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River Oaks News

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From the Sports Desk with John Loven

CHS Lions Battle Benbrook Bobcats in Season Opener



The Castleberry High School football team opened their 2024 season on Friday, Aug. 30. The game was played at home in W.O. Barnes Stadium. The Lions, with aspirations of improving over last season's 3-7 record, played Benbrook. The Bobcats made the playoffs last year and finished 6-5. This turned out to be a very exciting game that the Lions led briefly. They then fell behind by 20 points and looked to possibly be on the verge of being blown out. However, they staged a great fourth-quarter rally, led by junior running back **Isaiah Ford** (#25). Castleberry battled back and closed to within a touchdown with just 3:30 left in the game. Despite Ford's amazing game, rushing for five touchdowns and 238 yards on 35 carries, the Lions fell to the Bobcats 42-35.

The Lions began the game on the receiving end of the opening kickoff. But gaining just one first down they were forced to punt. The Bobcats took their first possession on their own 27-yard line. Ten plays later they scored on a 22-yard touchdown pass. The point-after-touchdown was good and they took a 7-0 lead with 5:28 left in the first quarter.

It did not take the Lions long to respond. They took the Bobcat's ensuing kickoff and began on their own 30-yard line. The

Lions drove down to the Bobcats 14-yard line and faced a fourth-and-6. Senior quarterback Demetrius Valadez (#7) dropped back to pass, was forced out of the pocket and scrambled and picked up 10 yards and a first-and-goal at the 4-yard line. Ford took it in from there on the next play. The 2-point conversion was successful when Valadez connected with sophomore Brian Cenicerros (#10). This gave CHS an 8-7 lead with 1:55 left in the first quarter.

Benbrook countered with another long drive. The Bobcats marched 80 yards in 11 plays. The drive culminated with a 9-yard touchdown pass. With 8:56 left in the second quarter they retook the lead, 14-8. Unfortunately, this time, the Lions could not retaliate with another drive. Instead, they went three-and-out. However, the bright spot of this short possession was a 56-yard punt by senior Michael Lujan (#15). The punt left Benbrook on their own 15-yard line. But that made little difference as the Bobcats went 85 yards in only five plays. The final play was a 41-yard pass completion for a touchdown. This gave them a 21-8 lead with 6:33 left until half.

This time, the Lions, struck back quickly, and scored in four plays! Following two incomplete passes, Valadez found senior Corbett Brown (#5) for a 37-yard completion. The next play Ford took it to the house from there for a 34-yard touchdown. Senior kicker Chris Montoya (#14) made the point-after-touchdown and left the Lions trailing by only one score, 21-15 with 6:00 left until half.

Unfortunately, the Lion defense still had no answer for the Bobcat offense. Benbrook took the ball 75 yards on a 14-play drive for yet one more touchdown. With just 44 seconds left until halftime the Bobcats led 28-15. This score carried into the locker-room at halftime.

Benbrook received the second half kickoff. And it appeared the Lions still could not stop the Bobcats offense. On this possession they marched 77 yards

(continued on page 2)

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Sports Desk (continued from page 1)

in just nine plays. A one-yard touchdown run gave the Bobcats a 35-15 lead with 7:54 left in the third quarter.

The Lions, despite being down by 20 now, continued to fight. Taking their next possession on their own 32-yard line, they marched 78 yards in eight plays. This drive was highlighted by a 25-yard pass completion from Valadez to senior Daniel Ortiz (#2) on a third-and-3 play for a first down. It ended on a 9-yard touchdown run by Ford. Junior kicker Santiago Guereca (#99) was good on the point-after-touchdown. The Lions now trailed 22-35 with 4:56 left in the third quarter.

The Lion defense finally found a way to stop the Bobcat offense. CHS senior linebacker Ethan Hernandez (#8) stopped Benbrook running back for no gain on a third-and-4 and forced them to punt for the first time in the game. The 13-yard punt gave CHS great field position as they set up on the Bobcats 36-yard line. But the Lions could not capitalize on this when Valadez was sacked on third and fourth down. However, the defense again forced another Bobcat punt. CHS began the next possession on their own 25-yard line. Disaster struck for the Lions when on third down the Bobcats intercepted Valadez's throw and ran it in for a touchdown. With 10:45 left in the game the Bobcats stretched the lead back to 20 and led 42-22.

The ensuing kickoff left the Lions to start on their own 25-yard line. For the second time of the night, they went the length of the field in just four plays! This drive ended when Ford ran 59 yards for his fourth touchdown of the night. Montoya (#14) added the point-after-touchdown and in less than two minutes the Lions had scored. The Bobcat lead was narrowed to 42-28 with 9:19 left in

the game.

The Lion defense came up with another big play. After the Bobcats had gained a couple of first downs, the defense forced a fumble. Junior Juan Carrillo (#12) recovered for the Lions. The offense took over 80 yards away from paydirt. They calmly marched 10 plays ending in Ford's fifth touchdown run of the night. This one covered 26 yards. The point-after-touchdown was blocked and left the Lions trailing 42-35 with just 3:30 left in the game. Unfortunately, CHS could not get the ball back. With a very questionable defensive pass interference call against the Lions, Benbrook was able to run the clock out and hold on for the victory.

The Lions, despite falling behind by 20 points on two occasions in the second half, never gave up and played their hearts out. It was a tough loss to start the season. CHS (0-1) will play South Hills (1-0) on Friday, Sept. 6. The game will be played at W.O. Barnes Stadium with kickoff at 7:30 p.m. Come out and support the team on Military Night.

Go Lions!

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Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention

To protect public health, our Cross-Connection Control (CCC) and Backflow Prevention Program is committed to helping you protect your drinking water system from potential contamination. The Cross-Connection Control Subcommittee advises us in this effort.

A cross connection is a physical connection between drinkable water and a liquid or gas that could make the water unsafe to drink (wherever there is a cross connection, there is a potential threat to public health from the liquid or gas contaminants)

Backflow is water flowing opposite to its intended direction, either from a loss of pressure in the supply lines or an increase in pressure on the customer's side (in either of these situations, if any affected customer's pipes include a cross connection, contaminants could be drawn through the cross connection into that customer's pipes—and, if the backflow continues, perhaps even into the water mains).

How Cross Connection and Backflow Can Lead to Contaminated Water

It really happened in Texas:

- While mixing a batch of pesticide, a worker pushed a garden hose into the tank until it touched the bottom.
- Nearby, city utility workers opened a flush valve, releasing a large flow of water from a water main.
- Where the worker was mixing the pesticide, the water pressure dropped, and the flow in the hose reversed. Water and pesticides flowed from the pesticide tank back through the hose and into the water lines of the residence.

Luckily, this is where it stopped: The worker mixing the pesticide realized the danger and alerted the utility workers, who closed the flush valve before the contamination reached the city's distribution line. Still, good water and time were wasted:

- To remove the pesticide from the water lines of the customer, utility workers flushed those lines.
- In case the water main had been contaminated, the utility workers had to flush the city's distribution line, too.
- Until testing showed authorities that the

city's water was safe, they warned customers in the area not to drink it.

As shown by the case histories of backflow incidents maintained by the backflow-prevention education program of the University of Florida's TREEO Center, not all cases of cross connection and backflow end so smoothly.

Your Role as a Water Customer

By taking steps to control cross connections and prevent the possibility of backflow at your home, you will help to protect the public water supply and ensure that your family continues to enjoy safe drinking water. Garden hoses and irrigation systems are common concerns, but there are other common residential sources of cross connections, too.

Garden Hoses and Backflow

The garden hose is the most common cross connection. Each of these common uses of a garden hose sets up a cross connection:

- forcing it into a clogged gutter, downspout, or sewer pipe to flush out the clog
- connecting it directly to a hose-end sprayer to apply pesticide or fertilizer to your yard
- connecting it to a soap-and-brush attachment to wash your car, boat, or siding
- letting the end of the hose lie in a puddle or pool of water on the ground

No doubt you can think of other examples. In each of these cases, if backflow happens, your household's water lines could be contaminated. Depending on how long the backflow event lasts, the contamination could spread to the public drinking water system. Fortunately, there are two inexpensive ways to solve this problem:

- Make sure that the end of your garden hose is never submerged in or connected to a nonpotable substance. This solution is free, but not highly reliable. Can you always be this careful?
- Install a hose bibb vacuum breaker on each of your outside faucets. These inexpensive devices are designed to allow water to flow in only one direction. You can find them at most home supply stores and through plumbing suppliers. Before you use

a hose-end sprayer, you should first install a hose bibb vacuum breaker at the faucet.

Irrigation Systems and Backflow

As a homeowner, you may install and maintain your own irrigation system, but it's still important to have a suitable backflow prevention assembly (BPA) in place and to be sure that it works properly. Here are a few ways you can do just that:

- Hire a licensed irrigator. You can find one on the TCEQ online licensing database.
- If you install your own system, have a licensed BPA tester confirm that the BPA is installed and operating properly. Licensed BPA testers are also listed in the TCEQ online licensing database.
- TCEQ requires you to have a licensed BPA tester check the BPA when it is installed on your irrigation system. Your water provider may have adopted additional codes or regulations which require an annual test of the BPA on your irrigation system.

For more information see [TCEQ's regulations for irrigation systems](#), or contact TCEQ's Landscape Irrigation Program at 512-239-LAWN.

Your Water System's Role

Water providers notify their customers that a Customer Service Inspection (CSI) is required. Some public water systems have licensed staff who perform the CSIs and then bill the customer for the inspection. Other public water systems require the customer to hire a licensed person to conduct the CSI. The following individuals may perform CSIs:

- A TCEQ-licensed Customer Service Inspector.
- A Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners (TSBPE) licensed Plumbing Inspector.
- A TSBPE-licensed plumber with a Water Supply Protection Specialist endorsement.

For more information, call the main Water Supply Division line, 512-239-4691, and ask for the Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention Program coordinator.

From National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Mary Isham Keith Chapter

NSDAR Members Celebrate 1900 Paris World Exposition

Mary Isham Keith Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution members and prospective members had a fabulous time commemorating the 1900 Paris World Exposition.

Food, fun and fellowship was in no short supply. Just ask Flat George Washington, who made it his second stop on his Celebrate America 250! Tour and got in on the fun.

Commemorative Event Chair Laura Tauzel planned the event and provided decorations, and Daughters on the Go Chair Debbie Murray created a photo booth that everyone enjoyed.

Many hands helped prepare and provide delicious food. Daughters brought or sent donations for their ongoing Community Service Project - Backpacks for the Epilepsy Program at Cook Children's Hospital.

A little about the 1900 Paris Exposition which ran from April

14 to Nov. 12, 1900: Fifty-six countries were invited and 40 participated, including colonies and protectorates. Twenty-one of the 33 pavilions were devoted to technology and science.

One of the most popular attractions was the giant kaleidoscope with over 3 million visitors. Another attraction was the 360-foot-high Ferris Wheel that carried 1600 passengers in its 40 cars. Riders were charged one franc for a second-class car and two francs for a more spacious first-class car, and passengers often waited an hour for a ride. There was also a moving sidewalk, electric train and electrobus.

More than one million women have found purpose and passion in DAR membership. If you are interested in learning more about DAR membership, especially as we reach our nation's 250th birthday, email mikregent2023@gmail.com.



Pictured are: Mary Isham Keith Chapter members.



Pictured (l-r) are: Prospective member **Melissa Daigle**, **Becky Stewart Gray**, Flat George Washington, **Linda Hines** and **Debbie Murray**.



Community Service Project - Backpacks for the Epilepsy Program at Cook Children's Hospital

From the North Central Texas Council of Governments

NCTCOG to Host Transportation Public Meeting Sept. 9



The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is seeking input on transportation planning initiatives during an upcoming public meeting at noon on Monday, Sept. 9. The session will be held at NCTCOG's Arlington offices, located at 616 Six Flags Drive. For those unable to attend in person, the meeting will be streamed live at publicinput.com/nctcogSept24. Participants can also join the discussion by calling 855-925-2801 and entering code 10502. Public comments will be accepted until Tuesday, Oct. 8.

An update on the Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study will be presented, highlighting recent project developments.

In response to concerns from the City of Dallas about the proposed downtown alignment, the RTC held a workshop on July 11 to address these issues. On Aug. 8, the RTC decided to proceed with the federal environmental review process, incorporating flexibility to explore alternative routes for downtown Dallas that address stakeholder concerns. NCTCOG staff will provide an overview of the project's planning, engineering and stakeholder engagement efforts to date, along with next steps for this transformative initiative.

The Miles Matter Program, a collaborative project with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, Carma Technologies and the Texas Department of Transportation,

aims to utilize smartphone technology to analyze travel patterns on Dallas-Fort Worth roadways.

Set to launch this month, the initiative will involve approximately 500 participants along the Interstate Highway 35W corridor, who will be incentivized to shift their commute times outside of peak travel periods. The project is designed to gather insights and will include additional phases based on initial feedback and engagement.

Information related to interactive public input, air quality funding and initiatives, Try Parking It and Access North Texas will also be available online for review and comment.

Residents planning to use transit to attend the meeting can take advantage of \$6 roundtrip rides from the CentrePort/DFW Airport Station to NCTCOG via the Arlington Transportation app. To download the app, go to arlingtontx.gov/ondemand.

For special accommodations related to disabilities or language interpretation, please contact 817-695-9255 or email jcastillo@nctcog.org.

Survey: Help Shape Access North Texas 2026 Update

Public involvement efforts for the next update of Access North Texas are underway, and two separate surveys will help shape the public transportation plan for 16 counties in North Central Texas. The first is available

for the public and can be completed by visiting the [program's website](#).

A separate survey is open to agencies and organizations that provide public transportation services or serve transit-dependent populations; it can be [accessed here](#). Staff will utilize survey results in the plan's 2026 update.

The plan documents available transportation options and identifies gaps in service as well as the needs of older adults, individuals with disabilities and individuals with lower incomes. It is required to be updated every four years. Upon completion, local governments, transit agencies, regional partners and stakeholders may use Access North Texas as part of their transportation planning efforts.

From Meals On Wheels

Meals On Wheels of Tarrant County In Urgent Need of Volunteers

Meals On Wheels of Tarrant County has an urgent need for meal-delivery volunteers. With the increase in the number of clients along several routes, many could be left without a volunteer to deliver their noon-time meals. We currently have several open routes desperately in need of volunteers to deliver meals.

"Volunteers are the backbone of what we do," said Carla Jutson, President & CEO. "Not only do they deliver nutritious meals and friendly smiles, but they also provide daily safety checks."

Volunteering takes about one hour, one day a week, Monday through Friday, between 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

For more information or to sign up to volunteer in Tarrant County, please visit mealsonwheels.org/volunteer or call 817-258-6428.

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Texas History Minute, by Dr. Ken Bridges

The Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution



Pictured: The first executive secretary of the League of Women Voters, **Minnie Fisher Cunningham**.

The women's rights movement spread across the West in the late 1800s. The right for women to vote was the top issue, but there was much opposition to it. The debate in Texas was no exception. Women winning the right to vote in Texas was the result of many years of hard work by individuals as well as such organizations as the Texas Equal Suffrage Association.

For many years, there had been quiet calls for women to gain the vote and have rights guaranteed. Abigail Adams wrote a famous letter to her husband John Adams at the Continental Congress in 1776, imploring him to "remember the ladies" as Congress considered independence from Great Britain and weighed the defense of the liberties of men. Women actually received the right to vote first in New Jersey in 1776, but it was an oversight. The state's new constitution gave the right to vote to any resident who owned property and did not specify men only. Some women met the property-owning requirement but saw their right to vote stripped away in 1806.

The Seneca Falls Convention, held in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848, called for all women to be given equal rights with men, but it took decades to overcome political obstacles and social conventions that kept women out of the election process. Women would not be able to vote anywhere in the nation until the Wyoming Territory gave women the vote in

1869.

The Texas Equal Rights Association, formed in 1893, was among the first organizations to push for the vote, inspiring a failed bill in the legislature in 1895. Many early Texas suffragists were leaders in the Prohibition movement and saw the vote as the key to ending the scourge of alcoholism.

African-American temperance activist Eliza Peterson of Texarkana openly campaigned for the vote, and Hispanic newspaper editor Jovita Idar rallied support in the state's Spanish-language newspapers. Support built slowly. Minnie Cunningham of Galveston came to lead the new Texas Equal Suffrage Association in 1916 and tirelessly lobbied legislators.

The state House of Representatives approved suffrage in 1917, but the Senate, backed by Gov. Jim Ferguson, rejected it. When the move to impeach Ferguson arose over corruption charges, suffragists organized support for his removal.

Once Gov. William P. Hobby ascended to the governorship, he recognized through Cunningham's advocacy how powerful the movement had become and became a great supporter of the cause. Hobby called a special session of the state legislature into session in March 1918, and both houses overwhelmingly approved a law giving women the right to vote but only in primary elections. Women also had to pass literacy tests to be able to vote as well. But Texas was still a one-party state in 1918, which meant that the winner of the Democratic Primary almost automatically won the general election.

This law made Texas and Arkansas the only two states to grant women the vote in this way. However, most states did not give women the right to vote yet. The effort now turned to Congress and a constitutional amendment to give the vote to women.

In the House of Representatives in May 1919, and with the urging of President Woodrow Wilson, congressmen voted 304-89 in favor of the constitutional

amendment to give women the right to vote. The Texas delegation split, with 10 in favor and 7 against.

Supporters included Rep. Fritz Lanham of Weatherford, former editor and son of a former governor, Rep. Hatton Sumners of Dallas, a former prosecutor, Rep. Lucian Parrish, a Van Alstyne native and Henrietta attorney, Rep. Claude Hudspeth, an El Paso rancher, and Rep. John Jones, an Amarillo lawyer and future federal judge.

Opponents included such figures as Rep. Sam Rayburn of Bonham, a future Speaker of the House who, ironically, would later push through civil rights laws that would protect the right of women to vote, and the cantankerous Rep. John Nance Garner, a future vice-president.

On June 1, the Senate approved by 56-25. The two Texas Senators, Charles Culberson and Morris Sheppard, both voted in favor. Sheppard would co-sponsor the Sheppard-Towner Act in 1921, the first federal legislation to aid women's childbirth and prenatal health needs.

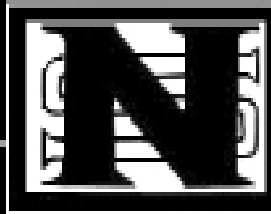
Now passing Congress, states quickly took up the issue amid a storm of protest from anti-suffragists. Thirty-six out of 48 states were required for ratification. The Texas legislature ratified the amendment on June 28, less than a month after it was sent to the states. Texas was the first southern state and the first western state to ratify the amendment.

Tennessee became the last state needed for ratification on Aug. 18, 1920, approved by a margin of one vote. Of the old Confederate states, only Arkansas, Texas, and Tennessee approved the amendment.

The Nineteenth Amendment was ratified just in time for women to vote in the 1920 presidential election.



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Weekend Forecast



Friday, Sept. 6:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 90. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

PM - Mostly clear, with a low around 68. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.



Saturday, Sept. 7:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 87. Northeast wind around 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

PM - Clear, with a low around 63. East northeast wind around 5 mph.



Sunday, Sept. 8:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 86. East wind around 5 mph.

PM - Clear, with a low around 62. East wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening.

Extended Forecast [Click Here](#)