



Superior Sounds

Band brings home Division One Ratings

Daniel Rodriguez
Staff Writer

The Alvin band received an impressive score of a “One” for their show “Statuesque” in the UIL marching contest that took place in early October.

Receiving division 1 standards across the board, they met the standard of the state of Texas with flying colors. They are now eligible to move onto the area contest, which is the second-to-last stage they will have to put their skills to the test against 28 to 29 other bands. Only the top five from this area will move on to the state marching contest.

Band director, Dillion Junkin, is happy with the band’s performance, but always sees room for growth.

“You should never be satisfied with where you’re at and should always strive for a little

bit more,” Junkin said. “I always strive for what I can do as an individual to make this organization, or this group, better.”

A slight disadvantage is the size of the band. In terms of 6A bands, they are on the smaller side of things, but what they lack in size, they make up for in their roar of sounds.

“I get to see their growth everyday and that is what makes my job great,” Junkin said.

The progress is great, but the process has been long. The band has been fine tuning their show since August and working on getting the music down. Memorizing all the music is a necessity because music copies on the field is not permitted. The band directors are excited to witness the growth first hand.

“I get to see them

grow not only as musicians, which is awesome,” Junkin said. “I love seeing them play just a scale that they weren’t able to play a couple weeks ago.”

The entire marching season has gone really well as the band has competed in multiple practice competitions, on weekends, throughout the gulf coast area.

“I always love seeing their faces after a successful performance when I know that they know they did a great job,” Junkin said. “That’s what always gives me the most happiness.”

Junkin believes the AHS band is special because it is timeless.

“A lot of it comes from the tradition and history of the school,” Junkin said. “It’s a very old school and a lot of the community support.”



Magestic Sounds
Riley Mager plays “Test Drive” from the movie How To Train Your Dragon on the marimba. Marching band members begin working on the drill in August and spend hours at practice perfecting the show. They practice before and after school and spend many weekends away at marching competitions. Members are very dedicated to what they do. “I wanted to be a part of something bigger. I love being in band because it is like a family and I enjoy making memories with my section,” student Allie Najacht said.

Express Yourself
Guard Co-Captain Lauren Alexander performs at a halftime show in October.



Did You Get A ‘Clue’ ?

Katelyn Moore
Staff Writer

First Play Presented Since 2020

On a dark and stormy night, six unique guests, plus a butler and a maid, assemble for a dinner party at the home of Mr. Boddy. When their host turns up dead, it is clear that no one is safe! Based on the popular board game and adapted from the cult classic film, this live stage high school edition of Clue is quite the comedy.

This show was the first major production in the Performing Arts Center black box since the COVID 19 pandemic began.

“Being able to perform again in front of an audience feels surreal,” senior Alex Blanco said. “The arts have taken a devastating toll over the last 2 years, worldwide, because of the COVID-19 pandemic. When Clue

opened on September 30, it had officially been 613 days since we last performed a regular show for the public.”

Performances ran from September 30 to October 2 in the Performing Arts Center black box theatre and the cast were excited to act in front of the audience again.

“As Colonel Mustard, I really liked sausing it up on stage,” sophomore Christopher Trevino said. “It really gave me a lot of freedom of expression.”

Theater teacher, Laurie Wilson, was very excited to do this play since she had wanted to do something after the COVID-19 pandemic, as it was the theater’s first show in the black box since then.

“The audience really seemed to enjoy the play,” Wilson said. “One woman actually fell out of her seat because she was laughing at the characters so hard.”

As for the next play, the department will be presenting *The Little Mermaid*. The Choir and Theatre Departments picked *The Little Mermaid* together to perform as a musical. They wanted to do something that would be fun for the whole community and that would be family-friendly.

They have always wanted to do *The Little Mermaid* and they thought they finally had the depth of talent in the fine arts department that would be needed for the cast.



Whodunit?
Actors Jade Lucas, Alex Blanco, Karen Lancaster, Bradley Perkins, Noah Bryant, and Christopher Trevino perform CLUE in October. The community was excited to see performances again after the hiatus from COVID 19. The performances sold out.

“My favorite thing about being Mrs. Peacock was getting to flip over couches and the running back and forth very chaotically was very fun to me,” student Karen Lancaster said.



News

MCJROTC Finds Ways To Serve Community

Jordan Hiles
Staff Writer

What is MCJROTC all about? How does it help our school? Well to answer that, ROTC at Alvin High school is about helping our community and giving back to the people. ROTC is a place students can go to if they want to improve their discipline and help encourage students to better themselves. ROTC does a lot of projects for the school. Major Timothy Flynn is the teacher at Alvin High School running the ROTC program.

The food drive is about giving to the families and children in need. Even some Alvin High School students come in and volunteer to help with the food drive.

"JROTC has a food drive every other Wednesday for people who are in need of food," Major Timothy Flynn said.

MCJROTC does flag details for the school, Veterans day, and a few other special events. MCJROTC also has teacher appreciation week here at Alvin and

do a cookout for all the teachers that get voted.

The biggest goal for the ROTC students is to use leadership traits that they learn and apply them in their everyday lives.

"I enjoy seeing the dedication and improvement from our freshman classes with their grades and with our drill teams leading up to competition," Cadet Elissa Batty said. "This program has helped me see that even my smallest decision affects everyone around me."

Many MCROTTC students who graduated from Alvin have gone into the military.

"MCROTTC won the naval honors 3 years in a row," Major Timothy Flynn said. "They also won national champions for physical fitness."

JROTC has an upcoming competition in December and another in January. If they win both, they will then go into regions and possibly proceed to state.



Presentation of Colors

MCJROTC cadets on flag detail for a home game. Guard consists of Aleah Vasquez, Addison Bolting, Drew Hudson, and Hallie Rose.



Serving Others

Cadets Davian Yzquierdo, Hailey Cruz, and Liberty Boyd volunteer at the food drive held twice a month in the MCJROTC room.

Represent Everyone

Gianna Regan
Staff Writer

The Gay and Straight Alliance meets the first and third Thursday of every month from 3:00 to 4:00 PM in room FA116.

GSA is a place where students can come to talk about LGBTQIA+ issues, mental health, make crafts, learn about meditation, and how to love yourself. Most importantly, GSA is a safe space for students of all colors, sizes, gender identities, and orientations.

"GSA is a nurturing environment that aims to celebrate each student exactly as they are," sponsor Christa Moore said.

Moore first decided to become the GSA sponsor when she was talking with her sixth period class last year and realized that there was a need coming from the students at AHS that she could help fulfill.

"I want kids to know they are not alone and that AHS is a community where all students are welcome," Moore said.

August Lee, one of the school's counselors, is the co-sponsor of GSA. She believes that having a GSA is important for all students who need support and a place to express themselves.

"GSA is a neat place where everyone is accepted no matter their identity," Lee said.

After the first few meetings, the club started talking about what they want to accomplish this year. Along with the emotional goals, GSA is working on planning fundraisers to raise money in order to hopefully have a joint holiday skating party in December. Moore and Lee are also hoping to bring in some speakers to talk about mental health and current issues, as well as maybe go on some field trips as a group.

"GSA, overall, is a group of wonderfully amazing kids who just want to be kind to each other," Lee said. "It's a lovely place and is my favorite hour of the week."

Group Grows New Leaders

Daniel Rodriguez
Staff Writer

Currently run by sponsor, Graciela Villarreal, HALO was created to promote service, cultural awareness, and leadership. HALO stands for Hispanic American Leader Organization and seeks to bring cultural awareness to the Latino community. Even though it says Hispanic, others are always welcome to join, learn, and participate.

HALO looks to bring the closeness of the Hispanic culture to the club so that everyone feels important. HALO wants you to love who you are, embrace your language, and to be proud of your heritage.

"You matter," Villarreal said. "We see you. You should be treated a certain way, not because you are hispanic, but because you are human. We should all be treated the same."

Covid-19 really swept the club under the rug last year, but some teachers approached her and she jumped right in. Villarreal found that 56% of the AHS campus is Latinx.

"I have always been drawn to be in leadership as a Latina," Villarreal said. "This way the kids in this community at the school could understand that if



Cultivating Culture

Member of HALO are excited about the new school year, and hope to help create an environment where everyone is celebrated. Join them for meetings after school on Thursdays.

you can see it you can be it. I want to be that force and pave that path for them so they can find the route they want."

She said she would love to make the program a safe place for everyone to feel welcomed and accepted and that they can come, serve, lead, or feel unity in our community. Fridays' HALO will do things to make Hispanic culture known. HALO is partnered with CISC community, which are currently collecting donations, and HALO will be helping hand them out.

"This organization revolves around Hispanic people," president Abril Hernandez said. "Our goal is to help our community and to say 'hey, we can do this.'"

However, club members say the group isn't exclusively for Hispanic students.

"We want people to join, of all diversities, to experience different traditions and understand one another," senior member Topacio Sanchez said. "We have big ideas, and we are just starting out, but we can do big things."

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Feature

Teaching & Creating History

Alayna Falcon
Editor In Chief

A contagious spirit. An innate nature to lead. A desire to instruct. A true passion to influence all her students, reinforce positive attitudes, and get involved in her school. These are the truths that history teacher Sienna Flores holds dearly as she strides the halls of Alvin High School.

Flores, one of the fiercest pillars of the school.

"I love to see teachers successful," teacher Sienna Flores said. "I love to see students successful. I love to see the school, the pride, and the spirit successful. So anything I can do to foster that, you'll find me there."

After becoming inspired by her history professor at ACC, Flores decided to pursue social studies and become a history teacher. Flores has now been teaching US History in our school for fifteen years. Though she primarily teaches history, Flores does much more behind the scenes, such as being the senior class sponsor.

"It's a lot of work," Flores said. "But it's a lot of fun. I love everybody here, but there is something about seniors... When I walk around at prom, Kid Day, or any senior event, and someone comes up to me and says 'Ms. Flores, thank you so much,' My heart sings... Watching kids have a fun time and knowing that I get to be a person that created that memory for

them. I get a part of that that no one else gets and that is worth it."

In conjecture with being the senior class sponsor, Flores also maintains the senior E-news website. She works with groups like the counselors and Project Graduation to maintain all their information on the site as well.

"So I maintain that and with that I plan Powderpuff, prom, Kid Day, etc," Flores said. "I don't plan all senior activities, like Senior Sunrise and Sunset, because those are Project Graduation, but I help that group facilitate and if they need anything, I point them in the right direction."

Along with overseeing those groups, Flores also works closely with the principal that plans the senior walks in order to better prepare for graduation. She is additionally a part of the PRIDE committee, which is the Pillars for Jacket Pride.

"I am happy to be a part of those meetings," Flores said. "We discuss campus culture and climate and some of the things that are happening that Mrs. Taylor and other teachers felt like we needed to fix to make this a better and more welcoming place, which I feel was very necessary for teachers."

Furthermore, Flores is also a major component of the Pep Rally Committee, which is a committee

of teachers that plan the pep rallies.

"I want everybody to have as much pride at Alvin High School that I have," Flores said. "I had this pride when I attended this school and still continue to have it now. That's what I want. I want this to be a place everybody can be proud of, and I want them to feel that pride."

After witnessing the pandemic taking away the experiences of many Class of 2020 seniors before graduation, Flores encourages students to get involved with their school.

"What are you waiting for, Flores said. "Seize the moment. You will never get it back. You will not regret it... Do what makes you happy with the people that make you happy."



Hard Work Pays Off
Flores celebrates with senior class of 2021 as they graduated in May. After spending a year with each class preparing and working towards this day, Flores was happy to bask in the happiness.

New Faces: Same Great Places

Gianna Regan
Staff Writer

English teacher, Tom Lewis is an AHS alumni who is passionate about writing, coaching, playing his guitar, and teaching his students the importance of storytelling and the art of everything in their everyday lives. Lewis has had many different jobs and moments in his life that have led him to teaching here.

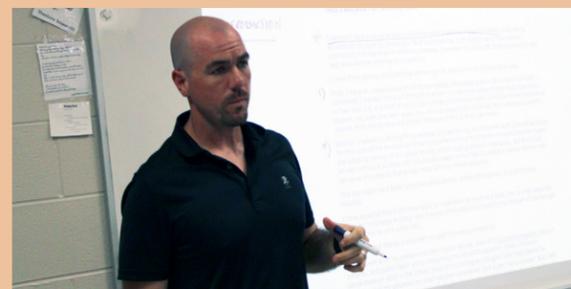
Some of which include; songwriting, going on national tours as a musician, coaching college football, working on and publishing poetry, and even traveling around the country.

He loves the big field, all of the trees, and the college-like set up of AHS. His Grandma actually used to be an English teacher here as well. Lewis had actually wanted to be a health teacher or a coach for an NFL team growing up. Although teaching English wasn't his initial plan, he said he pursued English after one of his college professors pushed him that direction. Lewis loved the idea of teaching about reading and

writing.

"I love watching students come up with their own unique ideas and perspectives right in front of me," Lewis said.

He enjoys teaching kids and seeing them grow, even those who don't always seem to pay attention.



Back To His Roots
English Teacher Tom Lewis is new to campus, but has strong ties to AHS and the community. He also coaches freshman football.

A quote that has always stuck with him is by Theodore Roosevelt, who said, "Comparison is the thief of joy." This quote is a constant reminder to Lewis that no matter how much he puts himself down, he can only compare himself to who he was the day before. He uses this to follow his goal to be better everyday.

Lewis said his dad was

his role model.

"My dad never saw a limit to his potential, as a kid born in Mississippi and the first one in his family to go to college. He never saw a limit to where he could be and still chose his family over all opportunities presented to him," Lewis said.

Lewis' dad showed him that he should always keep balance between who he can be and what is important to him. This is a lesson that he has carried with him ever since he was a child.

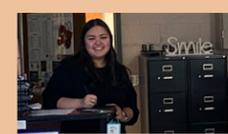
All of his hobbies, experiences, cool stories and perspectives on things make him the great teacher that he is today.



History Teacher
Stephanie Tillery, after teaching at Manvel High School for 14 years, has decided to start a new journey here at her alma mater. She is not only teaching World Geography and World History, but is also the new head Cheer coach. Since she was three years old, and after becoming a Jacketeer during her high school experience, she is now living her dream and investing herself into her new home.

In Tillery's free time, she road trips with her daughters, who also have a passion for cheerleading and dance, along with being outdoors and attending various sporting events. After growing up with her grandpa sharing numerous history facts and information, she was inspired to become a history teacher and to simply be involved with students and ingraining a positive attitude on their lives.

Alayna Falcon, Daniel Rodriguez
Editor In Chief and Staff Writer



Heather Hastings, a graduate from the University of Houston Clear Lake, is now a new addition to the math faculty. She is the proud owner of Big Boss and Raiden, her two cats, and Pancake, her dog. She is originally from Pearland and moved to Alvin around four years ago. Officially, Hastings has been a teacher for a little over one semester, but you might have met her as a student-teacher last fall. She is very glad she still gets to see her students and can continue to build those connections.

Hastings sees students as a mixed bag - every day is different and watching students change and mold as individuals is fascinating. She finds working with students one-on-one ideal, especially when she sees the lightbulb go off in their head and they truly start understanding the material.

Mahmure Iagjioglu,
Logan Cockrell
Staff Writers



Sarah Albrecht is the new assistant band director and is already enjoying her first year teaching. She decided she wanted to become a band director in high school after becoming section leader her junior year and a drum major her senior year. Albrecht enjoys working here because the students and teachers are welcoming to her.

She is a graduate of Keller High School and attended the University of Oklahoma. She enjoys live musical performances, classic movies and making conversation with her pet fish, Norman.

She does all the normal teacher things such as; co-teaching in the band, fixing instruments and specializing in woodwinds.

"Just do band," Albrecht said. "You learn life skills in the process as well as teamwork, discipline and patience."

Allie Najacht
Staff Writer

Alvin High School

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Editor Staff

Editors in Chief:
Alayna Falcon, Stephanie Garcia
Assistant editor:
Jordan Hiles
Advisor: Jessica Tompkins
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ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL 802 S. JOHNSON ST ALVIN, TX

The Clarion is a publication of Alvin High School. It is created by the 2017-2018 student newspaper staff for student information. Opinions expressed are purely opinions of the staff, not the school.

Senior Newsletter

Powderpuff is coming up on November 19 at Memorial Stadium. Any one that is attendance eligible can play. Forms can be found outside CM216. The cost is \$25 per player. We need Senior and Junior players, cheerleaders, and coaches.

Project Grad has an upcoming parent meeting Monday, November 15. Points to enter the prize room on Grad night can be earned through attending meetings, donating items or money, and by volunteering at fundraising events.

Final chance for senior yearbook photos end November 8.

Sports/Opinion

CHANGING THE TIDE

Hunter Kneifel
Staff Writer

0-28. The Jackets dropped 28 games in a row, going two straight seasons without a win. Heading into the final game of the 2020-2021 season, dropping to 0-29 and going three seasons without a win seemed like reality.

However, reality isn't always what it seems to be.

The Jackets won that final season game by a score of 21-10, snapping the losing streak and instilling hope for the next season. Since that win, the Jackets are 4-5, already winning more games this season than the past 3 seasons combined and are in prime position to make the playoffs for the first time since 2004.

First year head coach, James Gage (promoted from Offensive Coordinator), attributes this newfound success to his familiarity with the players and team unity.

"The culture starts with the seniors," Gage said. "We have a great group of seniors. Them being familiar with me really helped them buy into me and the coaching staff, and once that happened, everything else fell into place. The players started practicing differently, the community bought in a little more, and the overall morale is up."

With the community buying in and the coaches buying in, the only thing left was for the players to

buy into the coaches and themselves.

"Everyone bought into the program and what the coaches were telling us to do," captain Gavin Guthrie said. "We just really trusted the process for one, plus the team is super close and we work well together"

With everything seemingly falling into place, the team is in reach for the playoffs for the first time in almost 17 years. And while the team still has challenges to overcome, they are ready and welcome these challenges with open arms.

"We are hungry for success," Gage said. "We've beat the teams we've needed to beat. The possibility of playing an important game has motivated us and made us resilient."

While making the playoffs this year would be a huge accomplishment, the team doesn't want to stop there.

"I want to prove people wrong," Gage said. "I want the Alvin Yellow Jackets to become a consistent playoff team. I want a state championship to become the expectation with this team. In 6 years I want this team to become a steady championship contender, and that goes back to the culture. Part of that building block is focusing on the freshman and making sure the kids are excited and showing up wanting to win."



Jacket Pride Never Dies

Jacket football is experiencing one of the most exciting seasons for several years. The team is working hard to improve its game, as well as its culture. Coach James Gage has become a key in the successful season.

Won't Back Down

Lexi Ventura
Staff Writer

Lady Jackets Head to Playoffs

The Lady Jacket volleyball team is headed to playoffs, once again.

Our school's volleyball team has been through a lot throughout the years, and this year was no different, with the introduction of a new coach. However head volleyball coach, Kylie Kunefke, has expertly taken reins and moved the team forward all season.

"Getting new coaches is never easy," Kunefke said. "It's like getting a new teacher and having to learn new procedures and new guidelines."

Kunefke has played against our school for several years and is no stranger to Alvin's spirit. She has been coaching at Clear Creek ISD for a few years before moving to

Alvin High school.

"I've always lived in the area and competed against Alvin for 5, to 6, to 7 years," Kunefke said. "I coached at Clear Creek ISD school, so I don't feel new to the school, except new to the campus of course."

The coach has taken the team to the playoffs and the team could not be happier about their accomplishments and the lessons they have learned along the journey.

"Being on the team makes me feel like I am accomplishing something new every day," junior Aubry Anderson said. "Volleyball has helped me become a leader to the younger girls on the team."

After having such a successful season, the players

are excited about moving forward in playoffs as a team and also reflective about their own successes too.

"My team gets along well and my friends all inspired me to play because they said it would be fun," sophomore Ryli Ouellette said. "My main goal is to get better as a player so I can play in college one day."



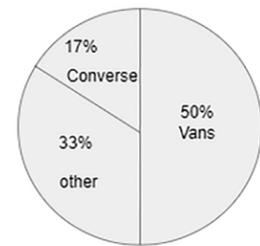
Achieving Goals

Lady Jackets are celebrating a great season and the opportunity to compete in playoffs.

Speak OUT

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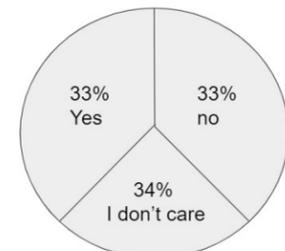
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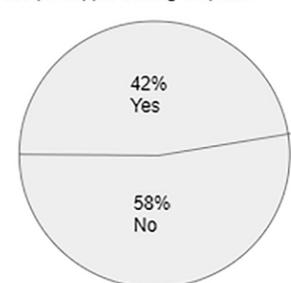
How many hours of sleep should a student get?



Should we get gluten-free food in the cafeteria?



Does pineapple belong on pizza?



Endurance & Speed



Cross Country