



South Belt-Ellington Leader

42 years of covering South Belt

Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, May 17, 2018

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

Vol. 43, No. 16

Sageglen to meet May 21

The Sageglen Community Association will hold its next homeowner meeting on Monday, May 21, at the Sageglen Community Building, located at 11610 Sageyork, at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

South Belt pre-K to sign up

South Belt Elementary, located at 1801 Riverstone Ranch Road, will host its kindergarten and pre-K roundup on Tuesday, May 22, at 6 p.m. For additional information, call 713-740-5276.

Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from FM-518 to FM-517 in League City will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Saturday, May 26. Alternate entrance and exit ramps will be closed.

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96/League City Parkway will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Monday, Dec. 31. Alternate entrance and exit ramps will be closed.

The northbound frontage road of the I-45 Freeway from FM 518 to NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 will be continuously closed through 5 a.m. Friday, Aug. 31. Traffic traveling north on the frontage road will take I-45 north main lanes from the FM 518 entrance to the NASA Road 1 exit.

The closures are associated with an ongoing construction project to widen the freeway from three to five lanes in each direction and the frontage roads from two to three lanes in each direction.

Beltway closures planned

Both the eastbound and westbound U-turn lanes at Beltway 8 and Beamer Road will be closed continuously through 9 p.m. Friday, June 2.

Both the eastbound and westbound U-turn lanes at Beltway 8 and Pearland Parkway will be closed continuously from 7 a.m. Tuesday, May 15, to 3 p.m. Friday, May 18.

At least one inside lane on the westbound Beltway 8 frontage road at Highway 288 will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Monday, June 18.

At least one inside lane on the westbound Beltway 8 frontage road from Mykawa to South Wayside will be closed continuously through 3 p.m. Monday, June 4.

The closures are associated with the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from Beamer to Highway 288 from two to four lanes in each direction.

PISD holds fund meetings

The Pasadena Independent School District will hold a pair of informational meetings, Monday, June 4, to seek public comments on the needs and usage of Title I, II, III and IDEA B federal funds.

The meetings are scheduled for 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. in the Special Programs Office at the Pasadena ISD Administration Building, located at 1515 Cherrybrook Lane, Room SP104, in Pasadena.

The purpose of the meetings is to discuss how the district uses these funds to provide supplemental support in improving its special programs.

For more information, contact the Special Programs Office at 713-740-0225.

CCISD to honor teachers

The Clear Creek Independent School District will honor its top teachers at a luncheon Monday, May 21, at the South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center, located at 2500 South Shore Blvd. in League City.

Sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Space Center, League City and Seabrook, the *Shining Stars of Clear Creek ISD* event will begin at 11:30 a.m.

In addition to recognizing the CCISD teachers of the year, two teachers will be surprised with the honor of being the Rotary teachers of the year.

Tickets are \$32 and can be purchased through the CCISD Office of Communications. Tickets will not be available at the door. For additional information, call 281-284-0030 or visit ccisd.net.

E. Beltway delays expected

Multiple closures (too many to list) are planned for Beltway 8 East in the Pasadena area, as part of the Harris County Toll Road Authority's project to widen the tollway from two to four lanes in each direction from the Gulf Freeway to Highway 225.

The project is in addition to two other separate projects that will widen Beltway 8 from Beamer Road to Wayside Drive and from Wayside Drive to Highway 288. See related sidebar entry on this page.

Construction on Beltway 8 east of the Gulf Freeway is expected to continue through 2022. For a complete list of closures associated with the project, visit <http://traffic.houstontransstar.org/construction>.

SJC named top-10 school in nation, again

The Aspen Institute for Community College Excellence has once again named San Jacinto College as one of 10 finalists for the prestigious 2019 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the nation's preeminent recognition of high achievement and performance in America's community colleges.

San Jacinto now enters the final stage of the competition for \$1 million in prize funds, which will be awarded in March 2019 in Washington, D.C., to the winner and up to four finalists with distinction.

"We are honored to once again be named an Aspen Institute Top 10 finalist," said Dr. Brenda Hellyer, San Jacinto College chancellor.

"The work that we do every day at San Jacinto College to help our students complete their higher education credential is critically important to our region. Our faculty, staff and administrators work tirelessly to help our students achieve their goals. I want to thank the Aspen Institute for recognizing San Jacinto College as one of the top 10 community colleges in the nation for 2019."

Awarded every two years since 2011 by the Aspen Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based educational and policy studies organization, the Prize recognizes institutions that achieve high student outcomes, and improve those outcomes.

San Jacinto College is one of 10 finalists from an original pool of more than 1,100 public community colleges nationwide. Focused solely on student access and success, the Aspen Prize recognizes community colleges with exceptional achievements in four areas:

- Student learning;
- Certificate and degree completion while in community college and after transferring to a

- four-year institution;
- Employment and earnings rates after graduation; and
- Access for and success of minority and low-income students

"Since winning the Rising Star award in 2017, San Jacinto College has kept getting better," said Joshua Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute.

Continued on Page 6A

Clear Horizons holds graduation Students graduate with dual diplomas

By James Bolen

A dual-diploma graduation ceremony for Clear Horizons Early College High School was held Friday, May 11, honoring students who earned both a high school diploma and an associate degree.

A joint project between the Clear Creek Independent School District and San Jacinto College, Clear Horizons allows eligible students to take high school and college courses simultaneously. Located at San Jacinto College's South campus, the school opened the fall term of the 2007-2008 school year.

College credits earned through the program can be transferred to most major Texas universities, including the University of Texas, Texas

A&M University and the University of Houston. The program is offered at no cost to students, allowing them to save a significant amount of money on college tuition. For several students in the program, it marks the first time anyone in their family has attended college.

"The partnership of Clear Creek ISD and San Jacinto College allowed for many of our high school students to challenge ourselves and reach our true potential." Clear Horizons valedictorian Natalie Cha said in her address at the commencement ceremony. "Through our four years at Clear Horizons and San Jacinto, we were given the opportunity to achieve our high school diploma and associate degree at the same time. This gives us

Continued on Page 6A



Winner crowned Miss Houston

Lesha Wincher was crowned Miss Houston USA 2018 on March 31. Wincher was born and raised in the South Belt area. She attended Meador Elementary and Weber Elementary. Wincher also went to Westbrook Intermediate and Clear Brook High School, where she graduated in 2012. She was a Houston Texans cheerleader for four years. Wincher attended the University of Houston, where she graduated in May 2017 with a bachelor's degree. Wincher currently attends Houston Baptist University, where she is pursuing a master's degree. Wincher will be representing Houston in the Miss Texas Pageant in September. Wincher is the daughter of Lee and Jean Wincher.

CCISD's Shannon retires after 42 years

On May 31, Weber Elementary teacher Mickey Shannon will erase the chalkboard in his classroom for the last time, as he is retiring after 42 years of service to the students of the Clear Creek Independent School District.

Shannon began his career at Clear Lake City Elementary in 1976, where he taught third grade. His first day on duty started with one parent staying much longer than any of the others. When questioned by Shannon, she said she was waiting for his mother to return. The parent thought Shannon was just filling in until the real teacher arrived.

Shannon taught at the elementary level for 30

years, working at seven different CCISD schools.

The last nine years of his career were spent teaching the Gifted and Talented students at Weber Elementary. He taught at the intermediate level for 12 years, serving at two CCISD campuses. While at the intermediate school, Shannon created the SAGE, or as it is now called, the OMEGA program. This program allows students in grades six through eight to choose a more rigorous course of study.

Shannon has also been instrumental in coordinating the fifth-grade trip to Washington, D.C., each spring break for the last 35 years. He will

Continued on Page 6A

Burglary suspect becomes unresponsive

The Houston Police Department is investigating an incident in which a male suspect became unresponsive in the 11900 block of Pompton in the Scarsdale subdivision about 9:15 p.m. on Monday, May 7.

The male, 38, was transported to Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital in critical condition.

According to police, patrol officers responded to a burglary of a motor vehicle call at the above address, where the male suspect was behaving erratically and destroying property in the neighborhood. Officers arrived and found the suspect being detained by residents outside a house.

As officers took the male into custody, he became combative and began kicking on the back seat and partition of the patrol vehicle. Officers placed the suspect in leg restraints, and he suffered a medical episode.

Paramedics from the Houston Fire Department responded to the scene and transported the suspect to the hospital, where he was found to have narcotics in his system.

As is customary in incidents when a suspect becomes unresponsive in the presence of HPD personnel, this case is being investigated by the HPD Special Investigations Unit and the Internal Affairs Division.

Mayor announces proposed '19 budget

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner recently announced details of his proposed Fiscal Year 2019 budget that closes a \$114 million gap, avoids layoffs, prioritizes public safety and maintains a healthy fund balance.

The proposed \$2.48 billion General Fund budget is an increase of \$83 million or 3.5 percent from the FY2018 budget. Public safety represents approximately 57 percent of the budget, and the remaining General Fund dollars are al-

located to other essential city services such as parks, libraries, health and trash removal.

"It is important for the people of Houston to understand how their tax money is invested in keeping our city strong and providing essential services," Mayor Turner said. "I feel very good about this budget we're putting forth."

Details on closing the \$114 million gap:

- \$15.8 million from the special revenue funds

Continued on Page 4A

Abbott to attend chamber banquet Event to recognize Harvey heroes

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott will attend the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet on Thursday, July 19, at a location to be determined.

Now in its 34th year, the event's theme is *A Salute to the Heroes of Harvey*.

Abbott will join the chamber in honoring local heroes from the historic storm.

While it would be impossible to recognize everyone's efforts, the chamber intends to select a group of honorees that it feels is representative

of the entire South Belt community's response to Harvey.

"Everyone has their own hero, and everyone has their own story," said *Leader* publisher and outgoing chamber president Marie Flickinger. "We can't honor them all. There would be hundreds."

The 2018 chamber president and board members will also be officially sworn into office at the event. See future editions of the *Leader* for more information.

Sagemont to honor fallen soldiers

Beginning Saturday, May 26, and continuing through Friday, June 1, the grounds of Sagemont Church will become a memorial garden with 38,000 flags to remember fallen Texas soldiers from every battle from the Republic of Texas in 1836 to the present.

Sagemont Church invites the Greater Houston community to come and join this remembrance of service members who sacrificed their lives in battle. With the theme, "Every Flag Has a Name," each of the 38,000 flags represents a fallen Texas soldier, and the flags will be laid

out with precision similar to that of our national cemeteries. The flag memorial will be arranged around the church's 170-foot tall cross. Guests are encouraged to personalize the experience by leaving names of fallen loved ones on a memorial wall located on the church property.

On Monday, May 28, at 9 a.m. outside the church's main entrance near its empty tomb, a Memorial Day service will be led by former U.S. Army Chaplain Grant Rothberg. At that service, the names of Houstonians who have died since

Continued on Page 4A

Local swimming pools slated to open

Summer is around the corner, and with it comes the opening of several area pools to help South Belters beat the heat.

All local pools will be open Saturday, May 26, through Monday, May 28, for Memorial Day weekend. They will then reopen on Friday, June

1, for the duration of the summer. All area pools will be closed for cleaning on Mondays (with the exceptions of Memorial Day and Labor Day).

The City of Houston's Sagemont and Beverly Hills swimming pools will be open Tuesday

Continued on Page 4A

Police respond to mental health calls

Local police responded to two separate incidents this past week that allegedly involved people with mental impairments.

On Friday, May 11, deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office responded to a domestic disturbance call around 10:30 a.m. in the Highland Meadow subdivision, where a man was reportedly threatening his mother. While the male, who was said to be acting erratically, refused to allow the deputies inside the house, his mother agreed to let them enter through the home's rear door.

During their investigation, deputies discovered the man had a warrant out of Houston from two days prior for impersonating a police officer at Beverly Hills Park on Kingspoint.

In that incident, the male had alarmed parents at the park by interacting with their children. When the parents intervened to question his mo-

tives, the man claimed to be a police officer and threatened to arrest the adults.

The Houston Police Department was able to subsequently identify the suspect, and an arrest warrant was issued.

Precinct 2 deputies arrested the man, who was then taken to jail, where he was forced to undergo a psychological evaluation.

On Sunday, May 13, Houston police officers and deputies from the Harris County Precinct 8 Constable's office responded to a call around 6 p.m. on Beltway 8 at the Blackhawk intersection where a 34-year-old man was sitting on top of the overpass. Police said the man was agitated and threatening to commit suicide.

Houston police, however, were able to talk the man down and take him into custody, where he, too, was forced to undergo a psychological evaluation. No injuries were reported.

Lockes visit Flight Museum



Former Harris County Commissioner Gene Locke (left) and his wife Aubrey are shown above at a recent event at the Lone Star Flight Museum. The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce is currently in negotiations with the museum to hold its annual banquet at the facility on Thursday, July 19. Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has agreed to attend the function, which will honor heroes from Hurricane Harvey. (See related story this page.) Pictured above with the Lockes is David Flickinger, who serves on the Clear Brook City MUD board and is the husband of *Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger. Photo by Marie Flickinger.

In My Opinion

Tristan invites all out on Poppy Day

As the spouse of a Marine Corps Veteran, I hold a special place in my heart for the parents, siblings, spouses, and friends of those who served. I can't help but think of all the men and women who have gone to fight for this great nation and didn't return home.

While we are all guilty of celebrating the unofficial start of summer and encouraging each other to "have a good weekend," it is important to remember the reason for the holiday: Memorial Day is the day Americans set aside to honor those brave men and women who met tragic ends while defending our freedom. It is our duty to honor their sacrifices, to pray for their families, and to bow our heads in recognition of their service.

On National Poppy Day, May 25, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 490 will be distributing poppies as a tribute to our fallen warriors. We invite Houston residents to stop by and see us Memorial Day weekend at 11702 Old Galveston Road to receive a poppy in exchange for a donation to wear in remembrance of those who paid the ultimate price for

our freedom. We must never forget. The poppy, which bloomed on the battlefields of France after World War I, has grown to become an internationally known and recognized symbol of the lives sacrificed in war and the hope that none died in vain. One hundred percent of donations received will go directly to help veterans, military, and their families. The American Legion Family has called upon Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day as National Poppy Day.

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) is the world's largest women's patriotic service organization, with nearly three-quarters of a million members and more 8,000 units in communities across the nation. The ALA serves nearly one million veterans every year. Right here in Houston, we continue to help mitigate the challenges our veterans face and deliver upon our mission by organizing multiple events and fundraisers throughout the year to support veterans, military, and their families.

To learn more about the Auxiliary's mission or to volunteer, donate or join, visit www.ALAforVeterans.org.

Susie Tristan
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 490
Poppy Chairman

Elected officials share their words

Bettencourt worried about voters

Sen. Paul Bettencourt is speaking out on behalf of taxpayers following the announcement by more than one taxing jurisdictions that special elections to raise property tax rates will be occurring throughout the summer and better public policy is to hold them on the November General Election date.

This is occurring so quickly that the Klein Independent School District Trustees voted on a TRE election Monday, May 14.

"I am worried about voter fatigue as well taxpayer's pocketbooks," said Bettencourt. "Rather than spend money on special elections these taxing jurisdictions still have the chance to do the right thing and schedule their proposed tax rate increase elections in November."

Gov. Greg Abbott granted permission for Harris County to hold an estimated \$2.5 billion Harris County Flood Control Proposition on a nonuniform election date on Aug. 25, the date of Hurricane Harvey's landfall. In his approval letter, Abbott high-

lighted, "...billions of federal dollars either are currently available to Harris County or will be available to the county before it has the ability to issue the bonds requested..."

In their letter to Abbott, Harris County Commissioners Court stated, "We must show the various federal agencies that matching funds are available now in order to apply for Harvey-related grants that are already available."

However, the governor also stated in his letter, "Congress purposefully provided much of those matching dollars through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds so that local government would not need to match the federal grants."

This strongly suggests that waiting to hold the election in November will not stifle the flow of federal money nor change the facts that the CDBG funds do not need a local match.

At their quarterly Executive Committee meeting this week, the Harris County Republican Party nearly unanimously passed a resolution calling for "Harris County,

City of Houston, and Klein ISD governments to schedule their respective bond and/or tax cap repeal elections as part of and on the November General Election date."

"Rather than disenfranchise hundreds of thousands of voters, our elected officials should put these tax rate increase elections on the November ballot," stated Resolution author Clint Moore. "I thought we were beyond choosing these sorts of obscure election dates, but I guess not."

Voters throughout Harris County may return to the upcoming May 22 Primary runoff election, a probable 9-cent June tax rate ratification election in Klein ISD the weekend of the Republican State Convention, a county bond election in August, and potentially the Mayor's announcement that he wishes to bust the voter approved property tax rate cap by November general election.

"It is a fundamental truth that our Republic functions better when more people are able to cast their ballots in a Democracy," concluded Bettencourt.

UHCL holds Spring 2018 commencement ceremonies

Join University of Houston-Clear Lake in celebrating its newest graduates at Commencement ceremonies on Sunday, May 20, at noon and 5 p.m. at NRG Arena, 1 NRG Park in Houston.

Graduates from the College of Business and College

of Human Sciences and Humanities will walk the stage at the noon ceremony, and graduates from the College of Education and the College of Science and Engineering will attend the 5 p.m. ceremony.

For more information, visit www.uhcl.edu/commencement.

invite as many guests as they like, but seating for guests is first come, first served. Attending the ceremony is free, but parking rates vary at the venue.

For more information, visit www.uhcl.edu/commencement.

Houston Symphony performs at Dobie

The Houston Symphony will be performing at J. Frank Dobie High School as part of its annual "Sounds Like Fun" community concert series on Friday, June 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the school's auditorium.

There will be activities before the performance for kids such as the instrument petting zoo at 6:30 p.m. The concert is for all ages, is free and open to the public.

Local library events set

Bracewell Branch Library

The following events are scheduled for the Bracewell Branch Library, 9002 Kingspoint:

- Saturday, May 19, 10:30 a.m. Spanish computer class
- Saturday, May 19, 2 p.m. Citizenship class
- Tuesday, May 22, 10:30 a.m. Family storytime and playtime
- Wednesday, May 23, 10:30 a.m. Toddler storytime
- Wednesday, May 23. Computer courses: 2 p.m. Computer Basics; 3:15 p.m. Internet Basics; 4:30 p.m. Basic Powerpoint

For information on events at Bracewell Library, call 832-393-2580.

Bracewell hours this week are: Thursday, noon - 8 p.m.; Friday, 10 - 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday, closed; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Parker Williams Library

The following events are scheduled for the Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd: Thursday, May 17, 4 p.m. Community craft presents Star Wars Origami, a craft for all ages. Meet in the library community room to make different characters and creatures from the Star Wars Universe while using Japanese paper folding techniques.

Thursday, May 17, 4 p.m. Community craft features paper quilling for all ages. This art form from the 14th through the 17th century is often used to decorate the covers of books with designs that reflected the ironwork of the day. Today, quilling is a paper craft art form that creates a variety of images and can be applied to many different surfaces and projects. Meet in the library community room.

Friday, May 18, 4 p.m. Teen DIY and a movie features *Spaceballs* (PG-13) and *Spaceballs the Craft*, for ages 13 and older. Meet in the library community room for this multigenerational saga with audience members from younglings to Jedi Masters, watch the movie and stay to complete the craft project.

Saturday, May 19, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. May is National Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention month. Learn about the importance of skin cancer prevention, early detection and treatments in a session presented by Memorial Hermann's Community Benefit program. Registration is requested.

Monday, May 21, 2 - 4 p.m. The Parker Williams Genealogy Group is an informal group that meets the first and third Monday of each month (unless the library is closed) to discuss family history research (beginner to advanced). Meetings are free and open to anyone interested in tracing family history.

Monday, May 21, 6 - 7:30 p.m. Magic: The Gathering Gameplay for ages 8 and older. Special appreciation is given to Strike Zone for the generous donation of Magic: The Gathering cards. For more information, visit <http://www.hcpl.net/sites/default/files/Feb-MTG-1.jpg>.

Tuesday, May 22, 10:30 a.m. Computer basics. Improve skills on the internet, email, Facebook and social media. Registration is requested.

Wednesday, May 23 at 6:30 p.m. Great Decisions: Media and Foreign Policy. Cyberwarefare, hacking and misinformation pose complex security threats. Learn how various kinds of media are used today to pursue and defend interests in the international arena as conventional journalism now competes with user-generated content. Registration is requested.

Below are the programs that occur every week:

Wednesdays, Preschool storytime, 10:30 a.m. For children, ages 3 to 5 years, storytime features stories, songs, fingerplays and a craft.

Thursdays, Toddler storytime, 10:30 a.m. For toddlers from birth to 3 years, storytime features stories, songs, fingerplays and bubbles.

Saturdays, Vietnamese learning time. Classes begin at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. For more information on these programs, speak with Loc Bui.

For more information on events, call the library at 281-484-2036.

Library hours this week are: Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday, closed; Monday, 1 - 9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; and Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Outstanding students of the month for April

Working with administrators from local Pasadena Independent School District campuses, the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce has begun recognizing outstanding area students each month. The group of students honored for the month of April are pictured below, along with a brief description of why they won the award. Also, see photos on page 3A.



School officials at Beverly Hills Intermediate say Oscar Garza, seventh-grader, is a wonderful student with a positive personality. He exhibits good moral judgment and is compassionate and respectful toward others. He recently received four subject medals in the Academic Pentathlon and is rated number one overall for students participating at the district level. Garza is a chess medalist at district competitions. In addition to these honors, he is also a recent National Junior Honor Society inductee. Shown with Garza (second from right) are, left to right, Toni Lopez, PISD executive director; Stacey Barber, BHI principal; and Noble Alix, South Belt chamber member.



Melillo Middle School staff state that Jesus Gamez-Cepeda (second from right), sixth-grader, is a great role model for peers to follow. He excels in academics and social settings. Gamez-Cepeda is an active, outgoing presence in class with a great sense of humor. He is the perfect person to get a group project rolling, but also knows how to sit back and let others take the lead. Gamez-Cepeda's cheerful nature and openness to feedback means he is always learning and growing as a learner, an impressive strength that will continue to serve him well in intermediate school and in the future. Shown with Gamez-Cepeda are, left to right, Dave Matthews, South Belt chamber member; Lillian Monita, Melillo fifth-grade counselor; and Diane Wheeler, Melillo principal.



Izaiah Rivas (front), first-grader is always kind and caring to his classmates according to Frazier Elementary officials. He is respectful to adults and kids. He works hard every day and completes his work with quality in mind. He is artistic, smart and positive. Izaiah comes to school every day with a smile and a great attitude. He is a helper and a friend to all. Shown with Izaiah are, left to right, Moises Rivas, father; Roxanne Rivas, mother; and Wendy Wiseburn, Frazier principal.



Thompson Intermediate School staff state that Jeremiah Paige (center), eighth-grader, has perfect attendance and has received the citizenship and outstanding achievement in fine arts awards. Shown with Paige are Christine Veltman, Thompson assistant principal (left); and Toni Lopez.

According to Morris Elementary school officials, sixth-grader Cathy Nguyen (second from left) is a student who puts her full effort into her schoolwork. She is always willing and eager to help her classmates and teachers and she loves to help in the library. Nguyen is cheerful and friendly to others. She represented Morris in the Pasadena ISD spelling bee in fifth grade. Her work ethic and focus on doing well is an inspiration to her classmates. Shown with Nguyen are, left to right, Kenny Fernandez, Pasadena ISD board member; Dan Hoppe, Morris principal; and Kay Barbour, South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce president.



Deaths

Delores Bergeron



On May 10, 2018, longtime South Belt resident Delores Bergeron died. She was born April 15, 1934, in Roxton, Texas. She is preceded in death by her husband of 49 years Don Bergeron, her parents Helen and Hunter McCloud and her brother Charles McCloud.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Donna and Larry Hale of Pearland; son and daughter-in-law Dave and Kaye Bergeron of Houston; daughter Debbie Martens of Houston; and daughter and son-in-law Denise and Richard McMurrough of Crosby, Texas. She also leaves her sister Patsy Carpenter and husband Lonnie of New Braunfels; nephews Mike, Mark and Chuck Carpenter; her brother's wife Pam McCloud; and Val and Brandy McCloud Wier of Elkhart, Texas.

She is also survived by grandchildren Chuck Borsche and fiancée Ember Lewis; David Borsche, Christina and Sammy Mata, all of Pearland; Courtney and Joe Gordon of Lindale, Texas; Amanda and Brad Aden of League City; Matt Bergeron and fiancée Sarah Fillingame of Alvin; Amber McMurrough and Shawn Mims, Danny and Theresa McMurrough, of Houston; Katie and Trent Kirkpatrick of Spring; Kimberly and Jay Longobardi of Baltimore; Jeffrey Shrum of Houston; Adam and Tyler Martens of Houston; and Cameron Martens of Los Angeles. She had 26 great-grandchildren.

Delores was a longtime member of the South Belt area where she worked as a real estate agent with Century 21, McCarver, Remax and her and Don's Bergeron and Associates. Her greatest love was her family. She often said, "If my family is okay, I'm okay."

She was raised in the Baptist faith by her loving mother Helen McCloud but joined her husband as a member of St. Luke's Catholic Church. Delores was a loving, caring, generous

person who will be missed by all who loved her. A visitation was held on Saturday, May 12. Delores was laid to rest on Monday, May 14, at South Park Funeral Home.

Jessie Agnes Womack



Jessie Agnes (Murphy) Womack died on Monday, May 7. Agnes was born on Feb. 25, 1931, in Luling, Texas, to father, Mallie Dee Murphy and mother, Jessie Lee McDonald.

She attended both Luling and Austin high schools and was later employed by the Texas Highway Department, also known as the Texas Department of Transportation, where she proudly served 38 years. After retirement, Agnes and her husband G.W. Womack traveled extensively to all 50 states and abroad to Canada and France. She loved meeting new people everywhere they went - she never met a stranger.

Agnes loved cooking good food and catering to everyone's special wants - from her special toasts and chocolate milk to pecan coffee cake. Family members all loved getting her famous cookies during the holidays and fig preserves, when in season. Agnes was one who always loved giving and doing for others. She was a faithful member of Sagemont Church for several years and continued tithing when she was no longer physically able to attend.

She is preceded in death by her parents Mallie Dee Murphy and Jessie Lee (McDonald) Clary and her brother Robert L. Murphy.

Agnes leaves behind a deeply saddened family, extended family and friends who adored her. She is survived by her husband; daughters Mickie Hillman and husband Ken and Leighann Heine and husband Mike Balzer; and stepsons Glen Womack and wife Marilyn and Greg Womack. She is also survived by grandchildren Jim Hillman and wife Michelle; Kim Embree and husband Beau; Jessica Ahern and husband Tim; Amanda Schwabe and husband Justin; Christie Meadors and husband J.; Glen Womack Jr.; Megan Sanchez and husband Augustine; and Lauren Wom-

ack. Agnes also leaves behind 12 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

The family extends special appreciation to Altus Hospice nurses who lovingly cared for Agnes during her final weeks.

A visitation was held on Friday, May 11; the funeral service was held on Saturday, May 12. Both services were held at Niday Funeral Home - Beamer Chapel. Burial followed at Forest Park East Cemetery in Webster.

Beverly Lauve Swaim



Beverly Lauve Swaim, 61, of Houston, died May 11. She was born on June 29, 1956, in Port Arthur to Donald and Lillie Lauve. She was married to Donald Swaim for 15 years. Beverly worked as an accountant for more than 30 years and was a member of Clear Creek Community Church. She loved spending time with her family, especially her precious grandchildren.

Beverly was preceded in death by her parents and her sister Melanie Lauve.

She is survived by her loving husband Donald Swaim; sons Brian Tremont and wife Jill and Chad Tremont and wife Jaclyn; daughter Sarah Tremont and boyfriend Sam; and grandchildren Audrey Tremont, Cadel Tremont, Lauren Tremont, Lex Tremont and Zachary Tremont.

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, May 23, at 10 a.m. at Clear Creek Community Church, located at Egret Bay Campus 999 FM270 in League City. The service will be followed by a reception from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Since Beverly loved the Houston Astros, service attendees are encouraged to wear Astros attire to honor her memory.

Leader

obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the *Leader* are published free of charge. There must be a South Belt connection. Obituaries are edited to conform to the *Leader* style.

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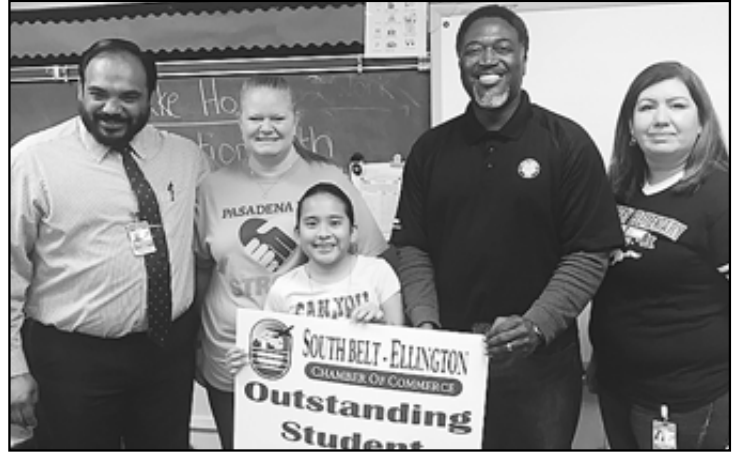
South Belt Chamber of Commerce honors outstanding students for April



School officials state that Noah Torres (center), ninth-grader at Dobie9, balances sports obligations and school and he still manages to maintain very high grades. He is always friendly and polite, and a natural leader. Torres is an up-and-coming Longhorn and should be recognized as such. Shown with Torres are, left to right, Adriana Robinson, Dobie9 assistant principal; Dave Matthews, South Belt chamber member; Linda Torres, mother; and Juan Pedraza, Dobie9 PISD officer.



Laura Bush Elementary School staff members state that fourth-grader Mark Chase (center), has worked very hard this year to become a successful student both academically and behaviorally. He has developed as a reader, writer and mathematician. Chase is well loved by his classmates and teachers. He always has a smile on his face and is always lending a helping hand when needed. Shown with Chase are, left to right, Kenny Fernandez, PISD board member; Stephanie Miller, Bush principal; Kay Barbour, South Belt-Ellington Chamber president; and Dr. Rhonda Parmer, PISD associate superintendent.



According to school officials, Ariel Ortiz (center), third-grader, is the Student of the Month for Stuchbery Elementary. Ortiz is a model student who works hard and is always willing to assist others. This past month Ortiz has shown determination in test scores and participation. Those familiar with Ortiz know they can count on her to be helpful. Shown with Ortiz are, left to right, Jose Hernandez, Stuchbery principal; Jennifer Dowell, Stuchbery third-grade teacher; Noble Alix, South Belt chamber member; and Krystal Lam, Stuchbery third-grade teacher.



Joseph Castro (center) is a thoughtful student according to Atkinson Elementary school officials. He is a friend to everyone in his class and is eager to help his classmates feel successful. He enjoys math and is patient while explaining new concepts to others who need more time in understanding the work. Castro is most happy learning new skills and applying his strategies while in class. He has an endearing smile and a winning attitude. Shown with Castro are, left to right, Dave Matthews; Lena Ortiz, principal; Shelly Bracher, first-grade teacher; Jennifer Rodriguez, mother; and Emma Castro, sister.

School officials at Burnett Elementary state that Lyla Coleman (left), third-grader, is very committed to her academics and uses every strategy that she has learned from her teachers to be successful in her learning. She is helpful all around campus and has earned the opportunity to become a Safety Patrol Beaver next school year as a fourth-grader. She is eager to help around the classroom and assist in any way she can. She enjoys working with her classmates and in her small groups, being a leader within her class. Coleman's personality is "bubbly" and she is always happy to be at school and provides a smile to those around her. Burnett Elementary is proud to nominate Coleman as the April Outstanding Student of the Month. Shown with Coleman is Jae Lee, Burnett principal.



Hannah Wilson (left), second-grader at Genoa Elementary, cares about every student in her class and encourages them to make good choices according to school officials. She helps her teacher and her classmates with anything they need and always has a positive attitude. Wilson is a true example of an all-around outstanding student. Shown with Wilson is Tiffany Bennett, Genoa principal.



Cynthia Nguyen (center) is a senior at Lewis Career Technical High School who ranks ninth in her class of 1038 students, according to school staff members. She is the first person in her family to obtain a high school diploma and to be accepted to a university. She has received the prestigious Murchison Scholarship from Trinity University and an academic scholarship to the University of Houston. Nguyen serves as the secretary for both the CTHS National Honor Society and science club and is a proud member of both the student council and the Health Occupations Students of America. She is proudly representing CTHS in medical mathematics at the international HOSA competition this summer. She has a passion for academic success and devotes many long hours to study and prepare for her courses and competition. She has earned a sterile products certification in her pharmacy tech pathway at CTHS. Nguyen plans to attend the University of Houston, major in biology and pursue her dream to become a pediatrician. She is grateful for the continued support of her family, friends and educators. Shown with Nguyen are, left to right, Dr. Steve Fullen, PISD associate superintendent; Tom Le, CTHS assistant principal; Dave Matthews; and Steve Fleming, CTHS principal.



Dobie High School officials state that Brandon Harder (right), senior, is service-oriented, kind, responsible, respectful and a good example of Dobie pride. Shown with Harder is Erin Richardson, Dobie guidance counselor.



According to staff members at Fred Roberts Middle School, sixth-grader Teresa Vu (center), is passionate about learning. She goes above and beyond in the classroom and is an example to her peers. She demonstrates great citizenship daily and is a joy to have in the classroom. Shown with Vu are, left to right, Christine Coppedge, Roberts assistant principal; Deronda Pitre, Roberts counselor; Jorly Thomas, Roberts principal; Noble Alix; Emily Ontiveros, Roberts counselor; and Rebecca Dietz, Roberts assistant principal.



Karen Lara (center), third-grader at Jessup Elementary, is an exceptional student and a great role model, according to school officials. She is always working hard and is constantly striving for greatness. Her classmates look up to her and she is always willing to lend a helping hand. Lara begins every day with a smile and ends her day waving goodbye to her friends. Shown with Lara are, left to right, Kenny Fernandez; Dr. Rhonda Parmer; Ryan Pavone, Jessup principal; and Kay Barbour.



Keyla Zeledon (second from left), fourth-grader, has many admirable qualities that make her an outstanding citizen said school officials at Meador Elementary. She is responsible and reliable which make her the "go to" teacher's helper. She can be trusted to do any task she's called to do with 100 percent effort and integrity. Her positive attitude in any situation is very refreshing. Not only is she a hard worker, but she is a great mentor and tutor to her peers. She helps struggling students with their work and always does it with a cheerful disposition and patience. Her generosity toward others knows no limits. Zeledon has a kind heart and a spirit of community. Shown with Zeledon, left to right, Kenny Fernandez; Beverly Bolton, Meador principal; and Kay Barbour.



According to South Belt Elementary School officials, kindergartener Alan Nguyen (center), is helpful and considerate every day at school. He goes above and beyond to help his peers and teachers with anything that might need to be done. He encourages other students in his classroom, and does not miss an opportunity to say, "Please," "Thank you!" or "You're welcome!" He is a bright ray of sunshine, for the South Belt campus - especially at dismissal when he tells teachers on duty "Thank you for opening the door for me!" He embodies all the positive character traits that make up the South Belt culture. Shown with Nguyen are, left to right, Kami Brown; kindergarten teacher; Dave Matthews; Candy Howard, South Belt principal.



Moore Elementary school officials stated Emily Tran (center), fourth-grader, is the kind of student who is always looking for a way to help her friends. She is quick to tell a classmate "Good job!" when they do well in class, and is pleased for others when good things happen to them. She is responsible and always does everything asked of her with a smile on her face. Tran is good at remembering things her teachers have forgotten, and so she helps keep them on track. She is also very determined and doesn't give up, even when faced with challenges. But above all, she is kind to everyone and has never been heard to say anything hurtful or rude. Tran is truly an inspiration and a wonderful role model. Shown with Tran are, left to right, Alyta Harrell, PISD associate superintendent; Katherine Young, Moore fourth-grade teacher; Dave Matthews; Jill Lacamu, Moore principal; Patricia Norman, Moore resource teacher.



According to school officials, Angel Cuello (holding sign), fourth-grader at Thomas Hancock Elementary, is a very responsible, motivated and confident scholar. He continues to push himself to learn more and always gives his best which can be evidenced by the quality of his work and the level of his thinking during class discussions and weekly mentor check-ins. Although he is very humble about his dedication to learning, Cuello has quickly become an inspiration to his fellow classmates. In addition to making a positive impact in the classroom, Cuello spreads his love for reading by giving back to the campus community volunteering as a Kinder Reading Buddy. Cuello truly exemplifies the characteristics seen in all of the scholars at Thomas Hancock Elementary. Shown with Cuello are, left to right, Kenny Fernandez; Veronica Sandoval, Hancock principal; and Dr. Rhonda Parmer.

Payra excels



Syamantak Payra of Clear Brook High School has been chosen as a 2018 U.S. Presidential Scholar.

Over The Back Fence by Alexis

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, COURTNEY

Courtney Durham celebrates a happy birthday Sunday, May 20. Best wishes are sent to her from husband **Chris** and children **Abigail** and **Jackson Durham**; parents **Fred** and **Leslie Flickinger**; sister **Kimberly**; uncle **David (Leader president)** and his wife, **Ellie Flickinger**; grandmother **Olive Falkowski**; grandfather **John Fairchild**; grandparents **Marie** and **David Flickinger**; and friends and the *Leader* staff.

BEST WISHES TO JACLYN

Wishes for a wonderful birthday are sent to former *Leader* staff member **Jaclyn Ramirez Tremont** on May 20 from her friends, family and the *Leader* staff.

SCHOOL DAZE

The following personnel and staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays May 17 through May 23.

Burnett Elementary

The day for a birthday gift for **Karessa Whitely** is May 21.

Bush Elementary

Send a birthday card May 17 to **Sandra Garza**. **Marianela Diaz** enjoys a birthday May

Frazier Elementary

Send a warm birthday greeting May 18 to **Susan Blue**. **Irma Garza** celebrates a special day on May 19. May 22 is the day for a birthday cake for **Marisol Cervantes**.

Meador Elementary

Marking a birthday May 20 is **Gloria Serrato**. Birthday greetings are in order for **Stephanie Bounds** on May 21.

Roberts Middle School

Send a happy birthday greeting May 18 to **Jessica Arroyo**. Light the candles on a double-layer cake May 20 for **Denise Gourley** and **Charly Silver**. Send a happy birthday greeting May 23 to **Kelli Redd**.

Beverly Hills Intermediate

The day for a party for **Daniel Jacobs** is May 19. **Micah Strickland** is wished a happy birthday May 21. Birthday greetings are sent to **Curtis Occhionero** and **Marianella Tyler** May 23.

Dobie High

Enjoying a birthday May 17 is **Karen Staha**. On May 18, happy birthday greetings are sent to **Tyler Ruberg**. May 20 is the day for a celebration for **Amanda Langston**.

Sheryl Smith marks a birthday May 22. Sing a happy birthday song May 23 to **Caitlin O'Connell**.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS

The *Leader* sends happy birthday wishes to friends who celebrate a birthday this week: Thursday, May 17: **Becky Henry, Roland Kennedy, Gina Houghton** and **Jessica Nixon**; Friday, May 18: **Melody Tanner, Brian Conn, Sheila Neal, Jessica Ramirez De La Cruz, Alondra Cristina** and **Rachel Mooney**; Saturday, May 19: **Melanie Martin, Tanya Williams, Jonathan Pearson, Robby Asbury, Leah Poirer** and **Laura Scott**; Sunday, May 20: **Norma Pruneda, Joey Martinez, Mike Freeman, Juan Cruz, Tami Richardson, Kathy Swift** and **Al Carter**; Monday, May 21: **Vance Britt, Shelly Woodin** and **Kimberly Garza**; Tuesday, May 22: **Felicia Ayala, Kevin Daley, Bill Mondy** and **Becki Withers**; and Wednesday, May 23: **Damon Holt, David Cino** and **Nicole Wiens**.
LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS
Email birthday, anniversary, vacation, congratulations, etc., to mynews@southbeltleader.com with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's issue.

Urdaneta is a leader



Martha Urdaneta was named the 2018 San Jacinto College South Campus Student Leader of the Year as president of the Alpha Gamma Zeta chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Photo by Andrea Vasquez

DeVos names CBHS student as scholar

U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced Syamantak Payra of Clear Brook High School as a 2018 U.S. Presidential Scholar.

Payra is one of only 161 American high school seniors who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, artistic excellence, leadership, citizenship, service and contribution to school and community. The U.S. Presidential scholars will be honored for their accomplishments in Washington, D.C., June 24-26.

"I want to congratulate this year's class of presidential scholars on their achievement and thank their parents, teachers and academic advisors who have helped guide them along the way," said DeVos. "These students have pushed themselves to be the best they can be, and I am certain that devotion will serve them well as they continue their individual learning journeys."

The White House Commission on Presidential Scholars selects honored scholars annually based on their academic success, artistic excellence, essays, school evaluations and transcripts, as well as evidence of community service, leadership, and demonstrated commitment to high ideals. Of the 3.6 million students expected to graduate from high school

this year, more than 5,200 candidates qualified for the 2018 awards determined by outstanding performance on the College Board SAT and ACT exams, and through nominations made by chief state school officers and other partner recognition organizations.

Each U.S. Presidential Scholar is also offered the opportunity to name his or her most influential teacher. The teacher chosen for recognition by Payra is his AP Biology and Research Teacher **Alaina Garza**. She will receive a personal letter from the secretary of education.

"Syamantak is truly an outstanding student and I have been honored to have taught him in my classes and clubs for the past four years," said Garza. "He has a humble, helpful and humorous nature that always makes me smile. Syamantak inspires the students with his determination and perseverance, showing that anything is possible with hard work. He has helped to develop and shape ideas that will have a lasting impact on our school, our community and our world."

Created in 1964, the U.S. Presidential Scholars program has honored 7,500 of the nation's top-performing students with the prestigious award given to honorees during the annual D.C. ceremony.

Mayor's budget for 2019 is public

Continued from Page 1A

- \$7.3 million from department reductions (no reductions for police and no reductions for fire.)
- \$80 million cut from departments over three years.
- \$3.6 million due to a revision of the financial policies changing the General Fund to the Maintenance Renewal and Replacement Fund.
- \$3.4 million in debt prepayment for the Building Inspection Fund.
- \$84 million draw-down in Fund Balance. (This draw-down is possible because of the Towers lawsuit settlement and an increase in FY2018 sales taxes.)

Over the past two years, the city has made progress in addressing financial challenges by streamlining operations, eliminating redundancies and achieving lasting pension reform, but the work is not done. The city is still faced with the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. In FY18, the Budget Stabilization Fund was depleted

in the amount of \$20 million to address the immediate financial burden from Hurricane Harvey. The city must maintain a healthy fund balance heading into hurricane season. Additional challenges include the Other Post-Employment Benefits reform, millions in deferred building maintenance costs and the need to increase the number of Houston police officers.

"There is no question we need additional revenue for public safety purposes, I want to be very clear, and this conversation needs to take place," Turner said. "As long as we are underneath the existing revenue cap, we will always be falling short every single year. We are the only city in the state of Texas that is operating under a revenue cap."

The new fiscal year begins July 1, 2018. For more information, the complete proposed budget may be found at <http://www.houstontx.gov/budget/19budprop/index.html>.

Area pools set to open

Continued from Page 1A

Sundays, when hours will be from noon to 8 p.m.

Ashley Pointe's pool hours will be from noon to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and from 1 to 9 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Highland Meadows' pool hours are 3 to 8 p.m.

The new splash pad at El Franco Lee Park will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. until October.

Dobie students earn honors in national French contest



On March 6, 21 students from J. Frank Dobie High School participated in the National French Contest sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French. Shown above, holding certificates, are the French II students, left to right, **Alejandra Gracias**, **Frida Quiroz**, **Adrian Garcia** and **Luis Figueroa**. Shown below are the French III students, left to right, **Elsa Ceballos**, **Katherine Flores**, **Roberto Campa**, **Hoang Le** and **Emily Estrada**. Three students made the list of national and Houston Top Ten Winners. Level III honor student is **Campa** who was awarded a gold medal. Level III honor students **Flores** and **Le** were awarded silver medals. Also, receiving honorable mention were **Ceballos** and **Estrada** for level III and IV. Students receiving level II honor are **Figueroa**, **Garcia**, **Gracias** and **Quiroz**. Photos by Loan Peabody



Remember When

40 years ago (1978)

Scott Alan Gernander, the Beverly Hills Intermediate basketball coach, was promoted to the head basketball coaching job at South Houston High School.

35 years ago (2003)

A new fellowship hall and education wing for Cokesbury United Methodist Church was included in a \$1.4 million addition approved by the church's membership.

30 years ago (1988)

A Sagemeadow burglary was the worst of five burglaries of homes in the South Belt area for the month. According to police, the burglars used a screwdriver to enter the residence and then used pillows to remove the property. Rifles, shotguns, jewelry and a television were among the property stolen.

20 years ago (1998)

The Pasadena Independent School District was named a National Model School District for 2008 by the International Center for Leadership in Education. The ICLE cited as evidence of its achievement the significant improvement on TAKS over the previous four years, the decrease in high school failure rates, the decrease in dropout rates and the increase in student attendance after only one full year of implementation.

Clear Brook's girls track team won the 4A state title with a total of 58 team points. Dobie's Ras Bowman was awarded a gold medal for winning the 800-meter at the state 5A track meet.

5 years ago (2013)

A 14-year-old female Thompson student reported that she had been abducted and assaulted after getting off the school bus in the Clear Brook Meadows subdivision. The incident was allegedly a fabrication, according to officials from the Harris County Sheriff's office. The incident, which was covered extensively in the local media, created a deluge of concern from the community, with an unprecedented number of Facebook comments and messages being sent to the *Leader*. From the onset, investigators said there were inconsistencies in the student's story, but Pasadena Independent School

Harris County Precinct 1 Commissioner El Franco Lee announced that additional units from the sheriff's department would patrol the unincorporated portions of the South Belt area. Patrolled primarily by deputies from the Harris County Precinct 2 Constable's office, the South Belt community had grown considerably over the previous decade without a corresponding increase in police manpower in the area. The majority of new homes were in the Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District. There was a 66 percent increase in calls for service in 1999.

1 year ago (2017)

A Houston police officer was relieved of duty after being charged with driving while intoxicated after leaving the annual South Belt Spectacular Cook-off on Saturday, April 29. Officer Jose Ayala was officially charged on Tuesday, May 10, after blood test results determined he had a blood alcohol level of 0.082. He had initially been detained for suspicion of drunk driving. According to police, Ayala left the cook-off in a white Corvette shortly after midnight and was stopped by Precinct 2 deputies after he was witnessed driving recklessly, almost hitting an officer who was directing traffic. Once detained, Ayala identified himself as an HPD officer, and Houston police were called to the scene. Ayala reportedly admitted to drinking four beers and two shots of whiskey between 8 and 11:30 p.m. and agreed to take a blood test.

District officials felt obligated to notify parents of the possible incident.

Students from the Clear Creek Independent School District's robotics team, The Robonauts, placed second in the world at a competition held at Minute Maid Park. For its entry, the team designed a shooting robot named Ruckus. The team is

composed of 64 members from throughout the district, with 24 members being from either Clear Brook High School or Clear Horizons Early College High School. Local team members include Yuka Abe (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Taylor Cao (Clear Brook, 11th grade), Sakshi Kulkarni (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Amanda Lu (Clear Brook, 11th grade), Elena Michnovicz (Clear Brook, 11th grade), Claire Romero (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Chanmarie Un (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Christa Westheimer (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Jessa Westheimer (Clear Brook, 12th grade), Brennan Butcher (Clear Brook, 12th grade), Danny Nguyen (Clear Brook, 11th grade), Bhargav Parthasarathy (Clear Brook, 11th grade), Marcus Schlauch (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Wittiker Schlauch (Clear Brook, 12th grade), Alec Shih (Clear Brook, 10th grade), Hunter Smith (Clear Brook, 11th grade), Michael Vidales (Clear Brook, 12th grade), Zain Virani (Clear Brook, ninth grade), Gabrielle LaRochelle (Clear Horizons, 11th grade), Megan Perry (Clear Horizons, 12th grade), Aaron Beaty (Clear Horizons, 11th grade), Alex Campos (Clear Horizons, 11th grade), Nuriel Canizal (Clear Horizons, 12th grade) and Chamikera Dharmawardene (Clear Horizons, 11th grade).

San Jac recognizes outstanding students

The San Jacinto College student engagement and activities offices recently held the annual student award ceremonies to recognize outstanding students, student organizations and student leaders.

Jeffrey Amie was named the San Jacinto College Central Campus Outstanding Student Organization Leader of the Year as vice president of the Central Campus Student Government Association.

Martha Urdaneta was named the San Jacinto College South Campus Student Leader of the Year as president of the Alpha Gamma Zeta chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

Elisandra Garcia was named the San Jacinto College North Campus Outstanding Student Organization Leader of the Year as the vice president of the North Campus Student Government Association.

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

Community invited to assist with flags

Continued from Page 1A

9/11 will be read aloud. From Sunday, May 27, through Friday, June 1, several display areas will be open for the public to visit while remembering those who have died on the battlefield. Outdoors will be the 38,000 Flag Memorial and Memorial Wall where the public is invited to post the names of fallen loved ones.

Indoors in the church's lobby will be a life-size model of the Liberty Bell. The outdoor displays will be open dawn to dusk daily and the indoor display will be open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Guests are encouraged to

tag photos of the memorial on Facebook or Instagram with #sagemontflagmemorial.

The church's desire is to remember with gratitude those who have paid the ultimate price for our freedom.

As Jesus Christ said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13)

Sagemont Church invites all in the Greater Houston area to pause this Memorial Day and join the church in honoring those who laid down their lives on the battlefield.

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San Jacinto College sets first STEM Undergraduate Research Symposium

A bomb technician, a welder and a former third-grade teacher were among the 33 San Jacinto College students who displayed research at the college's first district wide Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Modeled after research symposia of professional conferences, the college featured a poster presentation session, a series of oral presentations, a keynote speaker and an awards ceremony. The judges were from NASA, the University of Houston-Downtown, the University of Houston-Clear Lake, University of Texas Medical Branch, Pasadena Independent School District and San Jacinto College. Dr. Paul Padley, renowned professor of astronomy and physics at Rice University, served as keynote speaker. Poster research topics varied from harvesting fog to how to alleviate food allergies.

"One of the obstacles for science, technology, engineer-

ing and mathematics majors at a community college is the lack of networking with university research faculty and the ability for them to perform research in university labs, but we're aiming to change this," said Dr. Christopher Wild, adding that the symposium will be an annual event as there is an increasing trend and need for research at two-year colleges. "We want to provide the opportunity for our students who want to perform research. We want universities to see the quality of our students' research and recruit them once they transfer."

In recent years, San Jacinto College students studying STEM fields have been selected for research internships with Rice University; NASA; Baylor College of Medicine; and the CURE Program, a partnership of the University of Iowa, San Jacinto College, Howard University, Northeastern Illinois University, and California

State University Los Angeles. Bentley Davis, San Jacinto College student and bomb technician for the U.S. Air Force, took his first shot at showcasing research by analyzing which methods and materials work best in harvesting fog to provide clean drinking water to low-income countries.

"This was a first for me being introduced to the academic research method, and I had a fantastic mentor to guide me along the way," said Davis, who previously attended Texas A&M University. When he's not traveling on military duty, Davis studies electrical engineering at San Jacinto College and plans to transfer to the University of Houston. "My next phase of research is to create robotics that can sense and interact with their environment." Davis took home an honorable mention award for his poster at the San Jacinto College Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Katherine Larson's research on food allergies has already appeared in the Journal of Pediatric Health Care. Larson is a San Jacinto College student working on her post-baccalaureate prerequisites to apply to a physician assistant school. The former third-grade teacher displayed research on severe food allergies and the gradual introduction of specific foods for desensitization.

Karime Abdeljalek, who is studying to become a chemical engineer, recently traveled to Oklahoma to present her research, which is sponsored by Microsoft. Abdeljalek's research showcased a chemistry toolbox headset, complete with an element builder and molecule builder.

Sara McAda and Marvin Valverde returned to the research presentation circuit to showcase their work from their summer internships at Rice University. McAda's poster titled "Utilizing Mitochondrial Dysfunction in

Cancer Therapeutics" took first place for poster presentation at the San Jacinto College Undergraduate Research Symposium; and Valverde's poster, "Characterization of *Shewanella oneidensis* SO0839 Transcription Factor," captured second place for poster presentation and honorable mention for the oral presentation segment of the symposium.

Additional award recipients at the San Jacinto College Undergraduate Research Symposium included honorable mentions for poster presentations to Huan Tran, Angelica Calzoncinth, Jessica Cervantes, Taylor Carnahan, Jorge Montoya and Jubayer Moyon; first place award for oral presentation to Taylor Carnahan; and an honorable mention for oral presentation to Dayoung Kim.

For more information about STEM education and research at San Jacinto College, visit sanjac.edu/stem-council.

Meador holds Cinco de Mayo parade



Meador pre-K students celebrated Cinco de Mayo with the annual Cinco de Mayo parade on Friday, May 4. Shown are, left to right, Beverly Bolton, Meador principal; Eternity Martinez; Jose Guillen; Johan Mondragon; Kayden DonJuan-Hernandez; Citlalli Cornejo; Alexa Mondragon; Brianna Torres; and Maria Rutherford, pre-K teacher.

Photo by Tara Merida

Knights of Columbus Council 9201 awards scholarships



Knights of Columbus Council 9201 at St. Luke the Evangelist awarded scholarships to 12 young people on May 12. Shown are, left to right, Kyle Mamitag; Gilbert Ramos, Grand Knight; Marvin Villatoro; Jeremy Tajonera; Hannah Tristan; Andrew Vu; Adamaris Ceja; Angela Nguyen; and Val Comeaux, scholarship committee chairman. Not pictured are Angelica Cervantes Cazares, Brandon Eifert, Lori Guerin, Ruben Perez and Benjamin Salazar. Perez and Tristan are grandchildren of past grand knights Jack Aleman and Victor Gomez. A total of \$10,500 in scholarships were awarded in memory of deceased knights Kyle Keough and Cesar Naguit. Funds were obtained through fundraisers and through the generosity of families and friends of the deceased Knights.

Photo by Maxene Mamitag

Jessup Elementary's Martin wins giveaway

A Wedo 2.0 Core Lego Set will soon be part of Elizabeth Martin's classroom at Jessup Elementary.

Shaar Hashalom organizes this year's Bites of the Bay

Once one decides to go out to eat there's always the dilemma about the kind of food to get: will it be Italian? maybe Mediterranean fits the mood better? or maybe one is not familiar with all the restaurants in Clear Lake? Well, "The fastest way to become familiar with some of the best dining establishments in your area is an Epicurean event," says Ron Zaguli, Congregation Shaar Hashalom's past president.

Indeed, Sunday, May 27, will be the one day when one will not have to wrestle with

these questions. For the 10th year, Congregation Shaar Hashalom is organizing the Epicurean event called Bites of the Bay. Attendees of the event are treated to a special afternoon for a taste of Italian, Asian, Australian and more cuisines, even American food - all under one roof, with one low admission.

Bites of the Bay also includes a silent auction and music, and will feature numerous local venues with a huge variety of foods and desserts.

tion Giveaway. During Teacher Appreciation Week, Horace Mann thanked educators by providing them with the opportunity to win up to \$500 toward a DonorsChoose.org project.

"We believe in helping all educators find solutions to achieve financial success," said Horace Mann President and CEO Marita Zuraitis. "By connecting educators to DonorsChoose.org, we can help reduce educators' personal classroom expenses and put those savings toward their financial goals."

"Educators are always looking for the best ways to reach their students, and often spend their money to do that," said Horace Mann agent Geri Borel. "We hope to help educators achieve two goals: giving their students the best possible tools to learn and identifying personal savings to invest in their futures."

Martin, who is a dyslexia teacher at Jessup, plans to use the Wedo 2.0 Core Lego Set to make two Robotics teams and give the students an opportunity to compete in area competitions.

For more information on Teacher Appreciation Week, visit horacemann.com.

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For more information on Teacher Appreciation Week, visit horacemann.com.

thanked educators by providing them with the opportunity to win up to \$500 toward a DonorsChoose.org project.

"We believe in helping all educators find solutions to achieve financial success," said Horace Mann President and CEO Marita Zuraitis. "By connecting educators to DonorsChoose.org, we can help reduce educators' personal classroom expenses and put those savings toward their financial goals."

"Educators are always looking for the best ways to reach their students, and often spend their money to do that," said Horace Mann agent Geri Borel. "We hope to help educators achieve two goals: giving their students the best possible tools to learn and identifying personal savings to invest in their futures."

Martin, who is a dyslexia teacher at Jessup, plans to use the Wedo 2.0 Core Lego Set to make two Robotics teams and give the students an opportunity to compete in area competitions.

For more information on Teacher Appreciation Week, visit horacemann.com.

CDA games party returns

Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Mother of Unity #2292 annual games party and luncheon returns on Wednesday, June 20, and invites members of the community to attend for a day of fun. Tickets are \$15 and will not be sold at the door. The day begins at 10:30 a.m. and will end at 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m., if the cooks in the purple shirts working in the kitchen remember to wear their running shoes. Lunch will consist of a taco salad and all the trimmings, chips, flautas, tea, coffee and cake for dessert. Sodas will be on sale at an extra cost as will extra dessert to munch on throughout the day.

There will be game prizes, door prizes, raffle prizes and an opportunity to win one of eight gift baskets. Spread the word, bring friends and family, but call now before tickets are gone. Contact Emily Garcia at 281-725-7871 for tickets and Carolyn Friend at 281-484-4170 for information about the Catholic Daughters.

CCEF seeks nominees for awards

Nominations are being accepted for annual awards for Distinguished Clear Creek Independent School District Alumni, CCISD Superstars and the Dennis Johnson Memorial Small Business Award. Recipients are selected by the Clear Creek Education Foundation. The Distinguished Alumni award is presented to a CCISD graduate who has excelled in his or her profession and has made a significant contribution to the community. The Superstar is an individual who has made exceptional contributions that benefited the district. The nominee may or may not be a CCISD graduate. The Dennis Johnson Memorial Small Business Award will go to an individual who has made exceptional contributions that benefit the district and community as a small business owner. To find nomination forms, visit www.ClearCreekEducationFoundation.org.

Nominations must be submitted by Aug. 1. Nominations may be mailed to Clear Creek Education Foundation, P.O. Box 1631, League City, TX 77574, or emailed to Krichardson@ClearCreekEducationFoundation.org. Awards will be presented at the annual gala Saturday, Nov. 3, at South Shore Harbour Resort.

Mendez eyes career with NASA

Eric Mendez would describe his former self as a high school football player focused on the field rather than in the classroom. However, all that changed after he attended an

Aerospace Academy event at San Jacinto College and found his possibilities to be as endless as outer space.

Mendez realized his love for mathematics and physics starting in college and began visiting the College's Artificial Intelligence Technology labs where he learned more about the Aerospace Academy. Now, two years later, Mendez has a college résumé listing the National Aerospace Scholars program, a Texas Space Grant Consortium Design Challenge team competition, the San Jacinto College Honors program, a job at Space Center Houston, and a NASA internship at the Langley Research Center near Washington, D.C.



"This has all been kind of overwhelming. I went from not being involved to having all of these doors open for me with NASA," said Mendez, who completed a Texas Space Grant Consortium project this semester under the guidance of San Jacinto College professor Nate Wiggins. As part of the Design Challenge team, Mendez researched a mesh network to help support a healthy environment for astronauts. He was also selected as a National Aerospace Scholar to learn of past, present and future Mars missions through a five-week online class and a three-day on-site workshop at NASA-Johnson Space Center.

Dr. Janis Fowler, director of the Aerospace Academy, said part of the mission of the Aerospace Academy is to find students like Mendez and cultivate their interest of the aerospace industry and NASA by identifying available resources to aid their educational journey.

"There is a focus on space commercialization right now, and the projects and opportunities around this are growing," said Fowler. "It's very important we start educating students early about the STEM research and work being done in the aerospace industry today. A moon-based station and the journey to Mars are opening up new science questions and engineering challenges that the future generation will need to solve."

The San Jacinto College Aerospace Academy provides science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)-based educational experiences for students enrolled in P-20 educational organizations. Its primary objectives include increasing interest and engagement for participation and retention of historically underserved and underrepresented K-12 youth in STEM careers - enhancing the pipeline of highly skilled, technical workers for the aerospace industry through collaborations.

The Aerospace Academy pursues research projects, space education, and scholarship opportunities for San Jacinto College students each year as well as hosts summer STEM camps for K-12 students.

For more information, visit sanjac.edu/aerospace-academy.

Through the Aerospace Academy at San Jacinto College, Eric Mendez has had opportunities with the National Aerospace Scholars program, the Texas Space Grant Consortium Design Challenge team competition and the San Jacinto College Honors Program. He currently works at Space Center Houston and will intern with NASA at the Langley Research Center near Washington, D.C.

Photo by Jeannie Peng Mansyur

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Photo by Jeannie Peng Mansyur

Clear Brook selected to host TEDx event

Clear Brook High School students have "ideas worth spreading," which is the objective and inspiration behind TED and TEDx-sanctioned events.

Based on a proposal and application submitted by the campus, Clear Brook High School was officially notified in August that they were approved and the school would be the site of a TEDx event.

TEDxClearBrookHighSchool is scheduled for May 22 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Although attendance is limited, the presentations will be streamed live for those who want to tune into the speakers' talks.

Once the school received notification of its TEDx selection, campus administration began a presenter search campaign whereby students submitted short videos pitching their ideas and topics relating to the theme, "The Choice Is Ours." More than 50 students submitted videos. In the end, the selection committee chose seven presenters from Clear Brook High School, one from Westbrook Intermediate School and two alternates.

The following are the student presenters selected based on their video submissions:

Fizza Dhanani, *Why I No Longer Have Shame to Bury;*

Claire Tichy, *Steps to Building Your Comfort with Failure;*

Braden Hoefler, *The Simplicity of Saving Energy;*

Christa Westheimer, *The New Normal;*

Syamantak Payra, *Innovation Nation;*

Jyothi Manoj (Westbrook Intermediate), *Can You Stop a Mass Murder?;*

Smiti Gandhi, *Living Energy: Using Bioluminescent Bacteria in Solar Cells;* and

Chanmarie Un, *Culture: The Silent Struggle of Immigrant Americans.*

have come out of their high school experience," said Michael Harris, Clear Brook High School teacher and TEDx event organizer. "The TEDx opportunity is especially exciting because it will provide a wider platform for students to share their ideas and unique perspectives with others in the school, within the district and beyond."

For a preview of several of the selected speakers and their topics, visit www.ccsid.net/tedxclearbrookhighschool.

To tune into the Clear Brook High School TEDx Livestream event on May 22, visit <http://clearbrook.ccsid.net>.

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Saturday	Vigil	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	7:30, 9:15, 11:15 a.m.	
Sunday	1:00 p.m. Misa en Español	
Monday, Wednesday, Friday		9:00 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday		7:00 p.m.

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

Nursery Available at all Services

Dobie names varsity cheerleaders for 2018-2019



J. Frank Dobie High School has named its varsity cheerleaders for the 2018-2019 school year. Shown are, left to right, (front row) Laila Hernandez, Maya Scott, Madelyn Spray, Bailee Dang, Michelle Kelley, Katherine Belle, Victoria Ayala, Bianca Galindo, Olga Cisneros, (back row) Alayna Murillo, Valarie Gonzalez, Sara Otwell, Andres Melchor, Andrew Salas, Alan Nguyen, Victoria Nunez, Jemmy Salinas and Briana Loredo.

Photo by Amy Otwell

Shannon retires after 42 years of teaching at CCISD

Continued from Page 1A continue this practice with future fifth-graders after his retirement.

A celebration was recently held in Shannon's honor at Weber.

Many of his past and present colleagues gathered together in wishing him congratulations on his 42 years of teaching and much success on his new adventure in retirement. To commemorate Shannon's stellar career, Weber staff and faculty registered a star named "Mickey's All-Star" with the online star registry.

"After 42 years of teaching, I have former students who are doctors and lawyers, firemen and policemen, cruise ship directors, CFOs and CEOs, as well as those still struggling to find their place," Shannon said. "My greatest joys are when former students reach out to me and share their current life, loves and concerns. There are very few students I have not loved, and I feel most have loved me. I am a happy man."



Shown above with Mickey (center) are Cheryl Chaney (left), Weber principal; and Nuri Gonzalez, Weber assistant principal.



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Shown with Mickey is his wife, Gwen Shannon.

Photos by Vanessa Diggs

Houston Symphony at Dobie

The Houston Symphony will be performing at J. Frank Dobie High School as part of its annual "Sounds Like Fun" community concert series on Friday, June 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the school's auditorium.

There will be pre-performance activities for kids such as the instrument petting zoo at 6:30 p.m.

The concert is designed for people of all ages, is free and is open to the public.

Library friends seek items

The Friends of Parker Williams Branch Library, located at 10851 Scarsdale, is seeking donations of current, gently used fiction and nonfiction books, especially adult softbacks, pocket books and children's books.

CDs and DVDs will also be accepted. The items will be sold to fund summer programs and other expenses.

Free karate self-defense classes

The American Society of Karate offers free one-hour self-defense and martial arts classes for ages 13-80 at the Sagemont Community Center, 11507 Hughes, on Fridays at 7:30 p.m. through May 25.

For more information, email Michael.Alonzo@ASKKarate.com or call 281-788-5930.

Support South Belt Leader advertisers

County recognizes cook-off organizers



Harris County Precinct 1 Commissioner Rodney Ellis' office recently recognized the organizers of the South Belt-Spectacular Cook-off for their efforts in hosting the annual event at El Franco Lee Park April 26-28. The Leader would also like to give a huge "thank you" to the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department for all its hard work throughout the event. Precinct 1 Community Aide David Matthews (center) is shown above presenting the award. Shown with Matthews above receiving the honor are, left to right, Dean Baier (SVFD), Marie Flickinger (South Belt-Ellington Leader), Lt. Mike Kritzler (Precinct 2 Constable's office), Troy Johnson (Precinct 1 Parks Department), Lt. Earl Dean (Harris County Sheriff's Office) and Chief Chuck Tylka (SVFD).

SJC named a top-10 school

Continued from Page 1A

stitute's College Excellence Program. "Through distinctive efforts to coach faculty on improving learning practices, develop clearing degree pathways and maintain excellent connections to employers that offer good jobs, San Jacinto College is rapidly improving the success rates of its very diverse student body."

San Jacinto College stands out as one of the nation's top community colleges for many reasons, including:

- A 33 percent increase in credentials awarded over the past five years;

- Five years after graduating, San Jacinto College's 2010 graduates earned 28 percent more than all other workers in the region;

- Innovative practices dedicated to improving student learning, such as permanent department chairs working closely with faculty members to assess learning techniques and improve course completion which are factors in faculty performance reviews; and

- Development of clear pathways for every degree, aligned with local employer needs and projected job growth in health care, the petrochemical industry and other fields

Community colleges today enroll about 40 percent of all U.S. undergraduates - 6 million students - who are working toward earning degrees and certificates. Improving student success across the more than 1,100 community colleges in the U.S. is critical to national efforts to develop talent and enable individual social mobility because:

- Community colleges disproportionately enroll low-income and minority students enrolled in college today;

- Community college graduation rates remain flat, with fewer than 40 percent of all entering students earning a degree and/or transferring to a four-year college or university; and

- A college degree today is more important than ever before. Recent research shows that out of the 11.6 million jobs created in the post-recession economy, 11.5 million require a college education

The 10 Aspen Prize finalists have achieved strong and improving student success rates in very different contexts - they are from rural and urban areas; serve demographically different student bodies; and offer a varied mix of technical workforce and academic transfer programs. These 10 institutions offer proof that every community college can achieve higher levels of success for students while in school and after they graduate.

The 2019 Aspen Prize finalists (listed in alphabetical order):

- Broward College - Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
- CUNY Kingsborough Community College - Brook-

lyn, N.Y.

- Indian River State College - Fort Pierce, Fla.

- Miami Dade College - Miami, Fla.

- Mitchell Technical Institute - Mitchell, S.D.

- Odessa College - Odessa, Texas

- Palo Alto College - San Antonio, Texas

- Pasadena City College - Pasadena, Calif.

- Pierce College at Fort Steilacoom - Lakewood, Wash.

- San Jacinto College - Pasadena, Texas

During the remainder of 2018, the Aspen Institute will complete a rigorous review process that includes examination of data on learning, graduation, workforce and equitable outcomes for all students as well as multi-day site visits to each of the 10 finalist institutions. In early 2019, a distinguished prize jury will select a grand prize winner, finalists-with-distinction and a rising star.

The 2017 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence was awarded to Lake

Area Technical Institute in Watertown, South Dakota. Previous Prize winners also include: Santa Fe College, Gainesville, Fla. (2015); Santa Barbara City College, Santa Barbara,

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Calif., and Walla Walla Community College, Walla Walla, Wash. (co-winners 2013); Valencia College, Orlando, Fla. (2011

SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Dobie baseball program sets Mantle league tryouts

Dobie varsity baseball head coach Miguel Torres and his staff will host Mickey Mantle summer league baseball tryouts Monday, May 21, beginning at 4:15 p.m. at the Longhorns' field.

The tryout is open to incoming Dobie High School freshmen as of the 2018-2019 school year. Participants must bring their own bat, glove, cleats, etc. The Dobie Mickey Mantle squad will compete in games beginning in June at Dobie and other surrounding schools.

Norman lands at C.E. King

Former Dobie High School varsity football head coach Mike Norman has landed on the staff at C.E. King High School in the Sheldon ISD.

Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, the Panthers will be part of District 21-6A along with Baytown Sterling, Beaumont West Brook, Channelview, Deer Park, North Shore and La Porte.

At King, Norman, who led the Dobie program from 2015 through 2017, will be an offensive assistant and associate head coach.

A longtime assistant at Pearland High School, Norman succeeded Jim Phillips at Dobie prior to 2015. The Longhorns reached the postseason that first year but have missed two straight.

Shane Brown leaves JFD girls' hoops post

At right, Dobie varsity girls' basketball head coach Shane Brown (left) discusses a late-game play with Lady Longhorns' point guard Briasia Garza (1) late in the 2017-2018 season. Brown would eventually guide the team to its second straight District 22-6A title and a bidistrict playoff round win. Earlier this month, Brown elected to leave his role, exiting a program at Dobie that has been on the rise under his leadership. As for next season and beyond, the two-time defending 22-6A champions will enter a new alignment that includes current District 21-6A champion Atascocita and Region III semifinalist Summer Creek. See story on Page 6B.

Photo by John Bechtle



Despite Region XIV setback, SJC baseball eyes tourney title

Only Northeast Texas Community College stands in the way of another trip to the JUCO World Series for the San Jacinto College baseball team.

Then again, both Alvin and Northeast stood in SJC's path the day before, only to be sent home with crushing defeats.

At press time, San Jacinto was going against Northeast Texas in a winner-take-all game to decide Region XIV's National Junior College Athletic Association Division I World Series participant.

San Jacinto defeated host Angelina 11-4 to open the tournament and then sent Alvin to the loser's bracket with a 4-1 win.

Northeast Texas, however, made waves by defeating San Jacinto 7-6 in extra innings, putting the Gators on the brink of elimination.

Have no fear, however, as the Gators responded by first run-ruling Alvin 16-6 in an elimination game. Thirty minutes later, SJC took to the field once more, eventually downing Northeast Texas

9-3 to force one last game. The Region XIV tournament winner will advance to the Division I JUCO World Series later this month and into June in Grand Junction, Colo.

SJC, the top-ranked program in the Division I ranks on multiple occasions this season, has finished as the national runner-up in each of the last two seasons and three times this decade.

Down goes Alvin
In a do-or-go-home game against Alvin May 15, Continued on Page 3B

Dobie HS sophs to play in Okla.

Dobie High School varsity baseball sophomore right-hander Daniel Garza and teammate Justin Blogg have been selected to play in the 24th annual Sophomore Sun Belt Tournament June 1-3, in Oklahoma City.

Team Texas will go against squads from Canada, Oklahoma and Nebraska at Dolese Park.

Garza and Blogg were two of 46 players chosen for Team Texas from a pool of more than 100 candidates.

The teams will include players from Class A through Class 6A from each of the state's four regions.

The sophomores will be two of Dobie's key returnees next season as the Longhorns enter play in the revamped District 22-6A ranks, which will include Atascocita, Humble, Kingwood and Summer Creek in addition to the Pasadena ISD schools.

Dobie, Atascocita, Humble (Class 5A), Kingwood and Summer Creek all reached the playoffs this season.

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★ **SAGEGLEN** - R... #101... -ac. Looks Great! #SWD

Longhorns release 2018 schedule

- Aug. 31** - at Santa Fe, 7 p.m., Indian Stadium
- Sept. 7** - at Bellaire, 7 p.m., Butler Stadium
- Sept. 22** - Summer Creek, 6 p.m., Veterans
- Sept. 29** - Pasadena, 7 p.m., Veterans
- Oct. 5** - Humble, 7 p.m., Veterans (HC)
- Oct. 12** - Kingwood, 7 p.m., Veterans
- Oct. 20** - Humble, 7 p.m., Turner
- Oct. 26** - Rayburn, 7 p.m., Veterans
- Nov. 2** - S. Houston, 7 p.m., Veterans
- Nov. 8** - Memorial, 6 p.m., Veterans



Dobie varsity football star tailback Kris Morris (20), a starter for parts of three seasons to this point, will return for his final season in 2018 as the Longhorns kick off first-year head coach Kevin Berneathy's tenure. At the varsity level, the Longhorns will play at Santa Fe (Indian Stadium) and at Bellaire (Butler Stadium) to open the 2018 campaign, then will play seven of their eight District 22-6A games at Veterans Stadium in Pasadena.

Photo by David Flickinger

Johnson leads LSA nines to state championship tilt

Senior left-hander Kolby Johnson tossed a one-hit shutout as the Lutheran South Academy varsity baseball team reached the state championship game with a 4-0 win over San Antonio Christian May 15 at Crosby High School.

With the win, the Pioneers advanced to the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools' Class 4A state championship game May 16, after press time. LSA last won the state title at the conclusion of the 2015 season.

Johnson dominated S.A. Christian on the mound and also homered in the first inning to give his team the only run it would need to win the state semifinal. With one out in the first inning, Johnson

blasted a solo shot over the left field fence for a quick 1-0 lead.

LSA tacked on insurance runs three times during the game, with leadoff hitter Evan Buisson driving in a pair.

Buisson was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded and later rocked an RBI triple as the Pioneers, winners of 30 of 37 games this season, got within one win of the state championship.

LSA began the post-season with a 12-2, 13-2 series sweep of San Antonio Incarnate Word before beating rival Second Baptist 3-2 to reach the state tournament.

The Pioneers defeated Hyde Park in 2015 for the state championship.

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At right, members of the San Jacinto College program gathered one last time as a team to celebrate the players' signing of letters of intent to continue their education and playing careers elsewhere beyond the 2017-2018 school year. Those players include, left to right, Destiny Leon (Marshall), Mir Tillman (Huston Tillotson), Margarita Buvinic (Barry), Raven Oates (North Carolina-Pembroke), Haley Nelson (Brookhaven), Madison Rhoder (Tulsa), Morerani Maire (Lamar) and Radka Brichackova (Lee College). With the players are (standing) SJC assistant volleyball coach Jeff Pearce and SJC head volleyball coach Sharon Nelson.

Jeannie Peng-Mansyur photo



San Jacinto College volleyballers land scholarships; to continue careers

By Jeannie Peng Mansyur
SJC Marketing

The San Jacinto College volleyball team captured a slew of awards, ending the 2017 season with all of the team's roster signed to transfer and continue their collegiate education and volleyball careers.

The 2017-2018 team included 10 sophomores and five freshmen. All 15 will transfer to continue their education, and most continuing to play while doing so.

"Over the history of the program, we have seen numerous players transfer with full scholarship offers to continue their educational and athletic goals," said SJC head volleyball coach Sharon Nelson.

"Consistently, year after year, if a player wanted to move on and play at the university level, then they had an opportunity to do so. San Jacinto College

and its community have provided an amazing beginning for their journey."

Nelson said she is proud of the college's tradition of academic and athletic prowess throughout the program's history. This season was no different.

Nine of the 15 members consistently made the dean's list, with many holding Phi Theta Kappa membership.

The sophomore class has nine of 10 graduating, and the entire team is transfer eligible. Nationally, the program boasts three National Junior College Athletic Association Academic All-Americans (GPA 3.6+), is a two-time NJCAA Academic Team of the Year (Team GPA +3.0), and is on pace to repeat as an American Volleyball Coaches Association Academic Team of the Year (Team GPA 3.25+).

"We've been very blessed with focused, tal-

ented and determined student-athletes," added Nelson.

"They have accomplished great things for many years. The transfer rate for our players over the history of the volleyball program is well into the 90 percent range.

"There have been a few players who had opportunities to play on, but decided to focus solely on their academic careers. Many of those went into nursing, some right here in our nationally recognized nursing program.

"The majority are just like this year's team, who came to San Jac, found a home, jump started their academics with phenomenal professors, grew into confident women, and gained valuable experience for the next step of their journey.

"When you add the regional and national athletic honors and the 100 per-

cent athletic opportunity to transfer and continue, you simply put a nice final touch to the package that is San Jacinto College women's volleyball."

Players MarkKayla Dickie and Bradyn Rice both graduated early in December 2017 to transfer to their universities of choice.

Dickie, a dean's list student and Region XIV All-Academic Team selection, will play for the University of Arkansas - Monticello.

Rice, a dean's list student and Region XIV All-Academic Team selection, opted to transfer to Sam Houston State University to further her studies. She will no longer play volleyball.

The San Jac volleyball Most Valuable Player, Madison Rhoder, signed with the University of Tulsa.

Rhoder's awards during

her freshman and sophomore years include Region XIV Player of the Year, NJCAA National Player of the Week for October 23-29, 2017, All-Region XIV Region Tournament Team, First Team All-Region, NJCAA First Team All-American and AVCA Second Team All-American.

Addie Bryant, a dean's list student, All-Region player, two-time Libero of the Year and Lee College All-Tournament team player, will play for the University of South Carolina.

Moerani Maire, All-Region XIV, two-time Setter of the Year, two-time First-Team All-Region selection and Lee College All-Tournament Team player, will play for Lamar University.

San Jac's Elena Hadzhieva, a dean's list student and NJCAA Academic All-American, will play for Mid-America

Christian University. Raven Oates, All-Region XIV and Lee College Tournament MVP, will play for University of North Carolina-Pembroke.

Margarita Buvinic, a dean's list student and All-Region XIV, Region XIV All-Academic Team selection and NJCAA Academic All-American, will play for Barry University.

Mir Tillman, a dean's list and Honor's student and Region XIV All-Academic Team selection, will play for Huston-Tillotson University.

Savannah Sheridan, an All-Region award recipient, is in the final stages of narrowing her transfer university choices.

Freshman Brenna Munsch will transfer to focus on her degree at Blinn College before moving on to a four-year university, and classmate Caitlin Pray will join the U.S. Army.

The remaining freshmen will transfer to continue playing while achieving their academic goals. Radka Brichackova, a dean's list student, will play for Lee College; Destiny Leon will play for Marshall University; and Haley Nelson will play for Brookhaven College.

The San Jac volleyball team ended its last season with a 27-7 record, finishing second in conference while weathering Hurricane Harvey.

During the Harvey aftermath, the team gave back to the community at a local Red Cross shelter and collected donations of water and supplies for hurricane victims.

The season ended with the team ranked 12th in the NJCAA.

On trying to summarize the program's impact and history Nelson said, "That's practically impossible to state. But I can tell

you my first memory of San Jac was as an opponent walking into the presence of Ander's Gym right after the San Jac volleyball team claimed the national title and when Sam Cassell roamed the hallways of the Central campus.

"The presence of 'San Jac Success' literally sat on you when you entered the gym as an opponent, and you were already mentally beaten.

"Student-athlete after student-athlete developed that presence and confidence here, and that is a powerful impact."

When the opportunity came in 2002, Nelson joined the San Jac volleyball program and said she has not regretted that decision one time in her 16 years.

"It's been a true honor to be a part of this program," she said. "Being provided the opportuni-

ty to help develop future leaders in a powerful program, built by so many, was a dream come true.

"Although it is ending, I am incredibly blessed to have been on this journey at an amazing institution with phenomenal women who we had the opportunity to impact and who have changed my life forever."

The team won one national title in 1987, under head coach Becky Lidolph, and has finished as national runner-up three times since the program began in 1974.

Between Lidolph (1981-2001) and Nelson (2002-2018), the program has recorded more than 1,100 wins, including 20 conference championships, seven conference runner-up finishes, 16 regional championships and 16 national tournament appearances.

See more signees at www.sanjacsports.com.

Summer camps, clinics, misc. notes

The Thompson Intermediate coaching staff has scheduled a variety of camps and fitness activities aimed at keeping first-year and returning Lion athletes active this summer.

Parents must provide medical insurance coverage as the Pasadena ISD does not do so for these types of events.

Boot Camp - Available in three different 9 to 11 a.m. sessions, the Lions' boot camp for boys and girls will include strength training, agility drills, tire work, stair climbing, ladder work, weight training, conditioning and more. The sessions are June 11-14, June 18-21 and June 25-July 28. Registration is \$25 cash only per session (\$25 for one session, \$75 for all).

Soccer Camp - The Lions' July 9-12 soccer camp for boys and girls will include training in all phases of the game, including offensive and defensive alignments, conditioning, goal-keeping, etc. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

Basketball Camp - The Lions' July 16-19 basketball camp for boys and girls will include training in all phases of the game, including offensive and defensive alignments, conditioning, passing, dribbling, rebounding, shooting, etc. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

Volleyball Camp - The Lady Lions' July 31-Aug. 3 volleyball camp for girls will include training in all phases of the game, including offensive and defensive alignments, conditioning, passing, hitting, serving, blocking, etc. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

Strength/Conditioning Camp - The Lions' July 23-26 strength and conditioning camp for boys and girls will include strength training, agility drills, tire work, stair climbing, ladder work, weight training, conditioning and more. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

Football Camp - The Lions' July 30-Aug. 2 football camp will include strength training as well as drills in all phases of the game, including passing, receiving, ball carrying, tackling, defensive secondary work and more. Registration is \$25 cash only per student. Camp hours are 9 to 11 a.m.

Aug. 10 - All football players, including incoming seventh-grade students, will pick up their football practice gear and pay a one-time \$65 participation fee. All volleyball players, including incoming seventh-grade students, will pick up their practice gear and pay a one-time \$45 participation fee. Eighth-grade pickup time is 10 a.m. to noon, with seventh-grade pickup time to follow from 1 to 3 p.m.

Clear Brook youth girls' basketball camp

Clear Brook varsity girls' basketball coach Garrett Hilton and his staff will host the Clear Brook Lady Wolverine basketball camp for incoming fifth- through ninth-graders as of the 2018-2019 school year. The camp will be held June 11-14 at Clear Brook High School. Enrollment fee is \$90 before June 1 and \$100 thereafter. Walk-up registration is \$100.

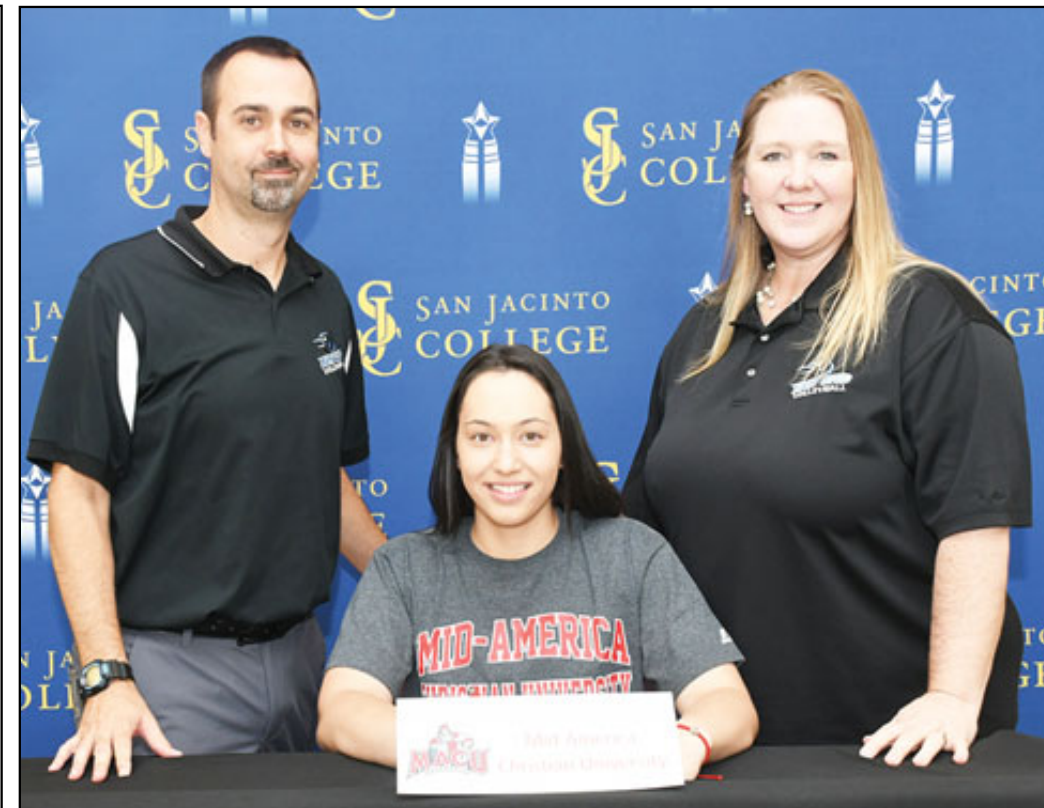
The camp is available only to Clear Creek Independent School District students. Families are also required to provide participants' medical insurance. For more information, call Hilton at 817-504-4866 or direct email to him at ghilton@ccisd.net.

At right, San Jacinto College volleyball player Addie Bryant (seated) will continue her education and playing career at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. Those at the signing included SJC teammates, left to right, (front row) Madison Rhoder, Raven Oates, Moreira Maire, Mir Tillman, (back row) Radka Brichackova, Caitlin Pray, Savannah Sheridan, Margarita Buvinic, Elena Hadzhieva, Brenna Munsch, Haley Nelson and Destiny Leon.



At right, San Jacinto College volleyball player Elena Hadzhieva (seated), a dean's list student at SJC and NJCAA Academic All-American, will continue her education and playing career at Mid-America Christian University in Oklahoma City. Those at the signing included, left to right, (standing) San Jacinto College assistant volleyball coach Jeff Pearce and SJC volleyball head coach Sharon Nelson. The MACU program competes in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics and is led by first-year head coach Faith Avalos. A native of Bulgaria, Hadzhieva played her freshman and sophomore seasons at SJC.

Jeannie Peng-Mansyur photos



24-6A Varsity Softball 2018 All-District Honorees

Most Valuable Player
Rachel Hertenberger, Alvin

Coach of the Year
David McCorkle, Alvin

Newcomer of the Year
Demi Elder, Clear Springs

First Team Selections

P – Kelly Maxwell, Clear Springs
C – Madison Petrella, Clear Creek
1B – Kendall Cross, Friendswood
2B – Mallory Langford, Clear Springs
3B – Brianna Aranzeta, Clear Creek
SS – Patricia Yarotsky, Friendswood
OF – Hannah Crawford, Clear Springs
OF – Christiana Winger, Clear Brook
OF – Avery Heam, Alvin
OF – Reagan Jones, Friendswood
Util. – Kaylee Thomas, Clear Springs
DP – Chelsi Olvera, Clear Falls
At-large – Baylee Klingler, Dickinson
At-large – Meagan Lee, Clear Creek

Local sports news, notes

Dobie football to host May 19 dodgeball tourney

The Dobie High School football program will host a fun-filled dodgeball tournament Saturday, May 19, at the Dobie 9 campus. All Dobie students who provide their campus identification card are eligible to compete. The fee is \$10 per player, and teams will consist of five girls and five boys. Those interested may contact Dobie football booster club member Gloria Wallace via email at gloria.wallace73@gmail.com.

Rising Stars registering

The Rising Stars Track Club, the South Belt area's longstanding youth program, is currently accepting registration and is conducting preseason workouts at the Dobie High School track. Team coaches are hosting workouts each Wednesday and Friday, from 4:45 p.m. to dark, Saturdays from noon to 2 p.m. and Sundays from 3 to 5 p.m. Both returning and first-year team members may register at any of the workout sessions.

Seahawks FB signing up

The Blackhawk Seahawks youth football program, complete with drill team and cheerleading squads, is currently registering boys and girls ages 5 to 12 years old, for the 2018 fall season. The cost is \$200 each for football players and \$350 each for drill team and cheerleader members. The Blackhawk Seahawks are members of the Texas Intercity Football Inc. (TIFI) and play their home games at Dobie High School. To register youths, visit the team website at www.leaguelineup.com/blackhawkseahawks. For additional information, call team president Lisa Sanchez at 832-969-8542.

JUCO baseball – San Jac nears national tournament; winner-take-all game against Northeast to decide R14

Continued from Page 1B

San Jacinto College came out swinging its bats, building a 5-0 lead and eventually sending Alvin packing with a 16-6 victory at Roadrunner Park.

Luke Matheny, son of St. Louis Cardinals manager Mike Matheny, moved to 7-1 this season, going 5 1/3 innings on the hill for the win.

There were many heroes in the game, but it was Peter Zimmerman who delivered the big blow.

With his team already comfortably in front, Zimmerman rocked a walk-off grand slam in the bottom of the seventh inning to

end the festivities.

Matt Goodheart, starting what was a big day at the plate, was 4 for 4, scoring two runs and driving in a pair of runs.

Alerick Soularie was also huge for the Gators, going 2 for 3 with a run scored and two RBIs.

Zimmerman, who had two hits in five at-bats, scored two runs.

Evening the score

Vanquishing Alvin, San Jacinto next turned its attention to Northeast Texas, coming up with a 9-3 victory to send the Region XIV tournament to a final winner-take-all game.

San Jacinto College ace Jacob Cantleberry went to

the hill for the Gators and was spectacular. In seven innings of work, Cantleberry fanned 10 to earn the victory. Two other relievers pitched an inning each to close out the win.

Soularie, Sergio Macias and Herbert Iser all rocked home runs to lift the offense.

Soularie homered, doubled and drove in a pair of runs while scoring twice.

Macias had three hits, scored twice and drove in three runs. He also homered and doubled.

Iser had just one hit in five at-bats, but it was a big three-run homer that aided the cause.

Goodheart had three

hits in the game and scored three times from the lead-off spot.

The win made up for a 7-6 loss to Northeast Texas the day before, a game that lasted 11 innings and sent the four-time defending tournament champions into the loser's bracket with three games to win.

SJC 4 Alvin 1

Things came together for San Jacinto College against longtime Region XIV foe Alvin.

In a second-round winner's bracket game, the Gators led 4-0 entering the ninth inning. The Dolphins scored one run late, but SJC went on to win

4-1. Jacob Matheny, doubled among his two hits and drove in two runs.

Macias had two hits and drove in a run, and Soularie scored a pair of runs and drove in another.

San Jacinto College starting pitcher Devon Roedahl made a bid for the complete-game shut-out but went 8 2/3 innings, striking out 10 along the way. He allowed four hits and a run in his outing.

Roedahl, who improved to 8-0 this season, watched as Aaron George recorded the final out for the save.

SJC 4 Alvin 1

The Gators coasted to

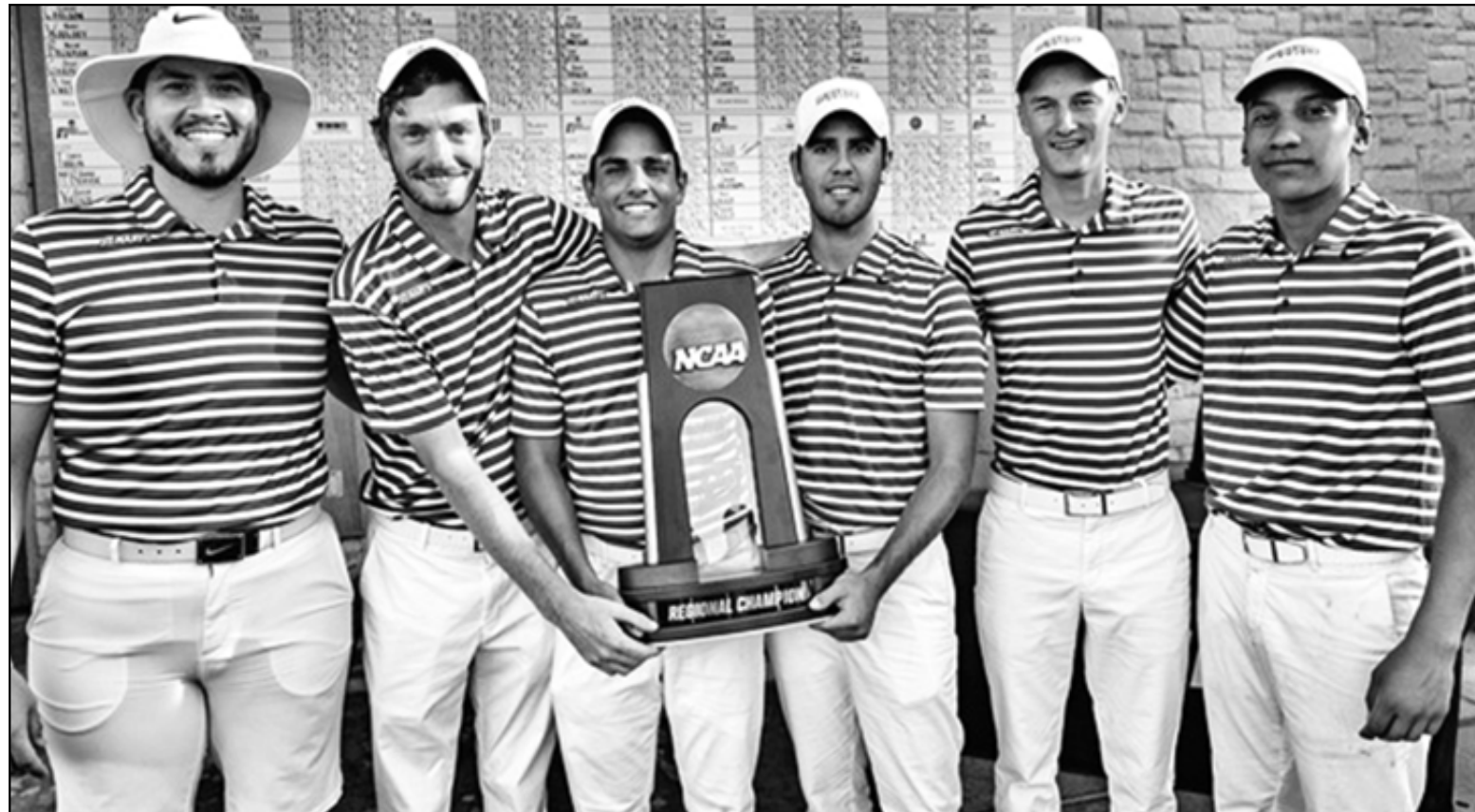
an easy 11-4 victory over Angelina in the tournament opener for both teams May 12.

The game was tied at 4-4 before San Jac basically put things away with a five-run fifth inning.

Trent Franson had two hits, scored a run and drove in three runs. Nick Neville had two hits, scored a run and drove in two.

Iser, who drove in three runs, had two hits. Soularie had two hits, stole three bases and scored three runs. Reid Morgan got the win in relief.

For updates, visit www.trnsports.com or www.njcaa.org.



After entering the third and final round trailing California Baptist by a single stroke, the St. Mary's University men's golf team rallied to overtake California Baptist for the NCAA Division II West/South Central Regional championship — the first in the program's history — by four strokes May 9 at La Paloma Golf Club. Members of the Ratters' team include, left to right, Alejandro Santi-

banez, Dobie High School graduate Ben Arnett, Emilio Gonzalez, Jake Stevenson, Ryan Dixon and Eric Valenzuela. Gonzalez helped lead the Ratters to the title, scoring the college's first-ever regional top finish. He lost in sudden death on the second playoff hole but still helped his team advance to nationals.

Trey Reed photo

Dobie grad Arnett helps St. Mary's secure regional golf title

The NCAA regional championship trophy was hoisted May 9, but St. Mary's University men's golfer Eric Valenzuela traced its origins back much further.

All the way back to August, in fact, when the team gathered for the very first time in head coach Thomas Kearney's office.

"We put together a game plan," Valenzuela recalled, "and lived up to what we want to be on the golf course and as individuals off the golf course."

When you do everything right outside of golf, it's easier on the golf course.

"It's just a testament to coach Thomas Kearney and what he's done for this program." A fact that was on full display as the Ratters closed in on history.

After entering the third and final round trailing

California Baptist by a single stroke, St. Mary's rallied to overtake California Baptist for the NCAA Division II West/South Central Regional championship — the first in the program's history — by four strokes at La Paloma Golf Club.

Sophomore Emilio Gonzalez spearheaded the surge, climbing from three strokes back after Day 2 to tie for first place for the best individual regional finish in the team's history.

Gonzalez lost a two-hole playoff to Colorado Mines' George Markham for the individual title, but that hardly mattered afterward to the sophomore from San Miguel, Mexico, considering what his team had just accomplished.

"I was so excited for the guys — for us — more than anything that I guess the playoff didn't

really mean that much to me," Gonzalez said with a chuckle.

"I knew (the playoff) was a big thing, and I gave my best."

"The other guy just played a better second hole. When I lost the playoff, I shook his hand and went straight to the boys. Inside, I was just so happy and so emotional."

Senior Ben Arnett's mind went to similar places as they gazed into the regional championship trophy, thinking of the long line of former Rattler teammates who helped pave the road to make this day possible.

"I know a lot of people that have worked really hard to achieve this," said Arnett, who is considered the best-ever boys' golfer at Dobie High School.

"I'm extremely blessed that both Emilio and Eric

have been here since (winning regionals) has been the goal. It's everything that I hoped it would be and more."

Gonzalez carded a 4-under-par 67 May 9, finishing 5-under for the tournament.

Freshman Alejandro Santibanez turned in the team's second-best performance of the final round, shooting a 1-over 72 to finish tied for 30th.

Valenzuela, a redshirt junior, shot 75 for a second straight day, finishing tied for 15th.

Arnett and Ryan Dixon shot 80 and 76, respectively, in the final round.

"We didn't play special," Arnett said. "We just hung in there. We managed our games very well today."

Which made his coach especially proud.

"I'm so proud of the

individual finish was Luke Antonelli's second-place performance in 2003.

"We are not done yet!" Kearney said. "We'll now take a day or two off, and then get back to work in preparation for Alabama."

"It's a course we enjoyed playing during the National Preview in March as it suits our strengths very well. We can't wait to get there!"

A sentiment his players share.

"Holding the regional championship trophy is awesome, but we're not done yet," Valenzuela said.

"Obviously, the main goal is the national championship. We're excited to represent St. Mary's on the bigger stage going forward."

"We've got to get back on the grind and take on Alabama."

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, MAY 17

AA Meeting – "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club – 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) – Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Texas German Society, South Belt (SE) Chapter – A social group focused on the culture, music, heritage and language of Texas German immigrants. Meets the third Thursday, monthly, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall of Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 10310 Scarsdale Blvd. Visitors welcome. Email OpaGivesHugs@gmail.com for details.

Harris County Master Gardeners – presents *Insects In The Garden* on Thursday, May 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. This is a free Harris County Master Gardener event. For details, visit <https://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/pubGreenThumb.aspx> or call 713-274-0950.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) – Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.

Alcoholics Anonymous – Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 - 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For

details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

The Bay Area Writers' League – Meets the first and third Thursdays monthly to improve writing skills, Barnes and Noble, 1029 W. Bay Area Blvd., 7:30 p.m. Newcomers welcome.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

AA Meeting – "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club – Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) – West End Group, noon, Shepherd of the Heart United Methodist Church, 12005 County Rd. 39, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) – Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. Call 713-856-1611.

Serenity Now Al-Anon Group – meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

Alcoholics Anonymous – "Breakfast with Bill", Saturdays, 7:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) – Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For information, call 713-856-1611.

Al-Anon Meeting (Women Only, English) – For women affected by an addict. Saturdays, 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, Cornell Conference room #111. Call 281-487-8787, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club – Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Bay Area Bluegrass Association – bluegrass music show and jam session on the third Saturday (except December). Stage show is at 7 p.m. Pickers may bring instruments and come early. Free. Johnny Arloff Civic Center, 300 Walker, League City. For details, visit <http://www.bayareabluegrass.org>.

Alcoholics Anonymous – meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

Clear Lake Bridge Club – Open games Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Grief Support Group – For adults who have lost a loved one. Meets Sundays, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas, 2 to 3:15 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena. For details, call 281-487-8787.

Celebrate Recovery – A faith-based 12-Step Program, Sundays, 5:30 p.m., in the Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Almeda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details or to RSVP for child care.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) – Vigilance Group of NA meets Sundays, 7 p.m., 2245 N. Main St., Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Alcoholics Anonymous – Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

Alcoholics Anonymous – meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

MONDAY, MAY 21

Al-Anon Deer Park – Mondays, 10 - 11 a.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club – Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsner@aol.com for details.

Seniors and Law Enforcement Together – SALT meetings are 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Madison Jobe Senior Center, 1700 East Thomas St., in Pasadena on the third Monday. January meeting is on the second Monday. Meetings start timely and teach seniors how to avoid identity theft, scams, fraud, etc. Police officers and sheriffs may be in attendance. Free. Refreshments served. For details, call 713-477-0175.

Continued on Page 4B

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B

MONDAY, MAY 21

Overeaters Anonymous Deer Park - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Literature Study. In His Presence Fellowship Church, 1202 East P Street, Deer Park. Enter through Fellowship Hall in back of church. Call 409-454-5720 for details, or drop in.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Genealogy Group - The Parker Williams Genealogy group meets from 2 - 4 p.m. on the first and third Mondays at the Parker Williams Library, Beamer at Scarsdale. The public is invited to attend. For details, email Liz Hicks at erootrot@usa.net.

Houston Area Parkinson Society - Free exercise and speech therapy for adults with Parkinson's, 3:15 - 4:45 p.m., Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit www.hapsonline.org for details.

New Directions Singles - Age 50 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. NASA Pkwy. For details, call Margarita at 832-715-9658.

Scrabble Club #511 - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Come, improve crossword playing skills. Call 281-488-2923 for details.

Pearland Overeaters Anonymous HOW Meeting - Mondays at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2535 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland. Enter door next to recycling bins. For details, call 713-865-3668 or visit www.oahouston.org.

Survivors of Suicide Support Group - gives coping skills in a non-threatening environment to adults who have lost a loved one to suicide. For details email LynneAnnH@yahoo.com or visit www.crisishotline.org.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.

The Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society - Meets the third Monday at Clear Lake Park Bldg., 5001 NASA Pkwy., Seabrook. Presenters explore topics such as fossils, planetary geology, mineralogy, lapidary, jewelry making, fossil and mineral collecting. Field trips to Texas collecting sites and surrounding states. Interested persons welcome. Door prizes. Free parking. For details, visit www.clgms.org.

Congregation Shaar Hashalom - Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., 16020 El Camino Real, 77062. \$4/session or \$35/10 sessions for CSH members and \$5/session or \$45/10 sessions for nonmembers. Everyone is welcome. For details, contact 281-488-5861 or csh@shaarhashalom.org.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Saint Luke's Group, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Education Bldg., 11011 Hall Rd., 77089. For details, call Russell at 832-483-6715.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. For details, call 713-472-0565.

American Begonia Society - Houston Satellite meets on the fourth Tuesday, Clear Lake Park, 5001 NASA Pkwy. (on the lake side), Seabrook. For information, call Joe at 281-481-2458.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsn@aol.com for details.

Hometown Heroes Park - has dance lessons Tuesdays following the senior luncheon taught by 35-year dance area instructors Lewis and Betty Whistler at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. For questions regarding lessons, call 832-517-5833. A \$25 activity card is required for nonresidents which is free to senior League City residents. For questions about the activity card, call the park office at 281-554-1180.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Rotary Club of Pearland - Meets Tuesdays, noon to 1 p.m., Golfcrest Country Club, 2509 Country Club Dr., Pearland. Lunch is \$15. Variety of interesting speakers. For information, call 281-900-7257 or visit nalix@texascitizensbank.com.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) - #1530 meets at the Sagemont Park Community Center, 11507 Hughes Rd., 1:30 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.

Clear Lake Bridge Club Lab Class - Tuesday, 2 p.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. For details or classes, contact Dr. Glandorf at drglandorf@sbcglobal.net or call 281-488-6318.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.

Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

AAA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

Young at Heart Senior Club - Meets the second and fourth week monthly (Nov./Dec. meet second week only) at Covenant United Methodist Church, 7900 Fuqua. Lots of activities, trips, etc. Call Jan Okumura at 832-298-9480 for details.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - Open games Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsn@aol.com for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Hometown Heroes Park - has free Hump Day Dance to practice ballroom dance, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1001 E. League City Pkwy. League City nonresidents must purchase activity card (See Tuesday 12:30 p.m. dance for details.) This is a casual, practice dance (not formal lessons) and is open to all ages. Everyone may dress comfortably and enjoy dancing in a safe, friendly environment on a beautiful floating hardwood floor. Name tags are provided to assist in getting acquainted. Having a partner is helpful but dancers without partners are welcome. For details, call Neva Schroder at 417-838-2204.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church-youth bldg. For information, call 713-856-1611.

Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention - Call 281-286-2525 (24-hour crisis hotline) for confidential domestic violence/sexual abuse support group for women. Visit www.bayareaturningpoint.org for information.

Alcoholics Anonymous - meeting at CrossRoads UMC on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For information, call 281-484-9243.

THURSDAY, MAY 24

AA Meeting - "Breakfast With Bill" Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 281-487-8787 for details, or drop in.

Clear Lake Bridge Club - 299'er games Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m., 16614 Sea Lark, 77062. Call the club at 281-480-1911 or email the director at jpochnsn@aol.com for details.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group, noon, 2245 N. Main, Pearland. For details, call 713-856-1611.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Women's Group, open meeting, 7 p.m., 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-856-1611.

Alcoholics Anonymous - Alcohol problems? Meets Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 - 8 p.m., St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta St. For details, call 713-306-4366 or 713-480-4166.

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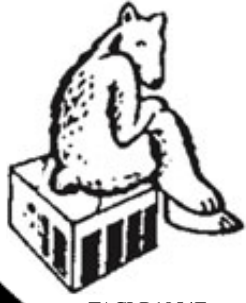
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Girls' hoops coach Brown exits

By John Bechtle
Sports Editor

Perhaps Shane Brown knew the 2017-2018 varsity girls' basketball post-season would provide the closing chapter to a solid run as the varsity girls' basketball head coach at Dobie.

Maybe it truly took some time to come to a decision. Regardless, Brown, who had led the Lady Longhorns' program for each of the past 11 seasons, has ended his stay.

Earlier this month, Brown informed Dobie principal Franklin Moses of his decision to leave the program. The official job opening post hit the Pasadena ISD website May 8, and the process of finding Brown's successor is ongoing.

It's a search that simply hasn't been necessary for ages. Doug Gibson, who led Dobie to its only Region III championship in school history (2003-2004), was the program's leader from the 1988-89 through the 2006-2007 school years.

At that time, Gibson had presided over the greatest era of Lady Longhorn basketball. Numerous players went on to compete successfully at the NCAA Division I level.

Class of 2007 graduate Karima Christmas later attended Duke and is still playing in the WNBA as well as overseas.

Then Dobie principal Steve Jamail scored big when he landed Gibson's

replacement, Brown.

While Gibson had things rolling at Dobie, Brown was performing his own magic at Houston Baptist University as the women's basketball head coach.

Over a five-year span as head coach at HBU, Brown won 166 games and lost just 24. His teams played in five straight National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics national tournaments, finishing the 2004-2005 as the No. 1 ranked team in the country.

Brown won three straight Red River Athletic Conference Coach of the Year awards from 2002-2003 through 2004-2005.

But then, just like now, it was time for a change. And why not finish with a bang.

During the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 seasons, the Lady Longhorns delivered consecutive 13-1 records in District 22-6A action.

Two seasons ago, Dobie represented the district as the No. 1 seed in the playoffs and soundly defeated Kingwood before losing to Clear Creek in the area round.

Despite losing a great deal of scoring in the off-season to graduation, the Lady Longhorns repeated as champions this season, winning 11 straight district games at one point.

The Lady Longhorns this year defeated North Shore in the bidistrict round before an area-round loss to Summer Creek.

It would be Brown's final game. A Fort Bend area resident, Brown has for years been the public address announcer for the Sugarland Skeeters independent league baseball organization. He told the *Leader* he will remain in that role.

Moses said that while the search for Brown's replacement is in the works, there is no rush to get to the finish line.

Citing the typical hurried finish of the school year, Moses added that the school year will likely end before a successor to

Brown is named.

"Shane did an absolutely terrific job for us for 11 seasons," Moses said.

"Not only did he have a great deal of success on the basketball court, but he also led the vision of helping to develop outstanding young women off the

court. Clearly, I was disappointed to see Shane move on, but he has things that he wants to do in his life that he deserves to do.

"When the time is right, I'm sure we will find the right person to lead our girls' basketball program into the future."



A three-time conference Coach of the Year winner at Houston Baptist University before arriving at Dobie, Shane Brown (standing in forefront) spent 11 seasons at the Lady Longhorns' varsity basketball head coach. With back-to-back district championships and bidistrict playoff game wins, Brown has stepped aside at Dobie. The search for his successor is expected to extend into the summer.

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