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She's the Leader of the Band

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EDITOR Lisa Forsythe

UPCOMING EVENTS

FRI Nov. 9

- 9:30 Womanless Beauty Review
- 7:00 MCHS @ Covington

FRI Nov. 16

- 6:00 BB Dyer Co (Hall of Fame)

Nov 19-23

- Thanksgiving Break

TUE Nov. 20

- 6:00 BB Hardin Co A

SAT Nov. 24

- 6:00 BB Gibson H

TUE Nov. 27

- 8:00 EOC English I Writing
- 6:00 BB Dyer Co H

WED Nov. 28

- 8:00 EOC English II Writing

THU Nov. 29

- 8:00 EOC History Writing
- 6:00 BB Alcorn Central H

FRI Nov. 30

- 7:00 Mistletoe Ball

TUE Dec. 4

- 8:00 EOC English I
- 6:00 BB Adamsville A

WED Dec. 5

- 8:00 EOC English II

THU Dec. 6

- 8:00 EOC American History

FRI Dec. 7

- 6:00 BB Hardin Co H

TUE Dec. 11

- 8:00 EOC Algebra I & II
- 6:00 BB Lexington H

WED Dec. 12

- 8:00 EOC Geometry

THU Dec. 13

- 8:00 EOC Make-Up Exams

FRI Dec. 14

- 6:00 BB Scotts Hill A



photos by Mardi Bakeer

By Lisa Forsythe, Editor

While many may not recognize the line from the old Fogelberg song, there can be no denying the title applies to senior Kimberly "Kimmie" Davis. As Drum Major for this year's marching band, Kimmie has been the perfect example of what every good band leader should be: tough yet encouraging, responsible yet fun-loving, and a die-hard music-lover.

Kimmie has auditioned

for the position all four years of high school, finally earning the coveted role for her senior year. To audition, the student creates a routine to a score of music, usually with the help of the previous field commander. They have to know the basics of conducting, which includes directing not just the tempo but also the dynamics of the music such as crescendoes and decrescendoes. The routine is performed before the entire band, who then vote

for their choice. They rate the student based on musicality, their attitude and helpfulness to other band members, and leadership qualities both within and outside of band. The student votes are combined with the director's votes, and the newly appointed drum major gets to work.

The duties of the drum major are varied and numerous. They are responsible for keeping band morale up, encouraging and helping each member to be both ON time and

IN time. The drum major runs the metronome and speaker at practice, they run warmups, and make plans for how to get stuff done with the section leaders. They manage a leader's meeting each week, and work out ways to fix any problems that occur.

Kimmie felt like the role of drum major allowed her to do more for the band that she was doing [as a section leader].

"I'd be more inclusive to the band, and I would succeed more than being a section leader or captain," said Kimmie.

"The greatest reward was showing everyone that I took being a drum major seriously," said Kimmie.

"It was an honor to be the freshmen's first drum major, and for the band students to respect me and want me as their drum major meant a lot."

Kimmie's favorite memory occurred this past weekend on the way

home from state competition, where the band finished fourth (out of 24 bands) overall. Kimmie earned a 3rd Place trophy. She said on the ride home, everyone began singing the songs from the field show, and she started conducting.

"We finished the show singing, and then we all cried. It was really emotional. It was heartwarming. Everyone was sad, as seniors, because that was our last field performance."

Some of Kimmie's favorite things Mr. Foret has taught her are 1)TCB - the band motto is Taking Care of Business 2)"To be early is to be on time, and to be on time is to be late." 3)"One More Time" (perhaps her favorite - because it was NEVER just ONE more time!).

Kimmie began playing clarinet in the sixth grade at SMS, and hopes to continue her band career next year at UTMartin. She will major in Criminal Justice and minor in Music Education, with the goal of becoming a Forensic Scientist.

When asked if there was anything else Kimmie wanted to tell me, she asked if she could send a message to her band members and band parents.

"It has been an honor being able to be your Drum Major for my last year, and I'm glad to have met every single one of you. I will miss you highly when I leave, and I love you all."



Drum Major Kimmie Davis (left), with Assistant Drum Major Karina Patel (right) and band performer Bret King during the Awards Ceremony.

