

Pride of the Bluegrass

The News of the Lafayette Band

From the Director's Desk



Charles M. Smith

Mark your calendars for end-of-the-year events

It's been several weeks (seems longer, doesn't it?), but I hope everyone enjoyed at least a few days off during Spring Break. It's time to make that last push toward our activities that wrap up the year: KMEA assessment, spring concerts, prom, our honor banquet and, of course, graduation.

Please note that graduation for Lafayette has been set for Saturday, June 4, at 2 p.m. in Rupp Arena. Performance at graduation is expected for all underclassmen and in the coming weeks, you will receive information about the itinerary for the afternoon. Please be aware that we will not be providing transportation downtown for graduation AND that traffic around Rupp Arena is always a nightmare on graduation days. Please plan enough time to arrive on time for warm-up. We will not dress in uniform, but students are asked to report in their Band polo shirts. Thanks for your cooperation!

Special commendation goes out to the Wind Symphony for their fine performance with the University of Kentucky Wind Ensemble on Sunday, April 17. They had a great time meeting and performing with the older,

more experienced student musicians and we were happy to welcome home Dr. Steve Moore, a former Lafayette Band director. It was an honor and a valuable experience for our students to work with him on a piece that he composed. Working with a composer to perform a piece he wrote is a remarkable experience for any student because of the insight that is shared during the rehearsal process. I'm happy our students were given that opportunity.

The Wind Symphony's outstanding performance at the KMEA conference in February will be aired on Channel 13; we will let you know the dates for that programming through the weekly e-news.

We have a busy weekend coming up at the end of April and the first of May, especially for the seniors. Because Lafayette has planned our prom on Saturday, April 30, we were able to schedule all three of our bands to perform for the District Seven Festival at Scott County High School for Friday, April 29. All will perform in the evening and the itinerary will be distributed through the weekly e-news. After prom on Saturday night,

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Dates to Remember

April 29	District Seven Festival
April 30	Lafayette Prom
May 1	LBA Honor Banquet
May 2	Jazz Band Concert, Beeler Auditorium, 7 p.m. LBA Board Meeting
May 3	Auditions, Woodwinds
May 4	Auditions, Percussion
May 5	Audition, Brass
May 9	LBA Parent Meeting, 7 p.m.
May 17	No School (Election Day)
May 18	Spring Concert, SCFA, 7:30 p.m.
May 19-21	Fundamental Camp, 3:45 p.m.
May 23-27	First Timer Marchers' Camp 4:30-6:30 p.m.
May 30	No School (Memorial Day)
June 1-2	Graduation Rehearsal
June 4	Graduation, Rupp Arena
July 18-22	First Timer Marchers' Camp
July 25-Aug. 5	2011 Band Camp

Are you a member of The Pride?

For more information about joining this group of LBA supporters see information on the website,
www.lafayetteband.org

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LBA will host the annual Honor Banquet on May 1, where we will recognize the accomplishments of the Band during the year and bid a fond farewell to the Class of 2011. I hope you have made your reservations for this festive event.

Please make a note on your family calendar for auditions for 2011-12, which will be held on May 3 (woodwinds), 4 (percussion) and 5 (brass). If you are new, please know that these auditions do not determine whether your student will be included in the Band, but they are used to determine where each student will be seated. Audition music has been distributed and I hope you parents have been hearing some rehearsal at home. Addition copies are available at our website, in the Band room and at the middle schools.

Time really flies after spring break—it seems like we need 45 days in May! Please note the dates we have set for mini-camps for incoming freshmen and first-time marchers, as well as the other activities that we'll fit in before graduation on June 4.

The 2011-12 color guard—a team of 40-plus—has been

selected and they have started rehearsing together. This dedicated group will add an invaluable element to our upcoming marching season.

Watch for information about the 2010-11 DVD in e-news. I recently reviewed the preliminary cut and I think everyone will be very pleased with this year's product. I look forward to sharing it with you.

Congratulations to our drum majors for 2011, Karri Blanton, Megan Davis, Lyndsey Mudd and Stella Sharpe. I think they will provide great leadership for the coming year. Thanks to everyone who auditioned. It was a difficult decision!

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Honor Banquet and the spring concert and I thank you for your many contributions to the Lafayette Band. We couldn't do it without you!
Respectfully submitted

Charles M. Smith,
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- Walk Softly Photography



A great big LBA *THANK YOU* goes out to Bethany Nurseries for allowing us to use their fork lift for our mulch delivery on April 16. The nursery specializes in landscape design, installation and maintenance. Contact them in Nicholasville at (859) 887-4289 or (859) 229-6385.



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*Thanks for your support of the Lafayette Band
and music education!*

Final Events of the Year Will be Bittersweet

Spring, where are you? We just finished the mulch deliveries with over 3,800 bags sold. We offer our sincere thanks to Mike Richeson, Tim Tussey and Dwayne Imes who took the lead this year and did a fantastic job. Once again, the Hagerman Family stepped up with equipment, trailers, time and effort to make the process smooth. Finally, many thanks to Beth Potter for her fundraising leadership and for keeping the deliveries moving on Saturday. An amazing bunch of people! The volunteers braved the cold and rain to make this happen and they deserve a big thank you.

The April Parent Meeting saw the kick off of one of our biggest fundraisers, the raffle. Our goal is for each student to sell at least 25 tickets. The funds from the Raffle are a big part of our fundraising budget for 2010-11 so please do all you can to sell all of your 25 tickets. If you haven't picked up your tickets yet, please call Beth Potter (948-3859). The winner of the \$10,000 cash prize will be announced at the Spring Concert. This event will be held at the Singletary Center on May 18 at 7:30 p.m. Be sure to come as we honor our seniors and enjoy beautiful music.

The Lafayette Band Association's honors and awards banquet is planned for Sunday, May 1 at Calvary Baptist Church on High Street. Students will be recognized for their many accomplishments and our official LBA photographer, Linda Pugh, will have a special presentation highlighting the 2010-11 season. You will want to see the snapshots of your favorite "bandie" so please sign up to attend, information about the reservation form is in this newsletter.

The last performance of the academic year will be at the LHS graduation which is scheduled for June 4 at 2:00 p.m. at Rupp Arena. This will be

a bittersweet event for us. We will celebrate the many accomplishments of our seniors and offer our very best wishes to the seniors as they begin the next exciting chapter of their lives. We appreciate their dedication to the Band and know the skills they learned while being part of the Pride of the Bluegrass will take them far.

For us, it is a time of significant transition. Our son graduates and in a few short months goes off to the University of Michigan to study music. His four years at Lafayette and with the band have helped prepare him for this opportunity. We know that the Class of 2011 will do great things and carry with them lifetime friendships and a bank of memories they will call upon often.

We want to offer a final thanks to all the wonderful people who make up the Lafayette Band Association. We aren't sure we will ever work with a finer group of people—dedicated to students and to excellence. We have made so many friends and have so many great memories (mostly funny!)

Finally, we'd like to thank the community sponsors who have contributed so much to the Band this year. We hope that you patronize these businesses and that when you do so, extend your personal gratitude for their support. We hope to see you at the final events as we say goodbye to this great organization. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Association Presidents for the past two years. We will be supporters of the Lafayette Band forever and we will also continue to advocate for music and arts education and for expanding such opportunities.

It truly has been an honor to be in the service of the Pride of the Bluegrass.

Lori and Randy Gonzalez
Co-Presidents





Today is a Birthday, I Wonder for Whom . . .



Niki Arens	May 31	Jordan Evans	May 5	Rachel McFarland	May 27
Lindsay Brock	May 16	Grace Habermann	May 17	Trey Miller	May 13
Chris Cooley	May 8	Rachel Hickman	May 7	Taylor Rock	May 26
Amari Cowan	May 27	Elizabeth Howell	May 10	Brandon Smith	May 31
Nick Degler	May 25	Jordan Kavanaugh	May 18	Max Stone	May 3
Andrew Dobbins	May 28	Lauren Lizer	May 18		



LBA Parent Meeting
May 9, 7 p.m.
 LHS Cafeteria
 Join us to learn about plans for the end of the 2010-11 academic year, Thursday bingo, Band Camp 2011 and the upcoming marching season.

Bingo!

The Lafayette Band Association has launched bingo on Thursday nights at the Bluegrass Bingo Center on Clay's Mill Road (in the same strip mall as Brooklyn Pizza). Workers have signed up for Tuesday nights and/or Thursday nights with board of directors working the first week; percussion and color guard families week; brass families the third week and woodwind families the third week.

Thanks to everyone who has helped to launch Thursday bingo while we maintained success on Tuesday nights as well.

Darryl Duncan continues to serve as bingo chair person and can answer any questions you might have.

LBA is asking every family to work at bingo at least three night per year--of course more would be appreciated, as well! To sign up to work, please contact Vivian Salley (woodwind), Jill Richeson (brass), ?? (color guard and percussion) or Sara Maggard (board of directors). Contact information is available on the Band website.

How are those raffle ticket sales going? You could be the big winner of \$10,000 and the student who sells the winning ticket will be awarded a cool \$250.

Sell, sell, sell!

Do you . . .

- Use GoodSearch as your search engine?
- Shop with your LBA Kroger gift card?
- Make on-line purchases with

Good Shop?

These fundraisers are an easy way to benefit the Band. For more information, see the Fundraising section of www.lafayetteband.org

Mark your calendar and make your reservations for the
Lafayette Band Association

Honors Banquet

Sunday, May 1

1:30 p.m.

Calvary Baptist Church
High Street

Join your fellow Band families to celebrate the season and to thank and bid a fond farewell to the Class of 2011. Reservation forms are available on the Band website, www.lafayetteband.org

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