**Band of Pride**

**Summer Information 2009**

*Installation of new video board is underway*

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**GREETINGS FROM RUSTON**

I hope your summer hasn’t been as interesting as mine and that you’ve been able to get a little rest. We’ve had so much going on. As many of you already know, Dr. Gary Westbrook is the new Director of Athletic Bands at Tarleton State University in Texas. He is going to missed so much by all of us, but particularly by me. I was concerned that we wouldn’t be able to replace him because of the severe budget cuts that are hitting higher education in Louisiana. But our President approved filling the vacancy. I am pleased to say that Greg Lyons will be our new Assistant Director of Bands and Professor of Percussion. He will also take up the mantle of Music Education within the department.

Budget wise, we have to deal with quite a large cut, however, we will be able to deal with this just fine. We are going to cut costs by buying fewer new pieces of music, cutting uniform cleaning costs, and getting by with fewer supplies than in the past. Hopefully, we will be fine. We will be depending on help from the athletic department to be able to take a pep band to LSU.

New things are happening around campus. A new video board is being installed in our stadium. I can tell you, it is huge and impressive. The base construction may provide some staging possibilities for our band shows.

We’ve had discussions about moving band parking but that did not pan out. During the discussions, we did, however, possibly come up with a new staging area outside the stadium that will be

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**Read All!!**

Please read this newsletter carefully. If you have any questions please call or email immediately.

318-257-4233
band@latech.edu

MUST DO: Fill out and return all order forms immediately!! Postmark deadline is Friday, August 19.

*Jim Robken*
-Director of Bands
more convenient in almost every aspect and save a few hundred steps for us.

Our football schedule is quite unique this year and opportunities abound for interesting directions to take with many things.

Let’s go down the schedule. I’ll tell you all I know along with possibilities. We typically have a military themed show, but which game has not been determined at this time.

- 9/5 @ Auburn: Discussions are underway to have this game televised locally on our new video board in the stadium. I’ve tried to account for that in our schedule. Could be fun. We might be able to use this as a fund raiser, too
- 9/12 @ Navy: Video board?
- 9/19 v Nicholls State: Our first home game. Just about everything happens on this day. BAND PARENTS DAY, High School Band Day, Railroad Park Pep Rally (our only one of the season), Time Out for Tech. The only thing missing is a building dedication. Our show will be an opening drill, a Regal Blues dance number, and finish with HS Band Day mass band. Our uniform for the day will show off our new LEASH GEAR look.
- 9/30 v Hawaii: Just 10 days later we have WEDNESDAY night game. Yes. That’s right, Wednesday night. We will have to feel our way through the schedule on this one. This won’t be a typical game day. I suspect that our activities will begin with the team arrival event and go from there. No game day rehearsal. Class excuses will be necessary, too. More about this when we get together. Our show will be a full show, in formal band uniform, since we will be on National TV. We are currently planning to use music from Journey. Brad Jackson is writing the arrangements for us. Brad is a minister of music for one of the churches in the Monroe area. He is very talented and has written several exciting arrangements for our band.
- 10/9 @ Nevada: Nothing planned at this time.
- 10/17 v New Mexico State: This is Homecoming and is a typical Saturday game. Game time is 3p so it will be a short day for us. Our show will be one drill, Regal Blues, and then the Homecoming Court presentation. Joining us on this day will be our band alums.
- 10/24 @ Utah State: Nothing planned at this time.
- 10/31 @ Idaho: Nothing planned at this time.
- NOTE: About this time the basketball season normally gets underway.
- 11/6 v Boise State: This is a FRIDAY night game on National TV. We will have a full halftime for this one which includes the Regal Blues. The schedule will be interesting again.
- 11/14 @ LSU: I am currently working on securing the funding necessary to take a pep band on this trip. Just a reminder that if we go, we will most likely take a small pep band that fits on one bus. Selection is by instrumentation, seniority and record of involvement. Rookies, don’t count on getting to go on this one. Your time will come. Also, note that this is the weekend prior to the last week of classes.
- 11/21 @ Fresno State: Nothing planned. This game occurs during Quarter Break.
- 12/5 v San Jose State: For the first time since I have been at Tech we will have a football game in the Winter Quarter. There are pros and cons to this.
- Cons: not everyone will be back in the winter for various reasons and we will need to schedule rehearsals prior to the quarter beginning, probably coordinated with dorm and food service opening.
• Pros: our show will most likely be our bowl game show should we get to go to one which will cut down on rehearsal time necessary to prepare for the bowl.

PEP RALLIES
Coach Dooley has gotten involved in helping shape the future of our pep rallies by agreeing to make the team available if we could accomodate the team's game week schedule. This is great news! We finally have a standardized time for our pep rallies. They will be at 6:15p on gameday eve. This means that we will have to rethink our rehearsal schedule on those days.

PARENTS’ DAY
Parents’ Day is the September 19 game. We will have a luncheon in the band hall for the parents. Hopefully, we will be able to get discounted tickets for that game. If so, they will be available at the luncheon. Tickets for other games may be purchased through the Tech Ticket Office by calling 318-257-3631.

SEATING LOCATION OF THE BAND
In Ruston, the BOP sits on the South 20 yard line, lower section (Q), on the east (student) side of the stadium.

LYRES!!
Members of the following sections must have working lyres: Clarinet, Sax, Trumpet, and Trombone. Lyres are provided for school owned Mellphones and Marching Baritones.

IMPORTANT!!! PERSONALLY OWNED UNIFORM ITEMS
Be sure to read each of the order forms carefully and order all the required items. Fill out the forms, attach check or money order to each (separate checks), and mail back immediately. We need these back as soon as possible. Please do not combine payment into one check. We have 3 separate vendors for these items.

This year we are moving to what we’re calling LEASH GEAR for our summer type uniform. This takes the place of the khakis and polos from past years. Check the order forms for a more complete description.

DORM CHECK-IN
One of the ways we are dealing with our budget crisis is by shortening our usual band camp. We will coordinate the beginning of our band camp to correspond with the published opening of the dorms and food service. I encourage you to check in on the first day of availability, Friday, September 4.

Check the band camp schedule for more details.

MUSIC, PART ASSIGNMENT, AND MEMORIZATION

ROOKIE WINDS ONLY
Rookie winds should find music for memorization accompanying this letter in the packet. Rookies winds report to band check-in with instrument and music. Be prepared to play your memorization work when asked. Try your best to get these parts memorized. You should find parts for “Tech Fight”, “Go Dogs”, and “Alma Mater”.

Part assignments are made for the good of the band and may not reflect your true standing in relation to others in your section. Good players are needed on every part. When we get to Concert Season, our auditions will sort out the true standings.

MEMORIZATION FOR ALL
Begin memorizing the words to the Tech Alma Mater and the Tech Fight Song before arriving. These and several other tunes are available as mp3’s on the main band website: [http://band.latech.edu]

ALMA MATER
Oh, Tech, thy halls so beautiful,
Thy pleasant walks, thy noble trees,
That charmed me in my college days,
Are ever dear to me.

Louisiana Tech, I love thee,
My Alma Mater, My Alma Mater.
I will ever loyal be,
To thee, my Alma Mater.

Oh, T e c h, thy halls so beautiful,
Thy pleasant walks, thy noble trees,
That charmed me in my college days,
Are ever dear to me.

Louisiana Tech, I love thee,
My Alma Mater, My Alma Mater.
I will ever loyal be,
To thee, my Alma Mater.
TECH FIGHT SONG

Fight! Fight! Fight! for old Red and Blue.
Show your might and we'll root for you.
Get on your toes when you meet your foes
and don't let them go through.

TECH! TECH! TECH!

Hit those lines like good old canines.
Break through for a touchdown or two 4, 6, 8!!!

Hold up your chin and let's all go in,
To win for our Red and Blue!

BAND CAMP THOUGHTS

Makes sure you have tennis shoes, athletic shoes or other appropriate footwear for all marching rehearsals (including socks). Boots, sandals, leather street shoes, etc., are not acceptable.

Purchase a small water bottle, squeeze bottle, or canteen for your personal water needs during rehearsals.

Be prepared to play 4 to 6 hours a day. Start getting in shape for this. Band Camp rehearsals are held in the hot, Louisiana sun. If you are not conditioned to the out of doors, bring protective clothing and sun screen or lotion. Hats are also a tremendous help. Marching rehearsals are rigorous and hot, hot, hot.

HOOP TROOP

Hoop Troop is fun!!!

All members of the marching band are members of the Hoop Troop and will be required to participate in 4-5 basketball games during the basketball season. We will still have a dedicated cadre of Hoop Troopers who will be regulars.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Mr. Gibbs continues to build upon the outstanding tradition of leading one of the most outstanding Jazz Ensembles at the college level. Auditions for the Jazz Ensemble will be held on Fee Payment day, the day before the start of classes. Information and audition materials will be available upon your arrival for Band Camp. These materials can be found on the main bulletin boards in the first floor hallway. If you have any other questions, please contact Mr. Gibbs.
CODA

New Mellophones

I can hardly wait to see our new mellophones on the field. Thanks to a generous donation we were able to replace our mellos with top of the line instruments built to the specifications of the Phantom Regiment.

Carpeting

Through the generosity of the same donor, we have replaced the carpet in BB108 and the carpet in the band offices. We are waiting on the painters to complete our renovation.

Water Tower

The water tower that has been such a fixture behind the band building was brought down yesterday, intentionally.

Final Thoughts

It's gonna be a great year, I can tell. We've always been able to do more with less and this year will give us an opportunity to live up to that tradition.

See you soon. Get those forms back to us as soon as you can!!

Jim Robken
Director of Bands
Louisiana Tech University
Louisiana Tech University
Band of Pride Staff

Administrative Staff
WhipCharles Lee
PhotographerHailee McCune
SoundSeth Bond
Auxiliary StaffOpen
VideographerAlyssa Manning

Support Staff
Uniform
Megan O’Neal
Carly Queen
Elise Endel

Equipment
Jeremy Williams
Justin Blue
Cameron Allgood

Library
Tiffany Woda
Rachel McNair
Erika Anderson

Percussion Equipment
Adam Waldon
Morgan Rodgers

Leadership Staff
Drum Majors
Courtney Robinson
Heather Broadwell
Tim Pardue

Guard
Taylor Hamilton
Heather Galando

Flute
Rachel Drella
Elizabeth Drobina

Clarinet
Jessica Tham
Luke Ellard

Alto Sax
Jeff Nugent
Howard Gauley

Trumpet
C.J. Pernici
Ben Ellard
Josh Hires

Mellophone
Adam Brown
Jacob Barrett

Leadership Staff (Con’t)
Trombone
Jeremy Williams
Josh Becker

Baritone
Daniel Coker

Tuba
Katrina Neal
Robert Jones

Percussion
TBA
Please make checks payable to: LATECH BAND

Mail this form with full payment attached above in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope by Friday, August 21st
Louisiana Tech University Marching Band of Pride  
TAU BETA SIGMA Band T-shirt (optional)

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PLEASE: Only one member per form

Proceeds go to support the Band of Pride. We encourage all friends and family to show their Tech spirit with a Band of Pride T-shirt.

Sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

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Total

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **Tau Beta Sigma**

Mail this form with full payment attached above in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope by Friday, August 21st.
Louisiana Tech University Marching Band of Pride
LEASH GEAR 2009

First Name  Last Name

Phone Number  CheckNo./ Amount of Payment
Money Order  Enclosed (No cash please)

PLEASE INDICATE THE APPROPRIATE SIZES ON EACH ITEM BELOW

THESE ITEMS ARE REQUIRED AS INDICATED

1. **NEW ITEM!!! LEASH GEAR Shirt** ...........................................................................10.00 per shirt
   (moisture management T-shirt, preshrunk)
   NEW - **Everyone must order** except Drum Majors, Twirler - we will wear these shirts for pep rallies, game day rehearsals, football games, and Hoop Troop games. Purchasing more than one of these shirts is highly recommended because of heavy use.
   - sizes  S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL
   | Quantity | Size | Cost |

2. **NEW ITEM!!! LEASH GEAR Shorts** ..........................................................................15.00 per pair
   (Tricot mesh shorts with 9” inseam with 3 pockets, preshrunk)
   NEW - **Everyone must order** except Drum Majors, Twirler - we will wear these shorts for pep rallies, game day rehearsals, football games, and Hoop Troop games. Purchasing more than one of these shorts is highly recommended because of heavy use.
   - sizes  S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL
   | Quantity | Size | Cost |

3. **NEW ITEM!!! LEASH GEAR Cap** ...........................................................................8.00 per cap
   NEW - **Everyone must order** except Drum Majors, Twirler, Color Guard, Tubas - we will wear these caps for pep rallies, game day rehearsals, football games, and Hoop Troop games.
   - one size fits all
   | Quantity | Cost |

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **GREEN SPORTS**

Mail this form with full payment attached above in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope by **Friday, August 21st.**

Please note that once your order is received, there will be NO MONETARY REFUNDS.
Louisiana Tech University Marching Band of Pride
Personal Measurement Form

First Name    Last Name

The following information will be used to assign your marching uniform.

Please do not guess!!! Use a seamstress measuring tape or visit your local tuxedo rental shop for exact measurements

Gender:  ○ Male  ○ Female

Estimated Size (please circle one):  S  M  L  XL  XXL  XXXL

Height in inches  Weight in pounds

Chest in inches  Waist in inches

Inseam in inches (inside of thigh to top of foot)

I request to keep the uniform that was assigned to me last fall

Head size in inches (around head where a cap would go)

Return completed form in self-addressed return envelope.