

# The Winds of Freedom Blow!

News for Alumni and Supporters of the  
Leland Stanford Junior University Marching Band

VOLUME LXXIX, ISSUE I

WINTER 2011

## ROCK YOU LIKE A HURRICANE

by Joel Knudson, '02, MA'11

"I tell ya, nobody played as hard as your band did over there... including your football team!" proclaimed ESPN analyst Lou Holtz during the post-Orange Bowl celebration. And so it came to pass that the coach who roamed the Notre Dame sideline while Eric Selvik was parading about in a nun's habit became the LSJUMB's newest fan.

Its has been a blistering start to the school year. The Band came back from a summer break that featured traditional appearances at the San Francisco AIDS Walk, the Redwood City Fourth of July Parade, and a new adventure at the Red Bull Grand Prix at Laguna Seca, then jumped into an explosion of fall trips.

A small crew trekked down to the Rose Bowl before the quarter began to serenade the football team as it dismantled UCLA. Then, just two weeks into school, 170 crammed into buses for a scenic roadside tour of Yreka and Grants Pass before finally settling in Eugene. Among the highlights of Oregon Road Trip were an ESPN College Game Day appearance and a record for push-ups done by a Tree. Add in the mass of 200 that jumped across the bay for Big Game, and we had a quarter of splitting eardrums and the beginnings of permanent hearing loss.

Of course, it all pales in comparison to the Orange Bowl. Nobody loves us like we love us, but Miami came close. Starring performances at a Miami Heat game and in a rally up and down South Beach were fitting preludes to the Orange Bowl itself. The Band ended months of speculation and media hype by announcing that we were taking our talents to South Beach. (See page 4 for a YouTube link.) Fans in Cleveland were devastated, but the mayor of Coral Gables



had nothing but good things to say. So there's that.

Looking back is fun, but looking forward might be even shinier. Among the thousands of miles of travel, bloody lips, and GPA devastation, fall quarter brought an avalanche of new freshmen onto the scene. More than 60 made the Orange Bowl trip, and it seems safe to say that close to 80 are in it for the long haul. If you somehow survived 2010 without a set of earplugs, now might be the time to invest.

While the students enjoyed the hell out of fall quarter, we also owe a special debt of gratitude. At a time when the Athletic Department is financially strapped, we were able to maintain the fall road trip tradition through generous alumni support. We are also grateful for the Old Farts who turned out over winter break to help us at basketball games, especially for the men's contest against Cal when most students were soaking in the sun on South Beach. Thank you for everything you do to help us follow in your stumbling footsteps. We hope you'll drop by and say hi when you're around.

# WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE

*Embracing the Unknown, or Lessons from Halfway Through Frosh Year*

by Theo Roth, '14

I have no idea what I'm doing. Not because I'm wedged. (Well, like most frosh, I am indeed wedged a significant amount of the time, but I'm pretty sure most everybody is. Hell, it's the AssMan's name). I have no idea what's going on because that is what freshman year in band is all about. From showing up at Frosh Rehearsal at 7:00 just like the sheet said and wondering where the hell everyone is (learned what ATS meant a few hours later), to asking random upperclassmen what "pizza" is (pretty sure it actually is pizza), to spending half of basketball season trying to figure out what it was everybody said after a three pointer ("Bonco Sweeney, Sweeney Bonco" ...I think. Why? Still working on that), my freshman year has been a crash course in cultural immersion.

Nothing can prepare you to become a member of The One, The Only, The Truly Incomparable LSJUMB, and I'm convinced high school marching band actually set me back a bit. But once you are beyond the awkward feeling of knowing absolutely nothing about what is happening around you (a.k.a. Oregon Road Trip), you realize you've found something quite special. Band to me isn't an activity or a resume stuffer like it was in high school, it's not just a group of friends screwing around, and it's not simply a release from all of the stress and pressure that every Stanford student feels. Somehow, it is a combination of all of those things and more, and I feel sorry for the rest of my class who don't realize what they are missing.

Band is my release, bandies are my friends, Band is my culture. I introduce myself as a member of LSJUMB, and on the field, in the stands, or at a rally, people see me just as much one of those crazy guys in red blazers as the sexion leaders, the upperclassmen, or the manager. Yet, their perception is off, because I still have two more quarters until my crash course in band is over.



Right now, I'm still glancing over at my sexion leader to get choreography right, I'm still following old people around to figure out where the hell I'm supposed to be, essentially I'm still figuring out what exactly I'm doing. But that's the way it should be. Band doesn't get old after two quarters. (Apparently, it takes a year of sexion leading for it to get old, based on Ex-Sex's attendance record). Heck, it has barely started. Because it's only after you learn what happens on road trips, on game days, during basketball and volleyball (and god forbid soccer) games, on ski trip, at Dollie Day, and on PAC 10s that you really begin to feel you're a part of band. Only after the confusion abated did I really get to know the people in my sexion, my frosh class (hello PunchLine),

the upperclassmen, and even the Old Fartz.

Essentially, my Frosh year has been confusion, followed by learning (and sometimes a hard kick), followed by more confusion, and loving it the whole time. I've found the culture that will inevitably define my four years at Stanford. However, in the meantime, since I'm still learning, does anybody know what happens at Davis Day? Because I have no idea.

# MY OLD SCHOOL

An Auto-Interview with(in)the Alum Board's Unofficial Alumni Relations Relations

by Tania Perry, '99

**Plot Device Interviewer:** Hello, and thanks for meeting with me.

**Tania:** My pleasure.

**PDI:** Let's begin with the question on everyone's mind - what exactly is Alumni Relations Relations?

**Tania:** I'd say my role is a bridge between the LSJUMB alumni and the current Band. While there has nearly always been an Alumni Relations positions on Staph, that position is held by a student and approached from a student's perspective. I approach things from an alum's perspective as well as provide an extra set of hands to AR. Well-seasoned hands, not that simple salt-and-pepper right-out-of-school. More like freshly ground black pepper with an undertone of molasses and a slight hint of Guinness.

**PDI:** Um... So, talk about this past reunion. How many people attended?

**Tania:** 'Bout 350. Musicians, that is, plus another 60 or so Dollies.

**PDI:** Wow, that's pretty large.

**Tania:** That's what she said.

**PDI:** No, what I meant was... nevermind. Anyway, what has the feedback been like?

**Tania:** Overall, extremely positive. The dinner and slide show were a huge hit. In accordance with feedback, we're soliciting photos from the early days of the Band. And as for the game, with Evil Person™ no longer around to sow the seeds of hatred, disdain, and doom that can instantly grow into tall and bitter anger flowers, we got into the stadium with time to spare and performed both shows. There is always room for improvement, though, and as ARR I've already recruited another alum to help tackle some of the things that need to be done 2-3 years in advance for the 2013 Reunion. Once we get the large logistics hammered out, we'll certainly be looking for more help before the next Reunion AR is selected in November 2012. But the most curious complaints about this reunion were about the amount of mayo on the game day sandwiches.

**PDI:** You mentioned the 2013 Reunion - do you have the dates for that? What are you estimating the attendance to be?

**Tania:** Actually, we do have the dates - Friday and Saturday, October 18-19, 2013. We're also looking to add in one more event, possibly a Sunday brunch or something on Thursday. Time and energy permitting, maybe even a Gusto. Our attendance goal: 1000. Yes, you heard me correctly. 1000. That does include 100+ Dollies, so in addition to a wall of sound people will see more white Nikes than at... I don't know. A Heaven's Gate convention? Regardless, it will be freakin' AWESOME.

**PDI:** As the ARR - ha ha, I just got that, it's a pirate sound and you're a Bone and Bonz are pirates, cute - what do you see yourself doing during your time on the Board?

**Tania:** Ultimately I see myself trying to figure out how to keep everyone connected. Since the best medium for that is booze and the second best is competition, we just did a run of Old Fartz Gusto shirts. Once upon a before your time, Old Fartz would come together and travel to a pre-season basketball tournament and it would be nice to have that return. I'm also helping keep people informed of games where Old Fartz reinforcements are needed, like during holiday breaks. I'd like to establish a way to keep people who live out of the area informed about when the Band will be in their neck of the woods, especially if the current Band needs a little housing help. We've gotten started on a Facebook presence, but there is much more social media to fiddle with.

**PDI:** Well, it looks like we're about out of time.

**Tania:** Out of time? It's been like five minutes. We hardly talked.

**PDI:** Yeah, but I'm pretty sure that you've talked enough to fill your allotted space in the newsletter.

**Tania:** Whatever. Just make sure you don't cut anything out. Especially that part about the

## LELAND STANFORD JUNIOR UNIVERSITY MARCHING BAND

PO Box 17930  
Stanford, CA 94309  
Phone: 650-SKEGF0D

[www.lsjumb.com](http://www.lsjumb.com)

Band Manager: Ben "Ditto" Lasley  
blasley@stanford.edu  
Alumni Relations: Joel Knudson  
jknudson@stanford.edu



## WE LOVE US SOME US

*Stalking your favorite band on the internet*

### Most Outrageous Marching Band in the Land Struts into Miami

*Miami Herald*

January 1, 2011

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/01/01/1996877/most-outrageous-marching-band.html>

### Orange Bowl Pregame Show

*Sun Life Stadium*

January 4, 2011

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7lekj0W\\_qPw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7lekj0W_qPw)

### Stanford Tree Takes on the Virginia Tech Hokie-Bird

*Sun Life Stadium*

January 4, 2011

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VE1ic3kXmjo&feature=feedu>

"After seeing friends and acquaintances, the number one highlight of a Stanford tailgate is the presence/performance of the LSJUMB. This typically is referenced as excitement, energy and electricity."

- Stanford Alumni Association Orange Bowl Survey Results



Leland Stanford Junior University Marching Band  
PO Box 17930  
Stanford, CA 94309

