



# Musical Notes

Volume 2, Issue 8

Mt. Vernon Music Boosters

February 2017

## Students find success at Solo & Ensemble

### Calendar

- **Feb. 20:** Presidents Day (no school)
- **Feb. 25:** ISSMA State Solo & Ensemble
- **March 3:** Winter Preview, 7 p.m., main gym
- **March 4:** ISSMA Jazz Festival
- **March 6:** NYC trip meeting, 6:30 p.m., followed by Booster meeting, 7 p.m.
- **March 12:** Daylight Savings Time begins ("spring forward")

### Event previews guard teams, contest bands

The annual Winter Preview is set for **7 p.m. Friday, March 3**, in the main gymnasium.

Come and see the jazz band, indoor percussion ensemble, and all three winter guard teams perform their competition shows.

"This [event] will provide the winter guard, indoor percussion ensemble, and the jazz band with a performance opportunity as they lead into the end portion of the season," explained Mr. Ellinger.

Five ensembles and 17 solos received gold rankings for their Group I performances this past weekend at the district ISSMA Solo & Ensemble contest.

This means 35 Mt. Vernon students are advancing to state finals, which is Feb. 25 at North Central High School in Indianapolis. Some of the advancing students are performing as soloists as well as in ensembles.

"I was very pleased with the overall results," said Mr. Ellinger. "We had many gold ratings throughout the day in addition to the list below."

#### Group I soloists heading to state finals:

Emma Flick, oboe (11th grade); Drake Gerig, marimba (9); Leah Klinestiver, flute (12); Victoria Miller, marimba (11); Brendan Mitchell, marimba (10); Tara Paarlberg, clarinet (11); Michael Pellom, marimba (11); Andrew Roembke, trumpet (11); Carlie Sanders, trumpet (9); Nikki Schreiner, flute (11); Katie Smith, trumpet (12); Gavin Stamper, French horn (12); Deacon Stiff, marimba (9); Hailey Watson, marimba (9); Patrick Watson, snare drum *and* marimba (11); Nathan Williams, snare drum (11)

#### Group I ensembles heading to state finals:

**Clarinet quintet:** Hayden Bailey



8th-graders Shilo McFarland, Emily Rollo, and Evan Flick are all smiles after receiving a gold rating for their Group III miscellaneous woodwind trio.

(10), Madeline Bovard (12), Holly Haney (11), Dayton Jennings (10), and Betsy McCleery (11)

#### Miscellaneous woodwind trio:

Jennifer McGowen, flute (11); Tara Paarlberg, clarinet (11); and Nicole Siefker, flute (12)

#### Saxophone ensemble:

T.J. Bass (10), Mary Barnett (11), Jacob Beck (10), Lindsey Bonfiglio (11), Emily Bostrom (11), Nate Davis (10), Matthew Rollo (11), and Sabrina Zeis (10)

#### Trumpet trio:

Badri Alvandhar (12), Coleman Anderson (12), and Andrew Roembke (11)

#### Brass quintet:

Badri Alvandhar,

Senior Gavin Stamper also competed Jan. 28 at the district vocal/piano Solo & Ensemble contest. Because his Group I piano solo earned a gold rating, he qualified for the state piano contest Feb. 18 at Perry Meridian Middle School.

trumpet (12); Logan Moore, tuba (10); Andrew Roembke, trumpet (11); Gavin Stamper, French horn (12); and Collin Walsh, trombone (12)



André Williams leads Brownsburg High School's winter guard in warmups in the hallway outside the cafeteria. André also works with the Band of Marauders and color guard during band camp.

## Kudos abound for guard invitational

Mr. Ellinger was incredibly happy with the winter guard competition Mt. Vernon hosted last month. "I received nothing but compliments from the visiting guard staffs, directors, and band directors," he said.

During the contest, Mt. Vernon's cadet and junior varsity teams each received silver ratings in their classes. Their classes (the junior varsity competes in Divisional Regional A) receive only ratings.

"Most groups will receive a silver rating," Mr. Ellinger explained. "This means you are doing all right."

This was the only competition for the cadet guard. It will perform at a few home basketball games as well as at the Winter Preview at 7 p.m. **March 3** in the main gym (see article above left).

The varsity guard placed third in Class A at the competition.



## Briefs

### Jazz band heading to ISSMA Jazz Festival

Members of the jazz band are warming up their chops in preparation for the ISSMA Jazz Festival **March 4**.

The festival will be at Whiteland Community High School. The band's performance time has yet to be determined.

James Middleton, who helped Mr. Ellinger with the saxophone section during marching season, is directing the jazz band. The band is competing in Group II.

### Spring musical to take you to "Oklahoma!"

Mr. Ellinger is finishing up pit orchestra auditions for the school's spring musical.

Not long after the band's New York City trip, the Mt. Vernon [drama department](#) will stage Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein's first collaboration, the musical "Oklahoma!" It features farmers, cowboys, and a love story.

The musical will be presented at **7 p.m. April 6-8**, and again at **2 p.m. April 9**. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for students.

### IU to host annual Summer Music Clinic

Registration is now open for the 72nd annual [Summer Music Clinic](#) at Indiana University-Bloomington. This clinic, slated for **June 18-24**, is open to students now in grades 8-12.

No auditions are required to attend the clinic, but placement auditions will be held the first day for the various ensembles. The clinic offers two concert bands, an orchestra, and two jazz bands, as well as small brass, woodwind, and string ensembles.

Students will stay in campus housing. They will perform their final concerts in IU's famed [Musical Arts Center](#).

# Guard member to join Blue Knights corps

Senior **Dana Sutherlin** will be performing with the [Blue Knights](#) drum and bugle corps this summer.

Shortly before she headed to California to perform with the Bands of America National Honor Band in the Rose Parade, Dana auditioned with the Blue Knights in Denver.

According to her mother, Patti, this was the only Drum Corps



International (DCI) organization she auditioned with. "She thinks it's pretty cool that [the] Blue Knights was the first show/group she had really ever seen," her mom said in an email. "And that was several years ago, when Mt. Vernon hosted [the] Blue Knights while they were in Indy during their summer tour."

Dana is now captain of MVHS's

varsity winter guard team. Mrs. Sutherlin said that during the winter guard season, Dana will watch provided videos to prepare for full ensemble camp at the end of April.

She will join the Blue Knights full-time after graduation. "Move-in is actually the week-end before graduation, but they are letting her do videos that first week until graduation is over," her mom said.

## Winter guard teams have their own trailer

The winter guard teams now have a brand-spanking-new trailer to haul their props to competitions.

Since the fall, the Music Boosters have been looking for a trailer dedicated to winter guard competitions. They originally expected to purchase a used trailer, but this one met their needs affordably.

The trailer is black, 24 feet long, and 8½ feet wide. The Boosters ordered it through Diamond Cargo, which built the trailer according to the group's specifications.

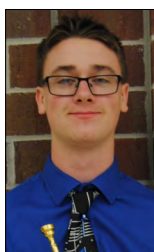
The trailer cost \$5,200. "We saved a significant amount of money by going and picking it up directly from the manufacturer," said booster co-treasurer Erin Flick, who drove to Douglas, Ga., with her husband, Tim, to pick up the trailer.



To pay for it, the Music Boosters used money from grants and donations that were designated for the trailer. What little money they used from the band's general fund will be made up with more designated funds due to arrive in March.

## Roembke gets 2nd chair in All-State Honor Band

Junior **Andrew Roembke** has been selected for the Indiana Bandmasters Association's Honor Band.



This is the second year in a row Andrew has participated in the IBA's annual band festival. Last year, he was selected for the IBA's All-State Band; this year, he was awarded the 2nd chair cornet part in the Honor Band. (A cornet is similar to a trumpet, but he will be playing his trumpet.) He auditioned Jan. 15.

"Trumpet spots are notoriously hard to obtain," Mr. Ellinger said. "Earning a spot in the Honor Band is even more challenging. This speaks to Andrew's dedication and determination toward music."

Andrew will start his spring break on Purdue University's West Lafayette campus. The IBA's 57th Annual All-State Festival runs March 10-12 (the weekend before the NYC trip).

## Indoor percussion season starts Saturday

The 12 students in the Mt. Vernon Indoor Percussion Ensemble have been hard at work preparing for their first competition.

The ensemble will head to New Palestine **Saturday** for its first appearance at an Indiana Percussion Association competition in several years. Mt. Vernon has been without an indoor percussion ensemble since the year before Mr. Ellinger took over the band department.

Like with marching band and winter guard, indoor percussion teams develop a show based around a theme, with musical pieces that portray that theme, said Mr. Ellinger. This season's theme is "There's Always a Bigger Demon" by Eric C.W. Peel.

The ensemble will perform around 1:30 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for students/college/senior citizens.