

# In the Beginning

## August brings the start of practices and rehearsals as groups gear up for the year

The school year was off and running weeks before the first day of school, with groups working overtime to be ready for the start of football and volleyball seasons. The Bison Brigade and the Bison Belles put in hours as well, getting ready for the season as well as their own competitions for the year.

The Belles had something new to add to their years of tradition this year: foreign exchange students as part of their group. Both Josefina Poels and Katja Galle of Germany

auditioned from their homes and then joined the group in August for early practices.

"I had to go on Youtube and practice the dance, then I skyped for my audition," Poels said. "It was a new experience."

Belle director Amanda Harter and her dancers set goals for the year, and starting practices early was part of their plan for success.

"Over everything else, I expect positivity," Harter said. "We have goals to meet." - *by Brittany Scott*

Gracie Davis, 9     Austin Melton, 12     Ally Patterson, 11



Logan Freeman, 11     Taylor Lack, 9     Jacie Jones, 11     Caden Pacheco, 11     Henry Goff Mandi Neal     Kynlee Driskill, 10



**This is how you do it.** Junior Kendall Morales gets ready to start band practice in the parking lot. The group had special marker lines painted so that they could practice their routines. (scott photo)

**Super stretch.** The Belles stretch before practicing to make sure they don't pull anything. The Belle officers spent a week at camp earlier in the summer, and then the entire line went to work starting in August. (scott photo)



**Take it and run.** New coach Aaron Bell hands off the football to senior Dalton Thornton during two-a-days. The football team had an almost entirely new coaching staff this year. (pate photo)



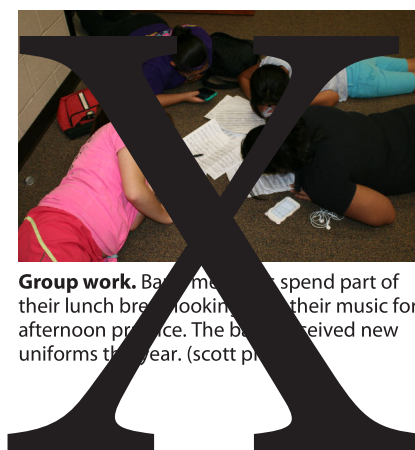
Steven Millar, 10     Jacie Jones, 11     Rachael Sullivan, 11     Kendall Morales, 11     Cameron Varner, 10



Jessica Kasier, 12     Maria Cortez, 12     OT Garcia, 12     Bryce Fulmer, 11     Randy Salazar, 12



**Just let the music move you.** Juniors Abby Smith and Miryam Zapata play their part for the saxophone. (scott photo)



**Group work.** Band members spend part of their lunch break looking at their music for afternoon practice. The band received new uniforms this year. (scott photo)



**A new look.** The entrance to the high school from Highway 164 received a new sign at the beginning of the school year. The sign was donated by Community National Bank. (menefee photo)



**Here's how you do it.** Junior Kendall Morales works with a group of novice marchers during August practices. The band spent their mornings in the parking lot and their afternoons in the band hall, getting ready for marching season. (scott photo)

