

Eagle Band News 2006-2007

2007 STATE SOLO & ENSEMBLE:

Austin on May 26, 2007.

+ Student received a superior rating on a memorized solo performance

* Student received a superior rating on an ensemble performance **Simonne Bailey***; **Michael Bryan***; **Jacob Bryant+***; **Kimberley Campbell***; **Isaac Cerpa***; **Callie Davenport+***; **Billy Finney+***; **D'Ira Finney***; **Charles Freeman***; **Amber Hardy***; **Mateo Huerta***; **Jordan Johansen***; **Allison Killian+***; **Elizabeth Lara***; **Lawrence McClure***; **Kendall McGill***; **Uchenna Nwaizu***; **Patrick Robinson***; **Gabrielle Royal+***; **Xavier Sigler***; **Martha Simmons+***; **Alex Vickery***.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADS:

their diploma's on Thursday, May 24th. Included in the top ten students were Amanda Mauldin, Nikki Gafford and Jordan Johansen (valedictorian.) We are proud of ALL of our band seniors and their accomplishments this year. Good luck in the future.

2007 BOA NATIONAL HONOR BAND:

McGill (tuba), Hector Matos (clarinet), Hakeem Davidson (clarinet), Martha Simmons (trumpet) and Jordan Johansen (horn) for qualifying this year. Concert performance will be Saturday, March 17. The DeSoto group flew to Indianapolis Wednesday morning, March 14th. They had some time in the afternoon before chair auditions so they checked out the Mall. Some of you will remember the great trip to BOA when the Wind Symphony performed in 2005. Martha and Jordan will phone in reports as the festival continues! Thursday morning is Sectionals...Friday is Masterclasses... Saturday night: Our six DeSoto band students have been working very hard. Tons of rehearsal time, sectionals, master classes, more rehearsal time.....The concert will be finished soon. The Simmons family is attending the concert tonight and will report in and also send pictures. Jordan reported in to say the concert was SO good. It was clean and just so amazing! She said it was better than last year (which was reported to be excellent.) Pictures will follow!

JEFF NELSEN VISITS DESOTO WIND SYMPHONY CLASS:

Indiana University Horn Professor Jeff Nelsen presented his "Fearless" presentation to the Wind Symphony on Friday March 9th, 2007. Professor Nelsen was in town to perform a solo with the GDYO Wind Symphony on Sunday, March 11. He played his encore, which included passages of singing and playing at the same time! Most impressive! Jeff talked about how to warm up properly, and how to present yourself at performance time. Remember the magic line! The DeSoto brass quintet and clarinet quartet performed for the class as Jeff offered ideas for presenting themselves at performance time. To read more about Jeff Nelsen, visit his website at



www.jeffnelsen.com

UIL Solo & Ensemble was held at DeSoto H.S. on Saturday March 3, 2007. Congratulations to the following students:

Earning a Rating of 1 on a Class 1 Solo:

Amber Hardy, Kimberley Campbell, Andrea Brandt, Mayra Becerra, Faith Rogers, Elijah Bell-Clarke, Averic Watkins, Matthew Taylor, Aysha Welch, Timothy Bailey & Billy Finney.

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Earning a Rating of 1 on a Class 1 Solo Memorized and going to State:

Liz Lara, Alexys Maritt, Uchenna Nwaizu, Alexandra Vickery, Kristie White, Melissa Delaney, Haley King, Hakeem Davidson, Hector Matos, Callie Davenport, Jae Nam, Allison Killian, Travis Lubbe, Gabrielle Royal, Martha Simmons, Jordan Johansen, Charles Freeman, Xavier Sigler, Jacob Bryant & Isaac Cerpa.

Ensembles Earning a 1 and going to State:

Clarinet Quartet: Toi Anderson, Kyra Farmer, Jade Gray, Jelisa Jones

Mixed Clarinet Quartet: Amber Clayborn, Hakeem Davidson, Mirachal Johnson, Hector Matos

Flute Choir: Kimberley Campbell, Jasmine Gaines, Amber Hardy, Liz Lara, Uchenna Nwaizu, Alexandra Vickery

Trumpet Quartet: Elijah Bell-Clarke, Allison Killian, Travis Lubbe, Gabrielle Royal

Brass Quintet: Charles Freeman, Mateo Huerta, Jordan Johansen, Kendall McGill, Martha Simmons

Percussion Ensemble: Ashton Betts, Michael Bryan, Isaac Cerpa, Billy Finney, D'Ira Finney, Patrick Robinson, Xavier Sigler, Billy Stevenson

Congratulations to **Jordan Johansen, Melissa Delaney, Kendall McGill, Martha Simmons and Charles Freeman** for making it to the Area competition this year.

Congratulations to **Jordan Johansen** for earning first chair French Horn at the All Region Orchestra try-outs on Thursday, November 9th in Duncanville. The All Region Orchestra concert will be held at Nimitz High School in Irving on Saturday, November 18th at 4:00pm.

Congratulations to the Eagle Band for earning **Grand Champions of the Aledo "Unleash The Sound" Marching Festival** on Saturday, November 4th with their "Ellis Island" show. The band earned the Outstanding Music Award, Outstanding Marching Award and the Outstanding General Effects Award. Congratulations on a great season band.

Congratulations to **Senior Jordan Johansen** who was recognized at the Oct. 27th football game for her Academic Achievement. Jordan is currently ranked number 1 in her graduating class. Jordan honored head Eagle Band Director Mr. Harry D. Blake at the game. Congratulations to Jordan and her family for her outstanding achievement! Mama Jo is VERY proud!

CONGRATULATIONS EAGLE BAND on earning a **Division 1** at the Region 20 UIL Marching Contest on Saturday, October 14th in Duncanville. Area UIL competition will be held Saturday, October 28th in Mesquite.

Check out www.dallasnews.com Click on SportsDay, then Desoto and see the band/football video from the Cedar Hill game - featuring the percussion!!! Go Eagle Band!

Congratulations to Band President **Martha Simmons** **Student of the Year** award on October 9th. We are proud of you!



Our fearless Band President, Martha Simmons!

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The 19th annual **DeSoto Marching Classic** was a huge success! Held Oct. 7th at Eagle Stadium, the weather was perfect and we congratulate Clear Brook High School from Houston on their excellent performance and Grand Champion win. The Eagle Band performed for exhibition and "Ellis Island" is really coming together. Thank you to our judges, directors, band students, alumni, and boosters for their dedication and hard work.

Congratulations to **Senior Nikki Gafford** who was recognized at the Sept. 29th football game for her Academic Achievement. Nikki is currently number 3 in her graduating class. Nikki honored her French teacher Mrs. Pierce at the game. Congratulations to Nikki and her family for her outstanding achievement!

REHEARSAL THEMES: Tacky Day – Christmas Day – Opposite Day

