

Marching in a crown

The Friday night lights hadn't even illuminated when 10 girls graced the field. The homecoming court stuck their heels in the dark green turf as flags waved and the drill team's poms shook against each other, soaking in every moment while anxiously awaiting the results.

Drum major Skyler Black was crowned Homecoming queen Oct. 4 during the pregame ceremony before a face off between Texas High and McKinney North.

"As time came, every girl was on the field and we were all just looking at each other waiting on who was maid of honor and queen, you know, my stomach started bubbling," Black said. "I was like 'oh my gosh, I'm nervous,' but it really felt good to know that I was queen and that everybody thinks that I deserve this opportunity."

Black's crowning came as a shock to her, but she was glad her band family was behind her the whole way.

"I was shocked. I really don't show any emotion in anything, but I was really shocked that they said my name. I really didn't anticipate it to be me, but it was awesome," Black said. "Tonight the Texas High School band most definitely was there, behind my back 100%, and I love those guys. Being their senior drum major this 2019-2020 marching season has been awesome."

Highstepper social officer Meredith Green was crowned maid of honor moments before Black was announced queen.

"[Being made of honor is] a big honor, I'm super thankful. I wasn't even sure I'd get on court, I didn't think that would happen, so I'm just really happy to be on this court with a bunch of really sweet people," Green said. "[I was] surprised, shocked, but just thankful and grateful and happy."

For both seniors, being on homecoming court served as an opportunity to reconnect with friends and share a memory with other girls they had known since childhood.

“My favorite part about being on court is just rekindling some relationships that I once had long ago in elementary, mainly Girl Scouts, with Hollan Borowitz and Haley Wood, you know, just seeing them again and getting closer to those girls,” Black said.

Presentation of homecoming court 2019

Crowned Captain

High heels pinched the grass of Tiger Stadium at Grim Park as the Homecoming Court made their way across the field with a cool November breeze.

Senior Sarah Grace Boudreaux was named the Homecoming queen from the 12 girls on court at the football game against the Wylie East Raiders.

“I’m so excited, I didn’t know it was going to happen,” Boudreaux said. “It was just a great moment. Everyone was cheering, and all my friends are smiling and hugging me, and it was great.”

This weekend is not only Homecoming but the last home game of football season. Boudreaux serves as captain of the Texas Highsteppers and will be performing at Tiger Stadium for the last time tonight.

“It’s really bittersweet. At first I was like ‘I don’t know if I want Homecoming to be my last game’,” Boudreaux said. “But [after winning queen], my last time dancing on the field is going to be great.”

The last home football game has become a night of recalling memories. Boudreaux looks back on her time spent at Tiger Stadium.

“This year has been great,” Boudreaux said. “This is probably cliché, but you know, dancing with all my best friends on the 50 yard line is my favorite memory here at the stadium.”

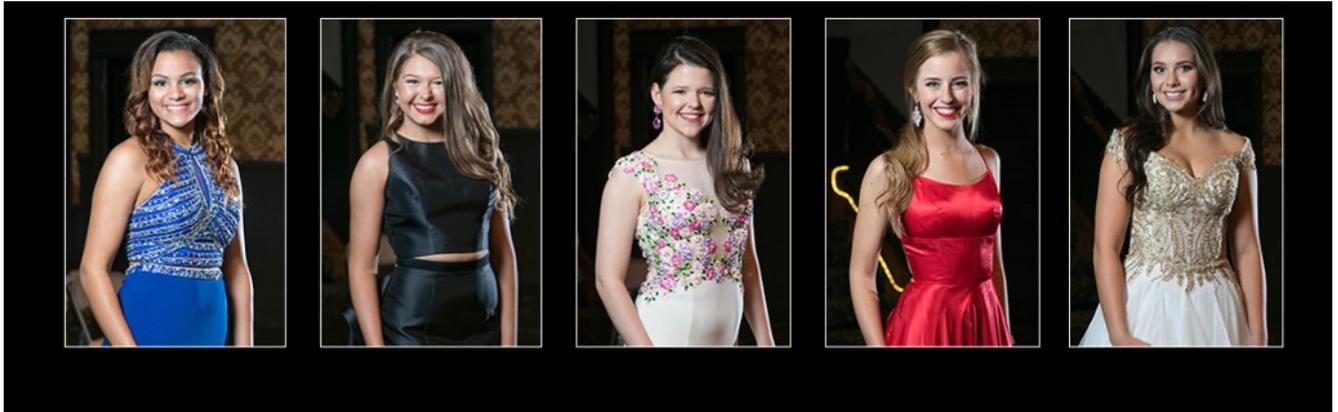
Seniors Grace McGuire and Treyaunna Rush were both named Maids of Honor.

“I was very shocked. I really didn’t know what to do because it was just really overwhelming,” McGuire said. “I never knew that would happen.”

Rush was unable to walk the field since the volleyball team competed in a playoff game against Midlothian. Rush will be informed of her honor after the game.

“I love Treyaunna, she is one of my favorite people,” McGuire said. “It’s just such an honor to get to share this with her.”

She's beauty, she's grace



MEET THE COURT



Last night was the annual homecoming presentation for the 2017-2018 year. Hours worth of preparation and dedication was put into the performance, as ten senior girls are representing the school. Dressed in glittering gowns and holding their mums, they were escorted across the stage by fellow classmates.

Homecoming presentations opened up with the playing of the school song and then special thanks announced by seniors Jay Williamson, Cameron Tarpley and Brennon Cope. The highsteppers then performed a routine to the song "Incomplete" by James Bay, followed by the school mascots presentation of the crown.

The nominees were lead out on stage by their escorts as followed: Katie Biggar escorted by Elias Thurman, Crisstal

Cooks escorted by Kaveon Ragland, Morgan Cook escorted by Cam Burns, Claire Doan escorted by Riley Russell, Maddie Gerrald escorted by Logan Snell, Kamryn Hamilton escorted by Jaylon Matlock, Sophie Lower escorted by Elian Bustos, Jillian Ross escorted by Mason Shoalmire, Sarah Stark escorted by Jaylon Franklin and Emma Wolf escorted by Dashawn Hill.

“It was super nerve-racking,” Ross said. “I think it’s a real honor to be put on court. I’m really glad to experience it this year.”

The audience then viewed videos of each contestant being interviewed by Cope, describing their best memories of high school or their fellow court members.

“I’ve known all of these girls since freshman year,” Cope said. “It’s surprising how you think you might lose touch with people, but it seems like life just brings you back together at some point.”

After presentation the ladies and audience were lead outside for a brief pep rally, where the band played various school songs and the girls, along with their escorts, stood on a float for one last look from the crowd.

“It was wonderful escorting Katie,” Thurman said. “She’s a really good friend of mine and I’m really sad it’s my last year. I’d love to do it again.”

You can vote for queen during all lunches this Wednesday. Homecoming tickets will be sold during all A-day lunches and football tickets will be sold at lunch and in the Performing Arts Center. The queen will be announced on Friday and the dance will be held on Saturday from 7-10 p.m.