

October 27, 2011

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

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Junk waste pickup set

Junk waste will be picked up Thursday, Oct. 27, for city of Houston residents living south of Beltway 8. For more information, call 3-1-1.

Evening of Cuisine Thursday

The annual Evening of Cuisine and antique car show will take place Thursday, Oct. 27, at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Sponsored by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, the all-you-can-eat event lets attendees sample food from a wide variety of local vendors. Recently added are Raphael's Gourmet Seafood and Scotty's Pub.

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door and are available at the chamber, H-E-B Blackhawk and the *Leader* offices. For more information, call the chamber at 281-481-5516.

Search for High continues

The search continues for 82-year-old South Belt resident Lillian High, who hasn't been seen since Sunday, Oct. 2. Her family is now offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to her recovery. High was reported missing Monday, Oct. 3, after she failed to show up for work at the Chase Bank at Beltway 8 and the Gulf Freeway, where she has been a teller for 20 years.

The Houston Police Department has been actively searching for High, with 35 units combing the area this past week, according to Officer Randy Derr. HPD has been assisted by the Laura Recovery Center and Texas EquiSearch in its search. High is described as 5 feet 2 inches tall and 103 pounds. She has gray hair and hazel eyes. She may be wearing a blue, collared Chase Bank shirt, black slacks and black shoes.

She was believed to be driving a black four-door Dodge Avenger with Texas license plate CD6 J492. Anyone with information is urged to contact HPD's Missing Persons Division at 713-731-5223.

Cokesbury Trunk or Treat

Trunk or Treat is set for Halloween (Oct. 31) from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Cokesbury United Methodist Church, 10030 Scarsdale.

This is a great chance for kids of all ages to have fun in a safe, family-friendly venue. There will be treats, games and other activities, plus the pumpkin patch.

Frazier seeks vendors

Frazier Elementary is currently seeking vendors for its Family Fun Day event on Saturday, Oct. 29, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Booths are \$15, \$20 with electricity, or free with a donated silent auction basket. Funds raised will be used for student events, field trips, resources, learning activities and teacher programs. For reservations, contact Mary Perez at 832-388-6946 or mjperez5683@yahoo.com.

Dobie band parents meet

The Dobie Band Parent Organization will meet Monday, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m. in the band hall. All band parents are urged to attend.

PW Library events set

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd., Oct. 27 through Nov. 2. After School Craft Time will be held on Thursday, Oct. 27, at 4 p.m. This activity is intended for ages 5 and up. On Saturday, Oct. 29, Vietnamese storytime will include Reading Club at 9 a.m., followed by intermediate storytime at 11 a.m. and beginner storytime at 1 p.m. Preschool storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, and toddler storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday.

K of C hosts fish fry

The Knights of Columbus will serve fish dinners in the St. Luke's Catholic Church hall, Fridays, Oct. 28, Nov. 11 and Nov. 18. Each dinner will consist of a breaded fish fillet, fries, hush puppies, cole slaw, corn-on-the-cob and iced tea. Soft drinks and desserts will be available. Baked fish will be available in limited quantities. One-piece dinners will be \$9, and two-piece dinners will be \$12, dine in or take out. For information, call 832-444-4958.

CDA collects long johns

Thermal long johns for service members in Afghanistan are being collected by members of the Catholic Daughters of America for the Long Johns for Soldiers project. Those who would like to contribute to this cause, call Carolyn Friend at 281-484-4170 or 832-423-5722 to donate money or long johns. The group hopes to receive at least 100 sets of long johns.

South Belt plans Turkey Trot

South Belt Elementary and the American Heart Association will host the second annual Turkey Trot Family Fun Run Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. to noon. This includes a two-mile fun run and health fair. Donors of \$50 or more will receive a T-shirt with their business on the back and a reserved health fair space. To sponsor or donate, contact Jon Kidwell at 713-740-5276 or jkidwell@pasadenaisd.org.

See additional items on Page 5A.

Due to construction, vehicles carrying depart-

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Early voting under way for Nov. 8 elections

Early voting for the Nov. 8 state, city and Pasadena ISD bond elections is under way and will continue through Friday, Nov. 4.

City of Houston

Voters in the City of Houston will decide who will fill several key positions, including that of mayor, 11 City Council district seats and five at-large City Council seats.

Competing for mayor are incumbent Annise Parker, Kevin Simms, Amanda Ulman, Dave Wilson, Fernando Herrera and Jack O'Connor.

Vying for the position of District D City Council member are incumbent Wanda Adams and Larry McKinzie.

Mike Sullivan is running unchallenged for the District E position.

Houston City Council voted this past May to

approve new city district maps that divide the South Belt community. The new maps transfer the area west of the Gulf Freeway that is currently located in District E, represented by Councilmember Mike Sullivan, to District D, which is served by Councilmember Wanda Adams.

Competing for the At-Large Position 1 seat are incumbent Stephen Costello, James Partschat-Galvan, Scott Boates and Don Cook.

Vying for the At-Large Position 2 seat are Kristi Thibaut, Elizabeth Perez, Andrew Burks Jr., Gordon Goss, Bolivar "Bo" Fraga, Eric Dick, Jenifer Rene Pool, M. "Griff" Griffin, David Robinson and Roslyn "Rozzy" Shorter.

Competing for the At-Large Position 3 seat are incumbent Melissa Noriega, Chris Carmona and J. Brad Battreau.

Vying for the At-large Position 4 seat are incumbent C.O. "Brad" Bradford, Louis Mohar and Amy Price.

Competing for the At-Large Position 5 seat are incumbent Jolanda "Jo" Jones, Laurie Robinson and Jack Christie.

See related candidate questionnaires on Page 3A.

State amendments

The State of Texas is having a constitutional amendment election to decide 10 new proposals.

Proposition 1 (SJR 14) would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to provide the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran with an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the surviving spouse's residence homestead as long as the surviving spouse has not remarried, the property was the residence homestead of the surviving spouse when the qualifying veteran died, and the property remains the residence homestead of the surviving spouse.

Proposition 2 (SJR 4) would amend the constitution to authorize the Texas Water Development Board to issue additional general obliga-

tion bonds on a continuing basis for one or more accounts of the Texas Water Development Fund II, with the restriction that the total amount of bonds outstanding at any time does not exceed \$6 billion.

Proposition 3 (SJR 50) would amend the constitution to authorize the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board or its successors to issue and sell general obligation bonds on a continuing basis for the purpose of financing educational loans for students, subject to certain constitutional restrictions, including a restriction as to the maximum principal amount of bonds outstanding at any one time.

Proposition 4 (HJR 63) would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to permit a county to issue bonds or notes to finance the development or redevelopment of an unproductive, underdeveloped, or blighted area within the county, and to pledge increases in ad valorem tax revenues imposed on property in the area by the county for repayment of such bonds or notes. The amendment does not provide independent authority for increasing ad valorem tax rates.

Proposition 5 (SJR 26) would amend the con-

Continued on Page 5A

SJC staff plans for student inoculations



A committee that includes 16 San Jacinto College administrators and staff members work on plans to implement a new law requiring incoming college students to be vaccinated against meningitis. SJC Vice President of Enrollment Services William Raffetto (left) leads the group in a discussion. Also shown are, left to right, South campus Dean of Allied Health and Science Barbara Ake, SJC Enterprise Applications Manager Michael Heiser and SJC Business Analyst Linda Pennington.

Photo by Rob Vanya

College students must get vaccinated

A new law passed by the 82nd Texas Legislature requires all college students under the age of 30 to get a meningitis vaccination.

The new law applies to all incoming college students – community college students as well as new students who will enroll at four-year colleges and universities.

The new law was passed after a report released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found college-age individuals between 17 and 21 are particularly vulnerable to the disease.

The law applies to students only, not San Jacinto College employees.

A San Jacinto College committee is putting together plans for implementing the new state law. The law goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2012, which means that the meningitis vaccine will be required for all new students to San Jacinto College for the spring 2012 term and for returning San Jacinto College students who have had a break in enrollment for one or more fall or spring semesters. Transfer students are considered en-

tering students.

Under the law, a student or parent or guardian must provide a certificate signed by a health practitioner or an official immunization record showing the student has received the bacterial meningitis vaccination or booster during the five-year period prior to enrollment and not less than 10 days before the first day of classes.

People who are exempt from the new meningitis vaccination law include: students who are 30 years of age or older; students who are enrolled exclusively in online or other distance education courses; students who present an affidavit signed by a licensed physician stating that the vaccination would be injurious to the health of the student; and students who present a conscientious exemption form from the Texas Department of State and Health Services stating the student declines the vaccination for reasons of conscience, including religious belief.

For more information, visit www.sanjac.edu/meningitis.

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South Belt residents have undoubtedly noticed the recent invasion of mosquitoes in the area.

A combination of drought, a heavy rain and warm temperatures provided the perfect conditions for the pests to thrive.

According to Harris County Mosquito Control officials, the blood-sucking insects are floodwater mosquito, not the disease-carrying culex variety.

The county sprays only in areas where mosquitoes have tested positive for the West Nile virus.

While the nearby 77061, 77087 and 77017

ZIP codes have been sprayed, the 77089, 77075 and 77034 ZIP codes have not.

Several homeowners groups, including Clear Brook Meadows, Riverstone Ranch, Blackhawk, Kirkwood South, Highland Meadow, Ashley Pointe, Sageglen, Meadows of Clear Creek and Green Tee Terrace, have taken matters into their own hands and sprayed for the insects.

At press time, it was predicted the problem would lessen, as cooler weather was forecast for the weekend. While the cooler temperatures will help, it will take a hard freeze to kill the mosquitoes.

While the nearby 77061, 77087 and 77017

scholarship, and it is transferable per the winner's request.

Festivities for Fall Fest will be held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in the parking lot and inside of the J.D. Bruce Student Center located on the South campus at 13735 Beamer Road.

18-wheeler rolls over at beltway



A tractor trailer carrying a load of pipe rolled over on the afternoon of Thursday, Oct. 20, as it turned south on to Pearland Parkway from the westbound side of Beltway 8. The accident caused extensive traffic delays at the intersection for several hours. No injuries were reported.

Photo by Marie Flickinger

Leader questionnaires answered by City Council candidates, at-large, local district

The following were submitted by local candidates appearing on the Nov. 8 ballot.

The answers are unedited (unless due to excessive length) and run in the order of ballot position.

At Large, Pos. 1 Steve Costello

NAME: Stephen Costello
AGE: 58 OCCUPATION: Civil engineer and Houston City Councilmember

EDUCATION: B.S., Civil Engineering: MBA

MARITAL STATUS/ CHILDREN: Wife Debra (married 36 years), 2 sons and a daughter-in-law, 1 granddaughter

What makes you qualified to serve as a City Council representative?

I have served as the At Large Position 1 Councilmember for the last two years.

My work as an engineer brings a unique perspective to Council, which deals with millions of dollars of infrastructure issues each year.

Recently introduced to the



ects will be based on need, not political considerations.

Do you support the ReBuild Houston program?

Yes. ReBuild Houston will provide a dedicated funding source for street and drainage projects and repairs.

What is your position on the controversial red-light camera situation?

I support red light cameras as a safety issue but I voted to remove them out of respect for the will of the citizens.

Do you favor a regional crime lab that the city shares with Harris County?

Yes. The city and county are currently in discussions on the lab. Financial considerations have to be addressed before we can move forward with the lab but we are seeking other areas for joint projects.

What are your feelings regarding the ongoing Occupy Houston movement?

I have no opinion at this time.

What is your position on the city's new noise ordinance provisions?

I support the ordinance to improve quality of life in our neighborhoods.

The Houston Municipal Employee Pension System has seen an increase in obligations without an increase in funding and increasing amounts of money are to be funded by taxpayers instead of the city. Do

you foresee problems in the next 5 years with meeting obligations to retired people?

Yes. That's why I am a member of the recently-created Long Term Financial Management Task Force that is charged with addressing pension, health care and other unfunded liabilities.

Weather forecasts indicate that the drought is going to continue well into December and possibly further. What are your contingency plans for this situation should it worsen and water supplies run short?

The City of Houston has plenty of water for the foreseeable future with both surface and ground water. However, if the drought continues long term, we should seek state approval to increase groundwater pumping.

What one main project would you like to accomplish if elected?

I want to ensure the success of ReBuild Houston.

Under ReBuild Houston, proj-

ects will be based on need, not political considerations.

What makes you qualified to serve as a City Council Representative?

I served 3 terms as an associate Municipal Court Judge for the City of Houston, and have practiced law and mediation for 20 years. My municipal court experience helped me understand how City regulations target residents and businesses, and hinder job creation.

Thus, I propose repeal of the

Drainage Tax, creation of a

Sunset Commission on fees and

regulations, and ethics reform

prohibiting contractors from

directing City policies.

Recently introduced to the

Continued on Page 3A

Readers' Opinions

Mosquitoes invade South Belt area

The almost instantaneous mosquito outbreak over the past two days is nothing short of phenomenal. In the years I've lived in the neighborhood, I've never experienced an outbreak this bad. I love gardening, and being in the yard with my plants, but the mosquitoes have forced me indoors. I'm not the only one that has recognized the severity of the infestation. Several neighbors have commented on it as well, and we're all baffled about the severity of it. What can the Leader do to get involved, lead the way, and get the city out here to fumigate the sewers and the area in general to control and, per-

haps, eliminate the problem?

Pat LaStrapes

Publisher's comment: I guess that all the mosquitoes that we missed during the summer arrived last week. Most of the non-city subdivisions will be conducting their own spraying. The county will only spray if the culex mosquito is found.

Monday I called Harris County's mosquito control (they are in charge of city and county spraying). After 65 minutes on hold, I got disconnected.

County officials are hopeful that cooler weather predicted for this week will slow down the pests, but rain is also predicted. We can only hope. For our area it looks like the only spraying will be by homeowner associations in the county area.

—Marie Flickinger

City of Houston government was the Department of Neighborhoods. How will you use this department to serve the South Belt area?

I supported the creation of this department to consolidate many neighborhood services under one director. This will make the city more responsive and efficient in providing those services. I will work closely with the new director to see that all neighborhoods are receiving the assistance they need to ensure their quality of life.

Street repairs are a serious issue in the South Belt area. Hughes Road has been included in the city budget for more than 10 years but has always been cut in favor of other projects. What are your thoughts on this issue?

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controversial red-light camera situation?

I support red light cameras as a safety issue but I voted to remove them out of respect for the will of the citizens.

Do you favor a regional crime lab that the city shares with Harris County?

Yes. The city and county are currently in discussions on the lab. Financial considerations have to be addressed before we can move forward with the lab but we are seeking other areas for joint projects.

What are your feelings regarding the ongoing Occupy Houston movement?

I have no opinion at this time.

What is your position on the city's new noise ordinance provisions?

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Candidates respond to Leader questionnaire

Scott Boates At-Large Pos. 1
Continued from Page 2A

At Large Pos. 2

Elizabeth Perez



AGE: 31

OCCUPATION: Accountant (Oil & Gas; Small Business Owner-Tax & Accounting Services to Small Businesses and Families)

EDUCATION: BA-Political Science; MLA-Political Science/Public Law; MBA-International Business & Accounting

MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN: Married, Husband (Engineer at NASA); 1 child - Son (12 yrs old)

What makes you qualified to serve as a City Council Representative?

City Council currently lacks members with accounting or finance backgrounds. I am the only accountant in this race.

During my tenure with oil and gas I saved one company \$600 million/year. Multiply that by 5 and that's \$3 billion. I have the credentials to help City Council balance the budget without passing the cost onto the taxpayer. I bring lean accounting practices to City Hall without compromising public safety or core services.

Recently introduced to the City of Houston government was the Department of Neighborhoods. How will you use this department to serve the South Belt area?

I will work with the residents of that area for feedback on concerns and possible solutions that they can provide in cooperation with those solutions available through the city.

Street repairs are a serious issue in the South Belt area. Hughes Road, in particular, has been included on the city budget for more than 10 years but has always been cut in favor of other projects. What are your thoughts on this issue?

In the At-Large #2 Position, I will work with the respective council member for that area to ensure that CIP dollars and the new Rebuild Houston dollars are allocated to addressing street repairs on Hughes Road and other streets in the area.

Do you support the Rebuild Houston program?

No. It's an example of government contractors having conflicting financial interests creating a fund which protects their market. The City's raised taxes, fees and water rates in the last 2 years at the highest rate in our history. The drainage fee must cease until the City discloses specific plans detailing all projects, bids and the contractors involved in Rebuild Houston.

The Drainage Fee is the best example of City policies being created by government contractors who unfairly influence City Council. City policies drive residents and businesses into the suburbs, reducing our tax base, and leading us all to pay more for basic City services.

What is your position on the controversial red-light camera situation?

The camera's are also an example of contractor-driven public policy.

I oppose red light cameras as a form of revenue-based policing, leading to contractors financing the re-election of friendly council members.

Do you favor having a regional crime lab that the city shares with Harris County?

Yes. The City has over 15,000 untested rape kits, while Harris County has none. Rape victims go without justice in Houston. The City's crime lab lost its certification, and is the subject of recurring scandals. Crime is best battled through a regional solution, and the City desperately needs the help.

What are your feelings regarding the ongoing Occupy Houston movement?

It exemplifies the frustration many of us feel when government seems to serve the interests of a handful of government contractors.

In the last year, the City implemented the largest tax in our history via the Drainage Tax. Yet it did so in the same year when almost 50,000 Houstonians were losing their homes to foreclosure.

Local government is out of touch, and local media doesn't seem to notice. Public protest is an alternative when government and media join together in ignoring the corruption in public policy.

What is your position on the city's new noise ordinance provisions?

I understand the frustration with loud, unwelcome music. But the ordinance itself is highly subjective and invites litigation the City simply cannot afford.

The Houston Municipal Employee Pension System has seen an increase in obligations without an increase in funding, and increasing amounts of money are to be funded by taxpayers instead of by the city. Do you foresee problems in the next 5 years with the city meeting obligations to retired people?

Of course. The City should seek the approval of the State to control our own pension without Austin dictating the rules.

Pension problems are everywhere, but Austin shouldn't force Houston to use the same answers of smaller municipalities.

Weather forecasts indicate that the drought is going to continue well into December and possibly further. What are your contingency plans for this situation should it worsen and water supplies run short?

The City will aggressively pursue sanitization and alternatives to existing water supplies.

What one project would you like to accomplish if elected?

Repeal the drainage tax.

towards a new job. A few weeks ago there was a woman who testified before City Council. She was part of the 700+ city employees that were laid off, and was only 3 years away from retirement. Her pension fund is no longer available to her because she is no longer a city employee. A market based retirement plan is sustainable for employees.

Weather forecasts indicate that the drought is going to continue well into December and possibly further. What are your contingency plans for this situation should it worsen and water supplies run short?

I've been in conversations with the Israel Trade Organization regarding Israeli technology that addresses the various water issues - consumption, sludge water, water for irrigation, drought and flooding - that apply during normal and disaster situations.

The cities of El Paso, San Antonio and Austin have welcomed this technology to address these concerns and currently have them in place or are implementing them. I would invite this technology to Houston for the same reasons and more notably because the science used in this technology would create jobs in the following industries: space, oil and gas, medical, public works and telecommunications.

What one main project would you like to accomplish if elected?

I would ensure Houston remains the leader in space, oil and gas and medical with the addition of the telecommunications industry. I will help keep Houston a business-friendly city so that businesses - small and major - can continue to create jobs and so that Houstonians can continue to enjoy the affordability of living in Houston. Doing this improves the quality of life in our city.

Do you favor having a regional crime lab that the city shares with Harris County?

Yes. I am advocate of a Regional Crime Lab that encompasses the Houston Galveston Area Council 13-County Region which would lower the cost to taxpayers. A regional crime lab would also restore confidence to the evidence admitted in criminal cases, as it would not be an extension arm of the police or law enforcement agency. I believe it would restore credibility to the use of evidence in our criminal justice system.

What are your feelings regarding the ongoing Occupy Houston movement?

The economy is very fragile at this point in our history. The frustration of Americans is high given our unemployment rate and the widening gap between the top income earners in our country and the majority of the population. "Movements" that are lawful and call attention to issues facing our country have had great impact on our country in bringing about positive change. Occupy Houston is a young movement with valid issues. I support their lawful right to free speech and debate. I agree with some of their premises.

What is your position on the city's new noise ordinance provisions?

As Houston grows more and more and develops further as a higher density city, there need to be guidelines for being good neighbors. I enjoy being able to walk to a local restaurant or business down the street, but I also believe neighborhood residents should expect a good night's sleep in their homes.

The Houston Municipal Employee Pension System has seen an increase in obligations without an increase in funding, and increasing amounts of money are to be funded by taxpayers instead of by the city. Do you foresee problems in the next 5 years with the city meeting obligations to retired people?

The leadership experience, training, and skills I acquired have prepared me for public service. My decision to run at-large is based on my conviction my skill set benefits all of Houston.

I am Hispanic, a veteran; grounded at the neighborhood level. From my work as an intelligence officer, I gained valuable experience in taking information, processing it, and communicating it to decision makers. At Ripley House, my work is about helping people reach their full potential and helping them access opportunities. I have gained valuable experience as a Board Member of the following:

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Do you support the Rebuild Houston program?

I voted for Rebuild Houston when it was on the ballot as. The concept is sound in that we need a dedicated fund to rebuild the infrastructure of our City. I am frustrated with the implementation of Rebuild Houston. The cost to property owners was miscalculated, and the determination of what properties would and would not pay was not made until after the initiative was passed. This has presented challenges. I still support the concept. Houston should not repair and maintain its infrastructure by financing projects through bond debt. We do need a pay-as-you-go fund.

What is your position on the controversial red-light camera situation?

I voted for red-light cameras. To me, it was a safety issue. Running a red light is a violation of traffic law. The use of red-light cameras has a proven record of positively modifying driving behavior, saving lives, and lowering the amount of accidents.

However, I am a strong advocate of democracy. The majority of voters voted to turn them off. If I had been on Council when the vote was cast this year, I would have voted to turn the cameras off.

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Lariaette of the Week

The Lariaette of the Week for the week of Oct. 2 through Oct. 8, is junior Lauren Pettey. She is the daughter of Jessica Pettey.

SJC cosmetology hosts Halloween hair contest

The public is invited to enjoy a "hair raising" Halloween contest hosted by the San Jacinto College Central campus cosmetology department on Thursday, Oct. 27.

SJC students will unveil their creations at 2 p.m. at the Student Union Building in preparation for an awards ceremony.

Categories for this year's competition are in celebration of the 50th anniversary of San Jacinto College. The

Raven and The Decades category will include hair and make-up, and the 50th Anniversary of San Jacinto College category will showcase costumes, as well as hair and make-up.

The competition allows cosmetology students to express creativity, perfect skills, and push their imagination.

San Jacinto College Central campus is located at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena.

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**Halloween
Costume Party & Haunted House**

FEES:
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\$8 seniors • \$3 children

**Sunday, October 30, 2011
4-9 p.m.**
Games • Candies • Prizes
Entertainment

Best Costume Contest
1st Place • 2nd Place • 3rd Place

Happy Halloween!

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Over The Back Fence by Jan**WELCOME, JACKSON BARTON**

Jackson Matthew Barton was born Friday, Oct. 14, 2011, at 11:46 a.m. at Clear Lake Regional Medical Center, weighing in at 6 lbs., 5 oz. and stretching 20-1/2 inches. Proud parents are **David** and **Debra Barton** of Pearland. Also welcoming Jackson are grandparents, **Mike** and **Karen Barton** of Sagemon Park and **Jimmy** and **Janis Wright** of Kirkmont; uncle **Scott** and aunt **Mekesha Wright** of Pearland; and aunt **Amanda Barton** of Sagemon Park.

HAPPY 20TH BIRTHDAY, TYLER!

Tyler Scarberry will no longer be a teenager when he celebrates his 20th birthday Friday, Oct. 28. Lots of love and 'missing you' hugs are sent from parents **Robert** and **Jannie**; sister **Jenny** and children **Brayden** and **Baylee**; sister **Stacey**, husband **Stephen** and children **Kennedy** and **Owen**; brother **Joey** and wife **Nyssa**; and brother **Austin** and his daughter, **Jade**. Tyler is a 2010 Dobie High School graduate who attends Sam Houston State University.

BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR CONSTABLE

Birthday wishes are sent to Harris County Precinct 2 Constable **Gary**

Freeman who celebrates a birthday Tuesday, Nov. 1, from family, friends and the Leader staff.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Oct. 27 through Nov. 2.

Atkinson Elementary

Wishes for a wonderful birthday are sent to **Barbara Haden** Oct. 28.

Burnett Elementary

On Oct. 29, **Donna Huemme** marks a birthday. A special birthday greeting is sent to **Adriana Garza** Oct. 30. Enjoying a birthday Nov. 1 is **Rebecca Wells**.

Bush Elementary

The day for a cake for **Sandra Chavez** is Oct. 27. **Denicia Arango** has a birthday Nov. 2.

Frazier Elementary

Maria Martinez celebrates a birthday Oct. 28. The day for a party for **Gracie Puente** is Oct. 30.

Meador Elementary

On Nov. 1, birthday wishes are sent to **Mike Barton**. **Elvia Montes** enjoys a birthday Nov. 2.

Moore Elementary

On Nov. 2 is the day for a celebration for **Kathy Young**.

South Belt Elementary

Blow out the birthday candles for **Carla Garcia** Nov. 2.

Morris Middle School

Oct. 29 is the day for a birthday cake for **Shawn Wokaty**.

Beverly Hills Intermediate

Ana Shamoun-Grabowski has a birthday Oct. 31.

Thompson Intermediate

On Oct. 31, a special birthday greeting is sent to **Teresa Orocio**.

Dobie High

Birthday wishes are sent to **Beverly Krell** and **Eric Martinez** Oct. 27. **Phyllis Geries** and **Crystal Salazar** share a birthday Oct. 28. The day for a party for **Pamela Eddleman** is Oct. 29. A birthday is celebrated by **Lauren Calderaro** on Oct. 31. **Susan Legrand** and **Tonya Naylor** enjoy a double birthday Nov. 1.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS

E-mail birthday, anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line. Items must be submitted by Friday noon for the next week's publication.

Video conference offers motivational message

Discover and strengthen your leadership skills at the live video conference presentation for University of Houston-Clear Lake's Office of Student Life presentation of *Rise N' Thrive: From Great Potential to Exceptional Performance*, featuring Al Duncan.

From his own at-risk youth, Duncan managed to rise and thrive to become a motivational speaker and the president and CEO of his own company, Al Duncan Enterprises.

Both events are open to the public and sponsored by Student Leadership, Involvement & Community Engagement. Registration is recommended.

For more information, contact Jennifer Clark, assistant director of Student Life, at 281-283-2611 or email ClarkJen@uhcl.edu.

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Longhorn Band Section of the Week

The J. Frank Dobie Marching Band announced the baritones as Section of the Week for Oct. 10 through Oct. 13. Band Members of the Week were **Josh Godwin** and **Shelby Yocom**. Student Leader of the Week was **Kayla Bryce**, and Spirit Member of the Week was **April Henderson**. Baritone members pictured are,

left to right, (front row) **Adan Gonzalez**, (middle row) **Michael Anagbogu**, **Javier Alvarado**, **Sergio Salazar**, **Inez Lopez**, **Alex Rodriguez**, **Tim Wright**, (back row) **Luke McDonald**, **Rene Rodriguez** and **Oscar Arredondo**.

Photo submitted

Remember When**35 years ago (1976)**

A Beverly Hills Civic Club meeting was the scene of a heated debate as candidates for local offices expressed their positions.

Bob Gammie, Dr. Ron Paul, Gene Jones and Walter Kieth discussed equal rights, gun control, more severe penalties for criminals and decreased government spending.

A meeting was held to reactivate the Sagemont Civic Club.

Atkinson Elementary cafeteria workers went to work dressed as clowns to celebrate the school's clown day.

Ayrshire Corp. announced plans to develop sites for the construction of patio homes off Beamer Road in the area that would become Kirkwood South.

Burglars hit the same residence twice on Sageplum on consecutive Wednesdays.

An unknown man pulled a gun on four Dobie students as they were driving home from school. They reported that he tried to race them in their Pontiac GTO and when they refused, he displayed a weapon and pointed it at each of them.

20 years ago (1991)
University of Texas officials were publicly voicing opposition to the Environmental Protection Agency's plans for excavation and incineration of toxic chemicals adjacent to the Southbend subdivision.

Actor Ed Begley Jr. visited the South Belt area and spent most of one day touring the Brio site.

15 years ago (1996)

The Sagemont Houston Fire Department responded to five ambulance calls and five fire-related calls during a one-week period.

A Beverly Hills couple were sentenced to prison after being convicted of sexually abusing children.

The children stayed in the day care facility they operated out of their home. The four children who testified, an 8-year-old girl and three boys ages 10, 12 and 15, were from the same family.

25 years ago (1986)

The Pasadena Independent School District Board of Trustees passed an 8-cent tax hike bringing the tax rate to 99 cents per \$100 of valuation.

Concerns over a 17-year-old Dobie dropout resulted in a personal meeting between Kirkwood South residents and Constable Gary Freeman. The student, who had reportedly started a white supremacist group, was accused, along with some of his friends, of various threats of violence including burning homes.

Crews from the city of Houston put an end to persistent odors in Scarsdale after a ruptured sewer pipe was repaired.

10 years ago (2001)

Dobie senior athletes Tiffany Collins and Matt Bergeron were named homecoming queen and king at Dobie High School.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation announced the names of semifinalists. Students from Clear Brook were William Boehm, Andrew Kinzler and Michael Plante. For Dobie, the National Merit Commended Students were

1 year ago (2010)

Longtime Freeway Man-

John Barnett and Naqvi Masooma. National Hispanic Scholars were Ceasar Cardona, Manuel Tellez, Sarah Velasquez and David Ochoa (honorable mention).

Dobie's Graylon Wells was awarded the classification of National Academic Achievement.

5 years ago (2006)

Based on legislation passed by the special session held by Texas lawmakers, CISD reduced its overall tax rate to \$1.69 per \$100 valuation.

CISD's tax rate for 2006 was \$1.33 for maintenance and operations, and \$0.30 for interest and sinking.

The San Jacinto College Board of Regents voted not to increase the tax rate.

None of the three South Belt Municipal Utility Districts increased the tax rate for 2006.

In the wake of flooding, many South Belt residents had vehicles towed from the Shell station on Scarsdale at Interstate 45.

San Jacinto College South celebrated the receipt of a \$514,614 grant from the Texas Workforce Commission.

1 year ago (2010)

Longtime Freeway Man-

or resident Betty Lacroix, 78, died when an explosive fire took place at her home in the 800 block of Shawnee near Welk. Neighbors reported hearing a series of roughly four loud explosions as the house became engulfed in flames. The blasts were so intense they blew out the windows and doors of several neighboring homes. Upon hearing the explosions, nearby residents rushed to the house to try to help Lacroix and her husband, Collins Lacroix, 82, escape. The couple had lived in the house for roughly 50 years and raised five children there.

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Bears 'See You at the Pole'



Approximately 50 students in Bears 4 Christ met at the flag pole for See You at the Pole recently. Leading Bears 4 Christ were, left to right, students Emily Rios and Audra Anderson and faculty member Ronnie Thomas. Bears 4 Christ is a Bible study class that is student-led. Each Wednesday at 7:45 a.m., students meet to read and talk about Bible verses. Usually one or two students will pick a couple of verses and read them out loud to the other students and then discuss what it means to them. Thomas is present to help the group whenever needed. Bears 4 Christ members try to do things during the year that promote getting involved in the community and school. They have already collected wildfire donations and will be in charge of Toys for Tots donations in December. All students are invited to the class.

Photo submitted

Gomez top box-top student



Stuchberry Elementary encourages its students to collect box tops and turn them in to help earn money for the school. Pictured is David Gomez from Robin Salinas' third-grade class. He collected 500 box tops for Stuchberry, the most any student has turned in at one time over the past three years.

Photo submitted

Halloween safety tips announced

The combination of trick-or-treaters and vehicles on the road increase chances for auto-related accidents up to four times more on Halloween, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Robin Garza, trauma program manager, Ben Taub General Hospital, part of the Harris County Hospital District, offers some safety tips for ghoulish walkers and drivers.

- Pay close attention to crosswalks and intersections.
- Look both ways before crossing a street. Use crosswalks wherever possible.
- Only walk on sidewalks or on the far edge of the road facing traffic to stay safe.
- Drive under the speed limit in residential areas. Look for parents who follow their children in a slow-moving car or make frequent stops.
- If passing a slow-moving or stopped car, do so slowly and cautiously.
- Tell your child never to get into the car of a stranger. In the excitement, children could confuse his or her parents' car for someone else's car.
- Watch for child predators. Have a trusted adult close by.
- Tell the child never to accept candy from drivers or people walking in a neighborhood.
- Have child carry a flashlight, a glow stick or reflective tape to be more visible.
- Never leave children unattended in a car.

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Multiple issues up for vote

Continued from Page 1A

stitution to authorize the legislature to enter into interlocal contracts with other cities and counties without having to assess an ad valorem tax and set aside a specified amount of funds for the payment of costs under the interlocal contract.

Proposition 6 (HJR 109) would amend the constitution to increase the amount of principal that is available for withdrawal from the permanent school fund each year and would also clarify certain references to that fund in the constitution. Increased access to the principal of the

state public education trust fund would be based upon HJR 109 granting the authority to consider alternative market calculations when determining the amount of principal that is available for distribution to the available school fund. HJR 109 would also provide authority to distribute to the available school fund annual revenue from school fund land or other properties up to \$300 million per year.

Proposition 7 (SJR 28) would amend the constitution by adding El Paso County to the list of counties authorized to create conservation and reclamation districts to de-

velop parks and recreational facilities financed by taxes.

Proposition 8 (SJR 16) would amend the constitution by requiring the legislature to provide for taxation of open space land devoted to water stewardship purposes on the basis of its productive capacity.

Proposition 9 (SJR 9) would amend the constitution to authorize the governor, on the written recommendation and advice of the Board of Pardons and Paroles, to grant a pardon, reprieve, or commutation of punishment to a person who successfully completes a term of deferred adjudication community supervision.

Proposition 10 (SJR 37) would amend the constitution by extending the length of the unexpired term that causes the automatic resignation of certain local elected officeholders if they announce candidacy or become candidates for another office from one year to one year and 30 days.

PISD bond

The Pasadena Independent School District is having a bond election seeking \$270.1 million in funding. If approved, the bond, which carries no tax hike, would provide funds for a new career and technical high school, three new middle schools and five replacement campuses for existing schools.

The bond would also provide for renovations at 30 campuses and various district athletic facilities.

Plans also include a central indoor/outdoor competitive swimming pool, to be constructed on the Veterans Stadium grounds.

The bond would provide \$2 million for replacement of school buses and \$5 million for the purchase of property to accommodate future expansion.

Early voting

Local polling locations for early voting include the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Hall #66 at 4345 Allen Genoa, the Harris County Courthouse Annex #25 at 7330 Spencer Highway and the Freeman Branch Library at 16616 Diana Lane.

Polling hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 27 and Oct. 28; 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 29; 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 30; and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 31 through Nov. 4.

For more information, call 713-755-6965 or visit www.harrisvotes.org.

Patterson, Walters marry



Holly Nicole Patterson and Daniel Ray Walters were married Saturday, Sept. 3, 2011, at the University of Houston A.D. Bruce Chapel, with a reception following at Bay Oaks Country Club. The bride is the daughter of Brett and Denise Patterson of Kirkwood. The groom is the son of Bobby and Laura Walters of League City, formerly of Sagemont. The bride was given in marriage by her father in a double-ring ceremony. The matron of honor was Amanda Johnson, and bridesmaids were Mackenzie Conine, Jessica Patterson, Elizabeth Peabody, Angela Pesl and Lauren Sciotino. Donny Walters served as best man, while the groomsmen were Justin Curry, Eric Igues, Bryan McDonald and Christopher Patterson. The bride graduated from Dobie High School in 2004. She graduated from the University of Houston-Main Campus with a bachelor's degree in psychology in May 2008, and from the University of Houston-Clear Lake in May 2011 with a master's degree in industrial organizational psychology. She works for Wyle Integrated Science and Engineering at NASA-JSC. The groom graduated from Dobie High in 2002 and is employed by Lyondell-Bassell. Both the bride and groom grew up in the South Belt area. Holly attended Atkinson, Beverly Hills and Dobie, where she played volleyball and softball. Danny went to Frazier, Thompson and Dobie, where he played baseball. After a honeymoon in Bora Bora, Tahiti, the couple reside in Pearland.

Hobby road changes set

Continued from Page 1A

lizing curbside check-in will use a crosswalk on the east side of the parking garage transitioning to the main terminal lobby area. During future phases of construction, specific crossing areas and accessibility may change periodically. Curbside check-

in will still be available to Southwest customers, but the entire operation will be relocated to the ground level floor, which is home to the baggage claim operation. Total construction cost for the project is \$4.9 million, with funding coming from the Airport Improvement Funds.

Hobby Lions Club to meet

Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club will meet Wednesday, Nov. 2, at 11:30 a.m. at the Golden Corral at Fuqua and I-45. For information, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531.

Wizard of Oz at PMHS

The Department of Theater at Memorial High School will present *The Wizard of Oz* Nov. 3 through Nov. 5 on the school's main stage. Curtain time is 7 p.m. each night. Tickets are \$8 each and may be purchased at the door. The production features a cast of more than 80 performers, including 40 children from Memorial's feeder schools.

New Covenant has benefit

New Covenant Christian Church will have a benefit golf tournament Saturday, Nov. 5, at the Southwyck Golf Club, 2901 Clubhouse Drive in Pearland, beginning at 8 a.m. Proceeds go toward the Willie V. Hahn Scholarship Fund for area youth scholarships. To participate or be a sponsor, contact Glenn Owen at 713-412-7546 or videosbyray@att.net.

All Soul's Day Mass set

A Mass for All Souls Day will be held in the chapel of SouthPark Funeral Home, 1310 N. Main St. in Pearland, at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 2. The Mass will be celebrated by the Rev. Msgr. Reginald R. Nesvadba of St. Helen Catholic Church. Refreshments will be served after the Mass, followed by a blessing of the graves of Nesvadba. For more information, contact SouthPark Funeral Home at 281-485-2711.

Christmas Gift Alley set

The First United Methodist Church's Christmas Gift Alley, 2314 N. Grand Blvd. in Pearland, will be Nov. 4 and 5. It includes unique gifts, silent auction, tea room and more than 100 exhibitors.

Food will be available. For booth information, call 281-485-1466.

Polling hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 27 and Oct. 28; 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 29; 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 30; and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 31 through Nov. 4.

For more information, call 713-755-6965 or visit www.harrisvotes.org.

Thompson students investigate science

Thompson eighth-grade science students investigate scientific inquiry by completing the Come Fly with Us lab during the first six weeks of school. Students were provided with a paper helicopter and tested how changing the direction of the helicopter blades affects its flight. Thompson science students were thrilled to be able to test their hypothesis during several trials.



(Above) Ryan Ellinger, Alexis Alfaro, Davonte Smith, Andrew Ghansyam, Reeno Green, Sabrina Rodriguez and Albert Nguyen, and (below) Christian McDaniel, Morgan Prichard and Ty Morris, take their helicopters for a trial run.



Julio Valdez, Daniel Ricon and Zach Kabir enjoy making fun of improper use of safety goggles in their lab skit during third period.

Tri-County Republican Women set Silver Bells Luncheon

The Tri-County Republican Women will host their annual Silver Bells Luncheon, Christmas Shopping Market and live auction on Sunday, Nov. 6, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Golfcrest Country Club located at 2509 Country Club Drive in Pearland. Retired Judge Molly Maness will serve as the master of ceremony. Entertainment will feature sounds of the holidays by Pearland High School Kantorei Choir. Tickets are \$35 and include valet parking. For tickets, call Barbara Jacobson at 281-481-3251, Marie Willars at 281-481-1310 or Gayle Chapman at 281-485-9585.

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Office: 713-522-8100

New Covenant Christian Church

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Ask for Nedra Jackson
10603 Blackhawk

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Vigil 5:30 p.m.
7:30, 9:15, 11:15 a.m.
1:00 p.m. Misa en Espanol

Saturday
Sunday
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Tuesday & Thursday
Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated
Thursday 6 to 7 p.m.
Saturday 4 to 5 p.m.

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Youth Ministry 281-481-4735
St. Luke's offers ministries for ALL-families, men, women, youth, children, young adults, single, divorced, separated, widowed.

This Sunday:
Rev. Fred Banda, Interim Minister
"How NOT to Enter the Promised Land" Joshua 3:7-17 & Matthew 23:1-12

Kirkwood South Christian Church
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281-481-0004
Sunday School - 9 a.m.
Worship for Everyone - 10 a.m.
www.KSCchurch.org

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Sunday
Early Service • 7:45 a.m.
Sunday School • 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service • 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday
Prayer Meeting • 7:00 p.m.
Mid-Week Service • 7:45 p.m.
Nursery Available at all Services

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Sunday School 9:45 & 11 a.m.
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life
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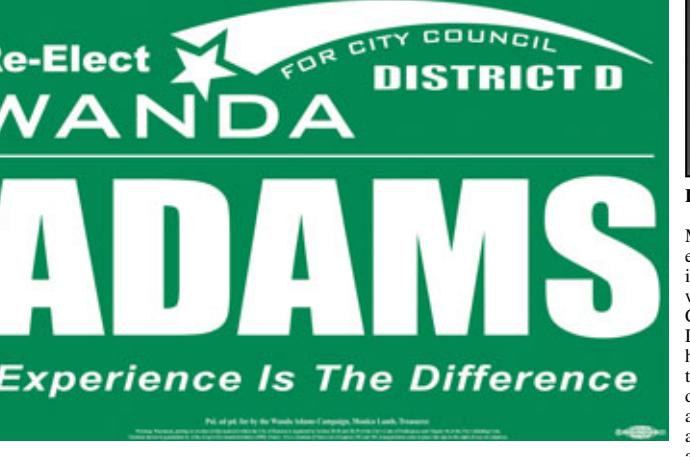
Mayoral candidates answer questionnaire in ballot order

Life's Little Blessings
Daycare
Now Enrolling Pre-K & Kinder
713.910.0800

Fernando
Herrera
AGE: 51
OCCUPATION: Deputy Chief,

Houston Fire Department
EDUCATION: Fire Science Degree, numerous emergency service courses, I teach incident management

MARITAL STATUS/
CHILDREN: married with 6 children
What makes you qualified to serve as the Mayor of



Houston?

I have Administrative and Managerial skills and experience acquired from private industry as a former CEO as well as a current Deputy Chief in the Houston Fire Department. I've managed hundreds of people in situations that were immediately dangerous to life and health, as well as 40+ employees in an office environment. I've also been responsible for a multi-million dollar budget.

Recently introduced to the City of Houston government was the Department of Neighborhoods. How will you use this department to serve the South Belt area?

I'll LISTEN to the members of the South Belt community. I will not impose MY will upon the citizens of Houston, nor the residents of South Belt. I will communicate and address your needs... not what I say need.

Street repairs are a serious issue in the South Belt area. Hughes Road, in particular, has been included on the city budget for more than 10 years but has always been cut in favor of other projects. What are your thoughts on this issue?

I will always provide essential city services first. I will not purchase bathtub sculptures at \$500,000 or another \$360,000 piece of art while streets go unrepaired. Mayor Parker stated that the new Dedicated Drainage and Street Repair Fund was to be a "lockbox" to be used exclusively for street repair and drainage. Please view the Capital Improvement Plan N-000420. You'll see that \$875,000 of the new fund will be spent on a bike trail. As Mayor, I will not give priority to a bike trail over your streets.

Do you support the Rebuild Houston program?

I do not support rebuild Houston. I believe if tax dollars are spent on our priorities, we will not need to tax everyone even more; furthermore, the new drainage tax increases the cost of everything we buy vehicles, food, rent, etc. I will work to rescind the drainage tax. What we now call Rebuild Houston is not what we voted for. It's changed about 4 times AFTER the vote.

What is your position on the controversial red-light camera situation?

I am against the red light cameras. It was never about safety. If it were about safety, the cameras would have been placed at the intersections with the most accidents versus simply high traffic intersections; furthermore, Houston only received less than half of the money derived from the tickets issued by the cameras. The state of Texas received half, the company (ATS) received an amount,

and Houston received the remainder.

Do you favor having a regional crime lab that the city shares with Harris County?

I am in favor of working with the County toward the use of the Medical Examiners Institute of Forensic Sciences. Yes.

What are your feelings regarding the ongoing Occupy Houston movement?

I visited their web site and I didn't find their clear objective.

What is your position on the city's new noise ordinance provisions?

As a resident near Washington Avenue, I understand the need for such an ordinance. I'm glad to see that both residents and business owners are working together to create a draft ordinance.

The Houston Municipal Employee Pension System has seen an increase in obligations without an increase in funding, and increasing amounts of money are to be funded by taxpayers instead of the city. Do you foresee problems in the next 5 years with the city meeting obligations to retired people?

The city of Houston needs to reconsider all the things that are taking money from the general fund TIRZ, 380 agreements, the drainage tax, etc. TIRZ for example prevent \$60 million from entering the general fund, the drainage tax easily increases this amount toward \$200 million.

There are also internal adjustments to pension funds that may need to occur to make certain employee retirements are secure. As a member of a city of Houston pension, I have ideas and am ready to meet with the pension board members.

Weather forecasts indicate that the drought is going to continue well into December and possibly further. What are your contingency plans for this situation should it worsen and water supplies run short?

I would dredge Lake Houston now while the water levels are low; thus, allowing the capacity of the Lake to increase. I would also request help from other cities faster and of course reciprocate should they ever have the need.

What main project would you like to accomplish if elected?

Eliminate the Drainage Tax debacle.

Do you favor having a regional crime lab that the city shares with Harris County?

I favor an independent regional crime lab. I'm working with the County to move forward with a plan in which HPD shares DNA samples with the county crime lab. As funds are available, I want to increase how much we coordinate with the county crime lab to increase efficiency.

However, substituting county oversight for city oversight does not create an independent lab with a governing board, and that is still my goal.

What are your feelings regarding the ongoing Occupy Houston movement?

I come from a working family, so I understand the frustrations of the Occupy movement when it comes to special rights and privileges for corporations that aren't necessarily for the good of the whole. I also believe that lack of federal oversight of major banks is a proximate cause of the financial meltdown and that compensation of CEOs of publicly traded companies has reached obscene levels.

What makes you qualified to serve as the Mayor of Houston?

During my first term as Mayor we've tackled the tough issues, and not kicked the can down the road during toughest economy this city has seen in decades. I never lost sight of priorities for Houstonians: safety and jobs. We balanced the budget for 2012 without laying off a single police officer or firefighter, and without raising taxes. The Houston area has created over 125,000 private-sector jobs in my first term and my economic development initiatives have helped attract \$654 million in private investment to Houston in 2010.

I am fighting every day for jobs and a stronger economy.

Recently introduced to the City of Houston government was the Department of Neighborhoods. How will you use this department to serve the South Belt area?

We created the department of neighborhoods to combine all the services typically needed by neighborhoods, creating a "one-stop shop" for accessing city services. What that means for the South Belt area is increased response time, better service, and more work done by city staff in your community.

Street repairs are a serious issue in the South Belt area. Hughes Road, in particular, has been included

to quickly enforce the law in a fair and equitable manner.

The new ordinance gives police officers the tools they need to enforce sound ordinances and keep our neighborhoods quiet, and our families protected.

The Houston Municipal Employee Pension System has seen an increase in obligations without an increase in funding, and increasing amounts of money are to be funded by taxpayers instead of the city. Do you foresee problems in the next 5 years with the city meeting obligations to retired people?

The city will keep its promise to its employees: If you served Houston and are retired, you will receive the pension you earned. We simply cannot break that promise. Moving forward, though, we must look at how we fund pensions for future employees and the nature of those pensions.

For instance, I fought unsuccessfully in the last legislative session to get permission to negotiate with the firefighter's pension fund. They cannot be compelled to come to the negotiating table and work with the city the way our other two funds have. Almost 30% of the city firefighters' payroll is going into the pension fund. By 2015, that number is projected to go as high as 45-50% of payroll. That sort of spending is unsustainable, and must be fixed.

I refuse to borrow money to fund our unsustainable pension system. We need long-term reform to get what I consider the city's "everyday expenses" under control.

There's no reason to use the city's credit card (pension bonds) when we can simply spend smarter. But our hands are tied in some cases, where state government has imposed rules that limit local government's ability to manage its own pension responsibilities.

Weather forecasts indicate that the drought is going to continue well into December and possibly further. What are your contingency plans for this situation should it worsen and water supplies run short?

The City of Houston code of ordinances has a plan already laid out to deal with a prolonged drought. That plan includes measures to stabilize the level of Lake Houston by drawing down Lake Conroe and restrictions on water usage.

We will continue to work with neighborhood leaders, conservationists, and small businesses to ensure the citizens of Houston are able to meet their water needs. My hope is that through education citizens will take thoughtful actions to reduce their own personal consumption of our water resources.

What one main project would you like to accomplish if elected?

The primary goal and focus of my second term will be job creation, bottom line. That is the most important project of my administration. The Houston area created 125,000 jobs in the private sector since early 2010. But I know that's not enough. So I'm pursuing a comprehensive five point plan to create jobs:

- Implementing Hire Houston First, a common-sense law to hire Houston companies and workers first on city projects.

- Attracting new aerospace and high-tech companies to Houston by marketing the expertise of former NASA employees.

- Organizing a small business summit that brings together business, education and community leaders to develop an action plan to help entrepreneurs and small businesses.

- Bringing new businesses to Houston by keeping taxes low and offering incentives to create good jobs and job-training programs for Houston families.

- Recruiting growth industries like clean energy and biomedical to Houston by working closely with the Greater Houston Partnership and local chambers of commerce.

Houstonians work hard. It will take the strength of everyone in Houston to fully recover from the recession, but I know we can do it.

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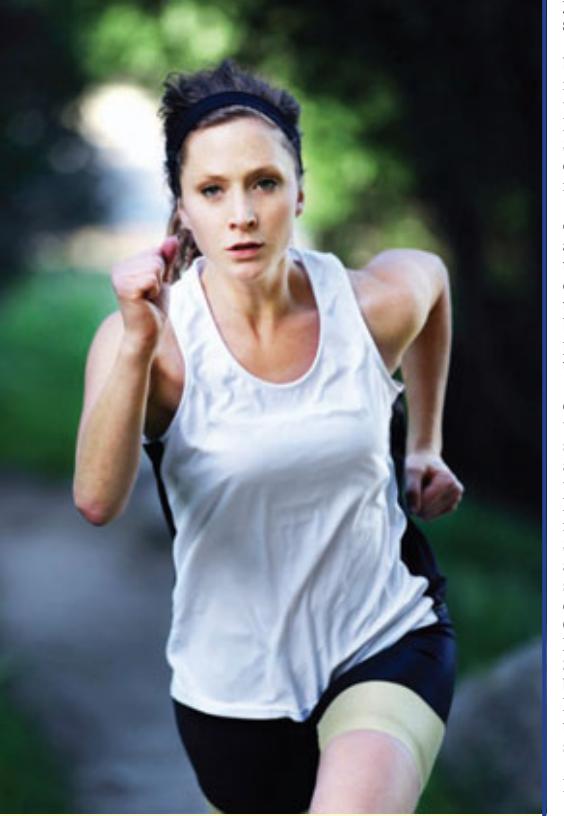
Monday - Thursday (4 days a week)
\$99 members
\$149 non-members

Package B: Boot Camp/Zumba combo

Monday & Wednesday (Boot Camp, 2 days a week)
Tuesday & Thursday (Zumba, 2 days a week)
\$99 members
\$149 non-members

Package C: Zumba only

Tuesday & Thursday (2 days a week)
\$75 for 10 classes



"I wasn't quite sure what kind of results to expect from the program, however, NEVER would I have imagined just how much I could accomplish in such a short amount of time. My body fat percentage went from 36.9% to 29.2%. But the best part of the program was how much stronger I got and how much better I feel now."

—John, Boot Camp participant

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To Register

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Annise
Parker



AGE: 55

OCCUPATION: Mayor, City of Houston

EDUCATION: Rice University, 1978 BA Anthropology, Psychology and Sociology

MARITAL STATUS/

CHILDREN: Partner Kathy Hubbard, two adopted daughters, one son

What makes you qualified to serve as the Mayor of Houston?

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Expires 11-3-11

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SECTION B

SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Thursday, October 27, 2011, South Belt-Ellington Leader, Section B, Page 1

Playoff berth secured

Longhorns rout Rayburn, stay on championship course

As anticlimactic as it may read, the Dobie Longhorns have qualified for the Class 5A Division I varsity football playoffs for the second straight season.

The locals got the job done by routing the Sam

who have also qualified for the postseason.

JFD will face South Houston Friday, Oct. 28, at Veterans Stadium before finishing the regular season Nov. 3 at home against Deer Park in a game that could have 22-5A championship implications.

Against Sam Rayburn, senior tailback Andrew Robinson led the way for the Longhorns, carrying just nine times for 149 yards.

With two games remaining in the regular season plus the playoffs, Robinson has collected 1,309 yards and 18 touchdowns.

So thorough was Dobie's performance against the Texans, many of the team's starters went to the sidelines for good after the opening

drive of the second half with the locals up 35-0.

Dobie scored touchdowns on five of their first six drives of the game to

open the 35-0 lead.

On the Longhorns' opening series, senior quarterback Deandre Bolden threw a short dump-off pass to

Robinson that the star back turned into a 20-yard scoring run with the help of excellent blocking downfield.

Still in the first quarter,

Bolden made it 14-0 as he threw a perfect pass to Chris Stockman on the fade route for 16 yards.

In the second quarter,

other players got involved for the Longhorns.

Kelton Bailey darted 11 yards nearly untouched early in the second quarter for a 21-0 lead.

After an interception by Vaughn Leonard, Dobie went up 28-0 as Robinson capped a short 31-yard drive with a 9-yard scoring burst.

Robinson's nine carry, 149-yard performance ended late in the first half as he dashed 54 yards for his third score and a 35-0 lead.

Kicker Douglas Leighton booted a 25-yard field goal, and senior tailback Jordan Williams got in on the act with a 70-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter.

Defensively, the Longhorns were not challenged. Sam Rayburn's offense is largely run-based, so the Longhorns' sometimes shaky pass defense was not under heavy duress.

That could change against South Houston as the Trojans will likely spend much of the game in four and five-receiver sets, including senior Torre Daniel.

South Houston has rushed for just over 500 yards this season, but senior quarterback Rudis Requeno has passed for more than

Continued on Page 2B



Dobie's Andrew Robinson (22), who rushed for 149 yards on nine carries and scored three times, tries to leap over Sam Rayburn's Tim DeSoto during the Longhorns' 45-3 victory Oct. 22 at Veterans Memorial Sta-

dium in Pasadena. The win improved the Longhorns to 6-2 overall, including 3-0 in District 22-5A action. At right is Rayburn defensive back Alexis Manjuarez.

GaryWPhotos.com

San Jacinto College soccer eyes final push

The road to the National Junior College Athletic Association championship tournament travels through Tyler on the first stop, and the San Jacinto College program is determined to make it a successful trip.

San Jacinto is seeded second at the 2011 Region XIV tournament, set to be played Oct. 27-28 at Tyler Junior College's Pat Hartley Field.

Host Tyler has used the last two regional tournaments as a successful springboard to winning the national title, but San Jacinto wants to make a difference this season.

The SJC-Tyler rivalry dates all the way back to 1994, and since then, the two programs have had some classic battles.

Over the past two-plus seasons, the Apaches have dominated the series, including 3-1 and 2-0 wins this season. But San Jacinto College head coach David Santesteban knows it takes only one win to turn the tide.

The rivalry has shown to deliver a very competitive and oftentimes rough behavior, and I don't see that changing," Santesteban said. "Tyler has earned their place with a couple of titles,

but our guys will be ready to go (Oct. 27-28), and we'll let the chips fall where they may."

Continued on Page 6B

Dobie, Clear Brook VB headed to postseason

The regular season might be complete, but there is more varsity volleyball to be played for the Dobie and Clear Brook programs.

Both teams have qualified for the playoffs. In District 22-5A, Dobie went 7-3 to finish in a second-place tie with Pasadena Memorial.

Deer Park won the crown

The first round of the Region XIV tournament will include a pair of semifinal

Continued on Page 6B

Despite DP loss, Dobie netters to regionals

A lopsided 10-1 win over Pasadena Memorial in the District 22-5A tournament semifinals was enough to get the job done.

Dobie's varsity tennis team is in the Region III tournament after taking down the Mavericks 10-1 to make the 22-5A final.

Deer Park proved to be the best team in the district on the court with back-to-back wins over Dobie in an eight-day span.

At press time, the Region

III coaches' meeting was being held, so the Longhorns' opponent had yet to be chosen.

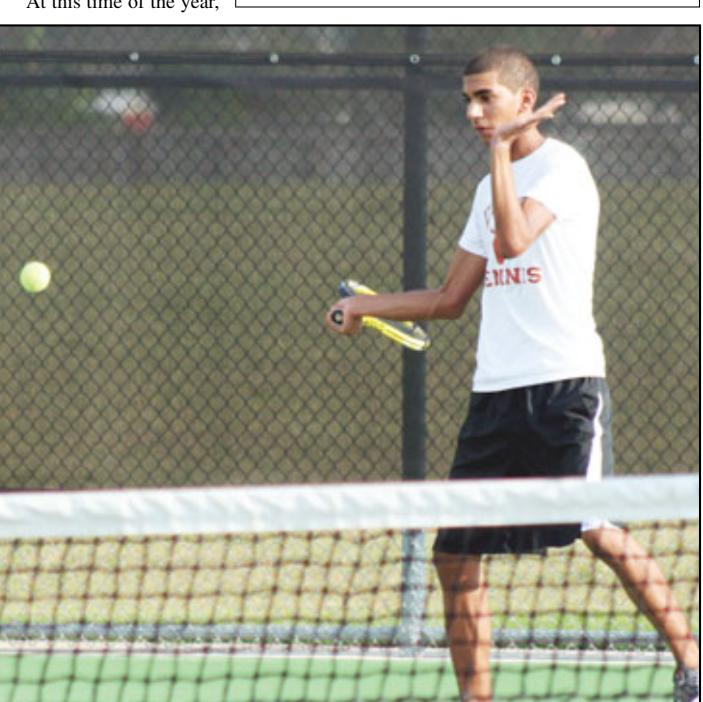
At this time of the year,

you just want the kids to enjoy the experience," Moreno said. "When you go to regionals and take on one of the top 16 seeds in the re-

gion, it's always going to be tough. Our kids will give their best effort, and we will give it our all."

Continued on Page 6B

Dobie vs. TBA At Region III tennis tournament



Jacob Al-Asmar of Dobie lashes a forehand during the Longhorns' Region III tournament-clinching win over Memorial in the District 22-5A tournament semifinals. With Al-Asmar's help, the Longhorns downed Memorial 10-1 to keep their season alive.

Photo by John Bechtle

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2 Beverages,
\$6 or more,
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of Equal or Lesser Value
for 99¢

expires Nov. 10, 2011

Local sports news, notes

SBGSA offers early sign-up costs

The South Belt Girls Softball Association has set "Early, Early Bird" spring 2012 registration for those seeking to play. The first registration date is Saturday, Nov. 5, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost is \$70. There is a \$5 sibling discount, with the first child paying \$70 and each additional child in the same household paying \$65. Fundraisers will be revealed in January. Additional "Early Bird" registration dates will be offered in December. The cost will rise to \$75, with a \$5 sibling discount. Regular spring registration will be held in early January.

New Covenant charity golf

The New Covenant Christian Church will host the annual Willie V. Hahn Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament Saturday, Nov. 5, at Southwyk Golf Course in Pearland. Those wishing to play in the event or those individuals/businesses wishing to sponsor a hole may call Glenn Owens at 713-412-7546, or direct email to videosbyray@att.net. Funds raised from the tournament go toward college scholarships given to students in the South Belt area.

Texans 9-U select baseball

The Texans select baseball program is seeking serious players for upcoming 9-under division action in both the Nations Baseball and United States Specialty Sports Association leagues. Tryouts are currently set for Saturday, Oct. 29, and Saturday, Nov. 5. For more tryout details, including a location and times, call coach Craig Redmon at 281-236-5112.

Warriors 10-U select baseball

The Southeast Elite Warriors 10-under select baseball team will host tryouts for the 2012 select season in the Nations Baseball and Baseball USA leagues. The tryouts will be held at Bishop Park Saturday, Oct. 29, from 3 to 5 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 5 and Nov. 12, both from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bishop Park is on Blackhawk between Hughes Road and Scarsdale.

For more information, call Travis Watson Sr. at 832-587-7602 or Isreal Ramos at 832-287-1588, or direct email to southeastelitewarriors@yahoo.com.

Dobie baseball boosters to meet

The Dobie Diamond Club, the Longhorns' baseball organization, will host a parent meeting Wednesday, Nov. 2, at 7 p.m., in the athletics media room. For more information, call Gloria Sanchez at 713-303-9157 or Lisa Manriquez at 713-516-7539.

Dobie's subvarsity football wins pair

The Longhorns' subvarsity football programs continued their winning ways with a pair of victories over Sam Rayburn Oct. 20. In other action, Dobie's sophomore team lost to Fort Bend Ridge Point.

Josh Johnson scored Dobie's lone touchdown as the locals slipped to 5-3 overall.

On offense, the Longhorns' were led by DeMarcus Green, Travarus Ansley and Tyler Baumann. Meanwhile, Matt Salas, Keiton Robinson Kalief Dorsey and Marcus Morgan excelled on the defensive side.

Dobie freshman Orange 49
Sam Rayburn 0

Controlling the game in all phases, Dobie's freshman Orange team routed Sam Rayburn 49-0 to stay unbeaten in District 22-5A action at 3-0.

The defense stepped up early on as Rashad Randall returned a Texans' fumble 27 yards for a touchdown. Joe Gonzalez added the conversion for a 7-0 lead.

Minutes later, Jarvis Lester returned another Sam Rayburn fumble 16 yards

down but then got little else going in a 25-6 loss to Fort Bend Ridge Point.

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Minutes later, Jarvis Lester returned another Sam Rayburn fumble 16 yards

for a touchdown.

Things kept rolling Dobie's way from there. Randall dashed 30 yards for an offensive touchdown.

Gonzalez went 44 rushing yards for a touchdown, and Keion Patterson burst into the end zone from 6 yards out as Dobie led 35-0 at halftime.

In the second half, Ty Lozano had a 38-yard scoring run, and Chris Washington sprinted 37 yards for the final score.

Alexis Saldivar converted five extra-point kicks in the win.

The defensive shutout was led by the outstanding play of Maurice Hightower and Randall, who both forced a pair of fumbles.

Eddie Kelly, Carlos Gonzalez, Lozano, Quinton Bolling, Lester and Fabian Osorio also excelled.

Others who stood out on offense included Anthony Cantu, Tyler Alfred, Chris Dufresne, Nathaniel Flores and Jarius Lester.

Overall, Dobie is now 6-2, including the 3-0 mark in league play.

Dobie's subvarsity teams go up against South Houston Oct. 27.

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Questionnaires from City of Houston District D, at-large candidates

City Council District E Larry L. McKinzie



NAME: Larry McKinzie

AGE: 44

OCCUPATION: Middle School

Science Teacher

EDUCATION: Bachelor of

Science: (Biology) Bachelor of

Science: (Medical Technology)

MARITAL STATUS/

CHILDREN: Married/Three

Children (boys)

What makes you qualified

to serve as a City Council

Representative?

I am a community servant and I

am a life-long resident of the

south side of Houston.

Recently introduced to the

City of Houston government

was the Department of

Neighborhoods. How will you

use this department to serve the

South Belt area?

The Department of

Neighborhoods seems to have

been created to appease and offer

the voters in the Heights an olive

branch due to the planned building

of a Walmart in their community.

This would be an opportune time

to suggest decentralization

of this department and to ask

for a Department of Neighborhoods

office in and near the South

Belt Area to insure effective

service to the South Belt area. The

money goes where the vote goes.

Street repairs are a serious

issue in the South Belt area.

Hughes Road, in particular, has

been included on the city budget

for more than 10 years but

has always been cut in favor of

other projects. What are your

thoughts on this issue?

Street repairs and infrastructure

are a serious issue, period. If

elected City Councilman, I would

advocate for the South Belt area

and also try my best to build the

voter base so that there would be

more than one voice advocating

for the South Belt Area. If we

have 35,000 people voting con-

sistently then we would have

District D councilman plus five

at-large councilmen and a

mayor advocating for the South

Belt Area.

Do you support the Rebuild

Houston program?

I support an unbiased applica-

tion of the Rebuild Houston pro-

gram. The Drainage Fee is major

part of Rebuild Houston. I was

watching the news and they

reported that a portion of the

Drainage Fee would be applied to

creating more Hiking and Biking

trails. I disagree with the ability

to allocate funds to programs that

create a disparity in city services

such as drainage and street

repair.

What is your position on the

controversial red-light camera

situation?

The people voted against them.

There should not be a situa-

tion.

Do you favor having a

regional crime lab that the city

shares with Harris County?

I favor having a city crime lab

with better oversight.

What are your

feelings regarding the ongoing Occupy

Houston movement?

Occupy Houston is dedicated

to ending the corporate corrup-

tion of our Democracy. I don't

agree with all of their tactics but

they are doing and saying some-

thing. My belief is to start at vot-

ing and being civically proactive.

At the current time, people are

suffering from financial woes and

a response is expected. Occupy

Houston is part of that response.

What is your position on the

city's new noise ordinance pro-

visions?

Many of the provisions in the

ordinance are common sense

written as law. It seems to be a

law created to generate revenue.

The Houston Municipal

Employee Pension System has

seen an increase in obligations

without an increase in funding,

and

increasing amounts of money are

to be funded by taxpay-

ers instead of by the city. Do you

foresee problems in the next 5

years with the city meeting obli-

gations to retired people?

Do you support the Rebuild

Houston program?

I do at this time. It is impor-

tant to me that we ensure each

neighborhood is allocated re-

sources that reflect the needs of

each neighborhood.

What is your position on the

city's new noise ordinance pro-

visions?

I was against Red Light Cam-

eras from the beginning and at

this time believe we should sup-

port the will of the people.

Do you favor having a

regional crime lab that the city

shares with Harris County?

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Dobie netters move to regionals

Continued from Page 1B

This season marks the fifth in the last eight that Dobie has advanced to the Region III tournament.

The locals are just 1-5 in the tournament appearances, but at least the Longhorns have been there.

Last season, Memorial defeated Dobie in the tournament semifinals to advance. This time, it was Dobie's turn.

"I think our kids were motivated by not advancing last season and then seeing Memorial go," Moreno said.

"I asked our seniors to play like seniors, and asked some of the younger players to be at their best. The results show that everyone came through."

Against Deer Park, the Longhorns lost all seven doubles matches to trail 7-0 heading into the singles portion of the final. It was simply too much to overcome.

"Our congratulations go out to Deer Park and coach Will Rau for their win," Moreno said. "They deserved to win with the way they played."

As for regionals, Dobie is excited to be invited to the party.

"It's the luck of the draw at regionals," Moreno said. "We have been to the final eight before, so we just have to go out and do whatever we can to win."

"Our kids know that it's tough to get a win at this point. There are some outstanding teams out there vying for state."



Dobie varsity tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr. (left) chats with Dobie principal Steve Jamail (center) and assistant principal Franklin Moses during the Longhorns' district tournament semifinal win over Memorial Oct. 21. Also on the scene but not shown in the picture was assistant principal Jimmy Golden. Jamail and other members of his staff regularly attend a variety of sports events and other activities involving the schools' students.

Photo by John Bechtle

VB playoffs include locals

Continued from Page 1B

Both Dobie and Clear Brook are playing well entering the playoffs.

Dobie went 4-1 in the second half of district play, finishing at 7-3.

After taking fourth place a season ago, Dobie has improved vastly as Bre'shaun Franklin has led the way up front.

At Clear Brook, Anita Permenter has been a constant force for the Lady Wolverines.

In a 25-17, 20-25, 27-25, 25-23 upset win over Pearland Oct. 21, Permenter had 13 kills.

As Clear Brook held off Dickinson's upset bid Oct. 25 with a 25-13, 18-25, 19-25, 25-18, 15-7 victory, Permenter delivered 19 kills.

Now it's on to the playoffs for 32 teams in the region, and as usual, Dobie and Clear Brook are among the teams still in contention as the action starts.

San Jac soccer at regionals

Continued from Page 1B

The opener will pit San Jacinto against Coastal Bend, with Tyler going against Lon Morris in the other semi.

The final, set for Oct. 28, at 2 p.m., will match the respective semifinal winners. The Region XIV winner will then advance to the district tournament Nov. 5.

Injuries and other off-field issues have robbed San Jacinto of its depth. Just this month, quick-strike forwards Jose Gonzalez and Guillermo Vigil were lost to season-ending knee injuries.

But it hasn't deterred San Jacinto of staying focused on the eventual goal, taking down Tyler and staying alive in the postseason.

"I would say it will take an upset on our part, but they have had our number and it's time to put a stop to it," Santesteban said.

"We will have to be at the top of our game both physically and mentally."

"We've been in the mix in both of the previous games against Tyler. Maybe it's our turn to grab a big win."

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