

# Time for Competitions

Performers are mad about less competitions

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The scarlet spectrum marching band is one of the many incredibly talented groups of students at Marion. Run by Logan Vander Wiel the team has had a lot of success in past years at competitions as well as performing at many school events including half time at the home football games. Logan Vander Wiel, Marion high school's marching band instructor, has been involved with marching band for two years at Marion but has been instructing for several years before. Vander Wiel says that marching band was something that he was good at, something that he truly loved. "I was never very good at sports, I wasn't a perfect student, but I could do music pretty well and I made that work." Said Vander Weil. Vander Weil says that, overall, marching

band this year is pretty much the same as past years. Some of the differences, however, include that they are playing more modern music, and they have a new learning style, as far as perfecting their show goes. The Marion High school marching band is extremely hard at work and works extremely hard to prepare for their upcoming competitions. They practice during the third block everyday, and also on Monday nights. These practices consist of learning music, and perfecting their show in hopes of winning some competitions. Some students in marching band are well aware of how hard they work and want their hard work to be showcased more than three times a year.

Cassandra Hauser, 21', has been involved with a marching band for three years. Hauser plays the clarinet, and she absolutely loves how a show looks at a competition when it is all put together. One thing that Hauser isn't a huge fan of is that the marching band will only be attending very few competitions this year. "It makes me kind of upset because we work really hard, and I feel like if you work really hard at something you should get to perform it more than three times," said Hauser.

Regardless of how the marching band may feel about going to fewer competitions, they hope to be successful and still continue to have a lot of fun this season.



The marching band prepares to take on their first competition of their season.

# Adding color to the show

By: Mary Eichhorn @  
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Color guard is an exciting, thrilling and collaborative sport that is perfect for any student who wants to be involved in the high school experience. Color guard offers kids many useful skills such as athleticism and the ability to perform. It is an activity that any student can join and is a safe place for people to grow.

Color Guard started as an auxiliary to the military. At a football game, a color guard would take the flag out to the field and would spin their rifles in military praise. As time went on, marching band and color guard became less of a military activity and more into a school setting. Color Guard started with batons, rifles, and flags. Having that base in military history has helped color guard grow and learn. It was vastly different 30 years ago from today.

Liz Thurston, the colorguard coach is very passionate about what she does and loves seeing her student's improvement. Thurston

makes sure colorguard is a healthy environment for the kids to learn and have fun. "I would say for someone who is thinking about joining colorguard that this is a very safe space for you to grow and if you're looking for a place to perform, be artistic, and have a family atmosphere then color guard will be a good fit for you." says Thurston.

Color guard performs alongside marching band, and makes the performance interesting to the eye. "Color guard is more of the showy part of marching band. Marching band makes the performance sound pretty while colorguard makes it look pretty," says Joy Ringwald, a sophomore at Marion High School involved in color guard. Ringwald describes her experience in color guard as a lot of fun and hard, rewarding work.

Color guard performs at football games and basketball games, in collaboration with the marching band. The tryouts for color guard are in April. Color guard meets on Mondays and Thursdays from 3:45 to 5:45 and practices with the band daily, during band class.



Makynzie St. John '21 twirls her flag before the start of the football game.