



# Cats set to pluck Gophers!

Details about Homecoming, pages 7-8



Illustration by Josh Meo

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

### Join us Oct. 12-14 for Homecoming

Thirty-four years ago, John P. Paynter, in a moment of true inspiration, invited alums of the Wildcat Marching Band to participate in the half-time show at Homecoming. His idea was well received; after all, many alums return to campus for Homecoming, and if there is any organization to which its alumni feel a strong attachment, it is the Band.



BY BILL TEMPELMEYER

JPP's idea was a resounding success, and band alumni have been invited to return for Homecoming and to perform on the field with NUMB ever since. At some point, a name for this

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## NUMBALUM leads Halftime magazine onto the field

BY JEFF WILLIAMS

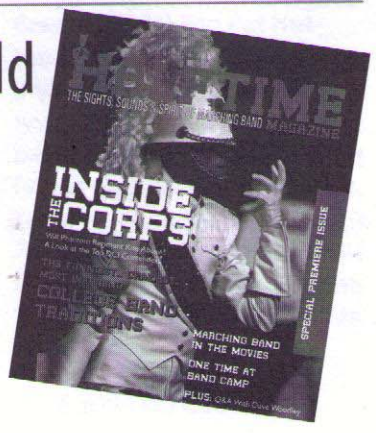
A new bimonthly magazine highlighting the "sights, sounds and spirit of marching band" is now available – and the woman behind it is one of our own!

NUMBALUM Christine Ngoe Katzman (J97, NUMB flute 94-96) is publisher and editor in chief of Halftime magazine, which covers all things marching band, including high school, college, drum corps, winter guard, indoor percussion and adult groups.

Readers can find educational, entertaining and inspirational stories about competitions, school spirit and band traditions in each issue.

In her first publisher's letter, Christine tells why she started

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### 1960s

**Larry Mugler** (McC68; NUMB trombone 64-67) reports that both his daughter-in-law and daughter have had twins in the past year.

### 1970s

**David R. Zeman** (M75, NUMB 70) provides outpatient care for Dean Health Systems Orthopedic Department in Madison, Wis. He and his wife, Faye, adopted a 2-year-old son. He plays cornet in the First Brigade Band in Watertown, Wis. The band uses antique instruments that date to the 1860s and plays music from band books in use during the Civil War.

**Greg Hamot** (WCAS75; NUMB percussion 71-74) is a professor of education at the University of Iowa. He adopted a son, Travis, in 2003. Travis is in junior high and plays French horn and piano.

Amanda Albert, 17, daughter of **Jan (Faltyssek) Holmes Albert** (C76; NUMB percussion 73-76) just graduated from college, and will be doing her master's in piano performance at NU. Jan's son, Josh, plays percussion in the Spruce Creek High School Hawks Marching Band in Port Orange, Fla. The Hawks have been invited to play in the Cotton Bowl in January.

**Dale Feldman**, (McC77; NUMB trombone 74-77) is on the biomedical engineering faculty at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. His first grandchild arrived in June. His youngest daughter will be drum major at the University of Alabama this year.

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**COLLEGE BAND TRADITIONS**

THE FUNNIEST ... CRAZIEST ... MOST INSPIRING

BY BELPHEA HERSTEIN

Marching bands hold fast to traditions—from the sublime to the obscene—passed down through student generations.

W hat do a toilet seat, Fred the Grinder and a beer stein have in common? It sounds like the beginning of an off-color joke, but these are sacred relics used by thousands of marching band members in their most beloved and venerable traditions.

At universities and colleges across the United States, young men and women with tremendous creative energy—use to mean it musical talent—direct hundreds of hours in supporting their teams, classrooms, and communities. In the long hours, more than a few sacred traditions are born.

"The band's tradition is to always be on the edge, and sometimes they do get in trouble," says Gascardo Aquilino, director and faculty advisor of perhaps the most infamous college marching band, the Lehigh State Junior University Marching Band (aka Stanford as the nickname). "There's a sense of camaraderie that's special. But when you're making a decision, it's not easy to cross the line."

According to band lore, Stanford helped pioneer the "scatter band" tradition in the 1960s by moving to various formations on the field rather than marching into position. In one famous scatter drill, an "offense" saxophone player lay on the field after the show ended. Plumbeaux rushed onto the field with a siren, then reexamined the saxophone and left the musician sprawled on the field.

**ENCORE! ENCORE!  
MAGAZINE EXTRAS**

- Read from past columns in the "We Gotcha" section of NUMBALUMS.
- Read the magazine's debut issue about...
- Read the "Funniest ... Craziest ... Most Inspirational Band Traditions" article.
- Read the "Beer Steins" article about their colorful history.

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Provided by Christine Ngeo Katzman

The first issue of *Halftime* includes a photo and story about the Grinder and Fred the toilet seat.

the magazine. When she joined NUMB she wondered what she had gotten herself into, but eventually fell in love with marching band.

"If I could march for a living, I would," Christine writes. "But since I can't, I found that starting a magazine is the next best thing."

The concept for the magazine was first hatched in Christine's magazine editing class in Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism. Her group had to write a prospectus for a new magazine with a name, editorial calendar and sample stories. Although the group did not use the *Halftime* concept, Christine learned how to start a magazine in the class. She also received encouragement from Professor Charles Whitaker, who is now on the magazine's advisory board.

"Every career move that

## To subscribe

Readers can subscribe online at [www.halftimemag.com](http://www.halftimemag.com). Individual subscriptions are \$19.95; group subscriptions are \$14.95. Christine plans to attend Homecoming and hopes to stop by a NUMBALUMS rehearsal with some copies.

I've made in the last 10 years has been a step toward creating this magazine," Christine says.

Several other NUMBALUMS are also involved in *Halftime*. In the debut issue, Olivia (Hawkinson) Herstein, (J98) wrote "The Funniest ... Craziest ... Most Inspirational Band Traditions" (see above). For the next issue, Amy Rushlow, a recent drum ma-

jor, wrote "Smells Like Team Spirit," which discusses the relationship between bands and football teams. And Kim Davis (J96) is writing about bands at historically black colleges.

But the print magazine is only part of the *Halftime* initiative. At [www.halftimemag.com](http://www.halftimemag.com), marching enthusiasts can join an online community to share their thoughts, photos, event information and classifieds.

"It's very much created to mirror MySpace or Facebook but with highly targeted content and discussion," Christine says.

The online community has about 70 members right now, but Christine is hoping to see it grow. She encourages people to share their stories on the site "because every member and every band has a unique, inspirational story."