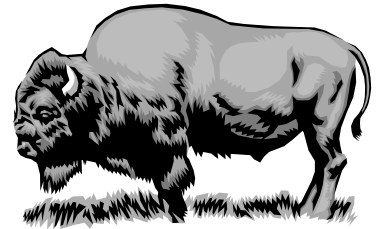


Carlisle Alumni Association Newsletter

Volume 3 Edition 1 May 2002



Homecoming 2001 A Huge Success!!!

Greetings Bison Alumni!

What a time we had last September during the second annual Homecoming weekend! If you were unable to attend, we missed you. We were blessed with beautiful weather, large crowds, and more fun and fellowship than can be described. The Class of 1981 held their class reunion in conjunction with Homecoming Weekend and it was wonderful to have all of them there.

As we bask in the glow of our past

successes, we're not sitting on our laurels. Plans are in the works to make Homecoming 2002 even bigger and better! The Association has met each month since January taking care of business, wrapping up loose ends from last year, and beginning the planning process for this year. The Board of Directors will be meeting during the summer to make committee assignments and begin finalizing details for the weekend activities. There are certainly won-

derful ideas out there that could enhance our Homecoming celebration, and our ideas are very important. Please let us know how Homecoming Weekend can have more meaning to you.

Membership Madness

We will soon hit the 500 member mark in our Association membership. That will just be a drop in the bucket, however, to what we can accomplish. Our 2002 membership drive will start with the mailing of this newsletter. Membership dues are still \$25.00/lifetime or \$5.00/yearly. What a bargain!!!

At our last meeting, there was a discussion recognizing the fact that there are individuals who did not attend Carlisle schools, but would like to support the activities of the Association and be a part of those activities. To that end, we have established an "Associate Membership". This level of membership will be for any individual who did not attend Carlisle schools. Dues will be \$25.00/lifetime or \$5.00 yearly.

Carlisle Scholarship Foundation



One of the primary objectives of the Alumni Association is to be an active part of the Carlisle community.

One way that we are trying to do this is by establishing the Carlisle Alumni Association Scholarship. Right now, the association is awarding a \$500.00 scholarship to a graduating CHS senior. We hope that our scholarship program can expand in the future. In order to be fiscally responsible for our scholarship funds, the association is in the process of establishing a scholarship foundation. This will be known as the Carlisle Scholar-

ship Foundation. The purpose of the foundation will be to safeguard funds designated for scholarships and provide tax relief to those individuals contributing toward the scholarship fund. We hope that the paperwork will be finalized for the foundation in time to include information in our Fall newsletter. In the meantime, please consider your contribution to the Carlisle Scholarship Foundation. While contributions will be tax deductible, the greatest benefit for you will be investing in the future of another generation of Bison graduates!

Check out our new website!!!



Paul Rice, '82 graduate, has offered to host the Carlisle High School Alumni Web Site. The site was started at www.stormloader.com by Rodger Williams. Rodger is passing off the maintenance of the site and it will now be found at <http://www.carlislearkansas.com>. Check it out and be sure to update your information! Thanks Rodger for ALL your hard work!!!!

Your Association Officers

President - Michael Calvert '84
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Secretary - Mary Linn '67

Treasurer - Gina Almond Ingle '77

Membership - Bobbie Jean Pryor '54

President Elect - ????????????????????

Board of Directors

2000 - 2002

Bob McCallie '61
Adam Ingle - '86
Olivia Kegley - '58

2001-2003

Carolyn Marek - '60
Bobbie J. Pryor - '54
Keith Woodall - '

2002-2004

Fred Perkins, Sr. - '23
Peggy Bailey - '60
Bill Shoup - '55
Faye Lynn Yarnell - '60

Best Band reunites with former director Smith

By mark buffalo (CHS '90)

Staff writer - *Carlisle Independent*, published Oct. 3, 2002

During the mid-1970s to the mid-1980s when the Carlisle Bison football team was struggling, lots of fans went to Fred C. Hardke Field to see the "Best Band in the Land."

At the homecoming game Friday night, the packed stadium got another glimpse of that band as more than 20 alumni played in the band. Also, Carlisle greeted the former director who led Carlisle to its only sweepstakes trophy during the 1982-83 school year.

Wesley Smith, who taught 11 years in two stints at Carlisle High School, directed the alumni band. Smith left in 1985 to work on his doctorate at Northwestern University in Illinois. He currently teaches orchestra in Community Consolidated School District 59 in Elk Grove Village, Ill., a northwest suburb of Chicago.

The most fun part of the experience for those involved might have been the "rehearsal" held in the Fine Arts Building, 2 1/2 hours before game time. They played such tunes as "Centerfold" and "The Horse." With a few exceptions, Smith remembered most of his former students and what year they graduated, especially if he had them their entire musical career.

Smith told the alumni band members it was a chance to not have any regrets about not seeing his former students. Also, it was his first time to be in the Carlisle band room since he left. "As a teacher, this is very difficult to describe," Smith said of his return to Carlisle. "I'm extremely honored that the kids I've known and worked with want to see me. I wanted to see them, too."

Smith said former CHS band students and 1984 graduates Mike Calvert and John Philpot contacted him about coming to Carlisle for homecoming.

"I've seen a lot of people today," Smith said. "To be very truthful, it is an emotional trip. Anybody who was in band with me, whether they are a parent or a student, the 11 years we were, we put our heart and soul into this. We had plenty of successes and plenty of learning experiences.

"When John and Mike called and said there was going to be a concerted effort to get a lot of alumni, I thought 'wow, this is going to be an emotional time.' I'm ready for it. You are really coming back to your home. Carlisle is the first place in Arkansas where I taught and made an impact on what happened. I came here with a lot of hopes."

For Calvert, the idea of having Smith come back began last year. "The homecoming weekend was so successful and so many of the things they did were successful," Calvert said. "It really started with Tammy Kennedy Nelson, who wanted to do something with the alumni band. She put the idea out and we started talking and thought it would be great to invite our former band director. We wanted to make it a part of the weekend. We wanted to see him and we knew it would be a catalyst to get more people involved if he was going to be here."

Calvert said seeing and having Smith here was incredible.

Check Your Calendar!

May 19, 2002 Association Meeting
2:00 p.m. Bancorp South

August 18, 2002 Association Meeting
2:00 p.m. Bancorp South

Other meetings will be called as needed as Homecoming approaches. See you there!!!