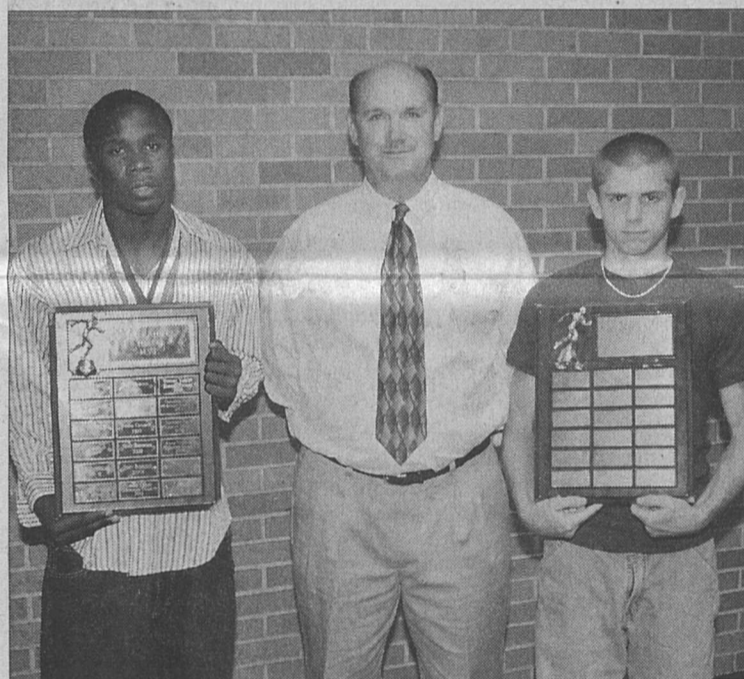




Morgan Dumont was named Cheerleading MVP. She is pictured with Cheerleading Sponsor Johnna Besch.



Clayton Bowen and Mallory Dumont were named Tennis MVPs. They are pictured with Coach Robert Klekar.



Sylvester Middleton, left, was named Track MVP and Josh Williams was named Field MVP. They are pictured with Coach Mark Pustejovsky.



Basketball Awards, from left: Duryel Stevenson-Fighting Heart Award, Coach Mark Pustejovsky, Taylor Cook-MVP.



Powerlifting MVPs were Raul Esquivel, left and Courtney Sklar, they are pictured with Coach Gary Zeinert.

News From Rice School District - Athletics & Band -

By Houston Cummings, Band Director

As Director of Bands for Rice CISD, I believe that students that participate in band not only contribute to school and community spirit but also gain valuable skills necessary for being successful in school and life. I hope after you read this article you will have a better idea about what the band teaches, and how it contributes to a student's total educational experience.

Band teaches so much more than "just playing music." Band teaches diligence through preparation, practice, and repetition of musical skills such as rhythms, melody, and harmony. Band teaches responsibility through individual work effort and instrument care. Band teaches group work ethics through ensemble performances, group practice, and group assessment. Over the years of participation in band, students develop both critical thinking and listening skills as they prepare and perform music. While working in the music ensemble setting, students develop skills in concentration and memorization, as well as learning to work with others in a group setting. Band students develop certain physical skills such as stamina, endurance, and coordination. Eye, hand, aural, and spatial relationships are all fostered as students learn to perform music and become proficient on their instruments. Most importantly, students are assisted in the development of self-expression. Thus, a student's participation in band is more than "just playing music."

Music education has a direct relationship with the school's total curriculum. Music is a specialized science which deals with the qualities of sound, acoustics and timbre. Music uses mathematics. Although it is a simplified form of arithmetic, counting in groups of two, three, four and higher are used consistently in all music repertoire.

When teaching the values of rhythmic notation, we develop and reinforce the concepts of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Music is also rhythmically based on the subdivisions of time into fractions which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper. Geography is important to music. Music is common, but unique to every culture on Earth.

Each music selection that our students present utilizes rhythmic patterns and a specified tonality. Both have their origins from other regions and countries on the globe. Music usually reflects the environments and times of its creation, often even the country and/or racial and ethnic feeling. When performing music, we raise the awareness of the world around us. Music is a study of history. Through an appreciation of music, students have the opportunity to study regional and world events that influenced musical styles and the great composers of the past. When musicians understand the intentions of the composer's masterpiece, they gain insight to all historical eras.

Music uses foreign languages. Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French; and the notation is certainly not English—but a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complete and

universal language. Band is also physical education.

It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lips, cheek, and facial muscles, in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragmatic, back, stomach and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets. Marching band, specifically, is an aerobic and muscular development activity.

And last, music is art. It allows a human being to take all these dry technicalities (but difficult) techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing that science cannot duplicate: humanism, feeling, and emotion.

Band is vital for school and community spirit. This includes football games, pep rallies, parades, graduation, and other local events. Students also perform in marching contests, concerts, region bands, area band, All-State Band, and region and state solo and ensemble contest.

All of our performances and competitions are an extension of the classroom. The reason we compete is to make better musicians out of our students by using the constructive criticism we receive from the judges. Of course, winning a competition is a lot of fun also.

I hope this gives you a better understanding of the educational value of the Rice CISD band program and the many types of performances in which students can participate.

By Brad Dumont, Athletic Director

While much of the weekly happenings in athletics is broadcast through the newspapers and through word of mouth, there is so much that often goes unnoticed behind the scenes. This is truly where the athletic family is formed.

As expected, any given sport is always working to win games to gain a playoff spot. These are common goals that sports and coaches all over Texas attempt to accomplish. But, one unadvertised goal that our athletic staff focuses on is to also develop a good end product, a good citizen. A product that is not just good for the playing fields and courts of competition, but a product that will make a valuable citizen and a contribution to society.

Athletes don't always realize at the time that these goals are in progress, for it is not something that is verbalized daily. But the process is a daily practice. The process of setting a goal, making a plan to reach that goal, learning discipline, learning to be dependable to a team, making adjustments as needed along the way, and then evaluating the outcome either through a celebration of success or through creation of a new plan. All of these skills are training not just for the sports world, but also for life.

In learning and practicing these skills, many personal at-

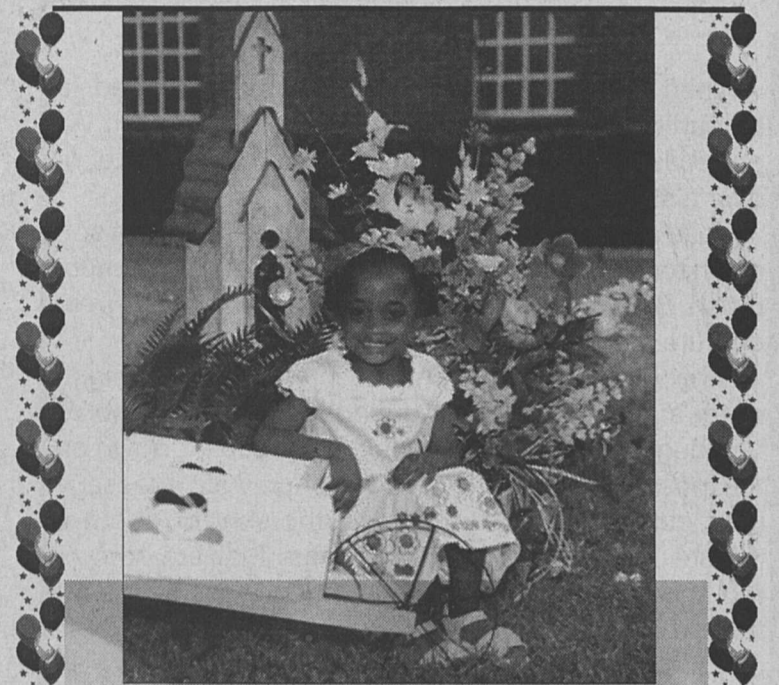
tributes are taught along the way. Character and loyalty are two of the biggest that are reinforced through athletics. Athletes learn how to be loyal to themselves and to a team, on the field and in a classroom.

They witness teachers working hand-in-hand with coaches to promote better study habits, academic performance, and proper discipline. This team attitude and approach demonstrates the type of load an individual will need out in the work force upon

graduation.

Athletics also provides an avenue that many students need just to get to graduation. It's often the big game and the love of sports that gets a student out of bed each day to come to school. Many times, it's a coach that gives an athlete guidance or praise or redirection, or just a listening ear.

Athletics provides much to the school, student, and community. It helps provide a family environment of fun, learning, and character building.



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