



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

44th annual 'Battle of Baytown' Lee vs. Sterling gridiron match up Friday night

Goose Creek CISD is making plans for the annual "Battle of Baytown" gridiron match up between Ross S. Sterling and Robert E. Lee. The 44th edition of "The Game" is Friday night at Stallworth Stadium. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.

Lee holds a 26-15-2 series advantage. The game also marks the season opener for both teams. Lee won last year's matchup, 35-27.

When the University Interscholastic League released its realignment last year, the Ganders and Rangers were in different districts for the first time since Sterling opened its doors on Baker Road in 1967.

Lee, as expected, moved down in classification from 5A to 4A. Sterling remained a 5A school.

This year's game will be the first non-district contest in the rivalry.

Lee and Sterling first met in 1967, though it wasn't much of a rivalry in those early years. Lee won the first four meetings, with the Rangers finally breaking the streak with a 20-19 victory in 1971.

After that, the series became a lot more competitive.

Goose Creek CISD is enlisting the help of students and parents to ensure that "The Game" and activities leading up to it is safe and pleasant for everyone.

"I expect Goose Creek students to display good sportsmanship at all times and represent their schools and community in a dignified, responsible manner," Superintendent Dr. Toby York said. "Competitions with cross-town friends are an exciting part of our district's tradition, and activities that damage property or cause harm to others mar these events for everyone."

Acts of vandalism or criminal mischief will not be tolerated, and those who are involved in activities such as shooting paint balls or throwing eggs at homes will be arrested.

Rules of "The Game"

Additional security measures will be in place on Friday night, and those attending the game will be required to have their bags checked as an extra precaution.

"While I realize that this may seem inconvenient, we want to take every step possible to ensure the safety of our fans," York said.

The gates will open at 5:30 p.m.

Lee will be the home team, and Gander fans should park in the west parking lot behind the press box. Sterling fans should park in the east lot behind the visitors' stands.

York reminds fans that the following items are prohibited inside the stadium: weapons or firearms, air horns/whistles or other noisemakers, coolers or

containers, fireworks or explosives, illegal substances, Frisbees and beach balls, laser pens, or knives of any size, including Leatherman's and multi-purpose tools.

Following the game, those exiting from the Home side (west parking lot) will be directed west on Archer Road to North Main Street.

Traffic exiting the visitors' side (east parking lot) onto Archer Road will be directed down Sjolander Road to Interstate 10.

Those who exit onto Sjolander Road from the east lot will be directed south on Sjolander Road.

The Harris County Constable's Office will direct the flow of traffic at the four-way stop at Cedar Bayou- Lynchburg and Sjolander roads.

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