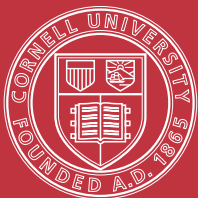


Big Red Band Notes



Cornell University

Summer 2011

2011 Big Red Band Staff

Head Manager: Jennifer Goforth '13

Drum Major: Jessica Reno '13

Head Field Manager: Duncan Hall '14

Treasurer: Nicholas Lamson '14

Show Committee: John Flanagan '12, Jennifer Davis '12

Alumni Relations: Kathryn Abbott '12, James Feld '13

Uniform Chairs: Samantha Dean '12, Jessica Landis '14, Peter Galbo '14

Equipment Chairs: Cameron Glass '13, Ethan Green '14

Librarian: Anna Wideska '14, Shelby Hulett '14

Publicity: Steven Albanese '14, Mary Andrews '14

Historian: Natasha Steinhall '14, Frances Lu '12

Fundraising: Marissa Esthimer '12, Sheila Garcia '13

Secretary: Alexandra Simpson '13

Social: Jay Weeks '12, Keith Marschner '12, Scott DeVries '13

Webmaster: Alec Story '12

2011 Pep Band Board

Pep Band Manager: Dan Charen '12

Treasurer: Steven Albanese '14

Librarians: Katie Zimmerman '12, Frances Lu '12

Secretary: Nathan Chertack '14

Historian: Mark Palmere '13

Equipment Chair: Nicholas Lamson '14

Fundraising Chair: Gregory Berman '12

Webmaster: Daniel Hodash '133

BRBAA Advisory Council

Chair: Eva Chiamulera '97

Vice-Chair: Tom LaFalce '94

Secretary: Rose Fehrman Potocky '06

Treasurer: Matt Caulfield '08

Events Chair: Scott Pesner '87

Resource Chair: Lowell Frank '99

At-Large Members: John Maltby '56, Marc Goldman '90, Patt Carr '96, Rich Hovorka '96

Band Advisor: Matt Coats

Band Musical Advisor: Mira Schifrin

Greetings from your alumni chairs



Kathryn and Jim

We would like to start off this spring's edition of *Band Notes* by thanking **Jen Fischell '13** and **Jen Warmingham '12** for being fabulous alumni relations chairs during the 2010 marching band season, and for doing such a great job with organizing Reunion and Homecoming. Hopefully we will successfully fill their shoes this year!

Hi, I'm **Kathryn Abbott '12** from Wilbraham, Mass. (the home of Friendly's Ice Cream), and I am a Plant Sciences and Viticulture and Enology double major in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. This is my third season playing baritone horn in the BRMB. You may have seen me as last season's trombone co-section leader or as the Spring '10 pep band conductor. I

look forward to meeting all of you and hearing your awesome stories! Feel free to contact me at kla52@cornell.edu with any questions, concerns, or if you just want to say hello!

Hi, I'm **James Feld '13** from Short Hills, N.J. I'm an Industrial and Labor Relations major in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations. This is my second season in the BRMB. This past season, I served as Head Field Manager, and I look forward to continuing servicing the BRMB as co-Alumni Relations chair. I play the tuba and my goal is to hopefully represent the hairy in all of my doings. I look forward to meeting all alumni. Contact me at jsf88@cornell.edu.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue of *Band Notes*, and we look forward to seeing you all at Reunion and Homecoming this year!

—*Kathryn Abbott '12 and James Feld '13*

Join Us at Reunion in June!

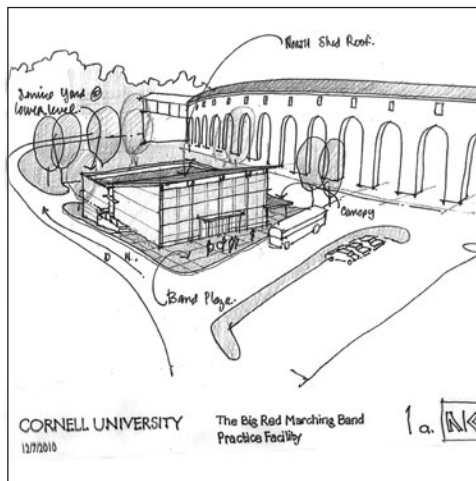
It's reunion time for alumni who graduated in years ending '1' and '6', and the Big Red Band wants to see you. Find out what's happening with the Big Red Band and Big Red Pep Band by meeting current students in the Barton Hall band room on **Saturday, June 11th from 11:30am-1:30pm**. Sandwiches and refreshments will be served, and you'll get an opportunity to find out more about the new band building. In addition, join members of the band as they play at the All-Alumni Lunch in Barton Hall. And you'll also see the Big Red Band play at Fun in the Sun on the Arts Quad during the afternoon.

THE CHAIR'S CORNER

When the Big Red Bands Alumni Association was formed 30 years ago, back in 1981, it was to guide the Big Red Band (as well as the Pep Band) and ensure its survival due to limited funding. In those 30 years, the band has thrived, thanks to the support of alumni who saw the need to support the band and students who are now alumni who saw the importance of giving their time and resources to make the bands better than they were when they were on the Hill. Over these three decades, the bands' resources have grown and (prior to the recession), the band's endowment exceeded \$1 million, beyond what the original founders of BRBAA and those students who helped to create it ever imagined.

I am now pleased to announce that 2011 will mark a pivotal moment in the history of the Big Red Bands. Although Barton Hall has been our home for many decades, it was never a great facility for the band, acoustically, ventilation-wise and especially in terms of storage space. It was always the dream of alumni for the band to have a better space for the only real marching band in the Ivy League, and today I want to share with you exciting news—that this dream is becoming a reality. I'm pleased to announce that the band will be relocating to a new location — its own building — outside the Schoellkopf Crescent, with construction slated to commence in 2012 (see artist's rendering, above).

The realization of this facility has been several years in the making, thanks to the leadership of **David '75** PhD '80 and **Sarah**



An artist's rendering of the proposed home of the Big Red Bands, to be built behind the crescent.

Thole Fischell '78. The creation of this building will be supported by you. We need our alumni to help the bands more than ever making additional donations beyond what you give annual to the band (we need you to keep making these gifts as well!). A special fundraising committee has been formed to reach out to you to make these donations. I have asked former drum major **Bill Welker '73** and former head manager **Barbara Werner Mazziotti '86** to lead this effort. We also need you to help make this building come to life. You'll be hearing more about these efforts in the months to come. We are working to ensure that the history of the bands will be on display in the new facility, so we will be calling on many of you to share your memorabilia and photos.

The new facility is also reason to celebrate. During this year's Homecoming weekend (September 17), we will have a ceremonial groundbreaking and are inviting alumni from the band who marched during the 1970s to participate, as well as all former head managers, drum majors and pep band managers and conductors to attend. More information will be sent to these groups in the coming weeks, and general information about Homecoming is available in this issue of *Band Notes*. (Please note that this year's football game will be a night game).

We will have an even bigger celebration to cut the ribbon on the new band building. Then, we are asking ALL band alumni to come back to the Hill, to celebrate the past and the future of the Big Red Band and Big Red Pep Band.

We will provide you with continuous updates throughout the course of this exciting new project. Please check out the BRBAA website, and make sure you're a fan of the Big Red Band on Facebook (www.facebook.com/BigRedBand).

Thank you all for your support of the bands now and in the future. I hope to see many of you this coming September as we break ground on this exciting new chapter in the band's history.

—*Eva Chiamulera '97*

Chair, Big Red Bands Alumni Association

FROM THE LADDER

Wow, my time at Cornell is almost over and I am no longer standing in front of many red-clad people on a weekly basis. Time really does fly when you're having fun, and there is no shortage of that in the Big Red Band. If I had to describe this past marching season in a word I would have to choose: insanely awesome. Okay, so that's two words, but I had to say something other than epic!

While the football team got off to a slow start (and stayed there for pretty much the entire season), the band kicked off the season with our Superhero show. For those of you unable to attend Homecoming this year I will paint a quick picture for you. Imagine a band comprised of close to 200 student members

in addition to around 100 alumni (including close to 70 trumpets and 90 trombones!) rocking out to Pinball Wizard. Do you have goosebumps yet? I sure do just remembering the wall of sound that hit me during halftime that day.

We also brought this show to Harvard where we got a standing ovation from the entire stadium, and performed at Quincy Market for all the alumni and Bostonians to hear. The band overcame over three hours on the Mass-Pike yet again to put on one of the best concerts I have ever heard.

Once we returned from Harvard the season continued with our Video Game show

featuring two songs custom arranged by musicians in the band, followed by our Classical Music show. At this point in the season we also experienced our first (and only) football victory of the season against Princeton! I was beginning to wonder if the freshmen would ever experience the traditions involved with a Cornell football victory.

The season came to a close with the trip to Columbia and the spectacular Sy Katz '31 Parade down Fifth Avenue. It was an honor to lead this parade and be a part of the celebration outside of The Cornell Club-New York, where the spectators reached from the Cornell Club all the way up to Fifth Avenue. Once we returned to the Hill my daydreams of being schmeezed to "Defying Gravity" finally came true, although I couldn't really hear the song through all the wonderful food coming my way. The senior concert sounded fantastic, and I, for one, had so much fun singing and dancing to the Wicked medley that my smile lasted for the next few days.

Now that the season is over and my time up on the ladder is now limited to cameo aardvarking appearances, I can look back on the season and realize how incredibly awesome it was. It was an honor, privilege, and joy to stand in front of the best and loudest marching band in the Ivy League every week. I know that the band is now in great hands, and Jess, enjoy having the best seat in the house, the year will go much quicker than you think.

—Stephanie Richmond '11



Outgoing Drum Major Stephanie Richmond '10, about to conduct the band on Ho Plaza.

HEAD MANAGER PERSPECTIVE

Hello, I am **Lauren Mangano '11**, and I was the 2010 Big Red Marching Band head manager. During freshman

orientation, the Big Red Band was displaced from its prime location in front of the entrance to Bartels Hall and the recruitment tables were placed slightly off the beaten path. Members of the band despaired that we would not be able to recruit enough freshmen, but we had a gym full of freshmen sign up at registration and 105 new members at auditions. On Sunday, we managed to cram over 300 people into the Nines. Almost every uniform was assigned, and I worried that we would need an extra bus for trips.

Homecoming was the first game this year, and I had quite a lot on my hands—a large 200+ person band and a horde of alumni marching with us! However, it made for quite an impressive show when we arrived at Ho Plaza to lead the newly established Homecoming Parade. The whole band didn't even get into Willard Straight before we finished playing Davy! Thankfully the alumni chairs put together an excellent reception, so I did get a chance to relax over dessert. I also learned a valuable lesson: heels are not appropriate shoes for running up bleachers.

We had excellent trips this fall and I hope some of you managed to catch us. We traveled to Harvard in October, and in spite of ridiculous traffic entering Boston we were only half an hour late for our Quincy Market performance. The next day, we had the unique experience of performing at a Cornell football-themed wedding right before the game. I'm not sure if



The 2011 head manager Jen Goforth '13 (left), with the 2010 head manager Lauren Mangano '11 at Non-Sectarian.

the Big Red Band has performed at weddings before, but if any alum has a story to share, I would love to hear it! We traveled to Providence for the Brown game for the first time since 2006, but avoided the infamous death match from the practice fields to the stadium.

For the Columbia trip, the band traveled with four buses. After a week of planning, 200 band members marched down Fifth Avenue in the Sy Katz '31 parade, attracting the attention of hundreds of Cornell alums and New Yorkers who just happened to be passing by. Being a part of such an event is something that will stay with us long after we graduate, and this feeling will draw us back to New York City each November. I am so thankful to everyone who worked so hard to make it possible, including **Alice Katz Berglas '66, Bob Katz '69, Penny Haiken '65, Scott Pesner '87, Eva Chiamulera '97**, and the Cornell Club-New York.

While the season ended with a loss to Penn, the score didn't matter to the Big Red Band. During the game, the senior class celebrated four years in one of the most outstanding organizations I have ever seen. Running a marching band takes a lot of work from a lot of people, and I was continuously impressed by how many members of the band contributed to this task, regardless of whether or not they held a position on Bandstaph. I admit that during my freshman year, I thought I would need to be absolutely crazy to even consider running for head manager. Maybe I am completely insane, but serving as head manager was one of the best things I did while at Cornell. I am proud to have contributed something to the Big Red Band, since it has given so much to me.

—Lauren Mangano '11

PEP BAND UPDATE

As usual, the spring semester has been busy for the Pep Band. This year, the women's hockey program brought much excitement to Lynah Rink, finishing the regular season with only two losses and one tie, with 27 wins. We attended all of the home games and ECAC playoff games, and played at the first ever NCAA playoff game held at Lynah in the NCAA quarterfinals. During the first weekend of spring break, 25 members of the pep band made the short trip to Erie, Pa., to cheer on the team in our first, and the team's second women's hockey Frozen Four.

On the men's side, not all of us had given up hope on a hockey team that had last fall been in 11th- place, and we were rewarded with an exciting spring semester. The pep band trekked to Harvard/Dartmouth, RPI/Union, and Yale/Brown, and we watched a team that had only four wins last fall fight its way up and finish fourth in the regular season, and then make it all the way to the final round of the ECAC tournament held in Atlantic City.

The men's basketball team fell short of the high bar set by the team of the past three years but we were still there to see exciting games played at Newman. These included an overtime win over one of the traditional Ivy League powers, Penn, and a close loss (57-55) to the eventual Ivy champs, Princeton. And once again, we doubled up and had bands at both men's hockey and men's basketball for the Harvard/Dartmouth trip.

While the season was cut short early for the hockey teams, we were fortunate in being

able to send two bands to Atlantic City and Erie during the first weekend of spring break, and both young hockey teams give us a lot to be excited about for next season. Currently, the pep band is following the fortunes of the men's lacrosse team very closely. The Ivy

League is stronger than ever, but Big Red lacrosse is one of the top teams in the nation and a national powerhouse. And as always, if we are ever in town for an event, feel free to stop by and say hello!

—Dan Gu '12



The pep band, performed at the NCAA women's quarterfinal ice hockey game at Lynah Rink.

SENIOR REFLECTION



Sarah Johnson '11, playing tuba alongside Brock Mendoza '14.

I came to Cornell for the band. Oh sure, it had a good archaeology program and a beautiful campus, but so did lots of other schools I wanted to apply to. But as soon as I found out Cornell had a band, something none of the other schools had, I was sold. I was coming to Cornell and I was joining the band, and that was that.

Even with my high expectations, this band has come to mean so much more to me than I could have ever imagined. I didn't have any troubles adjusting to college life—I

had found my people from day one. The tuba section welcomed me into their warm, hairy embrace, and I became one of them. And it didn't take me long to meet other freshmen. These people got me in a way that few others did, and it shocked me how quickly and fiercely we became attached. The friendships I made during those first months still remain among my most important.

Of course, things change over the years. When you spend so much time around the same people, relationships can get strained. You can start to feel jaded about band. But

when your last home game comes around and you're singing the alma mater with your fellow seniors, knowing this is the last time you'll wear that uniform, all that jadedness falls away and you can't help, well, bawling your eyes out. And then comes our December party, and you stand up there and tell the freshmen that this is the best time of their lives, and you believe it with all your heart. There's something about this organization that makes you love it unconditionally.

—Sarah Johnson '11

The Big Red Bands Alumni Association

welcomes its newest members,
the Big Red Marching Band and
Big Red Pep Band Class of '11:

Adam Drenkard	Joe Montanino
Albert Chen	Kaitlyn Long
Alex Lazar	Katie Hamren
Anthony Ayers	Lauren Mangano
Barb Fallon	Lizzie Troyer
Brad Bartlett	Mark Broomfield
Brian Harding	Michael Hurd
Celeste Falcon	Michael Brancato
Chloe Potter	Michael Oleske
Dan Gu	Michael Schwendeman
Fancy Hat	Mo Chen
Eileen McIver	Nika Pcsolyar
Elise Newman	Sarah Johnson
Liz Alden	Scott Trausch
Evan Respaut	Stephanie Richmond
Evan Walsh	Susie Lai
Hannah Sollecito	Tom Washenko
Henry Hinnfeld	Torey Weiss
Jacey Pudney	Reyna Zhang
Jason Molisani	Zach Ruben
Jeff Gilmour	



Trumpets at the Sy Katz '31 Parade in New York City.



The Trombones in Hawaiian attire at the last home football game of the season.

NEW MEMBER PERSPECTIVE

It's never going to feel right until you learn how to thrust properly." Those 13 words comprised the first intelligible thing that I heard as I sheepishly wandered into my first practice with the Big Red Marching Band. Given that I was just inside the door, I can only assume it was the horns or the bones. Either way, I wasn't sure whether to laugh or go hide in the corner. Who were these people and why had the university tucked them away in some dark corner of a building that can only be found with a GPS or extreme luck? Luckily, a publicity chair stepped in to break my deer-in-the-headlights freeze and whisk me off to the trumpet corner. And so it began.

As far as I can tell, I didn't quite fit the profile for the average new member. For one, I had never marched before. My school decided to cut the marching band when our football team lost its ability to win more than two games per season and attendance dropped drastically (irony!). Given my innate inability to walk gracefully or in any sort of a straight line, I was a little skeptical that the drum major and my section leader would be able to teach me to march in any sort of presentable fashion by the time the season was over. Thankfully, they never gave up! (Although, to my credit, I picked up the whole five-to-eight and roll stepping shebang pretty quickly. I think.) By about halfway through the semester, our hard work had paid off and, like the other freshmen, I was a fully functioning member of the Big Red Band. I even got to rank lead a near-perfect show (leave it to the

saxophones to cut good ol' Rank 0 in half). If only that terrified me back in September could have seen, maybe there would have been fewer butterflies in his stomach; although I'm sure he would be very confused as to why everyone was addressing him as "Inky."

And then there was my personal favorite part of playing with the marching band, as well as one of the thousands of reasons why I love the Big Red Trumpets: the art of the Power Ram. Since I didn't join until after all the parading and concerts that accompany Orientation Week and First Night, the first time I reached into the concert folder was at Homecoming. Obviously I wasn't familiar with any of these songs, especially the odd, accompanying

rituals that were going on around me. Did the flutes ever stand still? Do the saxes ever stop swaying? When will we trumpets do something interesting? Then Power was called up. I remember hearing a voice yell "Trumpets, that-a-way!!" and seeing a hand pointing at some old person, but I had no idea what it meant. So we played and played and then hit a rest. All of a sudden, there was a flurry of motion. Someone's hand grabbed my shoulder, and I followed suit. Everyone was thrusting and yelling in time with the beat. In that moment, I came to a glorious realization: I had finally found a group of people as quirky and passionate as myself. This was where I belonged.

—Nicholas Lamson '14

Freshmen sing at the Nines during First Night.



ALUMNI BEAT

→ **Theresa Fives '04** (clarinet) and **Michael Maas '04** (clarinet) were married in Los Angeles on November 13. In attendance were **Laura Ruganis '04** (clarinet), **Shorts Rosenkrantz '04** (clarinet) and **Jeremy Kerman '06** drum major).

→ BRBAA secretary **Rose Fehrman '06** (head manager) and **Chad Potocky '02** (trombone) were married in Ithaca on September 4. Their wedding party included **Rico Screpka '03** (bone), **Chris Parkin '03** (pep band manager), **Liz Gall '07** (tuba), and **Jen Owens Eisenman '03** (trumpet). Danny Parkin, son of Chris and **Becky McCleary Parkin '01** (bone), was the ring bearer. Near the end of the reception, the undergrad bones showed up to give an impromptu concert.

→ **Ralph Ciotti '95** (tuba) may have had the largest band wedding in recent memory when he married Tracy Pushko on August 7 in Spring Lake Heights, N.J. In attendance were **Avi Agarwal '95** (tuba), **Pat Carr '96** (head manager), **Tom LaFalce '94** (head manager), **Alex '95** (tuba) and **Kathy Kiang Pascover '95** (baritone), **Joe '91** MEng '93 (tuba) and **Mary Sue Page Youn '94** (mellophone), **Mike Stuhlmiller '94** (trombone), **Rich Hovorka '96** (trombone), **Eva Chiamulera '97** (head manager) **Mike VanBrunt '97** MS '01 (sax), **Nicole Paccione Gerbe '95** (colorguard), **Jeff Shapiro '99** (trombone), **David '92** and **Christine Watters Stuhlmiller '93** (percussion), **Lou '96** (tuba) and **Carrie Golash Wolinetz '96** (clarinet), **Laura Armstrong '98** (percussion), **Jill Kunitz '96** (field manager),



Lowell Frank '99 playing trumpet with his son Max during Homecoming.

Daniel LaPlaca '96 (clarinet), **Elizabeth Pomper '98** (baritone) and **Matt French '95** (drum major), along with his wife **Alison '95**.

→ Speaking of Matt and Alison, they are now the proud parents of Sarah Christie, born this past January. Congratulations on the future Big Red Band member and glee club member.

→ **Mark Mandarano '87** (drum major) is busy working hard in his orchestra conducting career. A couple of years ago, Mark founded the Riverdale Sinfonietta and this fall, he plans to conduct them in a tribute concert this fall to Cornell music professor Karel Husa to commemorate his ninetieth birthday. We'll share details as soon as we know them.

→ Finally, we wanted to note the passing of **George Gilmour '55**, PhD '63. Not only was he a proud Big Red Band alumnus, he was also part of a bigger Big Red Band family, who survive him: brother **Scott '54** PhD '62 (baritone); son **Tom '79** (baritone) and his wife **Cindy Campbell '80** (piccolo); son **Jim '80** (tuba) and wife **Carol Huntress '82** (clarinet) and their son **Jeff '11** (trombone); and son **John '85** (tuba) and wife **Sarah Mendell '87** (head manager). Our condolences go to the Gilmour family.

GOT NEWS?

Drop a line to BRBAA's Scott Pesner at sjpez87@aol.com. Also, don't forget to join the Big Red Band Alumni Facebook group.

IT'S A '70s HOMECOMING!

Forty years ago, the first women became members of the Big Red Band. To celebrate that important milestone and another future milestone, the Big Red Bands Alumni Association is reaching out to all its alumni, and especially members of the Cornell Classes of the 1970s who marched in the Big Red Band to join us on the Hill for a special Homecoming weekend, September 16-18, 2011.

As noted in this issue of *Band Notes*, the weekend will feature a ceremonial groundbreaking for the new band room, as well as additional events. In addition, this year's football game is a night game, leaving you plenty of time to enjoy the Cornell campus during the day. More details will be sent to you in future mailings, on the Big Red Bands alumni website (www.brbaa.org), and the Big Red Band Facebook page (www.facebook.com/bigredband). We will also have room blocks available at local hotels.

Big Red Band Notes is produced by Cornell Athletics. Editor: Kathryn Abbott '12, James Feld '13, Scott Pesner '87, Kathleen Bolton. Designer: Julie Manners. A 5/11 2000



Clarinet alumni at the Homecoming Tail Gate

CORNELL ATHLETICS ANNUAL FUND '10-'11

- Gold Spirit Level—\$5,000
- Silver Spirit Level—\$1,000
- Bronze Spirit Level—\$500
- Supporting Level—\$350
- Other \$ _____

Plus a matching gift
from my employer: \$ _____

Employer _____

- Matching gift form enclosed

Name _____ Class _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

 Please check here if this is a new address

- Use my gift, without restriction to support Cornell students, faculty and the learning environment
- Use my gift for the Cornell Fund for Athletics
- Allocate my gift for use by sport(s):

The Big Red Band \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

- Check enclosed—please make your check payable to *Cornell University* and return it to: Cornell University, Box 223623, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-2623

- Credit card

____ Visa ____ Mastercard ____ Discover

____ American Express Expiration _____

Account number _____

Signature _____

Your gift to Cornell is tax deductible

To make a gift over the phone or online, please call 1-800-279-3099 or visit us at www.alumni.cornell.edu/giving/giftcard.html MC=AT000NL



Big Red Band
Teagle Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853

Big Red Band