



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



The Robert E. Lee High School Band is shown with the numerous trophies it won in recent band competitions.

Lee Band fares well in competitions

The Famous Robert E. Lee High School Band performed its show at the Region UIL marching competition on Oct. 16 in Little Cypress-Mauriceville, and received straight 1's and an overall Superior rating—the highest score possible.

Then the Lee Band earned Grand Champion honors at the Sulphur Marching Contest on Nov. 6 in Sulphur, Louisiana.

In addition, the band won Superior Drum Majors, Superior Percussion, Superior Band, Best Percussion, and Best Band in its school classification.

The Lee Band topped Deer Park, Sam Houston, Sam Rayburn — 21 bands in all.

"This was a historic year for the band," said Caleb Lopez, Lee High School assistant band director. "I told the kids that we could make history this year if we had the courage, and the band was able to see the opportunity and earn a 1st division rating at UIL.

And then to end the season with Grand Champion at our last competition and come out ahead of some really fine band programs ... We are looking forward to next year already."

"Mr. Lopez and I are very proud of the band. They are just a special group of students," said Alec McGuire, Lee High School Director of Bands."

You may watch the Lee Band performance by clicking on the embedded video or go to Youtube and look up Baytown Lee Band Sulphur Marching Contest 2010.

The Lee Band performance music was composed by Antonin Dvorak when he visited the United States about the time of the Civil War thus the sub-title for his Symphony No. 9, "from the New World".

Many of the melodies are Dvorak's variations of black spirituals and work songs that he gathered as he visited plantations in the south. The marching drill was written by Robert Strunks from Dallas.

"The students and directors of the Robert E. Lee band are amazing," said Tim Vaughn, Director of Fine Arts. "They rise to the occasion and just find a way to make it happen. Nothing can take the place of good old hard work and determination. We're very proud of them."

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