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SPORTS | A8

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THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2023

HARRIS COUNTY

County investing \$1.7M to improve 911 call response

Harris County Sheriff's Office TeleDeputy Unit will improve response times to high priority calls

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

In a unanimous vote on June 27, Harris County commissioners approved \$1.7 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act funding to enhance the Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) TeleDeputy Unit.

The TeleDeputy program will have officers who are working overtime handle low-priority, non-urgent 911 calls remotely, rather than sending out the officer to write a report. Currently, these low-priority calls make up nearly 60% of HCSO calls, leading to slower response times across the board. Examples of these Priority 3 & 4 calls include: reporting a crime tip, reporting an abandoned or stalled vehicle, etc.

With this additional support from the TeleDeputy Unit, patrol deputies will be able to more rapidly respond to 911 calls involving urgent, critical matters, including calls related to violent crime and domestic violence. HCSO aims to reduce average response times for Priority 1 calls by nearly 30%, from 14 minutes to 10 minutes, and reduce the response times for family violence calls across all HCSO Districts by 10 minutes because of this TeleDeputy support. In 2022, over 30% percent of investigated homicides involved family violence, so having HCSO officers respond more quickly is a critical win that will result from this TeleDeputy program.

"In life-threatening emergencies, every second counts. I commend the Harris County Sheriff's Office for identifying this solution to better leverage its officers' time so that we can decrease 911

See 911, page A3

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July 6, 2023
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KATY ISD

Board halts book purchases, hears ESSER recommendations

School board also discussed attendance boundary changes and staff compensation

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

At its June 26th meeting the Katy ISD school board took action on library book purchases and staff compensation and heard recommendations for attendance boundary changes.

Book purchases halted

At the direction of the board of trustees, Katy ISD has halted purchases of new library books and will store incoming books rather than placing them on library shelves. Books will remain in storage until the board changes the current policy or creates a committee for book evaluation. An audit of the shipment of incoming books is planned. The only exceptions are books designated for libraries in the district's newest schools, which will open this year.

ESSER funds update

Nakia Coy, KISD director of federal programs and external funding, outlined plans



KATY ISD

The Katy ISD board met June 26 to discuss book purchases, ESSER funds and additional measures.

for using the remainder of the second round of Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Funds and also listed the activities and programs which have been submitted for ESSER III funds. The remaining balance of \$747,240 in ESSER II funds, which end in September, will be split between salaries, reading academy payments, expenditures and indirect costs.

Through the end of September 2024, Katy ISD will use the remaining \$24.75 million of the third installment of ESSER funds for:

- Career and technical education
- Summer learning
- After-school programs
- Parent and family assistance
- Attendance and engagement
- Public health protocols
- Staff retention

Coy said that further updates on the ESSER programs would be provided to the board in December.

See KATY ISD, page A3

Fanny Jetton sworn in as Acting Temporary Representative during spouse deployment



OFFICE OF TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JACEY JETTON

Fanny and Jacey Jetton are pictured with their sons prior to Jacey's departure for active duty.

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

RICHMOND, TX — Fanny Jetton has been sworn-in as the Acting Temporary State Representative for Texas House District 26. Representative Jacey Jetton is currently on active duty with the Army National Guard and named Fanny Jetton as his acting representative until he returns from active duty.

"It's an honor to stand in for my husband as his acting representative while he is on active duty serving our country," said Fanny Jetton. "While it is important to him to serve our country, we also want to ensure the people of House District 26 are represented well in Austin during the special sessions. Reducing property taxes is a top priority for our district and I will be proud to cast a vote in favor of meaningful property tax reform. Our office remains open, and I look forward to working to keep Texas the best place to pursue the American Dream."

If a member of the Texas Legislature will be absent for legislative duties due to active military status, the Texas Constitution provides the option for the member to nominate another individual to serve as the Acting Temporary Representative. The acting representative must meet the same qualifications for service as a duly elected member, as outlined in the Texas Constitution.

Acting Representative Fanny Jetton will now be able to cast votes in special sessions, the second of which began at 3 p.m. on June 27th. Upon his return from active-duty military

See JETTON, page A3

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Camp Invention's Summer STEM Program coming to Holy Covenant United Methodist Church

Camp Invention®, a nationally recognized, nonprofit summer enrichment program, is coming to the Katy area.

A program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame®, in partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Camp Invention challenges children in grades K-6 to tap into their natural curiosity and use their creativity to solve problems. Through hands-on activities, Camp Invention promotes STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) learning; builds confidence, leadership, perseverance and resourcefulness; and encourages entrepreneurship - all in a fun and engaging environment.

This year's Wonder program encourages children to be confident in their ideas and explore their innovativeness through hands-on activities including:

Catching Air™: Taking a confidence-building ride through physics, engineering and art, children design and build their own skate park.

Invention Celebration™: Campers take on the role of event planners as they throw a party celebrating creativity and innovation.

MimicBot™: Children show their unique style when they transform a robot that mimics sounds into a one-of-a-kind animatronic stuffer.

Pop-Up Venture™: Big ideas come to life as campers design their own mini pop-up business.

The event will be held at Holy Covenant United Methodist Church, 22111 Morton Road, Katy during the week of July 17 - July 20, 2023. For more information or to register, visit invent.org/camp.

Katy Christian Ministries launches annual Red Apple School Supply and Happy Feet Program

Each summer Katy Christian Ministries collects funds to provide school supplies, backpacks and a

NEW TREES AT LEYENDECKER LANDING



CHRIS HARRIS

Twenty large trees have been transported and planted at their new home at Leyendecker Landing (Pitts Rd at Morton). HEB donated the trees to the City of Katy-Parks and Recreation and Keep Katy Beautiful. Trees are being cared for by Environmental Design Inc that services large tree moving and maintenance. The trees were located where HEB is building their new location at Katy Hockley Cutoff Rd and Morton.

pair of new shoes to Katy ISD students in grade K-12 who need a little help to start off their school year. KCM partners each year with Compassion Katy to ensure that all KISD schools are covered by a backpack program. At Wednesday's meeting of the Katy Business Association, KCM Business Development Manager Jeannette Trejo announced that KCM is seeking both monetary donations and donations of supplies. Last year the program served 998 children and this year KCM is anticipating a much great need this year, with a fundraising goal of \$70,000.00. The cost of sponsoring one student

is about \$60.00; a list of needed supplies may be requested by emailing redapple@ktcm.org or calling 281-391-5261. In-person donations may be dropped off at the KCM administration building at 5506 Porter Road 77493 Monday through Thursday between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Trejo added that volunteers are also needed to help assemble the backpacks and to help with the distribution on August 10th.

Katy "Bar the Door" Poker Run to take place on July 15th

A special "poker run" benefiting

the Texas Elks Camp for Special Needs and Foster Children will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., with registration available the day of the event at the Katy Elks Lodge, 1050 Katy Fort Bend Road. Preregistration is encouraged. The run begins at the Elks Lodge, with additional stops at the Westgreen location of Texas Borders Bar & Grill, 510 Bar & Grill, Scholars & Scoundrels, the Wildcatter Saloon and a return to the Elks Lodge for awards, dinner, raffles and fun. The project will raise money for special needs and foster kids to go to camp as well as grant opportunities for medical support. There is a \$40.00 dona-

tion per "passport" to play. For more information, please contact Shannon Cope at 281-687-2673.

DICK'S Sporting Goods celebrates the opening of New House of Sport Store with events, autograph signings

DICK'S Sporting Goods will host Grand Opening Celebrations for its two new House of Sport stores at The Shops at Park West, 24600 Katy Fwy, Suite 1100, with festivities on Friday, July 7th that will continue throughout the weekend with a variety of events and giveaways.

- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 8:45 a.m. July 7th
- An Immersive Sports Festival in the parking lot, including pickleball courts, golf interactives, football throw, soccer kick wall, cooling stations, and a DJ, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- Games, mystery gift cards, and sweepstakes
- Autograph Signings with current and former top Houston athletes

The following athletes will be in-store to sign autographs - no outside items will be permitted for signature; athletes will only sign the complimentary player cards provided by DICK'S Sporting Goods. 200 wristbands will be distributed at the respective location on a first-come, first-served basis, beginning at 8 a.m. Friday and Saturday morning and 9 a.m. on Sunday morning. Wristbands are required to attend the appearance and receive an autograph.

- Sheryl Swoopes (Former Houston Guard/Forward): Friday, July 7 6:00 - 7:30 PM CT House of Sport Katy
- Jordan Alvarez (Houston Outfielder/Designated Hitter): Saturday, July 8 10:00 - 11:30 AM CT House of Sport Katy
- Tunde Oyeyeyin and Ross Rayburn (Peloton Instructors): Saturday, July 8 1:00 - 3:00 PM CT House of Sport Katy
- C.J. Stroud (Houston Quarterback): Sunday, July 9 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM CT House of Sport Katy

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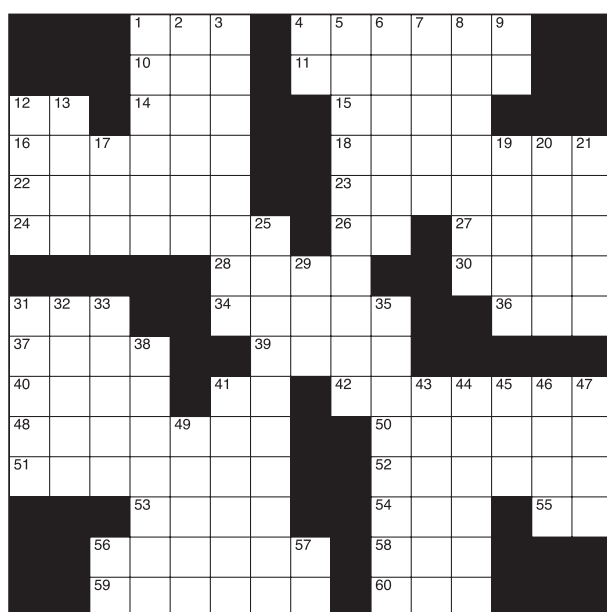
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

- Small Eurasian deer
- Irish county
- A major division of geological time
- Broadway actor Lane
- Canadian province
- It causes fainting (abbr.)
- Two
- A notable one is blue
- Utter repeatedly
- Rings
- Sullies
- Occurs
- Publicity
- Near
- Tools of a trade
- Offer in good faith
- "American Idol" network
- Garments
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Retired NFL DC Dean
- Hot meal
- A type of gin
- Percussion instrument
- A \$10 bill
- About ground
- Medicine man
- Seedless raisin

CLUES DOWN

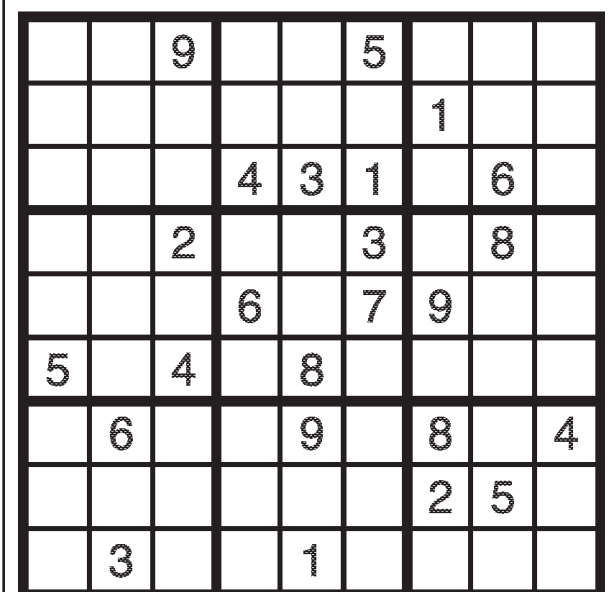
- Make up for
- American songbird
- Pay
- International organization
- Engravers
- Declared as fact
- Criminal
- Jewelry
- Hospital worker (abbr.)
- Nonsense (slang)
- Town in Galilee
- Value
- Another name
- Sheep in second year before shearing
- Town in Surrey, England
- Appropriate during a time of year



- Creative output
- Recesses
- District in N. Germany
- Rider of Rohan
- The official emblem of the German Third Reich
- One who puts down roots
- Scribe
- Painted a bright color
- Tycoons
- Actress Thurman
- Walking accessory
- Crest of a hill
- Member of a North American people
- Type of computer
- U.S. State (abbr.)

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test.

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

HCC Katy to offer logistics & global supply chain degree

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Houston Community College (HCC) students will now be able to earn a degree in Logistics and Global Supply Chain Management at HCC's Katy campus beginning with the fall 2023 semester. The Katy campus will offer both a Level 1 certificate and an Associate of Applied Sciences degree in a field that is part of every industry and involves all the activities that make the global flow of goods and services possible.

"With the growth of industry and business warehousing in West Houston and the

Katy area, offering the logistics program at our Katy campus only makes sense," said Dr. Zachary Hodges, HCC Northwest President.

The Logistics and Global Supply Chain Management program incorporates business logistics, operations, project management and supply chain technology classes into a global supply chain focus. This multifaceted approach prepares students for careers in all industries.

Some of the representative career titles and job positions for this program plan include logistics coordinator or specialist, production/operations planner, warehouse and distribution supervisor, import/export

freight coordinator, retail and wholesale coordinator, and freight forwarding opportunities across truck, rail, ocean and air transportation.

"This program benefits those who are new to the field, as well as those currently working in logistics supply chain," said Shari Carter, program director of Logistics & Global Supply Chain, Maritime Transportation, and International Business. "Those who are already working in the field may need an industry certification to show proficiencies in logistics supply chain technology across material handling, software knowledge and abilities to optimize their effectiveness

through enhanced education to provide the necessary efficiencies within the rapid technology advances in the workforce."

Graduates of the program will enter a profession that, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, has a projected job growth of 30 percent within the next decade. The earning potential for graduates ranges from an average of \$60,165 at entry level, \$104,610 at mid-level, to \$168,726 at senior level.

To learn more about the Logistics & Global Supply Chain Management program, visit hccs.edu/logistics or call 713.718.2614.

KATY ISD

from page A1

Attendance boundary modifications presented

The board also received recommendations for attendance boundary modifications, necessitated by the opening of two new secondary schools in 2024 - junior high number 18 and high school number 10, both of which will serve the northwest quadrant of the district. The new schools will relieve enrollment pressure at Paetow and Katy High Schools as well as Stockdick and Haskett junior high campuses. The boundary modification recommendations also include reassigning some students from Katy High School to Taylor High School, in order to relieve capacity at Katy High.

Compensation increase decision delayed

After discussion of the potential financial impact of possible salary increases, the board voted to postpone a decision on a compensation increase until their upcoming work-study meeting.

911

from page A1

response times and, ultimately, save lives. We will keep investing in strategies to further improve public safety in Harris County," said Commissioner Lesley Briones.

Deputies in the HCSO's five patrol districts are responsible for patrolling nearly 2 million residents living in unincorporated Harris County. As the unincorporated population of Harris County continues to grow, HCSO has seen an increase in the number of calls.

"Investing in the Harris County Sheriff's Office TeleDeputy Program is a commitment to our community's safety. By harnessing the power of technology, we can reduce emergency call response times and prioritize urgent situations," said Sheriff Ed Gonzalez. "This innovative program empowers community members to teleconference with deputies for certain offenses, providing an additional avenue to report incidents while allowing our dedicated law enforcement professionals to focus on high-priority emergencies."

Student attendance incentive plan introduced

According to district officials, KISD district wide average daily attendance (ADA) has dropped by 2% since the COVID pandemic, compared to a 3% drop state-wide. Average Daily Attendance is used by the Texas Education Agency as a factor in calculating school funding, officials said. Through the proposed plan each campus will have an attendance improvement plan and must show an improvement over the prior year; the district as a whole must also show attendance improvement in order for the incentives to be deposited into the campus budget. Leadership at each campus will have the flexibility to design and implement programs customized to their schools.

Next board meetings

The next meeting of the school board will be a work-study meeting on July 24th with a regular board meeting following on July 31st.

"I am proud of Commissioner Lesley Briones for leading and bringing this program to Commissioners Court. This is one of the first programs I implemented when I became a Sheriff in 2009, and the results were positive," said Commissioner Adrian Garcia. "The main goal is to reduce all calls for service response times by 10 minutes and provide relief to deputies for high-priority incidents, like those involving violence and life-threatening situations."

Commissioner Briones, who led the effort to bring the funding request to Court, said investing in the TeleDeputy Unit was an important part of addressing the criminal justice from beginning to end.

"By embracing a holistic approach to justice and safety, we can use a range of strategies in our toolkit to better leverage taxpayer dollars to support law enforcement and enhance public safety. We must continue to address the entire spectrum of the criminal justice system," said Commissioner Briones.

Texas House District 26 covers a portion of Fort Bend County, from a part of Katy on the north to Richmond on the south, roughly along FM 1463 and across to the Grand Parkway.

JETTON

from page A1

service, Representative Jacey Jetton will resume legislative duties. The Office of Representative Jetton will also continue operating normally for the duration of the 88th legislative session.

Waller County cowgirl crowned Miss Rodeo Texas Princess 2023

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Peyton Robertson of Brookshire, Texas, was crowned the prestigious title of Miss Rodeo Texas Princess on June 23rd, 2023, at the Miss Rodeo Texas Coronation in San Antonio, Texas. The categories of competition consisted of horsemanship, appearance, personality, interview, on stage questions and a one-minute prepared speech. She not only won the title, but also won the Appearance, Personality, Photogenic, and Congeniality categories.

"The sport of rodeo is so popular and strong, and I believe it can be used to reach many people so that I can promote western heritage and a love for agriculture," said Robertson. "Being a role model that is active in the community is so very important to me. There is a need to encourage other girls to find something they are passionate about so that they will hopefully take their passion and volunteer in their own community."

The position has been a Texas tradition for more than five decades with the first Miss Rodeo Texas being crowned in 1959. Since the inception of the Miss Rodeo Texas Pageant, Miss Rodeo Texas, Miss Rodeo Texas Teen and Miss Rodeo Texas Princess have served as vibrant, colorful goodwill ambassadors of rodeo, the official sport of Texas, working closely with professional rodeos,



MISS TEXAS RODEO

Peyton Robertson of Brookshire, Texas.

rodeo associations and community organizations to preserve our western heritage and keep the western industry alive and flourishing in today's society.

To learn more or to book Miss Rodeo Texas Princess for an event, please visit MissRodeoTexas.com.

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Officials advise residents on staying cool in extreme heat

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fort Bend County Judge KP George led a summer safety press conference on June 27 to address the rising temperatures and provide tips for the residents of Fort Bend County. County officials urged residents to take the necessary precautions to combat the heat during summer in anticipation of the heat index exceeding 100° F.

Joining George with advisory and precaution information included Fort Bend County Sheriff Eric Fagan, Office of Emergency Management Manager Greg Babst, Fort Bend County Health and Human Services Director Dr. Gale-Lowe, Fort Bend County Health and Human Services - EMS Chief Wait, Fort Bend County Environmental Health Manager Michael Schaffer, Fort Bend County Animal Cruelty Officer Marcus Guajardo, Fort Bend County Fire Marshal Justin Jurek, Attack Poverty representative Jenny Jones, Fort Bend County Special Projects Manager Parks and Recreation Gwendolyn Climmons, and Fort Bend County Public Libraries Marketing & Communications Manager Sandy Johnson.

Fort Bend County Sheriff Eric Fagan urged parents, caregivers, and community members to prioritize child safety and never leave children alone in vehicles, regardless of the circumstances. "The temperature inside a vehicle can rise rapidly, even with the windows cracked or on a mild day," warned Fagan.

In light of the potential dangers linked to high temperatures, the county has taken proactive measures by setting up cooling centers. These centers aim to offer relief and a safe haven for vulnerable individuals, including the elderly, young children, and those who lack access to suitable cooling amenities.

Fort Bend County Libraries will serve as cooling centers during their hours of operation, which can



FORT BEND COUNTY

Fort Bend officials convened on Tuesday to provide information on area cooling centers as well as tips for coping with rising temperatures in the area.

be found on the library's website at <https://www.fortbend.lib.tx.us/> or call 281-638-4734. Free transportation to Fort Bend County libraries is available by calling Fort Bend Transit at 281-633-7433. Additionally, Fort Bend Parks and Recreation has two facilities being used as cooling centers during regular operating hours, including on Sundays from noon - 6:00 p.m. They are Landmark Community Center, 100 Louisiana St., Missouri City, TX 77489, and Four Corners Recreation Center, 15700 Old Richmond Rd, Sugar Land, TX 77498.

Community partner Attack Poverty has set up cooling centers at both their North Rosenberg location at 1908 Avenue E, Rosenberg, TX 77471, and North Richmond location at 1305 Clay St, Richmond, TX 77469. Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. More information is available on the Fort Bend County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management website at <https://www.fortbendcountytexas.gov/your-county/news/national-weather-services-issues-heat-advisory>.

Additional information was shared about recognizing the signs of heat exhaustion, the importance of staying hydrated, wearing

lightweight and breathable clothing, and taking frequent breaks in shaded or air-conditioned areas. Emphasis was placed on vulnerable populations, such as the elderly and young children, who may be more susceptible to heat-related illnesses. Health and Human Services Director Dr. Gale Lowe addressed the impact of prolonged heat on individuals' health and well-being. She reminded residents to be aware of their health limitations during this period of intense heat, as it can increase sensitivity and pose health risks.

Swim and water safety were also key topics discussed during the press conference. With the summer season being a popular time for water activities, county officials stressed the importance of adhering to safety guidelines while enjoying the water. Residents were reminded to supervise children around water, reminding residents to be cautious and swim with a buddy in open bodies of water.

Fort Bend County Animal Cruelty Officer Marcus Guajardo advises residents to be vigilant and prioritize the well-being of their animal companions by providing ample shade and fresh water, avoiding hot pavement, asphalt, and sand that can become scorching hot during

summer days, never leaving pets unattended in vehicles, adjust exercise and outdoor activities, and watch for signs of heat distress.

Fort Bend County Judge George expressed the importance of county departments working together for the safety of residents.

"I want to extend our gratitude to the dedicated professionals who have been working tirelessly to ensure the well-being of our community," stated George. "I want our residents to know that we are committed to their safety and well-being."

Commissioner proposes plan to attract investments

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fort Bend County Precinct 3 Commissioner Andy Meyers is proactively proposing an approach to make Fort Bend County more competitive to attract industrial investments of \$1 billion or more (i.e. megaprojects) to create new jobs, broaden the tax base and relieve some of the burdens on residential taxpayers.

"Fort Bend County has nearly 900,000 residents, and it remains primarily a bedroom community, with many of our residents having to commute to employment centers in Houston and Harris County to work," Meyers said. "Fort Bend residents should be able to work closer to home."

Attracting high-quality industrial investments is becoming increasingly competitive. Today, site selectors have numerous requirements and shorter timelines as location decisions are made.

"Two recent site selection efforts totaling about \$10 billion with 16,000 jobs did not come to our County, which is why I am an ardent proponent of developing a plan to make Fort Bend County more competitive," Meyers said.

Meyers wants more options for preparing shovel-ready industrial sites with required infrastructure such as roads, water, drainage, power, broadband, and rail spurs.

"Fort Bend County should be a place where residents can live, worship, play, and work," Meyers said. "That is why I took the lead in organizing yesterday's Commissioners Court workshop to discuss the County's approach, and I look forward to moving quickly for the benefit of our residents."

Meyers anticipates this effort may require legislative action that includes funding mechanisms that pay for the industrial sites and are paid for by the companies that benefit from them.

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Local students honored at SkillsUSA Championships

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Atlanta, Ga. June 28, 2023 — The following local career and technical students were recognized for excellence at the 2023 SkillsUSA Championships, held in Atlanta, on June 21-22. More than 6,000 students competed at the national showcase of career and technical education. The SkillsUSA Championships is the largest skill competition in the world and covers 1.79 million square feet, equivalent to 31 football fields or 41 acres.

Skill Point Certificates were awarded to all national contestants who met a threshold contest score. The Skill Point Certificate represents workplace readiness in the occupational specialty and students can add the certificate to their employment portfolio as an indicator of proficiency.

Students were invited to the event to demonstrate their technical skills, workplace skills and personal skills in 110 hands-on competitions including robotics, automotive technology,

drafting, criminal justice, aviation maintenance and public speaking. Industry leaders from 650 businesses, corporations, trade associations and unions planned and evaluated the contestants against their standards for entry-level workers. Industry support of the SkillsUSA Championships is valued at over \$36 million in donated time, equipment, cash and material. More than 1,200 industry judges and technical committee members participated this year. All SkillsUSA Championships competitors were honored on Friday night, June 23 at the SkillsUSA Awards Session at State Farm Arena.

The following students are Skill Point Certificate recipients from Katy:

* From Texas: Carlton Williams, from Katy and a student at Houston Community College - Northeast (Houston), was awarded a Skill Point Certificate in Automotive Refinishing Technology.

* From Texas: Team M (consisting of Amanda Hernandez, Nairi Reyna), from Miller Career and

Technology Center (Katy), was awarded a Skill Point Certificate in Emergency Medical Technician.

"More than 6,000 students from every state in the nation participated in the 2023 SkillsUSA Championships," said SkillsUSA Executive Director Chelle Travis. "This showcase of career and technical education demonstrates SkillsUSA at its finest. Our students, instructors and industry partners work together to ensure that every student excels. This program expands learning and career opportunities for our members."

The SkillsUSA Championships event is held annually for students in middle school, high school or college/postsecondary programs as part of the SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference. The national, nonprofit partnership of students, instructors and industry is a verified talent pipeline for America's skilled workforce that is working to help solve the skills gap.

About SkillsUSA

SkillsUSA is America's proud champion of the skilled trades. It's a student-led partnership of education and industry that's building the skilled workforce our nation depends on with graduates who are career ready, day one. Representing nearly 380,000 career and technical education students and teachers, SkillsUSA chapters thrive in middle schools, high schools and college/postsecondary institutions nationwide.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Katy High School Alumni Association awards scholarships at annual gala

Katy High School Alumni Association president Adrienne Davitz announced the recipients of the association's annual scholarships at the Katy High School awards banquet in May.

At the association's June 10 gala at Beckendorf Farms, the group celebrated the \$1,000 awards to each of the following area students: Sydney Lyons, Jaime Hahn, Haleigh Elyse Triolo, Donald Nagle, and Kaylea Marhofer. Davitz's goal is to increase the number of scholarships to 8 or more for the 2024 seniors, she said.



CONTRIBUTED

MCTC's Dallas Bergstrom is one of 50 finalists for the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence.

Local students make Honor Roll at Oregon State University

CORVALLIS, Ore. - Names of students who have made the Scholastic Honor Roll for Spring 2023 have been announced by Oregon State University.

A total of 11,660 students earned a B-plus (3.5) or better to make the listing. To be on the Honor Roll, students must carry at least 6 graded hours of course work.

Students from Katy on the Honor Roll included: Audrey A. Ashabraner, Sophomore, Oceanography; Tessa N. Badger, Senior, Fisheries & Wildlife Sciences; Eric Eaton, Post Baccalaureate, Computer Science; Hayley A. Lewis, Senior, Marketing.

Miller Career Center teacher a finalist for Harbor Freight honor

MCTC's Dallas Bergstrom has been selected as a finalist for the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence, according to the KISD Facebook page. Bergstrom is one of 50 finalists nationwide for this award, which honors excellent teaching in skilled trades education in U.S. public high schools. Katy ISD's Miller Career and Technology Center provides opportunities for students to participate in specialized career and technology programs during the school day.

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June 29 Puzzle Answers

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

B	U	S	T	L	E	S		P	E	A	S	E			
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M	K		R	E	G	I	S	T	R	A	T	I	O	N	
P	E	D	E	S				I	N	S	T	A	N	T	
T	R	A	M	S				C	A	L	Y	C	E	S	

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN ORDINANCE NO. 3097 BEARING THE FOLLOWING CAPTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, ON JUNE 26, 2023:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KATY AMENDING CHAPTER 12 "TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES" TO ADD ARTICLE 12.08 "TOWING" TO THE CITY OF KATY CODE OF ORDINANCES AND ADOPTING A FEE SCHEDULE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR A VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids addressed to Katy Development Authority, Attention Mr. Jonas W. Conner, President, Board of Directors, will be received at City of Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493, until 2:00 p.m. local time, Thursday, July 27, 2023, and then publicly opened and read for "Kingsland Boulevard and Cane Island Parkway Improvements" for Katy Development Authority, of Harris County, Texas.

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the construction of the additional lanes to complete the boulevard section of north side of Kingsland Boulevard. The total roadway length is approximately 1,200 linear feet. The project involves completing the boulevard section by constructing the other two travel lanes, associated turn lanes, median cuts and installation of drainage inlets. The project also includes modifications to the existing traffic signal at the Kingsland Boulevard and Cane Island Parkway intersection, additional curbs ramps and crosswalks, as well as constructing westbound travel lanes on Kingsland Boulevard.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A NON-MANDATORY virtual pre-bid conference will be held on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. local time via Zoom.us. Attendance by each prospective bidder or its representative at the pre-bid conference is NOT MANDATORY.

Information for joining the virtual meeting is given below:
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82073078700>
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Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor.

Copies of the bidding documents may be reviewed and obtained from www.CivcastUSA.com. Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, plans, soils report, and environmental reports for this Project. There is NO charge to view or download documents.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive all defects and irregularities in bidding or bidding process except time of submitting a Bid. The Successful Bidder, if any, will be the responsible Bidder which in the Board's judgment will be most advantageous to the District and result in the best and most economical completion of the Project.

The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this Bid and the Contractor agrees that the Contract can be terminated if the Contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.

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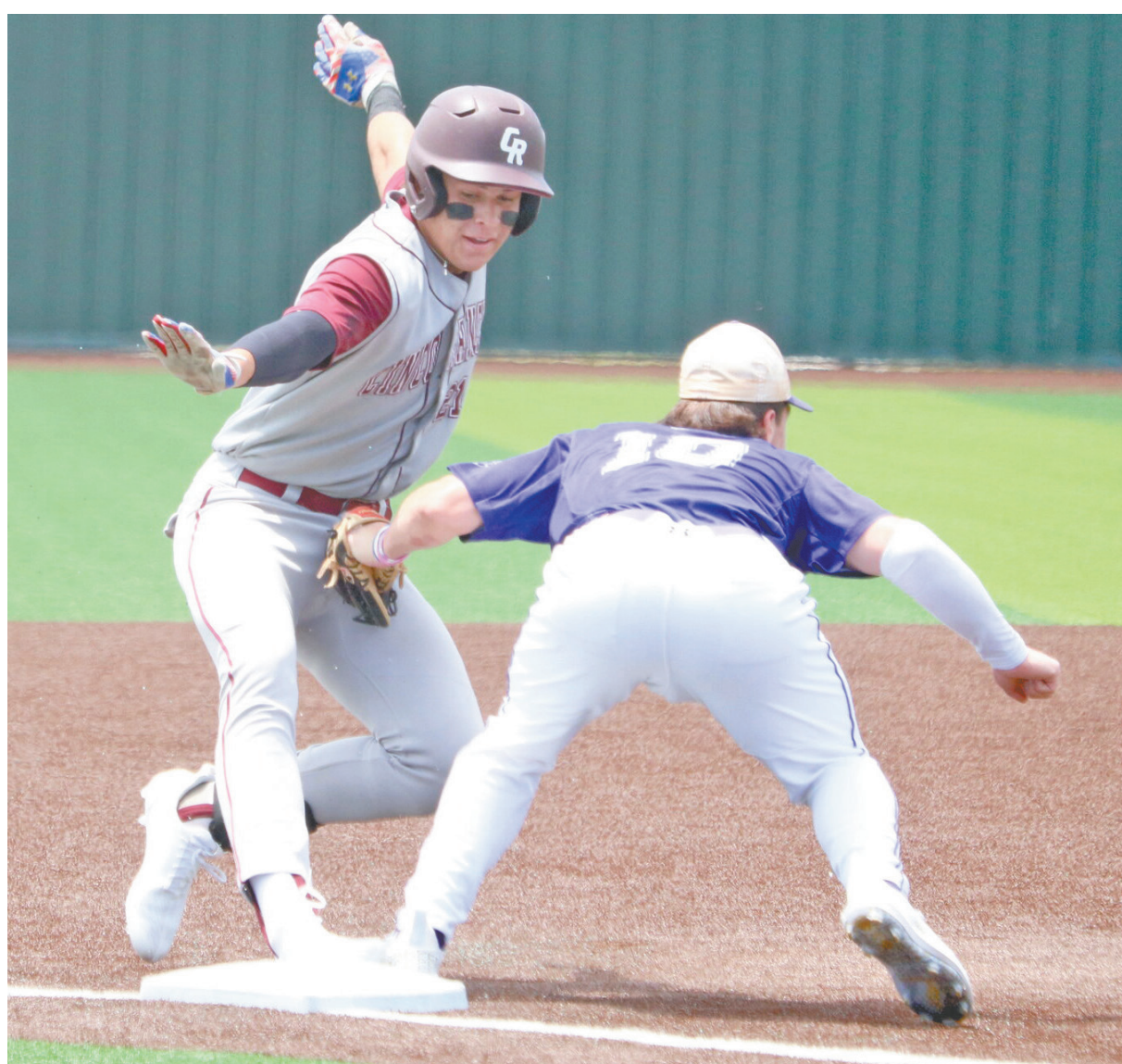
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Charlie Atkinson slides into third base during a Regional Quarterfinal game between Cinco Ranch and Ridge Point.

TYLER TYRE

Atkinson named District MVP

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Cinco Ranch's Charlie Atkinson was named the District 19-6A MVP after a huge senior season where he helped the Cougars reach the Class 6A Regional Semifinals and also helped Cinco Ranch to their first district championship since 2006.

Atkinson was a huge part of the Cougars success, batting in the middle of the order and playing strong outfield defense. Atkinson was named to the district's first team last season before jumping up to MVP this season. Atkinson hit .272 this

See **DISTRICT**, page A9



Drew Markle fouls off a pitch during a game between Tompkins and Cinco Ranch at the Cinco Ranch baseball field.

TYLER TYRE

Dynamo fall to 4th in conference after loss to Austin FC

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Houston Dynamo dropped to fourth in the Western Conference after a loss to Austin FC, falling to Austin 3-0 at Q2 Stadium.

Houston was riding a three game win streak into the game but from the start the Dynamo struggled against Austin.

Austin scored twice in the first half. They took the lead in the 22nd minute, when Ethan Finley latched on to a cross and scored. Austin doubled its lead in the 32nd minute

See **DYNAMO**, page A10

Houston's Walker, Sasser drafted in first round of NBA draft

STAFF REPORT

University of Houston Men's Basketball players Jarace Walker and Marcus Sasser began their professional careers after being selected in the First Round of the 2023 NBA Draft inside Barclays Center.

Walker was taken at No. 8 by the Indiana Pacers while Sasser was selected by the Detroit Pistons with the No. 25 pick. They became the 47th and 48th Men's Basketball student-athletes, respectively, to be selected in the NBA Draft and the first since guard Quentin Grimes was taken with the 25th pick of the First Round by the New York Knicks.



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Houston forward Jarace Walker (25) dunks the ball during an NCAA men's basketball game between the Houston Cougars and the Southern Methodist Mustangs on Jan. 5, 2023 in Houston. Houston won, 87-53.

See **DRAFT**, page A9

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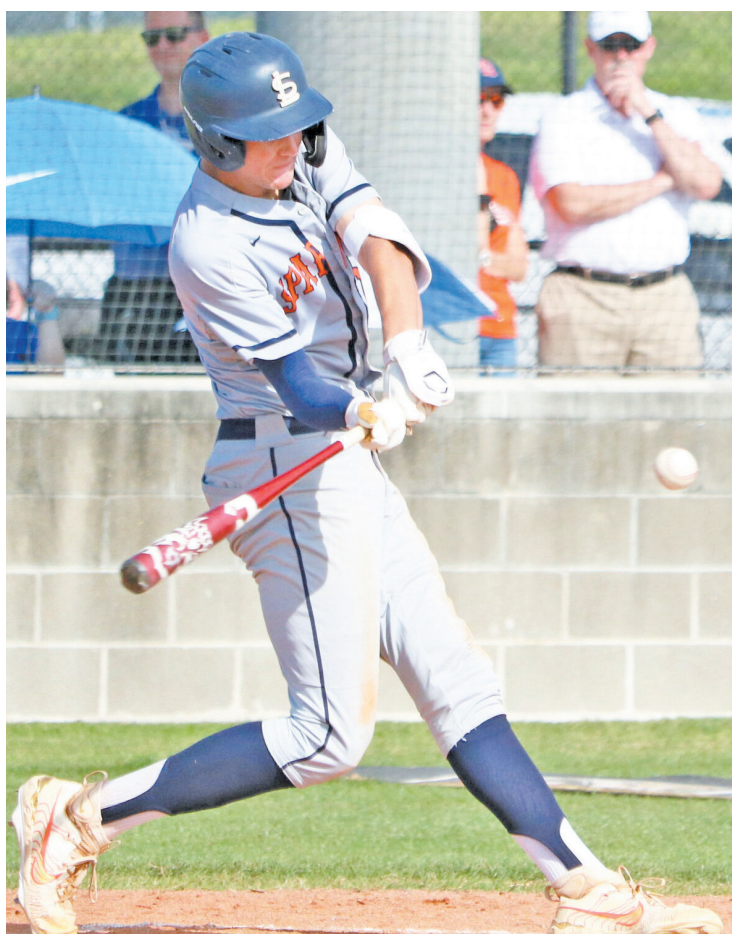
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PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

Above: Nate Johnson hits during a District 19-6A play-in game between Seven Lakes and Taylor at the Mayde Creek baseball field. Right: Bryce Krenek pitches during a game between Taylor and Seven Lakes at the Taylor baseball field.

2023 19-6A ALL-DISTRICT BASEBALL TEAM

Most Valuable Player
Charlie Atkinson, CRHS

Newcomer
Bryce Krenek, THS

1ST TEAM (*Unanimous picks)

C	Landon West	OTHS	12
1B	Gavin Rutherford	CRHS	12
MIF	Brock DeYoung	CRHS	11
MIF	Drew Markle	OTHS	12
3B	Lucas Franco*	CRHS	10
OF	Nate Johnson*	SLHS	10
OF	Brett Dolejsi*	THS	12
OF	James Lacy*	JHS	12
OF	Max Greathouse	SLHS	11
OF	Adam Fitzgerald	THS	12
DH	Logan Sosolik*	CRHS	12
UT	Davidenko Rodriguez	THS	9
SP	Lawson Moreno*	SLHS	12
SP	Ty Dagley	OTHS	12
SP	Anthony Diaz	PHS	12
SP	Gavin Brewer	OTHS	11
SP	Lucas Moore	KHS	12
RP	Cole Kaase	KHS	12
RP	Collin Mills	SLHS	11
RP	Kaden Bertrand	OTHS	12

2ND TEAM

C	Brady Englett	KHS	12
1B	Justin Cryer	MRHS	12
MIF	Jake Steffes	SLHS	12
MIF	JD Ortigoza	JHS	10
3B	Ryan Miller	JHS	12
OF	Andrew Hilton	KHS	12
OF	AJ Atkinson	KHS	11
OF	Taylor Tiedt	SLHS	12
OF	Nate Larsen	THS	11
OF	Aryan Chopra	OTHS	12
DH	Ty Berra	SLHS	11
UT	Charles Radley	PHS	11
SP	Caleb Koger	KHS	12
SP	Brayden Hodge	CRHS	11
SP	Parker Booth	CRHS	12
SP	Monty Bogner	JHS	12
SP	Zane Helliger	MRHS	10
RP	Dylan Weaver	THS	11
RP	Elijah Chisam	PHS	10
RP	Connor Carmichael	JHS	11
RP	Thomas Guy	CRHS	11

HONORABLE MENTION

- KHS
Sutton Hull, Josh Dunayczan, Graham Laxton, Nayden Ramirez, Reese Ruderman
- THS
Hunter Ham, Layne Bishop, Pete Dworaczyk
- MCHS
AJ Jenkins, Simon Cardona
- CRHS
Ranier Castillo, Ethan Muniz, Connor Ficarra
- MRHS
Brandon Hasselbring, Cameron Hudson, Isaac Cantu, Jerry Gutierrez, Kelvin Malone
- SLHS
Travis Berra, Miguel Acosta
- OTHS
Adam Benavidez, Cooper Markle, Ivan Gomez, Darius Woodson, Daniel Deaton, Hudson Melaerts
- PHS
Maddox Prentice, Garrett Smith, Paul Gerke
- JHS
Davis Duhon



DISTRICT

from page A8

season, driving in 28 runs with six home runs, two triples and three doubles on the year, totaling 22 hits and scoring 12 runs.

Joining Atkinson in the superlatives list was Taylor's Bryce Krenek. Krenek, a freshman, was very strong over the course of the season and was a difference maker for Taylor, helping the Mustangs to a 21-12-1 record and 9-7 record in district as they finished tied for fourth and only fell out of the playoffs in a play in game with Seven Lakes. Krenek started six games on the mound in district, posting a 1.96 ERA and striking out 24 batters over the course of district play.

Tompkins led the way in first team members, including Landon West, Drew Markle, Ty Dagley, Gavin Brewer and Kaden Bertrand. Cinco Ranch was shortly behind with four players on the first team in Gavin Rutherford, Brock DeYoung, Lucas Franco and Logan Sosolik.

DRAFT

from page 8

Walker and Sasser also were Houston's 13th and 14th First-Round Draft picks in school history.

Both student-athletes played key roles in leading the Cougars to a 33-4 overall record, the American Athletic Conference regular-season championship with a school-record 17-1 mark, the nation's #1 ranking for seven weeks and the NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 in 2022-23.

At No. 8, Walker was the highest Cougar taken in the NBA Draft since Hall of Fame center Hakeem was selected with the No. 1 overall pick by the Houston Rockets in 1984.

About Jarace Walker

Walker joined the Cougars as a heralded 5-star recruit and exceeded those preseason expectations.

In 2022-23, Walker ranked second among the Cougars and among The American's leaders with 11.2 points and 6.8 rebounds per game with double-doubles against North Florida and American rival SMU.

He was named the American Athletic Conference Freshman of the Year and was named to the league's All-Conference Second Team. Walker also earned a place on the National Association of Basketball Coaches All-District 24 First Team and was a finalist for the 2023 Kyle Macy Award, presented to the nation's top freshman.

He was named The American's Freshman of the Week six times, tying a school sin-



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Houston guard Marcus Sasser (0) goes to the basket during an NCAA college basketball game between Houston and Wichita State on Mar. 2, 2023, in Houston.

gle-season record for weekly awards of any kind.

In his collegiate debut, the New Freedom, Pa., native scored eight points and grabbed 12 rebounds in a win over Northern Colorado inside the Fertitta Center.

Walker finished with a game-high 17 points and seven rebounds and added four assists, a blocked shot and steal in the Cougars' road win at #2/2 Virginia. He was named the CBS Sports/USBWA National Freshman of the Week following that performance, the first of two national weekly honors in 2022-23.

About Marcus Sasser

After electrifying Houston fans with his decision to return for his senior season,

Sasser lived up to the preseason hype.

The 2023 recipient of the Jerry West Shooting Guard of the Year Award, Sasser was a Consensus First-Team All-American - the program's first since Olajuwon in 1983 - and was one of five finalists for the John R. Wooden Award presented by Wendy's. He also was named the American Athletic Conference and United States Basketball Writers Association District VII Player of the Year.

He led the Cougars and ranked eighth in the American Athletic Conference with 16.8 points per game and stood among the league's Top-15 leaders in assists (3.1 apg, 14th), free throw percentage (84.8, 5th),

3-point field goal percentage (38.4, 8th), 3-point field goals per game (2.7, t-4th) and assist-turnover ratio (1.95, 5th).

The Dallas native posted 13 20-point games, including a career-best 31 points against South Florida on Jan. 11, with a team-high 31 double-digit scoring games.

However, Sasser did far more than shoot and score for the Cougars, ranking seventh in the league with 1.6 steals per game.

Sasser became the 50th 1,000-point scorer in Houston history and finished 15th among the Cougars' career scoring leaders with 1,458 points. He also drained 274 3-pointers on 740 attempts during his career, setting Houston records in both categories.

Houston in NBA Draft Notes

- While Walker and Sasser are the 47th and 48th Cougars to be chosen, 49 Cougars have been tabbed in the NBA Draft. Olympic great and current Track and Field Head Coach Carl Lewis was taken in the 10th round of the 1984 Draft by the Chicago Bulls.

- This was the first time two Cougars were selected in the NBA Draft First Round since 1984. That year, Olajuwon was taken with the No. 1 overall pick by the Houston Rockets while guard Michael Young was taken with the 24th pick by the Boston Celtics.

- This marked the first

time since 1987 that a pair of Cougars was chosen in the NBA Draft. That year, center Greg Anderson was taken with the No. 23 overall pick by the San Antonio Spurs while guard Rickie Winslow was a Second-Round selection by the Chicago Bulls.

- Walker and Sasser became the 16th and 17th NBA Draft picks under Head Coach Kelvin Sampson during his award-winning

career. They also became the fifth and sixth First-Round selections in Sampson's career and his second and third with Houston.

- This marked the first time Sampson had two student-athletes taken in the NBA Draft since Indiana's Eric Gordon (First Round, No. 7, Los Angeles Clippers) and D.J. White (First Round, No. 29, Detroit Pistons) in the 2008 Draft.



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Left: Austin FC forward Gyasi Zardes (9) kicks the ball in defense working against Houston Dynamo midfielder Artur (6) during a Major League Soccer match on June 24, 2023 in Austin, Texas. Austin FC won, 3-0. Above: Houston Dynamo defender Franco Escobar (2) works against Austin FC midfielder Daniel Pereira (6) during a Major League Soccer match on June 24, 2023 in Austin, Texas. Austin FC won, 3-0.

PHOTOS BY SCOTT W. COLEMAN

DYNAMO

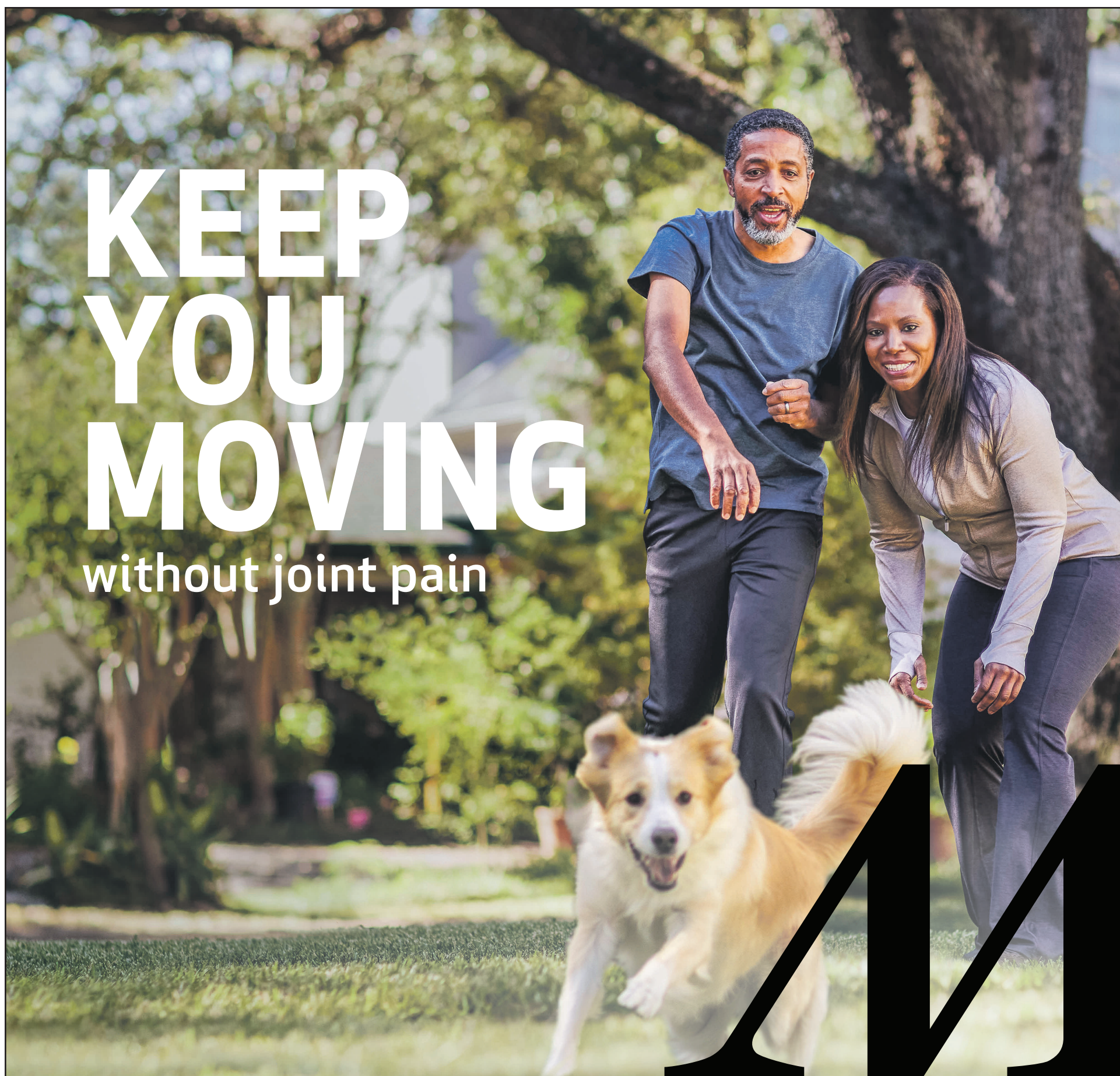
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when Gyasi Zardes scored off a cross from Sebastian Driussi and Julio Cascante scored the final goal of the match of a pass from Julio Cascante.

The Dynamo nearly scored in the 15th minute when Nelson Quinones got past the defense and to the end line but his cross was saved by the Austin goalkeeper. Hector Herrera had a big chance in the 42nd minute but he was also denied, as the Austin defense was able to block the shot just outside the six-yard box.

Houston ended the night with 10 shots, three of them being on goal. They had 48% possession and 80% pass accuracy. But they were never able to pose as big of a threat as Austin.

The Dynamo fell to 8-8-3 on the season, having garnered 27 points in 19 games. Houston sits two points behind the Seattle Sounders but has a game in hand over the third place Sounders and could overtake the Sounders with a win in their next game.



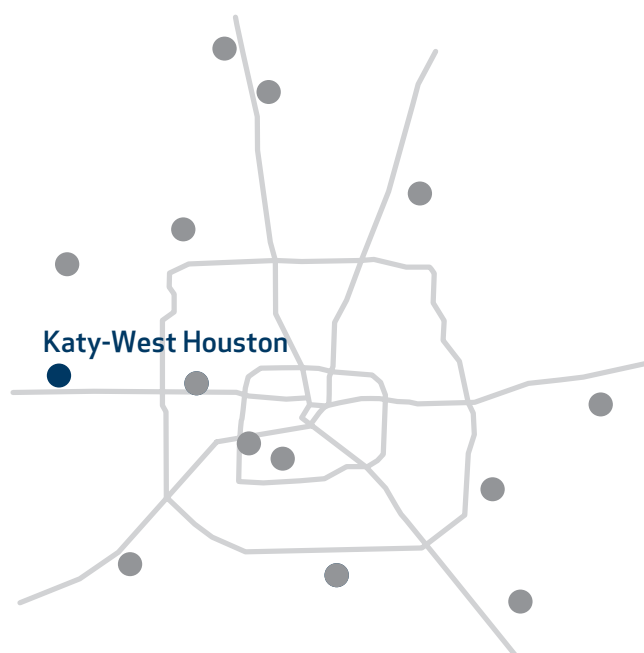
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