



South Belt-Ellington Leader

Serving South Belt since 1976

The Voice of Community-Minded People

Thursday, December 28, 2023 Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com www.southbeltleader.com Vol. 48, No. 48

Holiday closures set

South Belt-Ellington Leader
The Leader offices will be closed through Monday, Jan. 8, for the Christmas/New Year's Day holidays.
Emergencies may be directed to Leader publisher Marie Flickinger at 281-948-2714.

Clear Brook City MUD
The Clear Brook City MUD offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 1, in observance of New Year's Day. The office will reopen Tuesday, Jan. 2, at 8 a.m.

Clear Brook City MUD residents whose trash services fall on Monday will not have regular trash pickup on New Year's Day, Monday, Jan. 1. Regular services will resume on Thursday, Jan. 4. All trash must be at curbside no later than 6 a.m. on day of pickup.
For customer convenience, check or money order payments may be left in the drop box located on the drive-thru side of the building. No cash will be accepted in the drop box.

Softball girls to register

The South Belt Girls Softball Association is offering registration for the spring 2024 season for player divisions 6U through 14U through Jan. 14 at Southbeltsoftball.sportngin.com.

Parents may also reference additional details on the league's Facebook page at South Belt Girls Softball Association-SBGSA.

For additional registration support, direct email to southbeltgirlsoftball@live.com.

New Covenant feeds needy

New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk, distributes food the second and fourth Saturday of each month from noon to 1 p.m. or until supplies run out.

The purpose is to provide food for community people in need. This month's events will take place Jan. 13 and Jan. 27. For more information, call 281-484-4230.

Sagemont to meet Jan. 2

The Sagemont Civic Club will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 2, at The Gardens, located at 12001 Beamer at Hughes Road.

All Sagemont residents/homeowners are invited to attend.
The meetings typically take place the first Tuesday of each month. For additional information, call Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

Coffee with the Constable

Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia will be at Donut Haven, 10802 Hughes, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each Thursday as part of the weekly Coffee with the Constable series.

The next event will be Thursday, Dec. 28, with another event happening the following Thursday, Jan. 4.

For more information, call Sagemont Civic Club President Kay Barbour at 713-419-3545.

Local COVID cases reported

With the exception of ZIP code 77089, the number of active COVID-19 cases in the South Belt community is roughly on par with the previous week, according to Harris County health officials.

As of Tuesday, Dec. 19, there were 182 active cases in 77089, up 17 from the previous week. To date, 138 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

In ZIP code 77075, there were seven active cases, no change from the previous week. To date, there have been 84 deaths in the ZIP code, no increase from the previous week.

In 77034, there were six active cases, no change from the previous week.
To date, 93 residents from ZIP code 77034 have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week.

According to Harris County Health officials, the vast majority of the fatalities suffered from pre-existing health issues.

Statistics are updated daily and include numbers from within the Houston city limits and throughout Harris County.

To view an interactive map, visit covid-harriscounty.hub.arc gis.com/pages/cumulative-data.

Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lanes and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from SH 96/Calder/Brittany Bay to FM-519/Main Street daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Sunday, Dec. 31.

The U-turn lane on the northbound Gulf Freeway frontage road (north to south) at FM-519/Main Street in La Marque will be closed until further notice.

The U-turn lane on the southbound Gulf Freeway frontage road (south to north) at FM-519/Main Street in La Marque will be closed until further notice.

The northbound Gulf Freeway exit ramp to SH-6/SH-146 in La Marque will close permanently at 9 a.m. Wednesday, July 5. Traffic must exit FM-519 and U-turn. Traffic will merge onto the Gulf Freeway southbound main lanes at the next available entrance ramp.

Beltway 8 closure planned

At least one northbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 will be closed from Fairmont Parkway to Spencer Highway continuously through 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024.

No detour will be needed but drivers should expect delays.

At least one southbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 will be closed from SH 225 to Pasadena Boulevard continuously through 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024.

No detour will be needed but drivers should expect delays.

Term-limited Turner touts financial gains

Mayor to leave office Jan. 2 after serving two 4-year terms

As term-limited Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner prepares to leave office, he released a report that he says highlights how his policies strengthened the city's financial stability and resulted in the city's highest net position in decades.

According to the most recent Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 2023, the city's financial health is the strongest in 20 years.

The city's net position, a strong indicator of a government's financial standing, has trended upward in the last five fiscal years of Turner's term. After being negative \$95 million at the end of fiscal year 2016, the net position was the highest in the last 20 years at \$7.6 billion as of the end of FY23, an increase of \$1.7 billion compared to FY22. This is attributable to an increase of approximately \$802.6 million in total assets as well as a decrease in total liabilities of \$919.5

million. The decrease in liabilities is mainly due to a decrease in total other post-employment benefit (OPEB) liability of \$576.6 million and a decrease of \$407.8 million in total outstanding debt.

The city's unrestricted portion of the net position has improved by approximately \$1.3 billion and has a deficit of \$5.0 billion at the end of FY 23.

According to Turner, the improved financial standing resulted from the following:
– Sound fiscal management.
– Historic Pension Reform in 2017.*
– Addressing the OPEB liability situation.
– Reduction of debt.
– Increased federal financial assistance.
* Pension Reform in 2017: When Turner was elected, the unfunded pension liability was approximately \$8.2 billion and rising. Since the city enacted reforms, the liability decreased to

\$1.49 billion in FY21, but with the market volatility, it is currently at an estimated \$2.4 billion.

Elected in December 2015 and re-elected in December 2019, Turner is Houston's 62nd mayor. During his time in office, Turner has faced significant challenges as mayor of the nation's fourth-largest city, including budget deficits, homelessness, natural disasters such as Hurricane Harvey and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

As mayor, Turner has passed seven balanced budgets within the city's fiscal constraints. He also oversaw Houston's remarkable rebound from Hurricane Harvey, championed historic pension reform, cheered on the 2017 and 2022 World Series Houston Astros, and hosted a successful Super Bowl LI. He also launched Houston's first Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, meet the Paris Agreement goal of carbon neutrality by 2050, and lead the global energy transition.

Amid national unrest and calls for improving the community and police relations, the mayor signed an executive order restricting the use of force and created a Task Force on Policing Reforms.

In February 2022, Turner released his One Safe Houston initiative to combat the increase in violence resulting from the pandemic, domestic violence, mental illness, and the proliferation of guns on the street. The plan has resulted in a decrease in the year-to-year number of homicides and overall violent crime rate. In March 2023, the mayor launched the One Clean Houston initiative to combat illegal dumping in the city.

Turner is a trustee of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and serves on the Audit and Finance

Committee. He is chairman of the Resilient Cities Network, a member of the C40 and Global Covenant for Mayors for Climate and Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency's Local Government Advisory Committee, and chairman of the Resilient Cities Network. Turner is the immediate past chair of Climate Mayors and the immediate past president of the African American Mayors Association.

In 2017, Turner received the Ohtli Award, the Mexican government's highest honor. In March 2020, the University of Houston's Master of Public Administration Program honored Turner with the Pioneer of Public Service Award. The United States Conference of Mayors, Americans for the Arts presented the 2022 Local Arts Leadership Award to Sylvester. He is also the recipient of Rice Kinder Institute's 2023 Stephen L. Klineberg Award.

Before serving as Houston's mayor, Turner served for 27 years as the representative for Texas House District 139. He worked on the House Appropriations Committee for 21 years and served as Speaker Pro Tem for three terms. He was appointed to several Budget Conference Committees to balance the state's budget and served on the Legislative Budget Board.

In 2023, Turner was honored with the President's Award at the National Urban League Conference Whitney M. Young, Jr. Awards Gala, the Legacy of Leadership Award in honor of Turner's unwavering support of The Ensemble Theatre and the President Bush Medal for the Empowerment of People with Disabilities.

Due to term limits, Turner will leave office Jan. 2, to be replaced by John Whitmire.

Mayor at park ribbon-cutting



Mayor Sylvester Turner spoke at the ribbon-cutting for the reopening of Freeway Manor Park Saturday, Dec. 9. The mayor is shown above at the event with Parks Director Kenneth Allen and James Muecke, who also spoke at the event. Turner will leave office next month due to term limits after serving two terms in office. Photo by Jeff Sypyak

Mayor reopens Freeway Manor Park

Following months of renovations, a ribbon-cutting was held Saturday, Dec. 9, to celebrate the reopening of Freeway Manor Park.

The aging city park, located at 2241 Bronson near Edgebrook and Theta, had originally been rescheduled to open in mid-September but was delayed. The park had been undergoing renovations since February.

The renovations are part of a public/private partnership called the 50/50 Park Partners initiative. Working together with business partners, the city aims to renovate 50 parks throughout the city. To date, the city has provided funding for 11 of these 50 parks. Freeway Manor Park was among the 11 to be funded.

Freeway Manor resident and community liaison James Muecke credits District E City Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem Dave Martin for the local park being included in the first round of funding.

"The City of Houston has 382 parks, and Mayor Turner started the 50/50 Park Partners initiative to help neighborhood parks," Muecke said at the ribbon-cutting.

"Fifty parks were selected, 22 of those parks were announced to the public, and guess what? Freeway Manor was No. 11. We feel strongly

that District E Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem Dave Martin had something to do to get us there."

Muecke also thanked city officials for listening to community input.

"This park is now about 70 years old and it needed some changes and upgrades," Muecke said at the event, also extending a thanks to the mayor. "We appreciated Houston Parks Board and the Houston Parks and Recreation Department hosting both a virtual listening session and coming out to the park in person to ask residents for their ideas and concerns. Both the parks board and the parks department took that input into consideration, and I can see that input reflected in the changes we see today."

Muecke used the podium to also thank Calpine, the corporate partner in the park's renovations.

"We, the community, are also very thankful to Calpine, the corporate partner for this park," said Muecke. "Their funding was critical to these changes. And look at the results! Look at the new safe playground for the children, the resurfaced walking trail, which was deteriorated and so dangerous/unsafe and new benches for those walking to sit and rest. There were so many other changes, and we are excited to use them all."

Officials promote COVID, flu shots

City health officials are urging residents to get their updated COVID-19 shots.

Many people are now making fun plans to enjoy holiday gatherings and New Year's Eve parties.

Dr. David Perse, chief medical officer for the City of Houston, stresses those plans need to include getting an updated COVID-19 shot this week.

"Getting the shot now will lower the possibility of a ruined holiday season for people who haven't received an updated COVID vaccine.

Timing is critical since the holiday break is less than two weeks away. It takes about two weeks for the shots to offer their full protection.

Perse also recommends a flu shot for everyone six months and older and a respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) shot for infants and people age 60 and older.

People with health insurance can visit their doctor or neighborhood pharmacy to get the shots. Even many grocery stores also offer the vaccines.

the shots from their local health department. People can call the Houston Health Department at 832-393-4220 for more information.

County urges flu shots
Harris County health officials are also encouraging residents to get flu shots prior to the Christmas holidays.

Flu cases are increasing in many parts of the country, including in Harris County. As the county enters the holiday season, getting a flu vaccine is the easiest way for one to keep one's self and their loved ones safe from getting sick.

HCPH recommends that everyone six months and older get a flu vaccine. If one wants to receive additional seasonal shots, like COVID-19 or RSV, the CDC confirms that it is safe to get them all at the same time. To keep safe from contracting the flu and passing it along to others, one should follow these simple steps:
– If one or one's child feels sick, contact the health care provider promptly. Wait until the fever is gone for 24 hours without medication (e.g., acetaminophen) before returning to school or work.

Continued on Page 2

EFL youth baseball fields use go to be given to elite baseball group

Harris County Precinct 1 officials announced this past week that a youth baseball organization which works with "elite" ball players will replace both Little League and Pony League at El Franco Lee Park this coming year.

The elite teams work with high ability youth, rather than all youth.

Whether or not the group has been instructed to work with all ability of players in the community is not known, as the Leader was unable to speak to anyone at Commissioner Rodney Ellis' office over the holidays.

Little League has posted their initial plans. The statement can be found on Page 2 of this issue.

The Wildcatters was awarded the concessionaire agreement to operate the area baseball fields beginning the 2024 spring season. The announcement is the latest action in a year-long battle over the local field use between the Little League and Pony groups that began in January after former Little League President Johnny Ramirez left the

organization to start a local Pony League chapter, taking hundreds of area players and Little League funds with him.

The recent selection of the third party to operate the fields likely won't put any quarrels to rest, as initial reports indicate the Wildcatters group caters to older and more experienced players – one of the primary issues at debate. Such a prerequisite would require many younger inexperienced players to join neighboring leagues in places like Pearland.

While the South Belt community is now located in Harris County Precinct 2, El Franco Lee Park remains under Precinct 1 Commissioner Rodney Ellis' control.

At press time, it remained unclear how the recent decision will affect the South Belt Youth Soccer Club, which also utilizes the playing fields at El Franco Lee Park.

The area youth football teams will keep control of the fields. See next week's Leader for additional information.

City to recycle Christmas trees

The City of Houston recently kicked off its 31st annual Christmas tree recycling program.

The program encourages residents to recycle their trees, rather than disposing of them in the trash. The city turns the trees into mulch that it sells and uses to maintain city hiking trails. Approximately 750,000 tons of trees have been recycled since the program began, officials said.

"Holiday trees may have been one of the original recyclables," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "They provide beneficial reuses in several natural areas which benefit all of us."

City residents have two options in which to recycle their Christmas trees.

The first option is to place the tree on one's curbside during the city's regular heavy trash pickup days. City residents south of Fuqua will

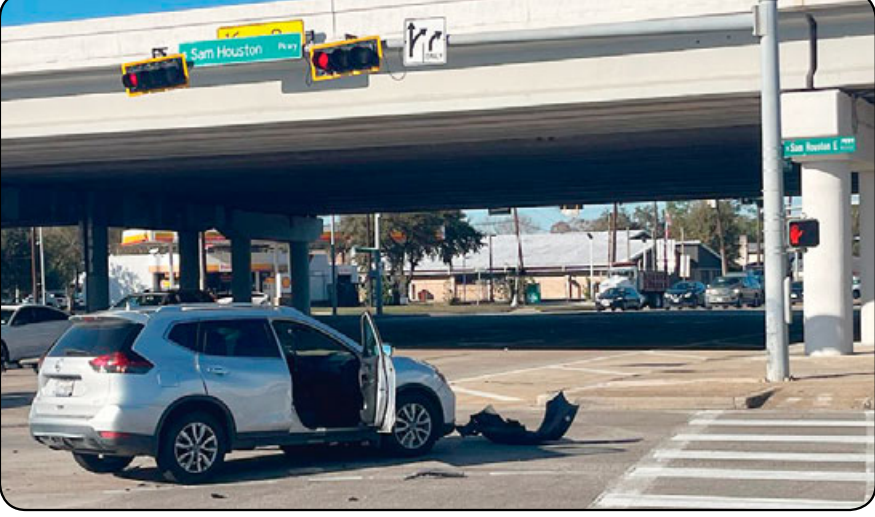
have heavy trash pickup Thursday, Jan. 11, (second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua and west of the Gulf Freeway will have heavy trash pickup on Friday, Jan. 12, (second Friday of the month).

The second option is to take one's Christmas tree to one of 25 recycling sites across the city. The closest location to the South Belt area is the Ellington Airport Recycling Drop-off, located at SH 3/Old Galveston Road at Brantley Road. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All tree bases, lights, ornaments and tinsel should be removed. Flocked trees cannot be recycled. The program will continue through Jan. 31.

To see a complete list of recycling sites, visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/tree2023.html.

Cars crash at Beamer, beltway



A three-car collision took place the afternoon of Monday, Dec. 18, at the intersection of Beltway 8 and Beamer. The drivers of two of the vehicles reportedly got into a verbal altercation following the crash. The airbags in at least one vehicle were deployed. There were no visible signs of injury. Photo by James Bolen

Golenko's artwork goes public



Dobie senior Lydia Golenko's artwork is now being displayed for all the South Belt community to see on the Sagemeadow water tower. Golenko is an AP student, a member of the varsity chamber orchestra, a rodeo art finalist for 2023 and a VASE participant.

Vaccines encouraged by health officials

Continued from Page 1
 - Cover nose and mouth when one coughs or sneezes and encourage others to do the same. This prevents the spread of germs.
 - Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap is not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as desks, doorknobs, keyboards, and phones.
 To schedule a flu and/or COVID-19 vaccine, call 832-927-7575 or visit www.hcphtx.org.
 Vaccines are free for most people. Visit vaccines.gov, texasflu.org or contact one's healthcare provider for more information.

Melillo counselors earn counseling Crest Award

Congratulations are in order for Melillo Middle School counselors Jacqueline Carmona and Lilliana Monita for being one of an elite group of schools from across the state to win the CREST Award for Counseling Excellence for 2023-2024 school year.
 The Texas School Counselor Association began the CREST program in 2005 to recognize schools with outstanding counseling programs.
 Schools receiving this award have demonstrated a commitment using the Texas Model to improve the lives and achievement of students in academic, career, and personal social domains.
 CREST examines a schools counseling program in different categories, including the introduction to the school and the role of the professional school counselor; the program's implementation cycle; and the program's curriculum.



The winners of the 2023-2024 CREST Award for counseling excellence are, Lilliana Monita, fifth-grade counselor; (left) and Jacqueline Carmona, sixth-grade counselor.

Dobie Speech/Debate excel



Recently Dobie's Speech & Debate team competed at Cy-Fair High School where four members qualified for TFA state. Congratulations to Valeria Arredondo, Kevin Mejia, Ciara Williams and Yarezi Martinez.

Fred Roberts faculty gives to community



Faculty and staff of Fred Roberts Middle School teamed up to sponsor 12 families this Christmas in their annual "Giving Tree" program. Thanks to the generosity of all involved, they were able to provide shoes, a hoodie and two gifts to each child in each family. Shown, left to right, are Mike Evans (counselor), Alejandra Lazo (parent coordinator) and Crissy Higham (counselor).

In My Opinion

Little League speaks out on use of fields

For over 50 years the Little League has been in the Sagemont/ Beverly Hills Community. (See related story Page 1.)
 For that many years Little League has provided the community youth with beginner, recreational and what a lot of us know it as "wholesome" baseball.
 The Little League at EFL was always meant for the kids who want to learn the game of baseball and become good athletes.
 Some become better than others all while enjoying the the great game of baseball.
 This year the Precinct One has rejected the idea of beginner or recreational baseball.
 The county rejected the Little Leagues application to occupy the fields to provide Little League Baseball.
 The (Rodney Ellis) Precinct has decided to go with Super Select Ball.
 Which means the players to this organization are above level of recreational play or highly skilled.
 The Southbelt Little League has been displaced because of this decision and we are now in talks with Pearland Little League for a opportunity to occupy some fields there at the Dads club.
 The Little League will be holding a Board meeting this week to plan the future of Southbelt Little League.
 Thank You all who have been a part of the Little League for many years.
 Southbelt Little League
 Juan Herrera

Muecke addresses Chief Troy Finner

Chief Finner,
 Received word that the new mayor plans on keeping you. That is good. I have been following you since you were appointed and so far like what you have done, like police chase.
 Back to your days on the street you no more wanted to do a chase then anyone.
 The outcome somethings not good. So you revised and I agree. But I still feel you need to install a No Pursuit data base. Why someone runs, scared or have criminal history. The officer notes, car/ truck, color, license plate and any damage to the vehicle.
 This should be valuable if this vehicle would be involved in another incident, more evidence.
 Then DWI, way to many and most during at night. Austin has to address this. Yes, a 6 pack can be purchased. With it as bad as it is, a law needs to be in place shutting down all bars at mid night and no beer sold also until six a.m..
 This is bedtime for normal people. Now drive by shootings, has really increased and innocent people die.
 Today a teen age female was killed at 1 a.m.. Question, why was a teen out at this time of night? Not sure how to address but something needs to be done.
 Thank you for your attention to your duties to keep us safe.
 Wish you and the entire HPD troops a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year while on duty protecting us.
 James E. Muecke

Frazier recognizes November mathematicians of the month

Frazier Elementary officials recently celebrated their mathematicians of November for the 2023-2024 school year. Shown are students awarded from grade levels ECSE to fourth.

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| David Borders, ECSE Maria Munoz, teacher | Paisli Freeman, pre-K Shannon Davis, teacher | Zoe Garcia, pre-K Denisse Saldivar, teacher | Emilia Gonzalez, pre-K Mayra Villarreal, teacher | Josephine Siscoe, K Ashley Jones, teacher | Alfonso Garza, K India Kemp, teacher |
| | | | | | |
| Mateo Ramirez, K Luisa Lewis, teacher | Giovanni Angeles-Perez, K Jill Westfall, teacher | Christopher Ruiz, First Guadalupe Moreno, teacher | Evan Washington, First Jacqueline Rojas, teacher | Humberto Chapa, Second Adriana Cortez, teacher | Michael Romo, Second Deidra Garza, teacher |
| | | | | | |
| Amylah Starghill, First Amanda Hooper, teacher | Anakin Pineda, First Candace Kliesing, teacher | Blake Oliver, Second Betsabe Herrera, teacher | Erick Lopez, Second Liana Luna, teacher | Matthew Velasquez, Second Amy Oquin, teacher | Isabella Vargas, Third Diana Avitia, teacher |
| | | | | | |
| Mckenzie Schuetz, Second Katie Posey, teacher | Penelope Chavez, Second Jessica Vela, teacher | Ariana Vizcarra, Third Catherine Silas, teacher | Ricardo Casas, Third Elsa Martinez, teacher | Brayden Deleon, Third Sara Rodriguez, teacher | Alfonso Hernandez, Third Jennifer Wilson, teacher |
| | | | | | |
| Perla Hernandez, Fourth Gustavo Gomez, teacher | Braylen Ortega, Fourth Kayla Pitts and Elizabeth Taylor, teachers | Cassidy Wright, Fourth Patricia Perez, teacher | Allison Hernandez, Fourth Kayla Pitts, teacher | | |

Local library events set

Bracewell Branch Library
 Bracewell Library is located at 9002 Kingspoint. For information, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/>. For online learning, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/online-learning-7556> or call 832-393-2580. Hours are: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, noon – 8 p.m.; Fridays, 1 – 5 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Closed Sundays.
 Tuesdays, 10:30 – 11 a.m. Outdoors storytime for all ages. Plan to enjoy a good story at Bracewell in the fresh outdoors, weather permitting.
 Visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/learn-explore/library-events> for more library events.

Parker Williams Library
 Parker Williams Library is located at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. Visit the website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> or call 832-927-7870.
 The book drop is open. No late fees will be charged during the library closure. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.
Parker Williams "No-Contact Curbside Holds Pick-Up"
 - After receiving notification that holds are ready for pickup, call 832-927-7870.
 - Have a library card number and PIN handy.
 - A pickup time and instructions will be given.
 - Upon arriving, park in one of the two parking spots reserved for curbside holds.
 - Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.
 Hours are: Monday – Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 – 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Closed Sundays. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.

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 The Voice of Community-Minded People
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 Davy & Marie Flickinger, owners

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
 Catholic Church
 Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor
 Rev. Kingsley Nwoko, Parochial Vicar
 11011 Hall Rd.
 (between Beamer & Blackhawk)
www.stlukesatholic.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Saturday Vigil | 5:30 p.m. |
| Sunday | 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.* |
| Sunday | 1 p.m. Misa en Español* |
| Monday, Wednesday & Friday | 9 a.m. |
| Tuesday & Thursday | 7 p.m. |
| Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) | |
| Thursday 7:45 to 8:30 p.m. | Saturday 4 to 5 p.m. |

Parish Office: 281-481-6816
 Children's Faith Formation: 281-481-4251
 Adult Faith Formation: 713-538-2862
 All are welcome to come to worship and serve the Lord in a spirit of love, sharing, and hope.

New Covenant Christian Church
 Day Care Christian Based Child Care
 Now Enrolling

New Covenant Christian Church provides Christian based child care for the local community. Director Nedra Jackson and her staff are here to take perfect care of your children while you work.
281.481.2003
www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com
 10603 Blackhawk Blvd. Houston, Tx 77089
 Blackhawk @ Kirkfair

Pasadena Memorial High School recognizes Maverick honorroll students

Pasadena Memorial High School officials recently announced their honor roll students for the second six-weeks of the 2023-2024 school year.

Ninth grade

Nadia Abraham, Peyton Acevedo, Eduardo Acosta, Eric Acosta, Gissel Aguilar, Veronica Kadina Portillo, Charlotte Allen, Alyan Alvarez, Nikolas Anciso, Alexander Aparicio and Carlos Araoz.

Jayden Arispe, Jose Arredondo, Camila Avila, Emma Avila, Isael Avila, Nancy Avila, Shelby Avila, Javier Avilez, Hailey Avina, Jennifer Bahena Rodriguez, Shabd Bains and Cowan Banda.

Tucker Barker, Alyssa Barnes, Asiel Basurto, Amanda Beason, Parker Bell, Alexis Blankenship, Heaven Bonilla Ramirez, Arnulfo Boule, Angela Buenrostro, Kayla Calvo and Shylae Calvo.

Emily Campa, Erika Cantu, Mia Capps, Emery Cardenas, Ari Cardiel, Nichole Carrizalez, Aiden Casas, Gabrielle Castilleja, Azul Castillo, Fernanda Castillo, Joseph Castillo and Sofia Castillo.

Emmily Cavazos Centeno, Stephanie Cedillo, Sebastian Cepeda, Bryan Chapa, Edgar Chapa, Abigail Cisneros Rojas, Amanda Cisneros, Lariah Cisneros and Carlos Contreras.

Peyton Cooney, Jose Cores Vargas, Alexa Cores, Aadrian Coronado, Carlos Coronado, Taylor Cotton, Brenda Coyote, Brayden Cruz, Daniela Cruz, Mikiah-sky Cruz and Guadalupe Cuenca.

Camila Cuevas Hervert, Damian Cuevas, Micah Daley, Alexis Daly, Americ De Leon, Urias Del Angel, Kevin Delgado Gonzalez, Sebastian Diaz Diaz, Alan Diaz, Betty Diaz and Nicole Diosdado.

Liz Dominguez Rodriguez, Isabela Donjuan, Emma Drey, Faith Duenas, Amaya Duran, Aaron Eason, Na'ilah Emanuel, Jasiel Escamilla, Cesar Escarzagala, Alicia Escobar and Gabriella Escobedo.

Omar Esparza, Adriana Espina, Vanya Espinoza, Reina Estrada, Alejandro Facundo Moreno, Jordan Faraj, Karla Flores Espino, Ariana Flores, Jaydn Flores and Diana Galvan.

Destinee Garcia, Gabriel Garcia, Jayden Garcia, Joseph Garcia, Sofia Garcia, Alexa Garza, Bianca Garza, Felicia Garza, Isaac Garza, Izrael Garza, John Garza, Liv Garza and Victoria Garza.

Logan Gerber, Amber Gibbens, Emily Gil, K'andre Gocan, Dyon Gomez, Fabiola Gomez, Louis Gomez, Marlene Gonzalez Hernandez, Hiroimi Gonzalez Ramirez and Alexa Gonzalez.

Enrique Gonzalez, Hayden Gonzalez, Judith Gonzalez, Sara Gonzalez, Vanessa Gonzalez, Alana Green, Kara Gregory, Angela Guadarrama, Isaiyah Guzman and Rogelio Guzman.

Jayda Hall, Jackson Hart-

ness, Keylah Heredia, Grace Hernandez, Grace Hernandez, Hennessy Hernandez, Joaquin Hernandez, Jose Hernandez, Joseph Hernandez, Valeria Hernandez and Vincent Herre-

Asia Hester, Abigail Hinojosa, Victoria Hoang, Lia Huerta Maciel, Areli Ibarra, Isabele Izaguirre, Kamillah Izaguirre, Jason Jimenez-Rodriguez, Landon Johnson, Jilary Julian, Beau Kanary, Alex Lara, Anthony Le and Anahi Lomas.

Yael Lopez Pineda, Jose Lopez, Marcus Lopez, Peyton Lopez, Savannah Lott, Genesis Lozano, Nailea Luevanos, Sebastian Lugo, Nevaeh Lujan, Bryan Luna, Scarlett Luque, Kayli Lynch, Krish Maisuria and Olvin Maldonado Navarro.

Dylan Maldonado, Wendy Maldonado, Amy Marchant, Desiree Mares, Valorie Marshall, Alfonso Martinez, Isabella Martinez, Jose Martinez, Marlon Martinez, Adam Mata and Alessandra Mata.

Kiyah Maynard, Emilio Mayorga, Sofia Mayora Pineda, Kylie McCoy, Michael McFarland, Juan Medina, Annaklee Melchor, Angel Melendez and Brendyn Mendoza.

Jayden Miller, Ja'kaylah Milton, Marisleyde Molina Betancourt, Fatima Montero, Annalee Moreno, Kevin Moreno, Gavin Moron, Brynn Morrison and Chloe Morse Zavala.

Alejandra Mosqueda, Jaylene Mosqueda, Kamillah Munoz, Karissa Munoz, Luis Munoz, Andrew Nguyen, Han Nguyen, Madelyn Nguyen, Nam Nguyen, Ngoc Nguyen and Vivian Nguyen.

Andrea Nuncio, Grace Ojeda, Juliana Olivo, Aldo Ortiz Garcia, Aliyah Ortiz, Sodana Oun, Maria Palmeros, Jake Pantoja, Stefanie Pelico, Andrew Perez Reyna and Alvaro Perez.

Geniveve Perez, Marely Pinon, Gabriella Pinto, Amanda Portillo, Roy Powell, Cruz Prado, Raelynn Puga, Sharon Quinteros, Adrian Ramirez, Ariana Ramirez and Joannara Ramirez.

Melanie Ramirez, Joseph Ramon, Aurimarie Ramos Ramos, Mary Ramos Ramos, Janielys Ramos Rodriguez, Itzel Rangel, Jeremy Rangel and Sarjay Restrepo Molina.

Metzelder Reyes, Brandon Rios, Isaiyah Rios, Soraya Rios, Adrian Rivera, Andrew Rodriguez, Fernando Rodriguez, Genesis Rodriguez, Jaylie Rodriguez and Jesus Rodriguez.

Kevin Rodriguez, Yamilex Rodriguez, Analia Rubio, Alison Ruiz, Angela Saenz, Giselle Salas, Christopher Salinas, Jose Sanchez, Santiago Sanchez, Julius Santamaria and Tylen Santiago.

Mariela Santibanez Rodriguez, Jayden Sawh, Ana Sermenio, Magalie Serna, Caden Shelton, Serenity Shephard, Ne'vaeh Simmons, Natalia Soriano and Jermaine Tambou.

Guadalupe Tavera, Sydney Tavu, Ian Teer, Bethany Torres, Eder Torres, Tam Tran, Angel

Trevino, Conrad Tsend, Erick Ulloa, Guadalupe Urioste, Noahmiah Urrabazo, Alejandro Urrutia and Leyda Valadez.

Oscar Vasquez, Cesar Vega, Eduardo Vela, Giovanni Veloz, Paula Verdugo Castillo, Marely Villarreal, Victor Villaseñor and Chelcy Villatoro.

Brasen Walker, Nayla Watson, Aaliyah Whitaker, Josiah Williams, Marilyn Zamora, Christopher Zapata and Joseph Zuniga Andino.

10th grade

Isabella Abrego, Helen Acosta, Amanda Aguilar, Estrella Aguilar, Gwendalynn Alvarado, Jose Alvarez, Manuel Anderson, Sarah Angel, Jair Araujo, Camila Arguello, Alexander Arias and Jewels Artega.

Alexandra Avalos, Emberlynn Ayala, Kye Ayala, Savannah Ayers, Camille Barahona, Sonia Barraza, Albert Barron, Kayleen Basurto, Aileen Becerra, Veronica Berones and Breana Borja.

Alan Bracho, Kaitlyn Breen, Elizabeth Bui, Tran Bui, Lucas Calderon, Tyson Caldwell, Daniela Camarillo, Valerie Campos, Angie Canenguez Flores and Christian Cantu.

Amaya Carr, Israel Carrascal, Angeliqye Carrasco, Marlin Carter, Christopher Castillo, Karen Castillo, Edwin Catalan, Max Cazares, Vanessa Cedillo, Joshua Cerda and Syboney Cervantes.

Jaslyne Chapa, Angelina Chavez, Victoria Chioreanu, Aidan Cisneros, Nathan Cisneros, Ava Conrado, Moises Coy Gonzalez, Casey Crawford, Edelmiro Cruz, Adrian Cuevas and Camila Davila.

Jacob Davis, Lilyana Davis, Alberto De Alba, Jalisa De Bose, Carlos De la Garza, Betzaida De la O, Daniella De Leon, Juan Del Angel, Alysabeth Deleon and Ja'niya Denmon.

Israel Diaz, Calla Dockery, Sofia Duffey, Kimberly Duran, Nathan Escamilla, Evelyn Fernandez, Angie Flores, Anthony Flores, Sigrid Flores, Shelby Fox, Landon French and Andy Fresco Hernandez.

Harold Funez, Oscar Gallo-Brizuela, Lia Garcia Colcho, Favio Garcia Cueva, Lauren Garcia, Caleb Gardner, Silvana Garza Perez and Delaney Garza.

Jose Garza, Julian Garza, Serenity Garza, Brissa Gaytan Montemayor, Madelyn Gerber, Aidan Giron, Aaron Gloria, Ashley Gomez, Genesis Gonzalez and Janae Gonzalez.

Mia Gonzalez, Victoria Gonzalez, Bryan Goytortua, Sanaa Green, Alexae Gudino, Juan Guerra, Maria Guerra, Sofia Guerra, Henrik Guerrero, Mia Guerrero, Jennifer Guevara and Menelik Gumell.

Rangel Guzman, Cameron Hernandez, Diego Hernandez, Isaiyah Hernandez, Kamila Hernandez, Kian Hernandez, Kaylyn Hurst, Logan Johnson and Cadie Jones.

Elena Juarez, Tristan Koutahzadeh, Rayne Lar-

son, Ellen Licona, Victor Lopez Carmona, Dalilah Lopez, Eliuth Lopez, Elizabeth Lozano, Katalina Lozoya, Jonathan Luna, Ace Ly and Natalia Macias.

Alexis Madrid, Daniel Mancía Mendoza, Israel Margenau, Nayelly Marquede, Mikenna Marr, Angel Martinez, Marcos Martinez, Melvin Martinez, Osbaldo Martinez, Halie Mneal and Leilaine Menendez.

Amirah Mohammed, Jonathan Mojica, Miguel Mondragon, Aura Monge, Adam Montreal, Alfa Montalvo, Camila Montoya, Kailey Montoya, Dalia Morales and Devani Morales.

Gabriel Morales, Mark Motal, Alexis Munoz, Mariangel Navarro, Matthew Navarro, Victoria Navarro, Angela Neavez, Anh Ngo, Benny Nguyen and Delayla Nguyen.

Jennifer Nguyen, Tien Nguyen, Tuan Nguyen, Samantha Nix, Alex Nunez-Hernandez, Melanni Ochoa Flores, Alana Oliver, Karla Ornelas and Lindsey Orocio.

Chelsy Orta, Brodie Ortiz Cantu, Benjamin Ortiz, Ignacio Ortiz, Jennifer Ortiz, Monserrat Osorio, Isabella Pacheco-Lathe, Lina Parada, Kera Peavy and Jasleen Penaloza.

Eduardo Perez, Ethan Perez, Gloria Perez, Victoria Prado, Noemy Quintanilla, Camila Quintanilla-Lainez, Priscilla Quiroga, David Ramirez, Mikaela Ramirez and Lane Ramos.

Natalie Rangel, Dayami Reyes, Rebecca Reyes, Devan Robison, America Rodriguez, Ashly Rodriguez, Davian Rodriguez, Jacklyn Rodriguez, Grace Romano and Ryan Roque.

David Rosa, Dia Rueda, Sophia Sagastizado, Isabella Salas, Melanie Salcedo-molina, Andrea Salinas, Camila Sanchez, Samantha Sanchez, Marlene Sandoval, Emilia Schneider and Dianey Serna.

Alejandro Serrano, Tomas Serrano, Christian Slattery, Abigail Smith, Sebastian Solis, Ventura Solis, Sydney Stewart, Hailey Tate, Khanh To and Keiry Torres Villanueva.

Damian Torres, Dominic Torres, Issac Torres, Mario Torres, John Tran, Melanie Tran, Nicole Tran, Rachel Tran, Tin Tran, Jolie Trejo and Loc Truong.

Rodrigo Valdez Gonzalez, Manuel Valladares Morales, Sofia Vallejo, Julieth Vargas, Elanya Vasquez, Luna Vasquez, Angel Vega and Jared Vega.

Annette Vela, Catherine Vigil, Alice Villa, Daniella Villarreal, Jaxon Villarreal, Joshua Washington, Vanessa Wu, Juan Zamora, Nora Zapata Oyervides, Keyla Zeledon Moreno and Yamil Zuniga.

Leila Afilleje, Abigail Ake, Hephzibah Alamiz, Lidia Aldana Portillo, Joselin Alonso, Kimberly Amador, Joselyn Amaro, Raquel Amaya, Kemora Andrade, Keiley An-

thony and Alphin Antony.

Mia Arana, Vanessa Arana, Metao Armstrong, Brisa Arredondo, Yazmin Arteaga del Real, Yesenia Arteaga del Real, Felicity Arteaga, Riyam Baba and Diana Bahena-Rodriguez.

Josiah Balderaz, Aldrin Baluyut, Julio Barron, Sandra Barron, Rafael Benavides, Patrick Bernal, Daniel Berones, Marycathryn Boyer, Lesley Braden, Jade Brodowski and Aslyn Buenrostro.

Tommy Cao, Ellen Carrillo, Josiah Castillo Murcia, Omayra Cerda, Samantha Chano, Sarahi Chavez Martinez, Julian Clemons, Tiffany Cole, Kevin Colindres and Jacob Condado.

Adison Cooper, Mario Cortez, Miranda Cuevas, Adam Daley, Shane Daly, Zophie Damian, Elizabeth-truc Dao, Joshua Daugereaux and Daysha Davila Martinez.

Joshua De Luna, Levi Del Angel, Estrella Del Rio, Charles Denham, Engelis Diaz Diaz, Carla Diaz, Jesus Diosabot, Allison Duran Ramos, Eden Encizo and Alitzel Enriquez.

Alonso Escamilla, Jaime Escamilla, Maria Escamilla, Naomi Escareno, Briseida Escarzagala, Yonis Escobar, Isabel Espinoza, Julian Estrada Zavaleza, Delayna Fernandez and Kayshia Flores.

Monserrat Flores, Jennifer Galan, Joel Gallardo, Karla Galvan, Jasadee Gaona, Jessica Garcia Ayala, Isaiyah Garcia, Kamila Garcia, Maria Garcia, Nahomi Garcia and Arlene Garza.

Gavin Garza, Rafael Garza, Victor Garza, Crystal Gibbens, Karen Gil, Mia Gomez, Atziri Gonzalez, Barbara Gonzalez, Nashly Gonzalez, Nathan Gonzalez and Daphne Goytortua.

Dayanara Granados, Sophia Grote, Sayuri Guadarrama, Nayely Gutierrez, Rafe Hardin, Lesliany Heredia, Jasmine Hernandez, Erick Herrera Salazar, Victoria Heslip and Gavin Hinojosa.

Ngoc Ho, Musaab Hoque, David Houser, Kara Ingersoll, Elizabeth Interiano Madrid, Jacob Iraheta, Eugenio Islas, Jeremiah Isom and Francisco Jimenez.

Marco Juarez, Michael Judson, Natalia Le Goenaga, Britney Le, Ngan Le, Isaias Leal, Illeana Leija, Mario Lopez, Miguel Lozano, Gabriel Marcos, Amanda Marler and Isaac Marrero.

Isabella Marshall, Callie Martin, Edgar Martinez, Julio Martinez, Kayla Martinez, Luis Martinez, Marie Martinez, Samantha Martinez, Sean McCoy, Manuel Mejia and Yamileth Melendez.

Ethan Mendoza Vazquez, Gabriel Mendoza, Sophia Mendoza, Kenneth Mera, Esteban Miranda, Aiden Moes, Presslie Molano, Grecia Monarrez and Estefania Montalvo.

Gabriel Montemayor, Sahana Montemayor, Ise-Maria Morales, Giselle Moreland, Sa-

mantha Moreno, Bryant Morfin, Ibtihaj Mubashir, Camila Navarro Moran, Genesis Navarro and Bryana Negrete.

Judith Nelson, Emily Neri, Tony Ngo, Alex Nguyen, Christine Nguyen, Cindy Nguyen, Huong Nguyen, Shayla Nguyen, Vinh Nguyen, Orlando Ochoa, Gissel Olmedo and Avril Ortega Arceo.

Citlali Ortiz Pedroza, Julian Ortiz, Sodanin Oun, Aldo Padron, Charles Palacios, Faith Paredes, Hailey Parsons, Jush Patel, Osman Paz, Isaac Perea and Ashley Perez.

Bethany Perez, Rafael Perez, Oscar Perez-Montemayor, Linh Pham, Khang Phan, Bianca Pinto, Luis Portilla, Jollette Ramirez, Jayden Rangel, Emma Reeves, Amber Reyes and Andre Reyes.

Joshua Reyes, Nevaeh Reyes, Sebastian Reyes, Christian Reyna Tomei, Jayme Reyna, Magally Reyna, Erica Rivas, Ernesto Rivas, Alejandro Rodriguez and Anthony Rodriguez.

Emelyn Rodriguez, Jacklyn Rodriguez, Kelly Rodriguez, Melanie Rodriguez, Nichelle Rodriguez, Rodolfo Rodriguez, Yeimy Romero Zavala, Amy Romero, Damaris Romero and Manuel Romero.

Michael Romero, Sheyla Romero, Krissylyn Roque, Genesis Rosales Alfaro, Ricardo Rubio, Andrea Sagastizado, Christopher Sahagun, Isaac Salazar and Nathaly Saldivar.

Arlynn Salinas, Isabella Sanchez, Karen Sanchez, David Santos, Leonardo Sarmiento, Christian Sims, Logan Smith, Maria Soler Rodriguez and Jaylin Sosa.

Kayden Stewart, Megan Stuart, Lena Swick, Isis Talamantes, Nikki Tamez, Logan Tavera, Shaylen Thompson, Amayah Torres, Bryan Torres and Kevin Tran.

Anh Truong To, Anaelizbeth Urioste, Kianna Valadez, Fatima Valdez, Athena Velez, Melissa Ventura and Marianna Villalobos.

Ilyana Villaseñor, Paeton Walker, Marcus Ware, Cheyenne Wetmore, Mikayla Williams, Vivian Wu, Joan

Zamora, Paulina Zapata and Anthony Zeledon Moreno.

12th grade

Mia Adriano, Mario Aguilar, Steve Aguilar, Sara Alamillo, Maya Alaniz, Diego Alarcon, Mich'aela Alexander, Chaney Allison, Dayvin Alvarado, Emily Alvarado, Jesus Alvarez Villalobos and Jessica Alvarez.

Perla Amezcua, Chloe Anderson, Jaslyn Araujo, Aimee Argueta, Leslie Arredondo, Rey Arredondo, Valerie Arredondo, Alize Arroyo, Maya Artega-Houjami, Aaron Avila and Andres Avilez.

Adrian Avina, Alejandro Avina, Jordis Ayala, Dayana Bahena, Prabhleen Bains, Jessy Baires, Lorraine Baltazar, Angelo Baluyut, Alexis Bandera and Sindy Barrera Serrano.

Eliseo Barrera, Lesly Barron, Tanner Basinski, Jazmine Bates, Xavier Bazile, Ana Bello, Christian Betts, Summer Billings, Judy Bittar, Lyauida Bonilla, Gavin Braffett and Mathew Braughton.

Hannah Brooks, Ethan Burden, Laura Caballero Lozano, James Calderon, Destiny Calixto, Alexa Camacho, Ebony Campos, Fernando Cantu Lopez, Arturo Cantu and Israel Cantu.

Tien Cao Nguyen, Marcel Cao, Zachary Caracheo, Ada Carbajal, Kaitlyn Carr, Aiden Carranza, Luis Carrascal, Zhander Cartagena Montero, Emelia Casteel and Andrea Castillo.

Karina Castro, Adrian Cazares, Angela Cedillo, Karla Chapa, Sofia Chavez, Julixa Cintron, Margarita Cisneros-Sandoval, Morgan Claxton, Isabella Condado, Daniel Contreras and Ricardo Cordova.

Kevin Cores Vargas, Saira Cruz Diaz, Ashley Cruz, Jason Cruz, Aaliyah Davis, Max Davis, Juan Del Angel and Graciela Del Toro.

Aaliyah Delagarza, Vanessa Delaio, Aliyah Deleon, Carolina Delgado, Vedika Deva, Sophia Diaz, Herleen Dinh, Fatima Diosdado, Elia Dominguez-Guerra and Ashley Duran.

Princess Edogiawerie, Michael Elizalde, Damian Enriquez, Samara Estrada Yanez, Hugo Estrada, Madeline Estrada, Kei'lon Faraj, Alec Faulkner and Gael Flores.

Hugo Flores, Isabel Flores, Ximena Flores-Cruz, Anita Frank, Carlos Funez, Valeria Garcia Mayorga, Alondra Garcia, Christopher Garcia and Cristofer Garcia.

Jolianna Garcia, Daniel Garza, Gisselly Garza, Sarah Garza, Ashley Gomez, Eddelyn Gomez, Erin Gomez, Mia Gomez, Arely Gonzalez and Daniel Gonzalez.

Frida Gonzalez, Isaiyah Gonzalez, Kayla Gonzalez, Shailyn Gonzalez, Vanessa Gonzalez, Lisette Granados, Yuri Guzman, Hanna Hagar, Avery Hainz, Jonathan Henriquez and Alejandro Hernandez.

Eliza Hernandez, Nathan Hernandez, Vivien Hernandez, Lan Hoang, Nguyen Hoang, Leia Iduarte, Savannah Johnson, Francisco Juarez, Madison Juarez, Sang Lam, Devin Lara and Anna Le.

Jonathan Le, Zuemy Leal, Aleyna Leblanc, Kwok Lin, Eric Lopez, Vanessa Loya, Daniel Lozano, Paris Luque-Martinez, Naydelin Luviano and Megan Ly.

Lauren Lynch, Vincent Mac, Nicole Machuca, Stacey Marin, Sarah Martinez, Alan Martinez, Andrew Martinez, Daniel Martinez, Eluterio Martinez and Fernanda Martinez.

Hector Martinez, Isaac Martinez, Melissa Martinez, Nathaniel Martinez, Exequiel Masangkay, Devany Mata, Alejandro Mateos, Gwendlyn McGrew and Ashley Medrano.

Madusu Meite, Aaliyah Mendez, Nicolas Mendoza Moran, Tania Mendoza, Abraham Mercado, Casey Merlan, Samantha Montero, Bella Montes, Keren Morales and Evelyn Moran.

Raneem Mustafa, Aldo Navarro Moran, Marbella Navarro, Anh Ngo, Christopher Nguyen, Hieu Nguyen, Rachael Nguyen, Thu Nguyen, Kylie Obregon and Sebastian

Ocampo Miranda.

Itzel Ojeda, Kaleb Ojeda, Samara Olvera, Noel Padilla, Perla Palmeros, Ally Palomo, Estefani Pavon, Maria Pedrosa, Cali Pena, Edward Pena and Cherry Peptone.

Mariana Perales, Cassandra Perez, Joseph Perez, Juan Perez, Luis Perez, Natalie Pineda, Ruby Pineda, Kaylee Quevedo, Fabiola Quiroga and Jacob Quiroga.

Wendy Quiroz, Krislin Raju, Gisele Ramirez, Alexa Ramos, Bailey Ramos, Mariana Ramos, Jayden Rangel, Jose Rangel, Patricio Rebolloso and Angel Reyes.

Faith Reyna, Breana Richardson, Brianna Rincon, Nicole Rios, Yair Rivera, Zoe Rivera, Pablo Rodriguez Flores, Alexis Rodriguez and Emily Rodriguez.

Jazely Rodriguez, Jaimy Rodriguez-Quintanilla, Julissa Romero, Alexandra Rosales, Brielle Rubio, Karina Salas, Betzy Salazar and Laela Salazar.

Mia Saldana, Jose Sanchez, Valeria Sanchez, Alexia Santellanes, Carmine Santiago, Michelle Santibanez, Irma Santillana Hernandez, Jonah Santos and Mason Schnettler.

Leon Shirley, Neida Sifuentes, Ronald Smith, Savannah Smith, Emmanuel Solano, Ashley Solis, Dennis Solis, Yecenia Tamez, Andrew Tavu, Oscar Tepox and Caiden Tobias.

Isaiyah Torres, Leah Torres, Yareli Torres, Austin Tran, Holly Tran, Michelle Tran, Tamara Trejo, Isaac Trevino, Riley Trevino, Mai Truong, Muriisa Turribates and Arizeth Valdez.

Ngan Van, Nohelia Vasquez Pena, Felicity Vasquez, Aglae Vasquez, Devin Vasquez, Jacob Vega, Andrew Velasquez, Alfredo Venegas and Brandi Verdin, Angel Villarreal and Laisha Villarreal.

Aurora Williams, Katherine Williams, Kristen Williams, Michael Wilsens, Bella Winthrop, Emily Yanez, Alana Zambrano, Melissa Zavala, Zuriyah Zavala, Josue Zetino Artega and Eyan Zetino.



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SJC awarded for excellence in financial reporting

For the 16th consecutive year, San Jacinto College has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. The prestigious award recognizes the college's annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ending Aug. 31, 2022. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. It represents a noteworthy accomplishment by both the government and its management. "We are deeply honored to receive this award, a testament to our unwavering commitment to transparent accounting and reporting," Teri Zamora, vice chancellor for fiscal affairs, said. "The accomplishment reflects the collective effort of our dedicated team, and I commend them for their diligence in producing this report annually."



Shown, left to right, are (front row) Abby Dias, accountant; Becky Turner, supervisor, accounting; JoEllen Price, dean, financial aid and scholarships; Erica Kemper, senior accountant; Carin Hutchins, associate vice chancellor, finance; Tomoko Olson, director, office of grants management; Linda Pennington, director of enterprise applications; (back row) Earle Thomas, system and application processing manager; Noveta Wimbley, director, enterprise development; Carol Tillman, assistant comptroller; Andrea DuBois, comptroller; Dianne Duron, director, financial planning, analysis and budget; and Bryan Jones, associate vice chancellor, facilities services.

Clear Brook Wolverines gain more state qualifiers

As the holiday season approaches, Clear Brook High School's speakers and debaters were thrilled to unwrap even more state qualifiers after their recent showing at Spring High School. As a result, the team can now claim twelve state qualifiers, leading CCISD once again at this time of the year.

New qualifiers this weekend include Misbah Aziz, first place in Informative Speaking, Ayla Yoakum, sixth place in Program of Oral Interpretation, and Greg Stuart who placed fifth in Foreign Extemporaneous Speaking. This is Stuart's second qualifying event for the season.

In addition to these new qualifiers, the team had many other successes, beginning with a first place finish in World Schools Debate by the

team made up of Gabe Torres, Qaswa Khan, Tiffany Tran, Danette Paul and Victoria Constanza. While Torres and Khan are already qualified in this event, their other three members now have six points of their own which puts them well on their way to a TFA State qualification if they keep up their hard work in the following semester.

Elaina Joseph, one of the team's many sophomore members picked up four more points by placing second in Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking which brings her total to nine, just one point shy of state qualification.

And although not picking up points this weekend, semi-finalists in their events this weekend included Viann Nguyen and Isabella Tripoli in Original Oratory.



Shown, left to right, are (front row) Gabe Torres, Simran Lamm, Victoria Constanza, (back row) Danetta Paul, Misbah Aziz, Ayla Yoakum, Qaswa Khan and Tiffany Tran.

Melillo Mustangs help out during holidays



Melillo Mustangs who contributed to the Leader's Christmas program for the 2023 holidays are, left to right, (front row) Hailey Sichanh, Lillian Hayden, Jocelyn Santos, Suri Nguyen, Xara Oddo, (middle row) Jennifer Saucedo, Mina Crake, Georgia Rodriguez, Nicholas Gomez, Viviana Gamez, Sophia Chacon,

Zoie Sudario, Hannah Luu, Carney Truong, Skye Orsua, Ruben Castillo, Tate Tran, Rachel Cummings, Michelle Rush, (back row) Jayleen Lam, Madelyn Figuero, Alexavier Rodriguez, Sofia Charles, Max Hernandez, Kyle Ramos, Jordan McCombs and Emily Martinez.

Photo by Natalie Abarca

South Belt victorious in UIL

South Belt Elementary's fourth-graders recently competed in PISD's Advance Academic UIL Competition and placed second overall in the Elementary level. The South Belt Super Steers competed in spelling, chess puzzles, number sense, music memory and oral reading. Shown right, left to right, are fourth-grade teachers Jannette Gonzalez, Niki Anderson and Linda Moreno. Shown below, left to right, are South Belt students (front row) Emma Hernandez, fifth place in chess puzzles; Blake White; Alessandra Gutierrez, first place in music memory; Jax DeSoto; Lynnee Srun; Emma Torres, second place in oral reading; Camilla Aguirre, first place in oral reading; Payton Meyer; (back row) Bryan Sheoran, second place in spelling; Haven Orsua, first place in spelling and sixth place in chess puzzles; Jana Harmouche, sixth place in spelling; Jose Tenorio, third place in oral reading and fourth place in chess puzzles; Andres Bonilla, fourth place in oral reading; Raymond Strong; Jesiah Gilbert; Robin Castillo; and Sofia Garcia, first place in number sense.



Moore students share Christmas



Moore Elementary Student Council donated several toys to the Leader for their annual Christmas program. Shown, left to right, are Mikayla Castaneda, Ruby Salinas, Makayla Marr, Rebecca Martinez, Kaleb Lara, Abigail Oviedo and David Gloria.

Photo by Angelica Moreno-Perez

Melillo Middle writes new years resolutions

Melillo Middle School fifth-grade students shared their New Year's resolutions for 2024.

Kristin Konzelman's fifth-grade class
My New Year's Resolution is to be me and not to be a follower.

Nevaeh Wickliff
My New Year's Resolution is to clean the house.

Yandel Colindres
My New Year's Resolution is to be a tight end.

Nolan Liscano
My New Year's Resolution is to get better grades and make a good grade on my STAAR test.

Izzy Mejia
My New Year's Resolution is to be kind and be a good friend.

Logan Fritsch
My New Year's Resolution is to be able to write.

Logan Betancourt
My New Year's Resolution is to be kind.

Ethan Hernandez
My New Year's Resolution is to stop fighting with my siblings.

Mya Martinez
My New Year's Resolution is to pet every cat and dog.

Deundres Robinson Jr

Thompson honor roll students

Thompson Intermediate officials recently recognized their honor roll students for the second-six weeks of the 2023-2024 school year.

Seventh grade
Osama Abdallah, Salma Abdallah, Zayden Aguilera, Me'shai Alexander, Kamaliya Allah-Miliaripova, Jay Amaya, Christi Anaglate, Mya Andrepp and Crystal Antunez Vargas.

Nathalia Baca Cepeda, Mason Baca, Fernando Balanta, Jaiela Bandy, Jonathan Barber, Samantha Barraza, Louis Betancourt Mejia, Alexandra Betancourt, Edmundo Bravo and Alexis Brown.

Nevaeh Bumgarner, Alexander Buntaer, Brandon Castro, Sabrina Cavazos, Felix Cervantes, Arianna Chapa, Francine Cooley, Brooklyn Coronado, Carissa Cortez and Minh Dang.

Katherine Dao, Layla Davila, Keirah Davis, Emilio De la Garza, Delilah Deleon, Jesse Deleon, Rebecca Deleon, Gael Diaz, Peyton Dowell, Iris Durrette, Shaikh Faizan, Myla Figueroa and Bryan Flores.

Jayvon Fortson, Gabriella Franklin, Makayla Franklin, Addison Freeman, London Freeman, Sophia Galindo, Nathaniel Gansit, Khloe Garcia and Matteo Garciduenas.

Chelsea Garza, Mia Gonzalez, Mikayla Gonzalez, Lance Gore, Jayden Grimaldo, Carlee Guerrero, Isabella Guerrero, Emma Gurrusqueta and Perla Gutierrez Chuc.

Hannah Harmouche, Elijah Hernandez, Durriyah Hill, Noah Holguin, Allison Hua, Prince Hubbard, Hazza Jama Osman and Jordan Jegede.

Bradley Jones, Alice Lam, Kimberly Lopez, Lola Lopez, Pablo Lopez, Phuwadet Ma-

BHI Bears honor roll recognized

Beverly Hills Intermediate officials recently commemorated their honor roll students for the second six-weeks of the 2023-2024 school year.

Seventh grade
Sophia Acatitlan, Leslie Aguilera, Ryan Aguilera, Axel Alvarado Covarrubias, Andrew Amezcua, Brandon Anderson, Cecilia Anthony, Jade Arceaux, Rick Azing and Allison Baca.

Matthew Barragan, Natalie Bazan, Tahj Bernardez, Jeremy Beteta, Chloe Bizzarri, Samuel Bonilla, Vy Bui, Joshua Byron, Valery Casillas and Mia Castillo.

Alexander Chaney, Duyen Chung, Isabella Cisneros, Kayla Cisneros, Natalia Contreras, Kaci Curry Shepard, Anna Dao, Tyler Dao, Aurease Delfante and Angel Diaz Mendoza.

Caroly Erazo, Isabella Espinoza, Alessandro Ferrufino, Jonathan Fonseca, Alexander Garcia, Elida Garcia, Evany Garcia, Layla Garcia, Anasofia Garibay and Carlos Garza.

Lianna Gomez, Malachi Gonzales, Joselyn Gonzalez, Sebastian Gonzalez, Xitlalic Gonzalez, Kennady Grice, Arleen Grimaldo, Jiszele Guerrero and Alexa Guevara.

Rolando Guzman, Elias Hernandez, Valeria Hernandez, Marcus Jacques, Alaya Jasso, Isela Jimenez, Kenberly Jones, Shavon Lamb and Regina Leal.

Jonathan Leon, Adam Lopez, Omar Luna, Diego Majano, Rahul Marroquin, Arielle Martinez, Esmeralda Martinez, Isaac Martinez, Isaiyah Martinez and Joseph Martinez.

Leonardo Martinez, Gregory Meneil, Carissa Mendez, Isaac Montano, Leonardo Moran, Isabella Munoz, Cabell Navarro, Bang Nguyen, Joseph Nguyen and Khang Nguyen.

Michael Nguyen, Evelyn Padilla, Makayla Palm, Gia Pham, Steven Pham, Jaineisy Pineda, Ayari Pino, Hannah Ponce, Monserrath Ramirez, Sansa-ray Ramsay, Alkeimi Reyes Polanco and Alkeisi Reyes Polanco.

Roberto Reyes, Nyla Richardson, Annabelle Rodriguez, Jade Rodriguez, Roberto Rodriguez, Javier Romero Arqueta, Emily Rossett, Jaryanna Ruiz Vargas and Lyla Saldana.

Ronaldo Salinas, Camila Salomon, Savannah Sandoval, Brandon Scott, Daisy Seledon, Sophia Serafine, Viviana Serna, Arturo Serrano, Anaxandra Sierra-Martinez, Ava Soloya and Laryn Stevenson.

Yahir Tejada, Marissa Thompson, Gabriela Torres, Linda Tran, Anna Trinh, Jose Turribartes Gomez, Vanesa Udoh, Alejandro Urrutia Gonzalez, Sophia Vanegas, Flor Vasquez, Ke'sion Williams, Chanel Willis and Emily Zuniga.

Eighth grade
Katherine Acac, Arie Adams, Lilah Aguayo, Daniel Alvarez, Sofia Alvarez, Giovannie Alvarez, Chloe Anderson, Andrea Arredondo, Yindianaid Ayala Hernandez, Joshua Barboza and Angelica Barragan.

Zadie Battarbee, Rachel Bensmith, Hailey Bonilla, Darryl Campbell, Jaxson Canales, Javanni Capuchino, Gissele Cardiel, Mario Cardona, Sasha Cepeda, Dalila Chapa, Jade Charles, Andrew Chavez and Damian Chavez.

Julian Chavez, Ives Collazo Muniz, Jaren Conley, Kyle Contreras, Alondra Cruz, Alyssa Davis, Giovanni De la Garza, Brayden Dean, David Del Toro and Emily Diaz.

Anita Djato, Ricky Doan, Gabriel Elizondo, Natalie Elkins, Jacqueline Enriquez, Jessica Escobar, Giselle Esparza, Natalie Esquivel, Karla Fernandez and Carlos Flores.

Melina Flores, Mya Flores, Alana Fonseca, Khindy Frizzell, Daisy Garcia, Jacqueline Garcia, Lailah Garcia, Miguel Garcia, Christian Gonzalez and Adrian Gonzalez.

Mia Gonzalez, Ethan Guerrero, Damian Gutierrez, Rebekah Hale, Kendyl Harris, Alexis Hernandez, Helen Hernandez, Luna Hernandez, Melodie Hernandez and Mia Hernandez.

Natalia Hernandez, Ineke Hicks, Huyen Hoang, Angela Huynh, Carden Huynh, Monserrat Jaime, Andrew Jaramillo Zamora, Cruz Jasso and Jason Jasso.

Karmen Jasso, Nicholas Jenkins, Ely Jimenez Velasco, Serenity Johnson, Zaria Johnson, Andrea Lara, Jesus Leon, Tiana Leonard and Alexander Limachi.

Ava Lopez, Miguel Lored, Cesar Lue Hernandez, Monica Luna, Luis Lupian, Ashley Ly, Emery Lynn, Anthony Maldonado and Karelly Maldonado.

Nathan Maldonado, Donovan Mandani, Xavier Manning-Simmons, Isaias Martinez Gamez, Kainoa Martinez and Hammad Matin.

Liandis Mercado Solano, Julianna Mikulski, Janeshiah Muniz, Angel Myles, Ann Nguyen, Cathy Nguyen, Johnny Nguyen, Justin Nguyen and Khai Nguyen.

Lucas Nguyen, Stever Nguyen, Kendrick Norman, Evan Orozco, Genesis Paven, Avery Payne, Martin Peng, Joseline Perales and Luis Perez.

Alexis Porter, Toriy Provost, Hailey Ramsey, Harsh Rana, Bree Rennett, Elisa Reyes, Rubi Reyes, Reyna Rivera, Je'licia Rivet, Mikayla Rodriguez and Yareli Rodriguez.

Kailani Rudd, Cesar Salinas, Davien Sammi-Thomas, Emiliano Servin, Billa Sherwood, Destiny Sidiropoulos, Ariel Sierra and Angelica Smith.

Harrison Solorzano Sanchez, Natalie Soto, Sanaa Stephens, Anahi Suarez, Meilaysia Sykes, Shelby Talavera, Genesis Tamez and Jordyn Thomas.

Enrique Torres, Mikaela Torres, Yael Torres, Dawson Tran, Kathleen Tran, Tammy Tran, Yen Tran and Gabriel Trevino.

Olivia Trevino, Omar Vega, Idalis Villegas, Kiet Vo, Victoria Vu, Sophia Yanez, Ethyn Ybarra, Gregory Zamora, Zaiden Zaragoza, Angelo Zuniga and Candi Zuniga.



Remember When

45 years ago (1978)
Modified restrooms and open concept schools; specialized coaching for sports other than football, the trimester system and curriculum structure were all topics brought up at a school board candidate meeting.

Residents of Sageglan and Green Tee Terrace voted 3 to 1 against the annexation proposal made by San Jacinto College.

40 years ago (1983)
Bobby Fisher was in critical condition after he was injured in a collision with a car. The youth was thrown over the car and landed on his head. He was wearing a helmet, but it apparently was not fastened, and it was thrown off on impact.

The Dobbie girls' basketball team beat Deer Park, 48-47, to stay undefeated in district play.

35 years ago (1988)
The Sycamore Valley Civic Club was trying to have the subdivision included in the Dobbie High School attendance area.

The local Internal Revenue Service office relocated from 9809 Rowlett to 8876 Gulf Freeway.

30 years ago (1993)
The Pasadena school board election generated a lot of interest in the area. Twelve candidates ran for three positions.

Rain delayed the opening of the South Belt from the Gulf Freeway to Beamer.

25 years ago (1998)
Approximately 260 students in grades 6-12 started classes at the new 35,000-square-foot Lutheran South Academy.

The Environmental Protection Agency announced the Brio Community Assistance Group was awarded a \$50,000 grant for expert assistance for plans and design for remediation.

20 years ago (2003)
The Arlyne and Alan Weber replacement elementary school opened.

Dr. John Wilson stepped down as superintendent of Clear Creek Independent School District. Dr. Sandra Mossman, the former deputy superintendent of CCISD, replaced Wilson as superintendent.

Gaylynn Naiser was named the new executive director of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce.

15 years ago (2008)
An agreement had been reached between the city of Houston and the Sagameadow Utility District which resulted in a prohibition of the sale of fireworks in commercial areas of the district. As a result, fireworks were no longer able to be sold on Hall Road from Beamer to Blackhawk and the unincorporated portion of Beamer on the north side of the Sagameadow subdivision.

10 years ago (2013)
A chase that began in Deer Park in the early hours of Friday, Jan. 4, ended on Black-

hawk near Beltway 8 after a Precinct 7 deputy fired multiple shots into the suspect's vehicle, leaving it disabled. Deer Park police attempted to pull over a BMW on a traffic stop at roughly 2:40 a.m., but the driver, William Evangeline Akin, refused to stop, leading to a chase. During the pursuit, which also involved officers from Precinct 8 and the Houston Police Department, Akin was witnessed pointing a gun out of his car's window. As the chase approached the intersection of Beltway 8 and Blackhawk, an unnamed Precinct 7 deputy stood in the road armed with a shotgun. Akin allegedly

swerved at the deputy, before swerving back into his original lane. Fearing for his life, the deputy fired at least 10 rounds into Akin's vehicle, which came to a stop a few blocks away. Akin attempted to flee on foot but was apprehended by Deer Park police. A 14-year-old girl had been riding with Akin but was unharmed. Despite rampant rumors, Akin was not killed in the incident. He, however, did suffer a leg wound and was taken to a nearby hospital for treatment. Akin, 30, was charged with driving while intoxicated with a child on board, felony evading arrest and being a felon in possession of a firearm. A 12-gauge shotgun believed to belong to Akin was later recovered in the 10800 block of Beamer.

A Woodmeadow home was destroyed by fire early Friday, Jan. 4. The blaze appeared to originate in the living room of the house and was associated with the home's fireplace, according to Southeast Volunteer Fire Department Chief Chuck Tylka. No injuries were reported.

5 years ago (2018)
The Leader's 36th annual Christmas program was a huge success, providing assistance to dozens of area families in need. Several local organizations, schools, businesses and residents stepped up to the plate, making the 2018 drive one of the most successful in the event's history.

1 year ago (2022)
The South Belt community was hit with a deep freeze this Christmas holiday, with temperatures dipping into the teens. The cold air was accompanied by precipitation, however, largely sparing the area of ice and its related hazards.

The Leader's 40th annual Christmas program was a success, providing assistance to approximately 40 families in need.



Over The Back Fence by Natalie

BILL CELEBRATES
Best wishes are sent to Bill King, local businessman and former mayoral candidate, who celebrates a birthday Dec. 29, from friends and the Leader staff.

BURGIE ENJOYS A BIRTHDAY
Happy birthday wishes are sent to Burgie Clark who celebrates her 94th birthday Dec. 30, from her daughter Diddy Clark, a South Belt Leader staffer.

BO CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY
Best wishes to Leader staffer Bo Bolen who celebrates a birthday Friday, Jan. 10, from friends and the staff at the South Belt Leader.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following staff and personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Dec. 28 through Jan. 10.

Atkinson Elementary
Blow out the candles for Brittany Peralez Dec. 28. Join in the birthday fun with Terri Salazar Jan. 3. Birthday greetings are sent to Pamela Valdez Jan. 8.

Burnett Elementary
Join in the birthday fun Jan. 10 with Breana Grullon.

Bush Elementary
Give a birthday shoutout Jan. 9 to Vicki Sheppard. Tawana Dockery enjoys a birthday Jan. 10.

Frazier Elementary
Dec. 30 is the day for a party for Araceli Rodriguez. Jan. 8 is the day to break out the balloons and party favors for Christine Grazioli. Effie Pines celebrate a birthday Jan. 10.

Genoa Elementary
Give a shoutout Dec. 28 to Julia Friedel. Join in the birthday fun with Caudia Alatorre Jan. 2.

Meador Elementary
Starting a new year with a birthday Jan. 2 is Maria Medina. Maria Hurtado enjoys a birthday Jan. 5. Enjoying a birthday Jan. 6 are Cheryl Caudill and Anastasia Riley.

South Belt Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles for Marcy Pitman Jan. 1. Send a birthday greeting Jan. 4 to Angela Estes. Remember to wish Arielle Taylor a happy birthday Jan. 9.

Melillo Middle School
Send a humorous birthday card Dec. 29 to Jill Sharma. Jan. 10 is the day for a double-layer birthday cake for Jessica Adamek.

Roberts Middle School
Give a birthday shoutout Dec. 28 to Amanda Castillo. Starting the new year right with a Jan. 2 birthday is Chastity Escalante. The day for birthday cake and ice cream for Edgar Johnson is Jan. 5. The day for a party for Ha-Bang "Susie" Nguyen is Jan. 7.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Kenneth Davidson celebrates a birthday Dec. 29. Marking a Dec. 30 birthday is Stephanie Jones. Dec. 31 is the day for a party for Keanna Andrews.

Thompson Intermediate
Special birthday wishes are sent to Betty Minter Dec. 29. Starting off the new year with a birthday celebration Jan. 1 is Tiona Samuel. Give a shoutout Jan. 3 to Dalacie Henderson for a wonderful birthday. Special birthday wishes are sent to Tiffany Nelson Jan. 10.

Dobbie High
On Dec. 29, send a birthday greeting to Andrea Morgan. William Fuels ends the year with a celebratory Dec. 31 birthday. John Stevall marks a birthday Jan. 7. Light the birthday candles Jan. 9 for Brienne Sisson. Enjoying a birthday Jan. 10 is Camille Calo Widaski.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
Thursday, Dec. 28: Mandy Philmon, Friday, Dec. 29: Lory Adams Taylor, Joe Gutierrez and Debra Blake; Saturday, Dec. 30: Heather Deming, David Garza, Gloria Garcia, Salvador Flores, Scott Romeo, Brenda Keener and Arcilia Maturey; Sunday, Dec. 31: Laneil Vawter, Dameon Smith, Kelley Hammond, Karen Edwards, Cecily Carriere and Pamela Collins; Monday, Jan. 1: Michael McCollom, Charlotte Christian, Elaine Bischof, Mari Wills, Kelly Robinson, David Tucker, Richard Lopez, Eleonora Stoves, Sandra Matula and Crystal Ford; Tuesday, Jan. 2: Jay Forrest, Amanda Baldwin, Bryan Gomez, Mary Winters, Kelly Edwards and Meagan Novak; Wednesday, Jan. 3: Tony Montenegro III, Deb Rainbolt-Young, Terri Salazar, Roland Moreno and Flor Elizalde; Thursday, Jan. 4: Gerry Cole, Lan Cruz, Crystal Roberts and Jason Thompson; Friday, Jan. 5: John Carnes, Jessica Fernandez, Jamie Troxlar, Natalie McCoy, John Jenkins and Jovon Lartigue-Davis; Sunday, Jan. 7: Michael Lake, Kathi Kemp, Sherry Crawford, Meagan McMurry, Jessica Sellers, Bob Townley, Larry Shewell, Jason Cox, Brian Gallagher and Diane Gonzalez; Monday, Jan. 8: Brad Muecke; Monday, Jan. 9: Jennifer Gonzalez, Mary Meyer, Jill Rea, Mike Escobedo, Monette Falzon, Cecelia Faske and Holly Lyons; and Wednesday, Jan. 10: Jennifer Murillo, Roy Gunter and Caron Cantu.

LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS
Email announcements of anniversaries, celebrations and graduations to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's publication. For birthdays, type "OTBF: Friends Celebrate Birthdays" in the subject line.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES



JFD boys at Channelview
Jan. 3, 7 p.m.

JFD boys host Rayburn
Jan. 6, 1 p.m.

JFD girls host Channelview
Jan. 3, 1 p.m.

JFD girls at Rayburn
Jan. 6, 1 p.m.

Brook boys at Clear Creek
Jan. 3, 7 p.m.

Brook boys host Clear Springs
Jan. 10, 7 p.m.

Brook girls host Clear Creek
Jan. 3, 1 p.m.

Brook girls at Clear Springs
Jan. 10, 7 p.m.

At left, Dobie senior Kyler Thomas and his teammates will play 11 District 22-6A games in 2024, beginning Jan. 3 at Channelview.
Photo by Donna Alsdorf

Plenty of sports action as 2024 arrives

As quiet as things can sometimes get on the sports front in the days leading up to Christmas, things are going to speed ahead quickly with the arrival of 2024.

The state's district basketball races have now started for the most part but will jump in to action in a big way beginning Jan. 3. The Dobie programs will go against Channelview, then tip off against Rayburn Jan. 6.

Clear Brook, meanwhile, will go against Clear Creek Jan. 3 and then Clear Springs Jan. 10.

The high school soccer season opens Jan. 4 as the Region III finalist Dobie varsity boys' team plays in the Jan. 4-6 Kilt Cup in The Woodlands.

Meanwhile, Theresa Kamara will make her debut as head coach of the Dobie varsity girls' program as they play Jan. 4-6 at the Iowa Colony Wagon Wheel Classic.

The *Leader* staff will take a break to celebrate with family into the new year, with the first issue of 2024 coming Jan. 11. Happy New Year, everyone!



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Leader recalls sports heroes, top moments of 2023

Beginning this week, the *Leader* will deliver a series of Year-In-Review pieces as staff highlights some of the top individual and team performances of 2023.

The Dobie varsity boys' soccer team got the year off and running with a push all the way to the Region III championship match before suffering its lone loss of the season.

Clear Brook discussed thrower Kennedy Thompson scored a medal at state as she also provided a highlight.

Jan. 6

As the team has seemingly done each January for nearly a decade, the Dobie varsity boys' soccer team opened the 2023 season by dominating the PISD Cup competition.

A 2-1 win over District 22-6A opponent South Houston Jan. 7 at Veterans Stadium earned the Dobie varsity boys' soccer team the Pasadena/Pearland Cup championship as the Longhorns capped a 4-0-1 opening week.

Dobie, the owner of eight consecutive 22-6A titles as the 2023 season dawned, typically used a great deal of success at the first-week cup event to catapult itself to greater goals down the line.

At the PISD Cup, Dobie topped Fort Bend Bush (4-1), Waltrip (4-0) and South Houston (2-1) while playing Goose Creek Memorial to a 2-2 tie.

Lutheran South Academy standout sophomore swimmer Lauren Ferguson re-established a pair of school records while competing at the 2023

The annual PISD Cup, discontinued for 2024, seemed to have been made for the Longhorns as head coach Justo Manrique's team has dominated the event.

In the Pasadena/Pearland Cup opener in January, the Longhorns got two goals from Victor Hernandez and a goal and an assist from Jordi Garcia while beating Fort Bend Bush 4-1.

Alex Escobar also scored for the Longhorns, with assists from Axel Olmedo and Jordi Garcia to win easily. Moving on to the second day, Jan. 6, the Longhorns played Goose Creek Memorial to a 2-2 tie.

Jordi Garcia and Victor Hernandez scored goals for the Longhorns, and Daniel Saravia dealt an assist. On the final day of the event, the Longhorns got an early start in dropping Waltrip 4-0 as four different players scored goals, including Victor Hernandez, Robert Villatoro, J.P. Rodriguez and Emerson Saravia. Andres Hernandez, Anthony Torres, David Miranda and Jesus De La Torre dished assists.

In the PISD Cup championship match later in the day, Dobie outlasted South Houston 2-1 as Escobar and Emerson Saravia scored goals, with assists from Daniel Saravia and Victor Hernandez.

Lutheran South Academy standout sophomore swimmer Lauren Ferguson re-established a pair of school records while competing at the 2023

Houston Area TISCA Invitational Jan. 7.

She placed third overall and set a school record in the 200-yard freestyle at 2 minutes, 00.33 seconds and also provided a program-best of 5:33.00 in the 500 freestyle.

Boys' senior swimmer Elliott Miles took fourth place in the 200 IM and fifth in the 100 breast, while teammate Tristan Haver, a junior, was third in the 200 free and sixth in the 100 free.

Defending national champion (2022) Central Arizona Junior College earned the top spot in the National Junior College Athletic Association Baseball Coaches Association's 2023 preseason Division I national rankings, with San Jacinto College at No. 6.

As the 2023 season played out, Central Florida defeated Wabash Valley For the national championship. Central Arizona went 47-12 overall yet was eliminated by Arizona Western in the postseason.

San Jacinto College also missed the national tournament, instead falling to Paris twice in the postseason to finish at 34-23 overall.

Jan. 19

As Region III varsity basketball district races hit the midway point, the 22-6A and 24-6A fields were beginning to take shape.

Thanks to a four-point win at Dickinson Jan. 13, defending 24-6A girls' champion Clear Brook again showed itself to be the team to beat with half

of the schedule to play.

As much as some things change, they stay the same. Coming off the program's first-ever 6A undefeated run to a district title to end the 2021-2022 season, Clear Brook kept it rolling.

With the 24-6A race already looking like a two-team affair, Brook traveled to Dickinson Jan. 13 for a matchup of two 5-0 squads atop the standings, coming away with a 62-58 win over the Gators.

Sophomore Rezia Castillo, the league's Most Valuable Player as a freshman, had 25 points to go with 13 from Chardell Terrell as the Wolverines finished off a dominant first half of league play at 6-0 as part of an 18-8 overall mark.

Dickinson fell to 19-6 overall, including 5-1 within 24-6A action. Having defeated the 24-6A quartet of Brazoswood, Clear Creek, Clear Lake and Clear Springs by 24 or more points each in the first round of play, Brook entered the second round Jan. 17 against Clear Falls looking to keep its unbeaten mark intact.

The Dobie varsity boys' soccer team walked tall into the Deer Park ISD Battleground Invitational varsity boys' soccer tournament, having rolled out to an unbeaten start to the young season.

Given its start to the nondistrict schedule, Dobie was brimming with confidence heading into play in the Deer Park event.

On opening weekend, Dobie went 3-0-1 overall at the Pasadena/Pearland Cup, taking down South Houston 2-1 Jan. 7 to claim top honors at the event. There would be more of the same success to come in Austin a week later.

Outscoring three opponents by a combined 11-1 tally over three days, the Dobie group continued its dominant start to the 2023 campaign, moving to 7-0-1 over the first two weeks of the regular season with three straight wins at the Austin Lakes Elite Showcase in Austin.

The Longhorns capped their unbeaten run Jan. 14 with an early-morning 5-0 shutout of Laredo United South as five different players scored goals, including Miguel Azua, Daniel Blanco, Jordi Garcia, Andres Hernandez and Victor Hernandez, who has notched a team high 10 goals and a pair of assists.

Alex Escobar dealt two assists and Jesus De La Torre added another as the Longhorns cruised to the win. In the middle game Jan. 13, the Longhorns outclassed San Antonio Churchill 4-1 as Victor Hernandez scored twice.

Jan. 26

Poised with a near-per-



Dobie senior Victor Hernandez (7) set the tone in January with a big performance in the PISD Cup for his varsity boys' soccer team and was eventually named Most Valuable Player within District 22-6A.
Photo by Donna Alsdorf

JFD boys soccer at Kilt Cup at The Woodlands

Jan. 4: vs. New Braunfels, 2 p.m.

Jan. 5: vs. Alief Taylor, 4 p.m.

Jan. 6: vs. Caney Creek, 3 p.m.

JFD girls soccer at WWC at Iowa Colony, Alvin

Jan. 4: vs. Hightower, 7 p.m.

Jan. 5: vs. Baytown Sterling, 1 p.m.

Jan. 5: vs. Langham Creek, 5 p.m.

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2023 Year in Review: athletes, teams brought applause



Natalie DeHoyos (15) and her Dobie varsity softball teammates piled up the wins during the nondistrict portion of the schedule and rode that momentum into the District 22-6A race.

Continued from Page 5 February 2

The Dobie varsity tennis team carried plenty of momentum and confidence into the Bobby Kramer/Jerry Kramer Pasadena ISD Invitational as the spring season continued.

The Longhorns enjoyed a successful appearance at the Ron Wesbrooks Lamar University Invitational in Beaumont, with Kayla Tran winning top honors in the girls' B singles and Dominic Ortiz and Leslie Figueroa winning first place in the mixed doubles B division.

Nolan Tran of Dobie was runner-up in the boys' B singles. Elsewhere, Tiffany Tran and Natalie Tran won consolation honors in the girls' B doubles, Pitou So and Rigoberto Alanis were winners of the boys' B doubles consolation, and Nestor Garza was the winner of the boys' B singles consolation.

Feb. 9

First-place Dobie went up against second-place Rayburn Feb. 7 with a chance to open an expanse between itself and the rest of the varsity boys' soccer field in the 22-6A ranks.

The Dobie program already owned eight consecutive 22-6A championships and went 3-0-1 early on to lead the way yet again.

The Longhorns got two more goals from Jordi Garcia, a goal and an assist from Alex Escobar and two

assists from Miguel Azua in downing Channelview 5-1 Feb. 3 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

At 12-0-1 overall, the Longhorns were putting together one of the best runs in all of Region III as Garcia and Victor Hernandez shared the team lead in goals scored with 13 each.

Escobar was next with seven goals and three assists, while J.P. Rodriguez paced the team with five assists. Gio Arango earned the shutout in the nets and Jordi Garcia recorded a hat trick with three goals scored as the Longhorns cruised past Memorial 5-0.

Garcia was one of five players with assists, and Emerson Saravia and Robert Villatoro also netted goals. Assists were also dealt by Miguel Azua, Kevin Guzman, J.P. Rodriguez and Villatoro as the Longhorns continued their season-long balanced scoring attack.

Dobie varsity girls' basketball standout Jacque Giron eclipsed the 1,000-points scored standard for her career as the Longhorns secured the No. 2 playoff seed with a 38-37 win over Pasadena Memorial Jan. 26.

Now at two-year Weatherford College, Giron started in all 11 of the team's games, averaging 9.4 points per game.

A two-game sweep of Tyler Feb. 4 on the South campus had the San Jacinto College softball pro-

gram at 4-3 through the first two weeks of the Division I National Junior College Athletic Association season.

The Ravens used an eight-run fourth inning in the first game Feb. 4 to win 8-3 over the Apaches.

Kendra Cutlip drove in three runs and scored twice to lead the offense for the Ravens. Arianna Wright singled and drove in two runs, and Dobie graduate Leslie Longoria singled and knocked in a run.

Hannah Benavides allowed one hit in four innings of relief and struck out six to earn the win.

In the second game, San Jac's Christin Haygood struck out seven, allowing three hits in a 5-0 shutout for the locals. Kylie Hernandez doubled in three runs in the fourth inning and Wright had two more hits.

Lutheran South Academy junior Makayna Robbins surpassed 1,000 career points on the basketball court as she continued to lead the Pioneers' program in the district standings.

Robbins was averaging 18 points and 14.5 rebounds per game late in the season as Lutheran South had gone 16-7 overall and 9-2 in league play.

Now a senior, Robbins had signed to play collegiately beginning in the 2024-2025 school year at Concordia University in Nebraska.

Clear Brook Class of 2022 graduate and current Texas A&M University then freshman track and field competitor Camryn Dickson enjoyed a good start to her collegiate career as the Aggies continued the indoor portion of the 2023 season.

On the track during the first day of the New Mexico Collegiate Classic at the Albuquerque Convention Center, Dickson claimed the win in the unseeded sections of the 200, clocking in at 23.30 seconds to top the field of 97 competitors.

Feb. 16

The North Shore varsity girls' basketball program brought an end to Dobie's season in the bidistrict playoffs Feb. 13 at Phillips Field House, cruising to a 64-39 win in the game to advance to the area round at 28-8 overall.

Jacque Giron had 16 points in her final game for Dobie to lead the way. North Shore built an early 24-10 lead and kept a comfortable margin throughout the contest.

Ashlee Garcia and Stacie Harris won individual gold medals to lift the Dobie varsity girls' track and field program to a fifth place finish at the Pasadena ISD's Brown Relays Feb. 10 at Auxiliary Stadium.

The girls' squad also got a gold-medal win in the distance medley relay as Garcia, the 2022 District 22-6A cross-country champion, took part in the event.

As for the sophomore Harris, she had a solid outing for the Longhorns as she led the way with a gold medal in the long jump at 16 feet, 5 inches.

Teammate Bre'Yanna Williams, also a sophomore, placed seventh at 14-10 1/2.

Another sophomore cross-country standout, Lauren Garza, picked up a bronze medal for third place in a time of 6:02.90, and Dobie's Valerie Salazar was fifth in the same event with her time of 6:09.90.

Harris just missed a medal in the 300 hurdles as her time of 50.29 was good for fourth place in the event.

The Longhorns championed the distance medley relay with Garcia, junior Kyla Lobo and Garza teamed with freshman Christina Rodriguez at 13 minutes, 41.06 seconds.

Plating the go-ahead run in the bottom of the sixth inning, Dobie opened the 2023 high school softball season with an 8-7 victory over Clear Brook Feb. 13 at the PISD Complex.

A wild first inning saw Clear Brook score three times in the top of the frame, only to have Dobie go in front with a four-run bottom half.

Dobie would lead 7-3 after three innings, but the Wolverines forced a tie courtesy of four runs in the top of the fourth.

Clear Brook outthit Dobie 14 to 10 but made five costly errors in the game. Brianna Garcia led the Dobie offense with a three-hit night, scoring a run and driving in two runs.

Chloye Matthews, making her varsity debut as a sophomore, was 2 for 3 with three runs scored and also knocked in a pair of runs, and Marisa Perla had two hits and scored two runs.

Bella Perez had a pair of hits, scored a run and also drove in a run as the Longhorns escaped with the win. Freshman Vanessa De La Fuente pitched 3 2/3 innings in relief to earn the win.

Dobie tennis players excelled at the Pearland Invitational Feb. 10.

Natalie Vo and Tiffany Tran were second in girls' A doubles, Leena Pham and Kayla Tran placed second in girls' B doubles and Ashley Huynh and William Ho were consolation champions in mixed doubles.

The Clear Brook varsity track and field programs moved on to week two of the regular season with an appearance at the Pearland

ISD's John Morris III Invitational at The Rig in Pearland.

Senior thrower Kennedy Thompson, now a freshman at Mississippi College, celebrated with a gold medal in the discus event as her throw of 123 feet, 10 1/2 inches was the best of the afternoon.

The Lady Wolverines were second in the 4x400 relay at 4 minutes, 8.11 seconds and went 1:49.07 in the 4x200 for sixth place.

A time of 4:39.67 placed the Wolverines eighth in the sprint medley relay. In the boys' division, sophomore Darwin Bolden was sixth in the discus as his best throw went 128-9, and the Wolverines' sprint medley relay foursome took seventh to add key points in the final team standings.

Feb. 23

San Jacinto College head softball coach Kelly Saenz achieved a milestone with her 700th career victory as the Ravens defeated Kilgore 4-0 Feb. 12 at the South campus.

Now in her 21st season at San Jacinto College, Saenz was named the Region XIV Coach of the Year in 2022 after guiding her program to the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I World Series for the second consecutive season.

The 2023 team missed a World Series berth after falling in the regional tournament final.

The high school baseball season began Feb. 20 as the Clear Brook Wolverines used a quick start to down the Pasadena Memorial Mavericks in Pasadena.

The Wolverines' Ismail Hatemlah doubled in a run in the first inning and Charles Broussard highlighted a three-run second inning as Clear Brook led 5-1 through two innings.

Clear Brook starting pitcher Francisco Lejia held the Mavericks largely in check through four innings to earn the win.

Tyler Gaudet then tossed three hitless innings to earn the save. Broussard went 2 for 3 out of the leadoff spot for the Wolverines, scoring twice and driving in a pair of runs in the win. Chris Maldonado also had a run batted in for the Wolverines.

At Dobie, the Longhorns crushed Chavez 11-1 in five innings as Gavin Carrillo had two hits, scored twice and knocked in two runs.

Aiden Sanchez had two hits, scored a run and drove in another, and Cruz Torres fanned six over three frames to get the win. Isaiah Correa fanned three over two innings in relief.

Senior Sophia Perez led the way for the Dobie varsity girls' track and field group at the Barbers Hill Eagle Relays Feb. 17, taking a team-best silver medal in the 400 as the locals competed in week three action.

Perez was in at 1 minute, 04.35 seconds for her second-place finish, and senior Ashley Dunn was fourth in the 800 event at 2:39.67.

Sophomores Stacie Harris (16 feet, 1 inch) and Bry'Anna Williams (16-0.5) were fourth and fifth, respectively, in the long jump, while another sophomore, Tailin Curtis went 32-4.5 in the triple jump for fifth place in the event. Eighth place in the 100 at 13.48 went to Dobie's Mia Sanchez.

Dobie's girls' squad was also fifth in the 4x200 relay in a time of 1:53.13, while the 4x100 relay foursome was in at 52.25 for sixth place.

In the boys' division, a time of 12:41.80 had Dobie sixth in the distance medley relay, while the 4x100 group finished at 45.19 for seventh place.

Individually, senior Jovanni Avila's time of 2:14.54 was eighth-best in the 800, and sophomore Chris Lopez took ninth in the 3200 with a clocking of 10:48.01 to pace top finishes for JFD.

The Dobie varsity softball program got four wins

in six games as part of opening weekend at the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Lead-Off Classic in College Station.

At 5-2 overall through the first week of play, Dobie scored wins over Lovejoy and Bellaire, put 20 runs on Pasadena Memorial on the second day and topped El Paso Americas 9-0 on the final day.

The Longhorns fell short in a 2-1 loss to Cy-Woods and a 4-2 loss to Midland. In a 6-3 win over Lovejoy in the event opener for Dobie, Marisa Perla smacked a solo homer among her three hits, and freshman Natalie DeHoyos knocked in two runs.

Senior catcher Bella Perez was 3 for 3 with a triple and a run driven in. Sophomore Jackie Peralta threw a complete game to earn the win.

Later in the day, Dobie scored 10 runs in the top of the first inning on the way to crushing Bellaire 15-4. Perez and Sandra Quiroz homered and drove in three runs each, and Perla also knocked in three runs in the game.

On the second day, Dobie fell to Cy-Woods 2-1 as the go-ahead run was plated in the sixth inning. Later, Dobie punished Memorial 20-3 as an 11-run second inning was the key. Peralta drove in four runs while Perez and Miriam Castillo both drove in three runs.

In a 9-0 final-day win over Americas, Perez doubled twice and freshmen Chloe Nunez and Lilly Sepulveda contributed to the victory.

Wins over Alief Taylor and Beaumont West Brook had the Clear Brook varsity girls' basketball program in the midst of its deepest ever Class 6A playoff run heading into a regional quarterfinal matchup against Pearland.

Clear Brook, the two-time undefeated champion of District 24-6A, first used a fourth-quarter run to down Alief Taylor in the bidistrict round, winning 45-41.

In the area round, Rezia Castillo drove to the basket for the game-winning layup as time expired, giving the Wolverines a 49-48 win over Beaumont West Brook.

With 57 wins over two seasons, Clear Brook put together its best short run in program history but did fall to eventual Region III champion Pearland in the quarterfinal round.

The Lutheran South Academy varsity girls' golf team captured top team honors at the spring season opening Bay Area Christian School Invitational at Magnolia Creek Country Club, posting a total of 387 to win by six strokes over runner-up Rosehill Christian.

The LSA squad included Olivia Rivas, Audra Poffinbarger, Lucia DeLuca, Emma Poffinbarger and Addison Trahan.

The Longhorns' varsity boys' basketball team secured the No. 4 playoff seeding out of the District 22-6A ranks at 7-5, including 17-15 overall for the regular season after besting Pasadena. The Eagles entered league play at 21-1 but went 6-6 from that point forward to wind up fifth in the standings.

South Houston won the 22-6A crown at 9-3 with tiebreaker edges over Deer Park and Memorial, both 9-3 as well.

Dobie then went up against District 21-6A champion Beaumont United, which went 30-1 during the regular season. In the bidistrict matchup Feb. 20 at Port Arthur Memorial, United eliminated Dobie with an 82-47 victory.

The Clear Brook girls' track and field team picked up seven top-three medals at the Buffalo Relays at Thurgood Marshall High School Feb. 18.

Jizzale Davis led the Clear Brook charge with first a silver medal at 12.47 seconds in the 100 and then a gold in the 200 at 25.20.

Teammate Julisa Hudson placed sixth in the 200 at 26.31. In the 400, Clear



Dobie graduate and Louisiana State University softball star Taylor Pleasants was simply on fire during opening weekend at the Tiger Invitational in Baton Rouge Feb. 10-12, hitting .533, cracking four home runs and driving in 13 runs over five games.

Brook's Azayla Smith posted a time of 59.40 for second in the 400, and freshman Patricia Barnes was fifth in a time of 1 minute, 04.12. Leslie Garcia captured a bronze medal in the 1600 (6:07.03).

Clear Brook's Inayah Caldera took fifth in the 300 hurdles in a time of 51.39. At 50.49, Clear Brook was third in the 4x100 relay, and the 4x400 relay squad was in at 4:12.72 for second place.

In the field events, senior Kennedy Thompson was a gold medalist for the second straight week, throwing the discus 128 feet, 1 inch for the win, while her shot toss of 34-1 brought a bronze medal for third place.

At 33-11, Kyra Freeman earned a bronze medal for third place in the triple jump as the Wolverines wound up with their largest medal haul through three weeks.

In the win over the Deer, Miguel Azua scored twice and Emerson Saravia, Daniel Blanco and Robert Villatoro scored goals. Assists came from Alex Escobar, Diego Torres, Saravia and Victor Hernandez. Geo Arango earned the shutout in net.

In pursuit of what would be a ninth consecutive district championship dating back to 2015.

Lutheran South Academy swimmers Johanna Miles, Lauren Ferguson, Taryn Bladt, Haleigh Pham, Kai Beckum, Elliot

Miles, Tristan Haver and Luis Ordaz joined for a team moment at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools state swimming championships in San Antonio.

Ferguson won a state silver in the 500 free and set a school record at 5 minutes, 29.17 seconds and Haver was third at state in the 100 free at 49.20. Miles also scored third place in the 200 individual medley in a time of 2:07.31.

Dobie graduate and Louisiana State University softball star Taylor Pleasants was simply on fire during opening weekend at the Tiger Invitational in Baton Rouge Feb. 10-12, hitting .533, cracking four home runs and driving in 13 runs over five games.

Named the Southeastern Conference Player of the Week, Pleasants also scored nine runs as 25th ranked Louisiana State University went 5-0 to open the 2023 campaign.

In week two action, the Tigers won five more games to start a season 10-0 for the first time since 2018 as Pleasants again played a big role in Tiger wins.

Pleasants was hitting .424 with five home runs and 21 runs batted in through the 10 games. She had also scored 10 runs and collected 30 total bases to lead the Tigers.

The Dobie girls' track and field team scored big in the relays to highlight the schools' performance

at the Mavericks Underdog Relays, hosted by Pasadena Memorial Feb. 23 at Auxiliary Stadium in Pasadena.

Dobie crossed the finish line at 50.76 in the 4x100 to nip La Porte, with Camille Steens, Mia Sanchez, Tailin Curtis and Stacie Harris running for the locals.

La Porte turned the tables in the 4x200, winning with Dobie second in a time of 1:49.40. That Dobie foursome included Sophia Perez, Sanchez, Bre'yanna Williams and Steens.

La Porte also won the 4x400, but Dobie's time of 4:17.10 was second for a silver medal as Ashley Dunn, Harris, Perez and Christina Rodriguez teamed for the Longhorns.

Individually, Harris was the gold medalist in the long jump, making her way to 17 feet, 2 inches and was in for a silver medal at 12.79 in the 100 sprint.

Also in the long jump, Dobie sophomore Williams placed sixth at 15-4 1/4. Chloye Matthews, like Harris a sophomore, was eighth in the same 100 event at 13.50.

It was Sanchez for silver in the 200 as she delivered a finish of 27.48, with Matthews sixth in a time of 28.33.

The Longhorns also scored well in the 400, with Dunn in at 1:03.43 for second place and another silver medal for her team.

Continued on Page 8



Dobie varsity girls' basketball standout Jacque Giron eclipsed the 1,000-point scored standard for her career as the Longhorns secured the No. 2 playoff seed with a 38-37 win over Pasadena Memorial Jan. 26.



Sophomore Aiden Sanchez (11) was a two-way standout for the Dobie varsity baseball team as the group set the tone early with a strong start during tournament play. Sanchez will again lead the way in 2024.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill," Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300.
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Meets at Pearland Chamber of Commerce, 6117 Broadway St., Pearland, or on Zoom. See Chamber calendar or call 281-485-3634.

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call 713-472-0565 for tours.
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners Group, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.

7 p.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and on Zoom. For details regarding services, Judaism classes, film series and lunch with the Rabbi, visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.

7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. FM 518, Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). Call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/.

8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - Meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share and discover choices available. Call 281-484-9243.

8 p.m. **AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

2-4 p.m. **Parent's-Day Out** - CrossRoads United Methodist Church invites children with intellectual and physical disabilities for a fulfilled afternoon of activities.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

8 a.m./ 10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - worship and Bible study programs at 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). Call 281-479-7285.
2 p.m. **Grief Support Group** - For adults who have lost a loved one, Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. Call 713-944-9186.

5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Almeda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635.

8 p.m. **AA** - meeting at CrossRoads UMC, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.

5 p.m. **New Directions** - Age 55 and older meets for a potluck dinner at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Parkway. Call 646-489-4367.

6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join in the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff_reunion@juno.com for details.

7 p.m. **AA** - St. Luke's Group, 12-Step Recovery, open meeting in the Education Bldg. in room 4, at 11011 Hall Rd. Call 832-725-8479 or 281-309-2801.

7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.

11:30 a.m. **Local NARFE Meeting** - National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 1321, Clear Lake Community Center, 5001 NASA Pkwy. Lunch is \$6.
Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday noon notice.

6:30 p.m. **Bay Area Quilt Guild** - Meets at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Fellowship at 6:30 p.m.; meeting/program at 7 p.m. Visit www.FaceBook.com/BayAreaQuiltGuild or call 713-253-2521.

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - Club #05324194 meets virtually at sehouston.toastmastersclubs.org. Visit the website or call 832-722-9061.

7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3

7 a.m. **AA** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.

9:30 a.m. **Carmelites** - a nondenominational senior citizen social group meeting at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake. Call 713-444-6744.
9:30 a.m. **Young at Heart Senior Club** - Meets at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. Call 832-298-9480.

Noon **AA** - Imperfect Nooners. See Thursday's noon notice.

12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Hometown Heroes Humpday Dance** - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway. Casual ballroom dancing offered. Call 281-554-1180 for details.

7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.

7 p.m. **NA** - See Friday's notice.

8 p.m. **AA** - See Friday's notice.

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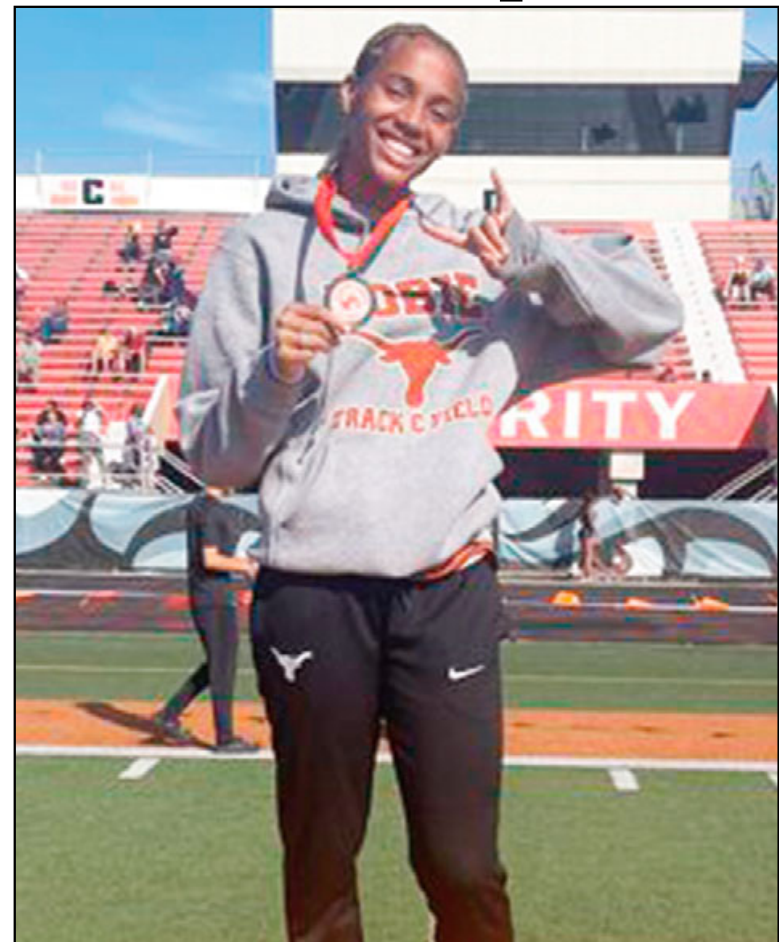
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Star athletes, performances highlighted South Belt 2023 landscape



Dobie sophomore Stacie Harris had her versatility on display throughout the 2023 track and field season as she wound up representing the Longhorns at regionals in the long jump event.

Continued from Page 6

In the same event, Ashlee Garcia placed fourth in a time of 1:04.77, and the freshman Rodriguez came up with a time of 1:06.09 for eighth place. In a time of 2:28.64, Garcia was fourth overall in the 800. Garza was third in the 1600 in a time of 5:54.07, with Lobo seventh in a time of 6:02.37. An effort of 32-6 was fourth-best in the triple jump for Curtis, with Perez seventh at 30-0. Senior Nya Sanford finished at 1:04.97 for sixth in the 300 hurdles.

Nine wins over the first two weeks of the regular season, including four over the three days at the Haynie Classic Feb. 23-25, gave the Dobie varsity softball team plenty of momentum entering the 22-6A opener Feb. 28 against Deer Park.

While the pitching was solid, Dobie produced at a high level offensively early on, with four different players hitting .500 or better.

Those hot bats included Sandra Quiroz (.576), Bella Perez (.568), Emily Delgado (.556) and Marisa Perla (.512), who also led the locals in runs batted in with 12.

Beating a Bridgeland team that entered play at 10-1-1 to wrap up three days of tournament play during the Haynie Classic Feb. 25, Dobie scored a 7-3 win over the Bears at Dobie to complete a 4-1-1 run over the three days.

Sandra Quiroz, who led Dobie with a .576 average over two weeks, went 3 for 3 against Bridgeland and scored twice while driving in a run. Amaya Corona drove in two runs, with Miriam Castillo had two hits and scored a run.

Freshman Vanessa De La Fuente allowed eight hits and three earned runs over six innings to get the victory for Dobie, which stood at 9-3-1.

In early action on the final day Feb. 25, Dobie played Corpus Christi Veterans Memorial to a 1-1 tie over eight frames. Alyssa Jones drove in Dobie's lone run, and De La Fuente struck out seven over 4 2/3 innings in relief.

In the second of two games Feb. 24, the Longhorns downed Tuloso Midway 2-1 with two runs to walk it off in the bottom of the fifth inning. Jones and Quiroz drove in runs.

Senior thrower Kennedy Thompson came up with a personal record of 134 feet, 7 1/2 inches as she highlighted the Clear Brook girls' performance at the Sam Moseley Relays Feb. 25 at Humble ISD's Turner Stadium.

On the track, the Wolverines' top finish came in the 4x400 relay as the locals took bronze for third place at 4 minutes, 00.19 seconds. Event winner Summer Creek (3:52.27) and second-place Atascocita (3:54.19) both went well under four minutes.

In a time of 25.83, and Rachael Penn's time of 1:02.39 placed her ninth.

The Clear Brook boys' team challenged a talented field at the Shadow Creek/Manvel Invitational. Senior Raymond Felton used a time of 11.12 seconds on his way to fourth place in the 100, and junior Jaylon Owens of Clear Brook was fourth in the 200 with his time of 21.10.

Junior Joseph Trevino posted a time of 10:07.71 for fifth place in the 3200, and his time of 4:44.63 was good for 10th place at the 1600 distance.

Sophomore Phong Le was 10th in the 300 hurdles in a time of 45.63. The Wolverines were in at 1:28.59 for third place in the 4x200, with the locals' 4x100 group in for fourth place in a time of 42.35.

Darwin Bolden of Clear Brook was the top sophomore finisher in the discus.

Victor Hernandez had a goal against Memorial Feb. 24 in a 9-0 victory and shared the team lead with 16 goals as the Longhorns (16-0-3) aimed to close out with another District 22-6A championship.

Dobie Class of 2011 graduate Blake Jackson has been a solid contributor through two weeks for the Seattle Sea Dragons.

A former star quarterback at Dobie and then at Mary Hardin-Baylor, Jackson has made his money professionally at receiver.

While the Sea Dragons lost their opening two games of the XFL season by a combined six points, Jackson totaled 13 catches for 77 yards and returned one kickoff for 18 yards.

A three-year starter at quarterback for Dobie, Jackson led the 2010 team to a district title and went on to win Most Valuable Player honors while leading the Cru Mary Hardin-Baylor team to the national crown as a sophomore.

Dobie's Pitou So and Amalia Reyes won the Spring Fling Tennis Invitational's "tournament" division mixed doubles championship in Corpus Christi, beating a Kingsville High School pairing in the final, 6-1, 6-4.

The following day, the locals lost a 2-1 game to Wallace State in eight innings but then came back to defeat Central Alabama 4-3, also in eight innings.

Wright doubled in San Jacinto's lone run against Wallace State, while Wright, Hernandez, Maci Beam and Tabby Bailey knocked in runs against Central Alabama. Haygood struck out 11 over the eight innings to get the win.

March 9

A 1-0 victory over South Houston March 6 at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena allowed the Dobie boys' soccer program to extend one of the most remarkable runs in Class 6A Region III history.

The Longhorns' 1-0 win over the Trojans assured the locals of a ninth consecutive district championship dating back to 2015. The varsity squad wound up 22-6A action at 10-0-2 for 32 points, outscoring league foes using a plus 51 goal differential.

At 19-0-3, the Longhorns found themselves unbeaten deeper into a regular season than at any other in program history. Simply put, the Longhorns got the job done despite plenty of adversity prior to and then during the season.

Ronaldo Guzman, a scorer of 22 goals as a junior in 2022, tore a knee ligament in the offseason while playing at the club level. He has missed the entire 2023 season.

Victor Hernandez also injured his knee and did not become available to practice until late in the preseason. Still, he has rebounded to be a top goal scorer for the team during this remarkable run.

"I'm just so proud of this team for overcoming the injuries and pushing through every night to get the job done," said Dobie head coach Justo Manrique, architect of this nine-year league dominance.

A runaway 24-7 win over Pasadena March 3 had the Dobie varsity softball program back on track with 11 total wins as the Longhorns focused on the District 22-6A race for much of the way.

A 10-8 setback to current Region III champion Deer Park in addition to losses to regional powers Friendswood (8-2), Katy (10-4) and Clear Springs (14-0) at the Friendswood Invitational March 2-3 slowed Dobie's early-season momentum, but it all came together for Dobie, 11-7-1 overall, against the Eagles at the Pasadena ISD Complex.

Leslie Sarduy and Sandra Quiroz drove in four runs each, and Miriam Castillo and Karyme Leal homered as Dobie needed just four frames to close out the Eagles.

Senior Ashley Dunn won the 400 and took silver in the 800 for second place as she led the Dobie varsity girls' track and field performance March 3 at the Falcon Relays.

The Longhorns also claimed gold in the 4x200 and 4x400 relays to score big points. Dunn, a key member of Dobie's District 22-6A championship cross-country program, won the 400 at the Falcon Relays

in a time of 1 minute, 05.27 seconds, while Longhorns' freshman Christina Rodriguez took third for bronze medal in a time of 1:07.28.

The Longhorns continued what has been a standout season in the relays with the two gold-medal efforts as well as a silver for second place in the 4x100.

Dunn and Rodriguez joined Stacie Harris and Sophia Perez for the gold-medal win in the 4x400 at 4:13.77, and the 4x200 group of Mia Sanchez, Perez, Bre'yanna Williams and Camille Steens took the gold in a time of 1:50.58.

The Clear Brook varsity girls' and boys' track and field teams fared well at the Clear Springs Charger relays, with the athletes taking home some hardware.

A time of 2 minutes, 20.874 seconds earned the Wolverines a bronze medal for third place in the 800, and Jizzale Davis was fourth in the 400, finishing at 1:00.310 in the event.

The Clear Brook 4x100 relay team posted a time of 48.273 for second place and a silver medal as Julisa Hudson, Davis, Kyra Freeman and Ja'Delle Major teamed in the event.

With a great throw of 133 feet, 6 inches, Clear Brook senior Kennedy Thompson stayed unbeaten in the shot put, and Thompson was also sixth in the shot with a top personal throw of 35-1.

As a team, the Brook girls placed ninth with 37 points, and the Wolverine boys took eighth with 44 points. In the 100, Brook's Raymond Felton was second for a silver medal in a time of 10.936, with teammate Jaylon Owens fourth at 11.083.

At the 200 distance, it was again Felton taking a silver medal at 21.531, with Owens fifth in this one at 22.754. Felton and Owens also joined Joshua Akinola and Christian Wright for second place and a silver medal in the 4x200 relay in a time of 1:26.891 as North Shore nipped the locals at the wire for the win.

District 22-6A champion Deer Park ended Dobie's two-year run atop the varsity girls' basketball standings, but the Longhorns again had the best player. Dobie senior Jacque Giron, who late in the season eclipsed 1,000 career points scored, was named Most Valuable Player of 22-6A as the league's head coaches gathered to announce postseason award winners and All-District teams.

Newcomer of the Year honors went to Channelview's Zaniya Lewis, while undefeated 22-6A champion Deer Park took the remainder of the league accolades.

The 22-6A Offensive Player of the Year was Deer Park's Macie Whitfield, and her teammate, Elysabeth Ripley, was named Defensive Player of the Year.

Dobie, which went 10-2 in league play, had seniors Tabilah Curtis and Aubrey Myers named to the 22-6A first team in addition to junior Jady Johnson.

Having led the Clear Brook varsity girls' basketball program to a first-ever Class 6A regional quarterfinal appearance following a 12-0 undefeated run through District 24-6A play, Wolverines' sophomore guard Rezia Castillo was named as the league's Most Valuable Player for the second straight season.

Castillo, one of three players to average 12 points per game scoring, was one of the state's top all-around performers while guiding Clear Brook 57 total victories and a 24-0 district record.

The Dobie varsity softball team was rolling along just fine heading into a pause for spring break with three straight wins. Dobie rebounded from a varsity softball loss to Deer Park in the 22-6A opener, crushing Pasadena, Memorial and Channelview by a combined 51-8 to move to 3-1 for second place.

Dobie made a quick trip to Channelview and defeated the Falcons 10-1 as Miriam Castillo homered and drove in two runs. Bella Perez, Sandra Quiroz and Alyssa Jones all drove in two runs.

Starting pitcher Marisa Perla went the first three innings for the win, and Vanessa De La Fuente pitched four hitless frames for the save.

At 28-11 1/4, senior Caroline Schepmann was fourth best in the triple jump as she contributed to the LSA effort.

March 23
Cruz Torres threw a complete game gem, allowing four hits and one earned run as he led the Dobie varsity baseball team to a 2-1 win over defending league champion Deer Park and a split of the two-game head-to-head series March 16 at Deer Park.

The Deer had outlasted Dobie 6-2 in eight innings in the series opener March 14 at Dobie, but Torres handcuffed the Deer to improve to 5-0 overall.

Junior Orozco led the way to the win over the Deer, going 2 for 3 with a run scored. Omar Serna had a hit and scored a run, while Matt Torres, a St. Thomas University commit, had a pair of hits and scored a run.

Winners of four straight games, the San Jacinto College softball team went into action against Alvin March 22 at 22-10 overall. It all began March 13 with a 6-0, 5-4 sweep of a pair of games at Bossier Parish.

In the 6-0 win, the Ravens' Reanna Nieman spun a two-hit shutout and struck out 11 while Kendra Cutlip knocked in a pair of runs. Emma Garcia went 3 for 4, scored two runs and drove in a run.

As for the 5-4 win, San Jacinto got three hits and two runs driven in from Arianna Wright and Kylie Hernandez homered and drove in two runs as the locals plated a run in the top of the ninth inning, then saw Nieman close out the win in relief.

The Ravens were in Athens, Texas March 15, topping Western Nebraska 10-2 and then getting past host Trinity Valley 7-4. Wright homered and doubled in the win over Trinity Valley, and Nieman allowed no earned runs while striking out seven to earn the win.

Wright, a freshman from College Park High School, was exceptional in pacing the Raven offense with a .494 batting average, 12 doubles, eight home runs and 30 runs batted in.

Foster, a freshman from Alvin High School, hit .387 and was second to Wright's team-leading 39 hits with 36 of her own.

San Jacinto knew it had a standout in the circle with Haygood, and she had delivered a 7-1 record with a 1.32 earned run average. Nieman, a freshman from Deer Park, had a 1.37 ERA.

Lutheran South Academy's Emily Bell became the school record holder in the discus event after she came up with a personal best of 123 feet, 9 inches during the Clear Falls Knight Relays March 15.

The Pioneers' Alma Martin also won a bronze medal for third place in the pole vault, going over the 10-00 mark for third place.

Bell was a state medalist in 2022 in the discus with a best of 120-3 for bronze medal.

Dobie's Camren Fowler was named to the 22-6A All-District first team boys' basketball squad after helping the Longhorns finish as the No. 4 playoff seed behind the trio of co-champions that included South Houston, Memorial and Deer Park.

The Longhorns' Dylan Jackson was also named to the first team as the league's head coaches gathered to select the respective honorees. Memorial standout junior Robert Miller III was named the Most Valuable Player of the 22-6A ranks while Pasadena's Kevin Juarez was named Offensive Player of the Year.

Deer Park's Nicholas Buffalo was 22-6A's Defensive Player of the Year, while Pasadena's Mike Matthews was named the league's Newcomer of the Year. Ryan Bright of Deer Park was named Coach of the Year in the 22-6A ranks.

Schepmann clocked in at 27.81 in the 200 for sixth place, and junior Lydia Ward went 2:34.04 in the 800 for sixth place.

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diate's Cruz Jasso was one of the season finale's many stars, taking over as the Pasadena ISD's alltime record holder in the 2,400 run with a time of 8 minutes, 23.06 seconds.

Meanwhile, the Thompson Lions' eighth grade team went down to the wire with San Jacinto, with the Tigers ultimately collecting 150 points for the team crown and Thompson second with 138 points.

Kamryn McLaurin, the District 24-6A varsity girls' basketball Defensive Player of the Year following a terrific sophomore season on the hardwood, quickly made the transition to the high jump runway as she became the Clear Brook record holder as she cleared 5 feet, 8 inches in the high jump at the Clear Falls Knights Relays March 15.

Also at Clear Falls, senior and Mississippi College signee Kennedy Thompson took gold in the discus with a throw of 128-10. She also was fourth in the shot put at 35-4.

A week earlier, sophomore Chardel Terrell, an All-District first-team basketball star, grabbed the school record in the 1,600 run with a time of 5 minutes, 38 seconds in the event.

Scoring key wins in the 4x400 relays to cap things on the track, the Thompson seventh- and eighth-grade girls' squads held the winner's trophies high at the conclusion of the Pasadena ISD Track and Field Championships March 7-8 at Auxiliary Stadium.

The Lions used both depth and talent to keep leads in the point standings, yet still needed 4x400 relay wins and the subsequent 20 team points for first place to finish the goal. Mission accomplished.

In the seventh-grade division, Thompson put together 116 points to hold off Miller, which scored 99 points to take second. Bondy's 97 points were good enough for third place. As for the 4x400 relay, Thompson was first to the finish line in a time of 4 minutes, 43.36 as Natalia Uzoukwu, Rene Philyaw, Maleiyah Hoop and Trinite Hines combined for the gold.

The Lions' Sophia Saucedo, Alena Moya, Jazalynn Randall and Jazmine Cardon teamed in the eighth-grade 4x400 relay for the victory, the 20 team points and the team championship at 4:42.41.

With the relay win, Thompson finished with 149 points to outdistance Bondy's 137 points. Beverly Hills had 80 for third place.

March 30
Two Region III powers met in the varsity boys' soccer area playoff round as unbeaten Dobie (21-0-4) went up against Alief Elisk for a spot in the regional quarterfinals.

The Beaumont West Brook varsity girls' soccer team ended Dobie's season with a 6-0 victory in the bidistrict playoff round March 24 in Anahuac.

Dobie had delivered an 8-3-1 mark to capture the No. 3 playoff seed out of District 21-6A before going against the Bruins, who advanced to the regional semifinals in 2022 and improved to 17-3-1 after their win over Dobie.

The bidistrict playoff round was tough on the 22-6A contingent as Atascocita beat Deer Park 1-0, 21-6A champion Kingwood topped Pasadena 8-0 and Summer Creek bested Memorial 5-0.

The Dobie Longhorns set a tone in the District 22-6A varsity baseball race that couldn't be overlooked. Getting another set of great starting pitching performances from Aiden Sanchez and Cruz Torres, the Longhorns swept their league series against the Pasadena Eagles, winning the opener March 21 at Maguire Field by a 23-1 count and then coasting 12-1 March 24 at Dobie as Torres improved to 6-0 on the mound this season.

Sanchez improved to 3-1 for the season as he went the five-inning distance at Maguire, fanning nine and allowing just a single walk and earned run. Omar Serna went 3 for 5 as part of a huge evening with two doubles, three runs scored and four runs driven in.

Junior Orozco drove in four runs of his own, doubling and scoring a pair of runs. Teacher Appreciation Day at Dobie March 24 went well as Torres went four frames, allowing just one run while striking out seven.

Daniel Delgado homered and drove in three runs, and Eduardo Loera had two hits and scored twice. Juelz Martinez chipped in with two runs scored and two more driven in, and Ian Johnson scored three runs as the Longhorns cruised to the win.

Santiago Leija pitched into the seventh inning for the win, and Clear Brook scored the go-ahead run on a pair of sixth-inning wild pitches as the Wolverines took a clutch 2-1 win over host Brazoswood.

The Wolverines, 2-2 through two series rounds in District 24-6A action, got little going March 21 in a 4-0 shutout loss to the Bucs but bounced back on the road. Jose Luccioni came on in relief and got a strikeout and ground out to earn the save.

The Clear Brook varsity boys' track and field team was in the mix at the Goose Creek ISD Rockhold Relays at Baytown Lee High School March 24 as sprinters Jaylon Owens and Raymond Felton starred for the Wolverines.

Felton won gold in the 200 as he was first to the finish line at 21.53 seconds, with Owens second for a silver medal at 21.58.

In the 100, it was Owens grabbing a silver medal for second place in a time of 11.03, with Felton in at 11.16 for fourth place.

Both Owens and Felton were in the mix along with Josh Akinola and Christian Wright as the Wolverines snagged 20 team points and gold medals for the victory at 1 minute, 27.64 seconds.

Lutheran South Academy graduate Shelby Smith, a senior two-way standout with the Seton Hall University softball program, was named Big East Player of the Week after previously being named as the conference's Pitcher of the Week March 6.

She went 6-for-11 (.545) at the dish with two runs batted in and two runs scored while also pitching all seven innings and allowing just two earned runs and striking out seven in the circle. Smith entered the season as a 2022 Big East second-team performer and three-time All-Big East All-Academic honoree.

With the District 22-6A track and field meet set for April at Pasadena ISD's Auxiliary Stadium, the Dobie program stepped up to challenge a talented field at the Panther Relays March 23 at C.E. King High School. Dobie, vying against King and North Shore programs that will be at the District 21-6A/District 22-6A Area Championships the third week of April, fared well this time around.

The Dobie girls posted 55 points as a team, with Kyla Lobo winning a gold medal in the 1,600 run with a time of 5 minutes, 54 seconds. Stacie Harris also excelled for the Dobie girls as she was second in a time of 26.4 seconds for silver in the 200 and cleared 16 feet, 8 inches for third in the long jump. Harris was also sixth at 13.27 in the 100.

See Jan. 11 *Leader* Year in review.

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