

HPD's PIP set for Jan. 19

The Houston Police Department's Positive Interaction Program will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19, at Grace Church, 14505 Gulf Freeway Classroom No. 103. Guest speaker to be announced.

Begun in 1983, HPD's PIP involves police and community members working together for safer neighborhoods. PIP meetings typically take place the third Monday of each month.

For additional information, contact HPD Officer C. Castillo at castillo@houstonpolice.org or 832-395-1777.

City to collect heavy trash

City residents living in the South Belt community south of Fuqua will have heavy trash pickup Thursday, Jan. 8 (second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua (and west of the Gulf Freeway) will have heavy trash pickup Friday, Jan. 9 (second Friday of the month). January is for tree waste only. Pickups may be delayed. For additional information, visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste or call 311.

Coffee with the Constable

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

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

Lakes of Golfcrest to meet

Lakes of Golfcrest HOA will hold its quarterly meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, at the Sagemeadow MUD Building, 10755 Hall Road at Blackhawk.

Ellington eRecycling set

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, Jan. 10, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Recycling electronics keeps potentially harmful materials, such as mercury, cadmium, lead and cathode ray tubes out of the waste stream and the environment.

Items accepted are PCs, servers, keyboards, mice, laptops, game consoles, monitors, small kitchen appliances, memory chips, hubs and routers, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, projectors, rechargeable batteries, cable boxes, car batteries, telephones, cellphones, PDAs, tape drives, hard drives, cords, cables and cameras.

The collection events take place the second Saturday of each month. For additional information, visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 311.

New Covenant feeds needy

Each month, New Covenant Christian Church, 10603 Blackhawk at Kirkfair, will have food distribution events the first and third Wednesday from 1 to 2 p.m. and the second and fourth Saturday of the month from noon to 1 p.m. or until supplies last. The purpose of the events is to provide food to people in need. For additional information, contact the church at 281-484-4230.

Beltway closures planned

At least one northbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Spencer Highway to Greenshadow continuously through 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, 2026.

At least one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from Pasadena Boulevard to Fairmont Parkway continuously through 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, 2026.

At least one southbound Beltway 8 frontage road lane will be closed from SH-225 to Red Bluff Road continuously through 11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, 2026.

Associated with the ongoing project to widen Beltway 8 from two to four lanes in each direction, the closures are expected to cause significant delays throughout the next year.

Gulf Freeway closures set

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

At least one northbound and one southbound frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from Deats Road in Dickinson to FM 2004/Camp Wallace Access in Texas City from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. until further notice.

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway will be closed from FM 519/Main Street in La Marque to Tiki Drive in Galveston daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 8:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. until further notice.

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

Human remains found near Windmill Lakes

Autopsy results pending on skeletal remains; cause of death, gender remain unknown

Houston police are investigating after skeletal human remains were discovered Tuesday, Dec. 29, in a wooded area in the 10100 block of Minnesota Street near Windmill Lakes Boulevard and Almeda Genoa.

According to investigators with the Houston Police Department, the remains were discovered around 1:15 p.m. in a long-vacant piece of property near the dead end of Minnesota Street when a work crew was clearing land in the wooded area for a future development.

Investigators confirmed the remains were human. Other details, however, remained scarce at press time.

"The identity, gender and cause of death of the individual are pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences," a statement from HPD investigators said.

Police also said they currently do not know how long the remains had been there.

A FOX 26 News story reported the remains were that of a male, but investigators could not confirm that at press time, saying the autopsy results are still pending.

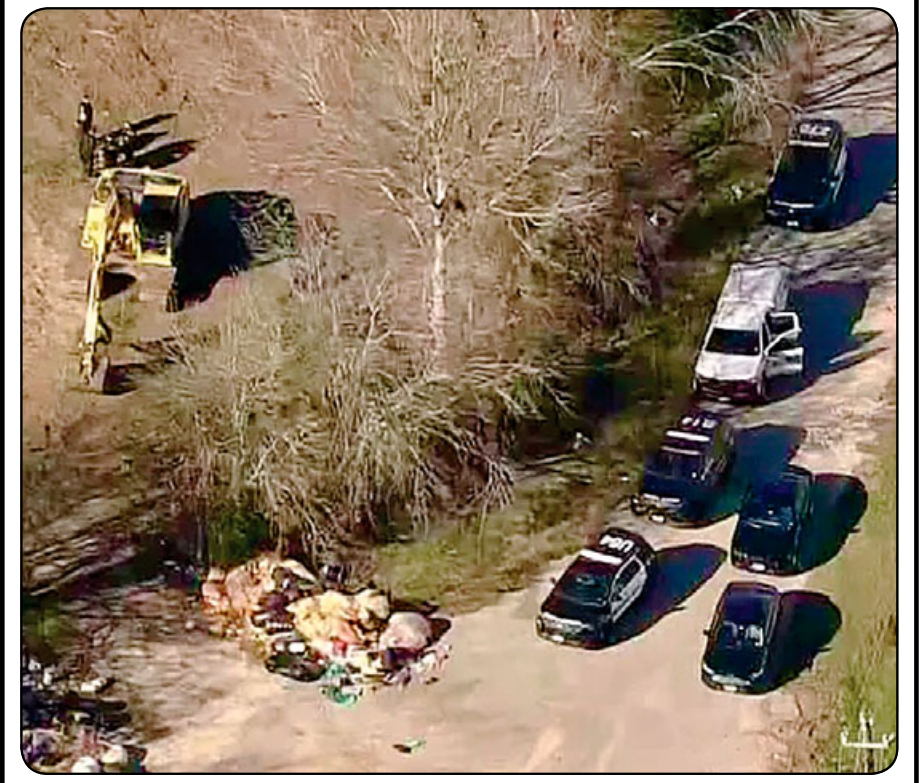
The Houston Police Department and Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences are investigating the incident as a homicide.

Aerial footage showed investigators combing through the lot, which had recently been purchased for development. No additional evidence or personal items have been publicly disclosed.

The ongoing investigation – which garnered national media attention – is pending results from the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600.

HPD launches investigation



Human remains were discovered Tuesday, Dec. 29, at the dead end of a street near Windmill Lakes. Found by workers in the 10100 block of Minnesota Street, the remains were too old to immediately determine the gender of the individual, investigators said. An autopsy will be conducted by Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences to determine this, as well as the cause of death. Houston police are shown above combing through the area searching for clues.

Photo courtesy of Houston Police Department

Pct. 2 deputies crack down on DWIs

At least 4 DWI arrests made over New Year's weekend

Deputies with the Harris County Precinct 2 Toll Road Division ramped up its DWI patrols over New Year's weekend, making at least four such arrests.

On Thursday, Jan. 1, deputies observed a vehicle weaving across multiple lanes of traffic without signaling, prompting a traffic stop. Upon making contact with the driver, later identified as 21-year-old Mark David Jimenez, deputies observed signs of impairment. A DWI investigation was initiated, and Standardized Field Sobriety Tests were conducted.

Based on the results of the investigation, Jimenez was determined to be impaired and was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

A similar incident took place Thursday, Jan. 1, when deputies observed another vehicle on Beltway 8 weaving in and out of traffic without the use of a signal, leading to a traffic stop.

Upon making contact with the driver, identified as 37-year-old Tara Barber, deputies observed multiple signs of impairment. A DWI investigation was initiated, and Standardized Field Sobriety Tests were attempted but Barber refused.

After consultation with the Harris County District Attorney's Office, a blood draw warrant was drawn and executed, and the driver was subsequently booked into the Harris County Jail without incident.

That same day on Jan. 1, deputies observed a vehicle failing to maintain a single lane of traffic, at one point almost striking the right-side wall on the shoulder.

Deputies activated emergency lights and sirens. However, the driver failed to yield, leading deputies on a short, very slow-speed pursuit. The vehicle was eventually stopped, and deputies contacted the driver, who displayed clear signs of intoxication.

The driver was identified as Walter Aguilar and transported to the Pearland Jail, where a full DWI investigation was conducted. Aguilar agreed to provide a breath specimen, which revealed results more than twice the legal limit.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office was contacted, and Aguilar was transported to the Harris County Joint Processing Center, where he was booked for DWI and eluding.

Continued on Page 2



Mark Jimenez



Walter Aguilar



Tara Barber



Brandon Bucio

Leader remembers highs, lows of 2025

Annual Year in Review looks back at this past year's joys, sorrows, celebrations

Another year has passed, and the *Leader* staff would like to reflect on the more important stories of 2025, including both the highs and lows of an unforgettable year.

January

The year began with an announcement that the Macy's at Almeda Mall would be one of six in the state to close due to low performance. A total of around 150 stores were to close nationwide over the next three years, store officials said at the time. Originally opened as Foley's in 1966, the Almeda Mall location changed its name in 2006 when the two companies merged. The location celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2016. This marked the first time in the mall's 60-year history it was left without an anchor store.

An unsettling incident took place at Jesusup Elementary when a 4-year-old student was found with a loaded gun in his backpack. The child's parent was arrested, and the case reignited community conversation about secure firearm storage and parental responsibility.

Dobie High School announced its 2025 Class of Hall of Honor inductees, recognizing three alumni, two faculty members (a married couple) and one volunteer (also an alumni and faculty member). Inducted alumni included Ahmed Badr, Jean Liew and Audrey Castoreno Atkinson; inducted faculty members included the science-teaching duo of longtime husband-wife team of Jeanne and Louis Parlangeli; and (alumni and former faculty member) Jim Sawyer was inducted for his volunteer work in the community.

Winter arrived unusually early for many residents when a rare snow event blanketed the South Belt community with 3 to 4 inches, producing temporary closures, a flurry of photos and brief disruptions to daily routines.

February

The *Leader* celebrated its 50th anniversary, with the newspaper publishing several vintage photos – a trend that would continue throughout the year.

Troubling headlines emerged when Dobie graduate and Houston Police Department veteran Daryn Edwards was arrested on multiple felony charges involving child abuse and child pornography.

San Jacinto College was recognized as one of America's Top Online Colleges for 2025, according to a new study released by *Newsweek*. Published on *Newsweek's* website and print publications late last year, the ranking placed San Jacinto College 42nd out of 250 institutions nationwide to make the list. California State University's online program topped the list.

The South Belt neighborhood mourned the loss of one of its most active community leaders with the passing of Julia Sweet who died Feb. 11 at the age of 86. Originally from Kansas City, Mo., Sweet moved to the burgeoning Sagemont community in 1974 and would remain in the area for the next 51 years, volunteering in numerous capacities, particularly local Girl Scout and Boy Scout programs.

March

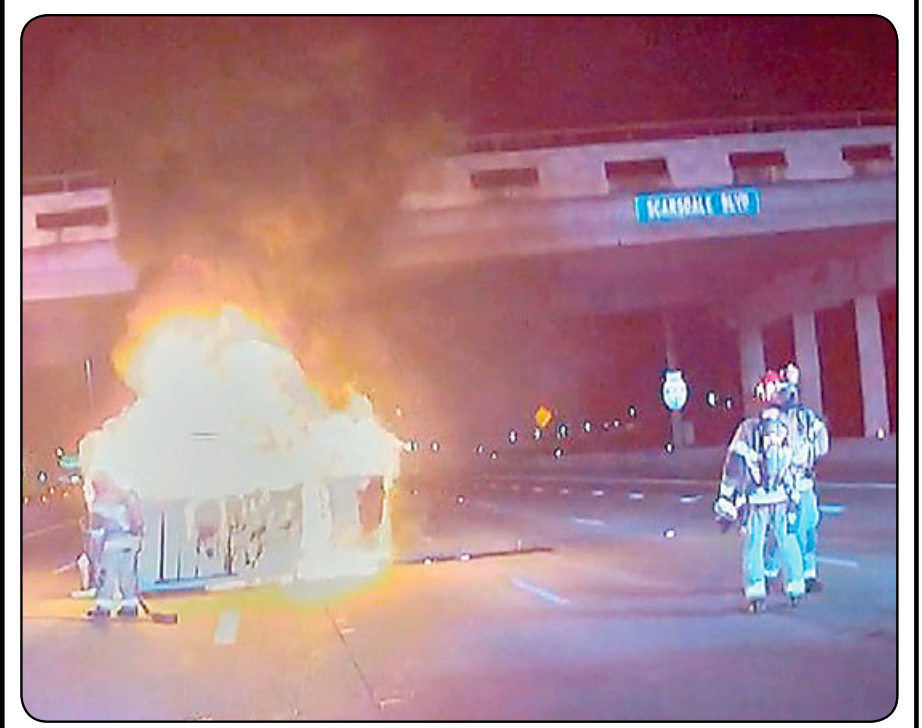
The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce annual gala, themed "Bollywood Nights," honored outgoing Pasadena ISD Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell as Citizen of the Year. The event also paid tribute to *Leader* publisher Marie Flickinger's legacy and recognized San Jacinto College Chancellor Brenda Hellyer for her leadership.

A man was shot outside a nightclub on Nyack Drive near Scarsdale and the Gulf Freeway shortly after the business closed at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 9. According to Houston police, the victim was a driver, who witnesses said was attempting to run over people in the street following an altercation. Witnesses reported that the shooter had been struck by the victim's vehicle and retaliated by jumping on the car's hood and opening fire on the driver. The 23-year-old victim later resurfaced at a nearby McDonald's drive-thru, prompting employees to call police.

Former Thompson Intermediate Principal Dr. Toni Lopez was selected to be the next Pasadena ISD superintendent. Lopez replaced outgoing Superintendent Dr. DeeAnn Powell who announced in October she was retiring after serving PISD 30 years.

The Year in Review will continue in next week's *Leader*.

Pct. 8 deputy saves driver



Precinct 8 Deputy D. Lozano was credited with saving the life of a female driver around 1:15 a.m. Friday, Dec. 19, when the woman's vehicle burst into flames following an accident on the Gulf Freeway near Scarsdale Boulevard. The female was transported to a nearby hospital to be treated for burns. Lozano received widespread recognition for his heroic efforts.

Photo courtesy of Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin

Firefighters injured in freeway crash

2 HFD firefighters in stable condition, other driver critical

Two Houston firefighters suffered minor injuries around midnight Saturday, Jan. 3, when their fire engine was smashed by another vehicle as the pair were responding to a crash on the Gulf Freeway near FM 2351/Clear Lake City Boulevard.

According to Houston Police Department officials, the fire engine was blocking the left lane of traffic on the northbound side when a Hyundai Sonata slammed into it.

The firefighters were transported to a nearby hospital in stable condition, while the driver suffered major injuries and was transported in critical condition.

Investigators said the vehicle appeared to be speeding and showed no signs of trying to brake before the crash. An HPD DWI unit was called to the scene, but it is unclear if the driver was intoxicated.

At press time, the accident remained under investigation.

Area celebrates New Year’s Eve



The community celebrated New Year’s Eve this past week, saying goodbye to 2025. While there was no official fireworks show in the area, there was no shortage of amateur pyrotechnics experts to fill the void. Above, fireworks are shown above the Harris County Annex on Scarsdale.

Photo courtesy of Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia

Major accident closes Scarsdale



A major two-vehicle accident in the 10500 block of Scarsdale Boulevard near Beamer Road recently forced the complete closure of the local thoroughfare in both the eastbound and westbound directions, according to Harris County Precinct 2 officials.

Photo courtesy of Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia

Deaths

Dominic Cantalamessa



Dominic Cantalamessa, age 95, passed away peacefully at home on Dec. 31, 2025.

Dominic was born in Newark, N.J., and later moved with his family to Chester, Pa., where he graduated from Chester High School. He served his country proudly as a member of the United States Navy.

Dominic met Dorothy in their hometown of Chester and they were married in 1957. Dominic earned a mechanical engineering degree from Pennsylvania Military College (now Widener University), after which the family relocated to Newark.

In 1970, Dominic and Dorothy moved with their five children to Sagemont, where they built a home and a life that would remain rooted there for more than five decades.

Dominic was among the original members of St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, where he and Dorothy attended daily Mass together. He was a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus, serving with Council 9201 and Assembly 2084.

He spent his professional career at Rockwell International, where he worked as an engineer supporting the United States space program. In retirement, he continued working and volunteering through his church, assisting people with disabilities, and helping raise

his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Dominic was preceded in death by his parents, Dominick and Rose (Vallarani) Cantalamessa, his sister Camille Borak and his children, Joseph Michael Cantalamessa and Margaret Mary Musachia. He is survived by his wife; his children, Mary Rose Burk, George and Mona Cantalamessa, Dominic and Margie Cantalamessa; his grandchildren, Bridgid Burk, Matthew and Hilda Burk, Amanda Burk, Kirby and Angela Cantalamessa, Olivia Cantalamessa, Alana Cantalamessa, Elizabeth Cantalamessa, David and Sammy Cantalamessa; and his great-grandchildren,

Levi Burk, Oliver Burk, Noah Cantalamessa, and Dante Cantalamessa. He is also survived by his faithful dogs, Dove Dog, whom he adopted after Margaret Mary’s passing, and Mercie. Family and friends are invited to gather for visitation, recitation of the Rosary, and the funeral Mass on Friday, Jan. 9, 2026, at St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church, 11011 Hall Road. Visitation will begin at 11 a.m., the Rosary at 11:30 a.m., and the funeral Mass at noon. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Dominic’s name may be made to St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church’s Capital Campaign at <https://stlukesatholic.com/capital-campaign>.

Services planned for area resident Jackie Weiss

Longtime South Belt resident Jacquelyn “Jackie” Weiss died on Saturday, Jan. 3.

Weiss was an active member of the community, volunteering for multiple events over several decades. She was a former board member of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce and served on many of the group’s committees, including the Education Committee.

She was an instrumental part of the chamber’s annual fun run, which raised scholarship funds for the organization.

Weiss’ husband, Louie Weiss, and his business Textool, were founding members of the local chamber of commerce.

Visitation will take place Wednesday, Jan. 14, from 5 to 8 p.m., at Forest Park

Lawndale Funeral Home and Cemetery 6900 Lawndale St. Her funeral will be held Thursday Jan. 15, at Forest Park Lawndale Funeral Home and Cemetery. Services will begin at 2 p.m., with a burial following at 3 p.m.

See related obituary in next week’s Leader.

Leader obituary policy

Obituaries submitted to the Leader are published free of charge. They are edited to conform to the Leader style.

CCART meet Jan. 13

The Clear Creek Association of Retired Teachers (CCART) will hold its January meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 13. All meetings are held at the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Parkway in Seabrook. This gathering will feature a presentation by Elly Gribov from the Foster Child Program through Photography.

The gathering will start at 9:30 a.m. with a social gathering for coffee and cookies. The business meeting will begin at 10 a.m. All Texas retired school employees from the area are invited. Annual dues are \$50.

SHLL seeks participants

Sagemont Beverly Hills Little League will offer its Challenger Division for the Spring 2026 season. The Challenger Division is a free adaptive baseball program for children and young adults ages 4 to 22 with physical or intellectual disabilities.

The program provides participants the opportunity to enjoy baseball in a safe, fun and inclusive environment while developing skills and confidence. The league is currently seeking players, player buddies, coaches, volunteers and sponsors. Sagemont Beverly Hills Little League is based at El Franco Lee Park, 9400 Hall Road, Houston, Texas 77089.

For more information, visit leagues.bluesombrero.com/southbellelilleague, call 713-966-9235, or email sagemontbeverlyhillsll2024@gmail.com.

Sandlin recognizes distinguished Pct. 8 deputies, new recruits



Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin (right) is shown above presenting a certificate of merit to Deputy Eric Rojas at a recent swearing-in and service/merit awards ceremony.



Deputy Claude Crider (left) is shown receiving a certificate of merit from Constable Phil Sandlin. Also recognized at the ceremony were incoming deputies Michael Spray and Syed Ali (not pictured).



Precinct 8 Constable Phil Sandlin (right) is shown above presenting a distinguished service award to Deputy Markul Loftin at a ceremony held by the precinct Monday, Jan. 5.

Sagemont Church hosts CaFEsito con Jesús

Spanish-speaking women’s group to focus on faith and family

CaFEsito con Jesús is a group of Spanish speaking Christian women who gather every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. with a clear purpose: to seek God, grow deeper in his word, and support one another in a safe and welcoming space for women of all ages.

Participants share reflections, study assigned chapters of scripture, and pray for one another. What began as a simple meeting and support group born out of the Sunday School class has grown into a strong community marked by sincerity, faith and sisterhood.

“God has brought us together to strengthen us,” shared one of the members. “Each week we come with burdens, questions, or gratitude, and the Lord speaks to each of us in different ways. Here, no one walks alone.”

The group has witnessed moments of emotional restoration, spiritual growth, and testimonies that have encouraged everyone present. In addition to Bible study and prayer, the warm atmosphere and openness to

sharing personal experiences have made many women find in CaFEsito con Jesús a spiritual refuge.

CaFEsito con Jesús is more than a group of women who share their faith; it is a family,” expressed another participant. “We learn together, encourage one another, and celebrate what God is doing in each woman’s life.”

This group is part of Sagemont Encuentro, the Hispanic Ministry of Sagemont Church, located at 11323 Hughes Road,

Houston, TX 77089.

Pastor Lázaro Riesgo alongside the women of CaFEsito con Jesús extends an invitation to all who wish to strengthen their relationship with God to join them during these gatherings: weekly women’s and men’s gatherings on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., various teaching classes on Sundays at 10:20 a.m. and worship services on Sundays at 11:40 a.m.

For more information, contact Sagemont Encuentro at 281-652-3716.

Sagemeadow house catches fire



A Sagemeadow house caught fire Tuesday, Dec. 30, in the 10000 block of Sageplum Drive near Blackhawk. The Southeast Volunteer Fire Department is shown above responding to the incident, with assistance from the Precinct 2 constable’s office. No injuries were reported. The cause of the blaze was unknown at press time.

Toll Road deputies increase local DWI patrols

At least 4 DWI arrests made on Beltway 8 over New Year’s weekend

Continued from Page 1

A similar incident took place Monday, Dec. 29, when another driver on the Beltway failed to maintain a single lane, prompting a traffic stop.

Upon making contact, deputies noticed the driver, identified as 19-year-old Brandon Bucio, displayed clear signs of intoxication. Following a DWI investigation and Standardized Field

Sobriety Tests, the Harris County District Attorney’s Office accepted charges for DWI, and Bucio was booked into the Harris County Jail without incident.

The previous weekend

over the Christmas holidays, deputies with Precinct 2 Toll Road Division made at least three DWI arrests, including Chanh Nguyen, Rodolfo Hernandez and Gilbert Alba (not pictured).

Local library events set

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

Bracewell Branch Library

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

Saturday, Jan. 10, 2 – 4 p.m. Saturdays at HPL. Registration required.

Monday, Jan. 12, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Bring your family to storytime. Registration required.

Tuesday, Jan. 13, 4 – 5 p.m. Family craft adventure. Registration required.

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 6 – 7 p.m. Pajama storytime. Registration required.

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

Book drop

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

Parker Williams Library

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

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

The following events are scheduled for Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.:

Thursday, Jan. 8, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Toddler time.

Saturday, Jan. 10, 10 a.m. – noon. Tai Chi.

Monday, Jan. 12, 1 – 2:30 p.m. ESL conversation club. Registration required.

Monday, Jan. 12, 4 – 5 p.m. 3D printer orientation. Registration required.

Monday, Jan. 12, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Tai Chi.

Tuesday, Jan. 13, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Babies and books.

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 6 – 7:30 p.m. Pathway to citizenship. Registration required.

Parker Williams “No-Contact Curbside Holds Pick-Up”

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

– Have a library card number and PIN handy.

– A pickup time and instructions will be given.

– Upon arriving, park in one of the two parking spots reserved for curbside holds.

– Be prepared to show a library card or other form of ID for verification.

Hours are Monday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.;

Friday, 1 – 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Visit <https://www.hcpl.net/branch/parker-williams-branch-library> for details.

Online services

– Use HCPL Wi-Fi service with HCPL’s drive-up Wi-Fi.

– Download e-books and audiobooks, stream movies, research and learn at www.hcpl.net.

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

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

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

– Listen to audiobooks through RBDigital or OverDrive.

– Read along and play with picture books on TumbleBooks.

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

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www.stlukesatholic.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

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

Parish Office: 281-481-6816
Children’s Faith Formation: 281-481-4251
Adult Faith Formation: 713-538-2862

All are welcome to come to worship and serve the Lord in a spirit of love, sharing, and hope.

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www.newcovenantchristianchurchhouston.com
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Stuchbery recognizes December students of the month



Stuchbery Elementary officials named students of the month for the month of December. Above are, left to right, (first row) Wynter Coleman, Chris Avila, Gianna Cabrera, Cameron Gilmore, Alijah Ibarra, (second row) Jose Mendez, Ian Ondicho, Marco Cervantes, Damian Arizmendez, Adrianna de la Fuente, John Blanco, Nancy Nguyen, Mya Sinclair, (third row) Kyrie Henry, Ayden White, Anastasia Gaight, Ja-

clyn Pham, Adan Castillo, Alazzay Hernandez, (fourth row) Jose Hernandez (principal), Mateo Llanas, Jaxson Owens, Sebastian Dominguez, Gendrick Zarza, Skylar Taylor, Alyssa Valdez (counselor), (fifth row) Cassie Harris, Carlos Rodriguez, Emma Rodriguez, Azariah Brito and Karter Laurent. Carolyn Ponce, Hera Warren, Royalty Sims and Kammy Bookman are not pictured.

Carters celebrate 50 years



Former South Belt residents Al and Mary Carter recently celebrated their 50th anniversary with all three of their children and all nine of their grandchildren on hand to celebrate Christmas and participate in the observance. The Carters, who now live in Friendswood, were married on Dec. 20, 1975, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Corpus Christi. They lived in Sagemont for 13 years beginning in 1982, for four years in Sageglen and an additional year in Villa Verde. Al is a retired sports writer with 34 years of service to several major newspapers, including the Houston Chronicle and Houston Post. Mary is a retired school teacher in the Pasadena ISD. All three of their children graduated from Dobie after attending Stuchbery Elementary and Thompson Intermediate. Their oldest, Coast Guard Capt. Jonathan Carter and his wife Amy make their home in Stafford, Va. Their daughter, Jessica Swenson, is principal of South Houston Intermediate. She and husband Todd make their home in Pearland. Youngest son Ben Carter, a corporate financial officer, and wife Lara live in Fulshear. Al and Mary traveled to Kauai in September to kick off their golden anniversary observance. They topped it with a weekend at Moody Gardens Dec. 19-20.



Dobie orchestra takes a holiday tour

The Dobie High School orchestra recently participated in a holiday tour, a yearly tradition through which the students travel to different locations in the Houston area to perform. The holiday tour begins with a per-

formance at Methodist Hospital in the Medical Center downtown and followed by a performance at Hermann Park near the Houston Zoo entrance. Pictured below is the orchestra performing at Hermann Park.



Shown above are the students who performed at Methodist Hospital. Left to right, are (first row) Candi Zuniga, Paulina Valdez, Rubi Reyes, Khai Nguyen, Javanni Capuchino, Heidi Nganou, Santiago Lopez, Christopher Sanchez, (second row) Olivia Wilson, Adrienne Martinez, Karley Maldonado, Devin Duong, Theodore Villareal, Angie Muñoz, Gracie Giant, Nathaly Bonilla, Desirae Stone, Mylan Piedta, Thalia Oddo, (third row) Elena Lomeli, Anne Tran, Andrew Zamora, Sirena

Thai, Morgan Alejo, Liandis Solano, Aidan Dang, Emyly Pineda, Maverick Deleon, Angela Badon, (fourth row) Alan Vallejo, Dawson Tran, Daniella Tamayo, Ella Rodriguez, Amaya Wilson, Jade Nguyen, Giselle Esparza, Leonela Aguila, Wilson Ponce, (fifth row) Gabriel Trevino, Aiden Diaz, Christian Gonzalez, Kelvin Nguyen, Miguel Loreda, Rachel Ben Smith, Matthew Perez, (sixth row) Richard Le, Avery Payne, Alex Limachi, Kiet Vo and Donovan Mandani.

St. Luke's Mujeres de la Mano de María hosts luncheon



St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church's Mujeres de la Mano de María ministry offers support and compassion to senior members

of St. Luke the Evangelist and other members of the community who live in solitude or are unable to leave their home. Once a month ministry members visit seniors' homes or transport seniors to share a meal and provide conversation and companionship. At a recent gathering nearly 30 ministry members and seniors shared a meal together at a local restaurant. Ministry members are intent on continuing to remember and support seniors who can no longer participate actively. Pictured at a recent gathering are, left to right, (front row) Lupita Castillo, Teresa Abarca, (back row) Maria Elena Jasso, Gabriela Serrano, Perla Arrellano, Elba Flores, Alejandrina Altamirano, Maria Cristina Sanchez, America Esguiza and Ellie Flickinger.

Remember When

45 years ago (1981)
Dobie High School assistant head varsity football coach Done Cole announced his resignation.

Firemen from the Sagemont station of the Houston Fire Department responded to 13 fire calls and nine ambulance calls in a seven-day period.

40 years ago (1986)
Cokesbury United Methodist Church was sold to the Catholic Diocese of Galveston/Houston for \$365,000.

Dr. Ruede M. Wheeler of La Porte was appointed to the San Jacinto College Board of Regents to fill the seat left vacant by the death of Dr. William Davison.

30 years ago (1996)
Dobie sophomore Lindsey Morris was crowned Miss Teen Pasadena Go Texan.

An estimated 80 percent of the area would have to change phone numbers if the Public Utilities Commission approved the alternate geographic split plan.

25 years ago (2001)
Clear Brook City Municipal Utility District voted on a fire district for Sageglen, Woodmeadow, Highland Meadows, Meadows of Clear Creek and Estates of Green Tee subdivisions.

Pearland residents spoke against the connection of Scarsdale Boulevard and Yost during a public meeting.

20 years ago (2006)
South Belt Rep. Tom DeLay announced he would resign his position as house majority leader.

Riverstone Ranch resident Tammy Burbuck celebrated the 108th birthday of her great-grandmother Gertrude McCarthy in Pasadena.

Both PCISD and CCISD announced intentions to seek a waiver for classroom instruction to begin earlier than the state-mandated date. According to state law at the time, without a waiver, classes could not start earlier than the week in

which Aug. 21 fell. The law was later changed so schools could not start sooner than Aug. 27.

A 144-acre tract of land south of Dixie Farm Road officially became part of the conservation project mitigation plan for the Brio Superfund Task Force.

15 years ago (2011)
Former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay was sentenced to three years in prison Monday, Jan. 10, on money laundering and conspiracy charges. DeLay, who represented much of the South Belt area, was found guilty the previous Novem-

ber of illegally funneling \$190,000 in corporate donations into 2002 Texas legislative races through a money swap. That year, Texas Republicans seized control of the state legislature and redrew a number of Democratic-controlled congressional districts. DeLay stepped down as majority leader in 2005, following his indictment. State Judge Pat Priest sentenced DeLay to a three-year term on conspiracy and accepted 10 years of probation in lieu of a five-year prison term on the money laundering charge. DeLay faced up to life in prison. He

was released on a \$10,000 bond while he seeks to overturn the conviction.

10 years ago (2016)
Hundreds of friends and colleagues gathered Tuesday, Jan. 12, to bid farewell to outgoing Pasadena Independent School District Superintendent Kirk Lewis. Originally from Ropesville, near Lubbock, Lewis received his bachelor's in advertising/public relations from Texas Tech in 1976. Following this, he attended the University of Houston-Clear Lake, where he received a master's in education futures in 1983. Lewis

is went on to earn a doctorate in education leadership from Lamar University in March 2008. Lewis began at PCISD in 1986 as administrative assistant to the superintendent, responsible for communications and policy development. He was promoted to executive director for communications and community relations in 1995 and to deputy superintendent for administration, public relations and governmental affairs in 2001, before being promoted to superintendent in April 2006.

5 years ago (2021)
The rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine began but was met with multiple problems, as the demand far outpaced supply. The State of Texas' vaccination plan called for first providing the vaccine to frontline health care workers, classified as Phase 1A, then to elderly residents and those with underlying health issues, classified as Phase 1B. According to state officials, this process will prioritize people who are at the greatest risk of severe disease and death from the disease.

Perry & Sons Market & Grille on Scarsdale Boulevard shuttered its doors

after serving the South Belt community for more than 40 years. Opened by Bob Perry in 1979, the neighborhood institution was originally just a butcher shop, before expanding in 1986 to also offer dining. Perry's son, Bobby Perry, took over running the operation when his father retired in 1989. In 1993, Perry's other son, Chris Perry, opened the family's first full restaurant, Perry's Steakhouse & Grille, located on Bay Area Boulevard. There are now 20 total locations nationwide, plus a Perry & Sons Market & Grille located in Friendswood. Other Perry siblings, Concetta and Jacqueline, also worked at the shop over the years.

1 year ago (2025)
A Sagemont house caught fire around 8:15 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, in the 11100 block of Sagecanyon near Hughes Road.

According to officials with the Houston Fire Department, firefighters arrived on scene to find heavy smoke coming from the attic of a one-story house. The attached garage was heavily involved with fire and spreading to a nearby home.

Firefighters protected the exposure and made an offensive attack on the fire. Crews ventilated the roof and conducted a primary search.

The utilities were controlled, and the fire was extinguished.

Damage was estimated at approximately \$35,000. No injuries were reported.

HFD Arson investigators were requested to determine the cause and origin of the blaze. At press time, the fire remained under investigation.

In all, 49 HFD personnel responded to this incident, including firefighters from stations 93, 23, 70, 71, 52, 61, 94, 37 and 24. Firefighters from the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department also assisted in extinguishing the blaze.

Over The Back Fence by Nicole

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, KRISTEN!
Kristen Giles celebrates her 25th birthday Jan. 13. Her parents, Tracy and Jim Giles, and brothers Cody and Aaron and wife Ashley and sons Jaxson and Jace Giles extend their best wishes for a wonderful birthday. Kristen is a Dobie graduate.

DR. JOHN MORGAN CELEBRATES
Greetings are sent to Dr. John Morgan, founding pastor of Sagemont Church, from friends and the Leader staff as he celebrates a birthday Jan. 14. Affectionately called "Brother John" by many who know him, he founded and pastored the church for more than 50 years.

SCHOOL DAZE
The following staff and personnel of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays Jan. 8 through Jan. 14.

Atkinson Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song to Sheri Graham Jan. 11.

Burnett Elementary
Karina Diaz celebrates a birthday Jan. 9. Birthday greetings go out to Jocelyn Chavez Jan. 14.

Bush Elementary
Light the birthday candles Jan. 8 for Yessenia Guzman. Light the candles Jan. 11 for a celebration for Cynthia Covarrubias.

Frazier Elementary
Birthday greetings go out to Christine Grazioli Jan. 8. Dana Miller enjoys a birthday Jan. 12.

Genoa Elementary
Blow out the candles Jan. 14 for Elizabeth Urieta.

Hancock Elementary
Jan. 10 is a day of celebration for Vanessa Esquivel for her birthday. Break out the balloons and party favors for Mayra Nieto on her birthday Jan. 11. Join in the birthday fun Jan. 13 with Veronica Sandoval.

Meador Elementary
Blow out the birthday candles for Tara Merida and Anne Hamilton Jan. 11.

Moore Elementary
Send a happy birthday wish Jan. 14 to Zuemy Carranza.

South Belt Elementary
Jan. 9 is the day for a celebration for Arielle Taylor. Light the candles Jan. 11 for Monica Salazar.

Stuchbery Elementary
Sing a happy birthday song to Johnna Vega Jan. 13. Remember to wish Jennifer Ortiz a happy birthday Jan. 14.

Melillo Middle School
Jan. 10 is the day for a double-layer birthday cake for Jessica Adamek and Nancy Guerra. Send a special birthday greeting Jan. 11 to Khoe Tran. Jennifer Saucedo celebrates a birthday Jan. 12.

Beverly Hills Intermediate
Send a birthday greeting Jan. 11 to Kacee Peterson.

Thompson Intermediate
Blow out the candles Jan. 10 for Tiffany

Nelson. Send a happy birthday wish Jan. 11 to Melissa Cavazos.

Dobie High
Jan. 9 is the day for a party for Seema Sultana. Enjoying a birthday Jan. 10 is Camille Calo Widaski. Light the birthday candles Jan. 11 for Daniel Fitzmorris and Stacy Thomas. Jan. 13 is a day of celebration for Audrena Soto for her birthday. Send a birthday greeting Jan. 14 to Michelle Diosdando.

FRIENDS CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS
Thursday, Jan. 8: Brad Muecke; Friday, Jan. 9: Jennifer Gonzalez, Mary Meyer, Jill Rea, Mike Escobedo, Monette Falzon, Cecelia Faske and Holly Lyons; Saturday, Jan. 10: Jennifer Murillo, Roy Gunter and Caron Cantu; Sunday, Jan. 11: Kelly Cavazos, Myles Barkman, Amy Villareal, Kathleen Wenzel, Deirdre Davis and James Mouton Jr.; Monday, Jan. 12: Rosalind Vela, Troy Vessel, William Carpenter, Jose Pena, Barry Francis and Tammy Overstreet; Tuesday, Jan. 13: Scott Langefeld, Claire Mules, Gregden Martin, Betty Shamblin, Jessica Hynes, Joseph Farrias and Shane Plynter; and Wednesday, Jan. 14: Tracy Oliver, Laurie Lynn, Tiffany Defreitas and Louis Casas.

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SPORTS NEWS & NOTES

Local sports season highlights 2026 start

2026 is here, and with the start of the new year comes the busiest part of the high school athletics scene across the state as well as action for several youth leagues in the South Belt area.

High school basketball was already well underway when the holiday season began, and there really was no break in the action for hoops programs as many, including those from both Clear Brook and Dobie, took part in holiday tournaments and have since resumed district competition with an eye toward the playoffs.

The high school soccer season also began during the holiday break, with the Dobie varsity boys' team getting out to an impressive 3-0 start with a trio of impressive victories at the San Antonio East ISD Invitational as head coach Josh Kluka's program certainly gained plenty

of momentum moving forward into the 22-6A race. The Dobie varsity girls, also looking to bounce back from a so-so 2025 campaign, have been solid early on during head coach Kyle Jurek's second season.

In mere days, the high school softball preseason will begin as Dobie, second overall in the 22-6A race last season at 12-4, is intent on putting together another solid season under the direction of head coach Robin Rackley.

Dobie will begin scrimmages later this month and will open the regular season Feb. 9 at Clear Brook.

With three senior standouts already committed collegiately and ready to lead the way, the Dobie softball program will open scrimmage play Jan. 24 at Deer Park with a focus on 2026 regular season opening night Feb. 9 at Clear Brook. The Longhorns

will then take part in the Feb. 12-14 Bryan/College Station tournament.

The Longhorns are led by Rackley, who was named Coach of the Year in the 22-6A ranks a season ago while guiding her varsity program to a second-place finish in the standings.

Dobie swept 21-6A champion Ridge Point in the Division 1 bidistrict playoff round before losing in the area around to Clear Springs for an 18-13 overall finish.

Texas Lutheran University signee Vanessa De La Fuente has profiles as one of the top returning pitchers in the area as she was a first-team All-District performer a season ago and will lead the way for Dobie in the circle.

Infielder Natalie De Hoyos is also a returning first-team All-District performer who has chosen to continue her collegiate

playing career at Texas A&M-Victoria.

A third player, outfielder Chloe Nunez, was a second-team all-league selection that season ago and will play collegially at Alvin College.

Returning first-team All-District selection Persephone Soria returns for her third varsity run and has already proven to be a top all-around talent area wide during each of her first two seasons.

Moving ahead, the high school track and field season will begin the first week of February, and the high school baseball season won't be far behind. The Dobie tennis program will also begin its fun-filled spring season soon as veteran head coach Manuel Moreno Jr., fresh off his induction into the Texas Tennis Coaches Association Hall of Fame, will lead the Longhorns on the courts.



Texas Lutheran University signee Vanessa De La Fuente has profiles as one of the top returning pitchers in the area as she was a first-team All-District performer a season ago and will lead the way for Dobie in the circle.

Baldwin stars with Pack



Dobie Class of 2021 graduate Johnathan Baldwin spent the majority of the 2025 NFL regular season as a member of the Green Bay Packers' practice squad but was elevated to the 53-man roster for the team's finale as he had four solo stops and three assists for a total of seven tackles from his safety spot in his professional debut.

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SBYSC begins registration; early prices set until Jan. 15

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club is offering early registration for the spring 2026 season through Jan. 15, with U4 through U20 age divisions available to players at southbeltsoccer.org. Regular registration prices begin Jan. 16. Players in the U4 through U8 divisions will pay\$95 at regular registration rate, while the fee is \$105 for the U9 and U10 divisions. The fee is \$115 for the U11 and U12 divisions. The U13 through U20 players may register for \$125 per player. Visit www.southbeltsoccer.org for additional details.

JFD footballers are Academic AS

Three Dobie football players have been chosen as Academic All-State honorees for the 2025-2026 school year. Nathaniel Belleville and Alonzo Chapman were second-team selections, while Clayton Washington received honorable mention accolades for their performance both on the football field and most importantly, in the classroom.

Matos a 22-6A second-team choice



The *Leader* inadvertently excluded Dobie varsity football standout Leudy Matos (61) from the All-District selections featured last month prior to the holiday break. Matos received All-District 22-6A second-team accolades as part of a terrific final season with the Longhorns. He was also the Longhorns' long snapper and has received considerable collegiate interest this offseason.

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Wolverine boys win Brazosport hoops crown

Both Clear Brook players and the coaching staff will no doubt judge the overall success of the varsity boys' basketball season on what occurs over the next two months during the District 24-6A race to the playoffs, but let there be no doubt

that the Wolverines put together one of the most impressive runs of play during the 2025 portion of the schedule. Capping off a brilliant 17-3 march by snagging the gold medal championship trophy at the Brazosport ISD Holiday Classic, the Wolver-

ines defeated state-ranked programs Pearland and Iowa Colony as part of a perfect 4-0 record in the event en route to the championship.

It was a thorough 53-36 victory over Angleton that ultimately brought Clear Brook the cham-

pionship trophy in the event.

Against Angleton, the Wolverines held the Wildcats to 36 overall points while Cruz Colone and Joshua Pichon, who was named the tournament Most Valuable Player, had 10 points apiece in the title win. While Pichon was the tournament MVP, Calone and Jace Walker were also All-Tournament Team selections.

Junior Christian Brown ultimately hit the game-winner against Pearland in a 45-41 second-round victory as Pichon led the way with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

Walker finished with 12 points and four assists, while Brown had a terrific all-around game with nine points, seven rebounds and five assists.

It was just the second loss of the season overall for Pearland.

Getting past the Oilers, the Wolverines once again came up big against a state-ranked opponent, cruising past Iowa Colony 72-62 to reach the championship game.

In the win over Iowa Colony, five different players were in double figures as the Wolverines once again delivered one of their patented team performances.

Pichon and Walker led the way with 17 points apiece, while Brown had 12 points, four rebounds and eight assists. Abdiel Jimenez had a double-double with 11 points and 10 rebounds, and Calone had 10 points to go with five rebounds.

Clear Brook opened play in the tournament with a 54-47 victory over Foster as Jimenez had 12 points and four rebounds, while Pichon added nine points and eight rebounds. Walker had a complete effort with eight points, six rebounds and three assists. Ayden Harvey came



Clear Brook varsity boys' basketball standout Joshua Pichon was named the Most Valuable Player of the Brazosport Holiday Classic as he helped the Wolverines to the event championship with 51 points and 35 rebounds over four games, all victories for his team.

Hodges is Bayou Bowl MVP



Representing his Dobie football program one last time, Da'Marcus Hodges (right), celebrated with Longhorn head coach Danny Fitzmorris after being named Most Valuable Player of the 2026 Bayou Bowl Jan. 3 at Eagle Stadium on the campus of Barbers Hill High School. The annual games matched all-star players from the Greater Houston Football Coaches Association against those from the East Texas Coaches Association.

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2025 Year in Review: Area programs scored top honors



Lutheran South Academy senior and star swimmer Lauren Ferguson excelled both in the classroom and in the pool during her stay with the Pioneers. She is the owner of program all-time records individually in the 200- and 500-yard freestyles and the 100 back as well as the 200 freestyle relay.

The *Leader* continues its annual sports Year in Review this week with a look back at some of the most memorable moments from March through April of last year. Enjoy!

March 6
With a key game coming at Pearland, the Dobie varsity softball team looked to stay at the top of the standings in the 22-6A race. The locals were 6-6 overall but had scored wins over Dawson and Pasadena Memorial to stay unbeaten in 22-6A.

Hosting Memorial at Dobie main, the Longhorns walked off with a 1-0 victory in the bottom of the seventh inning as Chloe Nunez came up with a run-scoring single to end the game in celebration for the locals.

Vanessa De La Fuente was the star of the game for Dobie as she tossed a complete-game shutout against the Mavericks, allowing three hits while striking out nine as part of a gem of a performance.

With a bye in the 22-6A schedule March 25, Dobie traveled to Kingwood to take on the defending Region 3 champion Mustangs, losing the game 4-0

as the Mustangs plated three runs in the bottom of the fifth inning.

The Dobie varsity girls came up with 52 points in the relays and a double-gold medal performance from senior Lauren Garza, while Chris Lopez, Damarcus Hodges and Jaylon Broussard were gold medalist on the varsity boys' side to lead the locals at the Longhorn Relays Feb. 27 at Dobie main.

Like many programs across the Houston area, the Dobie teams returned to competition following a 13-day layoff after rain wiped out much of the previous week's schedule.

Running on a familiar course, Garza delivered gold medal-performances in both the 1,600 and 3,200 events, clocking in at 5 minutes, 32.60 in the 1,600 for the gold and 11:49.22 at the 3,200 distance to double up.

Aniya Menefee was another gold medalist for the Dobie girls in the high jump as she cleared 5 feet, 2 inches in fewest attempts to claim the top spot.

Dobie captured a gold medal in the 4x200 relay with a clocking of

1:45.90, and a time of 50.94 brought a silver medal to the Dobie girls in the 4x100 relay.

At 4:17.26, the Longhorns also won a silver in the 4x400 relay. Senior Stacie Harris' medal haul included a silver for second place in the 200 with a time of 26.58, with teammate Aniya Menefee capturing fourth place at 28.25.

Harris and former 22-6A rival Ally Marbury of Deer Park went head-to-head in the long jump.

Marbury was the gold medalist this time with a best of 17-4, while Harris went 17-4 for second place and a silver medal.

Sophomore Christina Rodriguez came away with a bronze medal for her clocking of 1:02.58 in the 400, and Daisha Jackson picked up a bronze medal in the 100 with a time of 13.49.

Sophomore Aracely Alvarado, who had since proven to be an important player in Dobie's cross-country and track and field distance running plans, was fourth in the 3,200 at 12:28.15, and sixth with a time of 5:50.93 in the 1,600.

While Menefee was the gold medalist in the high jump at 5-2, teammate Kylar Joseph was sixth as she cleared 4-10 in the event. Joseph wound up with a bronze medal for third place in the triple jump, making her way to 36-0.

Tailin Curtis of Dobie posted a distance of 33-5 for sixth place. Blessing Okinloye of Dobie tossed the shot 31-7 for fifth place.

Senior Jaylon Broussard was one of the gold medalists for the Longhorn varsity boys as he claimed the top spot in the 200 at 23.03.

Senior Chris Lopez, who will continue his collegiate career at St. Thomas University in Houston, was the gold medal winner at the 3,200 distance, making his way to the finish line in a time of 10:02:80. Dobie teammate and freshman Jordan Roman was third for a bronze medal as he was in at 2:07.12.

Jacob Morris was the gold medalist in the 400 for Friendswood High School as he made his way to the tape in a time of 51.38, and Dobie senior Tariq Riley was the silver medalist as he took second place at 51.71.

Dobie's DeShaun Singleton was fourth in the event as he posted a time of 52.36.

Johan Villavicencio came away with a top three medal as he was third for a bronze at the 800 distance, clocking in at 2:04.33.

In the 1,600, Lopez again turned in a top three time as he was the bronze medalist with a clocking of 4:44.54.

The Dobie boys performed exceptionally well in the relays with a pair of silver medals as well as a fourth-place finish.

The Longhorns posted a time of 1:30.37 in the 4x200 relay, then came up with a time of 3:29.32 for the silver medal in the 4x400 relay to wrap up the meet.

Junior Demarcus Hodges led the way for the Dobie boys in the field events as he was a gold medal winner in the triple jump after making his way to the 43-8 mark for the win. Clayton Washington of Dobie was fifth in the same event as he came up with a distance of 39-2.

Senior James Spivey was one of the Longhorns' top contributors in the field events for the Dobie boys as he cleared 5-7 in the high jump for a bronze.

March 13
With the bidistrict varsity boys' soccer playoffs within the state set to begin March 20-22, the varsity boys' seedings were still a bit unsettled within the 22-6A ranks as Dobie finished the regular season at home against Alvin and then on the road at Manvel.

Pearland was in control of things at the top of the standings and entered the Class 6A Division 1 playoff bracket as the top seed out of 22-6A.

Second place South Houston was the district's top seed in the Division 2 playoff bracket, with Pasadena Memorial, Sam Rayburn and Dobie all still pushing for a postseason spot.

Dobie would wind up third. In the varsity girls' 22-6A race, district champion Dawson and second-place Pearland represented the league in the Division 1 of the season bracket, while Shadow Creek and Sam Rayburn headed to the Division 2 playoffs.

Lutheran South Academy hosted its annual Thursday Night Under The Lights Track and Field Invitational as the locals delivered several gold-medal performances along the way.

Lutheran South sophomore Jeremy Gaitan was among the gold medalists in the event as his clocking of 1 minute, 59.24 seconds was the best at the 800 distance.

Gaitan was also in the group for the Pioneers

in the 4x400 relay as the foursome delivered a time of 3:35.92. LSA's 4x00 relay foursome was in at 43.82 for second place and a bronze medal, while the school's 4x200 relay bunch captured a bronze medal in a time of 1:36.22.

Christian Hodges of Westbury Christian captured gold medals in both the 100 and 200, with Pioneer senior John LeBlanc picking up silver medals just behind Hodges.

LeBlanc clocked in at 11.40 in the 100, and he finished at 23.05 in the 200. Aja Bradford of Lutheran South was the gold medalist in the long jump as he posted a distance of 20 feet, 5 1/2 inches for the win.

A time of 53.86 also placed Bradford fifth in the 400. The Pioneers' Ben Edwards placed fifth in the triple jump with a distance of 37 - 11 1/2, and senior David Streeter (112-5) and freshman Carter Lee (107-9) were fourth and fifth, respectively, in the discus. As for the shot, Lutheran South's Zander Lee produced a top toss of 37- 11 for fourth place.

In the varsity girls' division, the Pioneers' Reed Brenner was the gold medalist in the pole vault as she made her way over the 10-6 mark, with Laney Ward second after clearing 10-0.

LSA completed the sweep of the medals in the event and she was third for a bronze medal at 10-0.

Ward also completed the 100 hurdles in the time of 17.11 for a bronze medal, and senior Cassidy Pfeiffer was third for a bronze medal in a time of 17.83. Sophomores Tamyra Greer (30-8 1/2) and Olivia Varanauski (30-7 3/4) were fourth and fifth, respectively, in the triple jump.

LSA senior Chinere Anagbogu threw the discus 101-6 for fourth place, with teammate Sammie Browning sixth with a top toss of 80-3 in the event for her team.

March 20
The Lutheran South Academy track and field program continued its progression toward the postseason with an appearance at the Hardin-Jefferson Hawks Relays March 13.

The Pioneer varsity boys' program came away with a gold medal victory in the 4x100 relay, Alma Martin won the gold medal in the varsity girls' pole vault over a couple of her teammates and Chinere Anagbogu was crowned champion of the discus to highlight Lutheran South's appearance at the event.

In that varsity boys' 4x100 relay, the Pioneers delivered a time of 42.89 seconds for the gold medal, edging second-place Newton.

Three Lutheran South Academy varsity girls' pole vaulters went head-to-head in the event at Hardin Jefferson, with Alma Martin, Reed Brenner and Laney Ward all clearing 9 feet, 6 inches.

Martin was the winner on fewest tries for the gold medal, while Brenner secured silver and Ward walked away with a bronze medal in the event.

In that girls' discus event, Anagbogu and Newton's Journee Hanks both threw the weight 99-8, with Anagbogu the first to do so in fewest at tempts for the gold medal.

Lutheran South's Sammie Browning was fourth in the event and she came up with a top throw of 82-2. Case Noack of the Pioneers was second for a silver medal in the 400 as he posted a time of 51.64, and teammate Rhett Laverne captured a bronze medal for third place with a time of 51.78.

Elisabeth Hergenrader was a silver medalist in the 1,600 as she finished at 6:34.80. Cassidy Pfeiffer of Lutheran South was a bronze medalist in the varsity girls' 100 hurdles with a time of 17.55, with teammate Ward fifth at 18.07.

Dobie senior Amaya Corona had a hit and scored two runs, and six

different players drove in runs as the Longhorns scored a 10-4 victory over Dawson.

Dobie scored runs in five different innings while defeating the Eagles to begin the second half of District 22-6A play.

At 7-2, the Longhorns were firmly in control of a Division I playoff seeding with seven league games to play.

Thompson and Beverly Hills figured prominently in the Pasadena ISD Intermediate track and field championships to wrap up the 2025 season at Auxiliary Stadium in Pasadena as the Lions claimed the eighth-grade girls' team championship with 153 points.

Thompson's seventh-grade boys were crowned team champions with 151 points, easily outdistancing second-place Park View. Meanwhile, the Lions' seventh-grade girls placed second behind Bondy (133.50 points for the title) with 126 points as the crown chase went down to the final event.

Thompson was second in the eighth-grade boys' division, scoring 168 points to trail only Bondy, which scored 173.5 for the team title. Beverly Hills was third with 98 points.

The Bears were third with 83 points in the seventh-grade girls' division, and placed second to Thompson in the eighth-grade title chase after scoring 122 points.

Vizion Jones of Beverly Hills was dominant as she won four gold medals (100, 200, high jump, long jump) and also helped the Bears to a silver medal in the 4x400 relay.

March 27
Kamryn McLaurin of Clear Brook ramped up her competition level in advance of the postseason of the high school track and field season as she won the gold medal in the high jump at the Rockhold Relays in Baytown March 20 and days later brought home a silver medal for second place at the Prairie View A&M University High School Championships at 5 feet, 4 inches.

Conroe's Eva Lantagne was the high school girls' division gold medalist as she made her way over the 5-6 mark. McLaurin, also a two-time Defensive Player of the Year award winner on the varsity basketball court, was a 6A-state high jump qualifier in 2024.

Dobie freshman Jaxson Canales competed in the Texas High School Powerlifting Association's state championships March 22 in Abilene, coming up with a total of 875 pounds (squat, bench press and deadlift) in his weight class to finish a stellar season.

Johan Villavicencio, putting a strong finish together in what was already a terrific junior season for the distance runner, won a gold medal in the 800 as he captured top honors at the Rockhold Relays in Baytown with a clocking of 2 minutes, 1.83 seconds.

Dobie freshman distance runner Jordan Roman delivered a time of 10 minutes, 3.95 seconds for the gold medal at the 1,600 distance in Baytown, while senior Chris Lopez was second for a silver medal with a time of 10:05.00.

Kendrick Ramos made his varsity debut for the Longhorns at the Rockhold Relays in Baytown as he successfully made his way over the 8-foot mark for the gold medal.

The Clear Brook varsity girls' 4x400 relay squad finished eighth in the high school division at the Prairie View A&M University Relays March 22 in Prairie View.

The Wolverines came up with a time of 4 minutes, 13.07 seconds for the finish as the group included Kyra Freeman, Deja Nelson, Hope Taylor and Patricia Barnes.

Sophomore Madison Carr led the San Jacinto



Leslie Sarduy (1) of Dobie fielded a ground ball during the Longhorns' 1-0 victory over Memorial at Dobie main. The locals continued their longtime dominance over the Pasadena ISD programs with the victory over the Mavericks.

College softball team into action at Blinn as the Ravens looked to improve upon a 4-6 start in Region 14 action.

Carr, one of the top returning offensive players from a San Jacinto College team that reached nationals in 2024, was hitting .380 with 14 runs driven in and 38 overall hits.

Vanessa Valdez led the pitching staff with 71 innings pitched and had won two of six overall decisions and a 4.93 ERA.

The Dobie varsity baseball team had won four straight district games within 22-6A entering a two-game series beginning March 25 against defending regional champion Pearland.

In an 18-3 and 4-0 sweep of Shadow Creek, the Longhorns improved to 4-2 overall in the district after losing two to start play. In the 18-3 win over the Sharks, Isaiah Jones had two doubles, drove in a run and scored four runs.

In the 4-0 shutout win, Dobie starting pitcher Julian Ricks went the distance, needing just 64

total pitches to blank the Sharks. Jones tripled and scored two runs in that win. Juelz Martinez doubled and tripled while scoring four runs in the first win over Shadow Creek.

The Dobie High School girls' bowling squad won the district championship this season with a 13-1 record, with Zaniya McClain then winning the regional championship as an individual.

Members of the team were Savannah Castillo, Natalie Elkins, Ineke Hicks, Anabella Cancel and McClain. In the individual competition, McClain compiled a five-game total of 946 for a 38-pin win over the remainder of the field.

One of 28 competitive districts across the state, the Pasadena district includes the five Pasadena ISD schools — Dobie, Memorial, Pasadena, Sam Rayburn and South Houston, as well as Deer Park and La Porte.

The Dobie High School boys' bowling squad also headed to San Antonio to compete in the Dick

Atkinson State Championships after finishing second as a team at the regional competition.

Members of the team were Don Fobbs, Gio Melendez, Nate Bennett, Ray Solis, Charleston Nash, Jake Bennett, Charles Nash and Donovan Mandani.

Clear Brook High School graduate and Texas A&M University sprinter Camryn Dickson ran a gold-medal time of 11.06 seconds in the 100 as the Aggies made a splash on the final day of the University of Texas at San Antonio relays March 22 in San Antonio.

Earlier in the day in the 4x100 relay, Dickson teamed with Jaiya Covington, Bria Bullard and Jasmine Montgomery to win a gold in the event at 43.43 seconds.

April 3
The Dobie varsity softball team went into a second-round matchup against undefeated District 22-6A leader Pearland April 4 with plenty of confidence after crushing rival Pasadena Memorial 16-1.

Continued on Page 8



Jacque Giron was one of the top overall performers within the NTJCAC, leading the league in assists at 6.4 per game and sitting fifth overall in scoring at 15.1 points per game, third in 3-point field goal percentage (35.9) and sixth at 44.9 in overall field goal percentage.



University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley freshman Jizzale Davis, a Class of 2024 Clear Brook High School graduate, finished the indoor track and field season strong as she reached the finals in a pair of events at the Southland Conference Indoor Championships in Birmingham, Ala. The Vaqueros' Nayla Harris made history by capturing the first Southland Conference championship gold medal in program history as she won the 60-meter dash in a time of 7.33 seconds. Davis progressed to the finals in the event and wound up eighth with a clocking of 7.70. Davis won the first collegiate medal of her career in the 200 as she ran a personal best of 24.01 to match the program all-time record in the event. In the meet finale, Davis helped the Vaqueros to a bronze medal in the 4x400 relay. Above, left to right, are (front row) Davis, Zoe Adams, (back row) Aaliyah Castillo and Trinity Kirk who produced a program all-time record of 3:44.86 to help UT-Rio Grande Valley finish third in the team standings.

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location <https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar> or call 832-293-9860.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, a turn-of-the-century doctor's office and an old-time kitchen. Open Tues. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 204 S. Main, Pasadena. Call Karen Hollon at 713-472-0565 for appointment. Tours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 2
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** See Thursday's notice.
Noon **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - Imperfect Nooners Group**, 3525 Broadway, Pearland, or at <https://aahouston.org/meetings/imperfect-nooners>. Call 713-686-6300 for more information. Meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - Vigilance Group of NA, open meeting, 2930 E. Broadway (FM 518), Pearland, First Presbyterian Church (youth building). For details, call 713-661-4200 or visit www.hascona.com or <https://nastuff.com/>. Meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
8 p.m. **Serenity Now Al-Anon Group** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Fridays, 8 to 9 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Family members and friends of problem drinkers/addicts share, learn Al-Anon principles, that they are not alone, and discover choices available. For details, call 281-484-9243.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. For details, call 281-484-9243.
8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - meets at CrossRoads UMC Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 8 p.m., 10030 Scarsdale Blvd. Call 281-484-9243.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 3
7:30 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 4
8 a.m./10:15 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - has worship Tuesday at 11:30

a.m., Wednesday at 7 p.m. (Bible study, Book of Revelation, at 6 p.m.) and Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., 11456 Space Center Blvd. (in back of a medical/retail community). For details, call 281-479-7285 and leave a message, or stop by.
5:30 p.m. **Celebrate Recovery** - A faith-based 12-Step program, in the Life Kids Chapel at Life Church, 5125 Preston Ave. Pasadena, TX 77505. Call 713-419-2635 for details.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - See Friday's notice.
MONDAY, JANUARY 5
Noon **AA - Imperfect Nooners**. See Friday's notice.
5 p.m. **New Directions** - Age 55 and older meets the first and third Mondays for a potluck dinner with activities and/or guest speakers at 600 Hobbs Road, League City, TX 77573, (community room). For further information, call Jill at 646-489-4367.
6 p.m. **Scrabble Club #511** - Meets Monday at Denny's, 19212 Gulf Freeway. Join the fun and improve crossword skills. COVID-19 vaccination required. Email huff_reunion@juno.com for info.
7 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** - St. Luke's Group, 12-Step Recovery, open meeting Mondays, 7 p.m. in the Education Bldg. in room 6, at 11011 Hall Road, 77089. For details, call Rita at 281-309-2801.
7 p.m. **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - #0683 Friendswood chapter meets at the Friendswood Methodist Church, 110 N. Friendswood Dr. in the educational bldg., room 201. For information, call Lynette Ringrose at 832-858-4617 or Dorothy Pourteau at 713-875-8820.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
11:30 a.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. **Southeast Houston Toastmasters** - The Southeast Houston Toastmasters Club #05324194 meets virtually with the exception of the second and fourth Tuesdays (hybrid meeting) at seahouston.toastmastersclubs.org. In-person address 10500 Scarsdale Blvd. (SB Chamber of Commerce). Visit the website or call Karen Nunn at 832-

722-9061 for information.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." See Thursday's notice.
9 a.m. **Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - See Thursday's notice.
Carmelites - a nondenominational senior citizen social group meeting at St. Bernadette Catholic Church, 15500 El Camino Real, in Clear Lake on the first and third Wednesdays for a time filled with fun, fellowship, lending library with books and puzzles, coffee and bingo. The meetings are open to those ages 55 and older, with no dues. Day trips and extended trips available. Deposits are now being taken for Poland. For details, call Marilyn at 713-444-6744.
Noon **AA - Imperfect Nooners**. See Friday's notice.
Noon Ballroom Dancing - casual ballroom dance, open to the public, held every Wednesday afternoon from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 East League City Parkway, League City. Everyone is welcome to come with or without a partner. The dance itself is free as music is provided by volunteer, Neva Schroder. The city requires an activity card for participants in all of the city's many activities. Call the park office 281-554-1180 for answers to any questions regarding the activity card. Visitors are welcome to walk in to observe or participate.
7 p.m. **St. Paul's Anglican Church** - See Sunday's notice.
7 p.m. **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** - See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Alcoholics Anonymous** - See Friday's notice.
8 p.m. **Beverly Hills Sharers Group AA** - See Friday's notice.
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8
7 a.m. **AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill." Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m., and Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Hope Community United Methodist Church, 2838 Lily St. Call 713-686-6300 (24/7) or visit <https://aahouston.org/meetings/>.
7:30 a.m. **Rotary Club of Pearland** - Check website for time and location <https://pearlandrotary.com/events/calendar> or call 832-293-9860.
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Jace Walker (left) and Cruz Calone were Brazosport Holiday Classic All-Tournament selections as they helped the Clear Brook varsity boys' basketball team win the championship trophy at the Dec. 29-30 event.

Hoops races reach key stretch

Continued from Page 5

Clear Brook entered district play with as much confidence as any varsity boys' team in the league, sporting a 13-2 overall record prior to taking on the Gators.

But in a district that already includes high-powered scoring players like Clear Lake's Damon Miles and Madden Hill of Clear Springs, Dickinson's Troy N'elle Belle has put together quite an offensive showcase to this point.

Scoring 36 points on 14 of 23 shooting, including an early stretch of three consecutive three-pointers, Belle led the Gators to a fairly easy 67-52 victory over the Wolverines to kick off 24-6A action.

The victory was the 13th in 17 overall games for a Dickinson program that certainly figures to be in the mix for the league championship. Jace Walker led the Wolverines with 13 points, while Christian Brown added 11.

Clear Lake and Clear

Springs also went head-to-head Dec. 19, with the Chargers coming away with a 57-44 victory. Miles had 17 points in the first half, but Clear Springs did a much better job defensively in the second half en route to the victory.

Hill knocked down four three-pointers in the first half on his way to 15 points, then finished with 23 points overall.

Miles had 25 points for the Falcons, who slipped to 13-6 overall after the defeat.

2025 year in sports review continues

Continued from Page 6

March 31 to improve to 8-2 overall within league play.

The first time the Longhorns met up with the Mavericks, the outcome was much closer as Dobie came away with a 1-0 victory, but this time the locals left no doubt in the game while cruising to the easy win.

The Longhorns scored five runs in the first inning and added nine more in the top of the fourth inning to close out the victory in four innings. Alexis Martinez and Natalie De Hoyos both drove in three runs in the win over the Mavericks, with De Hoyos smacking a home run along the way. Dobie had 18 hits in the game, led by De Hoyos with three. Leslie Sarduy, Martinez, Amaya Corona, Persephone Soria and Jackie Peralta all had two hits. Vanessa De La Fuente pitched the first three innings to earn the victory for the Longhorns.

The Dobie boys dominated the 3,200 distance at the district 22-6A track and field championships March 31 at Pearland ISD Stadium. Longhorn senior Chris Torres was the gold medalist in the event, with freshman teammate Jordan Roman second for a silver medal.

Freshman Cruz Jasso was fourth as he also qualified for the area championships.

Dobie Class of 2023 graduate Jacque Giron finished with a team-high 15 points and four steals in mid-March as her Weatherford College women's basketball team

was eliminated by New Mexico, 76-66, in the National Junior College Athletic Association's Region 5 postseason tournament.

With Giron leading the Coyotes in scoring and assists during the 2024-2025 season, the program reached the postseason for the first time in three seasons and put together a 20-11 overall record, collecting the most wins in five seasons for the program.

Giron, a former District Most Valuable Player at Dobie, is now at Prairie View A&M, where she is averaging 7.5 points per game and 3.7 rebounds while starting 10 of 12 overall games.

Clear Brook Class of 2024 graduate Jizzale Davis continued to shine early on during the collegiate outdoor track and field season as the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Vaqueros tallied three top-10 finishes March 28 during day two of the Bobcat Invitational at the Texas State University Track & Field Complex. Competing in the 200,

Davis delivered a time of 24.12 seconds to finish ninth overall. On the final day in the 100, Davis was in at 11.89 for 20th place.

The Dobie boys finished 13th and one spot out of the final 12 qualifiers for the state tournament championships March 29 in San Antonio during the Texas State High School Bowling finals. Zaniya Franklin of Dobie made her way to the state semifinals and the individual girls' state championship before bowing out. The Clear Brook girls finished 18th in the team championships to close out the season.

Dobie's Lauren Garza was the gold medalist in the 3,200 at the District 22-6A championships with a time of 11 minutes, 34.63 seconds as she advanced to the area track



and field round.

Dobie distance runners Jordan Roman, Lauren Garza, Chris Torres and Cruz Jasso each qualified for the area round in the 3,200 on the first day of the district 22-6A championships. Torres and Garza were the respective boys' and girls' district champions in the event, while Roman was the boys' silver medalist and also was fourth in the event to advance.

April 10

Dobie's distance runners were the stars of the show for the locals as the District 22-6A Track and Field Championships played out over three days at Pearland ISD Stadium.

The 2024 Class 6A state runner-up Summer Creek girls dominated the competition at the championships, putting together 198 points for the team title in a thorough performance to start the post-season.

Meanwhile, the Sharks were in complete control on the boys side of things, winning the team championship with 195 points as the meet concluded April 2 at Pearland ISD Stadium. Pearland was the runner-up in the boys' and girls' divisions, while Manvel was the third place team in both divisions to finish strong. Looking ahead to the 21-6A/22-6A Area Championships, the top four finishers in each individual and relay event at the 21-6A and 22-6A would advance with an eye on earning a regional berth. Bolstered by a strong showing in the field events, including two gold medals from senior Chris Torres, first in the 3,200 on the opening day of competition and another in the 1,600 two days later, the Dobie boys wound up fourth in the team standings with 89 points. Senior Lauren Garza, the gold medalist in the 3,200 event, led the way for the Longhorn

girls as they tallied 36 points for fifth place.

Dobie's distance running crew set the tone early on during the opening day of the meet as the 3,200 was held along with the field event finals. Torres came up with an impressive time of 9 minutes, 51.39 seconds to win the gold medal early in the day in the 3,200, with freshman teammate Jordan Roman in for the silver medal at 10:02.65.

Cruz Jasso, having previously missed the majority of the track and field season while playing varsity soccer for the Longhorns, wound up fourth in the event to advance to the area as he put together a time of 10:18.38. A gold medal already in his pocket two days prior in the 3,200, Torres was equally impressive in the 1,600 as he also captured a gold medal with a terrific run of 4:56.33. Roman was in at 4:38.38 for fourth place as he also advanced to the area round. Jasso, who turned heads as the 22-6A gold medalist during the cross-country season as a freshman, was at the 1,600 distance with a time of 4:48.78. A time of 11:34.63 landed Garza the gold medal at the 3,200 distance in the varsity girls' division as the senior advanced to the area round. One of the top performers in the history of Dobie's distance running program, Garza was also the 22-6A gold medalist during the fall 2024 cross-country season. Garza also was part of the field in the 1,600 as she finished sixth overall with a time of 5:30.81.

Dawson's Kylie Herpin was a dominant force in both throwing events and was a serious state contender moving forward, but Dobie's Miah Hypolitemade a difference as well. Hypolite also had a memorable day for the Longhorn girls as she earned herself a silver medal for a throw of 108 feet, 8 inches in the discus event as the senior punched her ticket for the area round. Dobie senior Blessing Akinloye finished off a solid final season as she was fifth in the shot at 33-9. At 5-0, Dobie's Aniya Menefee was fifth in the high jump. Junior Kylar Joseph also went 35-0 in the triple jump for fifth place.

For the JFD boys in the field events, a distance of 43-9 had Dobie junior Da'Marcus Hodges advancing his way to the area round as he was fourth in the triple jump at the district championships. Hodges also had a top long jump of 21-1/2 for sixth place. Junior Johan Villavicencio posted a time of 1:59.16 for a personal record, third place and a bronze medal in the 800 as he advanced the areas. In the April 2 evening session to conclude the meet.

Dobie junior Marcus Jones advanced in the 100 as he won a bronze medal for third place at 11.03. In the varsity boys' relays, the Longhorns were third in a time of 43.25 to reach areas as the foursome included Jones, Titus Randle, Hodges and Adrian Taylor. The Dobie girls were disqualified in the 4x100 relay. The Longhorns' 4x400 foursome of Deshaun Singleton, Maurice Bryant, Johan Villavicencio and Riley

snatched bronze medals for third place in the event to advance with a time of 3:25.72. A time of 1:29.99 placed the Longhorns sixth in the 4x200 relay as that foursome included Broussard, Taylor, Bryant and Jones. The Longhorns' Jalen Broussard also headed to the area round as he was fourth with a time of 22.51 in the 200.

At the 400 distance, the Longhorns' Tariq Riley was also able to advance to the area round as he put together a time of 49.51. Joshua Shelton, formerly of Clear Brook and a two-time regional qualifier in the 400, was the 22-6A gold medalist in the event for Pearland as he crossed the line at 47.04.

Angel Molina celebrated Senior Day with his Longhorn teammates

as he doubled and tripled, driving in four runs to help lead Dobie to a 10-1 victory over the South Houston Trojans. Molina was 3 for 4 overall in the game and Isaiah Jones stole a pair of bases and knocked in a pair of runs to support freshman Jaylen Aguilar's four no-hit, no-earned-runs pitching performance.

The victory capped a two-game sweep of the Trojans as the Longhorns improved to 6-4 in 22-6A play, remaining very much in the postseason hunt with a two-game series coming up against Sam Rayburn. Austin Silva had a double, drove in three runs and scored twice as the Longhorns run-ruled South Houston 18-1 at South Houston. Aguilar doubled in a run and scored twice to back the solid pitching performance of Tristan McKissick. With the series against Rayburn, the Longhorns had a chance to solidify the fourth spot in the district race. First-place Dawson and second-place Pearland have separated themselves from the field, Alvin was third ahead of a two-game series against Dobie.

District 22-6A softball leader Pearland scored two runs in the top of the fifth and another in the top of the sixth, then held off Dobie late for a 3-1 victory at Dobie main, securing the league championship along the way.

Dobie junior pitcher Vanessa De La Fuente recorded her 300th career strikeout in the game and allowed only six hits and three earned runs in the game but suffered the loss.

The Longhorns got an RBI single from Chloe Matthews in the bottom of the sixth inning for their lone run of the game.

April 17

A time of 9 minutes, 55.31 seconds was good for a silver medal at the 3,200 distance for Dobie senior Chris Torres, while senior Lauren Garza was third for a bronze medal in the girls' 3,200 at 11:36.09 as both seniors qualified for the Region 3 championships in Webster. Lopez also advanced to regionals in the 1,600 at 4:31.66.

Dobie's Da'Marcus Hodges came up with a personal record of 44 feet, 8 1/2 inches in the triple jump as he captured a bronze medal and an invitation to the Region 3 championships.

Clear Brook thrower Darwin Bolden II was the gold medalist in the discus from the 23-6A/24-6A event at Humble ISD's Turner Stadium, winning with a throw of 169 feet 2 inches.

Winners of eight of their last 10 district baseball games, the Dobie Longhorns went into the first of two critical games against the Alvin Yellowjackets April 15 at Alvin and hosted Alvin April 17 at Dobie main with third place in the league standings on the line.

The Longhorns' Julian Ricks came up with an outstanding pitching performance April 8 against Sam Rayburn as the locals came away with a 10-0 win. Ricks went four innings in the five-inning game, allowing one hit along the way.

The Longhorns entered action against Alvin at 8-4 overall in league play.



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Dobie tennis coach Manuel Moreno Jr. (left) had a chance to catch up with Longhorn softball legend Krista Williams Yates during the Texas Tennis Coaches Association Hall of Fame induction ceremony late last month as Moreno was enshrined into the prestigious class. Williams Yates last spring led her Kingwood varsity softball program to the 6A state championship.

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