







# SPORTS

## No. 1 Pearland punches ticket to state baseball tournament

By DR. DAVID DAVIS

Reporter News Staff

The Pearland Oilers diamondmen have a chance to do something that very few schools have ever done and that is to follow in the footsteps of the girls softball team to win the baseball title as well.

The Lady Oilers beat Denton Guyer 4-2 to capture the 2023 Class 6A state softball title and now the No. 1 state-ranked Oilers have an opportunity to bring both titles to Pearland.

The Oilers faced the Katy Tigers in the 6A Region III finals and came away with the best-of-three series 7-0 and 2-1 to advance to the state baseball tournament in Round Rock. Pearland will play Austin Westlake on June 9 at 7:00 p.m. at Dell Diamond. Cy-Woods and Flower Mound meet in the other semifinal contest at 4:00 p.m. on Friday.

The Oilers won their lone state title in 1980 and other appearances came in 1981, 1984, 2009 and 2014.

### PEARLAND 7 - KATY 0

Pearland set the pace of how this best-of-three series was going to go as they dominated Katy 7-0 in the series opener. Katy (30-7-3) lost for the first time in the post-season.

Arizona State commit sophomore Nico Partida fired a three-hitter while striking out two and walking two in a seven-inning complete shutout performance.

Pearland loaded the bases in the fourth with a one-out walk to Braeden Morse, a single to left by Anthony Avalos and a walk to John Moya.

Oilers right fielder Isaiah Castaneda then smoked a single to centerfield to plate two runs, and a throwing error put runners on second and third.

Pearland catcher Cade Adams then laid down a perfect squeeze bunt to score Moya, and Brett Smajstrla followed with a run-scoring single for a 4-0 lead.

The Oilers then stretched the lead to 5-0 on three consecutive walks and a wild pitch with Anthony Avalos at bat.

Katy ended the scoring threat as Moya struck out and Castaneda hit into an inning-ending double play.

Caden Ferraro delivered an RBI single in the sixth to boost the Oilers' lead to 6-0, and an error brought home Pearland's final run in the seventh to post the 7-0 final score and take a 1-0 lead in the series.

Leading hitter for Pearland included Ferraro (1-for-4, 1 RBI), Damian Landry (1-for-2, 1 run), Partida (1-for-3), Avalos (2-for-3, 1 run), Moya (1-for-2, 2 runs, 2B), Castaneda (1-for-4, 1 run, 2 RBIs), and Smajstrla (2-for-4, run, 1 RBI).

### PEARLAND 2 - KATY 1

Senior and Sam Houston commit Brett Smajstrla sent a

## From the Cluttered Desk

By DR. DAVID DAVIS

### You're Not A Failure Until You Quit

I think as you get older, you begin asking the hard questions in life. Most young people want to zip through life and ignore the various stop signs and roadblocks that we encounter. Instead, so we think, it is easier to look for the detours in life.

But sooner or later - we must all take time to see life as it really is and not as Hollywood portrays it to be.

For instance. How are you with interruptions? How do you deal with irritations? How about inconveniences? Or how about stress? Many are all stressed up and no place to go.

It is estimated that the average person spends one year searching for misplaced objects, six years eating (I like that one), eight months opening junk mail (punch the delete button on your computer), four years trying to return telephone calls to people who never seem to be in the office. Five years waiting in lines (especially at Wal-Mart), and six months sitting at traffic lights.

Students at Pittsburgh University timed Wendy's, McDonald's, and Burger King at least 100 times to see who was the fastest. Wendy's won - taking an average of 46 seconds to serve a hamburger, fries and soft drink. It took 1 1/2 minutes at McDonald's and three minutes at Burger King.

Which causes me to ask the question: What is patience?

It is not just putting up with something. Patience is

more than just endurance, though endurance is part of patience. You are not a failure until you quit - but if you quit - you are always a failure.

I must confess that patience has not always been my strongest virtue. But I believe the older you get - the more you learn about patience and dealing with stress in life.

But the strange thing is - Patience is the child of tribulation. There is not maturity without patience and no patience without tribulation.

Trials and tribulation in life help us become more patient. With life in general and people in particular. We are all alike when we want all honey and no bees. We just want to sail through life with ease.

But real life isn't like that is it?

I believe that we need to learn that tribulation will give you patience in life. When a trial comes you mature - and then you endure.

That's why laughter is truly a cure for life's illnesses. While we don't laugh during tragedy...there are many things in life that we can smile about while we are facing the stress mess of life.

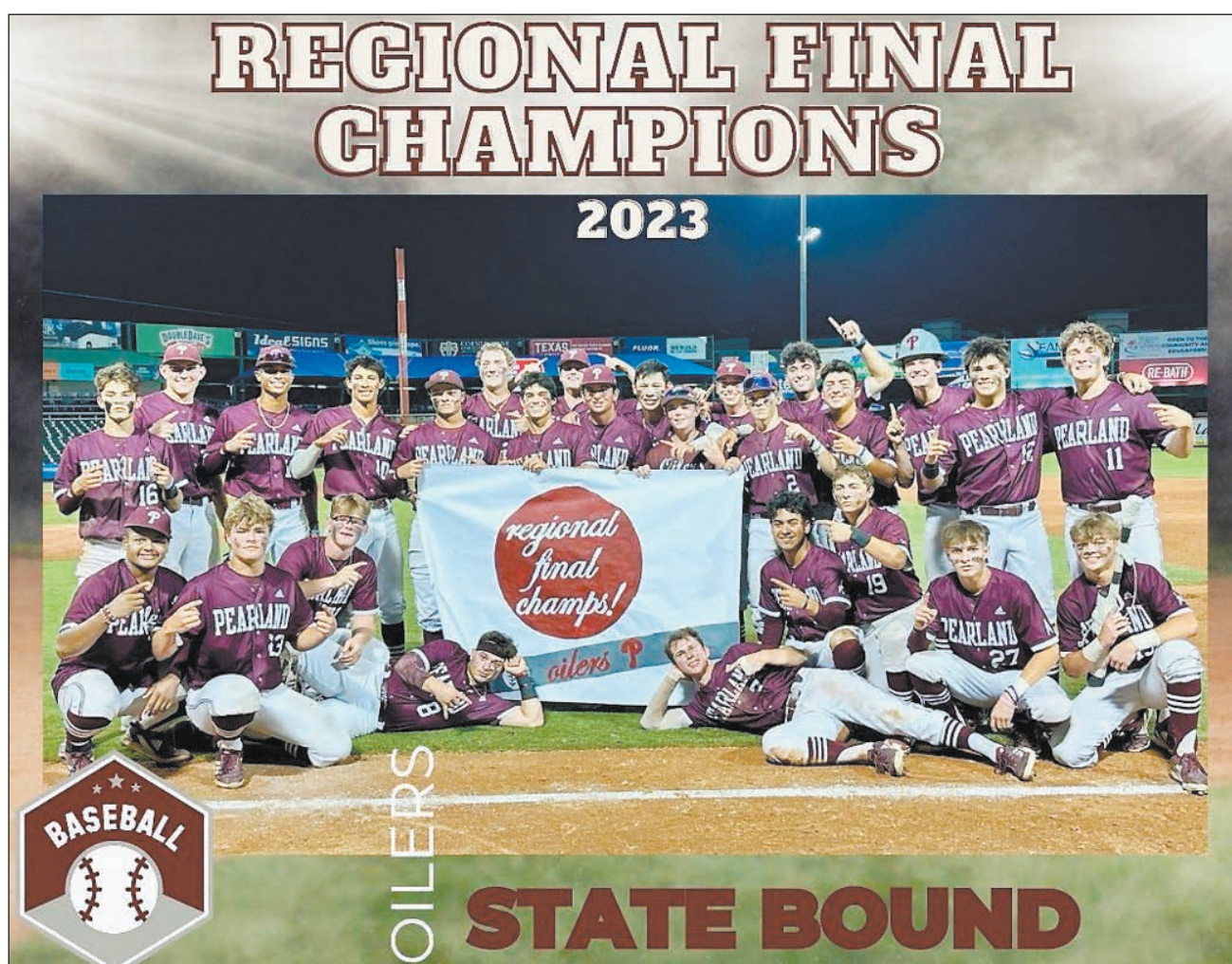
Old friend Robert said, "One thing I have learned in life. An impatient person is always an unhappy person. You cannot be happy and impatient at the same time."

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**STATE BOUND** - The Pearland diamondmen have punched their ticket to the Class 6A state baseball tournament at Dell Stadium in Round Rock. The Oilers (37-6-1) will face Austin Westlake (40-4) on Friday, June 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the 6A state semifinals.

two-out bloop single to center field to score Anthony Avalos from third base in the bottom of the seventh inning, lifting Pearland to a 2-1 win over Katy and a sweep of the Class 6A Region III championship series.

The win sends the Oilers (37-6) to the 6A state baseball tournament at Dell Diamond in Round Rock on Friday-Saturday, June 9-10.

The Oilers will make their sixth tournament appearance while winning the state title in 1980.

Pearland won for the 24th time in its last 25 games and got a pitching gem from junior Jaden Barfield who gave up only three hits while striking out seven and walking one.

Katy (30-8-3) scored one unearned run which prevented Pearland from throwing a fourth consecutive shutout.

Pearland took a 1-0 lead in the third inning after Isaiah Castaneda tripled to right field and catcher Jace Caceres singled to center.

Katy scored an unearned run in the top of the fifth inning to knot up the score 1-1 before the Oilers dramatic seventh

inning heroics by Pearland.

"This was a battle of warriors," Pearland head coach David Rogers said. "Both pitchers (Barfield and Katy's Lucas Moore) did a great job. "Baseball is a game of inches, and it's unfortunate that one team has to lose."

Smajstrla made a sensational diving catch in left-center-field in the first inning off the bat of Sutton Hull to deny Katy of at least one run.

"That was a game-saving catch," Rogers said. "We had Brett shaded toward left-center because Jaden's velo was up."

"Brett got a great jump and made an unbelievable catch." Rogers had great things to say about Jaden Barfield as well.

"Indescribable," he said. "This is amazing. Hats off to these kids for everything they've done to make this happen."

"Just another absolutely great pitching performance from Jaden Barfield, and we finally helped him out in the seventh."

### PITCHING GEM

Pearland junior pitcher Jaden Barfield threw a three-hitter against the Katy Tigers while allowing one unearned run, striking out seven, and walking only one as the Oilers edged the Tigers 2-1 in a best-of-three series for the 6A Region III title. Pearland shut out Katy 7-0 in the series opener to punch their ticket to the 6A state baseball tournament on Friday-Saturday, June 9-10. Pearland will face Austin Westlake in the semifinal contest at Dell Diamond in Round Rock at 7:00 p.m.

Photo by Brittney Hernandez

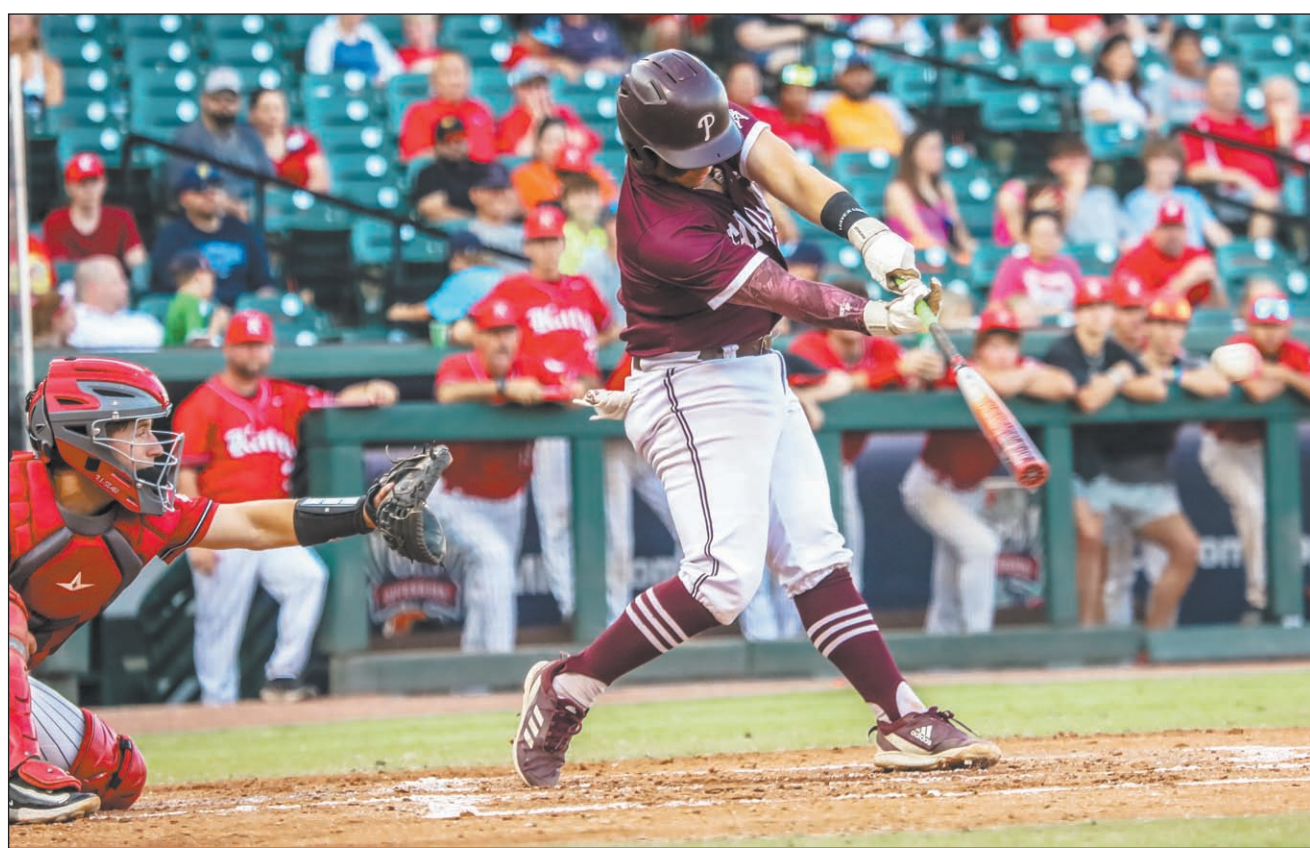


Photo by Brittney Hernandez

**RBI SINGLE** - Pearland took a 1-0 lead in the third inning when catcher Jace Caceres (pictured) sent Isaiah Castaneda across the plate for the first run of the game against Katy. Castaneda tripled to right field to set up Caceres with the RBI single. The Oilers won the game on senior Brett Smajstrla's RBI walkoff single in the bottom of the seventh giving Pearland a 2-1 win and a sweep of the series. Next stop for the Oilers will be the 6A state baseball tournament in Round Rock.

# SPORTS



Photo by Dr. David Davis

**2023 6A STATE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS** - The Pearland Lady Oilers (41-3) celebrated their third state softball title with a 4-2 win over the Denton Guyer Lady Wildcats at the Red and Charline McCombs Field on the campus of the University of Texas. The Lady Oilers took out the Benito Lady Grayhounds 3-2 in the 6A state semifinal contest.

## Pearland Lady Oilers crowned 2023 Class 6A State Champions

By DR. DAVID DAVIS

Reporter News Staff

Getting to the state softball tournament is no easy task but the Pearland Lady Oilers have been a special team all season.

It shouldn't surprise anyone that head coach Laneigh Clark, who is the winningest Class 6A coach in the state of Texas with over 750 career wins, possesses the wisdom and experience to guide the Lady O's, not only to the state tournament, but to the 6A crown this season.

Pearland was led by a senior class that had the drive and talent to set the pace with some talented underclassmen who were willing to follow the leadership of the seniors and make the Lady Oilers a complete squad that had a "never say die" mentality.

For the seventh time in school history, Pearland advanced to the state tournament (1995, 2009, 2011, 2016) with three state titles (1996, 2010, 2023).

The No. 3 state-ranked Lady Oilers (39-3) entered the state tournament having to face the No. 2 state-ranked San Benito Lady Greyhounds (40-5) in the 6A semifinals and the No. 1 state-ranked Denton Guyer Lady Wildcats (37-1) in the finals.

### PEARLAND 3 - SAN BENITO 2

Pearland fell behind quickly in the first inning when San Benito scored a run for a 1-0 lead thanks to an opening single by Bethany Aguilar, a Pearland error, and a hits batsman to load the bases with no outs.

San Benito cleanup hitter Kylie Sanchez ground out into a fielder's choice to short-stop while Aguilar crossed the pay station for the Lady Greyhounds first run.

Pearland starter Abigail Gutierrez issued two fly outs to shut down any further scoring threat.

Over the next two innings, Gutierrez put San Benito down in order with six straight outs.

The Lady Oilers broke on top with three runs in the bottom of the third to take a 3-1 lead.

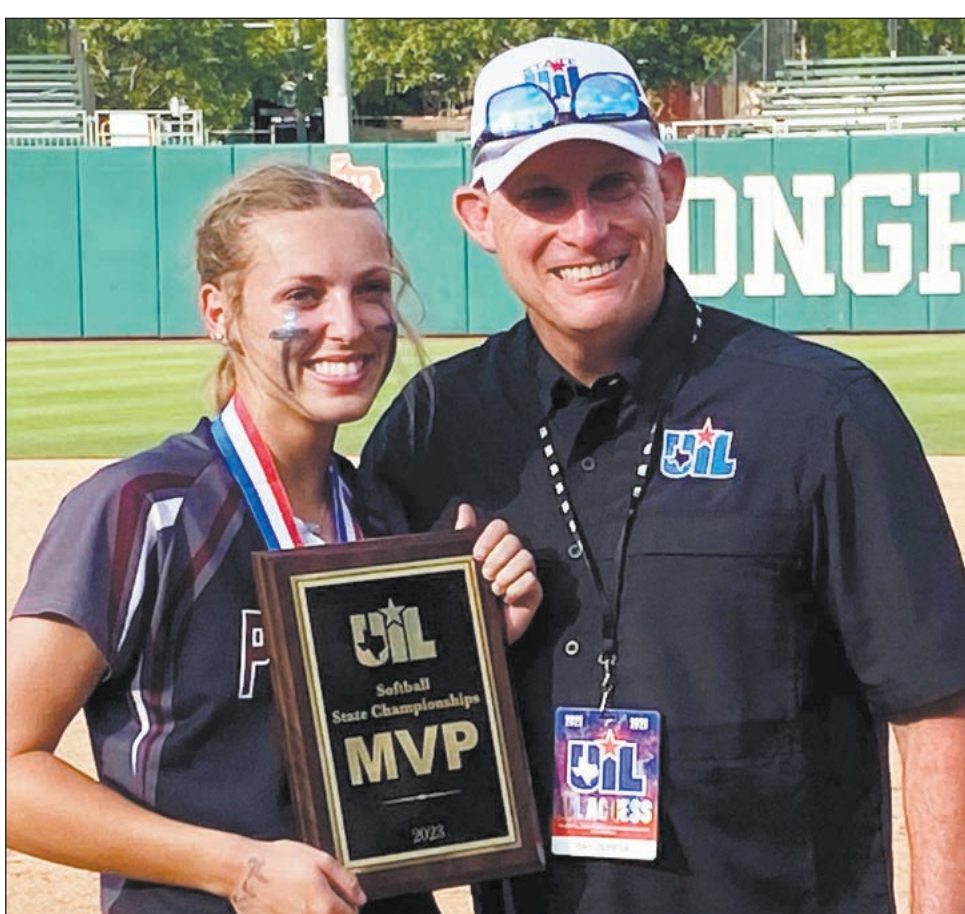


Photo by Dr. David Davis

**6A STATE MVP** - Texas A&M commit Hailey Golden was named the game's Most Valuable Player after going 3-for-4 with two RBIs. It was a meaningful honor for the senior, who fought through an early season injury to help her team win the 2023 6A state championship. Golden shares the moment with UIL Director of Athletics Ray Zepeda.

Darian DeLeon opened with a walk followed by two more walks by Hailey Golden and Kaylee Schweitzer to load the bases.

DeLeon scored on a wild pitch to tie the game at 1-1 while Golden and Schweitzer advanced to the third and second.

Kennedy Drafton popped out to second base for the first out and then Kryston Whitlock launched a sacrifice fly to right field send Golden across home plate giving the Lady O's a 2-1 lead.

San Benito would allow an unearned run when the catcher tried to pick off Schweitzer at third and the throw went out

to left field allowing another run for a 3-1 advantage.

Up to this point, Pearland scored three runs without the benefit of a hit.

The Lady Greyhounds would get only one more run in the fourth frame when they put two runners on base with an error and a walk. That set up an RBI single by catcher Jozanna Montes to close the gap to 3-2.

Gutierrez would settle down and get a strikeout and a ground out to end the inning. She would close out the Lady Greyhounds retiring the next nine out of 11 batters with only a harmless walk and single in the final three innings.

The 3-2 win for Pearland sent the Lady Oilers to the 6A state title game to face No. 1 state-ranked Denton Guyer Lady Wildcats.

Gutierrez (25-1) allowed three hits, two runs, while striking out five and walking two.

The Lady Oilers managed only one hit by junior third baseman Raenna Liscano, a double in the six inning, while taking advantage of five walks, a wild pitch, and an error.

### PEARLAND 4 - DENTON GUYER 2

No. 3 state-ranked Pearland faced the No. 1 team in Class 6A in the Denton Ryan Lady Wildcats with the winning team claiming the 2023 6A state championship.

As they did in the semifinals, the Lady Oilers found themselves trailing after the first half of the opening inning 2-0 after Guyer, quickly grabbed the lead in the top

of the first inning as they scored on an error by the Oilers and executed a perfect squeeze bunt to bring another run across.

However, the Lady Oilers would find some offense in the state finals compared to only one hit against San Benito after seven innings though they got the 3-2 win to advance.

"It's awesome," said Pearland coach Laneigh Clark. "Very few times do you get the opportunity to play for a state championship, and I did it with a great coaching staff, great administration, a great school behind me and a bunch of great kids."

The Lady Oilers got back-to-back one-out singles in the opening frame, but the next two Pearland hitters grounded out leaving two runners on base.

In the second inning, Pearland retired Guyer with a strike out and a double play leaving the Lady Wildcats with a 2-0 lead but the bottom half of the second would be when Pearland would make their mark.

Trinity Perry led off the inning by being hit with a pitch and then Lydia Perry and Kailey Monsef loaded the bases via errors by Denton Guyer.

Darian DeLeon worked the Guyer pitcher for a walk allowing courtesy runner Sydney Mann to score.

Hailey Golden stepped to the plate and delivered an RBI single to tie up the game that knocked Guyer starting pitcher Finley Montgomery out of the circle. Kaylee Schweitzer followed with a sacrifice fly to put the Oilers in front 3-2.

Golden came through once again in the fifth with another RBI single for the 4-2 lead.

Texas A&M commit Golden was named the game's Most Valuable Player after going 3-for-4 with two RBIs. It was a meaningful honor for the senior, who fought through an early season injury to help her program get back to state.

"We live for this, and this is what we've been working for the past four years," Golden said. "With my seniors, we were the group to do it, and it's just so exciting."

That was enough support for Pearland pitcher Abigail Gutierrez, who allowed five hits and struck out six batters as she tossed a complete game for the second straight game. The UT-Arlington signee also pitched well during the Oilers' 3-2 semifinal victory against San Benito.

"They're just always so hype," Gutierrez said as her teammates celebrated with the championship trophy nearby. "I know they just always have my back no matter what happens. I can count on these girls in any situation."

Pearland finished the season with an impressive 41-3 record.

The following seniors certainly left their mark for Pearland. They are Hailey Golden, Lydia Njus, Gabbie Roundtree, Kryston Whitlock, Darian DeLeon, Kennedy Drafton, and Abigail Gutierrez.

### BEING INTERVIEWED

Pearland head coach Laneigh Clark was interviewed after the Lady Oilers took out the previous No. 1 state-ranked Denton Guyer Lady Wildcats (38-2) by the score of 4-2. This was Pearland's third state title (1996, 2010) and seventh appearance at the state softball tournament. Clark is the winningest 6A coach in Texas softball history with over 750 wins.

Photo by Dr. David Davis

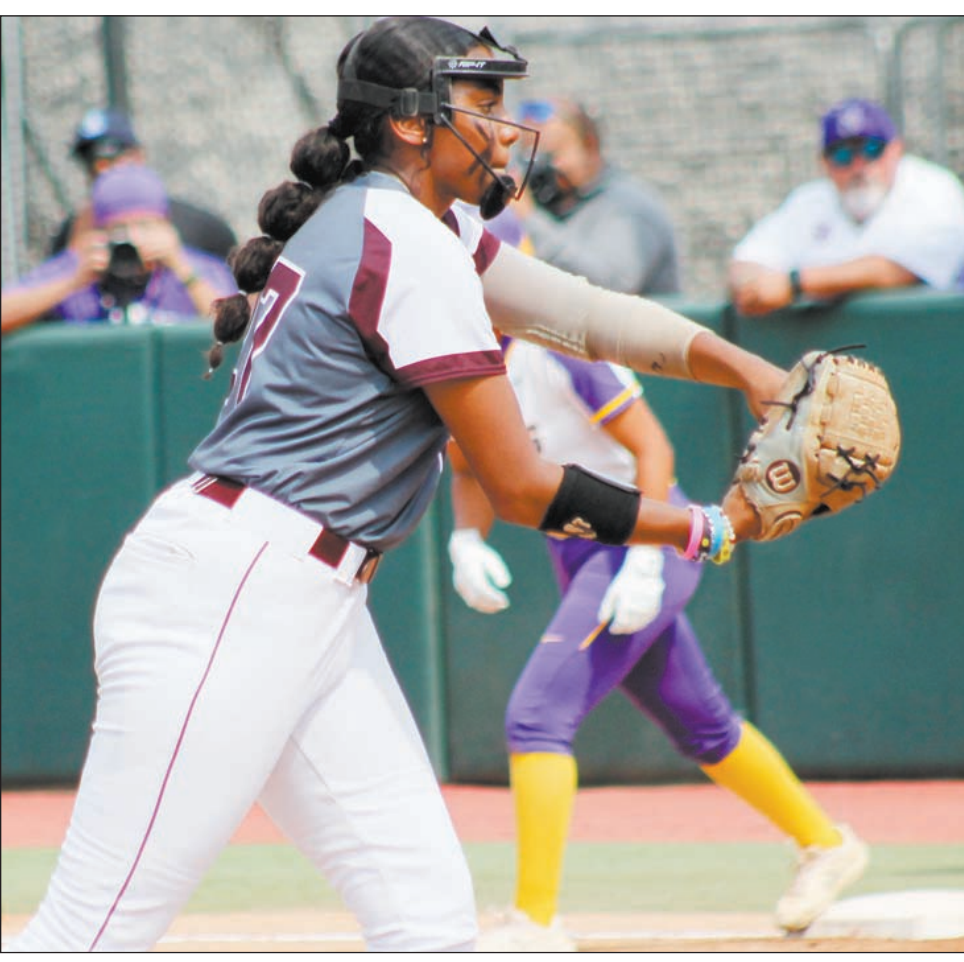


Photo by Dr. David Davis

**WINNING PITCHER** - Pearland senior pitcher Abigail Gutierrez gets ready to throw a pitch against San Benito in the 6A state semifinals. Gutierrez (26-1) allowed three hits, two runs, while striking out five and walking two against the Lady Greyhounds. The UT-Arlington signee would also get the win in the state title game over Denton Guyer 4-2 as she allowed five hits and struck out six batters in a complete game performance.



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LEGALS LEGALS

CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS  
NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID NO. 2023-12

ONE-TIME PURCHASE OF A 2022 OR 2023 TRANSIT BUS/VAN, ONE WITH A WHEELCHAIR LIFT AND ONE WITHOUT A WHEELCHAIR LIFT

Sealed Competitive Bids shall be submitted via one (1) paper copy and one (1) electronic copy in pdf format on a flash drive or CD. Each copy must match identically and must include the ink signature of a person with the authority to bind the vendor into a contract.

The City of Friendswood (the "City") reserves the right to reject any or all bid and to waive any informality in the bids received.

Specifications and related information may be downloaded from the City's website at <https://www.ci.friendswood.tx.us/Bids.aspx>

For additional information, please contact Jeff Spears, Purchasing Coordinator at (281) 996-3274 or via email to [jspears@friendswood.com](mailto:jspears@friendswood.com).

LEGALS LEGALS

CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS  
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Pearland Purchasing Division, 3523 Liberty Dr., until 2:00 PM on Wednesday July 5, 2023, and all bids will be read aloud via virtual meeting.

ITB 0623-14 Span Wire Rebuild

Bid forms, specifications and all necessary information may be obtained from the following website: <https://pearland.ionwave.net>

A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at Council Chambers located at 3519 Liberty Drive, Pearland, Texas 77581 at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, June 21, 2023.

Vendors should register on the City's e-bid system <https://pearland.ionwave.net>. Once registered on the City's e-bid system, bid documents may be viewed on the site.

First Publication: June 7, 2023  
Second Publication: June 14, 2023

LEGALS LEGALS

CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS  
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Request for Proposals - RFP No. 0623-01  
Ballistic Shields - Pearland Police Department

The City of Pearland is seeking bids from entities that can supply the Pearland Police Department with approximately 50 ballistic shields.

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Pearland Purchasing Division, 3523 Liberty Drive until 2:00 PM on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, when all bids will be read aloud at Pearland City Hall - Council Chambers, 3519 Liberty Drive, Pearland TX 77581.

Pre-Bid Requirements - Vendor Registration  
Interested vendors must register on the City's e-bid system <https://pearland.ionwave.net>.

Questions and Submission of Bid Proposals (RFP #0623-01)  
Bid forms, specifications and all necessary information may be obtained from the following website: <https://pearland.ionwave.net>.

Source of Funds  
The funding for this purchase will come from a grant from the State of Texas.

Bid Closing Date  
2:00 PM on Wednesday, June 28, 2023.

RFP Advertisement Schedule  
This RFP is scheduled to run twice in the City's local newspaper of public record - Reporter News (Pearland Edition):

First Publication: June 7, 2023  
Second Publication: June 14, 2023

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PERNETTER



PETERSON



RODRIGUEZ



SOLBERG

# Pearland ISD names four new elementary principals

The Pearland Independent School District Board recently approved four outstanding administrators to serve as principals at CJ Harris, Lawhon, Magnolia and Shadycrest elementaries. Combined, the new principals have nearly 50 years of experience in education.

**LASHONDA PERNETTER**  
**CJ Harris Elementary**  
LaShonda Pernetter will join CJ Harris Elementary after serving as an assistant principal at Silvercrest and Massey Ranch elementaries for six years. Pernetter holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Louisiana Tech University and a master's degree in educational leadership from Lamar University.

**DR. KRISTINE SOLBERG**  
**Magnolia Elementary**  
Dr. Kristine Solberg joins the Pearland ISD team as the new Magnolia Elementary principal. With 19 years as an educator - nine of those as an elementary principal, four as a junior high assistant principal and six as a science teacher - she served her entire career in the Flowing Wells School District in Tucson, Arizona.

finding a balance to laugh and have fun.  
**RYAN PETERSON**  
**Shadycrest Elementary**  
Shadycrest Elementary welcomes its current assistant principal, Ryan Peterson, as its new principal. Formerly the assistant principal at Alexander Middle School, Peterson comes from a family of educators and began his career in education as a history teacher at La Porte ISD.

**VERONICA RODRIGUEZ**  
**Lawhon Elementary**  
Veronica Rodriguez is welcomed to Lawhon Elementary as the new principal, after servings as an assistant principal at the school for the past six years. The first in her family to graduate from college and obtain a master's degree, Rodriguez holds a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies PK-4 from the University of Houston - Main Campus, and a master's degree in educational leadership from University of Houston - Clear Lake.

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\*Source [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)