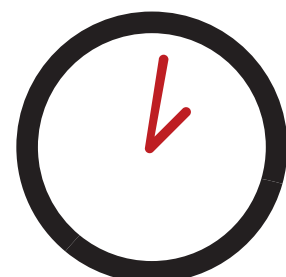


HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

Katy Times



REMINDER
Daylight savings ends on Sunday, Nov. 3. Don't forget to turn your clocks back!

VOLUME 111, ISSUE 42

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2019

Successes highlight state of district

STAFF REPORT

Following a year that highlighted the legacy and 100-year anniversary of the Katy Independent School District, superintendent Dr. Ken Gregorski described on Friday, Oct. 25, during the annual state of the district what makes the district and community "Rooted in Excellence."

Speaking to an audience of over 250 people at the Merrell Center, including federal and state elected officials, community members and parents, Dr. Gregorski reviewed the district's successes, challenges and strategic outlook.

"This community, along with our Board of Trustees and staff, established a framework for a five year strategic plan based on the goals and values of the families, professionals, and senior citizens this school district serves," Gregorski said. "We have reworked our programs and curriculum to make certain students are engaged in personalized learning experiences. We have ingrained a culture of safety into nearly everything that we do."

A monumental year with the accolades to demonstrate it, Katy ISD was named the No. 1 school district in the Greater Houston area by Niche, and just last week the district learned that 19 of its elementary schools were ranked in the top 25 best elementary schools in the area.

Likewise, for the second year in a row, the district earned an "A" overall letter grade from the Texas Education Agency and was the largest school district in the state to receive that grade. Also, the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas assigned Katy ISD an "A" rating, and the College Board named the district the nation's Advanced Placement Large School District of the Year.

Gregorski, alongside video messages that were presented by City of Katy Mayor Bill Hastings and City of Fulshear Mayor Aaron

See **DISTRICT**, page A8

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'STROS OF SUCCESS



TIMES PHOTO BY JOE SOUTHERN | SEALY NEWS

Astros ace Justin Verlander delivers a pitch during Game 6 of the World Series on Oct. 29 at Minute Maid Park.

Houston produces another season for the record books

STAFF REPORT

It was another season to remember for the Houston Astros. Fans of Crush City are getting spoiled when they consider what this franchise had been for decades and decades before 2017.

As the Astros continue to make their imprint as Major League Baseball's latest dynasty, they competed in their second World Series in three years. The 2019 season saw the Astros produce a 100-plus win season for the third consecutive season and once again play into November, something that is becoming the norm in southeast Texas.

A plethora of names were etched into Astros lore this year.

There is ace Justin Verlander, who went 21-6 with a 2.58 ERA with 300 strikeouts at age 36. There's Gerrit Cole, 1B to Verlander's 1A and likely to become the highest paid

pitcher in MLB history when he hits free agency this winter. Cole was phenomenal all year, going 20-5 with a 2.50 ERA and posting 326 strikeouts, averaging 13.8 strikeouts per nine innings.

Or how about precocious third baseman Alex Bregman, who hit .296 with 41 home runs and 112 RBIs. Bregman had a .423 on-base percentage and 119 walks to 83 strikeouts. What about rookie sensation Jordan Alvarez, who hit .313 with 27 homers and 78 RBIs in 87 games after being called up from the minors. Alvarez posted a .655 slugging percentage, mesmerizing fans with his long-bomb prowess.

Those aforementioned 'Stros put together remarkable campaigns, impressive enough that they are in line to take home MLB's top awards: Verlander or Cole for the Cy Young Award, Bregman for Most Valuable Player, and Alvarez for Rookie of the Year. And that's

not even taking into consideration Astros icon Jose Altuve, whose Game 6 walk-off homer against the Yankees in the ALCS is one of the greatest moments in Houston sports history, and steady veteran Michael Brantley, or the dramatic postseason excellence of Carlos Correa.

The best of the best, these Astros were. Just years removed from three consecutive 100-loss seasons, Houston has produced a magical turnaround built for Hollywood, taking MLB by storm with its innovative, outside-the-box approach to team-building. General manager Jeff Luhnow has built an established, young, winning core while not sacrificing prized prospects like Kyle Tucker and Forrest Whitley. Ingenious.

The Astros will only get better. Luhnow will only continue adding. And H-Town will be back playing baseball in November soon enough.

Candidates talk policy at community forum

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Five of the six candidates for Texas House District 28 gathered at Tad's of Katy the evening of October 22 for a candidate forum cohosted by the Katy Area and Fulshear Katy chambers of commerce. Candidates answered questions from moderators Tommy Kuykendall and Margaret Laney in front of an audience the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce estimates at about 140 people.

The candidates are running for the seat vacated by former Representative John Zerwas, R-Richmond, on Sept. 30. Zerwas had served in the House District 28 seat since 2007. Zerwas retired from the position in order to become executive vice chancellor for health affairs for the University of Texas System.

Candidates Gary Gates, Gary Hale, Tricia Krenek, Anna Alred and Elizabeth "Eliz" Markowitz answered questions posed by Kuykendall and Laney spanning a variety of topics including infrastructure development, crime, edu-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Texas House District 28 residents gathered to hear candidates stances on education, crime, development and more at Tad's of Katy on Oct. 22.

See **FORUM**, page A8

Taylor High School Choir's 36th Annual Madrigal Dinner

Madrigal Dinner, cherished tradition in its 36th year at Taylor High School, is a wonderful evening of holiday entertainment which includes a concert performance by all seven Taylor HS choirs. A delightful way to start the holiday season, Madrigal Dinner features a four-course catered dinner, served by choir students acting as wenches and beggars, and is interwoven with a Renaissance period skit, choir, hand bell performances, and audience participation. The school cafeteria is transformed into a castle dining hall, complete with drawbridge, fireplace, and castle walls. The community and parents look forward to this much-anticipated event and it is a perennial sell-out.

Before the show and during intermission, dinner guests will have a chance to bid on a wide variety of unique silent auction items as well as an opportunity to participate in raffles for several themed gift baskets provided by the THS choirs.

Tickets are \$30 each and are available November 1-26 at www.taylorchoir.org/madrigal.



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Bunch retires



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Missy Bunch retired after 38 years of service to the city of Katy. Mrs. Bunch was the fourth city secretary since the city was incorporated. Becky McGrew was appointed new city secretary.

Pictured: Chris Harris, Mayor Pro Tem
Missy Bunch, city secretary
Becky McGrew, assistant city secretary



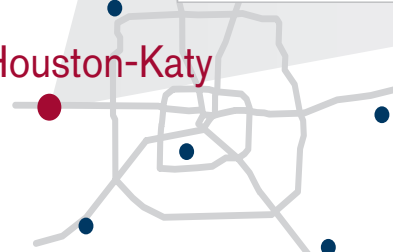
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SPORTS

KATY ISD ATHLETICS INDUCTS CLASS OF 2019 HALL OF HONOR



Katy ISD athletics held its annual Hall of Honor induction last weekend. On Friday, Oct. 25, during the Katy High-Cinco Ranch varsity football game at Legacy Stadium, the individuals and teams that were inducted were recognized. On the following Saturday, a luncheon was held in honor of the inductees at the Merrell Center. The teams inducted were the 2003 Katy High football state champions, the 2004 Cinco Ranch boys track state champions, the 2005 Cinco Ranch boys track state champions and the 2006 Taylor girls soccer state champions. Individuals inducted were: Coach Karen Attaway, Dr. Kristen Boister Bayat, Emily McLerath Bell, Jim Benavides, Jeremy Clark, Daphne Fitzpatrick Commerford, Seth Daniels, Hailey Hale de Anda, Coach Gary Derks, Jorge Diaz, Trevor Gerland, Brynton Goynes, Ricky Harold, Charlotte Harris, Katy Hays, Coach Terry Kangas, Brenda Lee, Donna McMeans Lee, Joseph Longacre, Cody Lopasky, Linse Meadows, Eric Miller, Kyle Miller, Andrea Miller Moore, Ryan Mouton, Coach Bobbie Meyer, Eman Naghavi, Michael Parker, Teri Lopez Perle, Andrea Randall, Natalie Woodham Reed, Krista Hartman Rodriguez, Jennifer Lavers Scholz, Scott Sellers, Kendall Smashey, Tate Stewart, Queito Ikean Teasley, Bryan Thompson, Will Thompson, Bodley Paul Thornton Jr., Audrey Tompkins, Andrew Usoro, Sabra Every Vargas and Coach David Youngblood. TIMES PHOTOS COURTESY OF KATY ISD AND MARK GOODMAN



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Psalms 94:19

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3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,
4 who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

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Believe

Katy ISD well-represented at Region III meet

By STEPHEN GREENWELL
TIMES CORRESPONDENT

HUNTSVILLE — Building off successes at previous meets, Seven Lakes' boys cross country won the Class 6A boys team title at the UIL Region III cross country championships on Monday, Oct. 28, at Kate Barr-Ross Park. On the girls side, Tompkins junior Addison Stevenson continued her rapid ascent in the sport with a silver medal, leading the Falcons to a second-place finish in the team results.

Other teams and runners that qualified for state from Katy ISD hailed from Cinco Ranch and Katy High. The top four teams and the top 10 individuals not on those teams qualified for state.

The state meet takes place on Saturday, Nov. 9, at Old Settlers Park in Round Rock.

Seven Lakes boys coach Scott Kenney said the team was happy with the championship win but didn't view it as an endpoint to the season.

"The goal for them has been to be a podium (top three) team, and to elevate to that level," he said. "I think we're really happy with where we are, but I think we're also not, like, 'This is it, we're done, let's relax.' We've got work to do over the next two weeks."

The Spartans' top five consisted of senior Carson Slater (fifth, 16:08.1), senior Corbin Brescher (eighth, 16:15.5), senior Spencer Seale (12th, 16:22.9), sophomore Ruben Rojas (28th, 16:58.0) and junior Fernando Hernandez (38th, 17:07.2).

"I told the guys after the district week, it's not about doing more, it's about doing the things we need to do better, and that's the main focus continuing to move ahead the next two weeks," Kenney said. "We're going to continue to work ahead to make sure we come together and take care of each other."

Seven Lakes finished with 89 points, edging out Tompkins. The Falcons took second place with 120 points.

While Seven Lakes won the meet, Tompkins had the top individual boys runner from the Katy area. That's been true for most of the season, but the identity of the runner at the regional meet, junior Gavin Saacke, was different than at previous meets, when senior Cole Lindhorst typically took top honors.

At the regional meet, Saacke finished third with a time of 15:47.4. Lindhorst was in ninth place, running 16:16.5, about 45 seconds slower than his previous two races. Tompkins boys coach Walt Yarrow attributed the finish to Lindhorst putting pressure on himself to excel,



Seven Lakes boys: Front row: Juan Rojo and Jad Wardeh. Middle row: Javier Pineros, Corbin Brescher and Spencer Seale. Back row: Michael Huff, Carson Slater, head coach Scott Kenney, Peyton Hannah, Ryan Caffrey, Ruben Rojas and Fernando Hernandez.



Tompkins girls: From left to right, Angelica Juarez, Addison Stevenson, Maria Giler, Paula Guevera, Sophia Welkener, Katie Wiley, Courtney Richman, Hayden Gold, Marisa Marinchak and Laura Orgeron.

but noted that he fought through to finish strong for the team.

Yarrow said the performance of Saacke was evidence of his hard work paying off.

"As we led up to district, he's had great workouts," Yarrow said. "Gavin is a fighter and he's a competitive kid. I'm super proud of him, and it's a breakout for him. He's one of the top guys in the state and he's got a chance at top 10."

Going forward, Yarrow said he hoped to tighten up the finishes of the team's fifth, sixth and seventh runners. Through four runners, Tompkins only trailed Seven Lakes by five points, but the deficit swelled to 31 points after five runners.

The Cinco Ranch boys team will still send two runners to the state meet. Senior Sam Flusche finished in 10th place (16:18.7), and junior Ethan Boyd (15th, 16:26.7) qualified because several runners in the top 10 earned placements via their teams.

"It's kind of a bittersweet day, because I was hoping our whole team would be able to be there with us, but I'm pretty proud of us, too," Flusche said.

"We worked to get here, so it's definitely an accomplishment," Boyd said, noting that it would be the first time at state for both. "I've never been there myself, so I'm excited."

On the girls side, Stevenson continued her meteoric rise up the cross country leaderboard. While the rugged, hilly course didn't

offer her the opportunity to set a personal record, her second-place time of 18:55.5 was a 26-second improvement from the Region III preview meet at the same venue on Sept. 7.

This is the first year of cross country for the junior, who said the presence of better runners in the elite races tends to help pace herself. She also said having a full team to support her at meets has helped compensate for her inexperience.

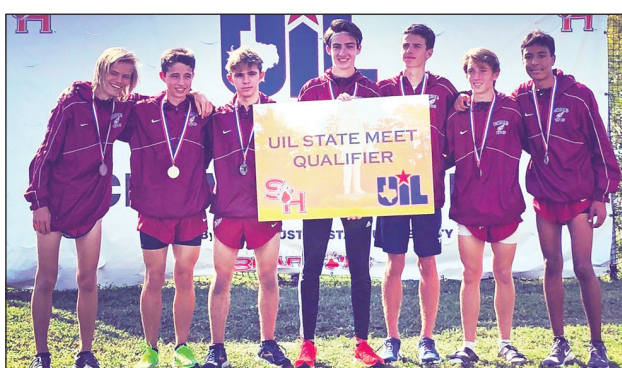
"I didn't even know if I was going to run for the team," she said. "I just wanted some training and something to do. But now it's becoming one of my favorite things ever."

Tompkins finished second overall with 82 points, behind Kingwood's 42 points. Seven Lakes finished third with 123 points, also securing a spot at the state meet along with the Falcons.

In addition to Stevenson, junior Hayden Gold finished in the top 10 for Tompkins, earning seventh (19:12.2). Rounding out the top five for the Falcons were junior Katie Wiley (24th, 20:02.4), freshman Courtney Richman (26th, 20:04.0) and junior Laura Orgeron (30th, 20:21.5).

Tompkins girls coach Amy Pitzel said that if the team had a similar effort at the state meet, she would be happy, and noted that Stevenson and Gold give them a dynamic they didn't have in the past.

"The last two years, we didn't have any girls in the top 10. We just ran really strong as a group," she said. "Today, we



Tompkins boys team.



Seven Lakes girls. From left to right, Sofia Chazaro, Ana Velazquez, Giana Mannone, Sarah Zdansky, Rosie Campbell-Watt, Grace Havern, Katie Fitzpatrick, Molly Humes, Luann Drake and Julie Almaguer.



Cinco Ranch's Ethan Boyd and Sam Flusche

had two in the top 10, so that's going to help us when we go to the next level because it's a bigger race. I don't want to set any clear goals, but we haven't placed in the top 10 yet and we'd love to do that as a team."

Seven Lakes girls coach David Pollack said that coming in, they viewed themselves as one of the four or five teams with a shot to win the meet.

"In a way, I'm a little disappointed, but when you lose to Kingwood and you lose to Tompkins, it's an acceptable loss," he said. "This is something we've been working on since the last time we advanced to state, which was 2016, and for this group of seniors to have been there as freshmen and to recapture the magic and move on, I couldn't be more excited for them."

The Spartans' top five consisted of sophomore Katie Fitzpatrick (14th, 19:32.2), senior Rosie Campbell-Watt (22nd, 19:58.2), freshman

Grace Havern (23rd, 19:59.3), junior Sarah Zdansky (36th, 20:29.7) and junior Giana Mannone (37th, 20:39.3).

Cinco Ranch junior Sophie Atkinson, competing as an individual, placed third at the meet with a time of 19:02.5. However, she wasn't happy with that placement or how she ran.

"I feel like I've still been training hard, so that's not helping with how I'm feeling, but I feel like it might just have been a bad day," she said. "I just have to come up with a plan that'll fit best for me and give me the best chance. I just have to throw this away and focus on the next race."

Katy sophomore Isabella Rubio qualified as an individual with a ninth-place finish of 19:21.5.

"I'm excited and also a little shocked, because it was a tough race, but I'm glad I got through it," she said. "At state, my goal is just to run my hard-



Tompkins' Addison Stevenson



Cinco Ranch's Sophie Atkinson



Katy High's Isabella Rubio

est to represent my team, and just trying to place the highest that I can."

In the Class 5A races, the Paetow boys finished in 15th place with 362 points. Junior Samuel Hinojosa was the top finisher, in 51st place with a time of 17:58.9.

It was Paetow's first regional cross country appearance.

"As a team, as a whole, we did pretty good," Hinojosa said. "I know every single one of us left everything out there. Going home, we won't have any regrets."

Paetow junior Logan Warren, competing in her first regional meet as an individual, finished in 48th place with a time of 21:40.0.

"I was really nervous in the beginning, and the course was kind of hard for me," she said. "Usually, I'm further ahead anyway, but it takes some getting used to at the line, because I didn't have my team with me."

Cougars' veteran captains ready for one last run

By STEPHEN GREENWELL
TIMES CORRESPONDENT

With an undefeated district championship in the rearview window, Cinco Ranch has turned its attention toward the playoffs, which start early next week.

The Cougars are 33-5 overall after sweeping Taylor on Tuesday, Oct. 29, to finish District 19-6A play 12-0. The Cougars seem to be peaking at the right time; in their last six games, they have only lost one set. That came against the district's second-place team, Katy.

Cinco Ranch clinched the district title with a 25-9, 25-10, 25-11 sweep of Morton Ranch on Oct. 22. Katy, Seven Lakes and Tompkins round out postseason qualifiers from 19-6A.

The Cougars won the district title in runaway fashion, finishing three games ahead of Katy.

"We definitely talked together as a team, and that was one thing we all agreed upon, that we should win district, so that's what they set their goals to," Cinco Ranch coach Danielle Wells said. "I definitely knew they were able to accomplish that."

The team's three captains are all seniors and four-year letterwomen: outside hitter Danyle Courtley, middle



Pictured from left to right, Cinco Ranch seniors Aislan Lennon, Danyle Courtley and Madalyn O'Brien.

blocker Madalyn O'Brien and setter Aislan Lennon. Courtley leads the team in kills (3.9 per set) and digs (2.8 per set), O'Brien leads the team in hitting percentage (.391) and total blocks (101), and Lennon averages a team-best 6.1 assists per set.

The three said they knew this could be a good year if they kept working in practice.

"We knew that this year, if we were going to go far, this would be the year," Courtley said.

"We went in really mo-

tivated, and we knew if we went in strong every game, we would pull off the win," Lennon added.

Now the goal is state. Courtley said it's been the goal since their freshman year.

"Our little goal was to win district, and now we're moving on and taking it one game at a time," O'Brien said.

Though the three captains are battle-tested veterans as four-year varsity players, Wells stressed that all three have improved by "leaps

H.S. VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

DISTRICT 19-6A					
	OVERALL		DISTRICT		
	W	L	W	L	
xy-Cinco Ranch	33	5	12	0	
x-Katy	30	14	9	3	
x-Seven Lakes	26	16	8	4	
x-Tompkins	25	16	7	5	
Mayde Creek	21	20	4	8	
Taylor	14	25	2	10	
Morton Ranch	13	29	0	12	
y-district champ					
x-clinched playoff berth					

DISTRICT 19-5A					
	OVERALL		DISTRICT		
	W	L	W	L	
xy-College Station	30	12	14	0	
x-A&M Consol.	25	14	12	2	
x-Brenham	33	15	10	4	
x-Magnolia West	19	18	8	6	
Magnolia	20	15	6	8	
Rudder	24	23	4	10	
Waller	6	36	2	12	
Paetow	3	31	0	14	
y-district champ					
x-clinched playoff berth					

and bounds." Courtley has improved her versatility, while O'Brien matured into a six-rotation player as a junior and senior.

"Freshman year, they were little babies," Wells said, laughing. "The thing with having freshmen on varsity, as a varsity coach I still have expectations that they will be varsity players. Because they've had the reps and the intensity and the pressure for three years now, they know that now is the only time left to get as far as they want to get."

The captains said they've also been helped by their club team, which they have also played together on year-round.

"We get to work on our individual skills and then bring it here, and it works perfectly for school," Courtley said.

"I think us playing together and growing together really helped, especially when it came to learning one another's tendencies," Lennon said of club ball.

"It just helped our team dynamic even more." Lennon said she's tried her best to be a supportive and vocal leader from the sidelines this year. An injury has kept her sidelined since mid-September.

"I'd say my role now is cheerleader and sideline coach," she said. "I'm just trying to help out the other setters on the team and just make sure the team is still sticking to our goals and doing what we want to do."

Lennon hopes to come back at some point during the playoffs.

"I'm doing cardio, I just can't lift weights," she said. "I'm trying to stay in shape, so that when I come back I can be as good as I can."

The three senior captains will be continuing their volleyball careers at the collegiate level—Courtley at Rice, O'Brien at Texas Tech and Lennon at St. Mary's in San Antonio.

From last year's playoffs, Courtley and O'Brien said

they've tried to focus more on passing, digging and receiving.

"I think we've focused more on serve-receive this year, more than we have in the past, and it's really carried over," Courtley said. "When our passing is on, everything else kind of follows."

"We've been working on being consistent together, because when we're not consistent you can tell, and it's a big difference," O'Brien said. "We're working together this year instead of just being individuals."

Wells said the team has the talent to achieve the goal of making it to state, but it would be a matter of focusing and playing mistake-free volleyball.

"For us to continue the run in the playoffs, our consistency has to get a bit better," she said. "We still have little moments of hitting errors, service errors, a missed pass here, we're not in system so we're not putting the ball away. That stuff has to get more consistent. It can; I just think they need to recognize that, and when they recognize that, they need to turn it around in that instant and not wait two or three points. Because when you get in the playoffs, you can't wait two or three points."

Watson rallies Texans, but Watt out for season

By DENNIS SILVA II
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

It is very much a next-man-up season for the Texans.

With three of four starters in the secondary already inactive with injuries heading into Sunday's game against the Raiders, the Texans saw three more starters, including star defensive end J.J. Watt, go down with injury in a gritty 27-24 win on Oct. 27 at NRG Stadium.

Watt tweeted shortly after the game that he was done for the season after reportedly tearing his left pectoral.

"This game can be beautiful and it can also be brutal," Watt tweeted. "Absolutely gutted that I won't be able to finish the season with my guys and give the fans what they deserve. I truly love this game and can't stand letting you guys down."

Watt suffered the injury after tackling Raiders running back Josh Jacobs for a loss a little more than midway through the second quarter.

It is the third time in four seasons that Watt will miss eight or more games due to injury. Entering the game, Watt had 4.0 sacks with three tackles for losses this season and led the NFL in quarterback hits with 16 and total pressures with 51.

"He's a great football player. He's an even better guy," coach Bill O'Brien said. "Unfortunately, we've been in this position before and we've got some guys here. We'll miss him, though. That's obvious."

Added quarterback Deshaun Watson: "It's tough. That's a big part of this team. But he knows this locker room, this organization, this town, this city, Houston nation is definitely going to support him through his recovery. You hate to see anybody go down with a season-ending injury. All the work he put in to get to this point. It's crazy, it sucks. But we love him and we're definitely going to support him."

Watt, cornerback Lonnie Johnson (concussion) and offensive lineman Laremy Tunsil (shoulder) all went out with injuries at various points of the game. Rookie defensive end Charles Omenihu assumed much of Watt's role the last 2 1/2 quarters.

Still, an offense that came alive late by scoring on three second-half drives and taking the victory formation on the fourth was enough, as Watson, who finished the game with a swollen left eye after getting kicked late on a touchdown pass, rallied the Texans.

Watson completed 27 of 39 passes for 279 yards and three touchdowns. Two of the touchdown passes came in the fourth quarter, which the Texans entered trailing 21-13.

"We're never out of a game, regardless of what the score is," Watson said. "We've got to play 60 minutes. It's the NFL. There are swings and momentum changes all the time. The game comes down to the inches. It was a good team win. The first half, we didn't play to our capability, but the second half we did better and came out with a 'W'."

It's the eighth time Watson has directed a fourth quarter comeback.

"We feel like we can come back, no matter how down we are," receiver DeAndre



Texans defensive end J.J. Watt (99), shown here pursuing Chiefs running back LeSean McCoy during a game Oct. 13 in Kansas City, is out for the season after suffering a torn pectoral in the Texans' win over the Raiders on Oct. 27.

Hopkins said. "You've got a guy like Deshaun in there, we don't panic at all."

The most dynamic play of the game came when the Texans had the ball at the Raiders' 9-yard line about midway through the fourth quarter. Watson scrambled, avoided traffic and a sack, and threw a touchdown pass to tight end Darren Fells after being inadvertently kicked in the left eye.

"I was just trying to make a play and spin him off, and when he spun, his leg came up and hit my helmet," Watson said. "That's all I remember. My eye went shut. I kind of threw it blind, but I assumed where he was going, adjusted and let my hand guide it. I didn't even see the play until after the game. I just laid there and heard the crowd go crazy."

Raiders coach Jon Gruden compared Watson's athleticism to Michael Jordan after the game.

"Ever since I came out of college, I always loved him," Watson said of Gruden. "He's always loved me and supported me, ever since I went to his camp during pre-draft. He's a great coach and a great person. That's pretty dope from a guy that's coached and been around a lot of football."

The Texans are 5-3 heading into Sunday's game against the Jaguars in London.

Hopkins reaches milestone

Hopkins caught 11 passes for 109 yards in the win. With a catch in the third quarter, Hopkins became the third-youngest player to reach the 8,000-yard career receiving mark.

Only Randy Moss and Larry Fitzgerald achieved that mark faster.

"That means a lot to me," Hopkins said. "Those two guys are going down with yellow (Hall of Fame) jackets. I'm 27, but I look up to those two guys. They're the greatest at my position, so to be able to do that with the (quarterback) carousel that I've had over my career ... I don't like patting myself on the back, but I always keep my head up and stay persistent. Some people look at stats and think they're just stats, but there's much more that goes into it."

Hopkins noted the individuality of playing receiver, the macho man-on-man alignment, and thanked all of his quarterbacks, including the much-maligned ones like Brock Osweiler. "I can't throw the ball to myself," Hopkins remarked.

Fells stars

Fells caught six passes for 58 yards and both of the two fourth-quarter touchdowns.

Incidentally, the first-year Texan's performance came on "National Tight Ends Day." Tight end Jordan Akins also had two catches for 11 yards.

"I saw that this morning, but I thought it was a joke," Watson said about the "holiday." "I guess it is. I'm glad. They came in handy today for us, for sure."

Entering the game, Fells had 186 yards and three touchdowns on 17 catches, emerging as a reliable force in the red zone.

"He's been a great addition," O'Brien said. "He's very mature. He's a guy that cares and who wants to do what's right for the team. He's very much a team-oriented guy. He's helped us tremendously."

Streak snapped

The Texans failed to record a takeaway against the Raiders, snapping a current NFL-best streak of 20 consecutive games with one.

Aggies' Mond stars, but sees room for improvement

By MITCHELL GLADSTONE
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

COLLEGE STATION — It's not been an easy road for Texas A&M thus far. Through six games, the Aggies had already had to deal with three top-10 teams—all losses—and their two SEC wins hadn't come easy.

But last Saturday at Kyle Field was a chance to shove aside the woes, with a couple more winnable games on the horizon. And with its best offensive performance of the season, Texas A&M did just that.

Kellen Mond and the Aggies cruised to a 49-30 victory against a scuffling Mississippi State squad as Texas A&M's junior quarterback racked up five touchdowns and a career-best 202.4 passer rating.

The Aggies' offense was effective and efficient—finishing with 441 yards on 62 plays, good for an average of 7.1, and capitalizing on short fields, scoring 21 points off three Bulldogs turnovers.

"We got ahead in the game, stayed ahead in the game (and) didn't have a lot of the self-inflicted wounds that allow teams to come back and get ahead," A&M coach Jimbo Fisher said. "The momentum swings (on turnovers). One side creates a play, and the other side builds off it and capitalizes. You take the air out of people."

Although Texas A&M could only muster one first down on its opening series, the Aggies didn't need much time to find a rhythm. They strung together three consecutive drives of 50-plus yards, the first two ending in Mond rushing scores, to seize control of the game.

Mond said he didn't



Texas A&M Aggies quarterback Kellen Mond (11) carries the ball during a game between Texas A&M and Mississippi State on Oct. 26 at Kyle Field in College Station.

think this was the best the offense can play.

"We didn't score on every drive," he said. "I had about three running reads that I missed today. ... But the past three or four weeks, we've taken a leap in practice, being more demanding and wanting to be great."

With a 21-7 lead in their back pocket, the hosts continued to pile it on. Mond tossed to Kendrick Rodgers for a 16-yard score a few minutes before halftime. Then, on the Aggies' first drive following the break, Mond hit freshman tight end Jalen Wydermyer for a 52-yard touchdown—Texas A&M's longest passing score of the season.

"You can have those (explosive plays) that create points and you don't have to have 12-play drives in which you execute perfectly," Fisher said. "I like those two-play drives—make a guy miss, run over somebody and then go score."

The Aggies played nearly the entire second half on cruise control, holding their largest advantage at the

break in an SEC game since 2014.

And they leaned on their running game to milk the clock. Texas A&M gained 207 yards on the ground, as Isaiah Spiller and Cordarrian Richardson found the end zone from in close to extend the Aggies' lead.

Perhaps more important, this was the first time all season Texas A&M didn't surrender a sack to a "power five" team.

"The line up front did a really good job in their communication, their pass blocking, putting hats on hats and getting us going in the run game," Fisher said.

The day wasn't perfect, however.

The Aggies let Mississippi State find its offensive groove in the late stages, even though the game was out of reach, and they committed three dead-ball fouls.

Although Texas A&M wanted to protect Mond, particularly on a day when the 6-2 signal-caller was rolling, the Aggies know they can't give away yards—especially against stiffer SEC competition down the line.

"We were having (Mond's) back, but when the guy walks off with his shoe, just let him have it," wide receiver Jhamon Ausbon said. "Let them get the penalty for the ignorant play and stay focused on the task ahead."

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Rams inch closer to coveted playoff spot

By **STEPHEN GREENWELL**
TIMES CORRESPONDENT

Mayde Creek edged closer to its first playoff berth since 2008 on Thursday, Oct. 24, at Legacy Stadium, overcoming a fourth quarter deficit and the loss of two offensive starters in a 41-31 victory against Seven Lakes.

The win improved the Rams to 7-1 overall, 3-1 in District 19-6A play. The Rams have a seven-win season for the first time since 1997. The loss dropped the Spartans to 3-5, 0-4 in district play, and eliminated them from playoff contention.

The Rams will secure a playoff berth with a win in either of their final two games remaining, against Katy and Morton Ranch, or if Morton Ranch loses against Seven Lakes this week. The Rams also get in if Taylor loses next week against Katy.

Mayde Creek coach Mike Rabe said from the start of the year, the coaching staff saw the kids putting in the proper work to have a successful season.

"I think we have a group of kids that have truly bought into what we're trying to do with this program," he said. "They're really excitable. They're really coachable and stay in the present and focus on the next snap. That's part of how they can stay in these close games."

One week after the Rams rallied from a late 10-0 fourth-quarter deficit for a 14-10 win against Taylor, Mayde Creek was the team in the lead struggling to regain its footing in the final period.

Trailing 27-10 with 9:47 left in the third quarter, the Spartans rallied for 21 unanswered points, taking a 31-27 lead on a 25-yard pass from junior Cristian Beltran to senior wideout Eric Johnson. Johnson, one of the top receivers in the district, used his size against smaller cornerbacks to finish with 10 catches for 215 yards and two touchdowns, with a third score negated by a holding penalty. Spartans junior running



Mayde Creek junior Donte Jones scored three touchdowns in the first half of the Rams' win over Seven Lakes on Oct. 24 at Legacy Stadium before leaving with an injury.

back Milton Jones had two touchdowns and 151 yards on 19 carries.

On offense, Mayde Creek initially struggled in the second half because of injuries to starting quarterback/wideout Donte Jones, and senior wideout and top playmaker Daniel Huery.

"We had some packages we wanted them to be in coming into this football game, and those got taken away from us, so you could see that we went into a lull there in the middle of the game," Rabe said. "We were trying to figure out what guys could get what done out there. We got more organized as the game went on."

Huery and Jones, who had three first half touchdowns after scoring two touchdowns

to rally the Rams the previous week against Taylor, didn't play in the second half.

Rabe didn't know the status of Jones' injury following the game.

"I know he's got a leg injury possibly, but we don't know the extent of it," Rabe said, adding that Huery was kept out for precautionary reasons as he deals with a recurring injury. "We probably could have gotten him back on the field, but it wasn't worth it right now."

With those two unavailable, senior quarterback John Zolacha and junior running back Julius Loughridge shouldered more of the load. Both said they knew what they had to do to rise to the moment.

"I've been there before," said Zolacha,

who completed 9 of 16 passes for 164 yards and a touchdown. "I know this position. I had to step up and make plays to help my team, execute and make throws. Just go down there and win the game. That's all I was thinking about. Next-man-up mentality, man."

Loughridge added, "We got depth. We've got guys at all levels that can play."

One of the players to step up was junior wideout L'Den Skinner. Taking Jones' spot on the outside, Skinner had two catches for 57 yards in the fourth quarter. The threat on the outside opened up more field space for the running game, and sophomore wideout Eddie Harrell put the Rams up for good, 34-31, with a 2-yard touchdown run with five minutes left.

Mayde Creek's defense held to force a three-and-out. On the second play from scrimmage on the ensuing drive, Loughridge, who had 180 yards on 22 carries, punched through a hole for a 68-yard touchdown that gave the Rams breathing room.

Loughridge attributed the run to his offensive line and speed.

"Those (Seven Lakes) boys are big up-front, so we knew to keep trying to penetrate and that hole would open up in the fourth quarter when those (defensive) boys are tired," he said. "I got past the front three, and a linebacker tried to arm-tackle me and I broke that tackle, and there weren't any (defensive backs). I just outran them."

Rabe said Loughridge had the right mentality when it came to running, noting that the rugged runner had to take hits against defenses stacked against him.

"I know he gets frustrated," Rabe said. "He never shows it or anything, but I know he gets frustrated. Some of that is why we can throw the ball out quick to the sides, though, because everyone is loading the box. He understands the concept of what we're trying to get done, and it opens the passing game, and we were able to execute that today."

Muhammad spurs playoff-bound Tompkins

By **STEPHEN GREENWELL**
TIMES CORRESPONDENT

While Tompkins senior wideout Taurean Muhammad has been thrilled with the success of his team this season, he admitted some frustration about not being able to directly contribute for most of it.

The Falcons' No. 1 receiver to start the year, Muhammad strained his hamstring in the Week 3 win against Alvin on Sept. 14. Now fully healthy, Muhammad has used the past two games to re-establish himself.

Muhammad had a 54-yard punt return for a touchdown on Oct. 19 against Morton Ranch, and against Taylor at Rhodes Stadium on Friday, Oct. 25, he hauled in three catches for 123 yards, including two touchdowns, in a 38-12 win.

The Taylor victory secured a playoff spot for Tompkins for the second consecutive season. Tompkins is 8-1 overall, 4-1 in District 19-6A play.

"Honestly, it was terrible," Muhammad said about the four games he missed. "I miss playing so much and I miss being out there, but I just had to completely rest it and not do anything, walking everywhere I go. I'm just thanking God that I'm blessed, that I'm back."

Although he couldn't practice for several weeks, Muhammad said he tried to be a vocal and present leader.

"It's honestly just been mental reps at practice," he said about his quick reintegration into the offense. "I've been watching everybody, especially (wideout) Gabe (Atkin), go off while I was gone, and that was much needed. It was about watching, going to practice, staying focused and being there for the team."

"I was out here on the sideline when I wasn't playing, cheering on my teammates. It was fun watching, but playing is a different feeling and I love being here."

Muhammad's two touchdowns came on highlight-reel plays.



Tompkins senior Taurean Muhammad, seen here scoring a touchdown on a 54-yard punt return against Morton Ranch on Oct. 19, has scored three touchdowns in two games since returning from a hamstring injury.

The first came with only 35 seconds left in the first half, as a 49-yard heave from Milroe hit Muhammad in the end zone. The 5-foot-11 receiver used his size well to position himself for the catch. The second play was a 60-yard play action pass, which was sold well by a hard fake hand-off by Milroe to senior running back R.J. Smith. The Taylor defensive back momentarily stopped, and Muhammad, arguably the fastest straight-line speedster on the Falcons, streaked past him, wide open by several strides, for the touchdown.

"I knew Jalen and R.J. were going to make a great fake, which makes the whole play work and which makes everything work around here," Muhammad said. "Just everybody doing their job to make everything work and be successful."

Tompkins coach Todd McVey noted that while Smith's stat line wouldn't seem impressive—17 carries for 91 yards and a touchdown, and two catches for eight yards and a touchdown—his tough running was the key to opening up the passing game,

as well as carries by fellow running back Marquis Shoulders.

"All of our guys have certain skill sets and things we can use," McVey said. "For a lot of it, it's about what coach (Mark) Hopkins, our playcaller, feels at that moment and what we're doing. I thought R.J. played his tail off tonight. We talked about getting back to basics and some things this week, and he did a really good job of that, which opened things up for Marquis. They do a really good job of playing off one another."

Shoulders, a junior, showed impressive speed with a pair of plays in the third quarter. He had a 59-yard kickoff return, and on the same drive he scored a touchdown on a 25-yard jet sweep. The touchdown put Tompkins up 24-12 with 4:13 left in the third quarter, creating separation that the Falcons only expand upon.

Because of various tiebreakers, the Falcons can clinch second place in District 19-6A in their season finale on Nov. 11 against winless Cinco Ranch.

Taylor fell to 5-4 overall, 3-2 in district play. The Mustangs must beat undefeated Katy in their regular season finale on Nov. 7 to make the playoffs, or hope that Seven Lakes or Mayde Creek can defeat Morton Ranch in one of the Mavericks' final two games to avoid a messy three-way tie for the last two playoff spots.

When asked if his team would change its focus with a playoff spot sewn up, McVey had a simple answer: no. He referred back to the team's oft-repeated "1-0" mantra, meant to focus the Falcons on a single objective for that particular week.

"We've stayed with it and the kids believe in it, because it's an everyday thing we talk about all the time," McVey said. "Being 1-0 in the classroom, being 1-0 in their social life, being 1-0 with each other. Just winning the day, and that's plenty to think about for being a young teenager."

PAETOW

from page B1

"From way back when we started, from last year 3-7, to now ... the feeling is crazy," Kelley said. "So much hard work. Mat room, weight room. Everybody buying in to what we want to accomplish. This is the result!"

Playoffs. Against the No. 7 state-ranked team in Class 5A, Division II, Paetow punched its ticket to the post-season for the first time, rallying to upend Huntsville 25-14 at Rhodes Stadium.

The win pushed Paetow to 7-1 overall, 4-1 in 5A-DII.

"It's fun," Gotte said. "I'm so happy for these kids, for these coaches. They get to see the success from trusting in the process. Anything you can experience helps make you better. This is another experience. We're growing the program. This isn't a one-year deal."

Paetow trailed Huntsville 14-6 at the half and was outgained 125-51 in total yards through the first two quarters. But the second half saw a drastic turnaround, as the Panthers

outscored the Hornets 19-0 and outgained them, 229-38.

"In the first half, they brought the fight to us," said junior running back Damon Bankston, whose 8-yard touchdown catch with 8:10 left in the fourth quarter put Paetow up to stay, 18-14. "In the second half, we tried to change that. At half-time, nobody was down. We were still up and optimistic. We knew we could come back and win."

The Panthers opened the third quarter with a 75-yard scoring drive that lasted 3-minutes, 56-seconds and resulted in an 18-yard scoring catch from senior Alex Elko.

"At that point, our defense was playing with confidence, and offensively that gave them the confidence we needed," Gotte said.

The Panthers have harped all season that experience is what's made the difference this year. That again proved key against Huntsville.

"At halftime, we were basically at the same point the last game (competitive with A&M Consolidated on Oct. 18) and we didn't like how that turned out (a 55-17 loss)," Elko said. "Everything we did throughout the week, all that work and practice Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday,

is what put us in position to win this game."

The Panthers never broke away from Huntsville until senior receiver Johnathan Baker scored on an athletic 11-yard catch with 44 seconds left, another instance where experience paid off.

"It was fourth down, kind of the same situation that happened last year against Montgomery, but it was called incomplete because they said I dropped the ball at the end," Baker said. "This time, we executed and we scored the touchdown."

Gotte said the game broke down how he figured. He knew the Panthers would have to wear down a physical and big Huntsville defensive front with the running game, and while it wasn't entirely effective (3.2 yards per carry), it did burn precious clock and sustain drives late in the fourth quarter with the speed of Bankston and the power of Jonathan Jolly.

Gotte also knew his defense would have to carry the team until the offense settled into a groove. It did. The Panthers had three big takeaways: a DJ Mourning II interception in the end zone, an

Elko 35-yard fumble recovery for a touchdown, and a Calevin Curry fumble recovery in Huntsville territory that set up Bankston's late go-ahead score.

Three critical plays made by three senior linebackers. "We just kept playing hard and kept our head focused," Mourning said. "We cleaned up all the little stuff that was killing us. Coaches tell us all the time to finish the game, and we did."

Sophomore quarterback Channing Dumas Jr. matured quickly as the game went on. Pursued relentlessly by a veteran Huntsville defense that wished to prey upon the precocious signal-caller, Dumas engineered a productive offense that did not turn the ball over, completing 14 of 25 passes for 157 yards and three touchdowns.

Bankston had 107 yards and a touchdown on 21 touches. Baker had 63 yards and a score on five catches.

A big, speedy Paetow defensive front led by junior Agumba Otuonye, junior Andrew Rutherford and sophomore Jacob Johnston stuffed the Hornets' rushing attack, holding it to 49 yards on 23 carries.

Despite Huntsville being gifted starting field position in Paetow territory on five drives, the Panthers' defense held steady, collecting two takeaways, forcing a punt and a missed field goal, and allowing one touchdown.

"This team is night-and-day different in a lot of things," Gotte said. "Obviously, we're more experienced. We've grown up. We're more talented. We have senior leadership. We've got guys who have been through competitive, physical situations before, which they hadn't until this year."

The list of firsts continue. Next up is competing for a district championship with two games left. The Panthers are a game behind A&M Consolidated. After that? Playoff game No. 1 looms.

"It's a credit to the coaches," Baker said. "They put us through a hard offseason. We worked our butts off in the offseason, and I'm just happy to see it all pay off. We know we're not a 3-7 program. The expectation since last November was to make the playoffs. That was the ultimate goal. That work, that mindset to get what we wanted ... it let us have success."

INSIDE THE TIGERS NOTEBOOK

Sophomore LB Kana stands out for Tigers

By DENNIS SILVA II
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Katy sophomore linebacker Ty Kana is one of the top play-makers for a defense allowing a stingy 9.4 points on 166.9 yards per game.

The 6-foot-2, 195-pounder is averaging six tackles per game and among the team leaders in tackles for a loss and quarterback harassments.

"He's been pretty good all year, but you can see the maturity in him," coach Gary Joseph said. "He's a good athlete, but more than anything he's a cerebral kid. He understands things, he understands concepts. He takes coaching very well. That's a big part of it."

"But he also has a confidence in himself in making plays. That has as much to do with it as everything else. He's worked at it extremely hard to be put in this position. He wants to be a good football player."

Kana plays beyond his years. For that, he credits assistant coach Tim Ripperger.

Ripperger brought up Kana to the varsity as a freshman in Week 3 of the 2018 season. Kana did not play much, compiling an unassisted tackle for a loss and a sack for the entire season, but he was able to learn and watch behind seniors like Garrett Madison and Josh Garcia.

"Coach Ripp did a good job easing me into the learning process," Kana said. "Now I have the opportunity to start and the opportunity to make plays and do all this stuff, and hopefully grow on it by my senior year."

Kana learned from Madison and Garcia how important film study is.

"Watching film gets me to the ball," Kana said.

Over the spring and off-season, Kana said he spent "hours and hours" watching different



Katy sophomore linebacker Ty Kana prepares for the offensive snap during a game against Cinco Ranch on Oct. 25 at Legacy Stadium.

plays that offenses run. He got to know different formations.

"My main thing was not panicking because I'm so young," Kana said. "I've tried to make the game slow down and soak up everything. The games have really just slowed down and I can read my keys a lot faster."

Ball safety

Through eight games, Katy is winning the turnover battle against its opponents, with 16 takeaways to nine giveaways.

That is a plus-7 in turnover margin.

"I wish we had none," Joseph said of the turnovers. "We've put an emphasis on not turning the ball over. With what we are and what we

do, we have to be able to take care of the football to have a chance to win. Nine's probably too many."

Of their 16 takeaways, the Tigers have nine interceptions and seven fumble recoveries. Offensively, they have four interceptions and four fumbles lost, with another fumble lost coming in the kicking game.

"It's about having an awareness of what's going on and coaches coaching it in practice," Joseph said. "Keeping the ball in your outside arm and away from people, putting the ball away in the open field ... the importance of all that. Our running backs coach and receivers coach do a great job with that. Even our secondary kids know how to take care of the ball."

While most teams work on stripping the football from opposing ballcarriers, Joseph's M.O. with his defense is simple: get the ballcarrier down.

"If we're able to strip the ball, that's good, but we have to be sure we can tackle first," Joseph said. "I don't want to give up something cheap and easy because we didn't tackle well."

Joseph said his team's tackling has been better this year, thanks to kids playing with more confidence and the emergence of heady, physical playmakers like Kana and junior Shepherd Bowling to accompany stalwarts like Jaylen Phillips, Dalton Johnson and Daylin Johnson.

Surging Rams up next

The Tigers can clinch at least a share of the district championship with a win over Mayde Creek on Friday.

The Rams are enjoying their best season in decades. They are 7-1 overall, 3-1 in district play. The seven wins are the most in a season since 1997. They are on the brink of clinching their first playoff berth since 2008.

Mayde Creek ranks in the top three in the district in offense and defense. Junior running back Julius Loughridge is the second-leading rusher in the district with 1,056 yards and 10 touchdowns.

"The confidence with which their kids are playing with," Joseph said of what's made the difference for Mayde Creek this year. "There's a physicalness about their defense that they probably haven't had. Offensively, they make plays. The running back Loughridge has really added something to them. They've always had good speed, but to have a kid that can make first downs and move the chains and the second leading rusher in the district, it makes it a good complement for what they've done as far as running on the edges."

Joseph added, "They've always had good talent, but they're making plays now."

Defense has been key for the Rams. Mayde Creek has always had strong offenses in the past, even during down years. Defense had always been its Achilles' Heel until this season.

The Rams are second in the district in total points allowed and have 11 takeaways. Under second-year defensive coordinator Kaeron Johnson, the Rams have established a defensive foundation and thrive in nickel-defense situations.

"Being settled in what they want to do has really helped," Joseph said. "They play pretty good technique on the defensive line. They play unselfish, and that's helped their football team."

Quarterback McClelland returns as Tigers rout Cougars

By DENNIS SILVA II
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Starting quarterback Bronson McClelland returned, the remade offensive line made considerable progress from the previous game, running back Ron Hoff had his way, and the defense produced its second consecutive shutout.

On a bitterly cold and windy 51-degree evening, it was a great night to be Katy.

The Tigers romped Cinco Ranch, 42-0, on Friday, Oct. 25, at Legacy Stadium. Hoff ran for 170 yards and three touchdowns on 20 carries and Katy's defense held the Cougars to 40 total yards on 39 plays.

But it was the reinsertion of McClelland that was most significant. After missing the previous two games because of disciplinary reasons, McClelland was rusty in his first start since the Oct. 3 district opener against Tompkins, but still found ways to impact the game.

The 6-foot-1, 215-pound junior only completed 3 of 10 passes for 28 yards but rushed four times for 25 yards and two touchdowns. With the Tigers missing No. 1 receiver Jordan Patrick, who was out with a foot injury that is not thought to be serious, McClelland's timing and rhythm was off, but receivers also accounted for three dropped passes.

Per Katy ISD and Joseph, McClelland, who had been punished for using a racial slur in a social media video made public shortly after the Tompkins game, will not be giving interviews for the rest of the season. Otherwise, Joseph was pleased with his signal-caller's return.

"He did OK," Joseph said. "He threw some balls we didn't come up with that we've got to catch. We've got to protect better. But, overall, first game back, I thought he did some good things. He took care of the ball, especially going against the wind in the first quarter, and we put points up."

Joseph said he wasn't necessarily trying to ease his three-year letterman back into the swing of things.

"I didn't want to get him in a position that he wouldn't be able to handle it," Joseph said. "But we

watched him in practice all week, and he had a great week of practice. We were missing a couple of receivers, and I think that played a little into it. He'll be fine."

Indeed, especially with an offensive line and running game that dominated as it did.

Open running lanes were aplenty against the Cougars, as the Tigers' line manhandled the line of scrimmage. Even while continuing to work two new starters into the mix, the offensive line overwhelmed Cinco Ranch's defensive front.

The line of Dylan Hower-ton, Dakota White, Brayden Gammel, Carson Rogers and CJ Marsh helped Katy produce 320 yards on 43 carries, good for 7.4 yards per tote. Hoff averaged 8.5 yards per carry, 2.5 above his season average.

Backups Jalen Davis (68 yards, TD) and Sherman Smith (40 yards) had their moments as well.

"It was all the offensive line and my fullback blocking for me," Hoff said. "Those guys come to practice and give their all. One time back then (in 2012), they had two starters out and guys filled in and Katy won a championship. These guys stepping up is awesome."

Speaking of Hoff, Joseph said his lead back continues to get better. The senior's yards-per-carry were a season-best, and the number of yards were his third-most of the season. The three touchdowns tied a season-high.

"The physicalness of which he runs the football punishes people," Joseph said. "When you get later on into the year and start wearing on people in the fourth quarter, that's what he can do."



Katy junior quarterback Bronson McClelland carries the ball during a game against Cinco Ranch on Oct. 25 at Legacy Stadium.

It complements the other kids because he's such a downhill runner that other people have a chance to hit creases. It's a changeup. He's done well."

Hoff said his main priority is being consistent and working to get better for playoff time, because "that's when every game matters."

"I'm learning how to go downhill, move side to side and get some extra yards," Hoff said. "I have the power, but I'm learning to be more elusive."

No. 2 state-ranked and No. 8 nationally-ranked Katy is 8-0 overall, 4-0 in District 19-6A.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

2	3	4	5	8	9	7	6	1
9	6	8	4	1	7	3	5	2
7	1	5	3	2	6	8	4	9
4	2	6	7	9	8	5	1	3
8	7	1	2	5	3	4	9	6
5	9	3	6	4	1	2	7	8
1	4	7	9	3	2	6	8	5
6	8	2	1	7	5	9	3	4
3	5	9	8	6	4	1	2	7

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ON THE GRID: WEEKLY FEATURE SPOTLIGHT



TIMES PHOTO BY ALLEN SCARROW

Cinco Ranch sophomore linebacker Kasey Murry (33) makes a tackle during a game against Cy Ranch on Aug. 31 at Legacy Stadium.

Cougars' Murry making impact

By **DENNIS SILVA II**
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

When talking with his new coaching staff after being hired as Cinco Ranch's head football coach in May, Chris Dudley kept hearing one kid's name pop up all the time.

Veteran, highly-respected coaches like Barry Minter talked highly of then-freshman Kasey Murry, a precocious talent who was bringing to mind former Cougar greats like Ayodele Ilesanmi.

"Kasey has a chance to be special," Dudley was told, more than once.

And then Dudley was able to work with Murry during skill sessions in the summer, and he saw what his fellow peers already knew. He saw Murry work tirelessly on his footwork. He saw how quickly Murry was able to make reads as Dudley installed his 4-2-5 defense.

Even without pads, Dudley could tell "pretty quick" what kind of tools his 5-foot-10, 175-pound outside linebacker had.

"He excited me from the get-go," said Dudley, who has coached linebackers for 18 years.

All that promise and potential has turned into reality.

In what has been a tough season for the young 0-8 Cougars during Dudley's first year at the helm, Murry has been a revelation. He is averaging 7.7 tackles per game (32 solo tackles) to go with 5.0 sacks, one fumble caused and one fumble recovered.

"He plays with really good leverage," Dudley said. "He understands about playing behind your pads, as they say.

He's physical. We've had guys that have come through here that are even smaller than him, but they're very physical players and that can make up for a lot. Kasey can be a guy who pushes 200 pounds, tops out close to 6-feet maybe, so we're really excited about him going forward."

Murry is a football savant. When he was moved to fifth period, the varsity athletic period, over the Christmas break last winter, he was ready.

"I came in with a mindset that I was going to outwork everybody," Murry said. "I wanted to set my impact from the start."

So he hardly left the weight or film rooms. Murry added 10 pounds of muscle, which explains the impressive balance and leverage he plays with.

But what sets Murry apart, Dudley said, is his infatuation with game film, learning the nuances of the sport. Because of Murry's work in the film room, he is better at reading plays, defeating blockers, and taking better angles to the football.

"He is really into the X's and O's. He wants to know why," Dudley said. "When you get a kid that young, who is interested in that stuff, that tells you a lot, right off the bat. He's got good instincts to pair with being deep into the nuts and bolts of things, and he gets better every week. That's what you want to see with a kid that's thrown into the fire like that."

Murry said his love for studying the game comes from his father. "Watch the game, son," his father tells him.

"Eventually, you're going to translate what you watch and see into how you play," Murry said. "He always put that

on me. 'Keep up with the game.' 'Learn the game.' 'Watch the game.'"

Murry discovered that watching film is a necessity to succeed as a varsity football player, particularly an underclassman doing so. He said the game is slower for him. He finds himself in better positions to make plays.

"The varsity game, the techniques and formations come down to the smallest detail," Murry said. "It's more broken down. As a freshman, it was just go out there and play, pretty much. For instance, now, I go off the guard-to-fullback read. So, I'm reading my guard, whether he's pulling or zoning, and I fill in with him most of the time."

That knowledge has helped Murry do what he set out to do—set his impact from the start.

"He's really solidified himself as the leader of the defense," Dudley said.

Dudley said Murry has the same work ethic and intensity as David Gbenda, Murry's predecessor at outside linebacker who earned his first start at the University of Texas during a recent win over Kansas. Dudley includes Murry in the same sentence as Cinco Ranch stalwarts like Zac Mersmann, another smallish linebacker who was essential for the Cougars' 2016 state semifinalist team.

"Sky's the limit for Kasey," Dudley said. "With the amount of growth he's had this year and his work ethic, he'll only get bigger, faster and stronger. He has that inner drive. You put him on tape and see him running around making tackles and getting to the football and being smart, that all will speak for itself when it comes to the next level. He's got a chance to be really good."

completing just 3 of 10 passes for 28 yards, but rushing for 25 yards and two TDs

Paetow (7-1, 4-1 District 10-5A, D2) at Montgomery (2-6, 1-4)

Friday, Nov. 1, at MISD Athletic Complex, 7:30 p.m.

Paetow rallied to beat state power Huntsville, 25-14, last week to clinch its first ever playoff berth. Montgomery fell to Lamar Consolidated, 55-14. ... Paetow ranks second in the district in offense and first in defense. The Panthers average 46.4 points on 410.3 yards per game, and only give up 14.5 points on 204.1 yards per game. ... RBs Jonathan Jolly (1,028 yards, nine TDs) and Damon Bankston (796 yards, eight TDs; four receiving TDs) are the engine to the Panthers' offense, but sophomore QB Channing Dumas Jr. has played beyond his years. He had success against a tough Huntsville defense last week, not turning the ball over and throwing for 157 yards and three TDs. Overall this year, Dumas has thrown for 20 TDs to only two INTs while completing 59.6 percent of his passes. ... Senior WR Johnathan Baker has 415 yards and 11 TDs on 23 catches. ... Paetow has 17 takeaways this season, seven interceptions and 10 fumble recoveries. ... The Panthers have three players averaging 6.6 tackles per game: senior LB Alex Elko, senior LB DJ Mourning II and senior LB Calevin Curry. Mourning also has 4.0 sacks and three fumble recoveries. ... Junior DL Andrew Rutherford leads Paetow with 5.0 sacks. ... Montgomery ranks next-to-last in the district in defense, allowing 37.8 points on 434.1 yards per game. ... Montgomery has fumbled 14 times this season, losing eight. ... Montgomery has an effective offense behind junior RB Adavion Johnson (662 yards, eight TDs) and sophomore QB Brock Bolfig (1,502 passing yards, 13 TDs to six INTs). Montgomery junior WR Tre Harden leads the district with 662 yards and five TDs on 36 catches.

Morton Ranch (4-4, 1-3) at Seven Lakes (3-5, 0-4)

Saturday, Nov. 2, at Legacy Stadium, 11 a.m.

Morton Ranch is coming off a bye week. Seven Lakes fell to Mayde Creek last week, 41-31. ... Morton Ranch needs a win to keep its playoff hopes alive. Seven Lakes has been eliminated from playoff contention. ... The Mavericks hang their hat on defense. Morton Ranch ranks fourth in the district, allowing 21 points on 256 yards per game. ... The Mavericks have two big playmakers on offense: junior QB Jaymarcus Wilson (508 passing yards, five TDs; 563 rushing yards, eight TDs) and senior WR Josh Gatton (461 yards, seven TDs). ... Gatton is arguably the most electrifying athlete in the district. Every time the ball comes his way, it seems like a highlight is waiting to happen. ... Seven Lakes ranks in the bottom of the district in offense and defense but has been significantly decimated by season-ending injuries to top playmakers on both sides of the ball. ... Junior RB Milton Jones anchors Seven Lakes with 708 rushing yards and 10 TDs. ... Spartans junior QB Cristian Beltran has completed 52.6 percent of his passes for 902 yards and six TDs to six INTs. ... Senior WR Eric Johnson is coming off a huge game against Mayde Creek, compiling 215 yards and two touchdowns. In all this season, Johnson has 505 yards and two TDs receiving.

WEEK 10

from page B1

Cinco Ranch. ... Cinco Ranch starts six sophomores. The Cougars have 15 sophomores and 11 juniors on their roster. ... Cinco Ranch is averaging 6.3 points on 151.1 yards per game and surrendering 44.4 points on 461 yards per game. ... Cinco Ranch has fumbled 12 times, losing 11. ... Sophomore linebackers Kasey Murry and Luke Fitch are the top playmakers for the Cougars' defense. Murry averages 7.7 tackles per game with 5.0 sacks. Fitch averages six tackles per game with two passes defended. ... Senior kicker Roger Sanguinetti has punted 53 times this season for 32.9 yards per punt. ... Tompkins has only allowed 28 total points in its last three wins against Mayde Creek, Morton Ranch and Taylor. ... The Falcons' defense has 16 takeaways, tied for second in the district in that category. ... Junior QB and Texas verbal commit Jalen Milroe has completed 87 of 132 passes (65.9 percent) for 1,910 yards and 22 TDs to two INTs. ... Senior RB R.J. Smith has 873 yards and 18 TDs rushing to go with three receiving TDs. ... Senior WR Taurean Muhammad has three touchdowns in the last two games since returning from a hamstring injury. ... Junior LB Kobee Madriz and senior DB Pryce Powell lead the Falcons' defense. Madriz averages 7.5 tackles per game with an interception. Powell averages 7.3 tackles per game with two interceptions. ... Powell is the top punter in the district, averaging 36.9 yards per punt.

Mayde Creek (7-1, 3-1) at Katy (8-0, 4-0)

Friday, Nov. 1, at Rhodes Stadium, 7:30 p.m.

Mayde Creek topped Seven Lakes, 41-31, last week. Katy routed Cinco Ranch, 42-0. ... The Rams can clinch a playoff spot for the first time since 2008 with a win. But even with a loss, the Rams are still in good shape to qualify for the postseason. ... Mayde Creek needs one more win or one more Morton Ranch loss to make the playoffs. But the Rams can also get in if Taylor loses against Katy next week. ... Junior QB/WR Donte Jones has scored five touchdowns in the last two games for the Rams, but he did not play the second half of last week's game because of injury. It is not considered serious. ... In all, Jones has thrown for 221 yards and a TD, rushed for 204 yards and 4 TDs, and has 113 receiving yards and two TDs. ... Senior RB/WR Daniel Huery has 372 yards and five TDs rushing, and 360 yards and two TDs receiving. ... Junior RB Julius Loughridge ranks second in the district in rushing, with 1,056 yards to go with 10 touchdowns. Loughridge averages eight yards per carry. ... As good and versatile as the Rams' offense is, however, the defense ranks third in the district, allowing just 18.4 points on 245.1 yards per game. ... The Rams have 14.0 sacks, led by senior DL Trejuan Holmes' 4.0. ... Mayde Creek has 15 fumbles caused and 10 recovered. Senior DL Jesse Jones has three fumble recoveries and one caused. ... Katy secures at least a share of the district title with a win against Mayde Creek. ... The Tigers are the top defense in the district, allowing just 9.4 points on 166.9 yards per game. Katy's defense has produced shutouts in the last two games. ... Katy has 16 takeaways this season, nine interceptions and seven fumbles recovered. ... Senior RB Ron Hoff crossed the 1,000-yard rushing mark last week. In all, Hoff leads the district with 1,123 yards and 14 TDs on 175 carries. ... Junior QB Bronson McClelland returned for Katy last week,

H.S. FOOTBALL TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

DISTRICT 19-6A

TEAM OFFENSE	GP	Rushing	Passing	Total	Average
Katy	8	2273	1161	3434	429.3
Tompkins	9	1901	1940	3841	426.8
Mayde Creek	8	2337	960	3297	412.1
Taylor	9	1810	1512	3322	369.1
Seven Lakes	8	1281	971	2252	281.5
Morton Ranch	8	1478	715	2193	274.1
Cinco Ranch	8	577	632	1209	151.1

TEAM DEFENSE	GP	Rushing	Passing	Total	Average
Katy	8	345	990	1335	166.9
Tompkins	9	1250	876	2126	236.2
Mayde Creek	8	854	1107	1961	245.1
Morton Ranch	8	858	1190	2048	256.0
Taylor	9	1573	1214	2787	309.7
Seven Lakes	8	1484	1450	2934	366.8
Cinco Ranch	8	2060	1628	3688	461.0

INDIVIDUAL RUSHING	Carries	Yards	Avg.	TD	Long
R. Hoff, Katy	175	1123	6.4	14	40
J. Loughridge, Mayde Cr.	132	1056	8.0	10	68
C. Shorter, Taylor	157	964	6.1	11	53
R. Smith, Tompkins	134	873	6.5	18	70
M. Jones, Seven Lakes	98	708	7.2	10	54
M. Shoulders, Tompkins	58	606	10.5	8	67

INDIVIDUAL PASSING	P-A-Int	Yards	Pct.	Long	TDs
J. Milroe, Tompkins	87-132-2	1910	65.9	82	22
J. Jensen III, Taylor	83-159-6	1164	52.2	75	10
C. Beltran, Seven Lakes	70-133-6	902	52.6	70	6
B. McClelland, Katy	47-84-3	866	56.0	77	8
J. Zalocha, Mayde Creek	36-63-2	671	57.1	51	5
J. Wilson, Morton Ranch	36-58-2	508	62.1	45	5

INDIVIDUAL RECEIVING	Catches	Yards	Avg.	TD	LR
G. Dougherty, Taylor	33	514	15.6	3	75
E. Johnson, Seven Lakes	33	505	15.3	2	70
J. Gatton, Morton Ranch	28	461	16.5	7	62
J. Patrick, Katy	24	520	21.7	5	77
G. Atkin, Tompkins	23	652	28.4	5	73
G. Belue, Taylor	20	274	13.7	4	33
D. Huery, Mayde Creek	20	360	18.0	2	51
S. Stiles, Katy	20	283	14.2	3	37

DISTRICT 10-5A, DII

TEAM OFFENSE	GP	Rushing	Passing	Total	Average
A&M Consolidated	8	1527	1924	3451	431.4
Paetow	8	2303	979	3282	410.3
Lamar Consolidated	8	1934	1101	3035	379.4
Rudder	8	1552	1352	2904	363.0
Montgomery	7	942	1522	2464	352.0
Lake Creek	8	1592	1156	2748	343.5
Huntsville	7	726	1401	2127	303.9
Cleveland	8	1005	257	1262	157.8

TEAM DEFENSE	GP	Rushing	Passing	Total	Average
Paetow	8	707	926	1633	204.1
A&M Consolidated	8	993	940	1933	241.6
Huntsville	7	732	1218	1950	278.6
Lamar Consolidated	8	1480	1117	2597	324.6
Rudder	8	1674	947	2621	327.6
Lake Creek	8	1629	1201	2830	353.8
Montgomery	7	1585	1454	3039	434.1
Cleveland	8	2537	1170	3707	463.4

INDIVIDUAL RUSHING	Carries	Yards	Avg.	TD	Long
J. Jolly, Paetow	116	1028	8.9	9	75
McWilliams, Lamar C.	101	1025	10.2	13	94
D. Bankston, Paetow	89	796	8.9	8	78
A. Johnson, Mont.	101	662	6.6	8	67
J. Ayers, Rudder	123	660	5.4	8	55
Blackmore, Lamar C.	71	537	7.6	8	67

INDIVIDUAL PASSING	P-A-Int	Yards	Pct.	Long	TDs
G. Pahl, A&M Cons.	109-178-3	1834	61.2	54	24
B. Bolfig, Mont.	112-173-6	1502	64.7	77	13
EJ Ezar, Rudder	85-151-8	1272	56.3	69	11
N. Gunn, Lake Creek	84-162-9	1107	51.9	88	10
BJ Harris, Lamar Con.	74-138-2	1101	53.6	77	12
Southern, Huntsville	96-152-7	1040	63.2	56	11
C. Dumas, Paetow	59-99-2	893	59.6	64	20

INDIVIDUAL RECEIVING	Catches	Yards	Avg.	TD	LR
T. Harden, Montgomery	36	662	18.4	5	77
B. Linscomb, Lake Creek	32	283	8.8	1	49
K. Lee, Rudder	29	537	18.5	10	69
M. Little, Montgomery	28	253	9.0	1	29
N. Hambricht, Huntsville	26	282	10.9	1	46

H.S. FOOTBALL STANDINGS

DISTRICT 19-6A

	OVERALL		DISTRICT		SCORING	
	W	L	W	L	PF	PA
x-Katy	8	0	4	0	363	75
x-Tompkins	8	1	4	1	429	149
Mayde Creek	7	1	3	1	233	147
Taylor	5	4	3	2	261	262
Morton Ranch	4	4	1	3	191	168
Seven Lakes	3	5	0	4	176	277
Cinco Ranch	0	8	0	4	50	355
x-clinched playoff berth						

DISTRICT 10-5A, D2

	OVERALL		DISTRICT		SCORING	
	W	L	W	L	PF	PA
x-A&M Consolidated	8	0	5	0	367	101
x-Paetow	7	1	4	1	371	116
Huntsville	5	3	3	2	241	131
Lamar Consolidated	6	2	3	2	319	173
Rudder	5	3	3	2	281	274
Montgomery	2	6	1	4	207	326
Lake Creek	3	5	1	4	239	288
Cleveland	0	8	0	5	79	451
x-clinched playoff berth						

REALIGNMENT

from page B1

3. Katy: 3,466.5
4. Cinco Ranch: 3,257
5. Taylor: 2,915
6. Mayde Creek: 2,892.5
7. Morton Ranch: 2,567.5
8. Paetow: 2,179
9. Jordan: 1,586.69

From the last time the district released enrollment numbers, in November 2017, Tompkins' enrollment has grown the most, from 3,380 to 4,018. Tompkins was the third-biggest school in Katy ISD then. It is now the biggest.

Seven Lakes has grown, from 3,527 to 3,767, as well as Cinco Ranch, from 3,161 to 3,257.

Mayde Creek also saw a rise in enrollment, from 2,759 to 2,892.5, as well as Paetow, from 1,452 to 2,179. Morton Ranch suffered the biggest drop, from 3,135 to 2,567.

Seven of Katy ISD's eight present high schools compete in Class 6A athletics and in the same district; Paetow has competed in Class 5A, Division II, the last two years, being a new school. However, with the next realignment, Paetow could end up in Class 6A, depending on where the UIL draws its conference cutoffs in December. Paetow could go either way, back to Class 5A, though in Division I this time, or to 6A.

Paetow head football coach/athletic coordinator B.J. Gotte said he has been told by district officials that he will be permitted to stay in Class 5A should the number fall in line with that cutoff, and even if the number is close enough to where the district could reasonably petition for the school to move up.

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2019-20 KATY AREA VARSITY SPORTS RESULTS & SCHEDULE

To submit scores, news or schedules, email dennis.silva@katytimes.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

FOOTBALL

- Mayde Creek 41, Seven Lakes 31

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

VOLLEYBALL

- Cinco Ranch 3, Katy 1
- Tompkins 3, Taylor 1
- Seven Lakes def. Mayde Creek
- Magnolia 3, Paetow 0

FOOTBALL

- Katy 42, Cinco Ranch 0
- Tompkins 38, Taylor 12

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

FOOTBALL

- Paetow 25, Huntsville 14

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

VOLLEYBALL

- Cinco Ranch 3, Taylor 0
- Katy 3, Morton Ranch 0
- Tompkins 3, Mayde Creek 2
- College Station def. Paetow

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

FOOTBALL

- Cinco Ranch at Tompkins, at Legacy Stadium, 6:30 p.m.
- Mayde Creek at Katy, at Rhodes Stadium, 7:30 p.m.
- Paetow at Montgomery, MISD Athletic Complex, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

FOOTBALL

- Morton Ranch at Seven Lakes, at Legacy Stadium, 11 a.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1

FOOTBALL

- Taylor at Katy, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8

FOOTBALL

- Mayde Creek at Morton Ranch, at Legacy Stadium, 6:30 p.m.
- Cinco Ranch at Seven Lakes, at Rhodes Stadium, 7:30 p.m.
- Paetow at Lamar Consolidated, at Traylor Stadium, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

CROSS COUNTRY

- UIL Class 6A cross country state championships, at Old Settlers Park, 2:30 p.m.

PLAY ON, PANTHERS!



TIMES PHOTO BY MARK GOODMAN

Paetow junior defensive lineman Andrew Rutherford sacks Huntsville quarterback Matthew Southern during their game Oct. 26 at Rhodes Stadium.

Paetow secures 1st postseason berth, tops Huntsville

By DENNIS SILVA II
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Paetow coach B.J. Gotte often reflects with his juniors and seniors about how far they've come.

In April of 2017, Gotte, who had been hired as head football coach and athletic coordinator at Paetow just four months before, sat with

those then-freshmen and then-sophomores in a team meeting room at Morton Ranch High School, because Paetow's campus was still under construction. Gotte outlined goals and expectations for the student-athletes who would be going to Paetow, which is made up of kids from Morton Ranch High and Katy High.

That meeting set in motion a methodical, if at times trying, process of building a program from

scratch, initiated with a successful junior varsity season in 2017 and last year's inaugural season of varsity football that produced a 3-7 record.

Now, fast forward to last Saturday, Oct. 26, in varsity game No. 18 for the Panthers, and the feeling is "unbelievable," junior fullback Randle Kelley said.

See **PAETOW**, page B4

Numbers released for realignment

By DENNIS SILVA II
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Katy ISD released official enrollment numbers for its high schools to the University Interscholastic League on Tuesday, the first sign that the 2020-2022 realignment for the state's governing body of athletics is looming.

When the next school year starts, for 2020-2021, Katy ISD will have nine high schools. Jordan High School opens in August 2020.

The UIL uses enrollment numbers to form conferences and districts for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years during

OFFICIAL KATY ISD ENROLLMENT NUMBERS:

1. Tompkins: 4,018
2. Seven Lakes: 3,767
3. Katy: 3,466.5
4. Cinco Ranch: 3,257
5. Taylor: 2,915
6. Mayde Creek: 2,892.5
7. Morton Ranch: 2,567.5
8. Paetow: 2,179
9. Jordan: 1,586.69

its biennial realignment, which will be held on February 3, 2020.

The conference cutoff numbers an-

nounced by the UIL at the last realignment in February 2018 were as follows:

- Class 6A: 2,190 and above.
- 5A Division I: 1,840-2,189
- 5A Division II: 1,150-1,839

The UIL intends to release its conference cutoff numbers for the 2020-2022 realignment on Dec. 6.

Here are the official enrollment numbers released by Katy ISD on Tuesday morning:

1. Tompkins: 4,018
2. Seven Lakes: 3,767

See **REALIGNMENT**, page B2

KATY ISD WEEK 10 FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Three teams in as two weeks remain in season

By DENNIS SILVA II
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Katy High, Tompkins and Paetow have secured playoff spots in their respective districts as two weeks remain in the regular season.

The Tigers now aim for their 11th consecutive undefeated district title. Tompkins is in the playoffs for the second consecutive season. Paetow secured its first ever playoff berth in football in season No. 2 of varsity football play; the Panthers are in contention for the District 10-5A, Division II, title.

Two spots remain open in District 19-6A, as Mayde Creek, Taylor and Morton Ranch are still alive.

Here's what's at stake in this week's games.

Cinco Ranch (0-8, 0-4 District 19-6A) at Tompkins (8-1, 4-1)

Friday, Nov. 1, at Legacy Stadium, 6:30 p.m.

Tompkins beat Taylor last week, 38-12, to clinch a playoff berth. Cinco Ranch lost to Katy, 42-0. ... One of the district's more veteran squads in Tompkins plays the district's youngest and most inexperienced squad in



TIMES PHOTO BY MARK GOODMAN

Morton Ranch and junior running back Devin Winfield are one of three teams still alive for two playoff spots in District 19-6A as two weeks remain.

See **WEEK 10**, page B2

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Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo exceeds \$500 million

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo has exceeded \$500 million in its total commitment to support Texas youth and educational programs since 1932, following today's announcement of the Rodeo's 2020 educational commitment of nearly \$27 million.

"The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is extremely proud to reach this extraordinary milestone," said Rodeo president and CEO Joel Cowley. "Such a remarkable achievement would not have been possible without the longstanding support of our volunteers, attendees, donors, auction buyers, sponsors and staff."

The Rodeo's 2020 educational commitment will award more than \$14.2 million in scholarships, more than \$8.3 million to junior show exhibitors, more than \$3.7 million in educational program grants and more than \$650,000 toward graduate assistantship programs.

As one of the largest scholarship providers in the U.S., the Rodeo has presented more than 19,000 scholarships valued at more than \$230 million since 1957. In addition, more than \$180 million has been committed to exhibitors through premiums and calf scramble certificates, nearly \$80 million has been allocated to research, grants and educational programs, and \$14 million has been awarded to graduate assistantship programs in Texas since 1932.

Grant descriptions

The following organizations and programs have been chosen to receive funding from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo's Educational Programs throughout the next year.

Brookwood Community

The Brookwood Community, located in

Brookshire, Texas, provides an educational environment that creates meaningful jobs, builds a sense of belonging, and fosters dignity and respect for adults with disabilities.

Camp For All

Camp For All is a barrier-free camp, working in partnership with more than 60 other nonprofit organizations and institutions, to provide children and teenagers with illnesses and/or special needs a unique camp experience. Funding supports the Equestrian Program, which provides recreational, educational and therapeutic benefits to people of all abilities.

Project GRAD Houston

Project GRAD Houston supports high school and college students by delivering the tools and resources necessary for students to prepare for, enroll in and succeed in college.

Texas 4-H State 4-H Congress

State 4-H Congress is a five-day, simulated legislative experience for 4-H members 15 to 18 years old. Approximately 350 members from all geographic areas of Texas come to the Texas Capitol in Austin in July to submit, debate and pass bills dealing with subjects facing Texas.

State 4-H Leadership Conference

The State 4-H Leadership Conference is a citizenship experience to Washington DC for up to 30 Texas 4-H members who have excelled in their recordkeeping skills and have been awarded first place for their record books. Striving for Leadership These funds support students that comprise several leadership groups. These include Texas 4-H Council, district leadership teams and several ambassador leadership groups in the areas of livestock, health, water, and STEM.

TAYLOR HIGH SCHOOL HOLIDAY HOME TOUR



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Be inspired for your holiday decorating by attending the annual James E. Taylor High School Holiday Home Tour. This year's tour features six lovely homes in the Katy community. The tour raises funds for the Class of 2020 Project Grad. Tours times are Thursday, Dec. 5, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m., and Friday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., and 5pm - 9 pm. Tour tickets can be purchased in advance for \$15 starting Nov. 1 from Hauerland's (1648 S. Mason Road), and the senior office of James E. Taylor High School. Tickets are \$20 on the days of the tour. More information can be found at: thsprojectgrad.com. Taylor's Project Grad provides the senior class a safe, fun-filled celebration night after their graduation ceremony. Taylor Project Grad appreciates the support of the Katy Community.

DISTRICT

from page A1

cation and flood prevention. Republican candidates Sarah Laningham and Clinton Purnell were not in attendance. Gates, Hale, Krenek and Allred are all Republicans. Markowitz is the only Democratic candidate.

Local control

Candidates were asked to express their opinions on recently-passed state laws

limiting the ability of cities and counties to set building standards and limit the ways in which those municipalities can raise revenue through taxes and fees.

Government is about citizens and for citizens and should work on their behalf and local governments can better identify their own needs based on growth and other local issues, Krenek said.

Candidates generally said state and local officials should work together to get some level of balance and

that Senate Bill 2, which sets a 3.5 percent cap on property tax increases without an election, should be revisited to allow more local control while still providing property tax relief to Texans.

"There does need to be some balance and make sure we have some balance in making sure we have consistent rules that go throughout every city," Gates said.

Flooding and transportation

All of the candidates agreed that flood mitigation

and transportation infrastructure will continue to be a top priority for the District. Markowitz said that robust planning of infrastructure was needed with a 14 percent growth rate in the District, which covers most of the northern portion of Fort Bend County.

Candidates agreed that flood mitigation should be handled quickly, with Allred suggesting that the State of Texas should move from a design-bid-build construction process to a design-build construction process. Currently, the state and many counties ask for engineering firms to bid on and then design projects which are then subsequently bid on by construction firms. The design-build process would include design and construction in one bidding process with Allred proposing a 5-year maintenance agreement be included in such contract awards. Allred said the design-build process would reduce overall construction time by about 30 percent and would motivate companies hired to design and build quality infrastructure.

All of the candidates expressed the importance of partnering with local officials to identify and prioritize infrastructure projects, especially given House District 28's rapid growth.

Hale said that it was important to begin using the region's strengths to innovate by using oil pipeline technology to rapidly pump floodwater away from communities.

"We have to look at how to have sustainable and smart growth," Krenek said. "We need to be able

to advocate on behalf of local officials. That's where conversations start [about] flooding, drainage, roads and bridges - whatever is needed for those [high growth] areas."

Education

Candidates expressed support for teachers through increased salaries and benefits and ensuring a secure retirement system for Texas educators. Most candidates also said state government needs to fund 50 percent of public education, as required by the state's constitution. Markowitz said state funding is only at about 38 percent.

"If we can fix our education system, we know people will have a better quality of life," Markowitz said.

Allred said more money is not the only answer, though she did advocate for better pay and benefits for educators.

"[Texas Students] are passing [the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness tests], but they're not learning critical thinking skills," Allred said. "They're going to college and they're not finishing so more money is not the answer."

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness - commonly referred to as STAAR testing - is not a sustainable way to measure school or teacher performance, Markowitz said. She added that standardized testing and teaching-to-the-test harm children's ability to learn problem-solving and real-world skills, she said. If scores are too low, then teachers are unable to do their jobs.

While candidates advocated for funding, they also cited a need for additional

utilization of trade education both prior to graduating high school and in secondary education.

"I think we need to change the way we do public education and bring in more vocational training," Gates said.

Crime

Moderators brought up concerns related to crime, especially drug use and human trafficking which law enforcement authorities report occur throughout House District 28.

Allred, Gates, Hale and Markowitz said that supporting education would help reduce crime by creating better job opportunities for Texans.

Krenek indicated that she supported strengthening Texas' southern border in order to reduce the prevalence of drug crimes and human trafficking, as well as banning sanctuary cities.

Hale said he was also in favor of a strong border to prevent drugs from coming into the state, but did not address sanctuary cities as a concern.

Gates, Hale and Markowitz advocated for the decriminalization of marijuana. Hale, a former Drug Enforcement Agency agent, also said that he supports an expansion of the state's authorization of Medical marijuana.

"I'm a proponent of the legalization and decriminalization of some drugs - the decriminalization of user-quantities of marijuana and also of the medicinal use of marijuana," Hale said. "I know what chronic pain is. I know what pain is to the point where I can't even put my clothes on, so if that's going to help somebody, then I say I'm all for it"

Early voting began Oct. 21 and ends Nov. 1. Election Day is Nov. 5. Fort Bend County residents have access to countywide voting and may cast their ballots at any polling location in the county.

FORUM

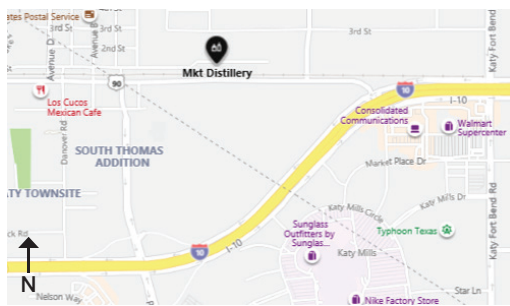
from page A1

Groff, alluded to the ongoing growth that is projected to bring even more families and children into Katy area schools, and how the entities are partnering to address the changing landscape.

"And, although the 2017 bond might seem like it was just yesterday, we'll likely be looking at another bond in 2020," Gregorski said. "The 2020 bond program, should one be approved by our board and community, would support the district's ability to continue providing a world class education to the nearly 100,000 students we're projected to see by 2028."

Come out to support Old Katy Originals on Saturday November 9th from 6-10 PM at MKT Distillery

MKT Distillery
(next to No Label Brewery in the Rice Dryers)
5373 1st St, Katy, TX 77493



Come out for food and fun. Lone Star Smoke Syndicate will be cooking BBQ plates for purchase. MKT distillery is giving Old Katy Originals a portion of the drink sales directly to OKO to support our mission to raise funds for FFA students in Katy ISD. There will be over 30 door prizes to give away including polo shirts, hats, and more. As always, there will be many ways to support Old Katy Originals that Saturday.

Diamonds in the Rough Auctions will be there with Houston and sports related memorabilia. We have 2-3 guns to raffle and games to win as well. There will also be a diverse group of silent auction items to bid on as well. All proceeds of this event will go directly to Katy ISD FFA students through the Katy ISD Livestock Show for animal purchases and add-on's. We will have Old Katy Originals hats representing each school in Katy ISD by color. Come help support YOUR local FFA buyers' group.

Most of you may not know that not every animal was purchased last year @ Katy ISD FFA Livestock sale. It is up to people like you and groups like us to raise all the money we can to NOT let that happen again.

To date OKO has raised over \$110,000 in the last 4 years to help support the Katy ISD FFA student projects. We have spent \$30,000 in Katy livestock sales and add-ons alone last year. Please help us to make this 2020 Katy ISD Livestock sale the best year yet!



Thank You! - ACF 2019 Senior Citizen Day

Thank You for helping make the 2019 Senior Citizen Day at the Austin County Fair a resounding success! The 2019 Senior Citizen Day was great, beautiful weather and smiling faces made this event a memorable day at the Austin County Fair. Those who co-chaired the Day feel that it's very important to honor the seniors of Austin County, as well as those from our surroundings. Senior Citizens Day is one big day by which the Austin County Fair gives thanks to our seniors for all that they've done, and still do for our community in general, and to thank them for their longtime continued support of the Austin County Fair in particular, through which they have touched the lives of so many. The Co-Chairmen of the 2019 Senior Citizen Day are: Carolyn Balke, Anita Kramer, and Mary Smentek. These ladies would like to extend their profound thanks to those who sponsored the Day, those who assisted during the Day and to everyone who attended. Each and every one of you helped to make this event the success that it became. The Co-Chairmen would like it to be known that those who sponsored the 2019 ACF Senior Citizens Day never hesitated to say that they wanted to be a part of this event when asked if they would do so. Some even stepped up before they were asked. They all warmly welcomed the opportunity to help whether it was in the form of a monetary donation, food or door prizes. Following is the list of sponsors of the 2019 ACF Senior Citizens Day:

Alternatives	Industry State Bank
Austin County Extension Education Association	Life Changes Home Staffing Solutions
Austin County Printing	Mike Hopkins Distributing Company
Austin County State Bank	Mrs. Dorothy Thiel and Stacy Eckert
Bellville Rent-All	Oak Haven Assisted Living
Billy Schovajsa Family	Prasek's Hillje Smokehouse - Sealy
Brazos Crossing Assisted Living - Sealy	Veranda House Assisted Living - Sealy
Daniel & Gay Farr	West End Extension Education Club
Dorothy Dunsworth	WoodmenLife - Bellville/Sealy
HEB - Brenham	Chapters

We ask that you show your appreciation to these sponsors by thanking them for their support of Senior Citizen Day, and better yet, by buying their products and/or taking advantage of their services. The event Co-Chairmen would also like to thank the many who volunteered to assist on the Day. Those folks had all the aspects of such an event covered, from helping shuttle our guests from their cars to the front door, to greeting them there, to preparing plates and seating and serving our many guests. Attendees of the 2019 Senior Citizen Day were over 400 smiling faces from Austin County, as well as from the nearby counties of Colorado, Fort Bend, Harris, Washington and possibly others. Those beloved seniors had several chances to be a door prize winner, and also enjoyed live music by Trailboss Troy of KTEX 106.1 and great food. Thanks again to all for helping make the 2019 Senior Citizen Day at the Austin County Fair a success. We look forward to seeing you on Senior Citizens Day at the 2020 Austin County Fair.

Cajun Catfish Mondays

5:00 - 9:00 pm
All You Can Eat
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Kathy's Shrimp Boil

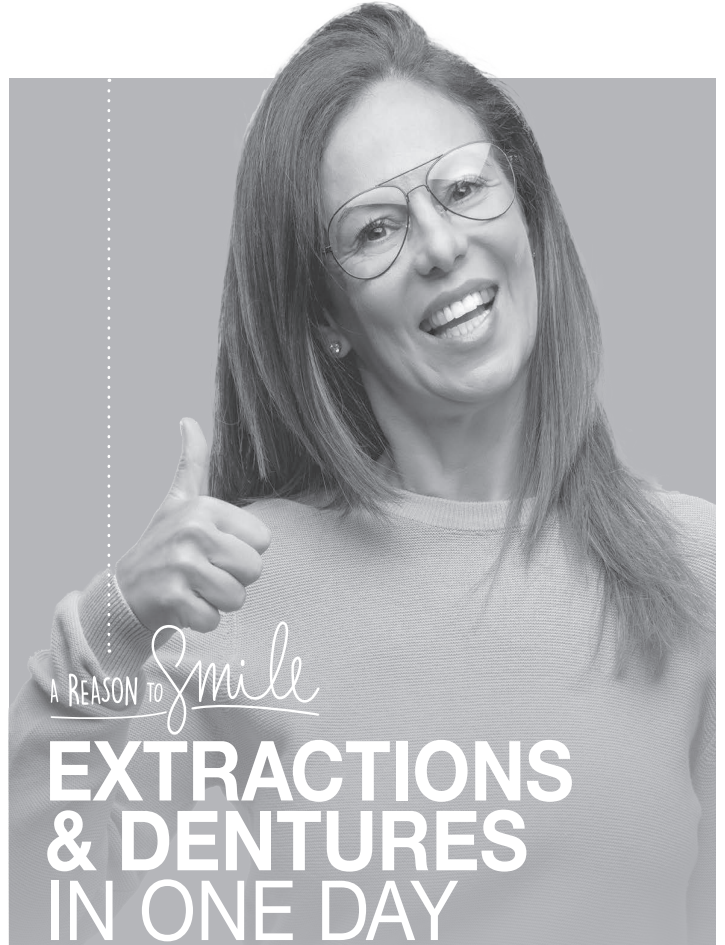
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COMPETITIVE BIDDING NOTICE INVITATION TO BID

The County of Waller proposes to purchase the following items on competitive bid:

INSTALLATION OF HEADWALLS AND WINGWALLS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN PRECINCT 1

Bids will be received by the Waller County Auditor, Alan Younts, until 2:00 p.m., November 4, 2019 in the office of County Auditor at 836 Austin Street, Suite 221, Hempstead, Texas 77445. Bids shall be opened by Commissioners' Court at 9:00 a.m. November 6, 2019, in the Waller County Courtroom, Hempstead, Texas 77445. The Court shall award the contract on November 13, 2019, at 9:00 a.m., in the Waller County Courtroom, during open session of Commissioners' Court to the responsible bidder who submits the lowest and best bid.

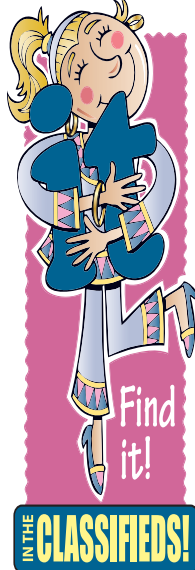
A contract shall not be awarded to a bidder who is not the lowest dollar bidder meeting specifications unless, before the award, each lower bidder is given notice of the proposed award, and is given an opportunity to appear before the Commissioners' Court and present evidence concerning the lower bidder's responsibility.

Bid award shall be based on either unit price or lump sum as indicated on the BID SHEET.

Method of payment will be by check upon completion and acceptance of the work or the fulfillment of the purchase obligation to the County.

Bid Forms may be downloaded from the Waller County web site at www.co.waller.tx.us.

ALAN YOUNTS
County Auditor
836 Austin Street, Suite 221
Hempstead, Texas 77445



PUBLIC NOTICE

Capital Bank, 10304 I-10 East Freeway, Houston, Harris County, Texas has applied to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to establish a branch at 23033 Grand Circle Boulevard, Katy, Harris County, TX. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the Regional Director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation at its Regional Office, 1601 Bryan Street, Dallas, TX 75201 not later than the 15th day following the date of this publication. The period for comment may be extended by the Regional Director for good cause. The non-confidential portions of the application are on file in the regional office and are available for public inspection during regular business hours. Photocopies will be made available upon request.

MISC. MISC. MISC. MISC. MISC.



TexSCAN Week of Oct. 27, 2019

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AUCTIONS

City of Tulsa Auction – Sat., Nov. 9 • starts at 9:32 a.m., 108 N. Trenton, Tulsa, OK. Tractors, loader, backhoe, vehicles, Harleys, transit buses, trailers, trucks w/ sewer cleaning system, skid loader, sweeper, dump trucks, concrete saws, dbl drum sheepsfoot roller, manhole trench braces, brass water meters, and much more. For full terms, photos and updates visit www.chuppsauction.com. Chupps Auction Co., 918-630-0495.

Texas Land Auctions Nov. 7 & 8 – many sell without reserve – 29 parcels located in Cameron, Carrizo Springs, Houston, Kenedy, Pecos & Yorktown. Ranging in size from 1.8+/- to 101+/- acres. Commercial land, some with structures and RV hookups. Bid on location or live online at auctionnetwork.com. 800-801-8003, williamsauction.com/TXland.

Guadalupe County/Sheriff's Annual Surplus Auction – Sat., Nov. 9, 2019, 10 a.m., 10%-12% B.P. 2605 N. Guadalupe St., Seguin, Tx. View: Fri., Nov. 8. (10) Chev. Tahoes, Cat953Crawler.Ldr, Cat931Crawler.Ldr., Cat-Cb-224C Steelwhl.Roller, (3) 12Yd Dumps, (2) Jetskis, Jetski Trlr, Pickups Cars, TVs, Gaming Machines & Gaming Computers, Bikes, Chairs, Copiers, Toolboxes, Fans, Generators, Fueltanks, True-Commercial-Refrig, and more. Bid Live On-Line or On-Site: www.siskauction.com TXS#7425. John Sisk Auctioneers, Inc., 361-456-7771.

Bank-Directed Sale – bids due Nov. 14 – 42,716± SF, 3-story medical office facility, 14602 Presidio Square Blvd., Houston, TX. Includes classrooms, training spaces, offices, 128-person capacity auditorium, 160± parking spaces. 855-755-2300, HilcoRealEstate.com.

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals for **FRANZ ROAD PAVING AND MOBILITY 2019 PROJECT** will be received at City of Katy Municipal Building, 910 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493, until **2:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 20, 2019.**

The Owner is the Katy Development Authority.

The successful bidder(s) will be required to enter into a contract with the Owner.

A Cashier's Check or Certified Check payable, without recourse, to the Owner or an acceptable Surety Proposal Bond, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the largest possible total bid, including consideration of alternates, must accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the contract, the Bidder will promptly enter into a contract and execute bonds in forms provided as outlined in the Contract Documents. Performance Bond, Payment Bond, and Maintenance Bond, in an amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price will be required.

For public projects, not less than the minimum wage rates as prescribed in the General Conditions must be paid.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to waive any informalities in bids.

Bonded general contractor may obtain one set of bid documents for this project at the office of the Engineer, **Clay & Leyendecker, Inc., 1350 Avenue D, Katy, Texas 77493, (281) 391-0173**, upon deposit of a check in the amount of \$40.00/set, payable to Clay & Leyendecker, Inc. *Bidder must telephone before coming to pick up plans.* Said amount will be refunded if the bid documents are returned in good condition within one (1) week of the date of bid. Otherwise, no refunds will be made. Additional sets may be purchased for \$40.00. Subcontractors and Suppliers may purchase sets for \$40.00 which will not be refunded.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals for **Construction of Katy Boardwalk District Underground Ductbank** will be accepted at the City of Katy, Attn: City Secretary, until 2:30 PM, Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at the Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493.

The Owner is the Katy Development Authority, City of Katy, Texas.

The successful bidder will be required to enter into a contract with the Owner.

A Cashier's Check or Certified Check payable, without recourse, to the Owner or an acceptable Surety Proposal Bond, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the largest possible total bid, including consideration of alternates, must accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the contract, the Bidder will promptly enter into a contract and execute bonds in forms provided as outlined in the Contract Documents. Performance Bond, Payment Bond, and Maintenance Bond, in an amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price will be required.

For public projects, not less than the minimum wage rates as prescribed in the General Conditions must be paid.

The Contract for this project will be awarded by the City based on the best bid received and not the lowest bid.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to waive any informalities in bids.

Digital versions of the sealed plans and specifications, with Bid Forms, are available to download at the FTP link below:

<https://ftp.binkleybarfield.com>
Username: katydevauthority
Password: Katydevauthority!

A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at 2:00 PM at the Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493.

It is the sole responsibility of the bidder to ensure that his bid is actually in the Owner's office prior to the expiration of the time and date above.

For questions, please contact Binkley & Barfield, Inc. (BBI) @ 713.869.3433

Contact:
Mohammed Jamal – mjamal@binkleybarfield.com
Jose Villarreal – jlv@binkleybarfield.com

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FARM LABOR CONTRACTOR, Alewelt Concrete Inc. Alden, IA, seeks 27 temporary farm laborers from 11/30/2019 to 12/06/2019 near Delphi, IN. Measure and layout livestock building. Mix, pour, or spread concrete, using portable cement mixer. Tend pumps, compressors, or generators to provide power for tools, machinery or equipment. Position and dismantle forms for pouring concrete, using saws, hammers, nails, or bolts. Smooth and finish freshly poured cement or concrete, using floats, trowels, screeds, or powered cement finishing tools. Operate jackhammers or drills to break up concrete or pavement. Position, join, align, or seal structural components, such as concrete wall section or pipes. Tie rebar, position aluminum wall-forms and place all concrete. Clean Job-site. Must be able to lift and carry 75lbs/75yds. One month of aluminum wall-form setter experience required. Wage is \$14.38/hour. Merit based bonuses may be given. Higher hourly rate may be given based on livestock confinement experience, tenure, skill and other non-discriminatory factors. If any advances are given to workers, it will be deducted from their checks. Any willful destruction of property will also be deducted. All deductions will be made pursuant to applicable State and Federal Law. Alewelt Concrete Inc. guarantees employment for a total number of work hours equal to at least three-fourths of the workdays from 11/30/2019 to 12/06/2019. Tools, supplies and equipment are provided by employer at no cost to employee. Housing provided at a reasonable distance from the worksite at no cost to all workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of the work day. Transportation and subsistence expenses to worksite will be paid by employer in the first week of employment. Apply at your nearest Department of Labor office or at the Indiana Workforce Agency located at 1 Ivy Tech Way, Suite B Logansport, IN 46947 using job order number 9250543.

HELP WANTED

FARM LABOR CONTRACTOR, Alewelt Concrete Inc. Alden, IA, seeks 27 temporary farm laborers from 12/01/2019 to 12/06/2019 near Tipton, IA. Measure and layout livestock building. Mix, pour, or spread concrete, using portable cement mixer. Tend pumps, compressors, or generators to provide power for tools, machinery or equipment. Position and dismantle forms for pouring concrete, using saws, hammers, nails, or bolts. Smooth and finish freshly poured cement or concrete, using floats, trowels, screeds, or powered cement finishing tools. Operate jackhammers or drills to break up concrete or pavement. Position, join, align, or seal structural components, such as concrete wall section or pipes. Tie rebar, position aluminum wall-forms and place all concrete. Clean Job-site. Must be able to lift and carry 75lbs/75yds. One month of aluminum wall-form setter experience required. Wage is \$14.38/hour. Merit based bonuses may be given. Higher hourly rate may be given based on livestock confinement experience, tenure, skill and other non-discriminatory factors. If any advances are given to workers, it will be deducted from their checks. Any willful destruction of property will also be deducted. All deductions will be made pursuant to applicable State and Federal Law. Alewelt Concrete Inc. guarantees employment for a total number of work hours equal to at least three-fourths of the workdays from 12/01/2019 to 12/06/2019. Tools, supplies and equipment are provided by employer at no cost to employee. Housing provided at a reasonable distance from the worksite at no cost to all workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of the work day. Transportation and subsistence expenses to worksite will be paid by employer in the first week of employment. Apply at your nearest Department of Labor office or at the Iowa Workforce Agency located at 4444 First Ave NE, Suite 436 Cedar Rapids IA 52402 using job order number IA10013856.

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WINDOWS VM-WARE ADMINISTRATORS in Katy, TX area: Deploy, configure, troubleshoot & suppt of Windows Server 2008 R2/2012 R2/2016 in a large scale enterprise environment. Travel/reloc to various unanticipated locations as req'd. Send res to Cambridge Consulting, LLC 1838 Snake River Rd., Ste. A, Katy, TX 77449.

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• Deposit weekly PR Taxes
• Federal / State Payroll Tax Returns
• Monthly / Quarterly Sales Tax Returns
• Health / Life / Dental Benefits
• Employee Benefits
• New Employee Documentation
• Workers Compensation
• Paid Vacation, Life Insurance, Holidays
• Health / Dental Insurance
Send Resumes hiringmctsm@gmail.com

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• Effectively using email and phone calls to reach potential customers.
• Support and collaborate with our advertising sales team, assisting outside sales reps with order entry and follow-up as needed.
• Assisting customers with ad proofing, coordinating with our ad design team as needed.
The Katy Times is part of Fenice Community Media, a group of Texas community newspapers that prefers to promote from within. If you meet the above qualifications and are ready for the challenge, please include your resume, cover letter and compensation requirements when applying. Please make sure to include any information related to your performance in sales positions.
To apply, go to <https://fenicecommunitymedia.bamboohr.com/jobs/view.php?id=72>
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NOTICE
The Monday, November 11, 2019, Regular City Council Meeting Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Has Been Cancelled In Observance Of Veteran's Day.
By Order Of Mayor
And City Council
City Of Katy, Texas
October 17, 2019

PROBATE CITATION File No. 2019-598
SURROGATE'S COURT - ROCKLAND COUNTY CITATION
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, By the Grace of God Free and Independent
TO: David Sumner, son of the late Richard L. Sumner of Pomona, whose whereabouts are unknown and with due diligence cannot be ascertained, if living and if he be dead and died before May 24, 2019 to his issue, if any, if living and if any of them be dead and died subsequent to May 24, 2019, then to their executors, administrators, next of kin, distributees, heirs at law, legatees, devisees, assignees, creditors and successors in interest, and all other persons interested in the estate of Richard L. Sumner, all of whose names and post office addresses are unknown and cannot be ascertained after due diligence used.
A petition having been duly filed by Sheila Rizzo, domiciled at 69 Sussex Road, Tenafly, New Jersey, 07670.
YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Rockland County, at 1 South Main Street, 2nd Floor, New City, New York, on **Tuesday, December 3, 2019**, at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of **Richard L. Sumner**, lately domiciled at 24 Halley Drive, Pomona, New York, admitting to probate a Will dated December 14, 2015, as the Will of **Richard L. Sumner**, deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that
[X] Letters of Testamentary issue to: **Sheila Rizzo**
Dated, Attested and Sealed, September 18, 2019
HON. KEITH J. CORNELL
Surrogate
Eileen Horan
Eileen Horan, Chief Clerk
Lawrence A. Codispoli, Esg.
Attorney for Petitioner
210 Route 303, Valley Cottage, New York 10989
(845) 639-7800
[Note: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. If you fail to appear it will be assumed you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you.]

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

An autumn tale

My parents live in a cabin deep in the north woods. I know this sounds like the start of a fairytale. Sometimes it seems a bit like one.

CARRIE CLASSON

THE POSTSCRIPT



There are bear in the woods. Deer run in herds. The seasons are far more pronounced and extreme than those I am used to. After a day of glorious autumn sunshine on my bare arms, I woke in the middle of the night and saw, in the moonlight, that snow had covered the ground, turning the green grass white.

"It won't last," my mother assured everyone within earshot. "There's still a lot of nice fall days to come."

I knew she was right, but those snowflakes were a not-so-subtle reminder that summer was officially over and a very different season on its way. Autumn brings a sense of anticipation and a tiny dose of dread.

The weather turned dark and rainy. I went for a walk in a rain poncho I'd hauled around in a pouch for two years and never worn. The poncho was bright red, I discovered. I pulled the hood up over a broad brimmed hat and headed out.

I was walking down a narrow road in a light rain when I heard the pickup stop behind me. I turned around and saw a woman and a young girl in the truck.

"Maybe they're lost," I thought. I wouldn't be of much help if they were, a virtual stranger there myself. But I stopped as the woman rolled down her window. She looked at me for a moment.

"I thought you were someone I knew," she announced.

"Oh," I replied, temporarily at a loss for words.

"Would you like some apples?" she asked.

"Um... you have apples?" I thought perhaps she had picked the last of the season's fruit. I looked in the back of her truck. There was nothing there.

"Yes," she said. "I just bought some."

"What kind are they?" I was expecting she'd tell me they were McIntosh or Winesaps. It was apple season, after all.

"Walmart," she replied.

"Oh."

"Do you want some?" she asked again. "You can have the whole bag if you want!" I had no idea what the correct response was, but this seemed like it was pretty important to her.

"Um... sure, I'll take one," I decided. The truck was a double cab. She jumped out of the front and opened the backseat door.

"My daughter says you look like Little Red Riding Hood," she told me.

"I guess I do!" I agreed.

She reached into a bag and pulled out an apple. It was tiny and bright red. She handed it to me. Her nails were long and white and pointed. I looked at the bright yellow leaves on the wet pavement and her long white nails holding a shiny red apple. I suddenly felt a little nervous.

I took the unnaturally red apple.

"Thanks!"

"I used to walk here all the time," she told me. "I used to walk here every day!"

"Ah!" I responded, feeling seriously awkward.

The little girl was staring at me. I wondered if I was expected to eat the apple on the spot.

"Well, I better get on home!" I announced, tucking the apple in my pack.

"Bye-bye!" she said. The truck started up and they drove off.

When I got back to my parents' cabin, I told my mother what had happened. My mother looked at the bright red apple for a long moment.

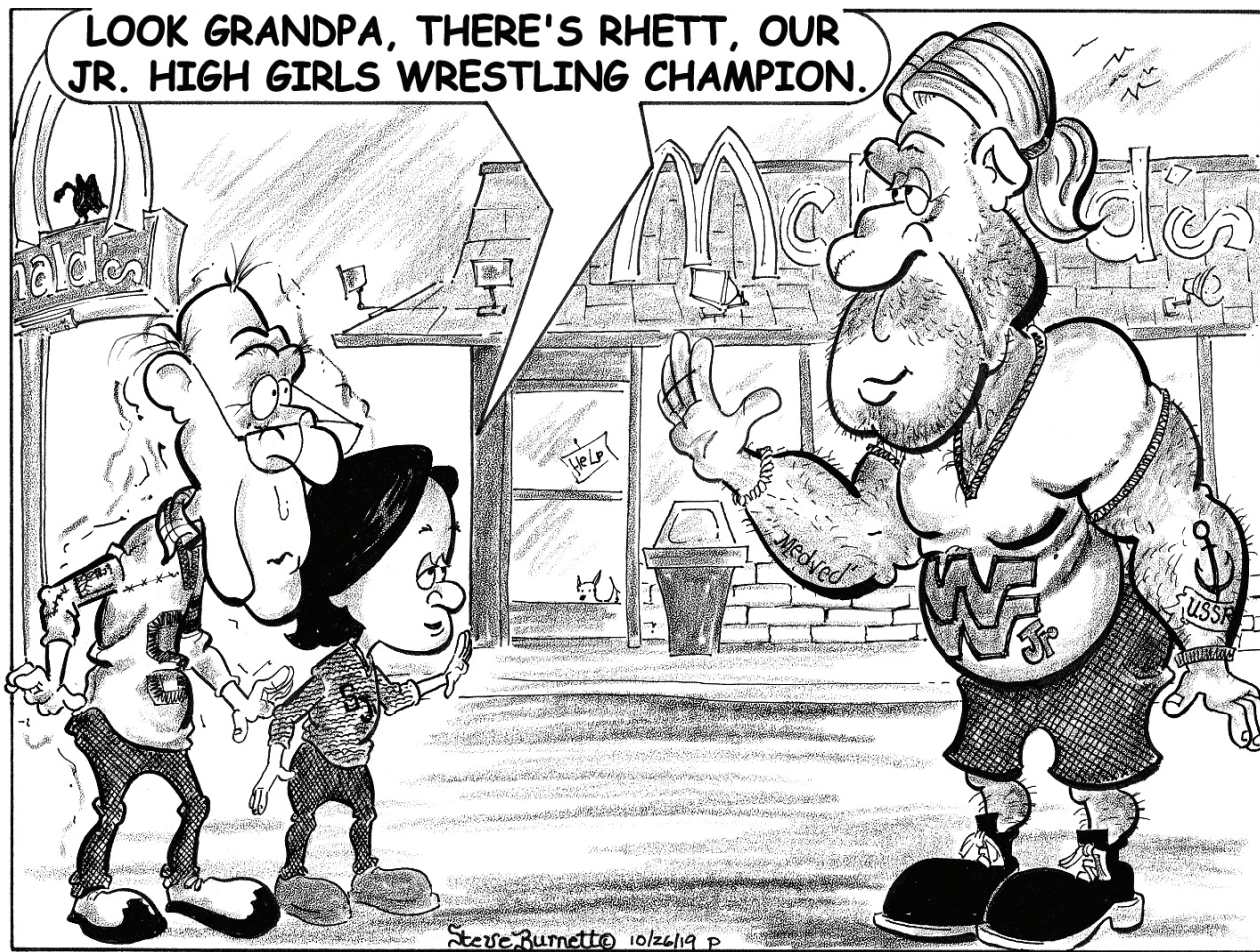
"Maybe we should just keep that apple for decoration," my mother said.

Maybe we should.

Until next time,

Carrie

Carrie Classon's memoir, "Blue Yarn," was released earlier this year. Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.



The verbal recipe for a successful résumé

Your résumé (or curriculum vitae, if you speak Latin) can be like a key that unlocks the door to an interview for your dream job.

Alternately, it can be the thing that prevents you from even getting a phone call. You don't have to have a funky design, nor do you need to attach a pair of Hamiltons to your résumé with a paper clip. Instead, drop in some well-placed success verbs and you'll be on your way.

According to corporate success guru Marc Cenedella, action words aren't enough. Instead, he suggests, use what Cenedella calls "success verbs" to strengthen your résumé. When listing your work history accomplishments, use bullet points. Follow each bullet point with an energetic verb that packs a powerful punch. After each success verb, add a specific numerical value for your career accomplishment. That's the basic formula: bullet point, success verb, numerical data.

First, let's focus on some tired, weak verbs most of us have on our résumés. Words like "managed," "led," "established" and "performed" are boring and overused. Just because you did these things doesn't mean you



CURTIS HONEYCUTT
GRAMMAR GUY

were any good at them. When you do this, you're basically just listing your job description, not your job accomplishments. You need to show that you have excelled in your field; using these verbs does you no favors and does not help you stand out among a crowded field of candidates.

Let's shift our focus to the magical words that can help get you hired. Cenedella lists 25 specific, compelling verbs: accelerated, achieved, added, awarded, changed, contributed, decreased, delivered, eliminated, exceeded, expanded, gained, generated, grew, improved, increased, introduced, maximized, minimized, optimized, produced, reduced, saved, sold and streamlined. These verbs possess vigor and translate to bottom-line organizational impact.

Now all you have to do is follow these verbs with a measurable statistic that will impress the socks off your potential employer; easier said than done. While you

certainly don't want to suggest anything untrue in your résumé, you should be creative and think of all the ways you had a positive impact on each organization for which you worked. You can write an effective energetic résumé; just ditch that thesaurus and

use this list of success verbs instead. It's time to make it happen.

Curtis Honeycutt is an award-winning syndicated humor columnist. Connect with him on Twitter (@curtishoneycutt) or at curtishoneycutt.com.

PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE B3

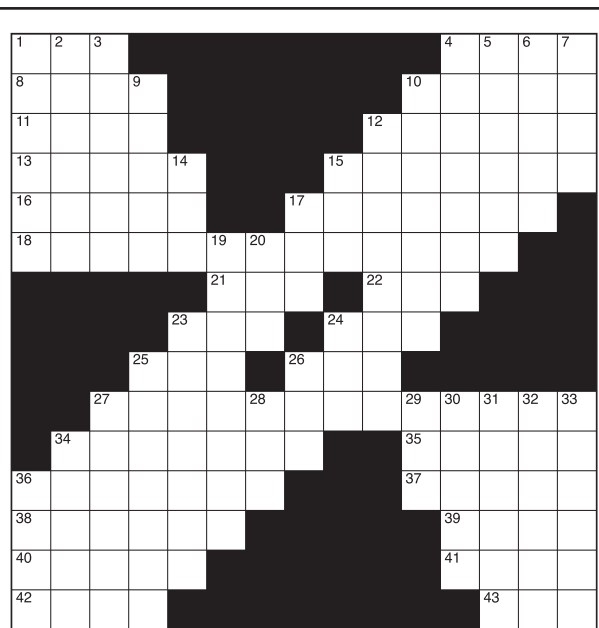
SUDOKU

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CLUES ACROSS

- Third-party access (abbr.)
- This (Spanish)
- Goals
- Something to do lightly
- "Great" North Sea Empire legend
- Iced or chilled drink
- Weight units
- Immune system response
- Groundbreaking German pharmacologist
- Milk-supplying companies
- Enjoyable distraction
- Doctor of Education
- Type of submachine gun (abbr.)
- Curved shape
- Brew
- The 13th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- Advanced degree
- Shock rocker
- Enthusiast
- Quiet's partner
- Hijacked
- TV's once needed them
- Brings together
- Narrow piece of wood
- Paths
- Monetary unit
- Wings
- Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

- Gear
- Outer part of a bird's wing
- Good luck charm
- Removing from memory
- Group of seven people
- Records
- German river
- "Last of the Mohicans" actress Madeleine
- Ancient Greek war galley
- Nonsensical speak
- Title of respect
- Cast out
- Have already done
- Wood-loving insects
- Analogue conversion system (abbr.)
- Pokes holes in
- Waiver of liability (abbr.)
- Sea cow
- Protein coding gene
- Where boats park
- The top of a jar
- Fitting
- German city
- Martens
- They're all over the planet
- One that nests
- Coming at the end
- Croatian coastal city



Katy Times

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Dennis Silva II | Sports editor
Victoria Parker | Designer
Terri Richard | Advertising
Debbie Prejean | Bookkeeper

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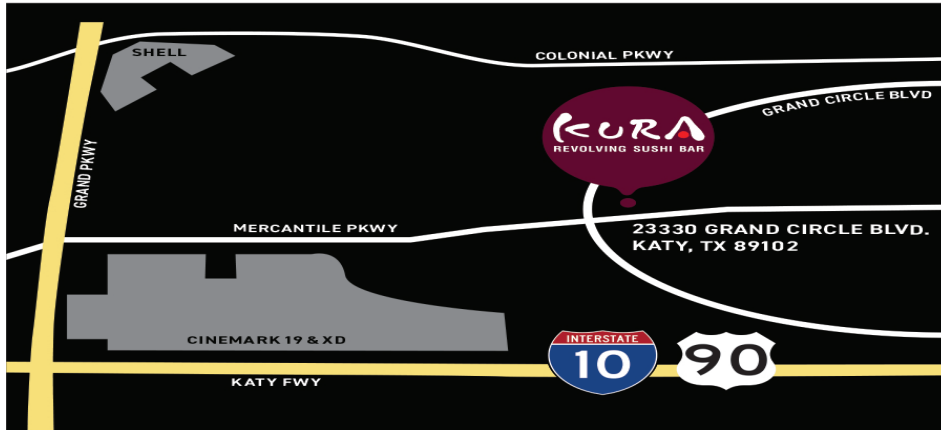
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SAT	11:00am - 10:30pm
SUN	11:00am - 10:00pm



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kurasushi.com/locations/katy-tx/



City appoints new secretary, OKs drainage improvements

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Katy City Council unanimously appointed a new city secretary and approved expansion of the Pitts Road Detention Pond at their Monday, Oct. 28, meeting. The 40-acre pond will be expanded by 13 acres, said Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris.

"It's a very important project for the entire city," Harris said. "It will hold water from coming into the city of Katy. It's a positive project for the entire city."

The pond's expansion will begin as soon as some final engineering and a permit from the Brookshire Katy Drainage District is approved, Harris said. Once the expansion is about 10 percent completed, crews will remove restrictors from Magnolia Ditch to allow more outflow to go into the Cane Island Branch of Buffalo Bayou, he said.

A change order for drainage work in the Pine Forest subdivision adding about \$23,000 to the project was also approved, bringing the total cost up to about \$3,650,000, City Secretary Becky McGrew said.

Work continues on multiple projects in the Pine Forest subdivision. The city's website indicates that the concrete reinforcement of Magnolia Ditch is 92 percent complete. Upgrades to storm sewers along the east side of Avenue D north of Mae Street are 95 percent complete, while upgrades to the storm sewer located on



Elm Circle are about 50 percent finished. The increase in funding for drainage work in Pine Forest is still within the bid for those projects, Harris said.

City Council also appointed McGrew as city secretary to fill the spot vacated by Missy Bunch, who is retiring after 38 years of service. McGrew had previously been assistant city secretary. Kathy Jo Stewart, Mayor Bill Hasting's executive assistant, was appointed interim assistant city secretary until the assistant city secretary position can be filled.

"It'll be a seamless transition and it's gonna be great to have Becky there," Harris said. "I expect a long tenure for her and she's been a great employee."

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— MAYOR PRO TEM CHRIS HARRIS

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