

Marching for band glory requires teamwork

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"It's getting better by the year," he said.

Although the band lost a lot of brass players from last year, every section has had to pull their weight and more according to Haynes.

Band director Anthony Jones said this year's group is one of the best in 11 years at Harding.

"We have outstanding leadership," he said. "There is a balanced approach; regular people are working

hard," he said. It's a concentrated effort from the bottom of the totem pole to the top."

That leadership is the result of dedication of the band students. Haynes says that being a member is as grueling as participating on a sports team, with physical demands and travel. The regimen doesn't bother Haynes though.

"I like to be busy, that's what I personally like about the band."

Eldewins Haynes, Nate's father, is very impressed

with the dedication his son has shown in the band.

"I didn't have to push him, he's worked very hard at this," said Eldewins. "He is one of the best in the marching band, one of the top performers."

The elder Haynes is looking forward to traveling to the competition this week.

"It's like a sporting event, there's a lot of excitement," he said. "It's very exciting. They're all doing their best and some of the bands do surprising things."

Eldewins has faith in Harding's band going all the way and winning first place. "Mr. Jones in his own right, he's a fine musician. He's very demanding about getting the most out of these students."

Jones said he'll encourage the Marching Rams to have fun while making a statement for their performance.

"We have to keep the adrenaline factor in control," he said. "We just gotta bring it, sell our product and endorse what we're doing. I have a strong feeling we'll win it."

Whether they win or lose, Jones wants the kids to remember what's important:

"It's not Anthony Jones, it's Harding High," he said.

"People will remember that Harding High had a great

band in 2005 and that's all that really matters."

Nominee criticized

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Gary Bauer, a leading conservative and former Republican candidate for president, said on CNN, "I think the president hit a grand slam home run here."

There are plenty of reasons to make Bauer so effusive that he could infer that a grand slam in baseball could be hit with anything other than a bases-loaded home run.

Alito's appointment has disappointed progressives.

"Replacing a mainstream conservative like Justice O'Connor with a far-right activist like Samuel Alito would threaten Americans' rights and legal protections for decades," said Ralph G. Neas, president of People for the American Way. "Justice O'Connor had a pivotal role at the center of the Court, often providing a crucial vote to protect privacy, civil rights, and so much more. All that would be at risk if she were replaced with Judge Alito, who had a record of ideological activism against privacy rights, civil rights, workers' rights, and more."

A 24-page "preliminary review" of Alito's record by People for the American Way concludes: "As the following summaries of his opinions reveal, the judicial philosophy of Samuel Alito is far to the right. In fact, he has been given the nickname 'Scalito' by some who practice before him and liken him to Justice Antonin Scalia.

"He has demonstrated hos-

tility toward the principles undergirding a woman's constitutionally protected right to her own reproductive choices — most notably the Third Circuit's attempt to limit or overturn Roe v. Wade in the context of the Planned Parenthood v. Casey case.

"In addition, he has issued a number of troubling opinions that seek to undermine established civil rights law, especially in the areas of gender and race, and that seek to severely limit the federal government's ability to protect its citizens."



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