

The Winds of Freedom Blow!

*News for Alumni and Supporters of the
Leland Stanford Junior (pause) University Marching Band*

March 2010

Football Makes Bowl Game! Band Goes Undefeated!



Photo by Al Ponce.

The real reason Pete Carroll now coaches the Seahawks.

Hello dear friends,

Happy March to you, and consider this a St. Patrick's Day *slainte* from your neighborhood Alumni Relations. Nice to meet you, by the way. My name is Claire, and I'm class of '11 and a ClarPic.

This year's been pretty darn eventful, actually. Last winter we followed a lot of successful athletic teams to the four corners of California and the rest of the country, including women's volleyball to the Final Four in Omaha, and women's basketball to LA, San Diego, Berkeley, and finally St. Louis and the Final Four. The men's basketball team also got a post-season, but no one really remembered the name of the tournament.

We enthusiastically improved hundreds if not thousands of lives in our traditional round of rallies for good and noble causes in the spring, like the rally for Turkish children (who have still not produced our baklava), the Marin Special Olympics, and bringing funk to the funkless in an All Palo Alto. We also attended Davis Day. This year, they imposed a 9 pm ceasefire on our Battle, probably to avoid demonstrating conclusively that we play harder, better, faster, stronger and longer than they.

In April, we traversed the length of the west coast to attend Honk!Fest West in Seattle, a fantastic gathering and showcasing of "street bands" that would have been disastrous had it not been for the large number of bandies living in the area with generous families who put us up. And though all of the bands attending the fest were fully funk-filled, our particular thrift-store, college-marinated brand of funk was in short supply, and we distributed it without mercy. They even invited us back next year, so we probably didn't damage too many important eardrums.

We also played at a laundry list of smaller sports this year, and here it is: women's rugby, men's water polo, women's field hockey, women's lacrosse, women's soccer, a squash match (with some interesting acoustics), and one memorable hockey match, where we took the opportunity to transform our lowly earthbound existences into the stunningly beautiful and astonishingly uninjured Band On Ice.

Summer held many surprises for the Band Management got itself shaken up a bit. The previous manager was unable to continue through football as expected, so our then-Ass Man Tim Haefele rose to the occasion and Managed us through the summer and fall. Drum Major Byron Vosburg took a turn as Ass Major to fill out the triumvirate during the summer. Then Ben "Ditto" Lasley landed back in Band after a 2-year stint on the east coast and started his Ass Man term at the beginning of football season. Tim and Ditto

ride triumphantly into basketball season '10 having thoroughly broken in their Management roles.

We played at the men's United States vs. China volleyball match, hosted in the Event Center Arena in San Jose, leading our country to victory and proving our national sovereignty in volleyball beyond doubt. Continuing a long tradition the band performed again at the Redwood City 4th of July Parade, shocking many with a longboarding tree and entertaining the masses in the post parade battle.

We opened for Tower of Power at the San Mateo Fair in August, got front row seats for their concert, and met them after the show. They agreed to perform with us on the field during a football game (something that has not happened yet, but on which we've not given up hope), and one band member walked away wearing the lead singer's pants. It was perhaps our finest moment.

A wealthy alumnus took the guest list of his daughter's wedding on Martha's Vineyard into his own hands and flew 32 band members across the country to play at her reception. We dropped jaws in Hahvahd Squaeh, navigated complicated public transportation in the pouring rain, and consumed an enormous quantity of lobster. Truly a quintessential east coast experience.

And then the school year commenced and we returned to the stands of the football stadium with renewed passion and steadfast belief in Jim Harbaugh, Andrew Luck and Toby Gerhart. And what a football season it was! With 7 home games, 2 road trips and a bowl game, we certainly logged a lot of hours in uniform this fall. Our first Road Trip was to Oregon State, where tragically the traditional relationship between Beavers and Trees held true.

But on Road Trip Dos, Toby Gerhart personally stormed the LA Coliseum and we demolished the Trojans 55-21, scoring the most points anyone has scored at home against USC, in the history of college football, ever. Our halftime field show extolled the merits of an unsavory USC alum, Joe Francis, the founder of the Girls Gone Wild franchise, and it received rave reviews and outraged complaints from our fans and USC fans, respectfully. All in all, a perfect trip.

As if you would believe the band only played at football games these days, the fall months were also spent performing at a rally supporting the Save the Music benefit in October and at the Los Gatos Christmas Parade where we mounted a flat bed truck and brought merriment to hundreds.

7 home games and 2 road trips weren't enough, so the band joined the football team as it traveled to its first bowl game since 2001. With gusto the band stormed the Brut™ Sun Bowl in El Paso with young farts and old farts coming from all stretches of the country (and the world) to upstage those uptight fools from OU. With a group estimated at about 140 strong, the band looked and sounded strong, melting faces at two Battle of the Bands and upstaging David Archuleta at the half time show. All the while staying out of trouble with the Department of Homeland Security.

I hope you all had as good a year as we did. Happy New Year, and I'll see you all at Reunion 2010!

Claire Kouba
Class of 2011, Environmental Engineering
Alumni Relations <ar@lsjumb.com>



Photo by Al Ponce

You know you want to come to Reunion and hang out with him/her/
insert pronoun of your choice (photo by Al Ponce).

All Hail the Dark Lord of the Seth!



Put down the accordion. Slowly.

Now that I've been the new guy for over a year, it's about time I formally informally introduced myself to all of you. I'm known within LSJUMB circles as either "the man," "the new Chris Griffith," "the new Bryan Schell," or "that guy who looks like a current student, but never wears rally." My name is Seth Snyder, and I'm the Advisor to the Band. That means, among other things, I have the privilege of: liaising with the athletic department on behalf of Band, helping Staph finalize details for performances, chatting with LAPD on football road trip, arranging promotional opportunities with ESPN, telling the story of the band revolution and the Tree to potential Barnes Fund Donors at Final Four happy hours, taking angry phone calls from alumni of other schools who get upset by field shows, working

with Giancarlo, and trying to demonstrate that having fun and being safe are not mutually exclusive concepts.

Dean Chris Griffith and I make up the two-person "Student Life" division within student affairs, and we recently moved to new offices in Old Union. This will undoubtedly add to ongoing confusion about whether or not I work for OSA (which I don't). Mi oficina es su oficina, and I can be found in room 209 above the Axe and Palm. You'll see me at nearly all Stanford sporting events at which Band is present and also at occasional rallies off-campus when my schedule permits, so feel free to introduce yourself to the tall skinny white guy with short hair who's equally likely to be cheering, snapping photos, or inconspicuously rocking out somewhere near the Band.

It's been a great 15 months, and I'm proud of the progress that both the leadership and the rank-and-file Band members have made in recent years. We're starting to build trust around campus, fewer (non-USC and non-Kal) people seem to hate us, little kids still love us, and other schools' bands are getting in the trouble we used to. The athletic department even added "Band Fund Raiser" to the job description of one of their development officers (Heather Owen, a former Cardinal hoops star), so we're quite pleased to have more people in DAPER (the official acronym for the AD) on our side. Speaking of which, please don't hesitate to contact our friends in the athletic department when the Band does something well. Plenty of folks in high places like the President, the Alumni Association and the Athletic Director hear complaints about Band appearance, half-time shows, lack of military precision, etc..., but accumulated positive feedback can go a long way too.

Until next time, stay funky and avoid the spiritual paralysis known as taking oneself too seriously.

Peace,
S.E.T.H. (Substantive Emissary To Horns)

Seth Snyder
scsnyder@stanford.edu

SBABble: News from the Stanford Band Alumni Board, a.k.a. the People You Gave Your Hard-Earned Money To, So Why the Cheap Newsletter?

Hi Folks! Greg Loudon here. For those who don't know me, Drum Major '90, and for the time being Chair of the Stanford Band Alumni Board. I wanted to give all the alums and friends of the LSJUMB news from the "support the Band" front.

As always, there's some good and some less-than-good news out there. The best good news is on the budgetary front; thanks to the generosity of the Band's supporters, the fiscal restraint shown by previous editions of the Band's staph, and the overall good stewardship of LSJUMB funds by prior chairs and members of the Alumni Board, the Band is actually in fairly decent financial shape. They haven't had to make major cutbacks in activities for financial reasons, and actually are starting to embark on a program of hopefully regular instrument purchases and retirements. I know, shocking. But Band management and the Alum Board are working to replace about 20% of the Band's instruments per year, beginning this past summer. Oooh, shiny.

In a similar vein, student support for the Band remains strong, as the ASSU special fee assessment supporting LSJUMB is always among the top vote-getters on the ballot.

The not-so-good news comes from the financially-strapped Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation. Given their budgetary problems, and the Band's relative fiscal strength, the Athletic Department has decided to limit their support of Band travel over the last two years to one football roadtrip. All other Band travel has to be supported by Band monies. What does that mean? It means the Band has paid for its own trips to Big Game in Berkeley, to all of the rivalry games at Cal for men's and women's basketball, to support women's volleyball at Cal and in the NCAA tournament,

and finally this year for a second trip to support the football team in their oh-so-schadenfreudely satisfying victory at the University of Spoiled Children.

The good news is that, in the short term, the band has the money to cover these costs. The bad news? Trying to pin the AD down on the restoration of these funds once they've righted their fiscal ship is tough. The board, along with Seth Snyder and Band director Giancarlo Aquilanti, is working on these issues, with some solid support among other Stanford actors.

So much for the dry stuff. On a more fun note, we're also engaged in planning the next Band reunion for this fall. We'll be getting more information out on it very quickly, but please save the dates October 22-24, 2010. And for those of you with unpleasant memories of the problems at the last reunion, some good news. There are new folks on the operations side of the Athletic Department who are MUCH easier to work with, which gives me hope that things will go much more smoothly this fall.

I hope to see you all in October. If you want to get in touch, try greg.louden@stanfordalumni.org.

Best,

G



Please remember to save the date for the next Band Reunion:

Homecoming Weekend Fall 2010
Friday-Sunday, October 22-24

More information coming soon!

On the web at lsjumb.com/reunion or email reunion@lsjumb.com

Current members of the Stanford Band Alumni Board include:

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We're happy to respond to your questions, issues and requests for meetings over recreational beverages (preferably the latter).

Thanks to the following for their great service to the Band through serving on the SBAB

Frank Robertson	Kern Lewis	Chris Quaintance
Amy Blasberg	John Mannion	Josh Schiller
Steve Blasberg	Wendy Marinaccio	Caroline Scott
Jonrie Davila	Alan Mela	Scott Stanford
Scott DeBarger	Kathy Neal	Terrill Tanaka
Carrie Edwards	Patrick Neschleba	Chris Yates
Karen Hurst	Rick Pam	

**You guys rock. And thereby help
LSJUMB to continue to do so.**