

Rehearsal Notes for February 24, 2005

BOOSTER NOTES

We still need door monitors for the Solo and Ensemble Contest. Please consider helping out. The event is scheduled from 9:30 to 12:30 on Sat., March 5. Contact Helen at volunteer@wshsb.com.

Do you enjoy party planning? We've booked a room at Wheaton College after the spring concert. We're looking for a couple of folks to organize pizza delivery, collect money from participants, bring soda and paper products. Please contact Helen at volunteer@wshsb.com if you're willing to assist with this year-end event. THANK YOU!

We believe the following people still need to return bow ties and cummerbunds. If you feel a mistake has been made, please talk to Mrs. Larsen. She attends practice for all 3 bands.

Missing Bow Ties

Rita Ascenzo
Larry Ascenzo
Matthew Cole
CJ Cole
Francesca Payne
Parker Taitel
Eric Stevenson
Stephen King
Mary Borow
Florenca Tipler
Dan Weatheringly

Missing Cummerbunds

Florenca Tipler
Helen Tipler
Dan Weatheringly

General News:

March 3rd Rehearsal – Mr. Borow will be the guest conductor for all bands. Please give him your utmost attention and cooperation.

SEC (Sat. March 5th) –

Check the website or the schedule at band
Know your event times and room locations

All participants are required to have their music, with all measures numbered, ready to give their judge when they walk in the room for their event. Generally, the music is ready to take along after the event is performed.

Cadet Evaluations – will resume on March 10th, when Mrs. Borow returns.

Music Notes:

Note: if time permits, Mr. Borow will combine Concert Band with Cadets at 6:50, and run through National Anthem and God Bless America for the Cadets benefit.

Cadet:

Winning Rhythms, #9

EE1 book, p. 30, 31

Note: Some of the new songs are more difficult

Keep working on School Spirit and Carnival of Venice. These may or may not be used for the concert, but are important to perfect.

Vandivere Fanfare
Air and Alleluia
Quest For the Grail
Old Rugged Cross

If time permits, we will try combining Cadets and Concert band, at about 6:50, for:

National Anthem
God Bless America
(Start practicing Alexander's Ragtime Jam –on the WSHSB Music Library)

Concert:

EE2 18, 19
Jolly Coppersmith March
La Bella Roma
Fiero
Chorale and Toccata
Ashgrove

Symphonic:

Please seat yourselves according to Mr. Warrick's model. We'll continue with that to see if it works better

Spring Concert Music:

Colas Breugnon
Die Meistersinger
Lassus or Liberty Bell
Joshua

Most of the focus of our upcoming rehearsals will be on the above Spring Concert music, which need time and work.

Invitational:

We have three more rehearsals until the Invitational. We have worked for over 18 weeks on the pieces we'll be playing and have already performed them. You are now expected to continue working and perfecting them on your own, since we can not afford to give large parts of our upcoming rehearsals on them. We will only run through them going forward. You will be expected to keep them fresh by practicing them with the music library on your own. Those in the invitational will/may be asked to stay after to play them, for the upcoming rehearsals. The songs again are the following:

Chorale and Shaker
Rolling Thunder
State Street Strut
Amazing Grace

Comments from the practice with Mr. Warrick:

I received a late email from Mr. Warrick on Thursday evening. He enjoyed working with the band. The most emphasized comment he had was the following:

“The biggest thing they need to focus on is getting characteristic sounds out of their horns by not playing so loud.”

His other comment was to work on chorales, in order to develop a “band sound”.

My interpretations of this:

We need to tune, though tuning alone will not achieve what Mr. Warrick is referring to, since he felt the needs several times, to stop during the rehearsal to “retune”.

The act of tuning is about listening. Each member needs to develop the “art” or skill of listening. Everyone in each section needs to play as a unit, so that each section sounds like one person playing. The sounds in each section need to blend. We need much work in this area.

Here’s the challenge: each player must play his part technically correct. On Chorale, we are finally pretty close to that. We also need to play as a “band”... not a group of individuals who play independent parts. This is needs work. Not just for Chorale, but for all pieces.

Our hour together is brief, but you all have the recorded music library at your disposal. Use it. Take the time to study the pieces we are playing. Assume that that is part of your homework for this band. Identify your parts in these recordings. Learn who has the melody as the piece progresses. If it is not you, back down and play in the background, so the melody can be heard. While you are at band, listen: to yourself, your section and the entire result produced by the band. Each section playing, whether melody or otherwise, must play passages together, as a unit, with uniform attack and correct pitch.