

RSS Stars shine in spite of setbacks

The Sterling Stars competed in San Antonio this past weekend. The girls started their competition on Friday evening, dancing four ensembles, two duets and seventeen solos. This was a fastpaced, yet exciting evening of dancing.

After going to the hotel that evening, the U-Haul, which had been rented to take all of their props and costumes, was stolen from the parking lot. The Sterling Stars were told at breakfast that they would not have any costumes, props, curtains (newly purchased) or poms with which to perform.

As the situation sank in, tears filled many eyes, but they courageously lifted their chins, smiled with their red lips and persevered. This amazing group of young ladies performed the entire day in black pants and contest t-shirts that read, "We Don't Sweat We Sparkle."

And sparkle they did.

As they watched other teams walk by in sequins, the Stars knew they had to stay focused. They had to perform that much cleaner, and that much sharper.

The Sterling Stars brought home an astonishing number of trophies, including five solo finalist awards: Junior Division: freshman Jovonne Ledet, 5th place; sophomore Emily Viereck, 3rd place; Sophomore Juliana Yolland, 1st place and in the Senior Division, senior Clayton Baker, 2nd place.

We also had two duet finalists: Hannah Nieto & Emily Viereck, 3rd place and Erin Vallagomesa and Juliana Yolland, 1st place.

The Small Ensemble of Clayton Baker, Brittany Sams, Rachel Green & Alyssa Binz won 1st place. Hip Hop Company finished 1st in the Large Ensemble category, while Kick Company finished 3rd in the XL Ensemble category and Jazz Company finished 1st.

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The field officers dominated, bringing home many awards, including Judges & Sweepstakes, Showmanship, Choreography, Technique, & Best in Class and were named "Line of Champions" 1st place winner in the Large Officer group, beating several other teams.

The team was also amazing, winning awards, such as: Judges & Sweepstakes, Showmanship, Choreography, Precision and Best in Class, as well as being named "Line of Champions" in the XL Team category.

All of these awards were proudly displayed with the other awards that the Stars won several weeks ago, competing at Goose Creek Memorial.

The Stars went to their first contest Saturday, February 16 and brought home many prestigious awards, including Best in Class for Team Pom, Team Modern, Team Novelty, Officer Jazz, Officer Modern, and Officer Novelty. Hip Hop Company won 1st place in the medium ensemble division.

The Small Ensemble, with Clayton Baker, Alyssa Binz, Rachel Green and Brittany Sams, also won 1st place. We had two solo finalists: freshman Jovonne Ledet finished 4th place in the Junior Soloist division and senior Clayton Baker finished 3rd in the Senior Soloist division. But best of all, the officers and the team brought home Super Sweepstakes and GRAND CHAMPIONS!

The directors couldn't be prouder of every single member on the team. The Sterling Stars showed strength through adversity, a true test of dance & character. The Sterling Stars were UNSTOPPABLE! Congratulations!

If you would like to see these routines (all costumes and many props still not recovered), the Sterling Stars invite you to support them at their annual Star Stage Show, April 19 and 20. Please see any Star to purchase tickets.

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