



ISU Alumni Band

Summer 2022

Note from the President

Hey Band!

I'm excited to share with all of you that the board is off and running with the preparations for another in-person reunion! I hope last year's reunion marks the beginning of a streak that will break our previous record of 39 consecutive in-person reunions.

A couple things to keep in mind for those of you that have come to prior reunions:

- ◇ After a great experience for our Friday social at the Simon Estes Music Hall last year we are planning on returning to the same location this year!
- ◇ Parking at the Scheman Building for our Saturday festivities will NOT be available through the alumni band. We are again planning to provide a shuttle option from campus if you wish to use it. Additionally, parking is available on various streets and lots around the stadium if you prefer to go that route.

The board considered alternatives to Scheman for our Saturday activities, but none of the alternatives eliminated the need to use buses to transport everyone. Additionally, any alternatives off site would mean no longer being able to rehearse and perform with the 'V'arsity band for halftime. After consulting with the board, I decided we would continue to use Scheman and as a result preserve our on-field performance as a part of the reunion.

After sharing the information on the parking options this year, I would like to share some insights I have gathered from interacting with many of our peer bands at the National Association of Alumni Bands. It is hard to describe just how unique our relationships with our alumni association, music department, and athletics departments continue to be. The support and opportunities we are provided by those departments are unique to Iowa State, and are a testament to the Iowa State University culture. Without those relationships we would not be able to host what most of us would recognize as an ISU Alumni Band homecoming reunion. If there were an AP Top 25 poll of alumni bands, we would be a blue blood.

I hope you are able to join us at the reunion this year to take part in what is a uniquely Iowa State opportunity, and to celebrate what being a part of the Iowa State University Alumni Band is about. I personally guarantee that we will beat the Mountaineers or we will offer free participation at the next Alumni Volleyball or Wrestling Pep Band event.

Go Cyclones!

Kevin Beichley



Save the Date:

- September 11 | Alumni Band Golf Outing
- November 5 | Homecoming!

Inside this issue:

Note from the President	1
Homecoming Recap	2
Pep Band Recap	3
Varsity Alumni Mentorship Program	3
Alumni Spotlight	4

HOMECOMING 2021

In fall 2021 we welcomed everyone back on campus after the hiatus in 2020. Although a year delayed, we celebrated our 40th Anniversary with 227 alumni plus their guests joining us at Homecoming. The Friday night social welcomed all to the Simon Estes Music Hall where we made new friends, reunited with old ones, and the Varsity Band entertained us. We again held our silent auction and raffle, which included such great ISU items as a signed football and vintage merchandise. We also sold new alumni band merchandise, including sweatpants and t-shirts to allow our membership to sport their alumni band pride.

On Saturday, we met at Bergstrom for rehearsal with the Varsity Band and Storm. We then headed to Scheman for lunch and our annual meeting, where we announced our new Alumni Band Board and our new Alumni Band President, Kevin Beichley, took office. The weather was ideal, and we marched over in style. The combined Alumni/Varsity/Storm song was Sir Duke and it was amazing to see the field filled with so many cardinal and gold band members at halftime. The football team came away with a win, and Cyclone Nation stormed the field. It was great to return to our Alumni Band traditions, catch up with the Varsity Band and Storm, and have a great time cheering on our Cyclones.





ALUMNI PEP BAND

How sweet it is! After missing a full season of pep band, we had new faces, new drummers, and a bass player. It was sweet to have all of those additions to the Alumni Pep Band this year!

Our first event of the season was a joint Alumni-Varsity band for the November 21 double-header. First came the men's game versus Grambling State. The Varsity books were the music source for the day and the result was a 35-point victory for the Cyclones. The game was representative of the many defensive gems that would become a mainstay of T.J. Otzelberger's initial team. The result of the evening women's game was an even larger margin of victory with the women dominating the Southern University Jaguars 96-55.

Event number two was also a double-header, but this time alumni-only. The #11 (#11! – wow that escalated quickly!) Cyclone men went 11-0 after taking down SE Louisiana in the afternoon game. Offense was on display with three Cyclones making it to double figures and that along with some good defense led us to “Celebrate!” at the end. Double-digit scoring from Ashley Joens, Aubrey Joens, Lexi Donarski, and Nyamer Diew helped the #12 Cyclone women to a 69(!)-point victory 108-39 over the PVAM. The offensive onslaught included a single-game record 19 three-pointers. The defense helped just a tad, too, holding the Panthers to just four points in the first quarter and leading us to double-header double-victory.

New Year's Day 2022 found #1 Baylor in town to take on our #8 Cyclone men's team in the Big 12 opener between two undefeated teams. Tristan Enaruna had a career game and led ISU in scoring with 23 points. The Alumni Pep Band and the Cyclone Alley-less crowd gave it their best, as did all the Cyclones, but in the end, they fell just short against the eventual Big 12 co-champions 77-72.

The Big 12 slate started better for the Cyclone women's team as the WVU Mountaineers couldn't overcome another quick Cyclone start to a game. ISU jumped out to a 22-10 first quarter lead and Beer Barrel Polka'd all the way to the end. Emily Ryan had 10 points, a school record-tying 16 assists and 9 rebounds all while playing the entire 40 minutes.

The good news? The January 5th Texas Tech men's game brought an end to the Cyclones' multi-season-spanning conference losing streak. The bad news? The offense went into hibernation in the second half, a sign of things to come in several future games. The first made ISU basket of the second half was a reverse layup by Gabe Kalscheur at the 10:21 mark, but some D and timely free throws down the stretch allowed the 'Clones to come out victorious 51-47.

A “surprise” joint Alumni-Varsity wrestling gig presented itself on January 6th when the Cyclones took on Northwest Kansas Technical College (no, really). ISU Fights and school songs were played early and often as the wrestlers posted one of their best dual scores ever at 56-0.

The 2021-22 ISU Alumni Pep Band season came to a close on January 8th with the ISU-TCU game. Tough defense on the Horned Frogs led to another 10-point first quarter output for an ISU opponent. TCU came to Hilton and pfft they were gone, as the Cyclones cruised to a 78-47 victory.

Looking ahead to the 2022-23 Season

The switch to the new drum position on the risers worked out well, so we'll be sticking with that for the long term. New arrangements of songs are on the docket for next season, as well as a re-ordering of some existing songs (like the post-game sequence), as well as some brand-new additions to our books. Thanks again to everyone who joined us this season and next time you're back, bring a friend!

GO CYCLONES!

Varsity Alumni Mentorship Program

Hey band! After mixed reviews last year, we are excited to bring back the Varsity-Alumni Mentorship Program! Fill out [this survey](#) for a chance to become a mentor to the next generation of Alumni Band members!

Alumni Spotlight

With last year's round of elections came the end of an era - I think we can all applaud Kelli Huser for leading the Alumni Band through two unprecedented seasons! With this change in leadership, this newsletter's Alumni Spotlight is on none other than incumbent president Kevin Beichley. After a few years in the Tenor Sax section, Kevin moved on to be a member of Student Staff, finally ending up as the Director of Finance at the Iowa Department of Transportation (a very logical progression). While he considers himself a bit of an outlier, many past members of student staff can probably relate to the fact that some of his favorite band memories were actually on the sidelines during pregame or on the ladder after a big touchdown. In fact, part of the reason Kevin decided to run for Alumni Band president was to help give that experience to current band members in whatever ways he can, while reliving some of the glory days; although, with the adoring crowds at Jack Trice Stadium on Homecoming, he is unlikely to ever relive the joy of taking a crowd of KU fans in Lawrence from jeering to jovial with only the power of song (and a pirate ship of marchers sailing down the field).



Kevin Beichley, '08 '09
Tenor Sax, Student Staff

Like many alumni, our new president notes that many of his closest friends came from his time in band. The support network you gain by being part of such an organization is unmatched. That's part of the reason Homecoming is such a special event, made even more special in Simon Estes Music Hall - as Kevin says, there's something really nostalgic about a Friday night social in the room you rehearsed in for 4 or 5 marching seasons. As for the future of the Alumni Band, he expects the demand to only continue to increase! With so much excitement about Cyclone Football and the ISUCF'V'MB, hopefully the board will continue to be able to provide new opportunities to connect and share the excitement. Last year was the first time ever registration for Homecoming needed to be capped, which, while exciting, means it is more important than ever to register early this year!

With at least 5 members of the Alumni Band Board being sousaphone players, including the president-elect and yours truly, this newsletter editor couldn't help but ask our new president how he felt about the slow low brass takeover of the board. Remaining diplomatically neutral, he claims he is mostly excited about the interest of young alumni in joining the board! With four decades behind us, it is truly great to see another generation, really, of alumni ready to serve the band. But, since sousaphones were mentioned, perhaps there is interest in a saxophone-sousaphone combination tailgate this season?

2022-2023 ISU Alumni Band Board



President: Kevin Beichley, '08, '09
Past President: Kelli Huser, '09
President-Elect: Breanna (Bree) Kixmiller, '18, '20
Treasurer: Erin Kalkwarf, '05
Secretary: Karen Heldt-Chapman, '92
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Special Projects/Pep Band: Jay Chapman, '90

Directors At Large:
Zach Bennett, '17
Jenna Bonczyk, '17
Brian Carrier, '18
William Polzin, '10, '13
Chris Davidson, '08
Emily Worthington, '11

Director of Bands: Dr. Michael Golemo
Marching Band Director: Christian Carichner