

# Lansing School District News

5-6 Grade Band, 7-8 Orchestra & High School Band:

## Spring Concert Tonight

Lansing Middle and High School musicians will give their annual spring concert this evening at 7:30 in the Middle School Auditorium.

The 5-6 Grade Band will perform five pieces under the direction of Mrs. Gail McHugh. The students' favorite piece was definitely the "Colonel Bogey March" from the film *The Bridge Over The River Kwai*, said Hughes. "They said it was too difficult to play," smiled Hughes, "but they met the challenge.

### 5-6 Band

Conductor: Mrs. Gail Hughes

**Flute:** Jamie Wingate, Jessica Tull, Melissa Usack, Gwynne Mapes, Kelly Nagle, Carolyn Wharton, Loralee Howell, Jenny Geiger, Angelina Melice, Amie Nguyen, Hattie Saltonstall and Jackie Ryan.

**Clarinet:** Christina Valesente, Karyn Hartz, Danielle Sharp, Simon Ingall, Valerie Dedrick, Patty Carvalho, Sam Gorman, Drew Colvin, Jeff Booth, Ryan Sheive, Peter Skvarla, Amanda Catone, Michael Darfler, Jessica Sherman, Casie Eastman and Annie Ryerson.

**Bass Clarinet:** Darin Buck.

**Alto Sax:** Joey Usack, Matt Biviano, Erik Heter, Beth Emmett, Douglas Bennett, Morgan Tracy-Fortner, Shawn Russell and Dana Conley.

**Tenor Sax:** Melanie Bortz.

**Baritone Sax:** Sabrina Jones.

**Trumpets:** Adam Burke, Thomas Colt, Andrew Barnard, Bryan Zaborowski, Alejandro Papachryssanthou, Chad Mehlenbacher, Cody Inman, Seth Tucker, Chris Haring, Jacob Herrewyn, Prasad Pal, Landon Cook and Michael Trotter.

**Trombone:** Jeff Abbott and Justin Thomson.

**Baritone:** Jaimi Bain and Kara Maul.

**Percussion:** Ben Bruno, Jeremy Deans, Chase Harper, Micah Beck, Scott Corbin, Erin Carlson and Brian Vaughn.

### 7-8 Orchestra

The 7-8 Orchestra will play *Allegro from Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* by W.A. Mozart, *It's The Pizz!* by Robert Washburn and *Variations on a Well-Known Sea Chanty* by Richard Stephan under the direction of Kathleen McHugh.

Conductor: Mrs. Kathleen McHugh

**Violin:** Laura Bowen, Erika Eddy, Wesley Gorman, Katie Haring, Kyri Mordough, Heather Ormsby, Puneet Panda, Kaitlin Stilwell and Kara Wilcox.

**Cello:** Emily Dean, Stephanie Grooms and Andrew Warnick.

**Bass:** Chris Miller.

### High School Band

Conductor William Phelps will lead the High School Band in *Olympic Fanfare & Theme* by James Curnow, *A Percy Grainger Suite* arr. by Frank Erickson, *Tony Bennett* arr. by Peter Ippolito and *Dawn of A New Day* by James Swearingen.

Conductor: Mr. William Phelps

**Flute:** Dixie Chaffee, Katie Hollister, Janna Hatfield, Kim Dean, Wendy Allen, Britta Erickson, Tiffany Howe, Sheli Grooms, Christian Jones, Sarah Keating and Casey Carr.

**Oboe:** Tabitha Hughes and Emily Tucker.

**Clarinet:** Kim VanPelt, Melissa Jennings, Darcy Baxter, Sonia Slade, Shigei Gebremedhin, David Huffman, Ricky Ducharme and Chris Lucas.

**Bass Clarinet:** Katie Crandall.

**Bassoon:** Kim LaComb.

**Alto Sax:** Jonasz Ely-Rubick.

**Tenor Sax:** Peter Lippert and Ben Darfler.

**Baritone Sax:** Mike Skvarla.

**Horn:** Meghan Deans.

**Trumpet:** Tyson Benson, Robert Mitchell, Paul Munson, Melanie Sweazey, Jason Howell, Amber Volbrecht and Sarah Willard.

**Baritones:** Jason Moore and Doug Turner.

**Percussion:** Taqui Raza and Jonathan Smith.

The Boys Of Spring:

## A Young JV Squad Builds Its Future

By Tony LaBar

How do you turn a group of thirteen kids that enjoy playing baseball into a winning team? To learn, I sat down with Ed Redmond, the head coach of the Lansing Bobcats varsity baseball team.

"You have to prepare in the off-season for the regular season," began Redmond. He starts preparing his team by teaching the fundamentals of the game - hitting, throwing and catching. Coach Redmond works with infielders on groundballs and with the catchers on blocking balls and "framing" the ball. He also gives catchers and pitchers some time together, "so they get a feel for each other."

Coach Redmond wants his team working towards a common goal. He wants them to practice as hard as they possibly can and to develop, "hard work, discipline and great leadership." Fortunately, said Redmond, it's a little easier with the kind of senior leadership there is on the team. "The seniors are a neat bunch of guys who help the underclassmen develop," explained Redmond. Within the next week he wants his team to become a competitive team and get to the point that they're so "baseball sharp" that they don't have to consciously think about each move but just naturally react.

Redmond likes to make practices as much fun for the players as he can. Redmond's been around the game for about 30 years and observed some great coaching. "I have friends that coach at the college level and I do a lot of reading and research," he said. "I'm looking for new ideas all the time."

Junior varsity (JV) baseball coach Stu Dean faces similar challenges - the biggest of which is working with players who have limited experience at the JV level. Dean only has four returning players, and only two of them were regular starters last year. The others are rookies who aren't accustomed to the demands of higher level ball. Another hurdle that coach Dean must confront is trying to develop his twelve players into a unified team.

Dean wants to impress on everyone that all must work together toward a common goal. "Regardless of what a player's posi-

tion is on the field, he must work together with the others to make the task easier," he said.

The teams typically practice two hours a day at least five days a week. Coach Dean starts every practice with stretching and grueling warm-up exercises that are designed to increase players' agility and stamina. After about ten minutes, the players work on fundamentals, including throwing, fielding and batting. After the drills, the boys of



**PRACTICE** - Graham Eastman and Jamie Wright limbering up.

spring condition their bodies by running wind sprints, stairs and bases. Most of the players said that the conditioning exercises are what they most dislike about practice.

Coach Dean outlined three goals for the season. "First, I want the kids to get better at performing as a team. Second, I would like them to win the division. Finally, it would be wonderful if they could go on to win the league championship."

Freshman Nate Mabry wants to be a starting pitcher and improve his fielding skills. Rookie Justin Lugiano wants to get "stronger and faster" and see the team become IAC champions. Sophomore Josh Varga wants to "get better every day" and believes coach Dean is an excellent influence. "He pushes us hard and encourages us to work together." Although sophomore Steve Hancy doesn't like the late practices, he agrees that, "coach Dean is a good coach because he makes us work hard."

How do players focus on the game when they have personal problems? Jamie Wright takes care of personal problems first. Josh Varga agrees, saying "I take care of personal business at home. I focus on baseball at practice and baseball only."

Facing tough practices and challenging opponents, the players have to love the sport. They enjoy being around people they like; playing the game they love.



**FOCUS** - Nate Mabry takes aim!

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