

Junior Joel Kellar pretends to throw his mellophone during the last song "NYC/Empire State of Mind." Members got a chance to do wacky poses at the beginning of the song with some acting like they were taking selfies or stacking up their instruments. Photo by: Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher

Junior trombone player Jill James chants the fight song during the football game against Des Moines East. "This season was difficult to adjust to after we lost our senior leaders from last year, but we ended up pulling through and putting together a pretty cool show," James said. Photo by: Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher

During the song "Traffic Jamming," senior Chase O'Connell plays his trumpet. The marching band theme was "The City that Never Sleeps" based on New York City. The show featured new audio equipment and complex choreography. Photo by: Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher

Performing at the Waukee game, senior Kyle Geerts pauses in the middle of running across the football field. At the last football game, the senior class had numerous traditions to celebrate their time spent in the band program, from painting their shoes gold to planning pranks during their last exhibition show. Photo by: Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher



Job # 3292 School Johnston High School

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MATTRESS

Members suit up to raise money for band program

Cheers of delight and excitement from around Johnston could be heard and mattresses could be seen on Nov. 2. A handful of excited kids faced the fierce cold weather as they headed out to promote the ongoing mattress fundraiser by standing on street corners with bright gold signs, some students even took on the task of dressing up as a mattress. "I wasn't very smart," senior Karsten Theilen said. "I forgot to bring a coat or anything so I was freezing!"

At the beginning of September, the band grew discouraged because their yearly marching invitational was cancelled due to the threat of thunderstorms and lightning throughout the day. This cancellation caused the band program to lose about \$10,000. However, the band students were encouraged by the upcoming mattress sale that had been set up to help raise funds. "I was pretty skeptical about selling mattresses because it seemed very unusual for a school fundraiser," Theilen said. "It just didn't seem like something people would buy."

While the fundraiser was mainly about earning funds, it was also about fun. On the corner

of 86th Street and 62nd Avenue junior Zoey Kloewer stood with her group of friends waving her sign attempting to turn cars toward the high school when something happened. "There was a group of sophomore guys, and when they pulled past us on our side of the street, one of them asked me to go out with him and gave me his number!" Kloewer said.

There was also a group of boys that kept driving by them and at one point, while they were stopped at the light, they tried to serenade Theilen from across the street.

The mattress sales earned the band program \$11,655 with 58 mattresses sold along with some bed accessories, helping them get back the money they lost. Senior Caroline Christensen was out of town and when she got back; she was shocked to hear how much the fundraiser actually earned, "I'm surprised but everyone was really dedicated to the sale. Who would have thought mattresses would raise thousands of dollars?"



Junior Aiden Santiago, color guard, marches down the street at the Johnston Green Days parade. "I joined color guard because my friends were all in it and I quickly fell in love with it," Santiago said. "I hope that I can become a helper next year and be a great leader for other kids." Photo by: Jordyn Cimmiyotti

Color guard captain, senior Ava Kern, spins a golden flag during the Johnston Fight Song. Kern had a special gold flag and sash during the last exhibition performance to showcase that she was a senior member. Photo by: Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher

Junior Cael Stenger plays the crash symbols during the Powerade Scrimmage. The scrimmage was the first public performance that the band put on to kick off their season. "I was really proud of our last competition," Stenger said. "We ended up receiving third which was really fun to finally get that as a team." Photo by: Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher

Story: Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher
Captions: Sierrah Mangra-Dutcher
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