**Tristan Bennett and Zeb Linebarger, Staff Reporters**

**Band regains state marching title at NAAMB**

**Students earn first divisions at UIL region, named Best 4A military band**

The Houston High School band was recognized as the best military marching band in the state by placing first at The National Association of Marching Bands. The contest was held Oct. 31 at Carriage High School. The band also competed and earned all first divisions from judges so it was a state contest Oct. 17.

“I’m really proud of the band students,” Band Director Tom Moore said. “They have overcome many obstacles this marching season.”

In addition to winning first place at NAAMB, Henderson was awarded the Bobby Goff Memorial Superior Performance Award. Henderson also won the Bobby Goff award four years in a row. It is awarded every year to any band with a superior performance.

**Freshman competes in world horse riding finals**

**Amanda Willis, Staff Reporter**

Self-murrrring fills the arena as the riders take their places for the next event. She glances over at her teammates, feeling her heart begin to race with anticipation. Taking a moment to steady her shaking hands, she eagerly waits for the competition. Taking a moment to race with anticipation, she glances to her right.

Tristan Bennett participated in the team penning event at the 2015 Crutch World Championship in Fort Worth. She won the Sr. Youth World Champion title. Courtesy photo. Group Pictures

For more stories and features go to www.thehi-life.com

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**HISD responds to Texas state teacher shortage**

Budget cuts lead to fewer instructors

David Eubanks, Staff Reporter

Several school districts throughout Texas are lacking fully experienced teachers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and bilingual areas, according to the 2015 Texas Education Agency (TEA) report. The reason for this is because of the 2011 state budget cuts in education and also fewer market the advantages of HISD, according to HISD human resources director David Eubanks.

**Teacher Shortage**

**Timeline View**

2011

Budget Cuts

2015

Teacher Shortage

Staff Reporters

Nov. 16

Blood Drive

Nov. 17

College Night

Nov. 23-27

Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 8

Group Pictures

Dec. 12

Band All-Region By-outs

Dec. 15

Staff Reporters

Nov. 10

Bobby Goff Superior Performance Award. Henderson has earned the same recognition and awards for the past four years.

"It felt really amazing when the announcer said, first place, Henderson," co-drums major Abraham Rollolo said. "My face just lit up." The band has also been first at all first divisions at UIL region marching contest for more than 11 years in a row.

"It's a really great feeling knowing that you're a part of it," Henderson Kayla Cervantes said. "Especially being part of something that is so successful."

"It was a first place left the seniors in the same position that they had been when the band contended at NAAMB in 2012. That year, band had earned the same recognition and awards for the past four years.

"It is an extremely proud event where two riders part in Ranch Sorting, an event where two riders and had overcome many obstacles this marching season."
Allison Leadon, value free high school education

and college education will skills will also be improved. help you to be more involved increase the chances of pov-
high school dropouts it can effective way of reducing but not the high school experience.

Grades, most home school families belong to a co-op. A home school co-op is a group of home school families joining together to teach children as a group as their children can make friends and participate in extracurricular activities. I think this is a good way to socialize home-

I don’t know if homeschooling really is the best way to get away from home for college, you are on your own, as you are. Your parents are not there to help you, so you have to depend on yourself to take care of your own grades and talk to your teachers. This is what shows the value of a home school. That would be a disadvantage for home school students, therefore, public school is the better option.

**Public schooling offers numerous advantages**

Zeb Linebarger, Staff Reporter

There has always been a disagreement whether public school is better than home-

school in the other way around. People say public school is better for me because I am in public school through the day.

When you are home school educated, you are typically the only kid in your class, and you have siblings, but that isn’t the educa-
tion I want. So in a way the private school is better, but not the high school experience.

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**Bring Your Thanks**

HHS students share favorite parts of Thanksgiving break

“*I’m excited for the Thanksgiving break so I can eat a ton of candy and kind of food and be with my family.*”

—senior Yasmine Odom

“I love the Dorrito casserole that my family makes and I still vividly remember making it with my family members.”

—freshman Quin Simon

For 73%

Student staff members misinformed editorial

Amanda Willis, Staff Reporter

In a recent editorial in the previous issue of The Hi-Life, I wrote about the need for a co-op. A homeschool co-op is any organization that helps students, faculty and staff

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Students earn spots in jazz all-region band
Senior, junior advance to area

Allison Leadon, Staff Reporter

The jazz band made history by attending the jazz all-region contest for the first time in recent history in October.

Three students made the all-region band, and two students advanced to area and submitted recordings for the ATSSB All-State Band. Six students auditioned.

The students that made the band are Mason Nicholson, trumpet; Christina Colley, trumpet, and Sam Brown, tenor saxophone. Colley and Brown both advanced to area. The results of their auditions will be determined later this month.

“I was extremely nervous,” Colley said. “I was relieved once we received the results.”

Students prepared exercise pieces for the contest.

At the audition, they enter the audition room with judges, who can’t see the contestant, or know what school they are from. The all-region band consists of 16 students from various schools.

“It’s definitely a different atmosphere in jazz band with fewer people, compared to marching band,” Colley said. “It was very enjoyable. I’m lucky to have the opportunity to participate in jazz band.”

Brown placed first chair on tenor saxophone and piano, but he could only choose one for state.

“The decision I had to make was extremely hard,” Brown said. “I figured if I chose tenor saxophone that I would be more involved and have more fun.”

The jazz band all-region concert date will be announced later. The HHS jazz band will continue to attend the jazz all-region contest in the upcoming years.

“We are proud that we represented Henderson well,” Brown said. “We showed up and showed off.”

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Mason Nicholson, Sam Brown and Christina Colley earned chairs in the jazz all-region band. Brown and Colley advanced to area and submitted audition recordings for tryouts at ATSSB state contest. Photo by Bethany Farias
Choir members earn spots, sing in all-region concert

Staff Reporter

Emily Glasgow

that this is harder than band, and students tell me after these auditions

17th chair.

12th chair and Brianna Rumbo made

made 12th chair, Stephenson made

made 18th chair, Morgan Griffith

made 14th chair, Grace Trammell

made 13th chair, Alishja Pipkins

made 19th chair, Jazmine Canady

the Regional Choir, Reagan Shirley

Choir Bass Singer and advanced to

chair, Bronkedron Kelly made Region

chair, Mariah Glaspie made 20th

done better."

did well, but I know that I could have

the words and how to pronounce

East Texas Baptist University.

with the All-Region Choir Nov. 14 at

Auditions. The Honor Choir is a one-

to compete in the Honor Choir

is a rigorous and difficult process.

According to Starling, each audition

or Men’s Ensembles that perform

in the 2016 All-State Mixed, Women’s

round of auditions for a placement

time to rehearse during class."

"With the level of repertoire

increasing in difficulty each year, my kiddos tackled this music with

a iron fist, and gave it a run for it’s

"I plan to attend solo and ensemble

because it helps you understand

your weaknesses as a solo singer," Stephenson said. "Not only do you

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Runner advances to state placing 49th with a time of 15 minutes and 49.4 seconds, Ayala placing 5th with a time of 13 minutes and 40.1 seconds, Cervantes placing 68th with a time of 15 minutes and 49.1 seconds, Rains placed 7 and finished 54th overall with a time of 23 minutes and 42.0 seconds.

The Regional Cross Country meet Oct. 15 results are:
- Freshman Christian Sanchez, 14th with a time of 25 minutes and 37.3 seconds; freshman Yaira Cibrian, 3rd place but one runner behind; sophomore Lizmer Cibrian, 3rd place but two runners behind.
- Freshman Christian Sanchez, 14th with a time of 22 minutes and 00.7 seconds; freshman Alex Romero, 3rd place (first junior); junior Hellen Serrano, fresh-sophomore Chloe Hill, sophomore Alberto Orta, senior Jaqui Gonzalez placing 49th with a time of 23 minutes and 42.0 seconds; freshman Yaira Cibrian, 3rd place but one runner behind; sophomore Lizmer Cibrian, 3rd place but two runners behind.

The state cross country meet Oct. 30 and lost, 27-28. Through inside jokes, injuries and jokes, the Lions have bonded through their experiences, creating new friendships and memories.

“We have all kinds of inside jokes,” junior Nathaniel Bostic said. “Quarterback Matthew Childers has told both science and football players to remember these moments from this season and on so future teams can be just as successful, if not more so.”

I’ll miss all the talks that we had together as a team,” Fowler said. “I’ll miss the people and friends that we made.”

Tennis finishes season at area Team ends season together

Amanda Willis, Staff Reporter

The full tennis season has ended with the varsity team advancing to competition following a second place finish in district. They just fell short of the regional cross country meet on Nov. 7, finishing fourth overall and were the 17th individual runner for the girls and 3rd individual qualifier for the boys in a field of two girls and 16 seconds. She was the only junior in the top 16.

Boys: Randy Soto, 14th with a time of 19 minutes and 49.9 seconds; sophomore Adam Rains placed 49th with a time of 23 minutes and 42.0 seconds.
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The Lions lost the playoffs this year when they went against Chapin High School Oct. 30 and lost, 27-28. "I felt like we were able to go to the playoffs this year, it’s just a good experience,” junior Caroline Soto said. “We’ve done a lot together this year as a team.”

Max Prior wearing Southern Tide polos, long-sleeved sports shirts, dress shirts, long- and short-sleeved t-shirts, khakis, jeans, jackets, ties, flip flops and more.

For guys and girls

Bring this ad in for 10% off one item. Offer good through Jan. 1. (No photocopies accepted).

See us on Facebook: Earl’s Men’s Shop
Above Left: Senior Allie Morris was crowned the homecoming queen Oct. 23. Above Right: Distinguished alumni honored before the crowning of homecoming queen include Brad Mobbs, Art Rousseau, Carlton “Mac” McCormack (awarded posthumously to his wife Jo McCormack) and Joe White. Photos by Alisha McGee

Homecoming 2015

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Giovan Chavez, Jerry Smith, Christian McLeod, Savannah Shields, Matthew Childers, Tenny Rodriguez Smith, Adam Morris, Jasmine Everitt, Rosanne Salas, Destiny Walter, Raleigh Combs, Adrianna Alexander

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