

Just A Few Notes

January 2009 Alumni Band Newsletter

Pep Band '08-'09 Wrap-Up

by Jay Chapman & Donna Drefke

Hooray! The 2008-09 Volleyball and Basketball Pep Band Was a Perfect 6-0!

Many welcome new faces (including some Varsity "ringers") joined us for pep band this fun season. It was great to see them along with all of the pep band "regulars".

Things started out early at

Thanksgiving break playing for the volleyball team's game against Big XII rival Kansas. The team showed why it would eventually make it to the Regional Finals of the NCAA tournament with a 3-0 victory. Later that day the men's basketball team earned a hard-fought 77-59 win, while the pep band worked through polishing up a couple of new (to us) tunes.

Website Links You Should Check Out!

ISU Alumni Band website:
www.isualumniband.org

Here you can access information about Alumni Band activities, board contact information and pretty much anything else you ever wanted to know about the Alumni Band!

ISU Department of Music:
www.music.iastate.edu

This is the home page of the Music department at ISU. From here you can check out calendars of events, websites for each of the ensembles and music organizations on campus, plus all the information for anyone seeking a degree or minor in music.

The Score, Department of Music Alumni Newsletter:
www.las.iastate.edu/alumni/newsletters/MusicNwsltr.pdf

This newsletter is published twice a year and holds information about music alumni that might never make your local papers.



The weekend of December 20-21 gave us two playing days in a row, starting with the men's game against Jacksonville State. The game was a little closer in the end than everyone would have liked, but the band helped to keep the crowd going as best we could. Sunday, the 21st brought a solid win by the women over a tough Minnesota team, anchored by a solid pep band performance. The band received a lot of post-game "thank yous" from the crowd.

The big January double header to start off the new year included an icy trip to the new ISU Alumni Center. Between the women's victory over #20 Vanderbilt and the men's blowout win over SIU-Edwardsville, the pep band skated over for a

delicious Hickory Park meal hosted by the ISU Alumni Association. Held in the beautiful Reiman Ballroom, the great food was complemented by the socializing with other alums outside the Alumni Band. (And the big screen TVs with the NFL playoff weren't bad, either!)

This season the band received literally dozens of compliments on our performances. Cyclone fans truly appreciate our attendance and performances at the break games. So next season hopefully you can help fill our needs for drummers, mellophones, saxophones, or just generally more players. We need your help to give ISU fans what they want – more of the Alumni Band (and maybe more cowbell, too). :-)

Band Alumni Updates

A Celebration of Life was held Jan. 9, 2009 in honor of Dan Fulwider (1974-2009), who passed after a battle with cancer. Dan was a tenor saxophone in the marching and pep bands from 1994-1998 and will be greatly missed.

Andrew Denner, Sousa '07, and Jessica Hill, Trumpet '08 announce their engagement over the Christmas Holiday

Josh Hetzel, Trumpet '05, and Kelly Lau, Trumpet '06 announce their engagement just after Christmas

Aaron Valley, Sousa '08 and Kelsey Jurik '09 announce their engagement over the New Year

Stay up to date on all the ISU Alumni Band activities!

The Iowa State Alumni Association is where we go to keep up with you! If you like our communications, please make sure to update your information at www.isualum.org.

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VEISHEA 2009 Sign-Up by Ben Ihde

Recap

Registration Form is at:
www.isualumniband.org
Cost: \$10.00
Deadline: April 6th
Questions: Ben Ihde '92
VEISHEA Pep
Band Coordinator
(515) 986-4081
ihdeclan@yahoo.com

Iowa State University officials and student organizers have decided to change the dates for VEISHEA. This year's celebration was originally scheduled for March 30 through April 5 -- the earliest dates in the event's history, and guaranteeing frost bite among the parade attendees. The new VEISHEA dates are April 13-19, the parade being held Saturday, April 18. We should not experience the 2" of snow like last year; however, given the recent Iowa winters, we just can't guarantee that we can trade the hot chocolate heater back in and breakout the sun tan location.

The registration form is available on the Alumni Band web site; isualumniband.org. Print it out, fill it out, and mail it in with your check to guarantee your seat on the hay wagon. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, feel free to contact Ben Ihde.

Alumni Reunite at Homecoming Tailgate '08 by Michelle Fitch

Many marching band alums never experienced tailgating as ISU students, but that didn't stop the ISU Alumni Band from hosting a top-notch tailgate reunion! The Great Hall of the Memorial Union was transformed into a game-day parking lot, complete with ISU canopies, grills, coolers, and ISU flags flown high.

The food and entertainment was tailgate-style. Alums and their families enjoyed the bean bag toss, miniature

golf putting, Tailgate Trivia, Wii and Playstation2 featuring the world premier of Tuba Hero!

Did I mention that the entertainment was top-notch? (Really, when was the last time you played big-screen video games at a tailgate?) Many prizes were awarded, including a \$25 gift certificate to the best-dressed Cyclone in the group.

Of course the tailgate scene was not complete until

the appearance of the ISU Varsity Marching Band! They performed with game-day vigor (as always!) and made us proud. The sights and sounds of the up-close performance triggered vivid memories of our own college days and prepared us for putting on a great Homecoming day performance!

Then on Saturday, after a great muddy morning practice and the lunch meeting at Scheman, 160 band alumni took the field playing *Sousa!*

and *American the Beautiful*. If you were at the event it was great to see you there!

The Alumni Band Homecoming Reunion is always full of laughter as longtime friends reunite and new friendships are formed. Tailgate '08 was no exception. We always have room for one more though, so even if you haven't been to Homecoming for years, consider saving the date now (October 16-17, 2009) and joining us next year!

