

1. Sophomore Sam Dolde leads his line in the Johnston Marching Invitational. Dolde concentrated on the drum major so that he got to the yard line on the right beat. "I was amazed the first time we performed and we had 200 and some people all in step, a miracle in itself," he said. (Photo by Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher)



Drum Majors



Hanley Abbey

"I enjoyed standing up on the podium and conducting and being (partially) in control. I liked being organized and knowing that people depended on me. Being a drum major isn't as glamorous as some people think it is, but I'm very grateful for my experience."

Libbie Smith

"My experience as a drum major is something I will remember for the rest of my life. There is something exhilarating about getting up in front of 215 people and directing them. I definitely fell off the drum major podium at one of the summer practices. I burned my knee and have a permanent scar, but I think it was pretty funny."

Tom Altieri

"Being a drum major was a really great experience. It was fun to be able to wave my arms around for the band, but a little stressful because if I mess up then pretty much everyone knows."



Andrew Smalley

"The season was good considering that 90% of what I did was being a pack mule for the directors. At the last home game, during our final song, Grant Tetmeyer '18, ran up to the podium with a stuffed lion and held it up Lion King style."

MISSING the RAINS in AFRICA

The call of the wild calls the marching band

Rehearsal is about to begin before school. As seniors Erin Lamberty and Nicole Jordan walk to their reference spots, they show off something they've been learning outside of practice; they blare "Africa" by Toto in retaliation to band director Jeff Robilliard.

The theme was "Africa: Awake and Alive", and included two songs from "The Lion King"; "King of Pride Rock" and "Stampede of the Wildebeest." "You could hear tunes coming out of your instrument that you had heard so many times during your childhood, which was amazing," senior Joseph Haggerty said.

Everyone was looking forward to playing "Africa", but band director Jeff Robilliard could not work the song into the selection; something from which the students will never recover. "(I'm) still salty AF", sophomore Matthew Kleigl said.

However, Lamberty and Jordan got around Robilliard's decision. "Some of us learned how to play the song and played it when we weren't in a competition" senior Nicole Jordan said. "We tried to look up music for it then we found it on YouTube. (Robilliard) didn't know but Heeren reacted to us playing and singing it by smiling and laughing."

Another unexpectancy was an impromptu reenactment from the movie. During "King of Pride Rock," senior Grant Tetemyer held up a stuffed lion like the monkey did. "I had the idea for senior night, but since it got rained out, we convinced Robilliard to let me do it at the playoff game. It was my sisters old D.A.R.E lion and we just used that," Tetemyer said

While disappointed in the exclusion of their favorite song, students were pleased with the execution of "Stampede of the Wildebeest", where they stood next to each other in a line then charged to the other side of the field in the middle of the song. "I think the cool thing about marching band is that we don't really care about how we place we just want to entertain people. Senior Hannah DeBruin said. "Though it's frustrating that we never really get recognized for that at competitions like Valleyfest, we know that we're doing a good thing cause the audience loves it."

Special Instructions



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2. Sophomore Jennifer Standish beats her drum at the Johnston Marching Invitational. "Drum line is a really fun group of people," Standish said. "Throughout the season we spent so much time together inside and outside of practice. Because of this I have made so many friends that I still hang out with after the season is over." (Photo by Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher)

2. Frying bacon, sophomore Sarah Andreasen and senior Julia Srail work together to figure out how the skillet functions. The flute section had a pancake breakfast before their last marching band competition at Waukee. (Photo by Karsten Theilen)



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5. As a drum major, Hailey Abbey conducts the band's second song at the Valleyfest competition her senior year. Her best friend, senior Libbie Smith said, "Being a drum major with Hailey was really fun and easy because we get along well. We would go get breakfast together before competitions." (Photo by Kaylee Sly)

5. Sophomore percussionist Joe Arthur hits the bass drum and gong simultaneously at the Valleyfest competition. He played both parts on the first song "Journey to the Lion's Castle." (Photo by Kaylee Sly)

"We're all *band nerds*"
-sophomore Allison Klahn
Students from each section describe stereotypes others have about them

Clarinets
"Everybody has a little quirk in the clarinet section, also that we're just awesome and energetic."
-senior Hannah Debruin

Flutes
"That we don't do much, our job is easy (BTW it's not)." -senior Julie Srail

Frontline
"Everyone thinks we're lazy cause we don't march."
-senior Molly Hauser

Trumpets
"Loud and annoying. In general band people think we're really annoying, which is true."
-junior Katrina Feinberg

Drumline
"For drumline, people think we are a cult, and we definitely are!"
-sophomore Jordan Gould

Low Brass
"We are super annoying and we always mess up."
-junior Matthew Kleigl



Jillan Hess '20

Filling Her Slate w/ Singing

"I love to sing in my free time because it's a way for me to express myself. Whether I have had a bad day at school or a good day, it's just something really fun that I enjoy doing."

Captions by: Hanna Peterman
Story by: Hanna Peterman
Spread by: Savannah Dahlen
Mods by: Karsten Theilen & Hanna Peterman
Spotlight by: Amber Yeutsy