



Katy Area Football Preview 2010

Strengths, Key Players, Schedules, & Stats

Written by Kenzie Stanfield Photography by Marisa Hugonnett and Suzi Issa

As the 2010 high school football season kicks off in Katy, the talent throughout the district remains at a peak level. Each school boasts returning starters who will be key to their program. All six head coaches have laid out specific goals and are focused on what will make their team stand out, and more importantly, on what will help them fulfill their highest aspirations: to become champions on the field.

Katy ISD football players (back row, from left) Max Guarniere, Colt Atwood, Julian Jimenez, (front row) Cervaanz Calhoun, Bobby Waid, and Nick Murski



The upcoming season will be even more competitive than the last in Katy. With the addition of tough competitors like Memorial High School and Strake Jesuit High School to the realigned 19-5A district, Katy's football programs seek to maintain their strong foothold in the state playoffs and championships. With all the excitement in the air, fans from all corners of Katy are sure to have something to cheer about this season.

Cinco Ranch Cougars

Expectations are huge this year for the Cougar football program, which is looking for its fifth consecutive state playoff appearance. How the Cougars handle the pressure will determine just how far up the state rankings they will climb. "We are close to competing for the big prize and accordingly, our players believe that with our experience, we should be contending for that big prize," says head coach, Don Clayton.

Although they are breaking in a new quarterback, senior Kyle Meloy, Cinco Ranch returns one of the top rushing attacks in the state featuring player-of-the-year candidate, KC Nlemchi and future star, Jamel James. Meloy also has a weapon in wide receiver, Bobby Waid and a talented offensive line led by C. Kevin O'Brien. As senior co-captains, O'Brien and Waid agree they want to go undefeated and win both the district and state championships.

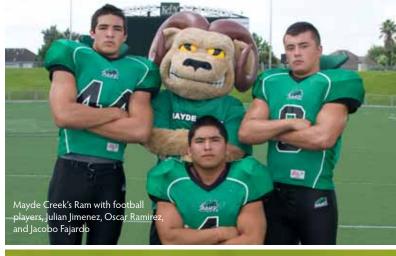
On defense, the Cougars are returning six starters from a group that has the ability to shut down many of the district's offenses. Defensive tackle, Stuart Mouchantaf, defensive end, Ryan Wiley, linebacker, Jeffery Williams, linebacker, Ayodele Ilesanmi, and defensive back, Russell Cuellar lead a unit that is well experienced in all positions.

Cinco Ranch has legitimately staked its claim for the top spot in the district and as a possible state championship contender. Coach Clayton knows the team's responsibilities extend beyond the football field this season. "We want to represent CRHS, our community, and Katy ISD in positive ways every time we do something, not only in games, but in our everyday walk," he says.



Katy Tigers

Redemption is not a word most fans would associate with a team coming off its third consecutive state finals appearance. For the Tigers, though, redemption is what drives team spirit after they won back-to-back state championships in 2007 and 2008, only to fall short of the title to Abilene High School in 2009. "We have to battle back, playing extremely hard every play," says head coach, Gary Joseph.









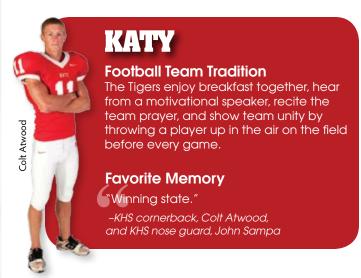




Katy brings back a very talented and balanced team, with key leaders returning on both offense and defense. Quarterback, Brooks Haack has the potential to be one of the state's best players and running back, Donovann Young is a workhorse who has Division I college prospects. If Katy's skilled running backs, Vernon Jefferies and Adam Taylor and wide receivers, Greg Morris and Chris Bethley can break in the rest of their young offensive team members, they will be almost unstoppable.

The Tigers are blessed with great individual talent from players like defensive back, Colt Atwood, defensive lineman, John Sampa, defensive end, Nick Narcisse, and linebacker, Grant Clifton. Perhaps even more impressive is the ability of the entire Tiger defensive line to get to the ball. Coach Joseph's dynamic game plans coupled with the defense's intimate knowledge of assignments is going to make it tough on opposing offenses.

Captains, Atwood and Sampa say the team is adamant in the pursuit of its number one goal – redeeming itself in the state championships. Coach Joseph agrees. "We must show great poise and persistence," he says, adding, "We have to play extremely hard and be unselfish."





Mayde Creek Rams

In a tough district with several powerhouse teams, the Mayde Creek Rams set out this season with stronger talent and a new offensive direction to guide them. "We will never allow a repeat of last year," says head coach, Lancer Carter. "We control our destiny." With lots of hard work during the off-season and a unified team, captains, Dalton Brown, Julian Jimenez, Dreon Johnson, Kevin Khilnani, and Oscar Ramirez hope to have a championship season that takes them into the postseason.

The defense, which returns seven starters, will lead the Rams this year. Up front defensive ends, Ramirez and Mario Silva and Johnson, a defensive tackle, play fast and aggressive. Behind them, linebackers, Jacobo Fajardo, Jimenez, and Brown are tough and are able to track plays down across the field. They match up well against many of the district offenses because of their ability to stop the run.

Offensively, Mayde Creek will strive to win the battle in the trenches. The Rams will lean on offensive linemen like Khilnani and Jon Zepeda as they look to establish a new offensive system. The team will rely on running backs, Matt Humphreys, two-way player, Johnson, and newcomer, Ronald Winton to shoulder the scoring burden early on.

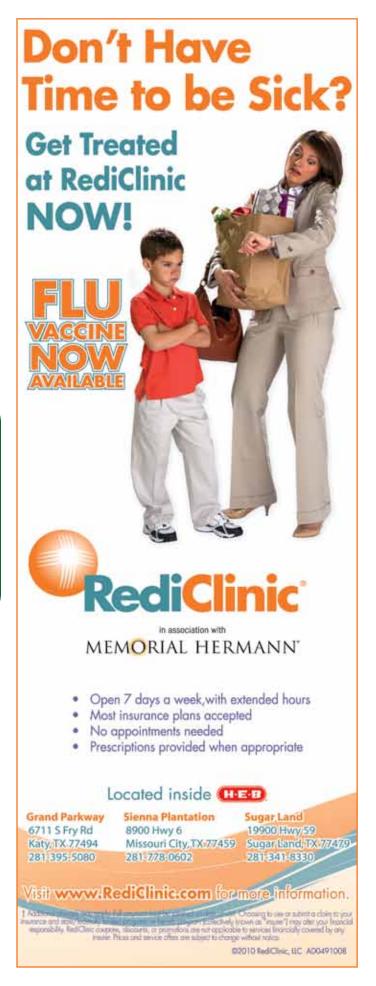


Morton Ranch Mavericks

To say there were obstacles for the Mavericks last year is an understatement, but by working together and utilizing team strengths, Morton Ranch looks to establish a winning tradition for the stillyoung school. "Our goals this year are to play our brand of football with tenacity for four quarters, to believe in each other, and to play together," says head coach, Dave Meadows.

Quarterback, Tyler Sattal, running back, Coreyon Vaughns, and wide receiver, Jake Stewart have explosive abilities and are capable of breaking the big offensive plays. Offensive guard and defensive tackle, Josh Thevis, bring both steady leadership and an aggressive mentality to the team's offense, which features many young players.

On defense, Dan Hunter, a defensive end, is viewed as one of the most talented players in the district and is skilled at rushing opposing quarterbacks. The defensive backfield looks to be deep this year with starting cornerbacks, Melvin Walters and Cervaanz Calhoun, free safety, D'Andre Love, and strong safety, John Navin all returning. Captains, Calhoun and linebacker, Bryant Micolta say their ability to play as a team, work together, and pump each other up will make them successful this season.





Seven Lakes Spartans

Finishing last season with a 4-7 record wasn't exactly what the Seven Lakes Spartans had in mind when they began the season, but their first-ever playoff berth brings optimism to a young school that has shown significant improvement. "This year, we want to finish with a winning season," says captain, Aaron Bryant. "And earn a playoff spot in the district," adds captain, Nick Murski. With an improved defense and substantial athletic ability and size, head coach, Kevin O'Keefe knows that his 2010 team can be competitive on both sides of the ball this season. "Compete is our buzzword this year as we strive for a highly consistent level of play week in and week out," he says.

Key to the Seven Lakes' offense should be a strong rushing attack led by running back, Dominic Rose and fullback, Regie Sigers, who O'Keefe says is a dominant part of the new offense. They will be running behind an experienced offensive line led by returning starters, Chase Erickson, Heath Burleson, and Michael Comer. Wide receiver, Jared Crosby is a potential game-breaker for Seven Lakes.

Defensively, the Spartans have greatly improved, says O'Keefe, and with their speed and strength up front, they look to be aggressive competitors. "We are a more athletic and physical team than we have been in the past," he says. Leading the way will be defensive ends, Bryant and Murski, and safety, Blake Poncio.



Taylor Mustangs

With Taylor making playoff appearances the last two seasons - a first in Mustang school history - the team looks to contend for a playoff spot again this year. "We want to establish ourselves as contenders in the district and build our reputation not just in Katy, but in Houston and in the state," says head coach, Flint Risien. This season, the team returns several players whose leadership and experience will be essential to earning another trip to the postseason.

The team's strength lies on the defensive side of the ball and although they must replace their two graduated defensive tackles, the Mustangs will be anchored by an aggressive front seven, including defensive end, Preston Phillips, defensive tackle, John Haunschild, and linebacker, Max Guarniere. The defensive backfield is loaded, as well, as cornerback, Ryan Sartory and safety, Carson Brickley return to form an experienced duo. Leadership council members, Phillips and Guarniere believe the Mustangs will have a shut-down defense.

On offense, running back, Bright Ashaka will carry the load as Taylor breaks in new quarterback, Hunter Riggs. Riggs will have plenty of great players to throw the ball to, including wide receivers, Kyle Taylor and Shey Akingdade. "Our players have a great respect for the other teams in the district and also a great respect for what needs to be done on our team to make things happen," says coach Risien.



Katy football season kicks off Aug. 26. Whether you're rooting for the Cougars, Tigers, Mavericks, Rams, Spartans, or Mustangs, be sure to cheer on and support your favorite Katy team. Check out a complete schedule of Katy ISD varsity football games on page 36. Who will be this year's champion? **KM**

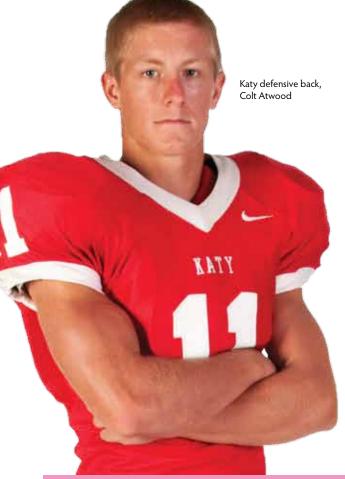
KENZIE STANFIELD is a mother of four and wife to her high school sweetheart, Dusty. She enjoys time with her family and friends and being a freelance writer for Katy Magazine.

Good Luck!

Katy Magazine wishes all Katy ISD football teams good luck this upcoming season.

We would also like to thank all the teams who participated in our photo shoot.

KATY ISD FOOTBALL 2010 KEY PLAYERS



Cinco Ranch

Bobby Waid, WR Jamel James, RB KC Nlemchi, RB Kevin O'Brien, C Russell Cuellar, S Stuart Mouchantaf, DL Tyler Knowles, OL

Katy

Brooks Haack, QB Colt Atwood, DB Donovonn Young, RB Grant Clifton, LB John Sampa, DL Nick Narcisse, DE Vernon Jeffries, RB

Mayde Creek

Dalton Brown, LB Dreon Johnson, DT/RB Jon Zepeda, C Julian Jimenez, LB Kevin Khilnani, OL Mario Silva, DL Oscar Ramirez, DE

Morton Ranch

Bryant Micolta, LB Cervaanz Calhoun, CB Coreyon Vaughns, RB D'Andre Love, S Dan Hunter, DE Josh Thevis, G Tyler Sattal, QB

Seven Lakes

Aaron Bryant, DE Blake Poncio, S Chris DiClemente, DB Dominic Rose, RB Heath Burleson, OL Jared Crosby, WR Nick Murski, DE

Taylor

Bright Ashaka, RB Connor Cella, DL John Haunschild, DT Kyle Taylor, WR Max Guarniere, LB Preston Phillips, DE Ryan Sartory, DB



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CINCO RANCH 13-2 , 4-1 Record Mascot Cougars **Don Clayton** Coach Enrollment 2826 (3) **PPG** 34.4 **PAPG** 18.2 Margin 16.2 WEEK DATE OPPONENT SCORE W/L 8/28/09 Week 0 Reagan 28-0 W 9/5/09 42-17 W Week 1 Cy Springs 39-25 W Week 2 9/11/09 Cy Ridge Week 3 9/19/09 Conroe 40-15 W Week 4 9/25/09 College Park 38-35 W W Week 6 10/10/09 Taylor 21-16 Week 7 10/15/09 Morton Ranch 40-0 W Week 8 10/23/09 Mayde Creek Week 9 10/30/09 Seven Lakes 38-14 W 49-17 W Week 10 11/7/09 Katy 20-21 Week 11 11/13/09 Alief Elsik Week 12 11/28/09 Lamar 35-14 W 24-13 W Week 13 11/28/09 West Brook 49-26 W Week 14 12/5/09 Brazoswood 26-18 W

27-42

Week 15 12/11/09 Westlake

			KA	TY
Record	14-2, 5-0)		
Mascot	Tigers			
Coach	Gary Jo	seph		
Enrollme	nt 2794 (4)		
PPG	32.1			
PAPG	12.6			
Margin	19.5			
WEEK	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	W/L
Week 0	8/29/09	North Shore	9-7	W
Week 1	9/4/09	The Woodlands	27-31	L
Week 2	9/12/09	Bellevue (WA)	35-17	W
Week 3	9/19/09	Marcus	34-24	W
Week 4	9/26/09	West Brook	36-7	W
Week 6	10/9/09	Morton Ranch	39-0	W
Week 7	10/17/09	Seven Lakes	50-0	W
Week 8	10/24/09	Taylor	21-10	W
Week 9	10/31/08	Mayde Creek	42-7	W
Week 10	11/7/09	Cinco Ranch	21-20	W
Week 11	11/14/09	Stratford	49-14	W
Week 12	11/21/09	Atascocita	45-7	W
Week 13	11/28/09	La Porte	37-3	W
Week 14	12/5/09	Clear Springs	38-21	W
Week 15	12/12/09	New Braunfels	14-6	W
Week 16	12/19/09	Abilene	17-28	L

		SEV	EN LAK	(ES
Record	4-7 , 1-4			
Mascot	Spartar	ns		
Coach	Kevin O			
Enrollme				
PPG	23.9	•		
PAPG	28.9			
Margin	-5			
WEEK	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	W/L
Week 1	9/03/09	Dulles	0-21	L
Week 2	9/11/09	Foster	23-0	W
Week 3	9/18/09	Northbrook	57-0	W
Week 4	9/25/09	Lee	42-27	W
Week 5	10/2/09	Conroe	24-41	1.0
Week 6	10/9/09	Mayde Creek	34-40	1.0
Week 7	10/17/09		0-50	1.0
Week 8	10/24/09		42-7	w
Week 9	10/30/09		14-49	i i
Week 10	11/6/09	Taylor	7-56	i.
Week 11	11/13/09	Memorial	17-27	L

Last Seasons STATS

		MORTON	RANC	H
Record	1-9 , 1-4			
Mascot	Maverio	cks		
Coach	Dave M	eadows		
Enrollmei	nt 3074 (2)		
PPG	10.2			
PAPG	35.7			
Margin	-25.5			
WEEK	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	W/I
Week 0	8/28/09	Tomball	0-28	L
Week 1	9/3/09	Travis	25-36	L
Week 2	9/11/09	Langham Creek	9-37	L
Week 3	9/18/09	Magnolia	14-21	L
Week 4	9/24/09	Foster	7-44	L
Week 6	10/9/09	Katy	0-39	L
Week 7	10/15/09	Cinco Ranch	0-40	L
Week 8	10/24/09	Seven Lakes	7-42	L
Week 9	10/31/09	Taylor	12-49	L
Week 10	11/7/09	Mayde Creek	28-21	w

		MAY	DE CRE	EK
Record Mascot Coach Enrollmer PPG PAPG Margin	1-9 , 1-5 Rams Lance (at 2779 (5 16.2 33 -16.8	Carter		
WEEK	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	W/L
Week 0	8/29/09	Brenham	14-37	L
Week 1	9/4/09	Foster	7-30	L
Week 2	9/11/09	Alief Taylor	28-35	L
Week 3	9/17/09	Cy Springs	14-28	L
Week 4	9/25/09	Terry	14-21	L
Week 6	10/9/09	Seven Lakes	40-34	W
Week 7	10/16/09	Taylor	3-37	L
Week 8	10/23/09	Cinco Ranch	14-38	L
Week 9	10/31/09	Katy	7-42	L
Week 10	11/7/09	Morton Ranch	21-28	L

			TAYL	OR
Record	6-4 , 3-2			
Mascot	Mustan	gs		
Coach	Flint Ris	ien		
Enrollmer	nt 2511 (6)		
PPG	29.2			
PAPG	14.2			
Margin	15			
WEEK	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	W/L
Week 0	8/29/09	Cy Springs	41-14	W
Week 2	9/12/09	Terry	21-6	W
Week 3	9/17/09	Lamar	0-28	L
Week 4	10/2/09	Lee	52-13	W
Week 5	10/10/09	Cinco Ranch	16-21	L
Week 6	10/16/09	Mayde Creek	37-3	W
Week 7	10/24/09	Katy	10-21	L
Week 8	10/31/09	Morton Ranch	49-12	W
Week 9	11/6/09	Seven Lakes	56-7	W
Week 10	11/14/09	Alief Taylor	10-17	L

KISD ATHLETICS 2010 VARSITY FOOTBALL

	CINCO RANCH	КАТҮ	MAYDE CREEK	MORTON RANCH	SEVEN LAKES	JAMES E. TAYLOR
WEEK	Klein Forest Thurs., Aug. 26, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	North Shore Fri., Aug. 27, 7 p.m. Galena Park Stadium	Cy-Springs Fri. Aug. 27, 7:30 p.m. Berry Center	Tomball Sat., Aug. 28, 6 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Kempner Fri., Aug. 27, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Cy-Fair Sat., Aug. 28, 6 p.m. Berry Center
WEEK	Cy-Ridge Fri., Sept. 3, 7:30 p.m. Pridgeon Stadium	Alief Taylor Sat., Sept. 4, 6 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Willowridge Fri., Sept. 3, 7 p.m. Hall Stadium	Cy-Falls Fri., Sept. 3, 7:30 p.m. Berry Center	Dulles Thurs., Sept. 2, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Klein Fri., Sept. 3, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium
WEEK 2	Clear Springs Sat., Sept. 11, 6 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	OPEN	Tomball Fri., Sept. 10, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Spring Fri., Sept. 10, 7 p.m. George Stadium	Foster Fri., Sept. 10, 7:30 p.m. Traylor Stadium	Westside Thurs., Sept. 9, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium
WEEK 3	OPEN	Westbrook Sat., Sept. 18, 6 p.m. Alex Durley Stadium	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
WEEK 4	Mayde Creek (H) Thurs., Sept. 23, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	HOMECOMING Seven Lakes (H) Fri., Sept. 24, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Cinco Ranch (V) Thurs., Sept. 23, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Memorial Thurs., Sept. 23, 7 p.m. Tully Stadium	Katy (V) Fri., Sept. 24, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Strake Jesuit Sat., Sept. 25, 6 p.m. Rhodes Stadium
WEEK 5	Seven Lakes (V) Thurs., Sept. 30, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Strake Jesuit Fri., Oct. 1, 7 p.m. Rice Stadium	Memorial Sat., Oct. 2, 6 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	HOMECOMING James E. Taylor (H) Fri., Oct.1, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Cinco Ranch (H) Thurs., Sept. 30, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Morton Ranch (V) Fri., Oct. 1, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium
WEEK 6	Memorial Sat., Oct. 9, 6 p.m. Tully Stadium	Morton Ranch (H) Thurs., Oct. 7, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	James E. Taylor (V) Fri., Oct. 8, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Katy (V) Thurs., Oct. 7, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Strake Jesuit Sat., Oct. 9, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	HOMECOMING Mayde Creek (H) Fri., Oct.8, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium
WEEK 7	HOMECOMING Strake Jesuit Fri., Oct.15, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Mayde Creek (V) Thurs., Oct. 14, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Katy (H) Thurs., Oct. 14, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Seven Lakes (H) Sat., Oct. 16, 6 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Morton Ranch (V) Sat., Oct. 16, 6 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Memorial Sat., Oct. 16, 6 p.m. Tully Stadium
WEEK 8	James E. Taylor (V) Sat., Oct. 23, 11 a.m. Rhodes Stadium	Memorial Sat., Oct. 23, 6 a.m. Rhodes Stadium	Seven Lakes (V) Fri., Oct. 22, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Strake Jesuit Fri., Oct. 22, 7 p.m. Crusader Stadium	HOMECOMING Mayde Creek (H) Fri., Oct. 22, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Cinco Ranch (H) Sat., Oct. 23, 11 a.m. Rhodes Stadium
WEEK 9	Morton Ranch (H) Sat., Oct. 30, 6 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	James E. Taylor (V) Sat., Oct. 30, 11 a.m. Rhodes Stadium	HOMECOMING Strake Jesuit Fri., Oct. 29, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Cinco Ranch (V) Sat., Oct. 30, 6 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Memorial Fri., Oct. 29, 7 p.m. Tully Stadium	Katy (H) Sat., Oct. 30, 11 a.m. Rhodes Stadium
10	Katy (V) Sat., Nov. 6, 11 a.m. Rhodes Stadium	Cinco Ranch (H) Sat., Nov. 6, 11 a.m. Rhodes Stadium	Morton Ranch (V) Fri., Nov. 5, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Mayde Creek (H) Fri., Nov. 5, 7 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	James E. Taylor (H) Sat., Nov. 6, 6 p.m. Rhodes Stadium	Seven Lakes (V) Sat., Nov. 6, 6 p.m. Rhodes Stadium

To purchase tickets for these games, please contact Katy ISD's athletic office or the school's booster club.

^{*} Please verify dates and times with the schools, as schedule changes may have been made after our print date.