

# NCHS Band performs well at State

By Stephen Scalf  
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On October 31st, while most kids were getting ready to dress up for Halloween, the Nicholas County High School band loaded up all their equipment, packed onto a school bus and made the trip to Louisville to compete in the State marching band competition. They didn't miss out on Halloween, though. After settling into their rooms and enjoying a pizza party, the band members - and a fair number of parents - changed into costumes and went trick-or-treating to parents' rooms throughout the hotel. Then, Band Director Debbie Hale gathered the students together for a secret-pal gift exchange, followed by a bedtime story, written specifically for the occasion by Ann Jones, "The Nightmare Before State."

The band was up early the next morning, making final preparations for their performance. Nicholas County was scheduled to take the field at 10:00 a.m., the fourth of 16 of the 1A bands competing in semifinals that morning. As they warmed up and made last-minute adjustments to their instruments, the musicians were confident and determined. They had worked long and hard to prepare for this performance, and they were ready.

When the judge announced, "Nicholas County High School, you may take the field," the band stepped up to the challenge. Daniel Broderick played his horn solo in "Shenandoah" to perfection, bringing appreciative cheers from the entire audience. There wasn't another band on the field that played a piece as difficult as "Flight of the Bumblebee," and Nicholas County played it well, sounding bet-



Photo by Stephen Scalf  
Jacob Fryman makes final preparations by applying a few drops of valve oil to his trumpet.

ter than much larger bands while moving in perfect synchronization. There were technical difficulties that detracted from the otherwise superior performance. Halfway through the performance, the amplifier began cutting in and out, blocking part of the narration, as well as Seth Tedder's guitar solo and J.T. Fryman's saxophone solo. After the performance, the band members were subdued and quiet. Later in the afternoon, when the results were finally announced and Nicholas County was not among the final four advancing to finals, they were crushed. Reflecting great character, however, their only criticism were directed inward. There were comments such as, "I nearly dropped my flag..." or "I'm sure the judges heard when I squeaked on that one note..." The disappointing results at State broke their hearts, not their spirits.

Ms. Hale, who has been the band director at NCHS for eight years, commented about the strength of this year's show, that it "utilized every kid, maximizing all their talents. They were multi-talented. No one did just one thing." Band members might be twirling flags during one number, marching and playing a horn or a flute the next number, playing drums or vibraphones in the pit the next number, then back on flags after that. When asked what will make this band stand out from other bands she has directed, Ms. Hale answered, "Their determination. Towards the end of the year, they really wanted it and worked hard to get it. Most years there are worries about people missing practices, not being as committed. There was none of that this year. I want to express my thanks to the parents, staff and the community for the way they supported us. Parents - if it weren't for you, we wouldn't be able to do anything. It's been a great season - very relaxing. Everything ran so smoothly. It was very enjoyable..."

The Marching Blue Jackets to compete in Bands of America Grand Nationals. They will perform in preliminaries at 2:45 p.m. in the new Lucas Oil Stadium, Class A semifinals will be Saturday, Nov. 20.

See COURT PAGE 12

# Court News

Nicholas County District Court Judge Delaney Oct 29, 2008

In Estate of: Sadie Pack SCH. S.C. 12/21/09 at 9:00 a.m. (for repayment to full).

Harrison Memorial Hospital vs. Ambers Shay Prather, M.D. Def. Judge Grant for \$923.06 plus post-judg. int. at 12% and costs, order enforce.

Virginia Dale vs. Rife Smith, CT. Hearing held, Forc. Det. Granted. Def. vacate on or before 11/05/08 at 4:00 p.m.

Christopher L. Garrett, ARR. Speeding 14 mph over limit. Cont. to 11/12/08.

George D. Kiser, I, ARR. Failure to wear seat belts. P in full.

Timothy E. Absher, ARR. Theft by deception-incl cold checks under \$300. MOC. Case dismissed (case not property in Nicholas County). Review 11/14/08 at noon for arraignment.

Angela A. Beard, ARR. 1. License to be in possession. 2. Obsolete no insurance. 3. No title. MOC. Dis. on proof.

Arthur Brake, OH. Cash prepaid and received. Cash remained.

Darryl C. Burke, ARR. Failure to produce insurance card. G.P. by written affidavit. S.C. 11/12/08 at 10:00 a.m.

Alice Clifford, ARR. 1. Theft by deception-incl cold checks under \$300. 2. Theft by deception-incl cold checks under \$300. ARR. held. N.G. plea PTC 1/7/08 at 1:00 p.m. (999/200/009) MOC-calculated amended to reflect 6 counts OPTBD.

Chad W. Fryman, ARR. 1. speeding 15 mph over limit. GP \$30.00 F plus costs. 2. License to be in possession. MOC dis. on proof. 3. Failure to wear seat belts. GP \$25.00. 4. Failure to produce insurance card. MOC dis. on proof.

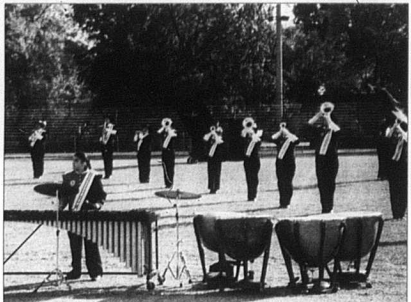


Photo by Stephen Scalf  
Throughout the competition, NCHS Band member performed with precision, musically as well as with their marching.

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