

The Roughnecks circle up at half-court before taking the floor against district opponent Sabine. In the two matchups, White Oak won by a combined 44 points. "The game is so much more mental than physical," **Nike Simmons** [12] said. "It is very important to have the right mindset before starting games."

Laying the ball up between two Spring Hill defenders, **Jeremy Patak** [12] steps up both offensively and defensively when his team was still lacking several players. The Roughnecks defeated the cross-town rival, 53-40. "Some of our teammates were still playing football so we had to learn to compete even when we weren't at full strength," said Patak. "This helped us later on in the season when playing tough opponents."

Dribbling past his Tatum defender, **Landry Sheridan** [12] turns the corner in a home game against the Eagles. "It's always fun playing against Tatum because it's two good teams that know each other well," Sheridan said. "It's always a high-intensity game."

Facing up to the basket, post **Nike Simmons** [12] competes in a non-district home game against Tatum. Simmons was a top scorer for the varsity team and focused on leaving everything on the court when he played. "Our non-district schedule was extremely difficult," Simmons said. "Playing good teams gave us an advantage once we started district play."



END of AN ERA

This year seemed to end like every other. After the Roughnecks' final game, **Coach Ron Boyett** brought in his players the day after to explain how the rest of the year would work, but something was different this time. With tears in his eyes, Boyett informed his players that he would be stepping down from the head coaching position after 25 years. Through his career, Boyett held a 539-242 record, 209-77 in district competition. He also achieved 10 district championships, 12 bi-district championships, and two state championships.

"He has had a lot on court success by winning two state championships back to back," **Landry Sheridan** [12] said. "No other coach in this area has had the amount of success that Coach Boyett has had in his time coaching."

Despite the records, players say that the coach's influence goes far beyond the court.

"Coach Boyett has built a program on the principle that basketball is a tool to teach lessons that carry on for the rest of our lives," **Jeremy Patak** [12] said. "While he has had a bunch of on court success, his legacy is how he's touched and shaped so many lives along the way."

Boyett will remain in the school district and assume a new coaching position. "The number that I will always be most proud of is 111," Coach Ron Boyett said. That's the number of players who graduated from our program and it's the number that God will hold me accountable for, not my won/loss record. I feel secure in knowing that I gave everyone of those kids my best effort and that they would leave our program with a philosophy for their life. They would leave knowing how to work hard, be self-disciplined, understand the value of teamwork, and how to respond to adversity. I did my best to honor the promise I made to God."

"I was in Reading and everybody was rushing put the iPads up so they could get to the next class. My friend and I had to wait for everyone to move so we could put up our iPads." **Beyonca Martinez** [8]



Advancing the ball down the court against district rival Waskom, **Dax Davis** [12] dribbles around his opponent. The Wildcats edged past the Roughnecks on a last second free throw, 51-50. "The key to playing in the end of close games is to execute and not make any mental errors," Davis said. "We didn't close out the Waskom game, but we used it as a lesson and it made us better as a team."



Forward **Austin Iske** [12] releases a floater in an early season matchup against Willsboro. "After getting back to basketball after football season, the main goal was to build teammate chemistry," Iske said. "It didn't take long because we have all played together for years."

Can't HIDE that ROUGHNECK PRIDE

Baby powder, whistles, near arrests and a feature on a famous twitter page culminated to make another successful year the White Oak High School MoJoe section. From heckling Sabine's players in basketball with posters of arrogant tweets, to demanding the location of Spring Hill's stolen Yeti cooler, the group undoubtedly made their presence known at big games. At every game where the majority of the MoJoes were present, White Oak came away victorious. "During a football game, all the MoJoes were screaming and I was blowing my whistle," **Makenzie Goll** [12] said. "All the players on the field stopped playing and I almost got kicked out of the game by a cop."

"One time I was waiting on a teacher to help me with my homework." **Kendrick Mills** [8]

"When I have to sit on the bench in a basketball game." **Dustin Covington** [8]



Moment of Patience: