



Baseball to host breast cancer awareness event this Satur

HOUSTON - The Region XIV South baseball champions, San Jacinto College, will raise awareness for breast cancer, at the first ever Play Pink game this Saturday against Laredo Community College.

San Jac assistant coach Jimmy Durham lost his wife, Michele, to breast cancer. Durham was on the coaching staff at New Mexico Junior College in Hobbs, New Mexico, when she was being treated in Houston, the couple used the services of Grace Flight of America in New Mexico and Houston free of charge.

According to its Web site, Grace Flight of America provides free air transportation for humanitarian purposes. The organization's goal is to remove the transportation barrier so that they can receive specialized medical treatment that may not be available to them in their home country. America also has a ground crew that drives patients to and from the local airports and hospitals.

The organization not only flew Michele to and from Houston for treatment, but also flew one or all of the Durham's five children, so that they would not be far from their mother. "America literally helped keep our family together," said Durham, who is now an assistant coach at San Jacinto College. "They allowed the entire family to be together at the same time, and gave our children an opportunity to be with their mother."

All money raised from donations and the sale of Play Pink merchandise at the game will go directly to Grace Flight of America, in support of their efforts for the Durham family. The coaches will wear special pink jerseys and Play Pink caps during the game. Fans are encouraged to wear pink to support the cause.

to support the cause, and will have the opportunity to purchase Play Pink baseball jerseys. All Jac baseball games are free to attend, but donations will be accepted for admission.

Durham says he hopes the Play Pink event not only raises awareness for Grace Flight but also provides monetary help as well. “The pilots volunteer their time, planes, and fuel to help us. They pay for these flights themselves, unselfishly, and need more funding to continue to help me and Michele.”

For Head Coach Tom Arrington and his staff, organizing the event was a no-brainer. “Because cancer hits home for so many, including one of our own, so we wanted a way to bring everyone together for one day finding a cure,” noted Arrington, who is now in his 10th year at the helm. “This is just one small thing we can do to help, and our team is really excited to move forward to a great event.”

Durham, whose five children range in age from 9 to 19, gets emotional when asked about the event. “I can’t put into words what this means to my family and Michele’s,” he said. “It means so much to me and for me to feel the same way I do about such a tremendous organization as Grace Flight. The pilots, team, and community are just as unselfish as Grace Flight. I can’t thank them enough.”

San Jacinto College is currently ranked third in the nation with a 37–7 overall record in the South play. All baseball home games are played at J.R. Harrison Field located on the North campus at 5800 Uvalde Road in Houston. For more information about the program, visit www.sanjacsports.com.

For information about Grace Flight of America, or to make a donation, visit the www.graceflight.org, or call 1–888–500–0433.

San Jacinto College serves a diverse population of more than 27,000 students earning certificates in university transfer and technical programs. The College also serves

workforce training. Students come with various goals and aspirations and success. San Jacinto College. Your Goals. Your College.

For information about San Jacinto College, please call 281-998-6150. To make event, [please read this information](#).