WKU Marching Band

VFTH

10/17/13

When WKU Football transitioned to division one a view years ago, the team isn’t the only thing that grew.

Amy Bingham has more on the Big Red Marching Band in this week’s View from the Hill.

In case you haven’t noticed, WKU’s Marching Band is twice the size it was just five years ago and that’s not by accident.

Dr. Jeff Bright \ Asst. Dir. Of Bands

Angela Cook \ Field Commander

Amy Spears \ Graduate Assistant

Dr. Gary Schallert \ Dir. Of Bands

 “Our goal is to have fun and cheer on the team and that’s what we do.”

 “They have really grown into being Hilltopper fans. They love the games and the atmosphere.”

WKU’s transition to Division One football presented a huge opportunity for the band to grow as well.

 “The opportunity to do that with the marching band was a big draw for me.”

 “This place was ready to explode.”

Thanks to amped up recruiting efforts, the marching band is now upwards of 230 members strong.

 “Once they know we’re here and how much fun we have, it pretty much sells itself.”

 “Everybody enjoys what they’re doing and they go home and tell their friends and family from home.”

The marching band is made up mostly of freshmen and sophomores and very few are majoring in music.

 “These kids come from a variety of backgrounds. We had over 60 majors at the university represented last year.”

They practice three times a week getting ready for performances at all home games.

The latest show includes songs from Bruno Mars, Kiss and the group Fun.

 “That’s the stuff our audience likes to listen to and its what our kids like to play, it’s different from what they’re doing in their other classes.”

The band’s numbers could reach as high as 300 in the next few years.

 “The football team is doing well, the marching band is getting bigger so I think everything is really starting to grow and take hold here.”

 “There’s just a really neat buzz in the community, throughout the state and region about what’s happening here at WKU.”

Saturday is a big recruiting day for the big red marching band. Exhibition performances will be held two quarterfinal locations for the state high school band championships. With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

###