Hustling through the Heat Eagles Soar through Summer Practices

Lunging through the Heat. Focusing on her routine, Taylor Hulick goes through the motions during a hot summer practice. "I sacrificed a lot of time but it was enjoyable coming together with the band after we had been separated for awhile," Taylor said. Photo by A. Macias

Locking In. Jayla Crenshaw and members of the band focus in as they prepare for their first halftime performance. "Summer practices are really difficult because you have to be here for eight hours straight," Jayla said. "We wear sunscreen and hats to protect ourselves from the sun. I feel like I have more of an influential role now that I'm the upperclassmen and there are kids younger than me now." *Photo by K. Huerta*

Careful Concentration. Full attention is given by **Lois Tabios** and others as they work on perfecting their performance. "Summer practice was difficult," Lois said. "To handle the heat, we had tents and when it got hot and you felt faint you could go under the tents. The upperclassmen taught me to be responsible and always look out for each other." *Photo by K. Huerta*

Marching Together. Hard at work, Emily Garcia and band members assemble themselves in order as they prepare for their upcoming performances. "Summer practice was interesting and I learned a lot more about how to interact with a bigger group of people," Emily said. "The upperclassman taught me how to properly march," Emily said. *Photo by K. Huerta*



– Pushing Through

For Freshman Jamar Bryant, the beginning of his season was also the end. "My first thought was that I felt fire running through my leg and I was shocked, but I knew my teammates would handle it," Jamaar said. Jamar had torn multiple ligaments in his leg and knew his season had come to an end.

-Jamar Bryant

Line It Up. The Diamonds line up in the grueling summer heat as they work on perfecting their routine for future performances at games and competitions. Diamonds began practicing in mid-June to prepare for the upcoming camps and competitions, hoping to bring back all gold medals. *Photo by V. Cade*

All Smiles. The Diamonds pose with Jordon Williams during an intermission during one hot July practice. "The summer practices were great team bonding even though it was hard work," Jordan said. Photo by V. Cade

Diamond Diligence. Kelsee Gosbee braves the hot parking lot as they practice their new routines for the upcoming season. As a freshman the summer heat and long hours hit hard. "All of the older Diamonds were very nice and made it an easier transition," Kelsey said. Photo by V. Cade



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Inside the MIND****

What was the difference between this year and last year?



more and a lot harder. I like tennis here better because there are more tournaments and bonding with the team makes the meets a lot of fun." -Taylor Jordan

"Tennis this year has been a lot different than at Berry Miller. Here at Dawson we practice

"Last year didn't revolve around competition as much and was less stressful. I love being on the cheer team and being able to cheer at the football games and seeing all my friends."



"We have had a lot of fun this year and we have a lot more connections as a (volleyball) team. We are working very hard together as a unit and are very supportive of each other. We are a lot more underestimated this year and have more to prove to our competition."

-Adrien Valdez

"This year, we are more of a family. We have been doing more team building activities and it brings us closer than we have been in previous years. Diamonds are a united front and it shows in our performances."

-Kenadi Webber





Looking On. Jordan Palmer looks on at the game as she waits for her next opportunity to help the players on the field. "As a kid I have always wanted the chance to help people but never got the chance," Jordan said. "Now that I am a trainer, I am able to help people." *Photo by* L. Turner

Keeping Hydrated. Elizabeth Rodriguez sprints to the players to give them a quick drink during a time out. "I became a trainer because I like science and the medical field and wanted to get a feel of sports medicine before I become a physical therapist," Elizabeth said. Photo by A. Macias

Is It In You? Adammi Wilkerson focuses on the hydration of the players by filling up the water bottles before the big Pearland game. "I enjoy being a trainer because of the atmosphere with my peers and the relationships that are created," Adami said. *Photo by T. Jordan*

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