

## Junk waste pickup set

Junk waste will be picked up Thursday, April 28, for city of Houston residents living south of Beltway 8. For information, call 3-1-1.

## Kirkwood South to meet

Kirkwood South Committee's annual meeting will be held Thursday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m. at El Franco Lee Community Center.

## Dobie band hosts car show

The Dobie Longhorn Band will host a car show Saturday, April 30, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Dobie. A \$25 car registration fee is asked for those interested in showing a car, with registration from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and awards at 3:30 p.m. Fifty-seven awards will be presented.

Food and fun will be available for the entire family. Vendor slots are also available. For information, e-mail tinaengle@sbcglobal.net or tjfrancis76@sbcglobal.net.

## JROTC car wash April 30

Dobie High School Air Force JROTC will host a car wash Saturday, April 30, at Food Town, at Beamer and Scarsdale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. A \$5 minimum donation is asked. Funds will be used for cadets to attend summer leadership school at Prairie View A&M.

## Swimming lessons offered

Swimming lessons will be offered for three sessions (Tuesday through Friday) in June and July: June 7-17, June 21-July 1, and July 5-15. Registration will be held April 30 from 10 a.m. to noon at Sageglen Pool, 11610 Sageyork. For more information, call 281-660-6669 after May 1.

## Lariaettes set spring show

The Dobie Lariaettes will present their annual spring show, *I Love the Nightlife*, on May 5, 6 and 7 at 7 p.m. in the Dobie auditorium. Admission is \$10, and under 2 (seated in lap), free. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Matt Woods at 281-485-7830 or e-mail waymar00@aol.com.

## Dobie band parents meet

The Dobie Band Parent Organization will meet Monday, May 2, at 7 p.m. in the band hall. All band parents are urged to attend.

## Kindergarten Roundups set

### South Belt Elementary

South Belt Elementary will hold Kindergarten Roundup May 6, at 9 a.m. This will be informational for parents with an open house for prospective kindergarteners. Parents will receive enrollment requirements while students visit kindergarten classrooms for a book and a snack. Bring child's shot record, if available. For information, call 713-740-5276.

### Frazier Elementary

Frazier Elementary will hold its Kindergarten Roundup Monday, May 9, from 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. for those entering kindergarten in the fall.

Parents will meet the kindergarten teachers and learn about the school and the kindergarten program. Children can visit the classrooms and have story time with refreshments. Parents will receive the enrollment packet and will be able to go to the front of the line with the completed packet at registration in August. For more information, call the school at 713-740-0560.

## Dobie sets 10-year reunion

Dobie Class of 2001 will hold its 10-year reunion on July 9, 2011, from 7:30 p.m. to midnight at Golfcrest Country Club in Pearland. The cost, April 15 through June 1, is \$50; June 2 through July 2, \$60 (this is the last day to pre-order tickets); and on July 9, \$75 (cash only at the door). For more information, contact <http://www.dobie2001.webs.com/>.

## Dobie Project Grad meets

Dobie Project Graduation will host its last committee meeting on Monday, May 2, at 7 p.m. in the Dobie cafeteria. Plans will be made to finalize the details for Senior Picnic planned for Thursday, June 2, at El Franco Lee Park for the senior class of 2011.

Senior parent volunteers are still being sought to support the picnic, as well as donations of food, gifts and funds. Those interested in supporting in any way, contact Christine Duensing at 281-974-0867 or Sharon Finney at 281-793-5918.

## San Jac presents Rumors

San Jacinto College South Theatre Department will present *Rumors* April 29-30 and May 5-7. For more information, see Page 2A.

## Auxiliary fundraiser set

Memorial Hermann Southeast Volunteer Auxiliary will hold its annual Mother's Day Sale May 4 and May 5, from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third floor North Tower of the hospital. Purchases can be made from a large selection of bed, bath, kitchen items, area rugs, handbags and fragrances.

Proceeds go to the auxiliary scholarships, donations to charities and hospital projects (recently purchased a 52-inch flat screen television for the outpatient waiting area).

See additional items Page 2A

# Sullivan breaks ground for community center



District E City Councilmember Mike Sullivan held a groundbreaking ceremony on April 26 for the new Sagemont Community Center, to be located at the corner of Hughes Road and Beltway 8. Pictured are, left to right, Lisa Johnson, division manager for City of Houston General Services Department, Sally Mitchell, South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce executive director, Emory Gadd, South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce third vice president, Sullivan, Mark Ross, deputy director for City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Tammie Nielsen, district director for state Rep. Ken Legler, and Marie Flickinger, South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce president and *Leader* publisher. Photo by Matt Griesmyer

## Casino Night set for April 29

The South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce's annual Casino Night will take place Friday, April 29, at The Gardens, 12001 Beamer, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The yearly event allows participants to play casino games, such as blackjack, Let it Ride, roulette, baccarat, craps and poker using play money. Winners will receive raffle tickets that can be redeemed for prizes.

Current prizes include a round trip for two to Las Vegas including a stay at Caesars Palace, a round of golf for four from Golfcrest Country Club, a family fun pack to the Kemah Board-

walk, a GPS tracking device, a shredder and office chair, a deluxe Sprint smart phone, a handmade jewelry set from Southwestern Angels, a massage and facial from Reflections Medical Spa and patio items. The event will also feature music, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and can be purchased at H-E-B, 9828 Blackhawk; the *South Belt-Ellington Leader*, 11555 Beamer; and the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale. Tickets will be \$25 at the door. For more information, contact chamber executive director Sally Mitchell at 281-481-5516.

## Seniors use free time for others

By Matt Griesmyer

As seniors at Dobie High School enjoy the week off due to standardized testing throughout the state, which they do not have to participate in if they have previously passed, around 120 of the nearly-graduated have decided to sacrifice their week off in favor of helping their fellow man.

While they could be sleeping in, on their way to beaches or doing any number of recreational activities, seven seniors who are helping out South Belt residents Emil and Dorothy Zapalac are in the heat and humidity, helping tear down the Zapalacs' garage. In similar groups spread throughout the South Belt area at three other locations, seniors are doing comparable work. Gardening, landscaping, painting and other handyman type work is being performed by the senior Samaritans. In cooperation with Sagemont Church, Dobie seniors have the opportunity to participate in

Seniors Helping Seniors, a program designed to instill social-mindedness into the pregrads.

The program was originally started nationally, but Dobie is operating its own version this year, designed similarly to the national one, but with different funding for supplies.

"The national program requires that eligible houses meet certain criteria in order to gain funding for repairs," said the Rev. Emory Gadd, pastor at Sagemont Church. "The nearest houses that qualify are in the South Pasadena area of town, but we wanted to have the volunteers help out around the Dobie area."

Sagemont Church looked for houses within the area of Dobie and found four homes that could use some help. Dobie provided the labor by means of students and faculty, and Sagemont Church provided the funding for supplies.

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## Two arson suspects sought

Arson investigators are searching for two suspects who are wanted for setting fire to a travel trailer in the 11000 block of Sageburrow on the night of Easter Sunday.

According to a witness, two males arrived at the residence at roughly 11:30 p.m. in a late-model dark red sport utility vehicle. The witness initially thought the suspects were stealing fuel, as the passenger of the vehicle was observed carrying a gas can.

Once the blaze was sparked, the witness reported seeing the vehicle drive past the home at least three more times.

The fire narrowly avoided spreading to the adjacent home. Responding firefighters attributed

this to the preventative actions taken by the homeowner's son, who himself is a former firefighter for the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department.

Making matters worse for the homeowner, the destroyed travel trailer, a classic 1961 Streamline, was not covered by her homeowner's insurance, as it was not a permanent fixture.

The passenger of the vehicle is described as being a 17- to 22-year-old male, standing 6 feet tall with a dark complexion, dark hair and glasses.

Anyone with information on this case is urged to call the Houston Fire Department's Arson Division at 713-865-9000 or Houston Crime Stoppers at 713-222-8477 (TIPS).



## Neddermans visit South Belt

Former South Belt residents Ted and Nancy Nedderman recently returned to the community to visit family and to catch some NCAA Final Four basketball games. Now residing in Burlington, Conn., the couple lived in Sagemont for more than 35 years before Ted retired in 2005. Ted Nedderman served as treasurer for the Sagemont Civic Club for more than 20 years. The couple have two children, Carolyn Solak and Thomas Nedderman. Both are Dobie graduates. Solak graduated in 1997, while Nedderman graduated from the school in 1991. The couple are pictured to the left picking up back issues of the *Leader* while in the area.

While many South Belt residents were looking to the sky with hopes of rain on Tuesday, April 26, District E City Councilmember Mike Sullivan was busy breaking ground for the new Sagemont Community Center, to be located at the corner of Hughes Road and Beltway 8.

The new center, which is scheduled to be completed by springtime of next year, will be 11,526 square feet. Included in the plans will be a full-sized gymnasium, lobby, office space, storage and two classrooms.

"This new multi-purpose building will be

such an asset to the community as it will replace the old building that has outlived its usefulness," Sullivan said. "It is without a doubt that families, community organizations and kids will get the utmost use out of this new center."

The existing community center, to be demolished next week, originally served as the Sagemont Municipal Utility District Building before the subdivision was annexed by the City of Houston. The new facility will be funded in part by a \$1 million grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.



A construction worker is shown above boarding up the windows of the existing Sagemont Community Center, to be torn down next week to make room for the new replacement center. The building originally served as the Sagemont Municipal Utility District Building before the subdivision was annexed by the City of Houston. Photo by Matt Griesmyer

## Cookoff slated for May 13-14

The annual South Belt Spectacular Cookoff will take place Friday, May 13, and Saturday, May 14, at El Franco Lee Park, 9400 Hall Road.

Now in its 15th year, the event is the sole fundraiser for the annual South Belt Fourth of July fireworks show also held at the area park.

This marks the first year the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department is organizing the event, replacing the mother-daughter team of Linda and Shelley Arnone, who stepped down after organizing the cookoff for the past nine years.

While Friday's festivities will cater primarily to adults, Saturday's activities will be more family and child-oriented.

Local State Farm Agent Thuy Epperson has arranged for a digital game truck and Hamster Ball (both sponsored by Games2U) and a rock

climb and moonwalk (both sponsored by Awesome Events) for the event on Saturday afternoon. Other children's activities include slides, an obstacle course and a Jacob's Ladder. Other than the rock climb, all will be free of charge.

The San Jacinto College Cosmetology Club will be doing hair braiding, face painting and henna art for a small fee. The Sagemont Church Clown Ministry and local Gabby the Clown will also be on hand Saturday to entertain children.

The South Belt Idol karaoke competition will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. for contestants 8 years and older. Contestants will be grouped into three age groups: 8-12 years is scheduled for 1 p.m., 13-17 years is scheduled for 2:30 p.m., and 18 years and up is scheduled for 4 p.m. An award

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## Dobie seniors help local seniors



Nearly 120 Dobie High School seniors volunteered to spend their free time during the week of Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills to help South Belt residents. Shown are, left to right, Edward Peabody, Matt Nelson and Chris Guy. Senior volunteers helped at four locations throughout South Belt rebuilding, repairing, landscaping, cleaning and doing other tasks. Above, they are shown helping rebuild the garage of a Sagemont Park resident. Photo by Matt Griesmyer

## McIngvale to speak at luncheon

Jim McIngvale will be the guest speaker at the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce's luncheon to honor area students Thursday, May 12, at the Golfcrest Country Club at 12:30 p.m.

The event will honor top 10 graduating students from Dobie, Clear Horizons High School and Lutheran South Academy.

McIngvale, known throughout Houston as "Mattress Mack," owns Gallery Furniture, one of

the largest single-store furniture companies in the United States, with annual sales of \$150 million to \$200 million and about 300 employees.

He is known for his civic work and currently serves as Houston chair of the Bush-Clinton Tsunami Relief Fund. The cost of the luncheon is \$15.

For information, contact Sally Mitchell at 281-481-5516 or [info@southbeltchamber.com](mailto:info@southbeltchamber.com).

## San Jacinto may lose Murphy

San Jacinto College South President Maureen Murphy has been named one of four finalists to be the next president of St. Charles Community College in Cottleville, Mo.

While Murphy said she is content with her current position, she has ties to St. Charles, as she was a former



Maureen Murphy

teacher there and still has a house in the area that she and her husband built 17 years ago.

Murphy has served as the president of San Jacinto College South since 2007.

From 2003 to 2007, she served as the vice president for instruction and student development at Rappahannock Community College in Virginia. Previously, she was vice president for instruction and student development at Wytheville Community College in Virginia, and the dean of mathematics and communications at St. Louis Community College-Meramec. Murphy has taught

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# Readers' Opinions

## Greer on Clear Creek ISD spending

Just finished reading 4-14 edition of South Belt Leader. Letter to editor from CCISD made me want to spit up. On Monday and Tuesday, April 11 and 12, the district boys golf tournament was held in La Porte. Each of the four high schools entered a team - good. There were three separate CCISD buses parked in the golf course parking lot - bad. With all of the moaning and groaning about budget shortfalls and cuts, can someone make me understand why? I can think of several excuses, but cannot find a real reason. We owe the taxpayers the best value for their dollar and the students the best leadership and common sense possible. Looking for reasons not excuses.

**Duane Greer**

## Buckmans: Kudos to Sageglen, Sullivan

Kudos to Chuck Tylka, Sam Weeks, David Cino and the rest of the Sageglen Community Association board for getting our new street numbers painted on the curbs. Along with the sidewalk repairs, this is one of those taken for granted things that quietly make our neighborhood a quality place to live.

One of the deputy constables already mentioned to me how much easier it is to find addresses after dark. And anyone waiting nervously for an EMT and ambulance to arrive in the middle of the night will rest easier knowing that their house can be found on the first try.

Cooperative efforts by the county, M.U.D. and the association go a long way toward making Sageglen and the South Belt the desired place to live and thrive.

*Item 2: Thanks Councilman Sullivan*  
On behalf of our St. Luke's Knights of Columbus Council #9201 we wish to express our thanks to Council Member Sullivan and staff for your assistance in recovering our "Fish Fry" signs.

The familiar Black 4ft x4ft signs are placed at strategic points the night before an event to inform our customers of our latest food offerings. They are retrieved immediately following the event some 24 hours later. Funds raised with the help of these signs go to our local charitable work, especially scholarships to graduating high school seniors.

Although the signs were placed outside of the city limits, city Public Works employees took the signs in error. Thank you CM Sullivan and your staff for your efforts.

**Steve & Kelly Buckman**

## Black on dangerous dogs in community

Attention folks, the streets are not safe. Your neighbors are harboring dangerous animals and BARC is not doing anything about the problem. How are you going to feel when you open your door and send your child to school but before they can get to the sidewalk they are attacked by someone's pit bull? A pit bull that has gotten out of its enclosure with or without the owners knowledge. Does it really matter?

Your child has been mauled, possibly killed, and no one knows who owned the dog. Seems the dog has no license. No collar, even. At this point who cares?

Finding the owner for litigation is secondary. Prevention is the cure. Do not allow these breeds in this County. Breeds like this are desirable because they are "cool." Dogs that are feared and used for intimidation. It is illegal to carry a concealed weapon but not if the weapon is on a leash.

Problem is, most of the time there is no leash involved. If these breeds are continued to be allowed then enforcement of current laws need to be enforced. Waiting for the attack and dealing with the aftermath is not the correct response to the problem. Taking the law into ones own hands is discouraged.

Well, if no one in authority is willing to act, then what is left? Offending animal is apprehended, owners hand is slapped, animal is released back to owner, animal offenses again, owners hand gets slapped, animal is released... and so on and so on. But let the victim eliminate the problem animal and the animal lovers, media, and law enforcement get outraged. This is totally backwards. The animals should always be eliminated as the first option. An "accident" is guaranteed not to happen again.

Do we, the public, have to carry a fire-arm, knife, or big stick, when we go for a walk? When we go outside our front door? If we do, the police will surely have something say. Why do we allow these dangerous dogs in our neighborhoods?

**Larry Black**

## What you missed at the PIP meeting

A few weeks ago, Jim Muecke wrote a letter to the *Leader* inviting neighbors to attend PIP meetings. He reminded us that this monthly meeting at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital is where HPD meets with citizens of the the South Belt area and brings in speakers from various police divisions.

This past Tuesday, April 19, the meeting focused on Burglary and Theft, known as property crimes. Attending that meeting was Assistant Chief D.S. Perales, who heads up the East Patrol Command, and Capt. O.T. Pando, who heads up the Clear Lake division.

Officers Daly and Cave briefed the attendees on various tips to avoid being burglarized...strong doors, secure windows, alarms, lights, dogs and other deterrents help. Alert neighbors are a big assist to HPD in catching burglars - they reminded us to get to know and communicate with our neighbors and be aware of who should belong in our neighborhoods. We should call 911 when suspicious people are around a neighbor's home, especially in the day, when most burglaries occur in our homes.

When you are at the mall...ladies, don't leave your purse in the car, and don't walk into the mall without a purse, they may think you left it in the car. Hide the items in your car, but before you get

to the mall. When the car has nothing showing, they say "not this one" and move to the next one.

Assistant Chief Perales said that overall crime is down, but burglary and theft is up because of the economic times.

There is much value to HPD, and to you getting stolen goods back, if you have pictures of items and identification numbers. If you see your stolen item in a pawn shop, report it to HPD, not to the pawn shop owner. HPD will put a police hold on the item and give you a chance to prove it is your property.

Also, the homeless person you give money to, may be observing your pattern of leaving the neighborhood, and knowing which vehicle you drive and locating which house you live in by seeing it parked there.

Hope to see you at the May PIP meeting - watch for the announcement in the *Leader*.

**Gary Waits**

## Valtasaros writes on "Democracy?"

Mr. Gorman did a great job of looking up the definition of "democracy" and explaining the origins of the word. If he had noticed my last name he would have known that I am Greek. I grew up in Greece until the age of twelve and came to the USA at that time. It is true that the Greeks invented and practiced democracy. It is true that democracy and republic are not mutually exclusive. However history proves that "by the book" definitions of words are not always the reality. Greece was the first country to have a democratic government; it was also the first of many countries to practice democracy that failed. As a matter of fact every country that has called itself a democracy has failed. Every democracy has failed before reaching the two hundred year mark. Our republic is the only form of government that has survived for over two hundred years.

Our founders knew history. They knew that democracies lead to totalitarianism, eventual failure and the end of freedom. I can also look things up. Here is a small amount of what I found about democracy: Thomas Jefferson said, "A democracy is nothing more than mob rule, where 51 percent of the people may take away the rights of the other 49."

"The merit of our Constitution was, not that it promotes democracy, but checks it." Horatio Seymour.

Ayn Rand "Individual rights are not subject to a public vote; a majority has no right to vote away the rights of a minority; the political function of rights is precisely to protect minorities from oppression by majorities (and the smallest minority on earth is the individual)."

"Democracy is based on the assumption that a million men are wiser than one man. How's that again? I missed something." Robert A. Heinlein

"Democracy... while it lasts is more bloody than either aristocracy or monarchy. Remember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself. There is never a democracy that did not commit suicide." John Adams

"Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch." Benjamin Franklin

"Under democracy one party always devotes its chief energies to trying to prove that the other party is unfit to rule -- and both commonly succeed, and are right." H. L. Mencken

"Democracy is indispensable to socialism." Vladimir Lenin

"We are not perfect, but we do have a democracy." Hugo Chavez

"Democracy consists of choosing your dictators, after they've told you what you think it is you want to hear." Coren

"Democracy substitutes election by the incompetent many for appointment by the corrupt few." George Bernard Shaw

"It is a besetting vice of democracies to substitute public opinion for law. This is the usual form in which masses of men exhibit their tyranny." Fennimore Cooper

"Democracy becomes a government of bullies tempered by editors." Ralph Waldo Emerson

"The death of democracy is not likely to be an assassination from ambush. It will be a slow extinction from apathy, indifference, and undernourishment." Robert Hutchins

"Our democracy is but a name. We vote? What does that mean? It means that we choose between two bodies of real, though not avowed, autocrats. We choose between Tweedledum and Tweedledee." Helen Keller

"Democracy is the road to socialism." Karl Marx

I think these guys said it all, don't you?

**George Valtasaros**

## Reams responds to response from left

A couple of weeks ago I wrote a Letter To The Editor about how the left was trying to destroy our military. It has already severely weakened most other institutions in America. I listed many incidents as proof of the general degradation of the armed forces at the hands of the left and of political correctness.

Another individual in the community, from the left, took offense, which is his right to do. His letter "Corporate America: threat to democracy" took a swipe at me and several others and is a classic example of the thinking from the left. Remember the goal of the left-wing: destroy capitalism, institute socialism, make government the solution to all problems, make the American people dependent on government so they can be controlled, redistribute the wealth, and eventually create a totalitarian state with them in power. When anyone challenges them, they must be refuted. This individual's letter was an attempt to do that.

When fact and history doesn't support the left's position, they change the subject. I was discussing the military, my detractor switched to "Corporate America" as the problem (destroy capitalism). The left tries to create a divide in the populace so as to weaken their fight against them and create "class warfare." Divide and conquer. The author of this letter pitted Wall Street against main street; the

wealthy against the middle class. Get everybody mad at everybody else then ride in on a white horse to save the day with another government program (make us dependent on government).

The left, who believes "the ends justifies the means" (a communist philosophy) is weak in ethics and moral standards, has no immutable standards of conduct, and is thus very prone to misinform (lie). We all know our nation's budget deficit is a major problem for us and our posterity. This individual however says it's "...a manufactured propaganda weapon to get easily frightened people to go along with policies that favor the rich while hurting the vast majority." Clearly \$14 Trillion in debt IS a problem, not propaganda, and his comment is not true, but it is more class warfare. (Deflect your attention from a real problem.) If you add up all the unfunded liabilities including the many entitlement programs, we're \$76.3 Trillion in the hole.

When all else fails, the left attacks their opponent; tries to lessen them in the eyes of others: "Mr. Reams is in need of psychological counseling." I assume that's because I would defend our country in a time of need, so I'm an "extremist." If that's the case, I'm in good company as our Founders also defended our country. I wonder if Mr. Martin would defend America? I have faced-off against a lot of anti-war demonstrators--left-wingers. I find they are quick to criticize the military but would be the first to run and hide behind a man in uniform if there ever was a threat. And you never see them volunteer for service.

Lastly, he also took swipes at others who were not mentioned in my piece at all, Glenn Beck and Rush Limbaugh. I guess he forgot Sarah Palin. He even referred to our founders in a derogatory tone ("his precious founding fathers"). That's a defensive move to go after anyone who criticizes the left. Beck and Limbaugh use the left's own words (quotes) to let them expose themselves. They are the left's worse nightmare. They

sometimes use videos to do the same. When you have a video of a group of people (union execs, the left) sitting around a table plotting to destroy the US economy and our stock market next month, May, and you expose it for the world to see, why that's extremism according to the left. Can't have that. They must deflect the issue, change the subject, attack the exposor.

Socialism has failed, or is failing, every where it's been tried. It will fail here too. Those from the "intelligencia" who think they know what's best for the rest of us are dupes to their own ignorance.

My original article was about the destruction of the military. I wonder if Mr. Martin knows anything about that matter?

**Larry Reams, veteran**  
Clear Lake

## CCISD's Ralph Parr supports Rander

I feel it imperative that the members of the current Clear Creek ISD Board of Trustees be returned to their positions. This would include Page Rander who represents District 4, all of the South Belt and Friendswood areas in CCISD. Ms. Rander is a tireless leader who brings valuable experience to the Board. She is a parent and volunteer who has been heavily involved in CCISD for several years. With the current crises in Texas public education related to funding shortfalls, now is not the time for new Board members to encounter a learning curve. Through the leadership of our upper administration and Board as well as teachers, students, and parents, CCISD has maintained high standards and rankings without having to resort to mass layoffs of staff. I commend the District for this and credit much of this to the current Board members, Page Rander included. Your vote for her on May 14 is encouraged.

**Ralph Parr**  
Retired CCISD Administrator and Board Member

## Softball banquet/dance set

The South Belt Girls Softball Association will hold a banquet/dance on Friday, May 6, at The Gardens at Beamer and Hughes. Closing ceremonies begin at 7 p.m., finger foods will be served from 8 to 9:30 p.m., and the dance is from 8:30 p.m. to midnight.

Players, coaches (three per team) and team moms will receive a free ticket. At-the-door prices are \$15 for adults (12 and up) and \$10 for children (11 and under). For more information, visit the website at [www.eteamz.com/southbeltgirls](http://www.eteamz.com/southbeltgirls).

## South Belt Elementary Luau April 29

South Belt Elementary, 1801 Riverstone Ranch, will hold its second annual luau this Friday, April 29, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Admission is free, and dinner will be served for \$6 at the door. Disc jockey III-Set will provide music during the evening. There will be door prizes, a silent auction, a luau store, and a dunk tank. The public is welcome.

## Frazier hosts May 3 health fair

Frazier Elementary will host a Parent/Community Health Fair on Tuesday, May 3, from 6 to 8 p.m. Many vendors will be in attendance, and a variety of wellness programs will be presented. Free health screenings will be provided. The community is invited to attend.

## San Jac cheer, mascot tryouts begin May 2

The San Jacinto College cheerleading team will hold cheerleading and mascot tryouts for the 2011-2012 season from 6 to 9 p.m. May 2 and May 4 in Anders Gymnasium at the Central campus, 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena. Participants are encouraged to dress in athletic attire and bring water. For information, visit [www.sanjacsports.com](http://www.sanjacsports.com) or contact Levis Francis at 281-476-1501, ext. 1426.

## Seniors helping seniors . . .

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At the Zapalacs' house, Kayla Guel, Carla Galvan, Kellen Gomez, Chris Guy, Matt Nelson, Jordan Monette and Edward Peabody were all present as senior representatives from Dobie. Faculty members that were on site were senior assistant principal Mike VanEssen, vocational teacher Jim Sawyer and math teacher Jim Jacobs. Also traveling between the sites was Jim Hastings, minister of Helping Hands at Sagemont Church.

The seniors involved are not just helping out for one day, either. They are sacrificing multiple days that they have off from school to help these South Belt residents at their homes.

At Zapalacs' house in particular, the students are planning to be on site for four days over a two week period. During that time, the students will assist in breaking down a garage that was at risk of collapsing. The volunteers were clearing away the already fallen-down structure, while

adult volunteers supervised, assisted, and manned the heavy and dangerous machinery.

After clearing the debris, which will fill multiple industrial garbage bins, the students will return May 13 to finish the job by painting and landscaping the Zapalacs' home.

## Murphy on short list

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college-level English, literature, writing and women's studies for 10 years at St. Louis Community College, St. Charles Community College and the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Murphy received her Ph.D. in American studies

from Saint Louis University, a Master of Arts degree in English from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of Louisville. The new St. Charles president will succeed John McGuire, who plans to retire in September.

# Deaths

### Rick De Paoli



Rick De Paoli, 46, died Wednesday, April 20, 2011. He was born Sept. 7, 1964. A former resident of South Belt, De Paoli graduated from J. Frank Dobie High School.

He is survived by his parents, Ernesto and Gloria De Paoli of Houston; two brothers, Ernest De Paoli and wife Shama of Dallas, and Sergio De Paoli and wife Lily of Lake Dallas; and nieces and nephews, Morgan, Grant, Sergio and Karina.

De Paoli enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. He loved the beach, and loved to travel.

A memorial service celebrating De Paoli's life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 30, 2011, in the chapel of Niday Funeral Home with the Rev. James Burkart officiating.

### Bruce Harris



Bruce Harris Jr., 58, died on Friday, April 22, 2011, in Port Isabel, Texas, as a result of a boat accident.

Harris was a longtime South Belt area resident and was involved in SBHLL for many years as a coach and board member. He was also involved in the Dobie Baseball Booster Club from 1996 to 2000. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He worked for Water Science Technologies, Birmingham, Ala.

Survivors include his wife of 36 years, Bettye Harris; sons Clayton and wife Jaelyn, and Adam and wife Amy; four grandchildren, Peyton, Paige, Ellie and Kinley Grace; and his brother-in-law, Waldo Eubank and wife Monnie, from Oakland, Miss.

Memorial services will

be held Thursday, April 28, 2011, at 3:30 p.m. at Atasocita United Methodist Church, Humble.

### Bonnie Rose Broadnox



Bonnie Rose Green Broadnox, 81, died Saturday, April 23, 2011. She was born in Temple, Texas, on Aug. 26, 1929, to Virgie Mae and Burleson Green.

Broadnox is preceded in death by her only son, Danny Knoff.

A native Texan, she came to Houston at an early age and has been a longtime South Belt resident.

She was the owner of Bonnie's Club in South Houston for the past 23 years.

Services will be held Thursday, April 28, 2011, at 1 p.m. at Forest Park Lawndale.

# Rumors at San Jac South



Daniel Bourque as Ken Gorman and Amanda Castaneda as Cassie Cooper rehearse for San Jacinto College South's theater department's production of Neil Simon's *Rumors: A Farce*, which opens Friday, April 29. Performances are April 29 and 30 at 8 p.m., May 1 at 2 p.m., and May 5, 6 and 7 at 8 p.m., in the Marie Spence Flickinger Fine Arts Building on the South campus at 13735 Beamer Road. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. Doors open 30 minutes prior to curtain. No late seating allowed.

*Photo by Andrea Vasquez*

## Parker Williams Library sets events

The following events are scheduled for the week of April 28 through May 4 at Parker Williams Library, 10851 Scarsdale Blvd.: On Saturday, April 30, Vietnamese storytime will include Reading Club at 9 a.m., followed by intermediate storytime at 11 a.m. and beginner storytime at 1 p.m. Preschool storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, and toddler storytime is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday.

## GAT dance meeting set

The Thompson Eighth-Grade Dance Committee meets May 3 and 10 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Kirkmont MUD Building, 10102 Blackhawk. For more information, call Anna Flores at 281-221-5602.

## Park Manor of South Belt



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## LEE HERNANDEZ

CANDIDATE FOR  
**HARRIS COUNTY CONSTABLE PCT. 2**  
**INTEGRITY EXPERIENCE LEADERSHIP**

Precinct 2 is a great place to live and raise a family. I know this because I have been living here since 1992. My wife and I are raising our 3 sons here in the heart of this great community. As a long time resident, I am fully committed to the law enforcement issues that Precinct 2 residents deal with daily and know that they differ from other communities of greater Houston.

You deserve a Constable who has unquestionable integrity. You deserve a Constable who has a vested interest in your community, not someone who just moved here and rented a home so they can run for office. You deserve a Constable who will work for you and not waste your tax dollars. You deserve a Constable who has the experience and leadership to effectively serve your law enforcement needs.

And finally, the honest truth...we need a Constable who has the ability to lead, doesn't flip-flop on issues, someone who has ability to make difficult decisions, and is willing to inform the community, honestly, and be available to the residents.

**That is the Lee Hernandez- Texas Straight Talker Promise.** I believe that I offer all of these commitments to Precinct 2. I have the law enforcement experience and administrative experience to serve as your next Constable and I would greatly appreciate your vote in the Democratic Primary in March of 2012.

**Law Enforcement and Training Experience:**

- Former Harris County Sheriff Deputy, Deputy Constable Pct. 1
- Master Peace Officer with 20 Years of Full Time Law Enforcement Experience including:
  - 17 Years of Solid Patrol Experience answering all police calls for service
  - Assigned to the first Community Policing Program - Harris County Sheriff Department
- Constable Civil Process Certification- 1994
- Bachelor Degree- Organizational Leadership, Criminal Justice/ Police Administration
- Proud Texan- Honorably Discharged -Texas Army National Guard-Awarded National Defense Ribbon

**Administrative and Budgeting Experience:**

- Elected to South Houston City Council- 2 Terms
- Economic Development Corporation- City of South Houston

No HYPE, No TV Commercials, No Buying the Election...Just Honest, Hard Working Law Enforcement from a Texas Proud Democratic Candidate with Experience, Leadership and Extensive Education to be your next Constable. Lee Hernandez truly represents and cares about the working people of Precinct 2.

*Please visit my website for more information on my campaign and qualifications.*

**WWW.HERNANDEZ4CONSTABLE2012.COM**

Elect **Lee Hernandez** For Constable Pct. 2



Political Advertising Paid for by Lee Hernandez for Constable Campaign. Christy Hernandez - Treasurer 832-228-1857 hernandezchristy@sbglobal.net

# In the master's footsteps, former pupil leads Dobie to doorstep of National Academic Championship

By Britta Gamino  
PISD Communications Staff

Not unlike a Hollywood talent scout, Richard Golenko liked what he saw in Steven Higginbotham.

That was nearly two decades ago. Golenko was still basking in the scholastic limelight after leading Dobie High School to a national championship in Academic Decathlon in 1992. He had already set his sights on another title when he noticed a rail-thin, rigidly serious student sitting in his Latin class at Dobie one early autumn day.

"I saw his dedication to music in orchestra and in class," says Golenko, recalling his first impression of Higginbotham. "I saw that he had the ability to be in Academic Decathlon."

Higginbotham eventually signed on for Dobie's Academic Decathlon team and was part of a squad that finished second at the state championships in 1995. Golenko would have to wait until the following year to claim his second national title.

But now the issue of whether the Longhorns can win a third national championship isn't one of Golenko's concerns. He's retired. As Dobie competes in Charlotte, N.C., this week for the national finals, Higginbotham

is in charge. Now a member of Dobie's history faculty, he's also the team's coach.

The journey from pupil to master has been one ripe with satisfaction for both Golenko and Higginbotham. "I learned a lot on the way," Higginbotham says. "Most of my strategies were and still are a product of Golenko's experiences."

The team from Granada Hills Charter High School in Granada Hills, Calif., holds the top score and also the favorite's tag going into the first day of competition. Dobie's top score is a close second.

The national tournament wraps up on Saturday. A national title would break new ground for Dobie's tradition-rich program, if for no other reason than the Longhorns have never won a national championship under any coach other than Golenko, who held the mentor reins for 19 years. Higginbotham is in his fifth year.

"To be successful in Decathlon, as a competitor or as a coach, you have to have to want to feel the rush of competition and advancing to the next level," Golenko says. "I've had three or four other students who have come through the program who are now coaching at other schools, but none of them are as successful as Steven."

After graduating from college, Higginbotham decided to apply for a faculty position at his alma mater. During his second year of teaching, he took over as head coach of the Academic Decathlon team.

Golenko credits his own success as Academic Decathlon coach to his 35-year

career as a Dobie teacher. His wife, Jane Golenko, who assisted her husband during his coaching years, is now serving as librarian at Pasadena High School.

As a student, Higginbotham says Golenko challenged him to perform at a higher level.

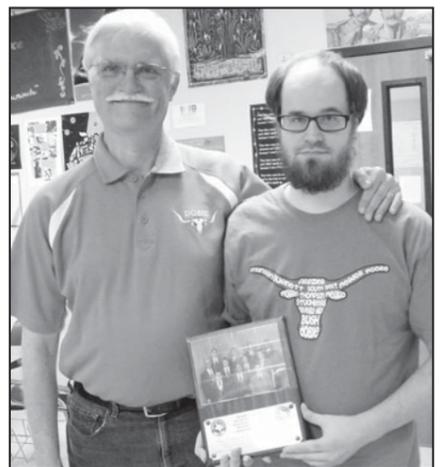
"He had this humorous way of pointing out my inadequacies in my level of effort while I was on the team," recalled Higginbotham, "and in a way only Golenko could do."

Eddie Nunez, a senior, led the way for Dobie's dominant performance at the state championships this year.

Nunez took home nine of the 33 individual medals won by the team and received the highest score in state varsity competition history.

Teammate Tad Walters earned a perfect essay score of 1,000, a rare achievement. The top overall scorer on the Dobie team this year was Jessica Huynh.

Dobie's 50,470 points were the most compiled by any of Higginbotham's teams.



Former longtime Dobie Academic Decathlon team coach Richard Golenko (left) and present coach Steven Higginbotham display a plaque commemorating the 1995 team and its second-place finish at the state championships. At the time, Higginbotham was a member of the team.

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## Lt. Harry Zamora

For Harris County Constable Pct. 2

Lieutenant Harry Zamora has dedicated over 31 years of his professional life to providing Houston area communities with high quality public safety services. His compassion toward improving quality of life for all diverse members of the greater Houston area was recognized recently by citizens, elected officials, and police executives alike.

Lt. Zamora's stellar contributions reflect a lifetime of commendable performance. Throughout his career, Lt. Zamora worked diligently to address serious crime problems and helped solve other issues brought to his attention. This year alone, he received recognition for his valor, integrity, and work ethic, in the following forms:

- A tribute from Anderson Elementary School students, parents, faculty, and staff, presented by Principal Roslyn S. Vaughn, Ph.D.
- Congressional Special Recognition for outstanding service, unwavering valor, and dedication to a high level of service to the citizens of Houston, by U.S. Congressman Al Green, U.S. House of Representatives
- Certificate of Appreciation for continuing professional service and heroic efforts, from the Brays Oaks Management District
- Certificate of Recognition for commitment to duty and fulfilling the Houston Police Department goal of ensuring public safety for all citizens from Houston City Council Member Anne Clutterbuck
- Award for heroic actions from State of Texas House of Representatives Legislator Alma A. Allen
- Nomination for the Houston Police Department Medal of Valor from Captain S. Spears

Lt. Zamora is a community volunteer, and has given his time to fostering community programs that build healthy relationships and enable families to thrive in a safe environment.

As a resident and business owner of the South Belt-Ellington area, Lt. Harry Zamora brings this high level of commitment to service and his interest in improving the quality of life and safety of ALL citizens of Harris County Precinct Two.

Elect a true police leader. Elect a heroic officer. Elect a dedicated family man to serve you as Harris County Constable Precinct 2, in 2012.

Harry Zamora Campaign Christina Morales - Treasurer  
111 N. Ennis Houston, TX 77003 832-264-5517

[www.voteorzamora.com](http://www.voteorzamora.com)



In 1995, the Dobie Academic Decathlon team won second place in state competition and were the Regional and District Champions. Team members were, left to right, (front row) Charles White, Mohammed Ali, Chris Bradshaw, (middle row) Coach Richard Golenko, Jeff Dorrough, Steven Higginbotham, Coach Judith Kemler, (back row) Chris Poole, Aaron Jones, Brian Coon and David Ngo.

# San Jac alumni to perform in dance concert

The San Jacinto College Central dance club and physical education department will present its 34th annual spring dance concert, *Anything Goes*, on Thursday and Friday, April 28 and April 29.

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. each day in the Slocomb Auditorium. This year's show is dedicated to all the thousands of dancers who have attended and participated in the SJC Central dance show throughout its 34 years.

Performers include 79 SJC dance students, 24 high school students, two dual credit students, and a University of Houston-Clear Lake student.

Choreographers include students Danielle Elsner, El Lorence Juan, Erin Hornsby and Heather Benedetti; and professional dancers are Wendy Digiacinto, Meghan Chadwick, Ozz Diaz and Juio Vallejo.

The show is under the direction of longtime dance and physical education professor Sandi Morgan, who

has spent the past three decades at SJC Central teaching dance to beginners to experienced performers. She is the 2009 recipient of a Pasadena Artist of the Year award.

Along with current SJC students, the concert will also feature performances by alumni who have moved on to open their own dance businesses.

Stephanie Human Riley and Katie Jones Brewer, owners and directors of Premier Dance Academy in Clear Lake, and Melanie Bohacek McDonald and Ashley Vanegriff, owners and operators of STEPS Performing Arts Center in Deer Park, will take the stage.

Former SJC students Chris Bravo of the South Belt area and T'Noya Thompson Gonzales of Friendswood will also bring audiences a hip-hop performance with their two dance crews.

The San Jacinto College Central campus is located at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena.

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*Over 33 Attractions!*  
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SAVE \$2 EACH. Present this coupon prior to purchase at any Galveston Island ticket window Sunday through Friday in June, July or August or any operating day in May or September and SAVE \$2 each on up to 6 full-price, all-day tickets.

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Expires September 18, 2011.

**SCHLITTERBAHN**  
GALVESTON ISLAND Waterpark

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# Financial Aid Frenzy at San Jac South

Financial aid staff at San Jacinto College South will begin holding "Financial Aid Frenzy" every Friday from April 29 through June 24.

The purpose of the Financial Aid Frenzy is to assist students with filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Current SJC students, as well as new enrolling students, are encouraged to stop by so that they can make sure their application meets all the guidelines.

"Our goal is to increase financial aid awareness and to ensure our students and community receive the necessary support in applying for aid," said Sonia Townsend, South campus financial aid services coordinator.

"We understand that the

cost of a college education often is greater than a student's re-sources, so by offering these FAFSA workshops, we hope to reduce the number of files being selected for verification and therefore reduce processing time. Students may even receive additional aid, if they qualify, by applying early."

Students need to bring all of their 2010 W-2 forms as well as any other tax forms.

Students who are still considered dependents of their parents will also need to bring their parents' tax information.

Financial Aid Frenzy will take place in the South campus Interactive Learning Center in Room 1103 from noon to 4 p.m.

The South campus is located at 13735 Beamer.

# Open house held at SJC campuses

San Jacinto College recently held collegewide open houses at each of its campuses, advising, previewing academic and technical programs, and student organizations to area high school students and community members.

"I came to get more information on the cosmetology program," said Manville High School senior, Dennis Garza.

"I've been interested in San Jac's program ever since I was in the sixth grade at Southmore Intermediate. I've always loved doing hair and makeup, and I remember how

San Jac cosmetology students would come talk to our class about what the cosmetology industry was and show us different things they learn in the program."

All three campuses held open houses March 31 where students, parents, and the general public could come and talk to faculty and students in various academic and technical departments.

Academic advisors and financial aid coordinators were available for any enrollment questions.

Campus tours provided a first-hand look at each campus for prospective students.

# Over The Back Fence by Jan

**JACKIE WISHED A HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
 Birthday wishes are sent to **Jackie Ditta** on April 28 from her husband, **Luke**, and her sons and their families. Also hoping she has a great day are her many South Belt friends, neighbors and extended family.

**BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO JOE**  
**Joe Craddock** of C&D Burger Shoppe celebrates his birthday Tuesday, May 3. Birthday greetings are sent to Joe from his friends, family and the staff at the *Leader*.

**WELCOME TO THE WORLD SYDNEY!**  
**Allison** and **Cody Reynolds** welcomed their daughter, **Sydney Renee Reynolds**, into the world Jan. 24, 2011, at 11:54 a.m. She weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. and stretched 19-1/2 inches. Welcoming Sydney home was big sister **Avery**. Also excited about her arrival were **Gran Rose** and **Pop Larry Konzelman**, **Nana Judy** and **Papa Howard Reynolds**, **Aunt Kiki** and **Uncle Fernando Delarosa**, **Aunt Kimmie** and **Uncle Mike Frazee**, as well as cousins **Jacob** and **Aidan Delarosa** and **Matthew**, **Lauren** and **Zachary Frazee**. Allison grew up in the South Belt area and graduated from Dobie in 2000.

**GWEN HAS ARRIVED!**  
**Jenny Reed-Garcia** and **Aaron Garcia** of Kirkwood South are proud parents of a baby girl, **Gwen**, who arrived April 19, 2011. She weighed 7 lbs., 11 oz. Proud grandparents are **Christine** and **Richard Reed** and **Richard Garcia** and **Christine Monreal**. Gwen's parents are 1999 and 2000 Dobie grads. Good wishes

are sent from all their family and friends.

**SCHOOL DAZE**  
 The following personnel and staff members of the Pasadena Independent School District celebrate birthdays April 28 through May 4.

**Atkinson Elementary**  
 Happy birthday wishes are sent to **Katie Bass** May 2.

**Burnett Elementary**  
 Blow out the birthday candles for **Daren Dibble** May 4.

**Bush Elementary**  
 On May 3, birthday wishes are sent to **Nicole Taylor**.

**Frazier Elementary**  
 Greetings for a happy birthday are sent to **Meredith Rives** April 29. **Jamie Underwood** has a birthday April 30.

**Meador Elementary**  
 On April 28, **Mary Baker Porter** celebrates a birthday. The day for a cake for **Cathy Taylor** is April 30. Having a birthday May 4 is **Paulina Rivas-Lopez**.

**Stuchbery Elementary**  
 Birthday greetings are sent to **Cheryl Fox** May 3. On April 4, a birthday is celebrated by **Maria Orozco**.

**Morris Middle School**  
 Double birthday wishes are sent on April 29 to **Paul Bennett** and **Roland Garza**. Another double birthday is celebrated by **Alice McCoy** and **Leticia Rodriguez** April 30.

**Thompson Intermediate**  
 The day for a cake for **Melissa Taylor** is

April 29.

**Dobie High**  
 May 1 is the day for a double birthday surprise for **Dyana Ashcraft** and **Jeanee Wells**. On May 2, blow out the birthday candles for **Marcia Griffin**. **Tanya Morales** is wished a happy birthday May 3. The day for a party for **Vanessa Canales** is May 4.

**LAUREATE PSI CHAPTER MEETS**  
 Laureate Psi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi held its April meeting in the home of **Pam Harvey** with **Judy Switzer** as co-hostess. There were 10 members present and four absent. Plans for Founder's Day, set to be held on April 16 at Golfcrest Country Club, were discussed. Following the business meeting, Switzer read from the Book of Beta Sigma Phi and presented the program, *New Paths to Friendship Through Poetry*. The May meeting will be hosted by **Carroll McCullough** in the home of **Barbara Jennings**.

**HOME RUN CORNER**  
**Keith Kenney** hit a home run over the green monster during the game of the Phillies versus the Braves on Tuesday, April 19, 2011. **Pop Jerry**, **Nonnie Barbara** and mom **Teresa** were there to witness the spectacular hit and say "Way to go Keith!"

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# Master Gardeners schedule May events

The Harris County Master Gardener Association recently scheduled its events for the month of May.

**Green Thumb Gardening Series**  
 Dr. Anthony Camerino, county extension agent for horticulture, will speak on landscape pests and diseases on Tuesday, May 10, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. in the meeting room at Clear Lake Park (on the lake side), 5001 NASA Parkway in Seabrook. These lectures are free and open to the public.

For more information, visit the website at <http://harris-tx.tamu.edu/hort>.

**Master Gardener Lecture Series**  
 Barry Schlueter, master hybridizer, will speak on *Hibiscus Culture and Breeding* on Wednesday, May 18, at 10 a.m. in the meeting room at Clear Lake Park (on the lakeside), 5001 NASA

Learn how exotic hibiscus are bred and their cultural requirements in the greater Houston area. These lectures are free and open to the public.

For more information, visit the website at <http://harris-tx.tamu.edu/hort>.

**Open Garden Day**  
 Tour the working and demonstration gardens maintained by the Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2. Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer gardening questions during this free event.

Children are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Open Garden Day will be held Monday, May 16, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff in Houston.

For more information, visit the web site at <http://harris-tx.tamu.edu/hort>.

# Certified Nurses Day celebrated at hospital

Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital celebrated Certified Nurses Day by honoring its board-certified nurses for their professionalism, leadership and commitment to excellence in patient care.

"Board certification of nurses plays an important role in the assurance of high standards of care for patients and their loved ones," said Kelly Ochoa, R.N., chief nursing officer at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. "Nursing, like health care in general, has become increasingly complex. The knowledge-intensive requirements of modern nursing require extensive education, as well as a strong personal commitment to excellence by the nurse."

Memorial Hermann Southeast encourages board certification for all its nurses, and

patients are encouraged to inquire whether there are certified nurses on staff when they visit a hospital or their primary care provider.

There are numerous nursing certification specialties, including medical-surgical, pediatric, pain management, cardiac vascular, oncology, hospice, case management, emergency nursing, critical care and many more.

"We are very proud of our hardworking and dedicated certified nurses," said Erin Aspre, CEO of Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. "Their strong commitment to their jobs ensures the very best patient care at our hospital."

For details on Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital, visit [www.memorialhermann.org/southeast](http://www.memorialhermann.org/southeast).

# LSA heads to Academic State Finals



Sixteen students at Lutheran South Academy recently advanced to the Private School Interscholastic Association State Tournament to be held at Texas Christian University on April 29. To advance to PSIA State, the students had to place first or second at the district academic competition in subjects such as math, number sense, writing, spelling, on-sight drawing and vocabulary. Pictured are, left to right, (front row) Gabriel Soto,

Jackson Rabb, Lindsey Witson, Christiana Straub, (middle row) Carson Fechter, Jackson Griffis, Andrew Leimkuehler, J.P. Stanley, Siena Condon, Stephanie Zeller, Tara Everett, (back row) Trevor Marston, Katarina Straub, Braden Shaffer, Drew Beakey and Justin Smith. Lutheran South Academy is located at 12555 Ryewater Drive off Dixie Farm Road.

*Photo submitted*

# A benefit for long-time South Belt resident Alan O'Quinn will be held at Time Out Sports Bar, 10928 Fuqua, on May 7 starting at noon.

There will be BBQ plates, door prizes, raffle tickets and auction items. Live bands and drink specials all day. Alan left behind four children: Lisa, Adam, Ashley and Savannah. All proceeds will go to Paula O'Quinn, Alan's mother, to help with medical expenses and funeral costs.

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# Remember When

**35 years ago (1976)**  
 Fred Lozano of Scarsdale, Anthony "Tony" Schillaci of Sagemeadow and the new "Modulace," an emergency treatment ambulance designed to give on-the-spot treatment to the patient, purchased by the City of Houston, were stationed at Fire Station #70.

The boundary line for the John H. Burnett Elementary School was up for approval by the Pasadena Independent School District.

**30 years ago (1981)**  
 The county's general superintendent for Precinct 1 said construction of another bridge at Scarsdale Boulevard and Beamer was a high priority, but she did not know when funds for construction would be available.

A Security Transport Corp. armored van was robbed of an estimated \$500,000 at the Gulf Freeway near Scarsdale Boulevard.

**25 years ago (1986)**  
 Al Carter, noted Houston Chronicle sports columnist, was one of six former San Jacinto College students to be named as Distinguished Alumni.

Renewed interest in a school's crossing at Scarsdale and Sageglen spurred by a child being hit by an automobile, resulted in several changes and additions near the scene of the accident. But the most desired addition of a school crossing guard had resulted in zero positive actions.

**20 years ago (1991)**  
 With the possibility of litigation imminent, the federal government reached an accord with one Southbend

homeowner giving the family a \$65,000 home outright.

District 70 Fire Chief Travis Ezeil retired after 31 years of service.

**15 years ago (1996)**  
 Atkinson, Frazier, Genoa and Stuchbery elementary and Pasadena and South Houston high schools approved standardized dress.

Chris Williams, 29-year-old West Point graduate, was killed in a Fort Sill training accident. John Williams, his father, thoroughly studied the Joint Collateral Accident Investigation and using that investigation, made recommendations to prevent future accidents. The Army listened and informed him of the changes made as a result of his recommendations.

**10 years ago (2001)**  
 Thompson Intermediate's Academic Team defeated the previous year's champion, Masterman Academy from Philadelphia, with a score of 45-36, winning a place in the finals of the National Academic League Tournament for the fifth time in nine years.

Memorial Hospital announced a \$70-million expansion including expanding the emergency center, intensive care unit and cardiac cath lab; increasing inpatient bed capacity; replacing and expanding outpatient surgery sites; expanding women's services; and adding parking capacity.

**5 years ago (2006)**  
 The 10th annual South Belt Cookoff, which raises money for the South Belt July Fourth fireworks, was held. A record 60 teams participated.

Shirley Neeley, commissioner of education for Texas, said she would approve the PISD Board of Trustee request for a waiver which would allow Kirk Lewis to be named superintendent of PISD.

Class A assault charges were filed on a Clear Creek Independent School District teacher after she reportedly sprayed a female with pepper spray after a road rage incident on Scarsdale Boulevard.

Houston Police Department investigated a burglary that occurred at the Time Out sports bar on Fuqua.

A suspect was arrested in connection with an attempted abduction of a young girl at a bus stop in Pearland.

Andre Loreman received the San Jacinto College South 2006 Outstanding Student of the Year Award.

**1 year ago (2010)**  
 The City of Houston raised water and sewer rates by nearly 30 percent for an average single-family household. The increase would be phased in over the next three years. Roughly 12.5 percent of the 27.7 percent increase took effect June 1. The remaining 15 percent would be phased in every April 1 for three years beginning in 2011.

After serving nine years on the Pasadena Independent School District board, Vice President Frank Braden, who once served as Dobie principal, did not file to keep his seat.

A fourth-grade student riding his bike to Weber Elementary had a close brush with danger when he was struck by a vehicle leaving

the area school. According to police, the child was able to jump from his bike, avoiding serious injury. His bike was not as fortunate, as it was heavily damaged in the collision. The child was treated by paramedics at the scene and released to attend school.

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2011 GRADUATE

With great pride, I Rebecca Marie Thomas am proud to announce my Graduation from West Central High School. Come celebrate at Central on Thursday, May 12th. Two thousand and eleven at 6:00 o'clock at West Central.

## Nomination deadline set for alumni awards

The deadline to nominate Lake alumni for the Distinguished Alumni, the Early Achievement, or the Leadership Service Awards is Saturday, April 30. Nominations are also being accepted for the Outstanding Professor Award. For more information or a nomination form, call the Office of Alumni and Community Relations at 281-283-2019, or visit <http://www.uhcl.edu/alumni>.

## Campus pilot test usage set at UHCL Pearland

The University of Houston-Clear Lake Pearl campus will extend hours of operation April 30 and May 1 from 1 to 6 p.m. to check for campus use on weekends. For more information about UHCL Pearland campus, visit <http://www.uhcl.edu/pearland>.

## Hobby Lions Club to meet

Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club will meet Wednesday, May 4, at 11:30 a.m. at the Golden Corral at Fuqua and I-45. For more information, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531.

## Grand Opening Spring Special

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## Scholarship fund established in honor of late San Jacinto College alumnus

San Jacinto College alumnus Andrew Erickson made his mark in the Houston area as a dependable and well-liked mechanic before his life was cut short at the age of 24. In celebration of his devotion to the industry, and to others as an organ donor, Allen Samuels Dodge Chrysler Jeep of Katy recently made a \$6,000 donation to the college for the establishment of the Andrew Lee Erickson Memorial Scholarship Fund.

"Andrew was an amazing young man, full of life and energy," said Bill Denton, service manager for Allen Samuels Dodge Chrysler Jeep of Katy. "As he progressed in the Chrysler Automotive Program, he became a star student and repeatedly made the dean's list. Everyone at the dealership was impressed by him."

On April 11, 2010, Andrew died in a vehicle accident, nine days after his 24th birthday, a time when he decided to become an organ donor when renewing his driver's license. Little did he know that his decision would save one person's life and save another person's vision.

"Andrew was always very generous," said his father, James Erickson, who began working on cars with Andrew when he was a teen-

ager. "The people that met him loved him. He wanted to teach automotive classes some day. I think he would want recipients of his scholarship to be as excited as he was to pursue a career in automotive."

Andrew is survived by his father; his mother, Mary; and his two brothers, Samuel and Thomas. Thomas is following in his brother's footsteps at San Jacinto College in the automotive department.

"We are very grateful to Andrew's family and the Adam Samuels Auto Group for establishing this fund to

provide students with the opportunity to a higher education," said Ruth Keenan, interim executive director of development for San Jacinto College. "We will carry on his memory through his memorial fund as it enriches the lives of those in our community."

Funds for the Andrew Lee Erickson Memorial Scholarship Fund were raised during a car show last month. Adam Samuels Auto Group plans to continue raising money for the fund with the second annual Andrew Erickson ALL MOPAR Car Show, sched-

uled for March 2012.

The San Jacinto College Foundation, a nonprofit organization, is dedicated to enhancing the level of student achievement and excellence at San Jacinto College. Its purpose is to receive gifts, bequests and donations, and to raise private funds to benefit the people of eastern Harris County, Texas. Donations to the foundation are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

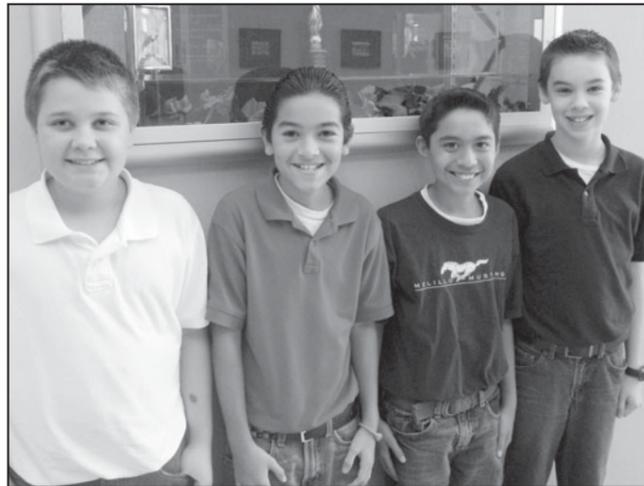
For more information or to make a donation, visit [www.sanjacfoundation.org](http://www.sanjacfoundation.org) or call 281-998-6104.



Pictured, left to right, Dr. Steven Horton, dean of industrial and applied technology at SJC Central; Bill Denton, service manager for Allen Samuels Dodge Chrysler Jeep of Katy; Ruth Keenan, interim executive director of development for SJC; Dr. Neil Matkin, SJC Central campus president; Dr. Brenda Hellyer, SJC chancellor; Andrew Erickson's mother and father, James and Mary Erickson; Andrew's brothers, Thomas and Samuel Erickson; Samuel's fiancé, Chelsea Garcia; and Andrew's aunt and uncle, Mechele and Gary Carroll.

Photo by Jeannie Peng-Armao, San Jacinto College

## Melillo science fair winners



Melillo Middle School had five students place at the district science fair held on March 21. Winners are, left to right, Jacob Young, fifth grade - first place Consumer Science and Outstanding Experimental Design; Robert Lazo, sixth grade - third place Human Health; Adam Padilla (and Alex Gonzales, not pictured), sixth grade - second place team project; and Kevin Garner, sixth grade - third place Physics and Best in Show.

Photo submitted

## UH-Clear Lake celebrates spring 2011 commencement

University of Houston-Clear Lake will hold its spring 2011 commencement Sunday, May 15, at Reliant Arena, One Reliant Park, in Houston.

The commencement ceremony will be held at noon for

the School of Human Sciences and Humanities and School of Science and Computer Engineering.

Keynote speaker will be Gary Boetticher, associate professor of computer science, computer information and software engineering.

Commencement for the School of Education and School of Business will be held at 5 p.m., and the speaker will be Deer Park Independent School District Superintendent Arnold Adair.

Boetticher has more than 22 years of teaching experience in higher education. He joined UH-Clear Lake faculty in fall 2000.

His research interests include data mining and machine learning, bioinformatics and software metrics. He has published 44 papers and, in 2004, received two "Best Paper" awards.

In 2010, Boetticher served as co-editor for the special section of the Information and Software Technology journal.

That same year, he was awarded first place for the UHCL Teaching-Learning Enhancement Center Innovative Teaching Award for his paper *How to Teach Like Harvard*, which draws on his experiences of enhancing his teaching methods with a series of YouTube videos.

Adair graduated from high school in the same school district where he is now superintendent.

He returned to the Deer Park area in 1975 as a teacher, and he served in that capacity for 13 years. He became an assistant principal at that time and later a principal for the district.

In 1994, Adair became the executive director of secondary instruction before becoming deputy superintendent in 1999. He became superintendent in 2004. He received his Mid-Management Admini-

stration Certificate from UH-Clear Lake in 1988, his Superintendent Certificate in 1999, and his Doctor of Education in educational leadership in 2010.

Adair has also served as an adjunct professor for UHCL, teaching classes for prospective teachers and administrators. In 2005, he was honored with a UH-Clear Lake Distinguished Alumni Award. He has also received the Advocate for Excellence in Literacy Award for 2010 and has been named Superintendent of the Year by the Texas Computer Educators Association.

During the ceremony, approximately 894 of the 1,091 spring graduating students who applied for graduation will participate. Of these, 473 will be awarded degrees in the first ceremony and 421 in the second. Also in the second ceremony, five School of Education students will receive their Doctor of Education in educational leadership.

UHCL's Commencement Kick-off is scheduled for Friday, May 13, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., in the university's Bayou Building, Atrium 1 and Garden Room, 2700 Bay Area Blvd.

The event, sponsored by the university's Office of Alumni and Community Relations, will welcome new alumni into the UHCL Alumni Association. All are welcome and admission is free, but tickets are required.

Each graduate will receive three complimentary tickets; additional tickets will be available for purchase for \$2 each.

For information regarding the graduation reception and to pick up free tickets, call 281-283-2041 or e-mail Coordinator of Outreach and Communication Mindi Funderburg at [funderburg@uhcl.edu](mailto:funderburg@uhcl.edu).

## Dobie's first softball girls together again



Ten members of Dobie High School's first softball team gathered for their 20-year reunion at a Dobie game held on April 1. Team members present were, left to right, Kelly Fowler-Fox, Emily Weiland-Winter, Angeliq Davalos-Garcia, Tami Sales, Tracey Nance, Michelle Almaguer-Saenz, Robin Rackley, Shelli Guerra-Perez and Shannon McDonald-Warner.



Team members pictured are, left to right, Shannon McDonald-Warner, Emily Weiland-Winter (behind McDonald-Warner), Tamara Vasquez-Merriwether, Michelle Almaguer-Saenz, Shelli Guerra-Perez, Tami Sales, Tracey Nance and Kelly Fowler-Fox (behind Nance).

Photos submitted

## NASA Aglow event May 5

NASA Aglow Community Lighthouse will hold a National Day of Prayer gathering Thursday, May 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Praise Chapel, located at 18516 S. Highway 3 in Webster. The public is invited to the come-and-go event and encouraged to bring others.

For information, call 713-818-5467 or visit the website at [www.aglownasa.com](http://www.aglownasa.com).

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## The flavor of flamenco at San Jacinto College South

Audience members were mesmerized recently at the 2011 Houston Spanish and Flamenco Festival, hosted by Solero Flamenco, the consulate general of Spain, and San Jacinto College South.

The festival, produced by Houston's Solero Flamenco co-founders Jeremias Garcia and Irma La Paloma, consisted of flamenco guitar, song, and dance workshops.

Local group Celt-Iberia performed on opening night, presenting their unique sound of Spanish Celtic music.

The second evening brought flamenco artists and workshop participants to Andalucia Tapas Restaurant, giving everyone a chance to come together and celebrate flamenco in a very enthusiastic "Juerga" event.

The festival ended with the flamenco performances, Fin de Festival.

"I was extremely impressed by the hard work and dedication displayed by all the festival participants," said Garcia, co-director of the festival. "Not only did the festi-

val reach existing aficionados, but by extending a warm welcome to the community, the festival created new ones!"

Students from the Houston area, San Antonio and New Orleans, came in for the event. Instructors included flamenco performer and choreographer, Pilar Andujar; cajón, palmas, and dance master, Timo Lozano; and castanets and dance master, Solangel "Lali" Calix, along with Garcia and La Paloma. Tommy Barrios, was also

a student at several of the workshops, and though never having any formal instruction, he felt at ease learning the techniques of flamenco performing.

"The instructors make you feel very comfortable with what you're learning," noted Barrios. "They don't single you out if you make a mistake, or overcorrect you if you do something completely wrong. They really want you to focus on the emotion of the song and performance, and let that guide your perfor-

mance, then go back and perfect your technique."

Opening for Fin de Festival was the San Jacinto College South Guitar Ensemble, consisting of Alejandro Fogle, Jeff Phillips, Ryan Lyons, and Joshua Allen, who set the tone for the evening with the brilliant sounds of the Spanish guitar.

Pilar Andujar had her Houston debut at the Fin de Festival event, performing to the musical accompaniment of Solero Flamenco. Her technique of flamenco chore-

ography through sharp, and expressive movements exemplified an experience of the classic art of flamenco.

Other guest artists performances included those from Timo Lozano, Solangel "Lali" Calix, Maria Fernanda Urbaz, Edith Nino, Laura Uribe, Alexandra Simmons, Almoraima Esparis, and musicians Raúl Orlando Edwards, Alejandro Salvia, Dr. Mary Carol Warwick, Chris Howard, and La Paloma and Garcia with Solero Flamenco.

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**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated  
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# Bay Area Chorus final concerts of season set

The Bay Area Chorus of Greater Houston and Musical Director Keith Dixon announce the conclusion of their 2010-2011 season, *Flights of Fancy. Transcendent Experiences* invites the public to take their own fanciful musical journey as they enjoy unique, often visionary musical settings.

The final concert series will include two concerts. The first will be at 7 p.m. includes the Women's Chorus singing Kodaly's *Wainamoinen Makes Music* from Finnish folklore, and *Isn't It Romantic*. The Mixed Chorus will charm the audience with Brahms' *Der Abend* and excite them with the Mongolian *Eight Chestnut Horses*.

The second concert will be at 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 2, at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. The program includes the Friendswood High Singers, directed by Janwin Overstreet-Goode, and the Clear Creek Intermediate School Symphonic Choir, led by Summer Brauer.

Advance tickets may be purchased for \$10, and tickets at the door are \$15 for students or \$12 for seniors over 65, based on availability. Tickets may be purchased by visiting the "purchase tickets" section of the website at [www.bayareachorus.org](http://www.bayareachorus.org), by calling the BAC hotline at 281-326-1286, or from any chorus member.

Now in its 46th Season, BAC has grown to be a Houston-area choral institution. Under the direction of Keith Dixon, it has expanded to include a women's and mixed chorus.

For 45 years, the chorus has performed a varied repertoire including the popular Veteran's Day concerts and this year's Major Works concert with orchestra. BAC takes an active role in music education by inviting school, church, community and university choirs to perform at all regular concerts.

The Bay Area Women's Chorus has been invited to perform at the state convention of the Texas Choral Directors Association in San Antonio in July 2011.

# McKay earns dance awards



Michelle McKay earned an Elite Top First award at the Kids Artistic Review dance competition held in Houston recently. She was given the award for her self choreographed jazz solo to Pink's *Perfect*. In addition to Elite Top First, she had the highest scoring solo in the 15- to 19-year-old division. She also participated in three group dances that received an Elite Top First and 1st High Point award in the Jazz category, Elite Top First and 1st High Point award in the Lyrical category, and Top First in Musical Theater. McKay is the daughter of Randy and Carla McKay of Sagement and is a junior at Dobie High School. She has been studying dance for 13 years at Kennedy Dance Theatre.

# Cookoff includes family fun

Continued from Page 1A for each group will be presented at 6 p.m. Contrary to an article in last week's *Leader*, the contest is free, but limited to the first 10 to sign up for each group. To sign up for the competition, e-mail name, age, song choice and phone number to entertainment committee chair Chris McDonald at [chrismcd@wans.net](mailto:chrismcd@wans.net).

Open karaoke, hosted by Michael Brown, will also take place Friday, beginning at 4 p.m. Friday evening entertainment will be provided by the Blue Note Brothers Band, known for modern country, southern rock and funky blues, who will play from 8 p.m. to midnight. Saturday evening's entertainment will be provided by Rene Hinojosa and the Texas Heat band, who will perform their style of country, rock, blues and Tejano music. A silent auction will also take place Saturday. Past auc-

tion items include a ride on a fire engine and the chance to name an area street. Drinks and barbecue will be sold by the SVFD throughout the event. Parking will be available at Dobie High School with a shuttle service running both days from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. Unlike previous cookoffs, this year's event will have a \$5 admission fee. Children 12 and under will be admitted free. Advance tickets are buy five, get one free

and can be purchased at Epperson's office, 10904 Scarsdale Blvd # 226; South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, 10500 Scarsdale; *South Belt-Ellington Leader*, 11555 Beamer; Central Ace Hardware, 11676 Beamer; the Kirkmont MUD office, 10102 Blackhawk; and the Clear Brook City MUD office, 11911 Blackhawk. For additional information, e-mail John Layton at [jlayton@live.com](mailto:jlayton@live.com). No outside alcohol will be allowed.

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# Free legal advice hours extended

In honor of Law Week, a national holiday recognizing the rule of law in our society, the Houston Bar Association has extended the hours of its free legal advice program, LegalLine. The extended LegalLine program will be held on Wednesday, May 4, 2011, from noon to 9 p.m. The public is invited to call the Houston Bar Association at 713-759-1133, where volunteer attorneys will answer simple legal questions, give brief legal advice, or refer the caller to the appropriate social service or legal aid

agency for further assistance. The second LegalLine program of the month will be held at its usual time, on Wednesday, May 18, from 5

to 9 p.m. **Note:** In June, LegalLine will return to its regular service on the first and third Wednesdays of the month, from 5 to 9 p.m.

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# SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

## Playoff-bound Dobie beats SoHo, nets No. 2 seed in 22-5A

Hopes of a district championship have disappeared, but that won't likely keep the Dobie varsity baseball team from entering the playoffs on a high.

Al Gonzalez's two-run homer, coupled with a sturdy pitching performance from ace Emmitt Pitts lifted the Longhorns to a 7-3 victory over South Houston April 25 at Dobie.

The victory moved Dobie to 10-4, ensuring the team of entering the postseason as the No. 2 seed out of

District 22-5A. Deer Park, which hosts Dobie April 29 (7 p.m.) to close the regular season, is the league's champion.

South Houston entered

the action with the intent of putting pressure on the Longhorns for the coveted No. 2 seed, but Gonzalez, Pitts and several of their teammates put a stop to that

thinking. Tied at 1-1 in the bottom of the third inning, the Longhorns strung together a five run, five-hit rally that essentially sank South

Houston. In the end, the rally was enough to give Dobie the No. 2 seed.

Zack Long started the push with a triple and then rode home on Gonzalez's long homer to left field.

Up 3-1, the Longhorns kept the inning alive as Xavier Johnson reached first base after a strikeout and Edward Peabody doubled to right-center field.

With runners at second and third, Marcelo Martinez smacked his second double of the game, bringing home Continued on Page 6B



At right, Dobie designated hitter Al Gonzalez (left in photo) is congratulated by head coach Miguel Torres after blasting a two-run homer in the bottom of the third inning April 25 against South Houston at Dobie. Gonzalez's homer, part of a five-run uprising in the third, led Dobie to a 7-3 win and a No. 2 seed out of 22-5A in the upcoming playoffs. Photo by John Bechtle

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## Local athletes set for Region III track

The best of the best are set to converge at Turner Stadium in Humble for the Region III track and field meet as contenders will be looking to qualify for the Class 5A state track and field meet in Austin.

The boys' and girls' varsity teams from both Dobie and Clear Brook will be sending a large group of athletes to the regional level after a strong showing at district. Because of the level of competition expected at

the Region III meet, it's difficult to determine just who will advance. However, there will be plenty of opportunities for local athletes to make their way to the state level.

The top two individual finishers as well as the top two teams in each of the relays will automatically qualify for state. From there, a set of alternates will be selected by time or distance achieved at region.

## DP losses aside, Dobie softball confident

**Bidistrict - Dobie vs. North Shore, Friday, April 29, PISD complex, 6:30 p.m.**

Determined to shake off back-to-back shutout losses to end the regular season,

the Dobie varsity softball team is focused on a fresh start.

Last year's journey ended in the area round, but Dobie is intent on going further this time, and the setbacks against Deer Park have been left behind.

April 25 at Deer Park, Plochek went six innings to earn the 1-0 win as Dobie stranded 13 runners.

## LSA's Curtis sweeps sprints

Lutheran South Academy track and field star Loreal Curtis won the 100-, 200- and 400-meter titles at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools district level and is now on

Deer Park first defeated Dobie 4-0 April 22 at the Pasadena ISD complex as Deer Park's Caitlyn Plochek fanned 11 in the win.

The outcome forced a tie at the top of the 22-5A standings at 9-1 between the two teams.

"But every team is given a path during the course of the season, and this is the one we have been given. "I feel like the Deer Park series was a learning experi-

## SBASA outlines scholarship requirements

Each year, the South Belt Area Sports Association presents \$500 scholarships to be applied toward collegiate academic costs to one deserving boy and girl student.

four-year college or technical/vocational school.

Applicants should also submit a copy of their transcript and a senior portrait with the application.

Questions should be directed to Rich Newell, president of South Belt Area Sports Association, at rdnewel12@auspex-inc.com, or to Karen O'Connor, secretary of the association, at karenocconnor9694@sbcglobal.net.

Eligibility requirements for the SBASA scholarship are as follows:

The student must have completed a minimum of three seasons in any of the six youth sports leagues supported by the SBASA, including the Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League, South Belt Girls' Softball Association, Sagemont Cowboys, South Belt Senior League Baseball (Pony/Colt), South Belt Youth Soccer Club, and Southbelt Dolphins.

## BHI's Henderson breaks 100 record

At right, Beverly Hills Intermediate seventh-grade student Justice Henderson posted a time of 12.79 seconds in the 100-meter dash at the Pasadena ISD track and field championships April 21, establishing a PISD record in the event. Henderson ran her time in the preliminaries and then came back in the finals to win the top spot at 13.32. Henderson also won the long jump and was part of two winning relay teams as the Lady Bears won the seventh-grade team title with 177 points. Also during the PISD championships, the Beverly Hills seventh-grade boys and the Thompson eighth-grade boys won team titles. For more on the PISD track and field finals, see Page 2B.



Submitted photo

Eligible candidates must be in satisfactory standing in both attendance and academic standing and should also exhibit good citizenship, character and community involvement.

The selection will be made by the SBASA committee. Financial need will be considered in the selection process.

The applications must be completed and returned to the respective school's counseling office by May 15, 2011.

The recipient must enroll in a minimum of 12 class hours at an accredited institution, including a two- or

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# Varsity tracksters head to Region III meet

Continued from Page 1B move on to the state level. From Dobie, there are Junior Andrew Robinson in the mix in the long

jump and the triple jump after winning the District 22-5A title in both events.

Robinson is also a member of Dobie's 4x100-meter relay team that includes DeMarcus Boyd, DeVonte Boyd and Davion Hurst.

At 50-7, Zach Fondal, the 22-5A champion in the shot, will be looking to advance, as will discus champion Jeff Campbell of Dobie.

Jemarcus Shelvin, the 22-5A winner in the 300-meter hurdles, is also in the mix along with 400-meter champion Reggie Wilson.

The Longhorn boys also have a stable of athletes who placed either second or third at the district meet and will be looking to sneak through to the big state event.

As for the Dobie girls, there are several athletes who will be looking to advance to the finals, where anything can happen and a state berth can be achieved.

Among the girls, Charity Knight and Melissa Knight will compete in the 200-meter dash.

Chelsea Williams will run the 1,600-meter event, and Mikaela Guevara is in the field among the 3,200-meter competitors.

Kyerra Simmons, Charity Knight, Derika Thomas and Essence Gilbert will team in both the 4x100- and 4x200-meter events for the Lady Longhorns, and Gilbert is in the 100-meter dash after winning the event at district.

**Brook athletes advance**  
The Clear Brook varsity boys' and girls' teams will also send a large number

of athletes to the regional meet.

Furqani Al-Amin was second in the triple jump for the Lady Wolverines, while teammate Danielle Epps punched her regional ticket in two sprints at district.

Epps was second in the 100-meter dash at 12.66 seconds, and her time of 25-75 was second-best in the 200-meter event.

The Lady Wolverines were third in the 4x400-meter relay at district to advance to regionals.

The 4x400 group included Jerilyn James, Asia Jones, Desiree Scott and Megan Conner as the team finished at 4 minutes, 3.34 seconds.

The Clear Brook boys have a handful of solid hopefuls, including four District 24-5A champions.

Darrell Dotson was the winner of the triple jump as he cleared 43 feet, 6 inches for the win.

At 50-2, shot putter Adam Cole qualified for regionals as the 24-5A champion.

Nick Taylor advanced to regionals in two sprints. He won the 100-meter dash in a time of 11.08 and was second in the 200 at 22.18.

Taylor Barrera won the 1,600-meter race in a time of 4:28.25.

**At right, Dobie junior Andrew Robinson is eligible to compete in three events at regionals. At district, he won both the long jump and triple jump events.**

Photo by John Bechtle

## Clear Brook baseball advances to playoffs

Thanks to another late-season collection of victories, the Clear Brook varsity baseball team is headed to the postseason for the third straight season.

Senior Keaton Miller was the winning pitcher as the Wolverines clinched their spot with a 4-0 victory April 22 at Pearland.

The Wolverines, now 8-2 in District 24-5A play and 19-9 overall, scored a run in the first inning, and that's all Miller needed to get the win.

Prior to that win, the Wolverines stayed on track with a clutch 2-1 victory

over Clear Lake, complete with two runs in the top of the seventh.

Tyler Hunt smacked a homer in the seventh inning to help the Wolverines eventually win the game.

Clear Brook, which is tied for third place with Alvin, will host winless Dickinson (0-13) during senior night April 29. Game time is 7 p.m.

The final playoff seedings will not be decided until the completion of play April 29, but the Wolverines know they will continue playing into the postseason once again.

Teams	W	L
Clear Springs	9	4
Brazoswood	9	4
Clear Brook	8	5
Alvin	8	5
Clear Creek	7	6
Pearland	6	7
Clear Lake	5	8
Dickinson	0	13

## Bears, Thompson rulers of Pasadena ISD track

The Beverly Hills and Thompson track and field teams were front and center during much of the Pasadena ISD regular season, and the same held true during the championships April 19-21 at Auxiliary Stadium.

The Bears swept the team titles in the seventh-grade division, with the girls winning top honors and the boys holding off Thompson in the boys' division.

At the eighth-grade level, the Thompson Lions made a swift move to the top, winning the boys' crown with a dazzling performance.

There were many heroes during the meet, but perhaps Beverly Hills' seventh-grader Justice Henderson was the leader of the pack.

**BHI 7 girls roll**  
In the 100-meter dash preliminaries April 19, Henderson posted a time of 12.97 to break a district record that had stood for 29 years.

In the finals, Henderson delivered a time of 13.32 to win first place and a quick 10 points for her team.

Also in the 100, Beverly Hills' Keanha Bailey placed fourth (14.22) and Genneve Anagbogu fifth (14.34).

The rest of the way, the Lady Bears did what they have been doing throughout the season — dominate the rest of the field.

Overall, Beverly Hills placed first in eight different events, including a sweep of the relays for 60 points.

Antaria Flowers was the winner of the 200-meter dash as she clocked in at 28.72 for the win, and teammate Kaitlyn Cadena placed fourth with a time of 30.04.

Giselle Landa came through with another win in the 800-meter run as her time of 2 minutes, 40.92 seconds bested the rest of the field by almost eight seconds.

Isabella Tamayo, meanwhile, was fifth in a time of 2:54.79.

Landa grabbed her second win in the 2,400-meter run, cruising past the other seven competitors and eventually clocking in at 9:55.22. Teammate Neida Soto placed fifth in a time of 10:22.00.

In the 400-meter dash, the Lady Bears' Brianna Garcia placed second at a time of 1:07.93, and she was also second in the 1,600-meter run with an effort of 6:13.41.

In the 100-meter hurdles, a time of 19.57 gave Gabrielle Jones fourth place, and she came back in the 300-meter hurdles to take second place overall at 54.19. Teammate Alexis Jimenez was fifth in a time of 58.83.

The Lady Bears were



## SJC softball to regional tournament

At right, San Jacinto College softball freshman pitcher Shannon Millman and her teammates are preparing for the Region III tournament scheduled for May 5-9. San Jacinto ended the season as the No. 2 seed in the South Zone of Region 14 and will be contending with Blinn, Alvin and others for a chance to go to the national tournament later in May. Millman has had a big season for the Coyotes, who are currently 39-21. The left-hander from Pasadena Memorial High School, was named the Region 14 player of the week late in the regular season.

Photo by John Bechtle



## Longhorns' Arnett fires 156 at regional

Among the leaders after the first round of the Region III golf tournament, Dobie freshman Ben Arnett fell back in the middle of the pack on the second day en route to a two-round total of 156.

Arnett, the first Long-

horn to qualify for regionals in more than a decade, shot a 73 during first-round action to linger near the top after 18 holes.

The second 18 weren't as negotiable for Arnett as he finished at 83 for the two-day total of 156.

## Spring FB workouts arrive at CB, JFD

Spring football workouts are set to begin on campus at Clear Brook and Dobie high schools after school beginning May 2.

Both the Wolverines and Longhorns will work out for three weeks prior to the annual spring games.

Clear Brook is reloading its program after miss-

ing the playoffs in 2010 but head coach Paul Lanier has a deep talent pool at the subvarsity levels to accomplish the goal.

The same goes for Dobie, where first-year head coach Jim Phillips led the Longhorns to the District 22-5A championship and an 8-3 overall record.

## Sagemont-Beverly Hills Little League Standings

As of April 27 on league website

Team	W	L	T
Phillies	9	1	0
Padres	8	2	0
Marlins	5	4	0
Reds	5	4	1
Astros	2	6	1
Mets	3	8	0
Red Sox	1	8	0

Team	W	L	T
Astros	12	1	0
Braves	9	2	1
Diamondbacks	7	2	1
Cubs	6	5	0
Rangers	7	6	0
Orioles	4	8	0
Marlins	4	10	0
Cardinals	3	9	0
Phillies	2	11	0

Team	W	L	T
Orioles	9	1	0
Astros	6	3	0
Diamondbacks	2	5	0
Phillies	2	5	1
Rangers	2	7	1

Team	W	L	T
Cardinals	8	2	0
Astros	4	5	1
Cubs	4	7	0
Athletics	4	6	1

Team	W	L	T
Mets	8	0	1
Mud Cats	6	1	1
Hooks	6	2	0
Express	4	3	0
River Dogs	4	2	1
Scrappers	3	3	0
Bulls	4	4	1
Muck Dogs	3	3	1
Owlz	3	5	1
Raptors	3	3	1
Blue Claws	1	6	1
Thunder	1	6	1
Storm	0	7	1

Team	W	L	T
Scrappers	6	0	1
Hooks	6	1	1
Thunder	5	1	2
Express	4	1	2
River Dogs	3	3	0
Storm	2	4	0
Rattlers	2	5	1
Red Wings	3	6	0
Raptors	3	6	0
Hot Rods	0	6	1

## Sports news, notes

### SBYSC sets fall registration

The South Belt Youth Soccer Club will host a single on-site registration Saturday, May 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sagemeadow MUD Building, located at 10755 Hall Road. Players ages 4 to 18 are eligible to compete. The league will accept checks or money orders at the sign-up. No cash will be accepted. Those who wish to do so may register online at [www.southbeltsoccer.org](http://www.southbeltsoccer.org). There is a \$10 discount available to those who register online. The registration fee includes a uniform, socks and shorts.

### SJC men's hoops tryout

The San Jacinto College men's basketball team will host tryouts for the 2011-2012 team on Saturday, April 30, at 11 a.m. Tryouts will take place at Anders Gym, located on the SJC Central campus at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena. There is a \$20 processing fee for the tryouts, and participants should plan to arrive at 10:30 a.m. to register. Participants are required to sign a waiver before competing, and should dress appropriately. Questions about the open tryouts should be directed to the men's basketball office at 281-476-1847.

### Dolphins' mascot openings

The Southbelt Dolphins mascot program is seeking girls 5 to 8 years old, as of September 1, 2011, to fill openings for the 2011 season. Those interested may call Cequisha Proctor at 281-875-5696 or direct e-mail to [southbeltdolphins@gmail.com](mailto:southbeltdolphins@gmail.com). The Dolphins are part of the Bay Area Football League.

### SJC softball tryouts

The San Jacinto College softball team will hold open tryouts for the 2012 season on Saturday, April 30, at the South campus softball field. Tryouts will be from 1 to 4 p.m. and are open to high school seniors, recent graduates, and other college transfers. All tryout participants are required to register at [www.sanjacsports.com/softball-tryouts](http://www.sanjacsports.com/softball-tryouts).

### Sagemont-Beverly Hills notes

**SBHLL Senior/Big League division coaches sought** — The league has openings for the senior and big league divisions that will soon start play. Those interested may call Cindy Munoz at 832-618-3649.

**SBHLL sets fundraisers** — The league will host a series of fundraisers during the season to raise monies to build batting cages at the ballpark for league use. The first of those events is a poker tournament, set for Saturday, April 30, at the US Spring Training Batting Cages located at 10330 Blackhawk Blvd. For more information contact Kasie Fernandez at [k.n.fernandez@hotmail.com](mailto:k.n.fernandez@hotmail.com). The tournament will begin at 8 p.m.

**SBHLL 2011 Yearbook Fundraiser** — League officials are creating a yearbook containing colorful memories from the current season. It will include pictures and thoughts from such events as opening ceremonies, parade, team pictures and action photos from the season. The yearbooks will sell for \$20 each for orders placed before May 1 and \$25 thereafter. Orders can be placed at the ballpark.

### Dobie baseball to meet May 4

The Dobie Diamond Club, the Longhorns' baseball booster organization, will host a parent meeting Wednesday, May 4, at 7 p.m. in the athletics media room. The primary purpose of the meeting is to hold elections for the 2011-2012 board. For more information, call president Gloria Sanchez at 713-303-9157 or Lisa Manriquez at 713-516-7539.

### Dobie football booster meeting

The Dobie High School football booster club will meet Monday, May 2, at 7 p.m. in the Dobie athletics media room. The meeting marks the first of new monthly meetings. The group will then gather the first Monday of each month until further notice.

### Dobie football car wash

The Dobie High School football program will host a car wash Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Food Town on Scarsdale Boulevard. The cost is \$5. Local residents may purchase a ticket from the football players beginning Monday, May 2, or pay at the time of the car wash.

### Horns' soccer banquet

The Dobie High School boys' and girls' soccer programs will host their postseason banquet Friday, May 6, in the school cafeteria. Tickets are \$15 if purchased by April 29, or \$20 at the door. Dinner is included in the ticket price. Family and friends are welcome. Members of the soccer program are also selling raffle tickets for \$5 each, with the winner taking home an Apple iPod. Tickets may be purchased from any Dobie soccer player. The winner will be chosen at the banquet, and he or she does not need to be present to win. For more information call 281-798-6376.

## Sports Calendar

- SOFTBALL**  
**Friday, April 29**  
**Bidistrict playoffs**  
Dobie varsity hosts North Shore, PISD, 6:30
- BASEBALL**  
**Friday, April 29**  
Brook varsity hosts Dickinson, 7:00  
Dobie varsity at Decker Park, 7:00  
Brook JV at Decker, 4:30  
Brook sophomores at Dickinson, 7:00
- TRACK AND FIELD**  
**Monday, May 2**  
Dobie varsity boys at Region III meet, Humble, TBA  
Dobie varsity girls at Region III meet, Humble, TBA  
Brook varsity boys at Region III meet, Humble, TBA  
Brook varsity girls at Region III meet, Humble, TBA
- Tuesday, May 3**  
Dobie varsity boys at Region III meet, Humble, TBA  
Dobie varsity girls at Region III meet, Humble, TBA  
Brook varsity boys at Region III meet, Humble, TBA  
Brook varsity boys at Region III meet, Humble, TBA

Intermediate track and field

# BHI, Thompson teams lead way at PISD finals

Continued from Page 2B

**Thompson 8 boys win**  
The Lions' eighth-grade boys' team collected 141 points to take top team honors at the championships.

Ryan Williams paved the way in the sprints for the Lions as he was the individual champion in the 100- and 200-meter dashes.

At 11.89, Williams won the 100, and teammate Gage Peete-Meyers was fifth at 12.41.

In the 200, Williams went 24.24 for the title. The Lions then got another great effort from Darian Smith, who was the winner of the 100-meter hurdles at 15.51. Teammate Ashton Craven (17.66) was fifth.

Smith grabbed another championship in the high jump after clearing 5-4, the lone athlete to do so.

Thompson was also first in a pair of relays, taking the 4x100-meter event at 47.43 and winning the 4x200-meter event at 1:41.36.

Keion Patterson was the winner of the pole vault as he made his way over the 10-0 mark, and Williams (fifth at 18-0 1/2) and Julian Coronado (seventh at 16-9 1/2) also competed.

Jimmy Nevarez went 33-5 for sixth place in the triple jump, and Patterson (44-1), Jonathan Woodall (41-1) and Xavier Rodriguez (40-8) were third, fourth and fifth, respectively, in the shot put.

Patterson (124-2) and Rodriguez (108.10) were second and fourth, respectively, in the discus event.

Robert Saenz was third in the 800-meter run with his time of 2:19.80, and teammates Jacob Cardenas (2:32.29) and Darius Clark (2:33.15) also competed.

Saenz repeated his third-place performance in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 5:27.12.

**BHI boys' 7s are second**  
As dominant as Thompson's seventh-grade team was, Beverly Hills' seventh-grade group wasn't far behind after scoring 161 points

for second place.

D'Vaughn Pennamon and Terrence Lambert led the way individually for the Bears. Pennamon won three separate events, and Lambert also secured two golds. The Bears also won two relay events.

Pennamon began his impressive display in the 100-meter hurdles as his time of 15.25 easily won the event. Teammates Isaiah Chaney (16.90) and Kevin Simms (17.77) were fourth and seventh, respectively.

A time of 45.63 blew away the competition in the 300-meter hurdles for Pennamon, with Chaney second at 47.38.

At 38-0, Pennamon captured his third gold medal in the triple jump, with teammate Jucory Shelvin third at 33-6.

As for Lambert, he tossed the shot put 45-5 1/2 for the gold medal, and his effort of 105-9 was easily the best for the gold medal in the discus.

In the relays, the Bears were first in the 4x200-meter event (1:43.18) and the 4x400-meter event (4:02.10). The Bears' 4x100-meter squad was second at 50.03.

Elsewhere, Kevin Brown delivered a gold medal showing in the pole vault as he cleared 8-6 on fewest tries. Teammate Hector Rangel cleared 7-0 for fourth place.

At 18-0, Juwan Bracy took second place in the long jump, and Howard Hilliard (43-3) and Rigoberto Fuentes (36-6) were third and fourth, respectively, in the shot put.

Isaiah Myers, meanwhile, was eighth in the discus at 80-1.

In the 200-meter dash, the Bears' Bracy (25.86) and Kevin Brown (26.06) were third and fourth, respectively.

Bennie Hamilton earned a silver medal for second place in the 100-meter dash at 12.73, and teammate Simms' time of 13.17 was

sixth.

Daniel Harder contributed very well as he was second in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:24.42, and his effort of 1:02.38 was third-best in the 400-meter run.

Teammate Justin Rodriguez (2:34.87) was seventh in the 800-meter run.

A time of 5:43.65 landed Rodriguez a fifth-place standing in the 1,600-meter run, and Christian Villanueva (9:15.00) was eighth in the 2,400-meter run.

**BHI 8th boys are third**  
Beverly Hills eighth-grade boys team placed third after netting 95 points, just 15 behind second-place Bondy.

Joe Gonzalez and Shamik Anthony won district titles for the Bears in the event. Gonzalez's effort of 38-1 was tops in the long jump competition, with teammate Rashawn Taylor seventh at 33-2.

In the discus, Anthony was the winner at 132-11, and Allen Flores (105-0) was seventh.

Gonzalez placed third in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.09, and teammate Chris Washington was seventh at 12.59.

In the 400-meter dash, the Bears' Thomas Errington (57.18) was third, and Quinton Boling (1:00.32) was sixth. At the 200-meter distance, Patrick Ezech (26.14) was eighth.

Boling (2:23.98) and Rudolph Jimenez (2:26.27) were fourth and fifth, respectively, in the 800-meter run. At 1,600 meters, the Bears' Jimenez placed fifth in a time of 5:30.46.

The Bears also scored well in the hurdles. In the 100-meter event, Errington's time of 16.04 was second, with teammate Trevor Sereuil fourth at 17.64.

In the relays, the Bears' 4x200-meter squad was second in a time of 1:42.54, and the school's 4x100-meter squad was third at 48.15. McKay Sumlin (5-0) and

Ezech (4-10) were third and sixth, respectively, in the high jump. Maurice Hightower placed second for a silver medal after his effort in the shot put.

**Lady Lions 7s seventh**  
Thompson's seventh-grade girls' team scored 33.5 points to place seventh among the 10 teams in the mix.

Summer Naser medaled in the 100-meter dash as she claimed third place with a time of 14.20.

In the 200-meter dash, Thompson's Eliana Gonzalez placed fifth in a time of 30.12, and teammate Destiny Lee also competed.

Esmeralda Ibarra was second for a medal in the 800-meter run with her time of 2:48.58, and she also took part in the 400-meter run. Thompson's Kellie Tyler and Alyssa Solis also ran the 800-meter distance.

At 20.57, Ashley Perez placed fifth for Thompson in the 100-meter hurdles. In the 300-meter hurdles, Naser's time of 59.23 was sixth.

Thompson's 4x100-meter relay team took fifth place at 59.04, and the school's 4x200-meter relay group (2:08.93) was fourth.

In the 4x400-meter relay, Thompson (5:29.13) placed eighth.

Hannah Brady cleared 3-8 for sixth place in the high jump, and teammates Reagan Saxton and Julia Lohse also competed.

In the long jump, Naser scored two points as her effort of 12-8 1/4 was fifth. Perez and Odalys Romero also participated.

Lohse was eighth (24-8) in the triple jump, and teammates Nicole Cypert and Brady also entered.

Krista Richard and Madeline Colunga were part of the field in the shot put, and Rainy Ferrell, Alaina Sitka and Racquel Mendoza were in the discus event.

**BHI girls' 8s are third**  
Bondy won the eighth-grade girls' title with 143 points, and Beverly Hills

tallied 71 points for third place.

The Lady Bears were third as a team despite not winning first place in an event. However, many athletes performed exceptionally well in the meet.

In the 200-meter dash, Mikaela Garry earned a time of 28.90 for second place, and teammate Morgan Chavis (30.21) was sixth. Garry was also fifth in the 100-meter dash with a time of 14.03.

Jackie Oden-Peace placed fifth for two points in the 400-meter run with her time of 1:08.39.

Deanna Martinez medaled in second place with a time of 2:47.26 in the 800-meter run, and Alondra Arriaga (eighth place) and Jackie Villarreal also competed for Beverly Hills.

Arriaga placed third at the 1,600-meter distance with a time of 6:28.29, and Villarreal also entered.

Lyly Nguyen (19.07) and Tina Nguyen (19.11) were fifth and sixth, respectively, in the 100-meter hurdles, and teammate Virginia Soto (19.44) was eighth.

In the 300-meter hurdles, Lyly Nguyen (54.04) was third with Tina Nguyen (55.41) fourth. Soto (1:02.86) was seventh.

Beverly Hills had a time of 56.30 for third place in the 4x100-meter relay, and the Lady Bears (4:49.60) were fourth in the 4x400-meter relay.

Jai Franklin took sixth place for her leap of 4-4 in the high jump, and Sady Olquin also entered the event.

Franklin came back for second place (29-1) in the triple jump, and teammate Arshae Harris (27-10) was fifth, with Victoria Blackmond (26-9) seventh.

Isabella Villarreal represented Beverly Hills in the shot put, and Marcela Reina was entered in the discus event.

**Lady Lion 8s are fourth**  
Thompson's eighth-grade girls' team was fourth just behind Beverly Hills after scoring 68 points.

The Lady Lions scored quickly in the running events as Emily Wolfe, DeSha Harrison and Valerie Colunga placed second, third and fourth, respectively, in the 100-meter dash.

Wolfe's time was 13.86, and Harrison was at 13.89, with Colunga next at 13.99.

Colunga medaled in the 400-meter run as she was third in a time of 1:05.89.

Wolfe was the district champion in the 100-meter hurdles as she came to the finish line in a time of 18.06.

Teammate Amber Rogers placed third in the event at 18.87, and Sasha McCoy placed seventh with her time of 19.16.

Thompson's relay teams also competed very well. The 4x100-meter squad was second with a time of 55.46, and the 4x200-meter foursome was sixth at 2:04.96. In the 4x400-meter event, the Lady Lions (5:11.84) were eighth.

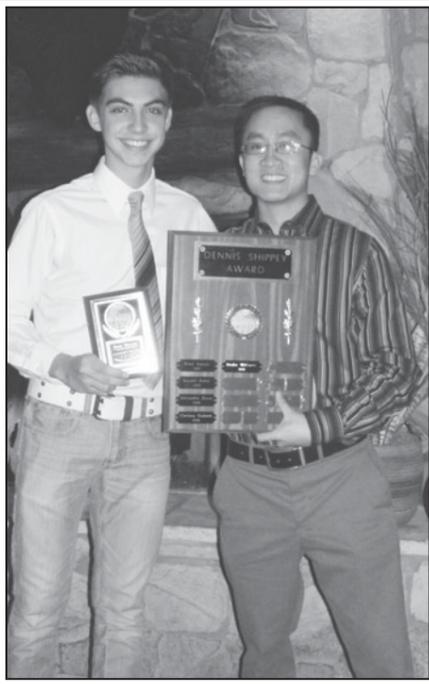
Thompson's Jasmine Freeman placed eighth in the shot put with a best throw of 23-2, and Chelsea Johnson and Oasis Wilson also entered the event.

In the discus, Deniel Bell (61-1) was sixth overall, and Diana Contreras and Patrice Jackson also entered.

## Longhorn swimmers celebrate fine season at annual banquet

The Dobie High School swimming and diving program celebrated a successful 2010-2011 season during a postseason banquet. At right, senior Drake Williams (left in photo) is shown with Dobie coach Bradley Nguyen after Williams was the recipient of the Dennis Shippey award, given annually to the senior who demonstrates excellence in the pool and in the classroom and who displays courage and leadership within the program. Below, the Longhorns' senior class was also honored. Those members included, left to right, Erin Caballero, Ben Husband, Kathleen Nguyen and Williams shown with Nguyen (far right).

Submitted photos



## SB Stingers 8U baseball wins tourney



The Stingers, an 8-under coach pitch team based in the South Belt area, won the Full Six Innings 9-under tournament at the South Post Oak Sports Complex. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Luis Ruales Jr., Jonathan Morales, Alejandro Ruales (bat boy), Gabriel Rojas, Jonathan Resen-

dez, Jartis Solomon, (middle row) Sebastian Soliz, David Trevino Jr, Gabby Luna, Xavier Cantu, Mateo Lamas, (back row) Ruben Ramirez (assistant coach), Luis Ruales (manager) and David Trevino (head coach).

## Jokers 10U second at baseball event



The H-Town Jokers, a 10-under select baseball team from South Belt, finished second at the 11AAA one-day Baseball Bash at Big League Dreams. Members of the team are, left to right, (front row) Brandon Valdez, Aaron Perea, Sam Velazquez, Jorge Garza, Alex Hernandez, (middle row) Bryan Cisneros, Tyler

Langston, Dylan Heim, Nick Gaytan, Lorenzo Mendez, (back row) coaches Mike Mendez and Donny Velazquez, manager Rudy Mendez and coach Oscar Perea. Not pictured are players Frank Mendez and Dave Amaya.

# CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, APRIL 28**

**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

Noon

**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free water exercise from noon to 1 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. Visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for a complete list of services offered.

**AI-Anon** - Meets every Thursday from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 111. For information, call 281-487-8787.

6:30 p.m.

**St. Luke's Catholic Church** - St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road, offers free tutoring on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tutoring is held in Room 2 of the Education Building. Contact Joe Pavlicek at 281-484-1397 or by e-mail at [joe\\_pavlicek@yahoo.com](mailto:joe_pavlicek@yahoo.com).

**Pasadena Gulf Coast Art Society** - Monthly meetings held the last Thursday of each month in the Community Room at Pasadena Town Square Mall.

8:30 p.m.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays from 8 to 9 p.m. at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 29**

**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

Noon

**Moving Forward Women's Adult Children Anonymous** - The ACA group meets Fridays at noon at the Up The Street Club in Webster, 508 Nasa Parkway, in room 4. ACA is a 12-step program of hope, healing and recovery for people who grew up in alcoholic or dysfunctional homes. For more information, call 281-286-1431.

6:30 p.m.

**Bay Area Genealogical Society** - Meets the last Friday of each month at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Drive in Clear Lake. Coffee and socializing is at 6:30 and the meeting begins at 7 p.m. For more information, visit [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org).

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30**

6 p.m.

**Frontier Squares** - Meets to square dance at the Westminster Academy at 670 E. Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. Refreshments provided. For more information, contact Gina Sherman at 281-554-5675 or visit [www.frontiersquares.com](http://www.frontiersquares.com).

SUNDAY, MAY 1

2 p.m.

**Grief Support Group** - For any adult who has lost a loved one. Meets every Sunday, except Mother's Day, Easter and Christmas from 2 to 3:15 p.m. at First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. For more information, call 281-487-8787.

7 p.m.

**Pasadena Little Theatre** - Auditions will be held for *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Christopher Sergel, based on the book by Harper Lee, at Pasadena Little Theatre, 4318 Allen-Genoa Road. Auditions start at 7 p.m. and will consist of cold readings from the script. Eleven men and six women are needed. Visit the website at [pasadenalittletheatre.org](http://pasadenalittletheatre.org) for character descriptions or e-mail the director, Grace Galloway, at [grace@readitagainhouston.com](mailto:grace@readitagainhouston.com) for more information.

8 p.m.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are

held Sundays and Tuesdays from 8 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.

**MONDAY, MAY 2**

7 a.m.

**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

9 a.m.

**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free exercise and speech therapy from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster. Visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for a complete list of services offered.

6 p.m.

**Scrabble Club #511** - Meets every Monday at the IHOP on Fuqua from 6 to 9 p.m. All who enjoy the game or want to learn to play are invited to join. For more information, call 281-488-2923.

6:30 p.m.

**New Directions Singles Club** - New Directions Singles support meetings are held each Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Webster Presbyterian Church, 201 W. Nasa Parkway. For further information, call Susan at 832-494-5098 or Carolyn 281-340-2354.

**Civil Air Patrol Meeting** - Weekly at Ellington Field in the Civil Air Patrol Building. Call 281-484-1352 and leave a message for more information.

7 p.m.

**Pasadena Little Theatre** - Auditions will be held for *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Christopher Sergel, based on the book by Harper Lee, at Pasadena Little Theatre, 4318 Allen-Genoa Road. Auditions start at 7 p.m. and will consist of cold readings from the script. Eleven men and six women are needed. Visit the website at [pasadenalittletheatre.org](http://pasadenalittletheatre.org) for character descriptions or e-mail the director, Grace Galloway, at [grace@readitagainhouston.com](mailto:grace@readitagainhouston.com) for more information.

**Grief Support Group** - "Friends Helping Friends" meets every Monday from 7 to 8:15 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehab Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. Those who have lost a spouse or other loved one are invited to participate. For information, call Betty Flynn at 281-474-3430 or Diana Kawalec at 281-334-1033.

**TUESDAY, MAY 3**

7 a.m.

**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.

11:30 a.m.

**Local NARFE Meeting** - The National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 1321, meets the first Tuesday of each month in the Clear Lake Community Center, 5001 Nasa Parkway. A meal will be available for \$6. For more information, call Bob Mitchell at 281-333-2881.

1 p.m.

**Trailmixers** - Meets the first Tuesday of the month at the Luby's Cafeteria on Fuqua. Former and current employees of J. Frank Dobie High School are welcome for lunch and conversation.

**Pasadena Heritage Park and Museum** - Exhibits include dioramas, an old-time kitchen and a turn-of-the-century doctor's office. Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. 204 S. Main. For information, call 713-472-0565.

1:30 p.m.

**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free exercise and speech therapy from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Bayshore Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center, 4021 Brookhaven, Pasadena. Visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for a complete list of services offered.

2 p.m.

**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - TOPS #1530 meets at the Beverly Hills Community Center, 10201 Kingspoint, from 2 to 4 p.m. For information, call Jeanette Sumrall at 713-946-3713.

Continued on Page 4B

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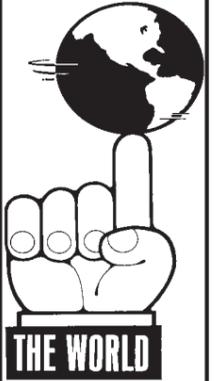
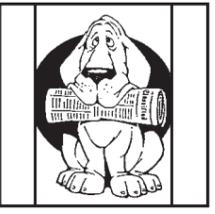
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## CALENDAR

Continued from Page 3B  
**TUESDAY, MAY 3**  
6:30 p.m.  
**Clear Lake Toastmasters Club** - Meets at the Clear Lake Church of Christ, 938 El Dorado Blvd. Call Jerry Tate at 281-481-5417 for information.  
7 p.m.  
**St. Luke's Catholic Church** - St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road, offers free tutoring on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tutoring is held in Room 2 of the Education Building. Contact Joe Pavlicek at 281-484-1397 or by e-mail at [joe\\_pavlicek@yahoo.com](mailto:joe_pavlicek@yahoo.com).  
8 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Tuesdays and Sundays from 8 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.  
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 4**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.  
11:30 a.m.  
**Houston Hobby Airport Lions Club** - meets at 11:30 a.m. on the first and third Wednesday of the month. Meetings are held at the Golden Corral, 12500 Gulf Freeway (Fuqua and I-45). For information, call Monica Montoya at 281-794-5531.  
4 p.m.  
**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free exercise held from 4 to 5 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Pearland, 3005 Pearland Parkway, Pearland. Visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for a complete list of services offered.  
6 p.m.  
**Alzheimer's Support Group** - The free group meets the first Wednesday of each month in the third floor classrooms 3 and 4 of Bayshore Medical Center, 4000 Spencer Hwy. in Pasadena. For more information, call 713-944-4782 or 713-266-6400.  
6:30 p.m.  
**Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center** - Domestic violence support group for male survivors meets each Wednesday at 210 S. Walnut off NASA Parkway. Call 281-338-7600 for information. Participants may join at any time as this is an open group.  
7 p.m.  
**Survivors of Suicide Support Group** - The Southeast Houston group meets the first and third Wednesday of each month. The

group offers support and coping skills in a non-threatening environment to adult individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide. For information on registration or to obtain a physical address for a location, call 713-533-4500 or visit [www.crisishotline.org](http://www.crisishotline.org).  
**Bay Area Turning Point Crisis Intervention Center** - Confidential domestic violence support group for women meets every week. For information, call 281-338-7600 or visit [www.bayareaturningpoint.com](http://www.bayareaturningpoint.com). BAPT is located at 210 S. Walnut off NASA Parkway between Interstate 45 South and Highway 3. The 24-hour crisis hotline is 281-286-2525.  
**THURSDAY, MAY 5**  
7 a.m.  
**AA Meeting** - "Breakfast With Bill" each Monday through Friday, from 7 to 8 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 114. Call 281-487-8787 for information, or just drop in.  
Noon  
**Houston Area Parkinson Society** - Free water exercise from noon to 1 p.m. at Clear Lake Rehabilitation Hospital, 655 E. Medical Center Blvd. in Webster. Visit [www.hapsonline.org](http://www.hapsonline.org) for a complete list of services offered.  
**Al-Anon** - Meets every Thursday from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Pasadena, 1062 Fairmont Parkway, Room 111. For information, call 281-487-8787.  
6:30 p.m.  
**St. Luke's Catholic Church** - St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 11011 Hall Road, offers free tutoring on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tutoring is held in Room 2 of the Education Building. Contact Joe Pavlicek at 281-484-1397 or by e-mail at [joe\\_pavlicek@yahoo.com](mailto:joe_pavlicek@yahoo.com).  
**Diabetes Support Group** - A support group for young adults with diabetes. All subjects are open for discussion: new technologies, research advances, fears, phobias, dating and other personal matters. Meets the first Thursday of each month at 1315 St. Joseph Parkway #1705, Medical Place One. Contact Dan Steiner, CDE, at 713-756-8536 for more information.  
7 p.m.  
**The Bay Area Writers League** - Meets the first Thursday of each month at Barnes and Noble at Bay Area Boulevard and the Gulf Freeway. Newcomers are welcome.  
8:30 p.m.  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** - Alcohol problems? AA meetings are held Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sundays and Tuesdays from 8 to 9 p.m. at St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2217 Theta Street. For information, call 713-204-2481.



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# Dobie softball faces one-game playoff versus North Shore

**Continued from Page 1B**  
ence for us. Now it's up to us to carry that over into the playoffs.

**DP takes top seed**  
At 9-0 entering the final regular season game against Deer Park, Dobie had a chance to close out the deal and take the 22-5A crown outright.

But on senior night that included a jersey retirement

ceremony for former teammate Gabby Romero, who died from cancer in 2009, the visitors made things difficult.

Using a very effective off-speed pitch, Plocek struck out seven of the first nine hitters she faced and finished with double digits.

Deer Park let a big chance get away in the top of the third as Dobie starting

pitcher Shannon O'Connor pitched her way out of a bases loaded, no-out jam without the Deer scoring.

Dobie's best chance came in the fourth inning with runners at the corners and two outs, but Karina Ramirez grounded back to Plocek on the first pitch of the at bat.

Deer Park scored four times over the next three

innings and went on to take the victory.

Rackley and Deer Park coach Carrie Augsten had already agreed to play a head-to-head game for the top seed in the playoffs. Deer Park won the coin flip and hosted that game April 25.

Dobie's hitters were much more aggressive at the plate as there was a threat made in each inning. But Plocek, who entered the game in the second inning, was able to escape again.

Stranding 13 runners, Dobie fell 1-0 as O'Connor lost the game in the circle despite allowing just four hits.

But alas, a new season has arrived for 32 teams who will now embark on the journey to win first the Region III title and then the state crown.

If recent history means anything, Dobie should

have little trouble with North Shore. The bottom line is that if Dobie can recapture its potent offensive ways in a hurry, the playoffs can be a lot of fun.

"It is a new season, and records are tossed out," Rackley said, adding that the positives far outweigh the negatives despite the

losses to Deer Park.

"We are in the playoffs, and we have a chance to advance to play either Kemper or Clear Lake if we take care of business against North Shore.

"The great part is that any team can go all the way, and we have shown that we can compete with any of

the top teams in the region. I expect us to bounce back quickly and be ready to go in the playoffs."

So let the games begin on the field.

**Seniors honored**  
Dobie's senior class of 2011 was honored during the final home game at the Pasadena ISD complex versus Deer Park.

Seniors Stephanie Cherry, Amie Gallant, Ashley Garza, Kellen Gomez, Ariel Morgan, Shelby O'Brien, D'Anne Ornelas and Faith Roberts, along with their families, were part of a special pre-game ceremony.

Romero, a member of the class of 2011 had her

jersey No. 4 retired during the event as well, and family members and teammates released pink balloons into the air in her memory.

At present, O'Brien, Gomez, Roberts, Gallant and Morgan have or soon will sign letters of intent to continue their playing careers collegiately.



**At right, members of the Dobie class of 2011 celebrated senior night during the final regular-season home game April 22 versus Deer Park. Those players included, left to right, Shelby O'Brien, Stephanie Cherry, Kellen Gomez, Faith Roberts, Amie Gallant, D'Anne Ornelas, Ariel Morgan and Ashley Garza.**



Dobie juniors Shannon O'Connor (left) and Ceci Gonzalez unveiled the retired jersey of Gabby Romero, a class of 2011 senior who died in October of 2009 after a battle with renal cell cancer. The ceremony was part of senior night April 22 at the Pasadena ISD sports complex as eight other Lady Longhorn seniors and their families were recognized. On the field, visiting Deer Park ended the night with a 4-0 victory over Dobie.

*Photos by John Bechtel*

# Horns get past Trojans, take No. 2 seed into playoffs

## LSA's Curtis aiming at sprint triple

**Continued from Page 1B**  
her way to regionals, to be held April 29 at Awty International.

Curtis has already established herself as a TAPPS legend, having won the state championship in the 200-meter and 400-meter events during her freshman, sophomore and junior seasons.

Now, the DePaul University signee is aiming for more as a senior.

Curtis will run all three sprint events at regionals while trying to qualify for the state level in each of the three. As is the case in public schools, the top two finishers at regionals will advance to state in May on the Baylor University campus in Waco.

Obviously, Curtis has proved to be the best in TAPPS in the 200 and the

400. The 100, however, is another story. Compared to public school times in the strenuous, but Curtis wants to go for it. She's been training with Rising Stars Track Club coach Ivory Kimble and wants to end her high school days on a high note.

"My times are ranked first in all three, so I'm going to give it a try," she said. "The 100 is not really my race, but I'm going to give it a try."

As for her future at DePaul University, Curtis is equally excited. She entertained offers from several colleges and found the overall package at DePaul to be best for her.

"They have my major (photography), and I think the track program is a good fit for me," she said. "The campus is located in Lincoln Park, and it's a short distance to downtown. The internship opportunities are also great in Chicago, so I think it's going to be the perfect place for me."

Curtis, of course, has some unfinished business on the track before her days are complete at Lutheran South Academy, but she is ready for the next phase of her life in Chicago.

The indoor season starts in early September, and Curtis is set to report to DePaul sometime in August. Until that time, it's all about staying in great shape and being ready to seize the next chance that comes her way.

"I've worked very hard to get here, so I am proud to have the chance to attend DePaul and to study my love of photography," Curtis said.

"Right now, I'm focused on winning the state title in all three events, and then I'll see what the future holds.

"I've had a great career at Lutheran South, but it would be even better to be able to close out my high school career with three more gold medals."

She's a third of the way there so far, and although the competition will be tough, she is the favorite.



**Loreal Curtis**

**Continued from Page 1B**  
Peabody and Johnson for a 5-1 Dobie lead. Troy Tapper then laced an RBI double to right-center, scoring Martinez for a 6-1 lead.

From there, much of the rest of the work en route to the victory was done by Pitts.

In the South Houston fourth inning, Pitts bent a bit but did not break enough to allow his opponent back in the game.

Trailing by five runs, the Trojans got their frame rolling as Miguel Reyes drew a walk. Michael Martinez then doubled to left field, giving the visitors runners at second and third with no outs.

Jonathan Martinez slapped an RBI single to right field as South Houston got within 6-2, and the threat continued as Brian Lopez bunted back to Pitts, who threw the ball over the head of Johnson at first base

for an error.

With the bases loaded, Pitts toughened up on the hill.

On a 3-0 pitch, Martinez broke from third base on what he thought was ball four.

Dobie catcher Justin Eckols fired to third base for what should have been as easy out, but Peabody fanned on the catch for an error.

Two pitches later, Pitts struck out Romero for the first out. He then got Ivan Rosales for out No. 2 on a comebacker to the mound and retired Torres on a fly ball to right field.

The outcome was not pleasing to South Houston head coach Donnie Elliott, who saw his team score just one run despite two hits and two Dobie errors.

The final two innings played out rather calmly. In the seventh inning, Pitts issued a one out walk but

got a 6-4-3 double play from shortstop Jose Reyes to Martinez at second, who fired to Johnson at first for the second out. A fly ball to left field ended the game.

So although a 4-3 loss to Sam Rayburn April 22 removed Dobie from title contention, the locals were able to fight back and take care of business.

Against Rayburn, Eckols led off the bottom of the first inning with a solo homer, but the Longhorns were stifled from there by Texans' starter Santos Saldivar.

Now with a single game remaining at Deer Park, Dobie knows it's headed to the postseason likely against Channelview.

Dobie has not advanced out of the first round of the playoffs in more than a decade. Torres, as he has done all season, just wants his team to stay on a roll and let the chips fall where they may.

"Our job is to go out there and play Dobie baseball," Torres said.

"Earlier in the season, we won nine games in a row and felt for a while like

we could not be beaten. I talked to the guys about the UConn Huskies. They won five games in the Big East basketball tournament and went on to win six more for the national title.

"It's about getting hot and staying hot. The hot teams advance in the playoffs. We're confident we can be that team."

Deer Park, which has locked away the 22-5A crown, will host Dobie April 29, at 7 p.m. The outcome means nothing per seeding, but Dobie wants a win.



**At right, Dobie second baseman Marcelo Martinez was one of the Longhorns' leaders against South Houston April 25, slapping a pair of doubles and driving home a pair of runs in the team's big five-run, third frame. The Longhorns (10-4) secured the No. 2 seed in District 22-5A with a 7-3 win and is likely headed for a bidistrict matchup with Channelview.**

Teams	W	L
Deer Park	12	2
Dobie	10	4
South Houston	7	7
Sam Rayburn	5	9
Memorial	5	9
Pasadena	3	11



Sophomore shortstop Jose Reyes has been the Longhorns' most consistent defensive player this season. Against South Houston, he started a 6-4-3 double play in the top of the seventh inning to help stave off the Trojans.

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