



South Belt-Ellington Leader

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Voice of Community-Minded People since 1976

Thursday, August 1, 2019

Email: mynews@southbeltleader.com

www.southbeltleader.com

Vol. 44, No. 27

Leader seeks vacation pics

The Leader is seeking readers' 2019 vacation photos. First-, second- and third-place prizes of Schlitterbahn tickets will be awarded for the best submissions in August. Email photos to mynews@southbeltleader.com. See this week's vacation photos and previous winners on Page 6A.

Gulf Freeway closures set

At least one lane on the northbound frontage road of the Gulf Freeway from FM 517 to FM 518 in League City will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Monday, Sept. 30.

At least one northbound and one southbound main lane and frontage road lane on the Gulf Freeway from NASA Bypass/NASA Road 1 to SH 96/League City Parkway will be closed daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and nightly from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Tuesday, Dec. 31. Alternate entrance and exit ramps will be closed.

The northbound exit ramp on the Gulf Freeway between SH 96/League City Parkway and FM 518 will be closed continuously through 9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31.

Drivers traveling north on the main lanes will continue to NASA Road 1, exit, then U-turn and come back to FM 518.

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

Faith Baptist giveaway

Faith Missionary Baptist Church, 9850 Mango, will host a backpack giveaway, Saturday, Aug. 10, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be games, food and fun. Backpacks complete with school supplies will be given out while supplies last.

Beltway closures planned

There will be a total closure of the westbound Beltway 8 main lanes between SH 35/Telephone Road and Scott/Cullen between 10 p.m. Friday, Aug. 2, and 5 a.m. Monday, Aug. 5. The construction will also cause the closures of the westbound Pearland Parkway/Monroe entrance ramp and the westbound Mykawa entrance ramp. While construction signs showed a similar closure between Beamer and Blackhawk, that project has been postponed, county officials said.

The eastbound and westbound U-turn lanes at Beltway 8 and Beamer will be closed continuously through 9 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 22.

Both northbound and southbound U-turn lanes at Beltway 8 and Crenshaw will be closed daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 16.

Both northbound and southbound U-turn lanes at Beltway 8 and Preston will be closed daily, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., through Friday, Aug. 2.

Both northbound and southbound U-turn lanes at Beltway 8 and Vista will be closed daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 30.

At least one alternate lane on the northbound Beltway 8 frontage road from Vista to SH 225 will be closed daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and nightly from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. through Friday, Aug. 30.

There will be a total closure of the northbound Beltway 8 frontage road at SH 225 nightly from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. through the morning of Monday, Aug. 5. This will affect both the south U-turn lane at SH 225 and the right turn lane at SH 225.

Church holds blood drive

South Belt Church, 13100 Beamer, will hold a blood and platelet drive Saturday, Aug. 10, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. M.D. Anderson is sponsoring the event. Donors must be in good health, at least 17 years old and weigh 110 pounds or more. Platelet donors must not have taken ibuprofen or aspirin products within 48 hours of a donation. A photo ID will be required for all donors. To schedule an appointment, visit <http://tinyurl.com/southbelt0819>.

E-recycling set for Aug. 10

The City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department's monthly electronic recycling event will take place Saturday, Aug. 10, at the Neighborhood Recycling Center at Ellington Airport from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Recycling electronics keeps potentially harmful materials, such as mercury, cadmium, lead and cathode ray tubes out of the waste stream and the environment. Items accepted are PCs, servers, keyboards, mice, laptops, game consoles, monitors, small kitchen appliances, memory chips, hubs and routers, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, projectors, rechargeable batteries, cable boxes, car batteries, telephones, cell phones, PDAs, tape drives, hard drives, cords, cables and cameras. The collection events take place the second Saturday of each month. For additional information, visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 3-1-1.

Heavy trash pickup set

City residents south of Fuqua will have heavy trash pickup Thursday, Aug. 8 (second Thursday of the month). City residents north of Fuqua and west of the Gulf Freeway will have heavy trash pickup on Friday, Aug. 9 (second Friday of the month). August is for junk waste, but tree waste will also be accepted. For additional information, visit www.houston.tx.gov/solidwaste.

Olson will not seek re-election in 2020

On Thursday, July 25, Rep. Pete Olson announced he will not seek re-election in 2020 due to family reasons.

Olson issued the following statement: "It has been a privilege and an honor to represent the people of the 22nd District of Texas for the past decade in Congress. Following graduation from the University of Texas School of Law, my adult life has been spent honorably serving our nation: first as an officer and pilot in the United States Navy, then to the halls of the United States Senate working with two of Texas' greatest senators, and, most incredibly, as the

voice in Congress for the amazing people who call the 22nd District home.

"For six terms, the voters of our district have placed their faith in me to represent their concerns in the House of Representatives. The time I have spent working with them and for them has been a tremendous blessing. It is truly impossible to quantify how many inspiring, generous, heroic, and kind-hearted neighbors I have been fortunate to meet, work with, and learn from throughout my time in Congress. But, it has also come at great personal sacrifice to my family. My amazing wife, Nancy, has carried the lion's share of

parenting our two great children. Her mother has suffered health issues that require more care and attention. As someone who has long advocated for policies that put our families first, it's time for me to take my own advice and be a more consistent presence to help our family. To that end, while I will complete my term in the 116th Congress, I will not be seeking re-election.

"Protecting our future and preserving our exceptional nation are the reasons I first ran for Congress. My constant focus was to strengthen our national security, expand our economy to provide more opportunities for hard-working

Texas families, and limit the power of the federal government over our lives and businesses. Now, it's time for another citizen-legislator to take up this mission, not to make a career out of politics, but to help lead in the cause of empowering our people, defending our liberties, and making sure America remains the greatest nation in history."

U.S. House of Representatives Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy praised Olson's efforts and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

"From flying in a cockpit as a U.S. Navy pilot to serving his constituents in Houston, Pete

Continued on Page 3A

City of Houston mayoral candidates visit South Belt community



Two major candidates in the 2020 City of Houston mayoral race recently visited the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce to visit with local constituents. Shown above to the left is candidate Bill King (center), who visited the chamber as part of a Kirkwood Civic Club meeting. Pictured with the candidate are, left to right, Sandy Robb, Margaret Peake, DiAnn Richardson and Charles Richardson. Shown above to the right is candidate Tony Buzbee



(second from right), who visited the chamber as part of a member meet-and-greet session. Pictured with the candidate are, left to right, South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Kay Barbour, Lula Richard (wife of J.R. Richard), former Houston Astros pitcher J.R. Richard and Jeff Turnipseed. Also running for the position are incumbent Sylvester Turner and Sue Lovell.

Photos by Marie Flickinger

PISD, others fill bus with supplies; HPD, Grace hold supply drive

By Rebeca Lazo
Pasadena ISD Communications

The Pasadena Independent School District is teaming up with the City of Pasadena and the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce to brighten the back-to-school experience for thousands of local students this year.

Affectionately dubbed *Fill the Bus*, the collection effort includes online giving, daily donation

opportunities, a Chick-fil-A Spirit Night (July 30) and culminates with a celebrated drop-off day on Thursday, Aug. 1, when a 72-passenger yellow school bus will be parked in front of City Hall on 1149 Ellsworth Drive in Pasadena.

On the planned drop-off day, Pasadena Mayor Jeff Wagner, PISD Superintendent of Schools Dr. DeeAnn Powell and Chamber President Cristina Womack will be on hand at various times

to personally receive supplies and thank donors. Several large donations from local businesses are expected to be trucked in.

This is the second year for the *Fill the Bus* initiative. Last year's goal of filling one bus was

eclipsed by donations that filled three large yellow school buses.

For those who don't have time to shop or visit City Hall, an online donation portal has been established.

Continued on Page 2A

State sales tax holiday set for Aug. 9-11

Texas shoppers will get a break from state and local sales taxes on Friday, Aug. 9, through Sunday, Aug. 11 — the state's annual tax holiday.

"As the father of three young children, I know back-to-school expenses can really put a strain on family budgets this time of year," said Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar. "This is an opportunity for families to save some money and prepare for the start of the school year."

The law exempts most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks priced under \$100 from sales tax, which could save shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend during the weekend.

A backpack is defined as a pack with straps one wears on the back. The exemption during the sales tax holiday includes backpacks with wheels, provided they can also be worn on the back like a traditional backpack, and messenger bags. The exemption does not include items that are reasonably defined as luggage, briefcases,

athletic/duffle/gym bags, computer bags, purses or framed backpacks.

This year, shoppers will save an estimated \$102 million in state and local sales taxes during the sales tax holiday.

"As Texas families begin the process of replacing their beach bags with book bags, Texas' sales tax holiday is the perfect opportunity to save some money on the supplies families need before the school bell rings," Hegar said.

No exemption certificate is required — with one exception. If the purchaser is buying the supplies under a business account, the retailer must obtain an exemption certificate from the purchaser certifying that the items are purchased for use by an elementary or secondary school student.

The tax holiday weekend has been an annual event since 1999 and was expanded in 2009 to include more items.

For a comprehensive list of tax-exempt items, visit www.texastaxholiday.org.

CCISD announces pay increases

The Clear Creek Independent School District has announced a significant compensation package for its nearly 5,000 employees.

The compensation package includes a 4 percent to 9.49 percent pay raise for classroom teachers, counselors, librarians and nurses; competitive hourly rate for school bus drivers; an increase in the district's contribution to employee health care premiums; and an across-the-board 3.5 percent increase for all other employees.

"The success of our school district is contingent on recruiting and retaining a high quality

staff," said Dr. Greg Smith, superintendent of schools. "This board-approved compensation package reflects our commitment to our employees and ensures Clear Creek ISD is a destination for those who have a heart for children."

On Monday, July 22, the Clear Creek ISD school board unanimously approved \$11.3 million in direct salary increases for existing employees as well as \$370,000 to offset the rising cost of healthcare premiums for those employees on TRSActive Care. As part of the overall com-

Continued on Page 3A

San Jacinto heads \$12M federal grant

The U.S. Department of Labor has awarded San Jacinto College a \$12 million federal grant to partner with other public and private sector entities to train at least 5,000 workers in information technology fields.

Second only to California, Texas had more than 960,000 information technology employees in 2017. To ensure that the Texas workforce develops and maintains the skills needed for these jobs, four Texas community colleges and industry leaders have partnered on the Texas IT

(TXIT) apprenticeship project.

"The goals of this grant program include accelerating the expansion of apprenticeships to new industry sectors, promoting the large-scale expansion of apprenticeships across the nation, and increasing the apprenticeship opportunities for all Americans," said Dr. Sarah Janes, associate vice chancellor for continuing and professional development, San Jacinto College, and grant lead. "We are excited to be partnering with

Continued on Page 4A

Human remains found off Hwy. 3

Houston police are awaiting autopsy results in the death of an individual whose remains were found in the 900 block of Clear Lake City Boulevard near SH 3/Old Galveston Road about 11:55 p.m. on Monday, July 29.

The victim's gender, identity and cause of death are pending verification by the county medical examiner's office.

According to police, a bicyclist traveling at the above address found what appeared to be a human skull near the roadway and notified authorities. Officers responded and confirmed the remains were human.

The investigation is pending results of an examination by the Harris County Institute of Fo-

rensic Sciences.

This marked the second time in less than a month that human remains were discovered in the South Belt area. On Thursday, July 4, a similar set of remains, including a human skull, were found in a wooded area in the 9400 block of Fuqua, near the northeast intersection of Blackhawk and Fuqua. That case is also still under investigation. At press time, it was unclear if the two incidents were related.

Anyone with information on either of these cases is urged to contact the Houston Police Department's Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

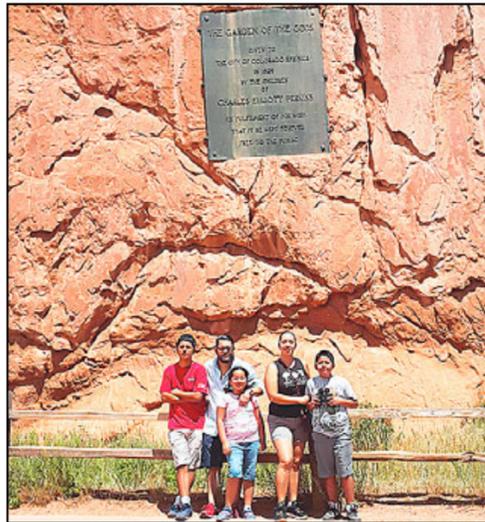
Snapped tree blocks Scarsdale



Thunderstorms brought strong winds to the South Belt area the evening of Tuesday, July 30, causing extensive damage in the community. A wind advisory was put in place for the Houston area, as wind gusts reached up to 40 mph. Above, a snapped tree is shown crashed through a fence on Scarsdale Boulevard, just west of Sagegen Drive, blocking the eastbound lanes of traffic along the local thoroughfare. Photo by Heather Harris Jamison

South Belt Leader contestants vie for Schlitterbahn ticket prizes

Delgados travel to Colorado



The Delgado family drove 16 hours to visit the state of Colorado. Shown above left are brothers Max (left) and Sebastian at the Great Sand Dunes National Preserve in Mosca, Colo. Shown above right at the the Garden of the Gods in Colorado Springs are, left to right, Sebastian, Jose, Ruby, Veronica and Xavier Delgado. Shown below is the family at Independence Pass in the Rocky Mountains at 14,000 ft. elevation, left to right, Max, Sebastian, Xavier, Jose, Veronica and Ruby. Max attends Beverly Hills Intermediate, Sebastian will be a senior at Dobie High School, Xavier attends Morris Middle School and Ruby attends Atkinson Elementary.



Truax family explores Grand Canyon



The Truax family explored the Grand Canyon by riding the Grand Canyon Railway on July 3. The train ride was about 2 hours and 15 minutes long. Shown above right with Conductor Cameron (left) is Michelle Truax. Along the way to the canyon, the train made stops at the Fort Davis Historical Site and the Lowell Observatory. Shown left is Michelle looking through a telescope at the sun.



Enjoying the Grand Canyon are, left to right, Taylor, Kylie, Michelle and Jeremy Truax.

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Photo contest winners

The July winners for the Leader's vacation photo contest have been selected. First place, winning eight Schlitterbahn tickets, is Marc A. Martinez. Second place winner getting six Schlitterbahn tickets is the Chris Jones family. Third place winning four Schlitterbahn tickets goes to the Thuy Hoang family. Tickets may be picked up at the South Belt-Ellington Leader office, located at 11555 Beamer Road, during regular business hours.

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HPD sponsors Free school supplies to be given away to area students. Aug. 3!

Be there!

Date of Event:
 08/03/2019

Time of Event:
 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Location of Event:
 Grace Community Church
 14505 Gulf Fwy
 Houston, Tx 77034

E-mail:
 Richard.Buitron@HoustonPolice.Org
 Cesar.Ortega@HoustonPolice.Org

HPD Clear Lake Division
 2855 Bay Area Blvd
 Houston, Tx 77058
 Phone: 832-395-1777
 Fax: 832-395-1773

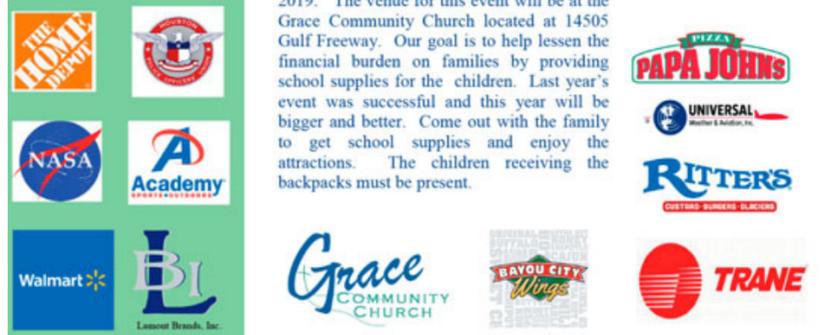


SCHOOL SUPPLIES



HPD Clear Lake Division School Supply Giveaway

The Houston Police Department, Clear Lake Division, will be hosting its 2nd Annual School Supply Giveaway on August 3, 2019. The venue for this event will be at the Grace Community Church located at 14505 Gulf Freeway. Our goal is to help lessen the financial burden on families by providing school supplies for the children. Last year's event was successful and this year will be bigger and better. Come out with the family to get school supplies and enjoy the attractions. The children receiving the backpacks must be present.



SECTION B SPORTS & CLASSIFIED

Enjoy summer!



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last season with 1,250 yards and 16 touchdowns, including a 70-yard burst in that playoff loss to North Shore.

Offensive lineman Jason Brooks, a Vanderbilt University commit, leads that group, and the defensive secondary should lead things with as many as

Continued on Page 2B

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Brook, Dobie FB eye preseason work

Rising Stars tracksters begin nationals hunt

Thirteen members of the Rising Stars Track Club are in the mix for national titles at the 53rd Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympic Games at North Carolina A&T University in Greensboro, N.C.

The track and field portion of the games began July 28 and will run through Aug. 3. The *Leader* has learned that Clear Brook High School sprinter Camryn Dickson, competing in the 15-16-year-old girls division, has advanced to the semifinals in the 200 dash.

Dickson, a state qualifier last season at Brook while a freshman, is also in the mix for medals in the 100 dash and the triple jump at the event.

Izard Evans, a boys' 9-year-old competitor



Camryn Dickson

turbo javelin and other events.

The Rising Stars, South Belt's longstanding youth track club, also have several athletes vying in the women's javelin. See more Aug. 8.

Dave Campbell's Texas Football having decided that both varsity teams are definitely playoff worthy, there is plenty of excitement and anticipation as the Clear Brook Wolverines and Dobie Longhorns prepare to begin preseason workouts later this month.

It all gets started Thursday, Aug. 1, for the Dobie contingent as there is a mandatory parent meeting - free of players - in the school auditorium from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

The Dobie players will then undergo preseason team preparation at a players' meeting Friday, Aug. 2, as returning varsity players will meet at Dobie

from 8 to 10 a.m., with the school's incoming freshmen to meet from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Dobie9 campus.

Clear Brook, meanwhile, will host Meet the Wolverines Saturday, Aug. 3, from 9 to 10:30 a.m., with equipment pickup to follow for all players.

All of this is necessary because freshman football workouts will begin at both schools Monday, Aug. 5. All other returning players, from incoming sophomores through seniors, will begin preseason work Monday, Aug. 12.

At Clear Brook, the Wolverines were just 3-7 at the varsity level in head

coach Lupe Florez's debut season but advanced to the postseason before a loss in the bidistrict round to Strake Jesuit.

Clear Springs and Dickinson are the big guns in District 24-6A until proven otherwise, but Clear Brook is projected as the third-place team by Campbell's magazine, just ahead of Clear Creek, Clear Lake, Clear Falls and Alvin.

Quarterback Shane Porter is back this season, and his primary focus will be getting the ball into the hands of University of North Texas commit, receiver Loronzo Thompson, as often as possible.

Clear Brook Wolverines
2018: 3-7 overall, fourth place in 24-6A.
Lost in bidistrict round to Strake Jesuit.

Dobie Longhorns
2018: 7-4 overall, fourth place in 22-6A.
Lost in bidistrict round to North Shore.

The Wolverines are less experienced on the defensive side of things, but defensive tackle Brandon Cazares is the league's Preseason Defensive Most Valuable Player.

Dobie put together an impressive 7-3 run last season, making the playoffs for the first time since 2015 before a loss to Class 6A Division I state cham-

pion North Shore.

The Longhorns will enter 2019 looking to end a playoff winless streak that has extended 15 seasons, but the more important issue is maintaining the tremendous progress shown over the past 18 months or so.

In doing so, the Longhorns will turn to junior Darius Hale, who finished

Brook, Dobie ready to open 2019 volleyball season

Both fourth-place teams a season ago but pushing for more this season, the Clear Brook and Dobie varsity volleyball programs are in hurried states as this season presents mere days of preparation before the season begins for real.

Clear Brook wound up fourth in 2018 and went on to fall to District 23-6A champion George Ranch in the bidistrict.

But with a powerful group that includes standout hitter Kailin Newsome (604 kills and 55 aces in 42 team matches) as well as middle blocker Bella Lockwood (372 kills) with setters Kayleigh Schultz (672 assists) and Kyla Carrier (588 assists) paving the way, more is certainly possible.

The Lady Wolverines will go against 24-6A foe Clear Falls in an Aug. 3 scrimmage before opening the regular season Aug. 6 at home against Bridgeland.

Pearland will then turn its attention to the 70-team Adidas John Turner Classic in Pearland, coming Aug. 8-10.



Brook hosts Bridgeland
Tues., Aug. 6, 5:30

Dobie hosts F.B. Elkins
Wed., Aug. 7, 6:00

At left, Dobie's Madison Garrett (10) and Taiya Mitchell (8) team for a block attempt last season during the Lady Longhorns' bidistrict playoff loss to Deer Park. Both players return this season as the locals regroup in an effort to get back to the postseason. Dobie will begin preseason workouts Aug. 1 and will then open the regular season at home Aug. 7 against Fort Bend Elkins.

Photo by Jade Wise

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Pleasants, USA U-19 to World Cup



Taylor Pleasants, a Class of 2019 Dobie graduate and Lady Longhorn star performer, will join her Team USA U-19 teammates at the World Baseball/Softball Confederation World Cup Aug. 10-18 in Irvine, Calif. See more information on Page 2B.

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Dobie exes to return; Horns to play tennis

The quickest start to any of the fall sports belongs to team tennis as the Dobie Longhorns will serve things up with the annual Exes Matches Saturday, Aug. 3, at 9 a.m.

Returning varsity players have already been practicing in preparation for the start of what is a busy month for the team.

Beginning Tuesday, Aug. 6, against Friendswood, the Longhorns are scheduled to play as many as 16 team tennis matches in the month, weather permitting.

Dobie head coach Manuel Moreno Jr., back for his 21st season with the Longhorns, regularly schedules a heavy workload for his group, with

the idea that being ready for the District 22-6A portion of the schedule is most important.

This season in particular, the Longhorns will welcome the extra competition, with a slim number of returnees who contributed within the top ranks in 2018.

In addition to Friendswood, the Longhorns are scheduled to take on the likes of Ridge Point, Dayton, Dawson, Katy, Clear Brook, George Ranch, Clear Creek, Shadow Creek, Alvin, Pearland, Clear Springs and La Porte.

The locals will also travel to face a trio of opponents at the Northside Tennis Center in Houston.

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Football in Texas: Brook, Dobie get started Aug. 12

Continued from Page 1B
three starters back in the mix.

How do things shake out from a schedule standpoint for Brook and Dobie?

The Wolverines defeated La Porte in the 2018 season opener but then lost to Friendswood, Angleton and C.E. King in nondistrict play for a 1-3 start.

La Porte and C.E. King, both out of District 21-6A, are in the same district with state champion North Shore and regional finalist Beaumont West Brook.

La Porte underwent a coaching change in the offseason and is now guided by former Clear Springs defensive coordinator Anthony Renfro.

A Class 6A program but with just 2,248 students, La Porte is picked by Dave Campbell's to finish seventh in the eight-team 21-6A alignment.

Renfro and his staff have had to quickly address a defensive unit that returns just two players on that side.

River Thompson is back at quarterback for the Dogs, but the team has to limit turnovers that were a big issue in 2018.

As for C.E. King, the Panthers made the playoffs last season but now return a total of just five starters.

The big key will be replacing the offense provided by departed quarterback Ulysses Bentley, now at Southern Methodist Uni-

versity as a running back.

As for Friendswood, the Mustangs are picked third in a District 10-5A alignment that includes defending Class 5A state finalist Shadow Creek as well as Angleton and Richmond Foster.

Beating Clear Brook last season, Friendswood went on to finish 6-4 but missed the playoffs. Head coach Robert Koopman is on record as saying quarterback Luke Grden will be a focal point with just four starters back on offense.

Can Brook handle Angleton? The Wildcats were a 10-2 area finalist last season, and will feature 1,200-plus yard rusher Jordan Jones in the back-

field.

As for District 24-6A action, Clear Springs and Dickinson will be tough for any teams to contend with, but the Wolverines should be on par or better than the rest of the league including Clear Creek, Clear Falls, Clear Lake and 2018 winless team Alvin.

Clear Creek has eight returnees on offense, which is a bonus. Clear Falls has Gavin Esquivel back at quarterback and seven other starters, while Clear Lake must deal with the loss of a three-year starter at quarterback, Shae Suaiono, who is now playing the position at the University of Wyoming.

In short, it's still Clear Springs (defending district champion) and Dickinson at the top, but the Wolverines could easily find themselves in the postseason for a second straight season under Florez.

Can Dobie do better than its 7-3 overall record that produced a DI playoff slot? Perhaps.

The Longhorns open the season against a Santa Fe team that has a new head coach in Matthew Bentley and will likely go with Nate Hayes, a converted receiver, at quarterback. Santa Fe figures to pass the ball often, and Dobie's strength defensively is its secondary. As for the Indians on defense, they return just two starters. Slowing down Dobie's Hale and others could be a big problem.

Dobie then will go against Bellaire, which used some costly turnovers to stay close a season ago before the Longhorns pulled away.

The Cardinals return a total of 13 starters and have some game-breaking ability, but again, can Bellaire slow the Longhorns enough to be able to win.

In the District 22-6A race, there aren't many secrets. Defending champi-

on Atascocita is a regional-level playoff contender and should be difficult to handle while Summer Creek returns all-everything quarterback Bryan Bush.

Kingwood defeated Dobie a season ago and

is one of the more disciplined teams with a field position changer in punter Kaden Wooster.

It'll be a road game for the Longhorns, but the locals should be ready to deal back some pay to the Mustangs.

The Longhorns should be able to defeat the likes of Humble, Memorial, South Houston, Rayburn and Pasadena, which could very well lead to eight or more regular season wins for the first time since 2010.

Brook Wolverines' Preseason

Saturday, Aug. 3 – Meet the Wolverines Day and mandatory parents' meeting, 9 to 10:30 a.m. Equipment pickup follows with seniors and returning varsity players at 10:30 a.m., subvarsity at 11 a.m. and freshmen at 11:30 a.m.

Monday, Aug. 5 – Mandatory freshman first day workout, Dobie High School.

Monday, Aug. 12 – Mandatory sophomore, junior and senior first day workout, Dobie High School.

Friday, Aug. 23 – Scrimmage versus Pearland Dawson, at The Rig in Pearland. Varsity action at 7 p.m.

Dobie Longhorns' Preseason

Thursday, Aug. 1 – Mandatory parents' meeting, 6 to 7:30 p.m., school auditorium, no players allowed.

Friday, Aug. 2 – Mandatory players' meeting, JV and varsity, 8 to 10 a.m., athletics field house; freshmen, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Dobie9 campus.

Monday, Aug. 5 – Mandatory freshman first day workout, Dobie High School.

Monday, Aug. 12 – Mandatory sophomore, junior and senior first day workout, Dobie High School.

Friday, Aug. 23 – Scrimmage at Beaumont United, times TBA.



As a sophomore in 2018, Dobie receiver Jeremiah Ballard (81) caught passes good for 508 yards and six touchdowns for a team that threw the ball far

less than 10 times per game. If the Longhorns wish to go to the air more frequently in 2019, Ballard will certainly be one of the top targets.

Former Gator arm impressive with Toronto organization

The Toronto Blue Jays invested a late 34th round pick on former San Jacinto College right-hander Luis Quinones following the 2019 collegiate season, and so far the match has been perfect. Quinones, a native of Arecibo, Puerto Rico, went three hitless innings in his most recent relief outing July 29 for the Vancouver Canadians, helping the team to a 6-0 win that gave the team a share of the league lead in the Class A Short Season Northwest League. Though Quinones is now 22, he has been turning heads since being drafted, striking out 19 batters over 14 2/3 innings with Vancouver. His earned run average stands at 1.23 after his latest outing. At San Jacinto, Quinones was also a reliever as he helped the Gators to a 42-12 overall finish.



Fox carving spot as a rodeo champion

This month Colin Fox is expected to join the Lutheran South Academy football program as a freshman football player, and excited as he might be to become a Pioneer freshman player, Fox usually has other dreams for his future.

Fox, now 14, is fresh off a winter and summer of rodeo activities, and it's something at which he has proven to be very good.

Fox first reached the Texas state finals in seven different events, including tie-down calf roping, chute dogging, team roping, goat tying, ribbon roping, saddle bronc steer riding and bull riding, electing not to compete in bareback riding.

Winning the chute dogging event and placing third in the calf roping, Fox earned his way to the National Junior High Rodeo Association Finals World Championship in Huron, S.D.

He won the chute dogging in the first round and was seventh in calf roping, but then scored no times as scores from there, end-

ing the competition for him. Still, what a run at things it has been for Fox.

Fox said he has been going at this rodeo thing for eight years now, and he's not done yet.

At the age of 18, Fox said he will be eligible to apply for and earn his pro card. While he likes football and other team activities, it's rodeo that has his heart.

And while he has previously spread his talents to include as many as seven different events at the junior high school level, he will now need to narrow his focus.

"There are a lot of the younger guys who can be pretty decent at seven events, including myself, but in high school there aren't very many who are doing more than two or three," he said.

"I'll probably do calf roping, team calf roping and bull dogging, and we'll have to see what happens after that."

Fox is also set to test his skill set within the National High School Rodeo Association, and he will

be eligible to battle for a spot in the national finals in Las Vegas, hopefully sooner than later.

"We have a lot of fun with it," said Fox, who estimates working with his horses and events several times a week during the school year and perhaps more during the summer, when the majority of competitions are held.

"It seems like we are always doing something with our ropes, making sure we maintain a feel for the rope and working on different things," Fox said. "It's a lot of repe-

tion and training work. That's the idea with rodeo. To become very good at something or any of the events, you have to put in the practice."

For now, Fox is off to football practice. He acknowledged that he missed out on some of the strength and conditioning activities at the school while sticking with his first love, but he surely got plenty of conditioning work in while roping calves and such.

"I've been doing this rodeo act for most of my life now, and I'm really

looking forward to making that jump to the high school level," Fox said.

"It should be a lot of fun, but I know there's also a lot more work involved with the new level of competition coming and the fact that we will now specialize in fewer events.

"I've had a lot of support from my family, and we have traveled all over to compete in rodeo. It's been a great way to spend time together. Now that I'm moving to the high school level, I'm looking to do more."

At right, there's a true rodeo cowboy in the South Belt area as 14-year-old Colin Fox has made a big name for himself in the National Junior High Rodeo Association up to this point. Now, he's set to raise the stakes at the high school level and ultimately hopes to earn his professional competition card once he reaches the age of 18.

Fox family photos



Above, Colin Fox excelled during the 2019 rodeo season, reaching the national competition in several events in the National Junior High Rodeo Association, ultimately competing in the World Championships in chute dogging and calf roping. At right, Fox

showed off his hardware after winning the chute dogging competition to qualify for nationals. Now soon to be a freshman in high school, Fox is excited to try his skills at that level, having achieved about as much as possible up to now.



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Padilla, Singleton to pace JFD CC; opener is Aug. 16

At left, Dobie varsity girls' cross-country runners Izzy Padilla (left) and Amari Singleton, both having qualified for last year's Region III Championships, are set to lead their team into action for 2019 as Dobie debuts at the Huffman High School Relays Friday, Aug. 16, at Falcon Stadium. Dobie's boys' cross-country team will also compete. Padilla finished seventh at the 22-6A Championships last season as a freshman, while Singleton was ninth to reach her second straight regional meet.

Mizzou softball promotes Dobie grad Malveaux

Editor's Note: Chris Malveaux, a 1995 Dobie High School graduate and former varsity baseball player, has been this month promoted to the role of Associate Head Coach of the University of Missouri women's softball program. The following is more on Malveaux.

Chris Malveaux will enter his second season on the Mizzou softball coaching staff following a promotion. Head Coach Larissa Anderson promoted Malveaux to Associate Head Coach this month, following his instant impact to the program and contributions to the Tigers' success on the field.

"I'm extremely honored and appreciative to coach Anderson and Mizzou Director of Athletics Jim Sterk for this tremendous opportunity," Malveaux said following his initial hire in June 2018.

"I'm so excited to join



Chris Malveaux

the Mizzou Softball program and to build onto the tradition that already exists. I'm honored to work for Larissa, who's done some great things already at a very high level. I have a lot of respect for who she is and what she stands for. I can't wait to get on the field and go to battle with this fantastic group!"

"Chris is one of the most respected hitting coaches in the country

and I'm beyond thrilled to have him join our staff at Mizzou," coach Anderson said. "Not only does he bring a tremendous amount of knowledge, experience in coaching and player development, but he also has key recruiting ties and relationships across the country."

Malveaux spent the 2018 season at the University of Kansas as the program's video coordinator. Prior to joining the Tigers, he brought a combined 17 years of experience as an assistant and head coach at the NCAA Division I level.

Widely regarded as one of the top hitting instructors in the country, Malveaux oversaw all video capturing and analysis with the Jayhawks in 2018. Prior to his tenure with Kansas, Malveaux served as the associate head coach at Louisiana from 2016-17. It marked

his second stint with the Ragin' Cajuns, as he was also an assistant coach from 2009-2011.

The 2010 Louisiana staff was selected as the NFCA South Region Coaching Staff of the Year after compiling a 45-18 record, NCAA Super Regional appearance and No. 16 national ranking. In his five combined seasons at Louisiana, Malveaux was a member of five Sun Belt Conference and Tournament Championships, five NCAA Regionals and two NCAA Super Regional bids.

Malveaux also served as an assistant coach at Bradley from 2012-2015, head coach at McNeese State from 2005-2008 and an assistant coach at McNeese from 2002-2004.

In 2014, he helped

guide Bradley to its second all-time Missouri Valley Conference Tournament Championship. As a member of the Braves' coaching staff, the team tallied nine All-MVC accolades and three NFCA All-Mideast Region award winners.

In his first season at the helm of McNeese State, Malveaux led the Cowgirls to the 2005 Southland Conference Tournament Championship and an NCAA Regional appearance. It stands as only one of five all-time SLC Tournament titles and NCAA Tournament appearances in the 29-year history of McNeese State Softball. Over seven years as an assistant and head coach at McNeese, Malveaux oversaw 34 All-Southland Conference recipients.

Touchdown Club of Houston sets galas

Public school dinner is Aug. 14

The Touchdown Club of Houston has announced that this year's Touchdowner is Dan Pastorini, former quarterback for the Houston Oilers.

Pastorini will be one of the guests of honor and will speak at the TD Club's annual gala Wed., Aug. 14, at the Bayou City Event Center, 9401 Knight Road. The event will begin at 7 p.m.

Also presented at the dinner will be the All-Greater Houston Public School High School Football Team.

Tickets are \$50 each. Tables are 10 seats each. Tables cost \$500 (regular table), \$750 (bronze sponsorship), \$1,000 (silver sponsorship), \$1,500 (gold sponsorship) and \$2,500 (platinum sponsorship).

For more information about the event, call Neal Farmer at 713-849-9860 or direct email to houtdclub@att.net.

LSA, publics honored Aug. 21

The Touchdown Club of Houston's annual dinner honoring area private high school football players will be Wed., Aug. 21, at the Bayou City Event Center, at 7 p.m.

Each area private high school will have at least one player honored to celebrate private school football in Greater Houston.

The Lutheran South Academy selections are running back Beau Psencik and receiver Jacob Justice.

Tickets are \$50 each. Tables are 10 seats each. Tables cost \$500 (regular table), \$750 (bronze sponsorship), \$1,000 (silver sponsorship), \$1,500 (gold sponsorship) and \$2,500 (platinum sponsorship).

For more information about the event, call Neal Farmer at 713-849-9860 or email houtdclub@att.net.

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The Houston Police Department, Clear Lake Division, will be hosting its 2nd Annual School Supply Giveaway on August 3, 2019. The venue for this event will be at the Grace Community Church located at 14505 Gulf Freeway. Our goal is to help lessen the financial burden on families by providing school supplies for the children. Last year's event was successful and this year will be bigger and better. Come out with the family to get school supplies and enjoy the attractions. The children receiving the backpacks must be present.

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