

Buchholz High School

Golden Regiment

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Principal

2008 MARCHING SEASON WRAP-UP

“Amazing” is all I can say. The Golden Regiment’s marching season has been a wonderful journey into the realm of the Florida marching world’s elite. From band camp to the Preview Show to the first football game performance to the Super-Regional Grand Championship to the Saturday rehearsal at Citizen’s Field to the freezing cold rehearsal at BHS Stadium to yesterday’s appearance at the FMBC State Championship, it has been one of the most rewarding marching seasons I can ever remember. The way the members of our band remained committed to the goal of achieving the highest level of excellence at each and every rehearsal with the outstanding leadership from all of our student officers was an absolute joy for me to witness as a music educator. The SUDA demonstrated particularly in these last couple of weeks literally brought tears to my eyes by the time we hit Thursday of Championship week - I was standing down by the pit and was simply scanning the field observing our student leaders and seniors epitomizing the meaning of positive encouragement, motivation, and guidance. They were all passionate and knew exactly what they needed to do to be ready to walk into that Tropicana Dome on Saturday. Even as I type this, my heart is going out to these kids for the way they finished the race without losing a beat (pardon the pun;) - it’s one thing to start strong, but it’s an entirely different thing to finish strong; it is much more difficult to accomplish the latter.

The Golden Regiment not only made the State Championship Finals as a first-time band at the State Championship Semi-Finals, they did it handily with a 4th Place position in the State Class 5A Semi-Finals... a position that was retained after the energy-filled Finals performance! Amidst the overall 4th Place State finish, the Golden Regiment achieved a few other accolades after their Finals performance:

3rd Place - Ensemble Music #1
2nd Place - GE Music #1 (Semifinals)
3rd Place - GE Music #2
3rd Place - Individual Visual

The lowest placing we received was GE Coordination where the Golden Regiment earned 4th and 5th Place positions from each of those two judges. This will improve considerably as we step it up one final notch in the program design and development for the 2009 show☺

Lastly, I’d like to thank all of the parents who were the backbone of our ground team. The chaperones and pit crew worked hard to provide any and every need. I am also humbled by the numerous parents who sought me out throughout the day Saturday to simply say, “thank you.” I don’t remember the last time I shook so many band parents’ hands in one day, and your faces said it all, filled with so much pride for your children who you’ve entrusted to me in this magnificent band program.

Thank you all for an incredible beginning of a new era in the history of the Buchholz High School Golden Regiment. I am honored to serve as your band director!

Most sincerely,

Mr. K