

News	Obituaries	Sports	Moms	Neighborhoods	Business	Entertainment	Velocity	Features	Opinion
Services									

Search Kentuckiana:

Go



Subscribe Now

Receive a \$10 Gas Card

[courier-journal.com](#) > [Local News](#)

Sunday, October 21, 2007



E-mail this



Print page

0 diggs [digg it](#)



Advertisement

KENTUCKY MARCHING BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

High-stepping high-schoolers

Competition mixes musicianship, choreography

By **Jere Downs**

jdowns@courier-journal.com

The Courier-Journal

Every band had a story.

Bob Harrod was the band director of the Washington County High School band until his death from brain [cancer](#) in 1999. As 51 red-jacketed Commanders took the field yesterday at the Kentucky Marching Band Championships, his widow, band director Debbie Harrod, stood in his place. Their daughter, Lindsey Harrod, 18, was out there swinging a flute in front of a giant clock on the 30-yard line. "Windows of Time" was the theme of the band from Springfield.

"Last year was the first time we made it here," said Kevin Spalding, a band alumnus and volunteer. "We came in fourth, but it was just like coming in first for us."



[+ enlarge](#)

In swashbuckling attire, clarinetist Ryder Bray performed with the Nicholas County High School Marching Band during finals of the state marching band competition held yesterday at Cardinal Stadium. (Photos by Michael Hayman, The Courier-Journal)

MORE PHOTOS

[KMEA State Marching Band finals](#)

WINNERS

Class A: Williamstown High School

Class AA: Muhlenberg South High School

NEWSLETTERS

Sign up now!

Get morning headlines, breaking news, afternoon business updates, weekend happenings and more sent to your inbox!



FEEDBACK

STORYCHAT

[Click here](#) to join a discussion in our reader forums.

E-EDITION



Check out the new **digital version** of The C-J

RSS

RSS feeds - XML
Get the headlines you want delivered to your reader.

Celebrations
Announce it in The Courier-Journal
• Weddings
• Engagements
• Anniversaries
• Births ... and more!

Advertisement

Advertisement

Eighty bands competed for a state title yesterday at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium, grouped in five classes, based on the size of the school. From high in the stadium's press box, six judges rated performers for musical performance, choreography, general effect, and emotional and visual impact.

Some of the bands were gunning to keep up their legacy of winning.

Adair County High School has seized the state championship in Class AAA 17 times, said Melissa Skaggs, associate director of the Kentucky Music Educators Association, sponsor of yesterday's showdown.

And last night, winning the school's 18th title, Adair's combination of modern dance, sculpture and marching band stretched from 20-yard line to 20-yard line. Color-guard members dressed in white bodysuits danced around 19 life-size plaster mannequins cast from their own bodies. Two pushed a 12-foot-tall metronome back and forth in time with the band.

Pauses in the music were visually punctuated with swirling white rifles or twirling flags. Wynton Marsalis and Richard Saucedo composed the music, band director Tim Allen said.

Marching band gives young people "something to belong to," said John Stroube, executive director of the music educators group.

And it wasn't just the students who were having a good time.

All the band dads from Lloyd Memorial High School in Erlanger showed their pride. They spray-painted their hair blue with gold glitter highlights and each wore a blue T-shirt that announced "Pit Crew" on the back.

Rolling a cart of drums off the turf after the band's set, Mike Mayhew, 54, recalled his days playing trumpet for the band in the late 1960s. His daughter Sara Mayhew, 17, was the field commander for the blue and gold Juggernauts.

"It is such an awesome experience," Mayhew said. "It gives the kids structure

Class AAA: Adair County High School

Class AAAA: Madisonville North High School

Class AAAAA: Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, Lexington

Highlights of the competition will be broadcast Dec. 16 on KET at a time to be announced.



+ enlarge

Margaret Barnett, of the Washington County High School Color Guard, lifted her flag with an exultant look.



+ enlarge

Trumpeter Dade Robertson marched for Williamstown High School Marching Band, the winners in Class A competition yesterday at Cardinal Stadium. (Photos by Michael Hayman,

and discipline in their lives."

Margaret Barnett, 17, a senior, said the [Washington](#) County High School band "is my life," even though some young people at her school "don't really care about band."

That band geek image is about to change, she predicted.

"We are going to get respect when we get back home," Barnett said.

Reporter Jere Downs can be reached at (502) 582-4669.


The Courier-Journal)

RELATED NEWS FROM THE WEB

Latest headlines by topic:

- [Arts](#)
- [Modern Dance](#)

Powered by [Topix.net](#)

STORYCHAT  [Post a Comment](#) [View All Comments](#)

If this is the same Bob Harrod that was Band Director in Campbellsville, he was a legend. He was my band teacher from JR High through High School at CHS. And yes RightWinger, DRUM CORP is where its at. While opening the store I work at the other morning, we could hear Eastern High Schools band outside practicing, and it stopped me in my tracks. We stood outside for a few minutes and listened to them. Many thanks to the EHS Band for bringing back great memories of being in band. 😊

Posted: Mon Oct 22, 2007 7:17 am

I take the stamp of "band geek" with pride. I played trumpet in my high school band and those were definitely the best times of my life, during school. I even went on to college...Go Cards...and drum corps..Star...great times and memories. It still brings a tear to my eyes when I think about the fun I had.

Papa Johns needs to get the DCI championship in that stadium!!!!

Posted: Mon Oct 22, 2007 2:34 am

[Post a Comment](#) [View All Comments](#)

^^ [Back to top](#)

[Subscribe to the newspaper](#)

-  [E-mail this](#)
 [Print this](#)
 [Subscribe](#)
 [RSS feeds](#)

How To Stampede:

1. Tell a friend about our great rates.

Did you hear...?



Click-to hear me moo!

5.00% APY

6 MONTH CD

Stock Yards

Bank & Trust

click for details

www.syb.com

Top Jobs

courier-journal.com

POWERED BY

careerbuilder®

LOOK OWNER OPERATORS Dedicated Out & Back Runs Plan Home
 LOOK OWNER OPERATORS Dedicated Out &...

CLEANER NEEDED for beautiful apt community
 CLEANER NEEDED for beautiful apt community...

SOCIAL SERVICES LifeSpring's Madison, IN office has an SOCIAL SERVICES
 LifeSpring's Madison, IN...

This growing medical practice needs you to support its physician
 This growing medical practice needs you ...

ABATEMENT WORKERS needed for immediate employment in the ABATEMENT WORKERS needed for immediate employment...