- SEPT. 7**
Mayde Creek vs. Fort Bend Austin,
7:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium
- SEPT. 13**
Mayde Creek vs. Taylor,
7:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium
- SEPT. 19**
Jordan vs. Mayde Creek,
7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium
- SEPT. 27**
Mayde Creek vs. Paetow, 6:30 p.m.
at Legacy Stadium
(Homecoming)
- OCT. 4**
Tompkins vs. Mayde Creek,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium
- OCT. 17**
Mayde Creek vs. Morton Ranch,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium
- OCT. 25**
Cinco Ranch vs. Mayde Creek,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium
- OCT. 31**
Seven Lakes vs. Mayde Creek,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium
- NOV. 8**
Katy vs. Mayde Creek,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

MAYDE CREEK

SEEKS IMPROVEMENT WITH STRONG RETURNING UNIT



Trey Williams runs the ball during a game between Tompkins and Mayde Creek at Rhodes Stadium.

PHOTO BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Mayde Creek has gone through some changes since last season ended. Former Rams head coach J. Jensen has moved into a role with Katy ISD as an assistant athletic director, but stayed on until the summer to help transition the role to new head coach Mike Arogbonlo, who comes from Duncanville after helping the Panthers win a state title. That transition has gone seamlessly and Mayde Creek has continued to make improvements going into this year.

The Rams improved last year after three years of struggles, winning two district games and three overall with a very young team that didn't lack grit or determination. Arogbonlo has seized the talented players on the roster and helped foster a new culture as they approach the season, and Mayde Creek has big goals for the season ahead.

"I just want to come in here and instill confidence in these guys and change how we are viewed around the district," Arogbonlo said. "There are so many athletes and playmakers coming into this school every year and we are going to make the most of that — we're going to play fast, play side-to-side and get these dudes in space. It's going to be a fun team and a fun year. I'm excited."

The Rams return some key players, especially at the skill positions and those players just may be the key to improving. On offense, Cole Jensen will lead the way at quarterback going into his senior year and he'll have plenty of weapons to throw and hand off to with the likes of Trey Williams, Chad Nelson, Christian Bradford and Daylin Robinson. The team's



offensive line has continued to step up throughout the offseason as well and Arogbonlo is excited about what he has on that side of the ball.

"This group can be really special," Arogbonlo said. "These guys are going to be put in position to make plays and do what they're best at — we're not going to make them play in disadvantageous positions. The offense starts with the quarterback and Cole Jensen has done a tremendous job — has been great there — and then guys like Chad, Trey and Daylin have been great. I love what I've seen out of these guys."

Defensively, Kosi Okpala and Johnaton Haywood will form a strong duo at linebacker that will be the spine of the defense. The Rams' defense made strides last season and they are trying to take another step this year.

"We are really excited about what we have on the defensive side of the ball as well," Arogbonlo said. "Everyone knows how good Johnaton is, but I think Kosi

is going to really shock some people this year. We tweaked some things and are going to use him to his strengths and Johnaton has been our captain and biggest leader on that end and he's just making plays constantly. We have players and athletes all around and I might be more excited about that side than I even am about the offense."

Mayde Creek will play Fort Bend Travis and Fort Bend Austin, both places where Arogbonlo coached, in its first two games before district play starts with Taylor and Jordan. That first month of the season from early August to September will be key for the Rams as they adjust things and figure out the new offense and defense before district starts up.

"We know how important those first two games are going to be for us," Arogbonlo said. "I know all those guys from when I coached there and have so much respect for them. But it will be fun and the kids are excited about it because they've bought in to the way we are doing things. We have to use those two games to work out all the kinks because after that, there's no more room for mistakes. But we can't wait to get those games going and start off the season."

Christian Bradford carries the ball during a game between Tompkins and Mayde Creek at Rhodes Stadium.

PHOTO BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

STAY AHEAD OF THE GAME

With news and sports coverage from the **Katy Times**

SUBSCRIBE TODAY FOR JUST \$35.00 per YEAR!

- Go to KatyTimes.com and click the SUBSCRIBE button in the top-right corner
- OR
- Call 281-391-3141
- OR
- Mail your name, address and payment to Katy Times, PO Box 678, Katy, Tx 77492-0678



AV Bella

We create captivating Audio-Visual experiences for all your needs.

Projection & Screens
Wireless Microphone Systems
Professional Live Streaming

[AV Bella.com/ 713 560 6776/Avbella1@yahoo.com](https://AVBella.com/7135606776/Avbella1@yahoo.com)
William LaRotta





PAETOW AT A GLANCE

COACH: David Hicks Sr. (Career record at Paetow: 4-10)

2023 RECORD: 2-8, 2-6 in district

LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2021

RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE STARTERS: 4/4

RETURNING LETTERMAN: 28

Key Returners: DB, Sr., Deyjhon Pettaway, DL, Sr., Carmelo Brooks, DL, Sr., Nicholas Elko, OL, Sr., Kai Nguyen, OL, Sr., William Thornton, ATH, Sr., Jackson Farrar, DL, Jr., Daryl Campbell, OL, Sr., Alexander Smith, DB, Sr., Derrick Thomas, WR, Sr., Ikenna Nwobi, DL, Sr., Zamaur Johnson, Sr., WR Josh Scott, DB, Jr., Cordae Crist, DB, Jr., Jaedon Spelmon, RB, Jr., Terrence Johnson;

Key Newcomers: WR, Sr., Jeremy McCullough, RB, So. Curtis Zeno, ATH, So. Key Tavien Williams, WR, So. Tyler Washington, WR, Sr., Daquayn Lott, Jr., WR,

PAETOW SCHEDULE

AUG. 30

Paetow vs. Langham Creek,
7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

SEPT. 5

Paetow at Spring Dekaney,
7 p.m. at Planet Ford Stadium

SEPT. 19

Paetow vs. Tompkins,
7:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

SEPT. 27

Mayde Creek vs. Paetow,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium
(Mayde Creek Homecoming)

OCT. 3

Paetow vs. Morton Ranch,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 10

Cinco Ranch vs. Paetow,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 18

Paetow vs. Seven Lakes, 6:30 p.m.
at Legacy Stadium (Homecoming)

OCT. 24

Katy vs. Paetow,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

NOV. 1

Paetow vs. Taylor,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

NOV. 7

Jordan vs. Paetow,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

PAETOW

READY TO BOUNCE BACK



Van Keith Brown is tackled by Derrick Thomas during a game between Jordan and Paetow at Legacy Stadium.

PHOTO BY DOMENIC GREY |
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

Paetow has started to rebuild and grow this offseason.

The Panthers have found consistency after an up and down season last year. The Panthers struggled early in the season, especially on the offensive end, but won two of their final three games and went into the offseason on a good note.

That has carried over into the new year. The Panthers have had time to work on things, improvement has followed, and Paetow is coming into this season confident.

"It's been fun his offseason," said Paetow head

coach David Hicks Sr., "These guys have learned to really believe in each other and that's a huge key. No one is going to give us anything and we are going to have to work for every single inch, so these guys have to believe in each other, keep a hard hat mentality and embrace the culture. The guys have really done that this offseason and I think we have a really good group."

Paetow took steps last year to become that team and the work has continued going into this season. After two head coaching changes — three different head coaches over the course of eight months in 2022 — the Panthers have finally settled into a system both offensively and defensively, which has helped the players as they enter their second year under Hicks.

"The guys know the system now and it was great to see how fast we were able to go through the basic stuff this spring," Hicks said. "Now that they're confident in it, they're able to see each other's mistakes, what they're doing correctly and grow. They can understand what we're trying to do and rise to that challenge. That comfortability is such an important part of the game because it allows them to play free and loose. The goal now is just to come in and keep getting better each week."

The Panthers will bring back some important players in big positions. Offensively, Jackson Farrar will return to lead the offense at quarterback after putting up some impressive performances down the stretch and Paetow has a good running

attack led by Curtis Zeno and Terrence Johnson, especially with experience returning on the offensive line, where the Panthers should be strong.

Defensively, the Panthers return some real firepower. Deyjhon Pettaway is one of the best defensive backs in the state and will be the leader of the defense. Carmelo Brooks and Nicholas Elko will also be huge parts of the team's success and will give the Panthers leaders and some special players all over the field for the defense.

"I would put our front seven against any team in the state — they are so talented and disciplined," Hicks said. "Then you have what I believe is the best defensive back in the Houston area in Deyjhon on the back end along with a great group of linebackers is just going to lead to special things. All three of those guys bring tremendous leadership qualities as well. I wouldn't trade this defense for any other. With the coaches we have on that side of the ball as well, I truly believe the sky is the limit."

Paetow starts the season against Langham Creek before playing at Dekaney which will be a good final non district test. Paetow then will get Tompkins in its first district game, and the Panthers will have to be firing on all cylinders as they try to get off to a good start early in the year.

But that is what they have been building towards, and the Panthers are ready to prove that they can battle with anyone for a playoff spot in the ever-tough District 19-6A.

"The important thing is to see where we are those first two weeks, because there's no other warmups," Hicks said. "You want to challenge your kids and so it's awesome we get to start off against two great programs. Having a strong out of district schedule is almost necessary because once you get into district play, this is one of the hardest you will find in the state of Texas. If you want to compete in this district, you have to bring you're A-game every single week."



Jabari Bush tries to get around Zechariah Sample during a game between Jordan and Paetow at Legacy Stadium.

PHOTO BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

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:

- How upbringing can influence your creativity
- How challenging long held traditions can be beneficial to your creativity
- How looking at things differently can reveal hidden treasures
- The creativeness of journaling
- How you're not locked into a mindset
- and more

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*



SEVEN LAKES AT A GLANCE

COACH: Jimmy Hamon (Career record at Seven Lakes: 23-30)

2022 RECORD: 2-8, 1-7 in district

LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2021

RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE STARTERS: 7/8

RETURNING LETTERMAN: 31

KEY RETURNERS: QB, Jr., Shaan Patel, TE, Jr., Peter Noonan, LB, Sr., Amani Hooks, LB, Sr., Justin Fowler, WR, Jr., Ryan Fowler; CB, Jr., Matt Fowler, OL, Sr., Matt Sztraky, Sr., OL, Jason Manrique, Sr., OL, Jason Schroeder;

KEY NEWCOMERS: Jr., RB, Edgar Varella;

SEVEN LAKES SCHEDULE

AUG. 30

Seven Lakes at Memorial,
7 p.m. at Tully Stadium

SEPT. 5

Seven Lakes at Richmond Foster,
7 p.m. at Traylor Stadium

SEPT. 14

Morton Ranch vs. Katy,
7 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

SEPT. 26

Seven Lakes vs. Katy,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 4

Taylor vs. Seven Lakes,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 11

Seven Lakes vs. Jordan,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 18

Paetow vs. Seven Lakes,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

OCT. 25

Seven Lakes vs. Tompkins,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

OCT. 31

Seven Lakes vs. Mayde Creek,
6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium
(Homecoming)

NOV. 8

Seven Lakes vs. Morton Ranch,
7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

SEVEN LAKES

RETURNS YOUNG BUT EXPERIENCED SQUAD



BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Seven Lakes went through some growing pains last season.

With a young and inexperienced team, the Spartans battled but were unable to meet their goals, staying in games but going 1-7 in a tough District 19-6A.

But while it was a tough season, there were positive signs for the team to take as well. The team averaged over 100 yards rushing per game, quarterback Shaan Patel showed some really strong poten-

tial in his sophomore season and some young defensive players made an impact for a team that had its ups and downs throughout the season.

"Last year really motivated these guys I think," said Seven Lakes head coach Jimmy Hamon. "We had so many young guys playing significant roles on the varsity last year and it really gave them a good taste of what it takes to be successful on Friday nights. Now they've really pushed themselves through the spring because they know what they're getting themselves into now. There's no wide

eyes now. These guys are prepared and have been great all spring and offseason."

But that youth and inexperience will be less of an issue this year. The Spartans return more lettermen than they lost last season and return seven starters on offense and eight on defense.

Offensively, Seven Lakes will have weapons all around the field. Peter Noonan is one of the best tight ends in the area and Ryan Fowler showed very strong flashes in his sophomore season and will be expected to take on a bigger role this year. Patel continued to show

ABOVE: Ryan Fowler fights through a tackle during a game between Seven Lakes and Memorial at Legacy Stadium. OPPOSITE PAGE: Shaan Patel rolls out from the pocket during a game between Seven Lakes and Memorial at Legacy Stadium.

DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO
THE KATY TIMES



strong improvements throughout the spring and summer and the offensive line should be a strong point of the team this year.

“Shaan, Ryan and Peter really started to show in seven on seven that chemistry and their rapport,” Hamon said. “Shaan really has improved dramatically this offseason after starting 10 games last year and learning as a sophomore and the key thing with Ryan and Peter is we have a great tight end that can handle the middle and the intermediate routes and then a receiver that makes you respect us down the field with his speed. That will help the whole offense.”

On defense, Amani Hooks is the leader of the team and will be tasked with a lot in his senior season. He’s joined at linebacker by Justin Fowler, who had an excellent junior season and should be a big impact player. Like the offense, the defensive line should be strong, and Hamon likes what he’s seen from the secondary, which he thinks is improved and very versatile this year with a number of players who could contribute.

“Justin and Amani are just absolutely huge for us,” Hamon said. “Justin has had such a great spring and

“...They’ve really pushed themselves through the spring because they know what they’re getting themselves into now. There’s no wide eyes now. These guys are prepared and have been great all spring and offseason.” — HEAD COACH JIMMY HAMON

summer and has really stepped up and proven himself as a leader. Amani is going to be a three year starter, and they just have a way to talking and explaining things to a defense like a coach. They both demand respect and are going to be big contributors for us. It’s not just what they can do physically, but getting everyone else in the right spot and being those leaders on and off the field.”

Seven Lakes will open the season against Memorial for the seventh straight year in a game that has been decided by one score each of the seven years. They will close out non-district against Richmond Foster and will be all the preparation the Spartans get before they get thrown into the gauntlet of District 19-6A. The Spartans will face Cinco Ranch

first before facing three of last year’s playoff teams in a row after that in Katy, Taylor and Jordan. Hamon knows that there will be no time to get up to speed for the players once district hits, and the team is focused on making sure every fundamental is down early in the season.

“It’s so important to start off the season strong and be ready for district because it’s here in a snap,” Hamon said. “There’s no let up in this district and it’s going to be so important to be ready for that first district game against Cinco. It’s not just a rivalry game, it will be a critical game for us as well. There’s no room for error or trying to figure out as you go. Every team that we play from week three to week 11 is going to give you a well-coached and disciplined football team.”



Put us in, Coach.

When you bank with us, we work for you. And we won’t be satisfied with our performance unless you are.

Visit us at one of our nearby financial centers or call (713) 388-7800.

Katy Mason Financial Center | 21875 Katy Fwy, Ste 100

Cinco Ranch Financial Center | 23701 Cinco Ranch Blvd, Ste 100

Exactly What You Unexpected™

FrostBank.com | Member FDIC



**FREEMAN
AT A GLANCE**

COACH: Eric Robinson (First year at Freeman, playing subvarsity this season)

**FREEMAN
SCHEDULE**

(Non-Varsity,
exact dates not confirmed)

WEEK 1

Freeman vs. Comal Long Creek

WEEK 2

Freeman vs. Legacy Ranch

WEEK 3

Bye

WEEK 4

Freeman vs. Legacy Ranch

WEEK 5

Freeman vs. Comal Long Creek

WEEK 6

Bye

WEEK 7

Freeman vs. La Marque

WEEK 8

Freeman vs. Foster

WEEK 9

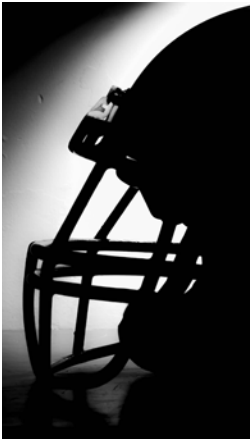
Bye

WEEK 10

Freeman vs. Cy-Woods

WEEK 11

Freeman vs. A&M Consolidated



FREEMAN

READY TO COMPETE
IN FIRST EVER SEASON



BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Players have been flying out the gates this fall at Freeman. There is a hunger all around the football program. Everyone in the program knows it's still a young team and anyone can take a spot and prove themselves. The Golden Eagles are in their first year as a program and it has been a rush for the staff and players and everyone is excited for the team's first ever season. "We have a great staff and great kids and it just makes it fun every single day," said Freeman head coach Eric Robinson. "These kids come out and just do what

they're coached to do every day and play unbelievably hard for us. You can't ask for better than that. We are going to keep getting better and it's because of the staff we have and the way these kids compete." Freeman only has freshman and sophomores on campus this year with the school just opening and will not compete as a varsity program in football. With that, the goal isn't in winning or losing — it isn't about a record or accolades or anything of the sort. The only goal for this season is for the Golden Eagles to get better every time they take the field, continue to grow and be comfortable in the coaches' system and learn how to play as a team at a high level. "The focus for this whole year is to

control the things in front of us that we can control," Robinson said. "We talk about it all the time. You need to bring your best every day, have the right mindset, the right effort, the right attitude and the right toughness. That's what we can control. We don't want to focus on what we can be or other things — let's focus on taking it one step at a time and continuing to get better." The Golden Eagles have tons of talent coming in to open the school and will have pieces in place to build on. Christopher Beaty is a dual threat weapon at quarterback and can make plays all over the field. Christian Tillman has done some really good things at running back and Khalil Thomas has a chance to grow into

Above: Freeman's Khalil Thomas moves upfield after catching a pass during a scrimmage between Freeman and Tompkins. Opposite page: Freeman's Christopher Beaty runs into the endzone during a scrimmage between Freeman and Tompkins.

PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

“They are coming out with the right attitude every day and as long as they are doing that and continuing to improve, I think we are doing things right. That’s the most important thing for us. We need to continue building in the right way.” —HEAD COACH ERIC ROBINSON

one of the best receivers in the area and is already making plays all around the field.

“It’s a cliché but it’s true especially for these guys — we have to take it one step at a time,” Robinson said. “The guys just have to take that time and learn each other, what we are doing and have fun with it. The fun part will come — we just have to keep working and growing.”

Freeman will start the season against Comal County Creek and Legacy Ranch, two other newly opened schools and in total will play eight games this season, including games against Cy-Woods,

Foster and A&M Consolidated. It’s an exciting time for the Golden Eagles and the team can’t wait to compete and continue learning about themselves.

“It’s just fun — kids are getting after it, they’re competing and everyone wants to prove themselves,” Robinson said. “That’s what you want whether it’s pee-wee, high school, college or pros. They are coming out with the right attitude every day and as long as they are doing that and continuing to improve, I think we are doing things right. That’s the most important thing for us. We need to continue building in the right way.”



2025

DEEP IN THE HEART

MARCH 27
K-TOWN THROW-DOWN

MARCH 28
LAUNCH PARTY

MARCH 29
WILD WEST BREW FEST

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW.

Scan here!

VIP PACKAGES AVAILABLE (LIMITED QTY)

WildWestBrewFest.com

**DRINK BEER.
HELP YOUR COMMUNITY.**

100% OF THE NET PROFITS DONATED TO CHARITY!

Rotary Club of Katy



ROYAL AT A GLANCE

COACH: Theadis Reagins (Career record at Royal: 18-14)

2023 RECORD: 5-6, 3-3 in district, Class

4A-Division II Bi-District Finalist

LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2023

RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE

STARTERS: 6/6

RETURNING LETTERMAN: 29

KEY RETURNERS: RB Sr., Zakai Anderson, WR, Sr., Noah Lasker, DL, Jr., Tyler Lavallier, OL, Sr., Jalen Bray, LB, Jr., Malik Hooker, DB, Sr., Chazren Barley, WR, Sr., Isiah Campbell, OL, Jr., Braylon Reado, DB, Sr., Noe Arriaga, OL, Jr., Logan Graham, WR, So., Kamar Chavez-Brown;

KEY NEWCOMERS: DB, So., Jaylon Johnson, LB, So., Zaveon Shelton, LB, Sr., Zaelyn Shelton, DB, Jr., Jaylen Palmer, DB, Sr., Tremaine Prophet;

ROYAL SCHEDULE

AUG. 30

Royal vs. Yates, 7 p.m.

SEPT. 6

Royal vs. Almeta Crawford, 7 p.m.

SEPT. 13

Royal at Navasota, 7 p.m.

SEPT. 20

Royal vs. Fort Bend Willowridge, 7 p.m.

OCT. 4

Royal vs. Sweeny, 7 p.m.

OCT. 11

Royal at Columbia, 7 p.m.

OCT. 18

Royal vs. La Marque,
7 p.m. (Homecoming)

OCT. 25

Royal at Harmony School
of Innovation Sugar Land, 7 p.m.

NOV. 1

Royal vs. Wharton, 7 p.m.

NOV. 8

Royal at Harmony School
of Innovation Katy

ROYAL

READY FOR NEXT STEP AFTER BACK TO BACK PLAYOFF APPEARANCES



FILE PHOTO

Royal players line up for a play during a game against Sealy in 2020.

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Royal has taken a step forward over the past two years.

The Falcons have earned back to back playoff appearances, finishing second and third in district over the two seasons and the team has raised its level and standards as they have embraced success.

But while they have achieved that success, it's only the first step for this program, and everyone in the locker room is aiming higher this year. They don't just want to make the playoffs — they want to go multiple rounds and compete for a district championship.

"The key for us is the consistency we have to bring in our daily approach," said Royal head coach Theadis Reagins. "We have to stack days and build momentum, push every rep and take every day seriously. That's how good teams become great and that's been the goal this year."

Royal definitely has the talent to be able to compete and reach their goals. Offensively, they return some very exciting playmakers. Zakai Anderson will lead the offense at running back;

he rushed for over 1,100 yards and 13 touchdowns last year. There will be options to throw to as well — Noah Lasker and Kamar Chavez-Brown both are playmakers at wide receiver.

The Falcons do have some question marks on the offensive line, but with so much experience behind them, the Falcons are confident that the offense will find its groove early.

"That's one of the things that's going to be a strength this year," Reagins said. "We have depth at those skill positions, and we know we can gameplan different things for different weeks because we have so many guys who can make plays. Teams can't just hone in on one individual with our team — they have to respect all of our skill position guys."

On defense, Malik Hooker and Chazren Barley will lead things along with Tyler Lavallier. Royal brings back six starters on the defensive side of the ball and will be looking to improve on a season where they did well but did have some struggles down the stretch against strong teams.

"They've continued to grow as players and it's about the coaches too, getting the guys ready, making sure they know who the key players are on the other side and watching film," Reagins said.

"We're going to be more physical on that side of the ball this year and there will be more attention to detail. We have a lot of talent there and I think the defense can be really good this year."

Royal will have four weeks to prepare for the District 10-4A-Division II gauntlet, facing Yates, Almeta Crawford Navasota and Fort Bend Willowridge to start the year. It will be a good start against Yates, which made the playoffs last year, and then three straight games for Royal to get up to speed before the big tests of district come around.

It will be an exciting year and one with lots of big goals for the Falcons, and they believe this year, they have what it takes to make it a special season.

"Our two biggest things we have to do this year are play really solid defense and then be able to run the ball and have solid special teams," Reagins said. "Those are things so many coaches say but that has to be the focus for us this year, running the football and playing defense the way we can. Another big focus is taking care of the ball better, because games we ended up losing a lot of times came down to turnovers last year. If we're able to do those things, this team can be really special."



HARMONY

LOOK TO REPEAT SUCCESS
WITH MOVE TO UIL

HARMONY SCHOOL OF INNOVATION SCHEDULE

AUG. 30 Harmony School of Innovation-Katy at St. Joseph, 6 p.m.	OCT. 4 Harmony School of Innovation-Katy vs. Columbia, 7 p.m.
SEPT. 5 Harmony School of Innovation-Katy vs. KIPP Houston, 7 p.m.	OCT. 11 Harmony School of Innovation-Katy at La Marque, 7 p.m.
SEPT. 12 Harmony School of Innovation-Katy vs. Marine Military Academy, 5:30 p.m.	OCT. 18 Harmony School of Innovation-Katy vs. HIS, 7 p.m.
SEPT. 21 Harmony School of Innovation-Katy at CTSA Outlaws, 3 p.m.	OCT. 25 Harmony School of Innovation-Katy at Wharton, 7 p.m.
SEPT. 27 Harmony School of Innovation-Katy at Sweeny, 7 p.m.	NOV. 8 Harmony School of Innovation-Katy vs. Royal, 7 p.m.

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy Harmony is may be new to the UIL, but the team is no stranger to success.

The Wildcats come off a state championship season in Division II of the Texas Christian Athletic League 6-man football, only going 4-8 on the season, but finding their groove when the playoffs hit, beating Sugar Land Harmony 6-0 in a shutout before winning the state championship with a 32-8 win over Compass Rose Legacy.

Harmony brings back a huge majority of starters from that state championship team and will need them for their move into Class 4A-Division II.

Charles Cole will lead the way offensively — he was the driving force offensively behind last year’s state championship team and threw for three touchdowns while rushing in another in the state championship game. Another

HARMONY SCHOOL OF INNOVATION AT A GLANCE

COACH: Richard Carnley (Record at Harmony: 4-11)
2023 RECORD: 4-8, TCAL Div. II State Champion
LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2023 (TCAL playoffs)
RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE STARTERS: 9/8
RETURNING LETTERMAN: 9
KEY RETURNERS: QB, Charles Cole, WR, Kaiden Bankas, WR/LB, James Robinson, RB/LB, Avion Summers, DB, Yusuf Bishi, RB, Sebastian Mussett, OL, Amir Mindorrov, WR, Jason Ukonu, WR, Hamzah Tork, TE, Avery Buggs, S, Rogba Debo, OL, Olutola Sanyaolu, LB, Lanne Morrison, OL, Abed-Alrahman Mahmud, OL, Demi Orekoya;

key to the offense will be Kaiden Bankas, who caught a touchdown in that state championship game and had a strong junior season. Harmony returns nine starters overall on the offensive side of the ball and will need all of them to step up if they are going to compete this year.

The Harmony defense struggled at times last year but stepped up hugely in the playoffs, only allowing eight points combined in the playoffs when the season was on the line. Linebacker James Robinson, who also plays receiver, and linebacker Avion Summers will lead the defensive unit and hope to repeat that success.

The Wildcats join a very tough district that includes Royal, West Columbia, Sweeny, La Marque, Wharton and Sugar Land Harmony. It will be a tough task to make the playoffs and overall numbers are a concern for Katy Harmony, but they do have the history of success to lean on.

Harmony will start the season against a very good private school side in Victoria St. Joseph before taking on KIPP Houston in week two and closing out non-district play against Marine Military Academy and CTSA. Harmony will open district against Sweeny and face Royal in their final district game of the season.



Be money wise
Get a student
checking account
at BVSCU

A BVSCU student checking account is a great tool to help you get started. We're here to help. Please visit us at the closest branch to get started.



FAITH WEST
SCHEDULE

- AUG. 30**
Faith West vs. Fort Bend Homeschool
- SEPT. 14**
Faith West vs. Houston Westbury Christian
- SEPT. 20**
Faith West at Sugar Land Logos Prep
- SEPT. 27**
Faith West vs. Galveston O'Connell
- OCT. 4**
Faith West at Missouri City Divine Savior Academy
- OCT. 11**
Faith West at St. Francis Episcopal
- OCT. 26**
Faith West vs. Bryan Allen Academy
- NOV. 1**
Faith West vs. Huntsville Alpha Omega
- NOV. 8**
Faith West vs. Beaumont Legacy Christian Academy

FAITH WEST

LOOKS TO BUILD WITH RETURNING LINEUP

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Faith West went through some growing pains last year. With a young team, the Eagles won their first two games of the season and stayed competitive in contests throughout but were unable to reach their ultimate goals. The Eagles went 0-4 in district, but were able to gain valuable experience at the varsity level. This year, under head coach Andrew Garay, Faith West is hoping to build on that this season as they compete in a tough district in 6-man football and try to improve. Faith West brings back some important players from last year. Max Martinez was a strong player at quarterback in his freshman season and will be counted on to step up as a sophomore, while Guillermo Garcia will join

FAITH WEST
AT A GLANCE

COACH: Andrew Garay (First year as head coach at Faith West)
2023 RECORD: 2-6, 0-4 in district
LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2017
RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE STARTERS: 3/6
RETURNING LETTERMAN: 6
KEY RETURNERS: QB, So. Max Martinez, RB, Sr., Guillermo Garcia,
KEY NEWCOMERS: DL, Sr., Michael Mate DB, Sr., Wyatt Campbell

him in the backfield and has big expectations heading into his senior year, and Brayden Dennis will also help out in the backfield entering his sophomore year. On defense, Michael Mate should be a very strong player for the team at defensive end,

while Brayden Cullum, Jacob Massey, Dennis, Wyatt Campbell and Garcia all are expected to contribute on that side of the ball. Garay has been coaching at Faith West for the past 16 years, leading the junior high program and serving as an assistant for the varsity program, while with the junior high program his team twice won conference championships and went undefeated in both 2014 and 2019, Garay will be hoping to bring that success to the varsity program, which has been strong in the past but hasn't made the playoffs since 2017. Six new players join the team this year and the Eagles will be competing in a tough district. The Eagles will compete against Allen Academy, Alpha Omega Academy and Legacy Christian for a spot in the playoffs. It'll be an exciting year for the Eagles and they are a team to keep your eye on.



ST. JOHN XXIII
SCHEDULE

- AUG. 30**
St. John XXIII at Concordia Lutheran, 7 p.m.
- SEPT. 6**
St. John XXIII at St. Michael's, 7 p.m.
- SEPT. 13**
St. John XXIII vs. Brazos, 7:30 p.m.
- SEPT. 20**
St. John XXIII vs. Danbury, 7:30 p.m.
- SEPT. 27**
St. John XXIII vs. St. Paul, 7 p.m.
- OCT. 4**
St. John XXIII vs. San Antonio Christian
- OCT. 11**
St. John XXIII at Bay Area Christian
- OCT. 18**
St. John XXIII vs. St. Joseph, 7 p.m.
- NOV. 1**
St. John XXIII vs. Frassati Catholic

ST. JOHN XXIII

AIMS FOR IMPROVEMENT

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

St. John XXIII didn't have the season the team was hoping for last year. The Lions went winless on the year, finishing 0-10 and 0-5 in district, struggling on both sides of the ball in the campaign, but despite that, enthusiasm remains in the locker room and they had a surge in numbers this offseason. And there's reason for hope heading into the new season. The Lions return 15 players from last year's team while losing just six to graduation. That experience boost will help them this year and they are hoping to build in their first year in an independent district.

Most players will play both ways for the Lions as is always a part of smaller private schools and St. John's will rely on some to be playmakers on both sides. Sammy Khoury is a three-year starter for the team and will play both running back and defensive back in his senior year. He was a playmaker both of his two years as a starter on offense and will need to carry lots of the load running the ball. He will be joined in the backfield by Peter Rider, who steps in at quarterback for the team and may also play defensive back and the two should form a strong duo. Sam Lahr will anchor things on the line, a three-year starter on both defensive and offensive line, Lahr will be counted on not just for his own ability but for his leadership and helping others get set up correctly.

ST. JOHN XXIII
AT A GLANCE

COACH: Dave Flora (Career record at St. John XXIII: 0-10)
2023 RECORD: 0-10, 0-5 in district
LAST PLAYOFF APPEARANCE: 2021
RETURNING OFFENSIVE/DEFENSIVE STARTERS: 5/5
RETURNING LETTERMAN: 15
KEY RETURNERS: RB/DB, Sammy Khoury, OL/DL, Sam Lahr, QB/DB, Peter Rider, OL/DL, Aydan Rand, RB/LB, Jaxson Lawton
KEY NEWCOMERS: OL/DL, Benji House, TE/LB, Ethan Quinton

St. John's opens the season with two road games against Concordia Lutheran and St. Michael's before getting their first home game Sept. 13 against Brazos. It will be a tough schedule and they will close it against three strong teams in Bay Area Christian, Victoria St. Joseph and Frassati Catholic.



PHOTO BY SCOTT W. COLEMAN



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



DDOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Morton Ranch quarterback Michael Gerald (2) delivers a stiff arm to Tompkins defensive back Blake Hamilton (2) during a high school football game between Morton Ranch and Tompkins on October 13, 2023, in Katy. Wyatt Young hurdles a defender during a game between Tompkins and Mayde Creek at Rhodes Stadium. Barrett Hudson runs through the Memorial defense during a game between Seven Lakes and Memorial at Legacy Stadium. Dakyus Brinkley celebrates after a pass breakup during a game between Katy and Clear Springs at Rhodes Stadium. Jeremy McCullough makes a catch during a game between Tompkins and Taylor at Legacy Stadium. Andrew Marsh stiff arms a defender during a game between Jordan and Morton Ranch at Legacy Stadium.



DDOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



city of katy ROADMAP

A Program of the Katy Area Chamber



Ian Clowes

Community Development
Director



Rachel Lazo

City Planner



Elaine Lutringer

Executive Director of Public Works
and Community Development

This presentation is centered around navigating city regulations and requirements pertinent to businesses in the Katy area. Attendees will gain insights into the best practices for engaging with local government with a specific focus on strategies applicable to business.



Where: Katy Area Chamber
814 East Ave., Ste. A, Katy, TX

When: October 30, 2024
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM (CDT)



katychamber.com



Texas Renaissance Festival

Saturdays, Sundays, and Thanksgiving Friday
October 12th - December 1st

To purchase tickets and for more information,
scan the QR code.

TexRenFest.com



Class of 2025 Senior Photo Session bookings are in full swing!

Capture your Senior's Accomplishments

Congratulations, Class of 2025 Seniors! Your journey is about to take a new turn. Let's capture this special moment with a portrait that truly reflects you.

At John Glaser Photography, we create more than just pictures; we craft timeless works of art. With a limited intake of 60 seniors each year, you're guaranteed an exclusive and personalized experience.

Don't settle for ordinary. Your senior year deserves extraordinary.

Scan the QR Code to
book your consultation
call today:



JOHN GLASER
PHOTOGRAPHY

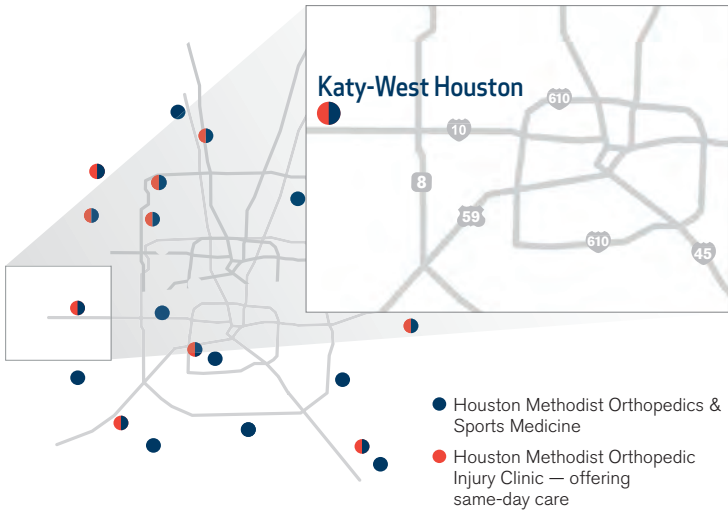
3522 South Mason Road Suite 260, Katy Tx 77450
281.206.4261 • johnglaserphotography.com

Leading Orthopedic Care to **KEEP YOU MOVING**



Our orthopedic and sports medicine specialists can help keep your body in motion.

Whether you're suffering from simple aches and pains or recovering from a complex injury, our board-certified specialists develop treatment plans tailored to your unique needs. From diagnosis and treatment through physical therapy and rehabilitation, we have the expertise to get you back on your feet and keep you moving.



20+ convenient locations across Greater Houston



OFFICIAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

Schedule an appointment:
houstonmethodist.org/orthopedics
832.522.8280