



Special points of interest:

- **Band Handbooks have been handed out and the form needs to be signed and returned 09/02**
- **Wildcat Pride to march in the East Cobber Parade**
- **Lots of fund-raising ideas—just right for you!**

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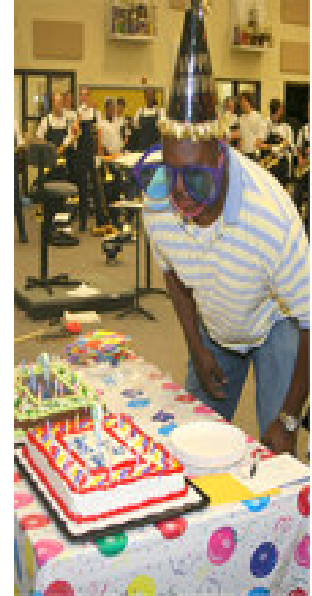
PUTTING ON A MARCHING BAND SHOW

EDITORIAL COMMENT:

Recently I remembered a book I read several years ago, before I was ever affiliated with a marching band. It was set in a small town in either the Carolinas or Tennessee. One of the main characters was the high school band director who, upon hearing that Elizabeth Taylor was coming to town as Grand Marshall of a parade, decided to put on a band show using music from her movies.

He appeared to do this all on his own, doing all the music and choreographing the show himself. There was no mention of composers, arrangers, or any other assistance. He did at least plan the show by moving small figures around on his dining room table into the formations he wanted. This was all done, apparently effortlessly, in a fairly short timeframe and culminated with a spectacular show for the guest of honor.

Well, I am now older and a little wiser and have learned that putting on a marching band show is by no means a one person task. Planning for the next year's show starts almost as soon as football season ends, and involves all sorts of specialists. From my layman's perspective, music-related tasks appear to include: deciding on a theme, selecting appropriate music, getting the music written for the band's various sections, rehearsing the music. Then there is the visual aspect of the show which has its own specialists and challenges – deciding on formations, choreographing the guard's routine to complement the music, selecting uniforms, and so on.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MR. HOSKINS!

Thinking about all this has made me realize how fortunate we are at Wheeler to have such a great team who makes our shows spectacular. In addition, they teach our children more than just music. They also impart life skills like respect, team work, discipline.

For all this and more, we thank you Mr. Hoskins, Mr. Higdon, and your team.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

SENIOR BANQUET - the date is Monday, Nov. 3 at 6:30 pm in the Wheeler cafeteria. This is a potluck dinner, similar to the kickoff banquet. All families are welcome.

The Senior awards are presented, based on voting by the band members. And the underclassmen have a great time roasting the seniors.

COBB COUNTY MARCHING BAND EXHIBITION

On Monday, 6 October, the Wildcat Pride will once again participate in the Cobb County Marching Band Exhibition held at McEachern High School in Powder Springs. This is purely an Exhibition, held over two nights, and is a fun way to see the different shows, styles, and talent from around the area.

The evening concludes with a performance by one of the wonderful college bands. How else can you get to see the UGA band perform without having to try to get hold of a hard-to-get football ticket!

If you attend, please consider supporting their concessions because some of their Booster Club members bought pizza from us at the Kell Classic football exhibition. When they seemed reluctant to support Wheeler's band, I told them we'd be performing at the exhibition and would return the favor at that time!

OCTOBER CALENDAR

| | | |
|------------|-----------|---|
| 10/3 | Fri. | NO GAME – practice 4 – 7pm |
| 10/4 | Sat. | Lassiter competition |
| 10/4 | Sat. | Bingo 6pm |
| 10/5 | Sun. | Bingo 3pm |
| 10/6 | Mon. | Cobb County Marching Band Exhibition @ McEachern HS |
| 10/8 | Wed. | Bingo 6pm |
| 10/10 | Fri. | Home vs. Roswell |
| 10/12 | Sun. | Papa John's |
| 10/13 | Mon. | Bingo 6pm |
| 10/14 | Tues. | General Booster Club meeting, 6pm |
| 10/15 | Wed. | Bingo 6pm |
| 10/17 | Fri. | Away vs. Pope |
| 10/18 | Sat. | Sprayberry competition |
| 10/21 | Tues. | Bingo 6pm |
| 10/24 | Fri. | Home vs. Kell, Senior Night |
| 10/25 – 27 | Sat.-Mon. | St. Petersburg competition |
| 10/25 | Sat. | Bingo 6pm |
| 10/28 | Tues. | Executive Board meeting, 6pm |
| 10/29 | Wed. | Bingo 6pm |
| 10/31 | Fri. | Away vs. Campbell |

MAKE SURE YOU KNOW THE PROPER COMPETITION ETIQUETTE:

As the band begins its competition season, please keep the following etiquette tips in mind:

- Applaud for **ALL** bands. It is appropriate and encouraged to stand while applauding.
- Do not enter the seating area or talk when a band is performing.
- Be careful of critiquing. You never know who you are sitting near.
- If you must stand during a performance to take a picture, do so as quickly as possible.
- Do not stand in front of others to video.
- We support ALL Cobb County bands. Be friendly and encouraging to other Cobb County band organizations.
- Show your Wildcat PRIDE. Our students can see our sea of blue and gold, even if they can't see our faces.

Hospitality

Polly Burson

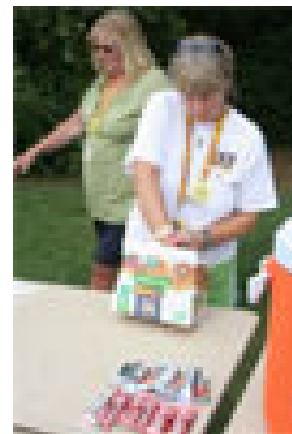
Thank you, parents, for bringing wonderful food for our kickoff banquet in August. We had a full house that night - we hope you had fun and met some new parents and students.

Our tailgate party will be on Saturday, Sept. 27. The kids have an all day practice that day. I will need a few parents to help set up around 5:00. Please contact me if you are able to help. We put a tent in the middle of the practice lot where we have lemonade, water, desserts, and a sharing table if you want to share some item - main dish, fruit, appetizer. We'll have forks, knives, spoons, cups and plates. Come for an hour or stay the

whole time. The kids are just running around on the football field in the end (don't know where the energy comes from!!).

Please come even if you are not in this for the cooking awards - I picked up Chik-fil-a the first year. It ranges from fast food, to bringing grills for hot dogs/ burgers, to cajun casseroles. And feel free to share with other families as people are walking around. Throw in an extra chair - the kids do get tired and they usually forget to bring one. It's dark when we leave so bring a lantern or your fire pit.

Lastly, both Beth Titus and I are Senior parents, so we need someone to step forward as Hospitality Chair for next year.



As usual, Polly Burson and Beth Barrow-Titus will be on the job,

ASK MR. PHOTO!

A reader in Marietta Georgia writes:

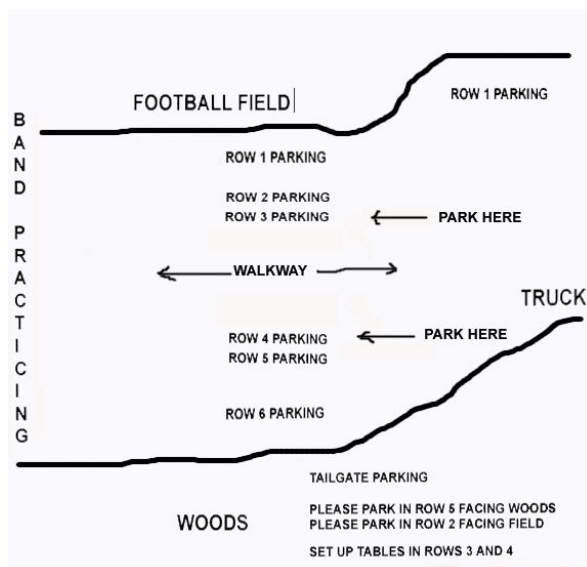
Dear Mr. Photo,
I love the pictures of the band that are available on Picassa through the LINKS page on the website. But when I try to download them, they come out so small. What can I do?

Tiny in Marietta

Dear Tiny,

From the photo album, double click the picture you want to download. Then go to the download tab just above the photo. This will download your picture in very high resolution, usually to your desktop. Double click and the picture will open up and you can resize it (Image/ Resize in Microsoft Photo Editor.

PARKING FOR TAILGATE PARTY



Last year, we found that this configuration worked very well.

Basically, we are creating a wide walkway down the middle, with the rear of our cars facing the walkway.

This gave us plenty of room and encouraged socializing—we were not spread out all over the back parking lot as in years before.

Enjoy!

A BRIEF HISTORY OF COLOR GUARD

Modern **color guard** has evolved over the years into a form of dance theater that uses props along with movement to express dynamic passages in the music accompanying the show. Modern color guards use flags, sabers, rifles, and occasionally other equipment, as well as a mix of ballet, jazz, modern, and contemporary modern dance. Traditional color guard first began during the English reign around the same time of the American Revolution. A band would accompany the soldiers to play music to keep their spirits up and to keep them in beat by playing patriotic songs. Along with the band, they also had a soldier holding a flag with their colors on it. This use continued into the civilian marching bands, and today, a marching band's color guard will normally carry equipment descended from those of military color guard: flags, banners, mock rifles, or

mock sabers.

The color guard is a non-musical section that provides additional visual aspects to the performance. The color guard interprets the music that the marching band or drum & bugle corps is playing, via the synchronized spinning of flags, sabers, rifles, or other pieces of equipment, or through dance. The color guard uses different colors and styles of flags to enhance the visual effect of the marching band as a whole. Color guards often choose costumes and props that coordinate with the theme of their show.

Color guard has been considered to be both an athletic competition and an art. Due to its popularity, it has been suggested that color guard be included in the Olympic games.

During the 1970s and 1980s, much of the impetus for the evolution of the modern color guard came from the arena of competitive drum & bugle corps. Pioneers from



these corps traveled to other areas of the country to teach, introducing colorguards to more traditional bands. Director of Bands at Northwestern University, John Paynter, was one of the first when he hired Bugle Corp specialist George Parks in 1976. The visual effect of spinning and shaking flags drew the attention of crowds and quickly caught on. Having visual impact for pieces played when the band stood still added a whole dimension to the performance. By the late 1970s and into the mid 1980s colorguards had been added to most Big Ten and Big 8 (Currently Big 12) bands. Once these prominent university bands had colorguards, there was widespread inclusion of guards at high schools across the nation in the 1980s and 1990s.

The popularity of colorguard has grown such that Winterguard, formed in 1977, has gained widespread membership and attention.

(Reference—Wikipedia:
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Color_guard_\(flag_spinning\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Color_guard_(flag_spinning)))

SHOUT OUTS!!

A SHOUT OUT to **Mark Hoskins/Anthony Higdon and staff** for their fantastic new production "Don't Stop Us Now". Audience reaction is fantastic! Excitement is high! This is a winner!
... Janet Steinheimer

A SHOUT OUT to **all the volunteers this year for Papa John's**. We have had such

great participation that we have had the opportunity to run two kitchens in two of the first four events! Thanks for not making me beg this year!!! Your willingness to volunteer has already made each of the events so far surpass the revenues from the events from last year!"
... Greg Arnold

A SHOUT OUT to **Anthony**

Higdon for a wonderful explanation of the whole design process for the band and Guard. Excellent job! You and Mark are the BEST!!!!
... Janet Steinheimer

A SHOUT OUT to our **photographers** for sharing pictures of all the students.
... Marianne Gopel

FRUIT SALE—IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN

This is another favorite! We will again be offering high quality Indian River fruit. Orders will be taken in October and fruit delivered in December. This is another opportunity to support our band programs. So think about holiday gifts for friends, family and business associates. This fund-raiser is open

to all band students, not just marching band.

Remember, in order to participate in fund raising you must be a member of the Band Boosters.

Pick up your information packet at the tailgate party. (That's another reason not to miss the tailgate event!)



SPRAYBERRY COMPETITION



**SOUTHERN
INVITATIONAL
MUSIC
FESTIVAL**

October 18, 2008

The Southern Invitational Music Festival is held annually at Jim Frazier Stadium on the campus of Sprayberry High School in Marietta, Georgia. In order to better meet the needs of all schools, we offer both the Festival (non-competitive) and Contest (competitive) formats. Trophies are awarded in both categories. Bands from across the Southeast perform and compete. The Festival is a ratings only event, taking place in the morning and early afternoon. The competition is held in the afternoon and evening. Neither the schedule nor the list of performers is on the website. <http://www.southerninvitational.com/>

SCRATCH WANTS YOU!!



TO BE A PRIDE VOLUNTEER

Volunteer just a bit of your time for the Wildcat Pride Marching Band and the Wheeler Band Booster Club!

- Fundraising at Bingo and Papa Johns
- Chaperoning Band Practices
- Moving equipment at games and competitions

All these activities and more need your help and just a little bit of your time.

Please volunteer! Scratch says thank you!

6TH ANNUAL LASSITER HS MARCHING BAND SHOWCASE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

In 2007, Wheeler placed 2nd in this competition, behind Kell High School. Our drum major and color guard both received first place awards, while our drum line was second in their category.

Please come out and support the band at this, their first competition of the season.

| | |
|----------|--|
| 1:30 PM | Preliminary Performances Begin – See Schedule Below |
| 5:15 PM | Preliminary Performances Conclude |
| 5:45 PM | Preliminary Awards Ceremony |
| 6:15 PM | Finalist Directors' Meeting (Finalist Performance Order to be posted) |
| 7:00 PM | Finalist Band Warm-ups Begin at 15-minute intervals |
| 7:30 PM | National Anthem |
| 8:00 PM | Finalist band performances begin at 15-minute intervals |
| 9:45 PM | Finals performances conclude |
| 10:00 PM | Exhibition: LassiterMarching Trojan Band |
| 10:30 PM | FINAL RETREAT & AWARDS CEREMONY |



PRELIMINARY PERFORMANCE TIMES

| <u>TIME</u> | <u>SCHOOL</u> | <u>CLASS</u> |
|----------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1:30 PM | SOUTH COBB HIGH SCHOOL | A |
| 1:45 PM | BOWDEN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL | A |
| 2:00 PM | BANKS COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL | A |
| 2:15PM | WHEELER HIGH SCHOOL | AA |
| 2:30 PM | CHAPEL HILL HIGH SCHOOL | AA |
| 3:00 PM | DALTON HIGH SCHOOL | AA |
| 3:15 PM | CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL | AAA |
| 3:30 PM | HILLGROVE HIGH SCHOOL | AAA |
| 3:45 PM | OLA HIGH SCHOOL | AAA |
| 4:15 PM | MCINTOSH HIGH SCHOOL | AAA |
| 4:30 PM | EAST COWETA HIGH SCHOOL | AAA |
| 4:45 PM | SOUTH FORSYTH HIGH SCHOOL | AAAA |
| 5:00 PM | WALTON HIGH SCHOOL | AAAA |

More info available at: <http://www.showcase.lbba.org/>

THE SENIOR PAGE



**Justin
Arnold**



**Andrew
Boyd**



**Ryan
Burson**



**James
Danielson**



**Kyle
Davidson**



**Jeremy
Drennan**



**Thomas
Duggins**



**DeShon
Jones**



**Anthony
Kamson**



**Jake
McCabe**



**Olivia
Myers**



**Emma
Rubenstein**



**Corey
Sajous**



**Jamie
Steinheimer**



**Lauren
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**Jonathan
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Wright**

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AT TOWN CENTER

RECYCLE



Newspaper recycling bins are located in the East Cobb Middle School parking lot directly across Holt Road from the Lipscomb Gym.

Drop off your old newspapers there anytime! All profits benefit the Wildcat Pride Marching Band.

Help the Environment! Help the Band!

Get your friends and neighbors to use it too!



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