

# Harrison marchers start competition season on top

BY DIANE HANSON  
CORRESPONDENT

The Farmington Harrison Marching Band, the 2001 Flight III State Champs, started this year's competition season where they left off last year - on top.

The 82 marchers captured the Flight III first-place trophy with a score of 59.75, along with all Flight III caption awards for Best Music, Best Marching and Best General Effect at Novi High School's "Fanfare" invitational on Sept. 14. "I'd say we were all pretty pumped for the show," said baritone-player Neil Schliek, a sophomore and second-year band veteran. "We've had a lot of time to practice and we were ready for this. It is a pretty intensive schedule, but it is def-

initely worth it. It is a big pay-off to come in first." And the schedule is intensive with three hours of practice after school each day and from early in the morning until bus-loading time on competition Saturdays. Presaison work started in July with an at-school camp followed by an away week at Camp Nissokone near Oscoda in August. This is senior Tom Dotson's first year with the band. "I was told it would be a lot of work, so it was what I expected," said the trumpet player. "And it is worth it. It feels good to be part of this band-better than I expected." Said Brigette Penderel, a freshman trombonist, "I like it a lot. It's a lot of work, but a lot of fun too." That's music to Eggy Babcock's ears. She's the band's

co-director along with Joel Yoder. "I think the kids did really well today," she said. "Particularly I felt good about the second movement." This year's program, "Gazabo Dances" combines the music of John Corigliano with Eric Whitacre's piece, "October." The show loosely represents the four seasons of the year, which I think will become clearer when the tarps that we are marching on are painted to represent the seasons," said Babcock. "The gazabo will also be decorated to represent the four seasons." The gazabo, which is one of the main props in the theatrical, musical, marching performance, was donated by Hurley Construction of Farmington Hills. "They did the whole thing," said Babcock.

"They gave us the lumber and donated the labor to construct it." Other Observer & Eccentric-area bands at the Novi competition included Plymouth-Canton, first place in Flight I with a score of 70.55; and West Bloomfield with a score of 50.03, fourth place in Flight I. First place went to Flushing in Flight II with a score of 65.55; and to Lamphere in Flight IV with a score of 42.60. Babcock pointed out that the Harrison show is not yet complete with another minute of music and drill to go. "I'm looking to have all the drill and all the music work done by Toledo," she said. The Harrison marchers' next performance will be at the Bands of America Regional Competition at the University

of Toledo on Sept. 28. "We are looking to be more complete with the show flags too. Some of the flags that we are using now are substitutes. And we plan to have the tarps at least partially painted so the audience will get a better idea visually of what is going on." Nicholas Link a senior saxophone player beginning his fourth year with the band is pleased with this year's program. "It is going to be a great show," he said. "It's a lot of hard work with a lot of things that we haven't done before. We won today, but there are bigger battles ahead." "It always feels good to win," added Babcock. "We are out here to do our best, not necessarily to take first place. But it is certainly the icing on the cake."



The Harrison High School marching band started off their competitive season on a high note.

## Daughters of Isabella to host leadership event

Michigan State Circle, Daughters of Isabella is sponsoring a Leadership Conference Saturday, October 19 led by noted author and expert on

Membership Recruitment and Retention, Cynthia D'Amour who will present a workshop tailored for civic and business groups. The event will be held at

George F. Monaghan Knights of Columbus Council, 19801 Farmington Road (between 7 and 8 Mile Roads) in Livonia. The Leadership Conference

runs from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., with breaks. Lunch is included in fee. Cost is \$35 per person. For more information, call (734) 464-7677.

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It is difficult to know if the pain that results will resolve with time, or will develop into arthritis. Your problem compounds if the injured area is at the base of the thumb. Your first response to injury is to rest the part injured, but it is hard to rest the thumb. You need it all the time.

Spraying the wrist is possible at night, though turning and moving the wrist is awkward. During the day, it is impossible to use the wrist as you cannot drink, type, or even use the splintered hand for eating. Advice to rest the wrist is not practical. You may need to accept that healing will take a long time.

You should see your doctor or a physician hand specialist if pain persists or worsens all the base of the thumb as this site particularly prone to develop osteoarthritis. To evaluate for this possibility, your doctor will order x-rays. This procedure is the best way to reveal the presence of arthritis and its extent.

Treatment for persistent wrist pain starts with splinting, may include medication for pain or inflammation, and often makes use of joint injection. If these measures fail, a number of operations exist to replace worn bones of the wrist. The option you should not take is to live with the pain.

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