

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for participating in Trojan Band Day 2009. This letter should answer any specific questions you may have regarding this event. Also enclosed is a map of the Troy University campus and the two performance pieces, *My Home's in Alabama* and Michael's Jackson's *Thriller*.

Rehearsal – Band Field

Mass Band rehearsal begins at 10:00am. We will post the timed information as soon as it becomes available.

Bus Parking: All buses will be directed to park in the lot beside the “Sound of the South” practice field and next to the School of Nursing. Once your buses are in place, please leave them there until the end of the day.

Equipment Trucks: All equipment trucks should proceed to Collegedale Street, the road that is parallel to the practice field; this street empties into the School of Nursing parking lot. You may unload your equipment from this point. Please note below that we request you do not use/bring pit equipment for this performance.

Chaperones: It is very important that you bring the appropriate number of chaperones for your band (1 per 10, uniformed members). The NCAA guidelines limit us to one chaperone per ten students; if you have more chaperones than allowed, they will have to purchase a ticket to enter the game.

Warm-up: Please warm-up your band at one of the following locations: Hawkins, Adams, Long Hall of Honor parking lot, Long Hall parking lot, or the parking lot across from the “Sound of the South” Band Field.

Rehearsal with the “Sound of the South”: Have your band in place as outlined by the drill chart. You should use your parade block or similar formation to facilitate entering and exiting the formation.

Auxiliaries: Please note that your Color Guard, Majorettes, and Dancers will be grouped with the TROY auxiliary units as outlined on the drill chart. Your groups will be taught a short and simple routine by the respective “Sound of the South” band members during our morning rehearsal. Those details and the routine will be provided at Band Day.

Pit Equipment: Due to difficult logistics, **please remember to leave all pit instruments at home.** Your pit players may join the drumline by playing auxiliary percussion instruments.

Percussion: All percussionists will be located in the center of the field as noted on the drill chart. Please have your percussion section arranged in a performance block to expedite set-up.

Drum Majors: The drum majors will conduct within close proximity of their bands. They will need to be watching the main podium for tempo, count-off, etc.

Meal Arrangements - The “Sound of the South” **will not provide meals or other food.** Please make those arrangements for you and your band.

Performance – Movie Gallery Veterans Stadium

Parade Entrance: We would like for your group to participate in the Trojan Victory Parade. We will form our parade line-up on University Avenue, in front of Smith Hall, 2 hours prior to kick-off. We would like to have each of your bands line up behind our band to parade to the tailgating area. Please keep your band's ranks at a two-step interval, eight-wide, or as many as possible; this will condense the physical size of the parade as well as lessen the time it takes to get into the stadium. The space allocated in both the parade and stadium for each band will be approximate; as a result, we will need some flexibility and patience while the bands are put into position. Your cooperation and understanding will be very much appreciated, and will help the parade run smoothly.

It will not be necessary for you to play during this parade. It is extremely important that the bands enter Movie Gallery Stadium as quickly and efficiently as possible. Please do not play a cadence, a drum tap will be provided by the "Sound of the South." Have your students remain quiet and attentive to any possible changes that may occur. Also, due to strict NCAA guidelines, we ask that your band does not play while in the stands.

Stadium seating: It is important that you sit in the locations designated by stadium officials. Mrs. Monique Crawley and graduate assistants Bucky Alleman, Matt Woulard, and Zach Dobos will be on hand to assist you with any seating questions. A stadium-seating chart will be provided.

Halftime Performance: Prepare to leave the stands approximately 2 minutes before the start of the halftime. This will allow plenty of time to get in place for our performance. It tends to become very crowded on the sidelines as the teams re-enter, so please advise your group to move out of the way as quickly as possible and back into your seats.

Post-game Performance: Immediately following the football game, the "Sound of the South" will present a post-game concert. Please make plans to stay and enjoy this concert.

We are anticipating in excess of 2000 students and parents to participate in the Annual Trojan Band Day! We are extremely excited about this, and hope to provide your students with a wonderful, memorable experience. If there is anything we can do to assist you in your preparations, please do not hesitate to contact me personally at tblackstock@troy.edu; you may also contact Mrs. Monique Crawley by email at mpcrawley@troy.edu.

Best wishes,

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