

## July/August Notes

### Marching Season Wrap-up

The summer 2006 season was special in many ways! The band improved each rehearsal and parade - what a great team!! The cooperation, attitude, attendance and work ethic of the group this summer was **outstanding**. There were numerous students with perfect attendance all summer, and our overall attendance was outstanding. These positive things truly make a volunteer group run well!! We would like to thank the seven **super seniors** for their outstanding dedication to the marching band program, and wish them luck this fall in college - Michael Schultz, David Boraas, Sam Griffin, Theresa Lehn, Nicole Hochsprung, Justin Johnson, and Ben Hansberry. **Section leaders** were a great team of leaders and provided outstanding leadership - Allison Wagner, Stephanie Rentschler, Amanda Peper, Megan Strand, Rachel Boyle, Justine Trumm, Amy Dahl, Nick Wagner, Christanna Blommel, Drew Rydberg, Luke Hommerding, Ben Thompson, Jon Vacek, and **color guard leaders** Emilie Wardrip and Martha Griffin. Outstanding **drum majors** - LeighAnn Thul, Dan Watkins and Alyssa Harbig - thanks!

Special thanks to **Andrea Smith** for donating her time to instructing the honor guard - this was one of the best honor guards we have ever had!

To all the parents and other volunteers that made this season run so well - thanks!!! This truly was a TOTAL team effort!

**Highlights of the summer:** A great week of practice, sectionals and camp, 1<sup>st</sup> place in class at Benson parade, 1<sup>st</sup> place, people's choice award and overall top score at Red Wing parade, 1<sup>st</sup> place and overall top score at Zumbrota parade, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in class at Milaca parade, People's choice at Apple Valley parade, performing for the residents of Knute Nelson and Nelson Gables, **Gerschwin** on the street, and the fireworks at ValleyFair! **WOW!**

We would like to wish **Mr. Howes** much luck and success in his future gig in Maryland. He has provided outstanding educational experiences for our percussionists in this district for many years and we wish him and his wife Sarah well in the future! Keep in touch with him as I'm sure he would love to hear from you.

**Students** - we are looking for your input! When school starts, we will have a marching band survey for each one of you to fill out. Student input is valuable to the success of the marching band.

There are still a few CD's left from our recording session on June 27<sup>th</sup>. The CD's are \$10.00 a piece, first come first serve.

**Lost and hopefully found!** There are numerous items left behind from the summer. These items can be claimed once school starts.

### Looking ahead

Transition of old uniforms to new ones is in place! The old uniforms are being stored in the trailer during the off season and the new uniforms are hung up in the storage area (dungeon) ready for students to be fitted in the fall. The booster board is still considering ways to move the old uniforms. Look for more information coming out soon on that once the board has figured that out. The new uniforms look mighty impressive hanging in the storage room, and they will look even more impressive on the students on the street!!

### Orlando Trip - Dec. 2006!

The trip committee is meeting this summer and is down to planning the final stages of an awesome trip to Florida this December. Again, the dates of the trip are: Departing Alexandria on Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, and arriving home in Alexandria on Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. Two awesome parades are scheduled for the band to marching in including **the Macy's Universal Parade in Universal Studios**, and the nationally - televised **Florida Citrus Bowl Parade in downtown Orlando**. The Citrus Bowl Parade will be telecast nationally by ABC. A parade/trip booklet will be available for parents this fall that will have all the information for the trip. Look for more information on the trip in the August/September newsletter.

### Last information

Rest, enjoy summer, recharge your batteries, and spend time with friends and family!!!! We'll see you all in September!

MR. Blaser and MR. DeGier