

Bandstand

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Or MCM 1069: Independent Study in Newslettering

Hello again, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome back to that most exclusive of mildly humorous publications, the Brown Band Bandstand. In the words of one Bandie, if the *Onion* is a Lady Gaga concert in Madison Square Garden, then the *Bandstand* is more like a small jazz club tucked in between a vinyl record store and a fixed-gear-bike repair shop in the Village. So, savor the moment as we go over the highlights of the Band's exploits from this spring.

“and the band... skated on ice...”

- David Sheffield '11, BDH opinions columnist

Utilizing every ounce of writing skill at his disposal, David Sheffield managed to sum up an entire season of incredible Band hockey performance into 6 words tossed into a column about how he doesn't much like the kind of music kids listen to these days. Sadly, I find myself unable to aspire to the level of expressive succinctness David's writing enjoys, and so I have no alternative but to go into a bit more detail about the Band's hockey season.

Hockey Band Reunion

This year marked the 40th anniversary of the Band's debut performance as the world's first and only premier ice-skating band. We figured that we should probably throw some kind of shindig for the occasion (do people still use that word?), and we had so much fun with the alums that just about everybody's in favor of making it an annual event. And so, on Friday, Feb. 5th, about 25 alumni of all ages joined us in the stands, and many followed us onto the ice.

Adam Robbins '09



And that's just the low brass...

* Sports Analysis: Jared Stein '10, Mad Hatter: Laken Hottle '13, Dry Goods: Wendy Kwartin '11, Not-so-dry Goods: Jesse Errico and Mike Feldman GS, Sloth Expert: Max Mankin '11, Clapper-in-Chief: Wilson Baer '13, Chief Photographer-at-Large: Adam Robbins '09, Maniac on the Floor: Zach Rowe '13, Rallying Bleib: Ben Leib '12, Libyan Liaison: Nawal Traish '13, In for a slapping for skipping out on Commencement Band: Isaac Goldberg '13, Rat Interpreter: Andrew Marshall '10

Slumber Party!!!

Coming off the success of the Band's "Day at the Beach" ice show two years previously, the Band decided to liven up the Feb. 13th Women's Hockey game by attending the entire thing in slumber party attire. This led to some interesting revelations about just what the Band considers to be suitable nightwear, although it provided a welcome break from the Band's usual rugby/jeans combo.



Max Mankin '11 apparently wears his sunglasses at night... and a pink dress?



Adam Robbins '09

Part 1: Quinnipiac

Unfortunately, Quinnipiac fans quickly grew irate, possibly because their team was doing too well. Noticing a large group of people who seemed to be cheering for Brown, these spirited hockey fans let loose with well-thought-out, insightful comments such as "Poop is Brown!" and "Brown Sucks", along with other comments entirely too witty to be printed here. Eventually, polite security officers intervened, explaining to some of the fans that their comments (and actions) were just a bit too witty and insightful for a college hockey game. Some of the fans must have had trouble hearing the policemen over the roar of the crowd, because the kind officers took them outside the stadium, probably so the fans could hear them better. It must have been a long explanation, because we didn't see them for the rest of the game.

Winter Trip

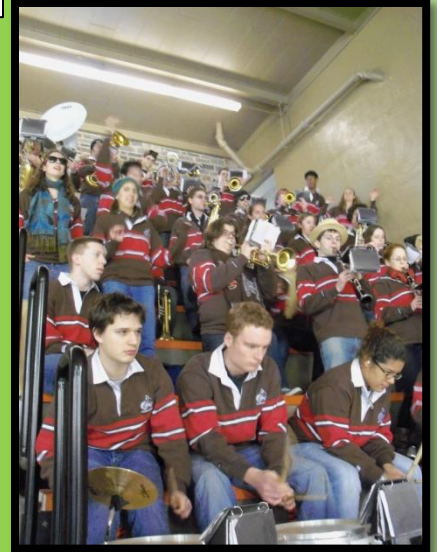


Zach Rowe 13's attempts to sway opposing fans with the power of dance ultimately proved ineffective

Part 2: Princeton



As seen at left, the Band took the opportunity to march clear across Princeton's campus, playing everywhere from the (snow-covered) fountain to the Princeton Student Union, where we were somehow mistaken for the Princeton Band (does this *look* like orange plaid?). After the march, we found that we had to pack even tighter, as it turned out that we had apparently been sold a large number of "standing-room-only" tickets – an influx of Princeton fans meant we were slowly pressed against the wall seen at right.



Yeah, Albany!!

Somewhat unexpectedly, the hockey team managed to make its way through the playoffs to the point where it reached the ECAC final four. After a personal request for the Band's presence was put in by the men's hockey coach, the Band took to the road on the team's fan bus.

Cassie Coulter '07



Adam Robbins '09 seriously approves of Albany*

And so, the Band fulfilled the section of "For Bruno and For Brown" where "we've been to Albany" for what may be the last time – the next year, the ECAC championships will be held in Atlantic City (potentially forcing a song re-write).



And now for some images of skating bands past... (Thanks to Rosie Perera '85 for this 1983 shot at left and whatever brave soul took this photo in 2004)



*I can put pictures into whatever crazy shape I want? Including an "=" sign? I need to hold back here.

Other Fun and Games

Jesse Errico '09

The Band managed to keep itself busy between the end of hockey season and Commencement with a variety of fun activities, many of which managed to go entirely unphotographed. However, a camera did find its way to an event here and there, such as the photo at right, of the Band getting ready to play during the opening lap of this year's Relay for Life. We played at ADOCH, our annual stealth show (shhhh!!!), Free Cone Day and even a lacrosse game.



During Commencement week, the Band also finally took Rachel Ostrand '09's suggestion and went to the beach – admittedly without instruments, but at least we made it, alright? We made it to the water on two separate occasions, struggling to figure out if we were seeing each other turn red due to sunburn or because of the icy cold waters of the North Atlantic.

Commencement!!!

Yes, it is that big of a deal. More than 40 current Bandies and over 20 alumni were on hand for the graduation of the class of 2010. Mercifully, the weather managed to hold off on full-blown sunshine for most of the day, meaning that the Band just sweated it out rather than actually melting on the spot. Even Morgan Freeman was excited to see us, although time constraints on his speech clearly prevented him from actually saying so from the podium. For now, though, I'll let the photos do the talking.



For some reason, walking through the Gates turns the Band's campus march from a hated object of scorn into a beloved ritual rich with spirit and tradition. Which is entirely alright by us.





Our thanks to all of the alumni who played with us for this year's Commencement Band:

- Marvin Wasser '71
- John Gnassi '84
- Susan Gilmore '85
- Daniel Macks '96
- Michelle Imber '96
- Matt Sarasin '05
- Schuyler von Oeyen '05
- Ed Mahaney-Walter '05
- Alexandra "Lexie" Asrow '05
- Tucker Peck '05
- Amy Goins '07
- Cassie Coulter '07
- David Washington '07
- Emma Welch '07
- Sarah Christy '07
- Piet Walvoord '08
- Paula Miller '08
- Eli Fieldsteel '08
- Adam Robbins '09
- John Cucco '09
- Elizabeth Schroeder '09
- Saskia DeVries '09

Alumni Contributions

We would also very much like to thank all of you who have supported the Band through your contributions over the past year, whatever the amount. To prove we didn't take the Band to Atlantic City in advance of next year's ECAC finals, here's what we've been doing with your support (and even if we were down a few thousand before Ben Geilich '12 started hitting the blackjack tables, we still broke even, alright?).



A. New Baritone



B. More Cowbell



C. Loveable, Huggable Tenor Sax



D&E. New Drum Harnesses and New Sticks



and F. the Princeton Band (now a wholly owned subsidiary of Brown Band, LLC)

And an extra dose of thanks to Bryan Chu '11 and Karen Mellor '82 for each stepping into one of Matt McGarrell's metaphorical shoes, without which this entire enterprise would not have been possible.

Pictures

Because... well... why not?



Either Jesse likes Isaac's crazy dance moves or Isaac is about 2 seconds away from being horizontal on the ice.



With all of his focus on the Band, Bryan is completely oblivious to the scantily clad hockey fangirls dancing and being photographed only feet behind him *as he should be*.

Nacho's "twin-reversed-peace-sign" gang sign leaves something to be desired.



Putting the "super" in upper woodwinds (do what you want with the rest of the letters)

Just a few generations of the long family of Brown Band conductors



A nice save by Wilson Baer



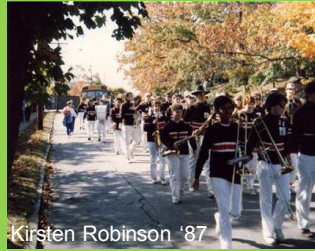
This really needs more explanation than I have space for. Suffice to say that this is the Clarkson Cup, a token of the love and affection that exists between the Clarkson and Brown Bands and yes, we've still got that lovin' feelin'. The answer to any question you have about this picture is an emphatic "Yes".

More Pictures and Info



Leora Fox '08

Band on the move in the mid-80s



Kirsten Robinson '87

Bill Barnert '78



Who knew the Band once included a member of Blue Oyster Cult?

2 trombones are always better than 1



Sarah Cocuzzo '10

Caught in a Bad Bromance?



Mike Johnson '11 lays down the law en route to Quinnipiac

Apparently, many Band members routinely wear ice skates to bed.



Just so long as it's not an honorary degree in spelling



This picture is so nice, I can't even find a way to make a joke out of it

9/18 Sat. STONY BROOK 12:30 pm

9/25 Sat. HARVARD 6:00 pm

10/2 Sat. at Rhode Island TBA

10/9 Sat. at Holy Cross TBA

10/16 Sat. at Princeton TBA

10/23 Sat. CORNELL 12:30 pm

10/30 Sat. at Penn TBA

11/6 Sat. YALE 12:30 pm

11/13 Sat. at Dartmouth TBA

11/20 Sat. COLUMBIA 12:30 pm

And, lastly, this year's schedule. Home games are in Brown. Note that the Harvard game is this year's homecoming, and Parent's Weekend is during the Cornell game.

