

III STATE OF MIND



KAYLA RIEGER: HEADLINE WRITING District: 3 Region: 2 State: 7
 "Going into competition, I wasn't sure if I would place at region, let alone at state."

CLAUDIA ZAPALAC: NEWS WRITING District: 2 Region: 3 State: 5
 "Competing at state was unreal. Of course, getting to state is always the goal, but this time, it was reality."

RUSSELL ZAHRADNIK: PROSE District: 1 Region: 4 State: Alternate
 "Even though I didn't get to compete, I liked being there and supporting my friends."

AMBER ADAMCIK: ACCOUNTING District: 1 Region: 1 State: 2
 "State always carries a lot of pressure, and this year was no exception, but I knew it was possible to win."

SARA MARIE BERRETT: PERSUASIVE District: 1 Region: 1 State: Top 12
 "I told myself that I would get to state since I have worked so hard these four years. Well, I did it."



BACK AT IT AGAIN As she accepts her first place medal, senior Sara Marie Berrett is giddy with excitement. This was Berrett's fourth year returning to the regional competition for persuasive speaking. "I told myself that I had to go to state, so going as undefeated was, no doubt, a plus," Berrett said. (Photo by Laura Kubena)



1.

SEW LITTLE TIME

"I would find ways to help myself to relax. I had to get ready for a craft show, so I figured I would sew some inventory while I waited," junior Ciara Reeves said. (Photo by Sara Marie Berrett)



2.



3.

1. Ready for the state competition, sophomore Claudia Zapalac, seniors Sara Marie Berrett, Amber Adamcik, and sophomore Kayla Rieger walk in with their heads held high. "We had to show up with confidence," senior Sara Marie Berrett said. (Photo by Russell Zahradnik) 2. After finishing her last test, coach Laura Kubena greets senior Amber Adamcik. "It was important to have a coach that was always there for me," Adamcik said. (Photo by Russell Zahradnik) 3. With his notes out, senior Tyler Vasut looks them over one last time. "I always looked over my formulas before competition," Vasut said. (Photo by Sara Marie Berrett)

THREE PEAT

By Sara Marie Berrett

SENIOR MAKES HISTORY



ACCOUNT ON ME After medaling at state, senior Amber Adamcik pauses next to the UIL sign. Adamcik placed 2nd in the state in accounting. "I definitely learned skills that I will need for college and probably for the rest of my life," Adamcik said. (Photo by Laura Kubena)

While some preferred reading to walls, others used their free time at UIL contests to study formulas. Senior Amber Adamcik was one of the latter. She made her way to state for the third year in a row and took second place in accounting at the state meet.

"Ever since my first time at state, I made it my goal to return every year and make it into the State Accounting Scrapbook of Winners for being a three peat," Adamcik

said.

As a state veteran, Adamcik showed the ropes to some first-year state UIL qualifiers. Sophomore Claudia Zapalac made her state debut in news writing, sophomore Kayla Rieger qualified in headline writing, senior Russell Zahradnik was alternate for prose interpretation and senior Sara Marie Berrett qualified in persuasive speaking.

With novice state hopefuls and a three-time veteran, the group definitely came home with hardware



WALL TALK As she talks to a wall, senior Maren Ellis practices before she faces the judges. Speakers practiced where they could. "If I looked crazy, then so did everyone else rehearsing for their prose or poetry competitions," Ellis said. (Photo by Russell Zahradnik)