



# South Belt-Ellington Leader

## Serving South Belt since 1976

The Voice of Community-Minded People

Thursday, July 11, 2024

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

Vol. 49, No. 24

### Leader without electricity

The Leader as of Friday was still without electricity. With a great amount of difficulty, and ingenuity by Davy Flickinger, the publication's computer guru, the paper was published.

Marie Flickinger, founder of the Leader is grateful for Davy's assistance, as well as help from John Bechtel, Bo Bolen and Rosa Graham.

### City holds recycling

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, July 13, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Recycling electronics keeps potentially harmful materials, such as mercury, cadmium, lead and cathode ray tubes out of the waste stream and the environment.

Items accepted are PCs, servers, keyboards, mice, laptops, game consoles, monitors, small kitchen appliances, hubs and routers, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, projectors, rechargeable batteries, cable boxes, car batteries, telephones, cellphones, PDAs, tape drives, hard drives, cords, cables and cameras. For more information, visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 311.

### CBCMUD trash rules

Residential trash services will be back to normal on Thursday, July 11. Trash should be placed curbside by 6 a.m. on assigned collection day.

Household trash is the priority. Make sure to separate household trash from yard and storm debris. Only eight items will be picked up on each collection day. Per District Guidelines: Small tree limbs must be no longer than 4', be bundled with tape or rope in piles that are no heavier than 40 pounds. NO branches larger than 4" in diameter will be collected by Texas Pride Disposal.

### HOA meeting canceled

Sagemeadow subdivision's July HOA meeting has been canceled. The next meeting will be Aug. 15 with special guest Jeremy Ratcliff of the Harris County Flood Control District. This and all meetings are open to the public. For more information, visit our website, www.sagemeadow.org.

### Knights to host blood drive

The Knights of Columbus will host a blood drive Sunday, July 21, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, 11011 Hall. Blood is needed daily for medical needs. All are urged to donate. All are welcome.

### Local COVID cases reported

The number of reported COVID-19 cases in the South Belt community remains roughly on par with the previous week, according to Harris County health officials. As of Tuesday, July 9, there were 295 active cases in 77089, no change from the previous week. To date, 134 from the ZIP code have died from the disease, no increase from the previous week. In ZIP code 77075, there were six active cases, no change from the previous week.

### Hughes/Sabo closure

At least one southbound lane of Hughes/Sabo will be closed continuously at Beltway 8 until further notice. The closures are associated with a city of Houston project to replace a force water main at the intersection.

### FFA looking for hay

The Dobbie FFA Booster Club is seeking donations of hay. For information, call Samantha Hernandez at 832-652-7579.

### Beltway 8 closure planned

At least one northbound frontage road lane on Beltway 8 will be closed from Greenshadow to SH 225 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily through Tuesday, July 16. The closures are associated with the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from two to four lanes in each direction.

### Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from SH 96/Calder/Britany Bay in League City to FM 519/Main Street in La Marque daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. until further notice.

### South Belt escaped what in the past would have been a heavy flooding situation.

South Belt has been flooded with three inches of rain. The Beamer ditch recorded 8.04 inches of rain during Beryl. The above pond is one of the major drainage areas in what used to be the Southbend subdivision. Former Harris County Commissioner El Franco Lee agreed to buy the property and turn it into retention ponds when approached by community members. Without this work, Hurricane Beryl would have flooded many. Additional drainage retention came from the improvements on the Beamer Road ditch.

## South Belt inconvenienced, but survives Hurricane Beryl

The South Belt community is on the mend following Hurricane Beryl, which brought devastating winds and torrential rainfall to the area early Monday, July 8. At press time, thousands of local residents remained without power. Approximately 2.25 million residents in the Greater Houston area were without power during the storm, according to CenterPoint officials. The rain gauge located at the Beamer Ditch at Hughes Road recorded 8.04 inches of rainfall during the storm, according to the Harris County Flood Control District.

Despite the high amount of rain, it was Beryl's winds - topping out around 90 mph - that wrecked havoc locally. As with past storms, such as 2017's Hurricane Harvey, the South Belt community came together to help their neighbor in need. The Leader received multiple reports of residents helping others remove downed trees and fences, sometimes so that traffic ways or drainage ports could be cleared.

Dean Baier, and his crew from Clear Brook City MUD, spent much of his time removing the larger trees obstructing local thoroughfares. Baier is also a member of the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department. While high water was reported throughout the South Belt community, the Leader received no reports of flooded homes, as with past hurricanes. Local flood experts attributed much of this success to drainage improvements made Harris County and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, including the South Belt Stormwater Retention Basin, the Clear Creek Federal Flood Risk Management Project and the Beamer Ditch Project.

the daunting task of tree and debris collection. Heavy trash crews will be patrolling city streets daily until further notice, officials said. All city of Houston waste collection sites had also reopened as of Wednesday. In addition, Harris County Precinct 2 has opened storm debris collection sites at the following:

- Jim and JoAnn Fonteno Family Park, 14350 Wallisville Road.
- Doss Park, 2500 Frick Road.
- Food distribution Precinct 2 has opened the following food distribution sites:
  - Leonel Castillo Community Center, 2101 South Street.
  - Grayson Community Center, 13828 Corpus Christi Street.
  - East Harris County Activity Center, 7340 Spencer Highway in Pasadena. This location will also serve as an electronics charging site.

### The Gardens hit by Beryl



A tour of the South Belt area showed the majority of the damage from Hurricane Beryl was to trees and fences, although there were some exceptions including the Gardens of Houston, on Beamer, near Hughes Road. While the outside sustained damage, the majority of the building was spared. (See more Beryl photos Pages 2.) Photo by Davy Flickinger

According to local officials, Beryl claimed at least seven lives in the Greater Houston area. Most of the deaths were caused by falling trees but at least one resident - a civilian with the Houston Police department - was killed by floodwater and another death appeared to be caused by lightning.

Prior to arriving in the United States, Beryl reportedly killed at least 12 people in the Caribbean.

Peaking as a Category 5 hurricane, Beryl originally made landfall in Jamaica as a Category 4 storm. Beryl made its Texas landfall as a Category 1 hurricane around 4 a.m. Monday in Matagorda. Beryl was downgraded to a tropical storm as it made its way inland.

As Beryl proceeded north, the South Belt area found itself on the dirty side of the storm. At press time, all nonessential city and county programs were placed on hold, and all court dockets were to be rescheduled. All Pasadena ISD and Clear Creek ISD summer programs had also been placed on hold until further notice. All Precinct 2 facilities will remain closed until further notice.

### Debris collection

On Wednesday, July 10, city crews began

Generator safety tips Precinct 2 offers the following safety tips when operating a fuel-powered generator:

- Outdoor use only: Always operate generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Keep dry: To avoid electrocution hazards, place the generator on a dry surface and protect it from rain.
- Distance matters: Position the generator at least 20 feet away from windows, doors and vents to prevent exhaust gases from entering the home.

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## DWI arrests continue on BW8

Deputies with Harris County Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's Toll Road Division have continued to enforce DWI laws along Beltway 8, making at least three such arrests in just two days. While on active patrol June 29, deputies conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in the 6800 block of Beltway 8. During the stop, the driver displayed multiple signs of intoxication, which led deputies to conduct a DWI investigation. Standardized Field Sobriety Tests were completed on the scene and it was determined the driver was intoxicated.

The following day while on active patrol June 30, Toll Road deputies observed a vehicle speeding at a high rate of speed at 105 in a posted 65 mph zone.

Deputies caught up to the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop in the 9200 block of Beltway 8.

During the course of the traffic stop, the driver displayed multiple signs of intoxication, which led deputies to conduct a DWI investigation. Standardized Field Sobriety Tests were conducted on the scene, and it was determined that the driver was intoxicated. The driver was arrested and booked into the Harris County Joint Processing Center for driving while intoxicated.

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The driver was identified as 32-year-old Troy D. Allen.

Continued on Page 2

## PISD open enrollment allows students to change districts

Pasadena ISD's open enrollment program remains underway, which allows students from neighboring areas out of district to attend local campuses. "We empower students to choose an educational pathway that fits the learning styles of each student," said Pasadena ISD Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell.

At the beginning of the 2017 school year, Pasadena ISD saw enrollment numbers hovering above 56,000. After the storm, however, nearly 2,000 students were displaced or relocated due to flood damage.

As a result, enrollment declined to roughly 54,000. Powell said the district's funding is largely dependent on how many students are in the classroom, and several Pasadena campuses have space to spare. "Our ADA (average daily attendance) drives our funding, and some of our schools have a lot of extra room," Powell said.

"This is our way of increasing access to those opportunities. We want to extend an invitation to all students across the Greater Houston area to join Pasadena ISD." The program will allow out-of-district students to attend Pasadena ISD schools tuition-free. Begun at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year, the district's Power of Choice campaign was originally intended to be temporary but was expanded after Pasadena ISD's enrollment significantly dropped following Hurricane Harvey.

The district accepts as many students as space will allow at the elementary, middle and intermediate levels (kindergarten through eighth grade). The open enrollment period has begun and will last as long as space allows.

Students in Pasadena ISD's open enrollment program will allow incoming students to take advantage of the district's following programs:

- Dual Language.
- Advanced Placement/College Now/dual credit.
- Career and technical pathways.
- Early College High School.

Incoming Pasadena ISD students will need the following documents:

- A copy of the student's final report card.
- Attendance record from student's previous school.
- Conduct and discipline report.
- If a student received Special Ed services at their previous school, then the most recent IEP/504 plan and related documents.

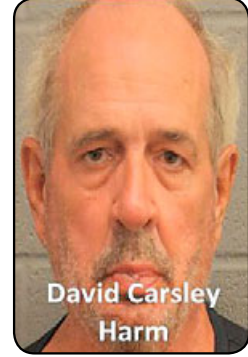
## Pct. 8 constables busy at Edgebrook-I-45

Local law enforcement continues to ramp up patrols near Edgebrook and the Gulf Freeway, an area known for high drug crime and homelessness, with Precinct 8 deputies making two felony arrests in just three days in June.

his bond was set at \$5,000. On June 21, at approximately 12:15 a.m., Precinct 8 Deputy K. Peters initiated a traffic stop in the 600 block of Edgebrook. The driver was identified as 30-year-old Denovious Montre Scaggs.

On June 18, at approximately 7:50 a.m., Precinct 8 Deputy Ramirez with Constable Phil Sandlin's office was patrolling the 1100 block of the Edgebrook, where he observed a male and a female near a dumpster with a tent and two lawn chairs set up.

While speaking with the driver, Peters detected the odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. Scaggs was directed to step out of the vehicle and was detained. Peters conducted a probable cause based search of the vehicle and located 5.1 oz of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.



David Carsley Harm



Denovious Montre Scaggs

Ramirez made contact with both subjects and identified the male as 65-year-old David Carsley Harm. A check of Harm's information revealed an open felony warrant for credit/debit card abuse through Harris County Sheriff's Office. A search of his person incident to arrest yielded two identification cards with other persons identifying information.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted and accepted an additional felony charge for fraudulent use/possession of identifying information. Harm was transported to the Harris County Joint Processing Center, where

## One major reason no flooding



South Belt escaped what in the past would have been a heavy flooding situation. South Belt has been flooded with three inches of rain. The Beamer ditch recorded 8.04 inches of rain during Beryl. The above pond is one of the major drainage areas in what used to be the Southbend subdivision. Former Harris County Commissioner El Franco Lee agreed to buy the property and turn it into retention ponds when approached by community members. Without this work, Hurricane Beryl would have flooded many. Additional drainage retention came from the improvements on the Beamer Road ditch. Photo by Davy Flickinger

# In My Opinion

## District D warns about hurricanes

Dear Community, and Civic Leaders, I hope you had a Happy 4th of July celebration with BBQ, potato salad, red soda water, watermelon, and red velvet cake. Hum, Hum, Hum.

After you have that joyous gathering, we need your help. We are in Hurricane Season, and we must be prepared. Council member Carolyn Evans-Shabazz has invested a large sum of CDSF funds to purchase tools and materials which are stored and managed at the Houston Tool Bank for use in District D communities. Included in this inventory of tools are "Chainsaws" to cut and clear trees. CM Evans-Shabazz sees the need to train community volunteers in the proper and safe use of these tools. We need these volunteers to help clean the streets inside of neighborhoods because the current City of Houston after-storm clean-up plan focuses on thoroughfares and not streets. This training supports the city's plan to address mobility following a weather event that brings down trees and blocks pathways to safety.

The District D Teams believes the proper steps are being taken to cover key concerns about this training. We first consulted with the City Legal Department which stipulates that no city department may offer training on any chainsaw. We have secured local chainsaw distributors like "SawHouse" and the manufacturer of Skille Saws who will instruct volun-

teers on how to load the units with fuel, how to hold and start the unit, and how to turn off the unit and store it. We are securing local tree services and companies to train volunteers in the proper way to cut tree limbs and trunks.

Additionally, we are coordinating with CenterPoint Energy to train on tree cutting as well. However, they will first instruct volunteers how to safely spot fallen wires, to report the location to CenterPoint, and NOT APPROACH the tree.

We are working with the Houston Tool Bank and other non-profits to develop a coherent plan for this program that focuses on safety, operations, and reporting to OEM and other city departments during clean-up efforts.

Community and civic leaders, this is a call to you!

We need your members and neighbors involved in this training event. There are different roles for everyone who wants to serve. In addition to those with chainsaws in their hands, we need Safety Officers, spotters, traffic control teams, and communications personnel. We will provide all you need to help your neighbors recover should a storm hit District D. There will be personal release of liability forms for the training and also for the after storm team participation. All of that is in the planning.

Volunteer Registration Form Link: <https://form.jotform.com/241845667532161>.

**Steven A. James**  
Chief of Staff, District D

## Beryl plays havoc on Sageking



Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District employees spent many hours clearing off streets so traffic could resume after the storm. Shown above is Dean Baier, general manager of operations for CBCMUD. The downed tree was on Sageking street, just a block north of Scarsdale Boulevard. Photo by Colby Reed

# Beryl recovery hints

**Continued from Page 1**

- Proper ventilation: Install carbon monoxide alarms in your home to detect any buildup of this deadly gas.

- Fuel safety: Store fuel for the generator in approved containers away from living areas and heat sources.

- Carbon monoxide poisoning: As Houston continues to recover from the recent storm and ongoing power outages, the city's Office of Emergency Management urges all residents to be aware of the dangers of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

- Do not use generators indoors. Only operate generators outside, at least 20 feet away from windows, doors and vents.

- Avoid using charcoal grills or gas stoves for heating.

- Ensure CO detectors are working. If one does not have a CO detector, they should consider getting one immediately.

- Seek fresh air immediately if one experiences symptoms like headache, dizziness or nausea, and call 911.

- For more information, visit on the risks of carbon monoxide poisoning, visit the Houston Emergency Management Website at [www.houstonhealth.org/carbon-monoxide-poisoning-risk](http://www.houstonhealth.org/carbon-monoxide-poisoning-risk).

- FEMA assistance: At the request of Texas Acting Gov. Dan Patrick, President Joe Biden on Tuesday, July 9, declared Beryl a federal disaster, providing relief to 121 affected counties in the state.

- "I've just spoken with President Biden," read a statement from Patrick, who was serving in Gov. Greg Abbott's place as he traveled abroad on a pre-planned trip.

- "I've requested a federal emergency disaster declaration through FEMA to cover all costs for Category A (Debris) and Category B (Emergency Protective Measures). FEMA's assistance with these costs will expedite the recovery process and help ensure the safety of Texans impacted by Hurricane Beryl.

- "The president granted my request."

- Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo also spoke with Biden regarding federal storm aid.

- "This will be a game changer not just for Harris County but for all communities included in the declaration," Hidalgo said in a statement.

- "It will unlock vital resources and support that will help us rebuild and recover."

- "For many families and businesses, this means access to federal aid, relief for those who have lost so much and the beginning of a path to recovery."

- "I appreciate President Biden's relentless commitment to our community and to pushing for quick action on all levels of government so that we can receive this help in record time."

- "Our community has been battered over the past few months and this is a big ray of hope for us."

- This will be the second federal disaster declaration for the region in less than two months, following the sudden derecho storm in May, in which Biden declared seven counties eligible for federal disaster relief.

- For additional information on federal storm assistance, visit [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov).

- Heat advisory: Making matters worse, the National Weather Service on Tuesday issued a heat advisory for the Houston area, as heat index values climbed into the three digits.

- The City of Houston activates its Public Health Heat Emergency Plan when a heat advisory or an excessive heat warning is expected to last two or more consecutive days.

Especially during this extended power outage, residents should be sure to put these best practices into place:

- Drink more water. Drink lots of liquids even before getting thirsty, but avoid beverages with caffeine, alcohol, or large amounts of sugar.

- Conduct outdoor work or exercise in the early morning or evening when temperatures are not as high.

- Outdoor workers should drink plenty of water or electrolyte replacement beverages and take frequent breaks in the shade or in an air-conditioned facility.

- People unaccustomed to working or exercising in a hot environment need to start slowly and gradually increase heat exposure over several weeks.

- Wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothing that permits the evaporation of perspiration.

- Do not leave infants, children, senior citizens, or pets unattended in a parked vehicle, even if the windows are cracked open.

- Always check to make sure everyone is out of the car and don't overlook children who may have fallen asleep.

- Wear a wide-brimmed hat to help prevent sunburn as well as heat-related illness.

- Apply sunscreen, which protects from the sun's harmful rays and reduces the risk of sunburn.

- Seek accommodations in air-conditioned facilities during the heat of the day if the house is not air-conditioned: a relative's home, multi-service centers, malls, movie theaters, libraries, etc.

- Take frequent cool baths or showers if home is not air-conditioned.

- Look out for vulnerable populations.

- Check on one's neighbors.

- Cooling centers: The following sites have been opened as cooling centers, allowing residents to take refuge from the excessive heat:

- City of Houston-Southwest Multi-Service Center, 6400 High Star Drive, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

- Crosby Community Center, 409 Hare Road in Crosby, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

- Big Stone Lodge, 709 Riley Fuzzel Road in Spring, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

- Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

- Juergen's Hall Community Center, 26026 Hempstead Road in Cypress, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

- Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet Street, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

- Radack Community Center, 18650 Clay Road, Houston, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

- Weekley Community Center, 8440 Greenhouse Road in Cypress (hours unknown).

Lakewood Church, 3700 Southwest Freeway, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Gallery Furniture, 6006 North Freeway, open 24 hours.

People without adequate transportation to a designated cooling center can call 311 to request a free ride. Transportation is only to and from the cooling centers; transportation to other locations is unavailable.

Statistical analysis of the heat-related illnesses in Houston in the previous two summers indicates that some members of the community begin to suffer heat-related illnesses requiring visits to emergency departments when the daily maximum heat index (feels-like temperature) is as low as 80 degrees.

The young, elderly and individuals with pre-existing health conditions that heat can exacerbate (e.g., asthma/respiratory, cardiac, kidney conditions) should be especially cautious. Symptoms of heat exhaustion include weakness, dizziness, excessive sweating, cool or moist skin, nausea or vomiting, muscle cramps and a fast and weak pulse.

People experiencing these symptoms should lower their body temperature by getting to a cooler place, drinking water, taking a cool shower or bath and resting.

A throbbing headache, red, hot, and dry skin (no longer sweating), extremely high body temperature (above 103 degrees), nausea or vomiting, confusion, loss of consciousness and a rapid, strong pulse are signs of heat stroke.

If these symptoms occur, call 911 immediately and try to lower the person's body temperature until help arrives.

People may seek air-conditioning in city multi-service centers, libraries and recreation centers, even when the Public Health Heat Emergency Plan is not activated.

For additional information or to find the nearest cooling center location or an air-conditioned city facility, residents can contact 311 or visit [houstonoem.org](http://houstonoem.org).

## Fireworks stand toppled by Beryl



A fireworks stand at the corner of Beamer and Dixie Farm Road was blown over by the winds of Beryl. Winds from Hurricane Beryl reached nearly 90 mph as it passed through Houston. No one was in the facility at the time, so there were no injuries. Photo by Marie Fickinger

## Frazier suffers exterior damage



Frazier Elementary did not escape the wrath of Hurricane Beryl as some damage to the outside of the school was evident Monday after the storm passed. Photo by Davy Flickinger

## 25+ lineup for gas



Tuesday saw many South Belters waiting to fill up their gas tanks. More than 25 vehicles waited in a double line at the Kroger gas station at Sabo and Beltway. Other area gas stations had similar waiting lines. Photo by Davy Flickinger

## Elected officials share their words

### District E Councilman Fred Flickinger comments on Beryl

I hope that everyone is safe as we begin the recovery process following the aftermath of Hurricane Beryl. I am urging those who do not need to be on the roads to please stay put as crews continue to clear any roadways and downed lines. By staying off the roads, first responders and repair crews are better able to reach emergencies, remove debris, and restore power as quickly as possible.

I want to first provide a HUGE thank you to our Houston Police Officers, Firefighters, and Public Works employees for their long shifts, efforts, and response to the needs of our city during and following Hurricane Beryl.

The professionalism and true grit of all our City's first responders, Houston Public Works employees and Solid Waste Management employees is unparalleled and I am thankful for their commitment to our residents. Many if not all of their own homes, families, and stations were impacted by the loss of power too.

CenterPoint's system has experienced significant damage. There are approximately 1.7 million customers in the Houston region still without power. Approximately 760,000 of these customers are within Houston city limits. CenterPoint has restored 100,000 customers in Houston since last night. With nearly 12,000 field resources/technicians working in the area, CenterPoint is estimating power to be restored to at least one million regional customers by the end of tomorrow, Wednesday, July 10.

Stay at least 35 feet away from any downed power lines and immediately report them to 911 or CenterPoint Energy at 713-207-2222.

If you are aware of family or neighbors on dialysis or need power for medical assistance, call 911 or contact our office so we can assist. Please also make sure they registered with State of Texas Emer-

gency Assistance Registry (STEAR).

If you smell gas in your home, please evacuate immediately and report to CenterPoint at 713-659-2111.

First responders, city departments, and TxDOT are in the field assessing damage, addressing live wires, and clearing debris. Of the city's 2,500 traffic signals, Houston Public Works (HPW), Houston Police Department (HPD), and TxDOT are working to make repairs to the approximately 1,000 that remain completely out or flashing red.

HPD is running on full-mobilization, meaning every officer able to work is working either a 12-hour day or 12-hour night shift. All stations are running properly or on generator power. There have not been any delays in calls for service or extended wait times for priority 1 or 2 calls.

Houston Fire Department (HFD) ran 3,000 calls in their last shift and have already hit 1,000 today. Nine HFD stations are without power and those crews have been relocated. There have not been any delays in calls for service.

If any residents do not already receive Alert Houston updates, I encourage you all to take a moment right now, and go sign up online at the link provided. These updates are extremely helpful before, during and after emergency events.

I know most residents are working diligently on their homes and businesses today, cleaning up storm debris. If you have storm debris that needs pick up, please report it to Houston 3-1-1 to be picked up by calling 713-837-0311. After you call in your storm debris for pick up, please follow up by emailing [districte@houstontx.gov](mailto:districte@houstontx.gov) with your service request number and address.

My office will not be issuing a July Monthly Newsletter and will resume our monthly newsletter in August. Stay safe, Fred Flickinger

## DWI arrests continue on BW8

**Continued from Page 1**

The driver was identified as 59-year-old Roderick D. Hunter.

That same day while on active patrol June 30, Toll Road deputies observed a vehicle speeding at a high rate of speed as 110 in a posted 65 mph zone.

Deputies caught up to the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop in the 8400 block of

Beltway 8.

During the course of the traffic stop, the driver displayed multiple signs of intoxication, which led deputies to conduct a DWI investigation.

Standardized Field Sobriety Tests were completed on the scene, and it was determined that the driver was intoxicated.

The driver was arrested

and booked into the Harris County Joint Processing Center for driving while intoxicated.

The driver was identified as 29-year-old Dwayne K. Darko.

Combating DWI offenses along Beltway 8 has been an ongoing effort for Garcia's office, with Precinct 2 Toll Road deputies making at least 15 such arrests over the last two months.

Additional DWI arrests made since the beginning of May include the following suspects: \* May 1: Natelsie Molina. \* May 5: Chase Paredes. \* May 10: Roland Seymour. \* May 12: Obed De Leon. \* May 19: Edwin Bueno. \* May 25: Kylie Bresko. \* May 25: Melissa Servantes. \* June 1: Mickey Lawrence. \* June 2: Mark Gutierrez. \* June 8: Erik Orozco-Escobar. \* June 9: Oscar Guinn Jr. \* June 16: John Unich.



Roderick D. Hunter

Dwayne K. Darko

## Local library events set

In case of storms or adverse weather, refer to library website for details.

### Bracewell Branch Library

Bracewell Library is at 9002 Kingspoint. Customers are encouraged to visit the building to browse, check out and return materials, use the computers and Wi-Fi, and check out holds. For information, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/> and online learning, visit <https://houstonlibrary.org/online-learning-7556> or call 832-393-2580. Hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, noon - 8 p.m.; Fridays, 1 - 5 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bracewell is closed Sundays.

Visit <https://houstonlibrary.libcal.com/calendar/events> for more library events.

### Book drop

The book drop is open. Library materials can be returned. The library continues to provide online resources to enjoy the library virtually. Large items such as FLIP kits or laptops should not be placed in the book drop, but taken inside.

### Parker Williams Library

Parker Williams Library is open. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/reopening> for reopening information or the main website at <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library>. The library will follow state and county guidelines for mask and social distancing.

The book drop is open. Social media links are Facebook.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary and Instagram.com/ParkerWilliamsLibrary.

### Parker Williams "No-Contact Curbside Holds Pick-Up"

- After receiving notification that holds are ready for pickup, call 832-927-7870.

- Have a library card number and PIN handy.  
- A pickup time and instructions will be given.  
- Upon arriving, park in one of the two parking spots reserved for curbside holds.

- Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.  
Hours are Monday, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 - 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.

### Online services

- Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL's drive-up Wi-Fi.

- Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at [www.hcpl.net](http://www.hcpl.net).

- Attend an HCPL program or story time online through Facebook or YouTube.

- Check an account to renew loans or request books, e-books, comics or graphic novels.

- Stream classic films, Indie cinema and award-winning documentaries on Kanopy.

- Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.

- Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.

Don't have an HCPL library card? Instant access can be obtained to all HCPL's digital materials and research tools with an iKnow Digital Access Card. Apply at <https://www.hcpl.net/services/iknow-card> for a HCPL card. For details, visit <https://www.hcpl.net>.

# South Belt-Ellington Leader

The Voice of Community-Minded People

11555 Beamer 281-481-5656

E-mail: [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com)

Davy & Marie Flickinger, owners

## New Covenant Christian Church

Day Care Christian Based Child Care



New Covenant Christian Church provides Christian based child care for the local community. Director Nedra Jackson and her staff are here to take perfect care of your children while you work.

281.481.2003

[www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com](http://www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com)  
10603 Blackhawk Blvd. Houston, Tx 77089  
Blackhawk @ Kirkfair

## ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST

Catholic Church  
Rev. Douglas J. Guthrie, Pastor  
Rev. Kingsley Nwoko, Parochial Vicar  
11011 Hall Rd.  
(between Beamer & Blackhawk)  
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# A big July 4th thank you to Precinct 2 constable officers



The annual parade would never be held if the constable officers did not donate their time and effort to the event. The Leader would like to personally thank the group for this and all the other good things they do in the community. The group provided security for the event, directed traffic and participated in the parade. Shown above just before the parade began are, left to right, (top on the truck bed) Leslie McCaffrey, Yadi Sosa and Lori Castillo. Standing are, Chief Kritzler, Capt. Anderson, Capt. Leal, Mar Tovar, Lt. Barbosa, Sgt. Vega, Sgt. Ruiz, Deputy Aguilar, Constable Jerry Garcia, Lt. Magana, Cpl. Moreno, Sgt. Brothers, Sgt. Calvillo, Fergie Graci, Sgt. Sanchez and Capt. Guinn. Photo by Marie Flickinger

## San Jac South celebrates with South Belt



Getting ready for the parade early Thursday morning were San Jac personnel and friends. They are, left to right, front row) Chris Nieten, Charlene Nieten, Carol LaRowe, Luis Rauda, Jasmin O'Neill, Alicia O'Neill, Deodanes Valle, Francisco Ramirez, Oscar Salazar, (back row) Kris Thompson, Lynn da DelosSantos, Alekzander Nieten, Eli O'Neill, William Nieten, Chris Underwood, Joe Pena, Mason Pena, Nevaeh Dedanes Valle, Andrew Dedanes Valle, Leilani Dedanes Valle, Cyndy Dedanes Valle, Jenn Clark, Adrianna Ramirez and Jesse Ramirez. Photo by Marie Flickinger

## Pasadena school district teacher pens first book

Growing up in rural Louisiana as a child, Coretta L. Conant was influenced by her parents, family, friends, and teachers. Her parents were the late James W. and Lillie Brooks Anthony, Sr. She has three other siblings: Carletta Jones and James Anthony, Jr. of Natchitoches, and Brenda Anderson of Los Angeles. She comes from a long line of educators from both sides of her family. Like her sister Carletta, who currently teaches in Natchitoches Parish, she, too, is a veteran educator in the state of Texas having taught for 25 years. Conant credits her early years of being raised in Bernuda, Louisiana, as helping her maintain her down-to-earth and humble personality. She attended St. Matthew High School from K-8th grade and continued her schooling by graduating from Cloutierville High School in 1987. After completing three years of college at Northwest State University, she married her teenage sweetheart, Gregory Conant. They relocated to Houston, in 1991, and she resumed her studies and received her bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis in Early Childhood from the University of Houston-Clear Lake. They have been married for 34 years and have a daughter named April. They currently reside in Pearland. Coretta has taught at Meador, Genoa and Teague elementary schools. While educating students for Galena Park ISD school districts in her career as a caring and giving teacher, she has taught a wide range of students. She has also taught many students with the diagnosis of Autism. However, it was three years ago when a particular young man blew into her room like a tornado. Little did she know that student would touch her heart in such a way that it prompted her to journal. This journaling experience led to her new book entitled *What Does It Feel Like...to be a Child With Autism?* Her publication of *What Does It Feel Like...to be a Child With Autism?* is now available for purchase on Amazon. One can also visit [www.corettaconant.com](http://www.corettaconant.com)

# Remember When

**45 years ago (1979)**  
Wood Brothers Construction was in the process of awarding a contract to Irrigation Construction Company to complete work on underground utilities for Section III of Wood Meadow. The project would mean the completion of Scarsdale Boulevard between Wood Meadow and Sageglan subdivisions.

The South Belt Leader planned to publish a special issue for San Jacinto College which was set to open a new campus on Beamer Road. Members of the community were asked to insert a congratulatory ad in the special issue.

John Robinson, a senior at J. Frank Dobie High School, won the mile run at the state championship junior olympic meet held in Lubbock. By winning, he qualified for the national championship.

**35 Years ago (1989)**  
A corroded sewer pipe collapsed in front of a home in the 9700 block of Grenadier in Beverly Hills, causing the homeowner's front yard to sink into a giant hole. The U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Houston received a command ceremony saw Cmdr. Theodore G. White III replace Capt. Stephen E. Goldhammer.

**30 years ago (1994)**  
City Council members approved an extension of Sageglan Drive to connect Sagemont with Woodmeadow and the Scarsdale area. Clear Brook High School graduate Chris Lemasters was the youngest flight instructor ever at Hobby's Fletcher Aviation.

**25 years ago (1999)**  
Rep. Ken Bentsen announced \$10 million in federal funding for a new supply complex for the Air National Guard located at Ellington Field. Southeast Volunteer Fire Department called on the community for assistance. The fire department was seeking volunteers to help serve the 30,000 residents in its zone. It was serving the area with only 30 volunteers - a ratio of 1,000 to 1.

**20 years ago (2004)**  
A map drawing new boundary lines from a proposed new high school in the Pasadena Independent School District would cut the South Belt area in half, causing many students to attend the new school. Longtime South Belt resident and community father Dick Dickenson passed away suddenly and unexpectedly after a brain hemorrhage. Houston city Mayor Bill White addressed concerns at the monthly Sagemont Civic Club. PISD officials and school principals met to discuss solutions and strategies to stop illegal enrollment in the district.

**15 years ago (2009)**  
Roughly 10 parking tickets issued the previous week by the City of Houston in areas not incorporated by the city were dismissed after it was determined they were issued in error. Several readers notified the Leader they had received the suspect tickets, most for parking in the wrong direction or more than 18 inches from the curb. It was discovered all of the citations had been issued on the same day by the same city parking enforcement officer. Channel 13 investigative reporter Wayne Dolcefino was the guest speaker at a luncheon sponsored by the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce. South Belt resident Matthew Connolly was badly injured by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan. Connolly was the driver of a military vehicle that was struck by an improvised explosive device. He was awarded the Purple Heart. A passenger in the vehicle was killed. Angela (Widener) Stallings was named the new principal of Memorial High School. She replaced Billye Smith, who had recently been promoted. Most recently, Stallings worked at Thompson Intermediate, where she served as principal for two years. Prior to this, she worked at Dobie High School for 16 years as an English teacher, cheerleader sponsor, counselor and assistant principal at the school. Stallings had graduated from Dobie in 1986.

**10 years ago (2014)**  
The Pasadena Independent School District proposed a \$175.5 million November bond election to construct new campuses and make other structural improvements. The bond would provide for a new Dobie High School ninth-grade campus and a new local intermediate school, to be located in the Riverstone Ranch area. A young woman was killed in a single-vehicle accident in the 2200 block of Pearland Parkway near Hughes Road/Barry Rose. Taylor Montgomery, 20, was pronounced dead at the scene. According to Pearland police, Montgomery was traveling north on the street when she failed to maneuver a curve and veered off the road, striking a light pole and then a cement wall, causing her car to flip over. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

**5 years ago (2019)**  
Houston Space Center hosted a series of events to commemorate the 50th anniversary of NASA's Apollo 11 moon landing. Human remains were found Thursday, July 4, at Blackhawk Park, located near the northeast inter-

section of Blackhawk and Fuqua. To date, the identity, gender and race of the discovered individual are unknown. The case remains an open investigation.

**1 year ago (2023)**  
A SWAT standoff took place following a stabbing early Friday, July 7, at the Mustang Inn in the 12000 block of Beltway 8 at the Gulf Freeway. According to Houston Police Department officials, patrol officers responded to an incident around 4 a.m. in which a female victim had been stabbed. The victim was transported to a nearby hospital to be treated for non-life-threatening injuries. The woman identified Justin Lee Riojas as the suspect, and hotel records confirmed the man's identity. Officers attempted to make contact with Riojas but he refused to come out of the room. SWAT officers were called to the scene, and a two-hour standoff ensued. Police entered Riojas' room by force at approximately 6 a.m. and apprehended the suspect. The knife allegedly used in the crime was found inside the room, police said. Riojas was arrested and placed into custody. Riojas, 34, was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

## Over The Back Fence by Natalie

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
The following staff of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays July 11 through July 17.

**Atkinson Elementary**  
Celebrating a birthday July 13 is **Regina Barnes**. Break out the party favors and balloons for **Claudia Trevino** July 15.

**Genoa Elementary**  
Sing a happy birthday song July 15 to **Kathryn Martinez**.

**Hancock Elementary**  
Give a birthday shoutout July 12 to **Raquel Garza**. Blow out the birthday candles July 13 for **Iliana Quezada**.

**Meador Elementary**  
Cheers for a happy birthday on July 14 for **Corin Culppepper**.

**Moore Elementary**  
The day for a double-fun birthday is **Ana Herrera** and **Elizabeth Segovia** July 14. **Krishelle Rangel** enjoys a birthday July 17.

**South Belt Elementary**  
Light the birthday candles July 13 for a double celebration for **Eric Dockery** and **Kellie Hodges**.

**Stuchbery Elementary**  
Best wishes for a wonderful birthday July 12 are sent to **Clarissa Ridge**.

**Roberts Middle School**  
Light the birthday candles July 13 for **Aaron Donias** and **Britney Subinsky**.

**Beverly Hills Intermediate**  
Give a birthday shoutout July 17 to **Lucila Elizondo**.

**Thompson Intermediate**  
Remember to wish **Susie Haas** a happy birthday July 13.

**FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS**  
Thursday, July 11: **Andy Cross, Anne Allen, Kolleen Bingham** and **Jasmine Mendez**; Friday, July 12: **Sharron Moore, Mary Renfro Heldman, Emma Rodriguez** and **Pam McEntire Ellis**; Saturday July 13:

**Stephanie Pyle, Robin Read, Sandy Ward, Angela Wilkerson, Robin Stone Collins** and **Tyler Pearson**, Sunday, July 14: **Elaine Ann Monagas, Monay Noyobiz, Courtney Amelia Alba, Riva Saenz, Veronica Mier** and **Jeffrey Robert McGee**; Monday, July 15: **Soyla Tovar, Irma Villanueva, Rachel Garza, Marlon Taylor, Teresa Reynolds Abel** and **Harley Rankins**; Tuesday, July 16: **Jessika Paquinto, Mark Campbell, Kelly McBred, Angie Roach, Clarissa Garza Andrus** and **Brad Janacek**; and Wednesday, July 17: **Christina Trevino, Crystal Ybarra, Corey Cephus, Myra Rowe, Marsa Outland Brister, Vicki Sorensen, Jenelle Lee, Kimberly Sommerfelt** and **Mary Jason Rowe**.

**LEADER WANTS YOU IN THE NEWS**  
Send an email with anniversary, vacation and information on other events to [mynews@southbeltleader.com](mailto:mynews@southbeltleader.com) with OTBF in the subject line by Friday noon for the next week's issue.

# SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

## DP volleyball could shake up new district

Much has been made about Deer Park's arrival in the District 24-6A ranks on the football field, but it cannot be emphasized enough that the school's varsity volleyball program's inclusion within the new district could very well cause a shakeup at the top.

Simply put, Deer Park has been one of the most successful programs within the Region III ranks for quite some time.

In fact, Deer Park has not lost a match in district play since the 2012-2013 season.

Head coach Cortni Cox took over the Deer Park program prior to the 2015 season, and has gone undefeated since that time, culminating with last season's march to the regional final four.

A season ago, Deer Park went 35-11 overall, including 12-0 in district play.

Deer Park then defeated Humble, Pearland and Atascocita before losing in the Region III semifinals to Seven Lakes.

Looking ahead to this season, Deer Park has lost a good portion of its attack through graduation, but senior Mycah Whittemore returns after delivering 318 kills in 2023.

Deer Park also graduated two proven setters, but junior Erin Goodson is ready to step in to lead the attack.

As dominant as the Deer have been within the region, roster turnover combined with a stronger district alignment within 24-6A could make things more challenging for the newcomers.

Specifically, Clear Springs went 33-14 overall a season ago, including a per-

fect 12-0 run through league play. Dickinson, Clear Creek and Clear Falls all finished at 8-4 and should be in for strong seasons this go round as well.

Where does Clear Brook fit into all of this? Since winning the district championship for the first time in the class 6A ranks in 2019, the locals have struggled within league play.

Head coach Meredith Thompson's team went 2-10 a season ago and will be looking for an improvement once workouts begin Aug. 5.

Clear Lake and Brazoswood will also figure into the race.

The University interscholastic League has certainly delivered an exceptionally talented field of programs in the district 24-6A varsity volleyball ranks for the 2024 and 2025 seasons.

And the race to the playoffs promises to be as competitive as ever.

Deer Park also won boys' and girls' cross-country championships a season ago, while the school's team tennis program should also bring plenty of competitiveness to the 24-6A mix.

For now, the decades-long rivalry between Dobie and Deer Park has been set aside, and the Clear Creek ISD ranks now welcome the Deer to 24-6A for what should be a doozy of a varsity volleyball race.

Preseason workouts begin Aug. 5, with scrimmages coming Aug. 9.

The majority of the state will start the regular season Aug. 13, with Clear Brook playing at St. Agnes on opening night 10.

## Fire burns up brand new field



The turf covered athletic field for the Houston Gateway Academy located in Riverstone subdivision caught fire about 4 a.m. July 4. The school, which has been in some stages of planning since 2010, is finally nearing completion. The turf was installed last month. The fire destroyed about one-third of the turf. It was reported started by fireworks. Photo by Marie Flickinger

## Winning Dobie volleyball seeks to overcome loss of 10 seniors

The excitement of arguably the finest season in Dobie volleyball history has faded some with the graduation of 10 seniors, but Aug. 5 seemingly can't come fast enough as head coach Dawn Sexton and her staff begin melding the 2024 varsity team.

Sexton is certain that reigning 22-6A Freshman of the Year Amaya Langellier will be a featured attacker on the outside, while the makeup of the rest of the roster will likely come from the school's 22-6A co-champion junior varsity lineup from a season ago.

Incoming junior middle hitter Kylar Joseph is expected to deliver big results up front, while junior Jordan Johnson, a 6-foot, 2-inch right side player, will provide much-needed blocking and offense.

Sexton added that seniors Mia Campos and Juliana Aguirre will be six-rotation players, with the pair in charge of out-

side hitter and middle back defense duties.

Senior Kaylie Bui and sophomore Alyssa Goreel the younger sister of 2024 graduate Alana Goree, will help with setting duties.

Sophomore setter Alysa Sanchez, who earned valuable experience during the playoffs at the varsity level last season, will likely run the offense.

Dobie will also feature an all-senior defensive backcourt with Hope Ortiz, Andrea Garcia, Leslie Sarduy and Jocelyn Stringer involved.

"We will also have a handful of sophomores to help balance out the roster and they should be able to contribute right away as well," Sexton said.

"We won't be able to rely on just one player. Everyone will contribute, know their role and understand what the high expectations are coming into this upcoming season."

22-6A now elite Rosters change from

season to season, of course, but there is little doubt that three and possibly four of the programs coming over from the former District 23-6A will give Dobie plenty to handle as the chase to the postseason unfolds.

A season ago, Dawson and Pearland tied for the 23-6A league championship, with the Eagles going 38-10 overall en route to the Region III semifinal round.

Dawson defeated Dobie in the area round last season en route to the regional semifinals, where the Eagles lost a four-set match to Cinco Ranch.

Three Dawson returnees, including Kennedy Jones, Keaton Points and Emory McFarland, will return after delivering a total of more than 600 kills for the Eagles, but the team will be working with new setting options as a season opens.

The Oilers weren't far behind Dawson in the regular season, putting

together a 34-11 overall mark. Pearland reached the area playoff round before suffering a five-set loss to Deer Park.

As the Oilers look toward 2024, junior Avery Koonsen returns after leading the team with more than 440 kills. Cora Walford, who will be a senior, led Pearland with nearly 800 assists last season.

Shadow Creek, also a newcomer to 22-6A, finished third in the former 23-6A mix, going 24-14 overall, including an 8-4 run through the district.

Even Alvin, which finished fourth at 6-6 in League play, was 20-18 overall.

Manvel, which is making the jump to the 6A ranks from district 18-5A, was 10-2 in league play a season ago as part of a 24-20 overall record.

The Mavericks defeated Goose Creek Memorial in the bidistrict round, then took out Fort Bend Kemper to reach the regional quarterfinal round.

There, Manvel dropped a tough five-set match to Fulshear.

A pair of returning juniors, Nevaeh English and Jasmyn Walker, led Manvel in kills.

English finished the season with just over 350 kills, while Walker contributed just over 250 kills. Senior Kennedy Massie returns at setter for the Mavericks, having delivered more than 1,050 assists a season ago.

Both coaches and players will say they like strong competition, and there is no doubt that the revamped 22-6A alignment will feature one of the top fields in the entire 6A region.

## Fitzmorris brings hope to youth, intermediates

Excitement. Optimism. The desire to do whatever it takes not only for one self, but for a teammate.

From the Sagement Cowboys to the programs at Beverly Hills and Thompson Intermediate, there's as much hope surrounding the Dobie football program heading into the 2024 season as possible.

In roughly five weeks, the real work begins as incoming first-year head coach Danny Fitzmorris and his staff kick off workouts Aug. 12.

In Fitzmorris, Dobie has welcomed home one of its own, a 1999 Dobie graduate and varsity foot-

ball standout in his own right, Fitzmorris now has his dream job as he leads the Longhorns into a new realignment cycle beginning with the 2024 season.

While Dobie is coming off a district championship in the former 22-6A ranks a season ago, *Dave Campbell's Texas* football magazine is of the opinion that the Longhorns could face an uphill battle in the revamped district just to get to the postseason.

Admittedly, a district that includes Shadow Creek, Pearland, Dawson and 6A newcomer Manvel in addition to Pasadena ISD holdovers Memorial, South Houston and Ray-

burn in addition to Alvin, the road to the postseason may provide more than a few road bumps for any of the nine programs.

In its annual preseason preview, *Campbell's* has anointed Shadow Creek as its predictive champion, closely followed by Pearland, Dawson and Manvel.

That leaves Dobie 5th but the Longhorns expect much more this season as they make their debut under Fitzmorris.

It all begins in just a few short weeks, and Fitzmorris has promised that his program will put in the hard work necessary to get the job done.

## Cowboys set equipment pickup July 13, 20 at El Franco Park

The Sagement Cowboys of the Bay Area Football League will host official weigh-in and equipment handout sessions July 13 and July 20, both from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Denny Wranich Sr. field at El Franco Lee Park.

All new and transfer players are required to provide a birth certificate at the time of weigh-ins.

All remaining registration balances are due, and the organization's annual fundraising raffle tickets will be handed out.

The Cowboys' organization will join the rest of the league in beginning presea-

son workouts July 27 and is excited to kick off the 2024 BAFL regular season August 17, playing at the Magnolia Park Sharks, 341 South 75th St., Houston, 77023.

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# Dave Campbell's Texas Football outlines 2024 predictions

By John Bechtle  
Sports Editor

The folks at *Dave Campbell's Texas Football* magazine have outlined their predictions for the 2024 varsity season within the District 22-6A ranks, and there is little doubt that the nine-team deep field will present plenty of competition.

Counting defending 22-6A champion Dobie, the revamped league includes five programs which reached the postseason in 2023.

Newcomers to the 22-6A alignment, Shadow Creek, Pearland and Dawson finished in a three-way tie at 6-1 each for the league championship in 23-6A last season and have now moved over to join the Pasadena ISD ranks along with Manvel via realignment.

The four first-place finishers are joined by Pasadena Memorial, which also reached the postseason.

Manvel, a perennial playoff power in the past, finished at 5-5 last season and was fifth in District 10-5A, but veteran head coach Kirk Martin should have the Mavericks in a better position this season, according to *Campbell's*.

The one certainty for the Longhorns as the University Interscholastic League has realigned things for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years.

There will be no first-round playoff matchup against state powers North Shore or Atascocita, as those programs have shifted to District 23-6A.

It's no secret that the Longhorns have not won a playoff game since 2004, but now that North Shore nor Atascocita are no longer in the mix in the first round, Dobie knows the road to postseason success is a bit clearer.

The catch?

The revamped 22-6A field just may be the deepest that Dobie and the rest of the Pasadena ISD ranks have ever faced.

This season, *Campbell's* staff gives the edge for the district championship to Shadow Creek, followed by Pearland, Dawson and Manvel. Dobie is slotted fifth, followed by Memorial, Alvin, South Houston and Sam Rayburn.

Additionally, *Campbell's* has given individual honors to players from Shadow Creek and Pearland, with Shadow Creek receiver Jacorey Watson listed as the magazine's preseason offensive Most Valuable Player.

Meanwhile, Pearland defensive end Jalen Stewart has earned the distinction as *Campbell's* preseason Defensive Most Valuable Player as he looks to lead the

Oilers back to the top of the standings.

Time will tell as to how all of it will shake out, but the Longhorns are confident they can do what it takes to get back to the postseason after running the table a season ago en route to a league title.

In terms of the Division 1 and Division 2 playoff brackets, Dobie, with an enrollment of 3,825 and Pearland, with 3,540 students, are far and away the largest schools within the 22-6A field and would head to Division 1.

Dawson, with an enrollment of 2,605, edges Manvel, which has 2,594. If *Campbell's* assessment holds true as far as its post-season forecast, Pearland and Dawson would head to Division 1, with Shadow Creek and Manvel ticketed for Division 2.

**Dobie (8-3 overall in 2023, including 6-0 in league play as champion)**

With first-year head coach Danny Fitzmorris taking over at Dobie, optimism abounds as the Longhorns head into preseason workouts beginning Aug. 12.

Senior running back Cameron Mathews, the district's Most Valuable Player last season after delivering 1,722 yards rushing and 20 touchdowns, will return to lead the offense along with junior running back Demarcus Hodges and senior runner Bryce Evans.

As for Hodges, he complemented Mathews with 878 yards and 10 rushing touchdowns of his own.

While the Longhorns have not named a definitive starter at quarterback prior to the start of preseason workouts, senior receiver Tarik Riley should be a major weapon on the outside after catching 17 passes for 548 yards and seven scores a season ago.

Dobie has also addressed openings along the offensive line this offseason, with returning All-District performer Markel Terry leading the way.

The Longhorns also went into the offseason needing to fill significant vacancies at each of the three levels of defense, with just four starters back. Safety Desmond Talib returns in the back, along with tackle Hunter Stacey, end Aiden Sanchez and linebacker Michael Williams.

The Longhorns will get help from corners Jaylon Broussard and Marcus Jones while reloading a secondary hit hard by graduation in May.

**Shadow Creek (9-2 overall in 2023, including a 6-1 three-way championship tie in 23-6A).**

Shadow Creek won nine

overall games a season ago, including the 6-1 run through league play. And now, big change has come for the Sharks.

For 2024, incoming first-year head coach Tyrone Green will return nine starters on offense to go with eight more on defense, giving the Sharks perhaps the most experienced starting group within the league.

Watson earned *Campbell's* choice as preseason offensive MVP after a 2023 season that saw him produce 850 yards receiving to go with 10 touchdown catches.

In addition to Watson, the Sharks have Cobey Sellers returning to the defensive secondary after alternating at quarterback last season.

A new look will come from the Sharks this season as Green and his staff will turn to Fort Bend Hightower transfer Joseph Stewart at quarterback.

Stewart was a 3-year starter at Hightower and will now take over as the starter for Shadow Creek.

Receiver Chris Stewart also returns after he led the league with 41 catches for 700 yards and 10 scores in 2023.

On defense, Shadow Creek is led by linebacker Anthony Williams, who had 45 overall tackles, including 10 stops for loss to go with five sacks. Williams is ranked as one of the best sideline-to-sideline players in the state and is currently viewed as a major Division I collegiate prospect.

Defensive back Kyle Peterson will return to Shadow Creek's lineup after producing 50 tackles a season ago to go with five interceptions.

**Pearland (9-3 overall in 2023, including a 6-1 record for a three-way championship tie in 23-6A)**

Pearland, one of the three co-champions of 23-6A a season ago, has B.J. Gotte returning as his head coach after the Oilers were 9-3 a season ago on the way to an area-round playoff berth.

The Oilers took on Dickinson in one of the most exciting bidistrict playoff games in the region last season, winning a 16-14 five overtime thriller. Looking ahead to this season, Pearland will be led by the disruptive Stewart at defensive end.

A season ago, Stewart created all sorts of problems as part of a monster sophomore season as he had 48 tackles in all, including seven sacks and six tackles for loss. Stewart will be joined by linebacker Joseph Cedit, who had 41 tackles, including three tackles for loss and four sacks of his own.

The Oilers entered the offseason with some ques-

tions on offense, but running back Tate Chisholm will give Pearland a boost in the backfield, with tight end Logan Johnson also expected to have a big year.

At quarterback, junior Jake Westmoreland saw limited action a season ago but now figures to get the nod as the Oilers' starter.

The Pearland offense also includes junior receiver Jordan Hernandez, a one-time standout at Thompson Intermediate.

**Dawson (6-5 overall in 2023, including a 6-1 record for a three-way championship tie in 23-6A)**

If individual head-to-head matchups will determine the eventual champion of the realigned 22-6A ranks, count Dawson as another front-runner to go with Shadow Creek, Pearland, Manvel and Dobie.

Dawson, led by longtime head coach Mike Allison, went winless during the non-district portion of the season in 2023 but then ultimately won six of seven district games to get a piece of the tri-championship.

As things shift to 2024, the Eagles faced a reload scenario in the offseason with just four players on offense and four more on defense returning to the starting lineup. Allison lists athlete Chase Davis as well as receiver Rodney Bonham and receiver/defensive back Josiah McFarland as leaders on the offensive side of the ball. Defensively, the Eagles will have Jeremiah Treadaway to go with linebacker Tregan Williams and Kings-ton Ephriam along with defensive lineman Chris Smith and cornerback Kaden Brown.

The key for the Eagles would seem to be just how quickly things come together. While Davis logged most of his time on defense a season ago, Allison envisions the star player having an impact in all three phases of the game for 2024.

The wild card within the 22-6A ranks just might be the Manvel Mavericks, who are making the climb to 6A under Martin for 2024 with a student enrollment of 2,594. The Mavericks figure to be solid on defense, as Martin points to safeties Brian Robinson and Grant Stewart, linebacker Amarian Fuller and cornerback Anthony Morgan as standouts on that side of the ball.

Offensively, quarterback Jackson Hamilton, a one-time starter at Pearland in 2022, returns to his position, while Cameron Renfro also gives the Mavericks options under center.

Receiver Antoine Wilder will be joined by Khalil Ali, Jayce Blalock as well

as Josh Irvin on the outside to give the Mavericks plenty of weapons at their disposal. Sophomore running back Kenneth Malone Hayes figures to tote most of the load in the backfield.

At first glance, 22-6A would appear to have at least five programs fighting for only four available postseason berths, but the Memorial Mavericks, South Houston Trojans, Alvin Yellow Jackets and Sam Rayburn Texans hope to force their way into the mix.

*Campbell's* has Memorial listed as sixth in its rankings, just behind Dobie.

**Pasadena Memorial (5-5 overall in 2023, including a 3-3 record in league play to earn the No. 4 playoff seed)**

The Mavericks went 5-5 overall a season ago, including 3-3 in district play, advancing to the postseason in the fourth and final season of the previous 22-6A alignment.

Head coach Jamie Crocker returns eight players on offense to go with five more on defense, led by All-District running back Lorenzo Delgado and quarterback Logan Johnson.

Receivers Jonathan Hernandez and Dyson Godbolt should give Johnson a couple of solid targets on the outside as the Mavericks look to create offense.

In 2023, Johnson passed for just over 1,300 yards and nine touchdowns, while Delgado rushed for 1,097 yards and 17 touchdowns. Hernandez had 519 yards receiving to go with five touchdowns.

Crocker notes that his squad will have rebuilt defensively during the offseason, but linebacker Devon Roberts returns after having 88 total tackles a season ago. Defensive back German Woodard also returns as the Mavericks' leader in the back.

**Alvin (2-8 overall a season ago, including 0-7 in league play)**

At Alvin, head coach James Gage will return six starters on offense to go with six starters on defense as his program aims to navigate what promises to be a challenging new 22-6A league.

The Yellow Jackets went 2-8 overall a season ago, including a winless march in the former 23-6A field.

This time around, Gage says quarterback Drew Bingham will lead the offense, with Kaden Hudson at running back.

The Alvin receiving corps includes Chuck Phillips, a proven target from a season ago. Bingham started the first three games of the year in the secondary a season ago and then moved a quarterback before an injury ended his season early.

Hudson, also a linebacker for the Yellow Jackets, had 73 tackles to lead the defense. The Alvin offensive line will be led by Carlos Villalobos who is a 3-year starter, while fellow offensive lineman Jacob Baez is also expected to have a big season along the defensive front.

Chris Macias is a 3-year starter, and Gage believes Josiah Miller can also have a big season up front along the defensive line.

**South Houston (4-6 overall in 2023, including 2-4 in league play for fifth place)**

South Houston, 4-6 overall, including 2-4 and district play a season ago, returns to 22-6A after missing the 5A cutoff during realignment by just 10 students.

Longtime head coach Patrick Longstreet returns seven players on offense to go with seven players on defense, but has some big shoes to fill at several skill spots.

**Sam Rayburn (2-8 overall in 2023, including 0-6 in league play)**

At Rayburn, head coach Sergio Gonzalez's troops were 2-8 a season ago in the former 22-6A ranks and could find the going just as tough for 2024.

Running back Haven Livingston figures to get the majority of the carries for the Texans, while Harry Jones is a playmaker on the outside at receiver as he will look to catch passes from quarterback Malachi Rivas.

Receiver Jermaine Youngblood is also a game-changer on the outside, and the Texans should be able to get additional running game contributions from Abel Gonzalez and Ruben Vasquez.

Defensively, Jaquan Bell is a solid contributor at defensive end, while Wesley Austin and safety Josiah Vela will chip in along with tackle Rigo Garcia, linebacker Nathan Slater and safety Dante Davis.

Overall, the Texans are making the switch to the slot T offense, meaning Livingston should see his numbers skyrocket if things go according to plan.

Bill, who had 85 tackles, and clearing eight tackles for loss and four quarterback sacks, is the leader of the Rayburn defense.

In short, the four district newcomers, including Shadow Creek, Pearland, Dawson and Manvel, might be getting the edge in the preseason, but the Longhorns are not about to give away anything.

Coming off of a district championship and now welcoming Fitzmorris as its new leader, Dobie, otherwise known as Team 56, is looking to start a new era with a return to the postseason.

## Returning MVP Mathews eyes big season



Dobie senior running back Cameron Mathews rushed for more than 1,700 yards and scored 20 overall touchdowns to win the 22-6A Most Valuable Player honor as a junior. Looking toward the 2024 season, Mathews aims to solidify his status as one of the all-time leading rushers in program history.

## Dave Campbell's Texas Football Preseason Defensive MVP Jaylen Stewart, Pearland, DE

## Preseason Offensive MVP Jacorey Watson, Shadow Creek, WR

## Projected Order of Finish

1. Shadow Creek (Div. 2)
2. Pearland (Div. 1)
3. Dawson (Div. 1)
4. Manvel (Div. 2)
5. Dobie
6. Manvel
7. Alvin
8. South Houston
9. Sam Rayburn

## Dave Campbell's magazine includes locals in top 50

*Dave Campbell's Texas Football* magazine has unveiled its top 50 state ranked class 6A football programs with North Crowley at No. 5 and Summer Creek, 14-2 a season ago, at No. 6.

Seventh-ranked is Southlake Carroll, followed by Lake Travis in the No. 8 slot. Atascocita, having gone against North Shore in the Region III Division 1 title game in back-to-back seasons, is rated ninth statewide, with Cibolo Steele rounding out the top 10.

North Shore, coming off a 6A Division 1 state championship game appearance a season ago, ranks third in the state poll after going 15-1 last season. It's lone loss came at the hands of state champion Duncanville in a 49-33 outcome.

For 2024, *Campbell's* has given its top preseason ranking to Desoto, which has won each of the last two 6A Division 2 state championships. In 2023, the Eagles defeated Summer Creek 74-14 to finish a perfect 16-0 under head coach Claude Mathis.

Staying in form, *Campbell's* ranks two-time 6A Division 1 state champion Duncanville at No. 2 in its preseason state poll, one spot ahead of North shore.

Rounding out the top 10, Austin Westlake sits fourth, with North Crowley at No. 5 and Summer Creek, 14-2 a season ago, at No. 6.

Seventh-ranked is Southlake Carroll, followed by Lake Travis in the No. 8 slot. Atascocita, having gone against North Shore in the Region III Division 1 title game in back-to-back seasons, is rated ninth statewide, with Cibolo Steele rounding out the top 10.

Ridge Point, like Dobie a candidate for the 6A Division 1 playoff bracket, enters *Campbell's* State Poll at number 14, having gone 9-3 a season ago and featuring University of Houston commit Austin Carlisle at quarterback.

Shadow Creek, who *Campbell's* has ticketed for the 22-6A championship this season, is at No. 19, while Dickinson, which *Campbell's* predicts will win the 24-6A battle, is ranked 21st.

Also of note in the poll, Pearland checks in at No. 27, while Clear Springs of District 24-6A is ranked 42nd.

Obviously, there is plenty of talent to go around statewide. From a Houston area Region III standpoint, *Campbell's* certainly believes that there will be plenty of competition for the respective D1 and D2 regional crowns. It's been North Shore over Atascocita in Division 1 in 2021 (44-20 score), 2022 (38-7 score) and 2023 (34-28 score), and those two programs very well could battle again en route to the state championship game in Arlington.

Looking at *Dave Campbell's Texas Football's* regional championship game predictions for 2024, the magazine for good reason has North Shore facing Atascocita for a fourth consecutive season, with Summer Creek defeating Shadow Creek in the Region III D2 championship game.

As for the state championship round, *Campbell's* has Duncanville winning over North Shore for a third straight campaign. In the D2 ranks, *Campbell's* predicts that DeSoto will also three-peat as champion.

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# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, JULY 11**  
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, in Cornell Conference room. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit https://aahouston.org/meetings/.  
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location https://pearland.rotary.com/events/calendar or call 832-293-9860.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
**FRIDAY, JULY 12**  
7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.  
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group**, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday.  
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Vigilance Group of NA**, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/. Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.  
8 p.m. **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.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.  
**SATURDAY, JULY 13**  
7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.  
9:30 a.m. **Congregation Shaar Hashalom** - All services are live and Zoom online. For details on the 7 p.m. Friday night or the 9:30 a.m. Saturday service, Judaism classes, film series, and lunch with the Rabbi, visit https://www.shaarhashalom.org.  
1 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - offers a knitting class, Saturdays 1 p.m. Call 281-479-7285 prior to coming.  
**SUNDAY, JULY 14**  
8 a.m./ 10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship Tuesday at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.  
5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 9900 Alameda Genoa. Call 713-419-2635 for details.  
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.  
**MONDAY, JULY 15**  
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners**. See Thursday's notice.  
1:30-3 p.m. **Ballroom Dancing** - at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway, League City, 77573, is open. Neva and Bill Schroder coordinate Wednesday sessions for casual ballroom dancing (not dance lessons). Park activity cardholders attend free. Call 281-554-1180 for details.  
5 p.m. - **New Directions Singles Social Group** is a singles group for those over 55+. Meetings are the first and third Monday's held in the community room at Maplewood Crossing 600 Hobbs Road, League City. There will be a pot luck dinner and may include group activities. For further information, call Carol at 281-508-1663. See their Facebook page: New Directions Singles Social Group.  
6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at IHOP, 11222 Fuqua. Join the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff\_reunion@juno.com for info.  
7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau at 713-875-8820.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or https://nastuff.com/. Meets Monday-Friday, 12 Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, in the Education Bldg. in room 4, 11011 Hall Rd., For details, call Jesse at 832-725-8479 or Rita at 281-309-2801.  
**TUESDAY, JULY 16**  
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.  
11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - The Southeast Houston Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually with the exception of the second and fourth Tuesdays (hybrid meeting) at sehouston.toastmastersclubs.org. In-person address 10500 Scarsdale Blvd (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit the website or call Karen Nunn at (832) 722-9061 for information.  
7 p.m. **Houston Skyscraper Shadows Civic Club** - meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7900 Fuqua (inside Covenant of Faith United Methodist Church). No meeting in December. Contact Cathy@cheyder@sbcglobal.net or call 713-332-6294 for details.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.  
**WEDNESDAY, JULY 17**  
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.  
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.  
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners**. 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Mondays - Fridays.  
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Ballroom Dancing** - See Monday's notice.  
7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.  
**Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.  
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - See Friday's notice.  
**THURSDAY, JULY 18**  
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill," Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m.

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# Versatility helps Harris reach AAU Junior Olympics games

By John Bechtle  
Sports Editor  
To call Stacie Harris "versatile" might just be an understatement.  
During her extensive youth

track and field career, which to this point has included three varsity seasons at Dobie High School and soon a 10th Junior Olympic Games appearance. Harris has competed in just

about every available event. Okay, perhaps she's not into the distance running events much anymore, but as a beginner in the sport, Harris said she started out by running

the 400, 800 and 1,500. Even today, Harris performs the 800 as part of the heptathlon, which has for two summers landed her an invitation to the Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympic Games.

Last summer during the JOs at Drake University, Harris posted 3,915 points in the heptathlon, fueling her efforts to be even better in a couple of weeks.

Already a multi-time Region III qualifier in the long jump at Dobie, Harris will next month head to North Carolina A&T University in Greensboro, looking to improve upon that fourth place finish from last summer in the heptathlon.

Harris has now made the jump to 17-18, where she's looking for a top-three medal after placing third at the Region 17 qualifier late last month.

The heptathlon consists of seven events taking place over two consecutive days. On the first day, athletes compete in the 100-meter hurdles, high jump, shot put and 200. The second day features the long jump, javelin and 800.

At the Region 17 national qualifier June, Harris was fourth in the 100 hurdles at 17.56 seconds, took second in the 200 at 26.17 seconds and the 400 hurdles at 1 minute 11.58 seconds. She placed third in the 800 at 2 minutes 43.32 seconds, took second in the high jump at a height of 4 feet, 9 inches and threw the

javelin 99-6 in for first place. In her specialty event, the long jump as part of the heptathlon, Harris cleared 15-8 3/4 in for second place. In the stand-alone long jump, Harris was third, making her way to the 16-10 1/2 in mark. As for the shot put in the heptathlon, Harris was second as she threw the weight 26-4 1/4.

Harris, a longtime member of the Pearland Track Xpress, delivered personal records in two of her "softer" events, the shot and javelin, en route to 3,805 points. At the Junior Olympics, Harris said she will try to amass 4,000 points.

"I think I have a lot more to give," said Harris, who certainly hopes to compete collegiately post 2025 and will likely stick with the heptathlon. "The high jump is definitely not my top event with the technique required, but I do the best I can. I like competing in different events."

Off the field, Harris also has a clear path set for herself as she plans to become a physical therapist when her time comes.

In her final season at Dobie, Harris isn't likely to add much more to her plate. Instead, the senior-to-be will go for a state berth in the long jump, run the individual 400 and lend her talents to the relays.

"It can be a challenge," Harris said of her heptathlon training. "I work on my technique in the events five days a week, but I really try to have fun with it."

# Taylor Pleasants LSWA 2024 Pitcher of the Year



Taylor Pleasants

## Pleasants again earns LSWA honors

The Louisiana State University softball program had six athletes recognized on the 2024 Louisiana Sports Writers Association All-Louisiana College Softball Team, headlined by pitcher Sydney Berzon, who was named LSWA 2024 Pitcher of the Year and secured her second consecutive first-team selection.

Joining Berzon on the first team were outfielder Ciara Briggs, utility pitcher Kelley Lynch and shortstop Taylor Pleasants, a Dobie High

School graduate. For the fourth consecutive year, Pleasants gained All-Louisiana first team status and is now the fourth LSU Tiger all-time to be a four-time All-Louisiana First Team selection, joining Savannah Jaquish (2014-2017), Bianka Bell (2013-2016) and Britni Sneed (1999-2002). Pleasants started a career-high 61 games as a graduate senior in 2024 and finished with 46 hits, including a team-best 10 home runs

and 46 RBIs. Pleasants had three walk-off hits in 2024, including two home runs over Boise State and No. 11 Texas A&M. Pleasants also led the team with 131 assists, had 98 putouts, and helped turn 16 double plays from her shortstop spot. Her collegiate career complete. Pleasants is currently playing with the Florida Vibe of the Association of Fastpitch Professionals in Bradenton, Fla.

## Bergeron camp at Dobie July 19

Students entering kindergarten through the fifth grade as of the 2024-2025 school year are encouraged to attend Dobie High School's first-ever Matt Bergeron Camp July 19 as the Longhorns' football coaching staff, former and current players as well as coaching staff members of the Sagemont Cowboys use organization will combine

to provide drills from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Dobie main campus. The camp will be held on the school's turf game field located behind the athletics field house.

First-year Dobie varsity football head coach Danny Fitzmorris and his staff will lead the camp as the community comes together to celebrate the start of the football

season on a variety of levels throughout the area. The camp is free of charge, and the Dobie coaching staff is inviting youth players to attend and have some fun along the way. Concessions as well as a variety of Dobie football merchandise will be available for purchase throughout the evening.

## Girls softball now registering

The South Belt girls Softball Association is now hosting registration for its fall ball season as families will have a chance to include their children for the upcoming season.

Available age groups included 3 through 16, with a cost of \$85 per player. New for 2024, the cost for the four-and-under age group is \$40 per player. A new offering from SBG-

SA officials, the 4-and-under age group is aimed as an introduction into the sport for those 3-4-year-old interested in playing in a fun-filled environment.

There will be five to six girls per team, with a focus on the fundamentals of the game as well as shorter practices and game times.

To register for the fall league at any of the available age groups, visit [www.southbeltsoftball.sportngin.com](http://www.southbeltsoftball.sportngin.com).

Mari Salinas of the South Belt Girls Softball Association says games will be played on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and spots are filling fast as families are encouraged to register as soon as possible. There are no zone restrictions. For more information, contact Salinas at [maria\\_salinas@live.com](mailto:maria_salinas@live.com).

## Dobie VB plans July activities

Dobie varsity volleyball head coach Dawn Sexton and her staff will host a pair of youth camps July 24-26 at the main campus, with incoming third-through sixth-grade students attending from 9 to 11 a.m. and incoming seventh- and eighth-grade students attending from noon to 2 p.m.

The focuses of the camps will include individual skills training, team building exercises, strategy sessions, fitness and conditioning drills and friendly match play. Cost of each camp is \$50 per student and may be paid in cash on the first day of the camps or via Cash App at \$Dvbbooster.

For additional information, direct email to Sexton at [dsexton@pasadenaisd.org](mailto:dsexton@pasadenaisd.org).

With an eye toward the start of preseason high school workouts, Sexton and her staff will host incoming freshmen through returning seniors July 29-31 at Dobie main. The returning sophomores, juniors and seniors will train from 9 a.m. to noon each day, while incoming freshmen will attend from 1 to 4 p.m.

## SBYSO opens fall season registration

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club has begun registration for the 2024 fall season and is currently offering early registration prices through July 14 at [www.southbeltssoccer.org](http://www.southbeltssoccer.org).

Regular registration will then run July 15 through August 16 as the league continues to prepare for the season. Registration is accepted via credit or debit card only.

Practices will begin in August, and teams will typically train two days a week in the early evenings. Games will begin in September after the Labor Day holiday, and continue through November. The registration fee includes a team jersey top, shorts and socks. Parents will provide shin guards, soccer cleats and a soccer ball. Registration age groups, fees and more information is available by visiting [www.southbeltssoccer.org](http://www.southbeltssoccer.org).

## Clear Brook summer volleyball camp activities set

Clear Brook High School volleyball head coach Meredith Thompson and her staff will host the 2024 Wolverine Youth Volleyball Camp July 29 through Aug. 1. Session I is open to incoming third- through fifth-grade students and will run from 8 to 10 a.m. each day.

Session II is reserved for sixth- through eighth-grade students and will also run from 8 to 10 a.m. each day, while session III will include all incoming ninth- grade students in addition to elite level eighth-grade players. This session will run from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each day.

Sessions I and II are \$90 per camp participant, while session III is \$100 per participant. Walk-up registration fees increase by \$10 accordingly.

The Clear Brook youth camp will focus on the fundamentals of volleyball including serving, hitting, blocking, defense, team play and more. For more information direct email to Thompson at [mthomp1@ccisd.net](mailto:mthomp1@ccisd.net).

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