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## Marching Woodmen earn 2nd place in State

By Adriana Crabtree  
reporter

On the second Saturday of November, the Greenwood Marching Woodmen performed at the Lucas Oil Stadium for the Band State Finals, achieving second in the state.

After last year's thrilling second-place victory, the band felt confident and optimistic about achieving a high placing this season.

"The band felt extremely confident walking into State finals this year. After our performance and even before we walked out onto the field, we held a lot of confidence. We walked out feeling like champions," sophomore Abraam Rodriguez-Navarro said.

The band leveraged both impressive technique and positive spirits to deliver a winning performance.

"At State finals, we did very well visually; that goes for both the band body and color guard work. Musically, we had a very good run and the musicians did extremely well," junior Carter Ericson said.

The band's impressive second-place win did not come without challenges off the field, as they faced many obstacles.



"The beginning of the season definitely started out a little rocky, but after a while, we got locked in. There's always kind of a weak point in the middle of the season, and I felt like we came back stronger after we passed that time," sophomore Annie Brinker said.

Among these challenges were miscommunication and a lack of focus, which brought the band closer together, according to junior Cadence Mathias.

"We definitely had trouble agreeing; we have been around each other for six months for very long hours, and getting along and pushing through was tough. We eventually came together and realized we had the same goal: we wanted to win," Mathias said.

Preceding State Finals, the band made the most of the last few practices.

"The last week before finals we worked a lot on the small details that needed to be fixed because the show was already pretty good, but we just needed to get the last stuff fixed. The small details can be the difference between the outcome we want and what we don't," sophomore Zachary Wehnert said.

Despite their impressive second-place finish, the band could not help wondering what stood between them and first place.

"I'm very glad that we were able to make it to State and get to where we got. We got a 90, which is unheard of, and I'm so proud of the band. But I definitely think we could've done better. The other school had better individual technique, and I think we should have worked on that a little bit more," Mathias said.



During their performance at the State band competition earlier this month, the Marching Woodmen tied for second behind a Greenfield Central performance that placed first. **KJones photos**

## Hoosier Legends to be new conference home

By Henry Barrett  
entertainment editor

The Hoosier Legends Conference will provide a world of opportunity for the Woodmen going forward.

In the 2026-2027 school year, the Woodmen will join Beech Grove, Indian Creek, Monrovia, Speedway, Triton Central and Tri-West in the Hoosier Legends Conference. Principal Michael Gasaway sees the change of conference as an opportunity to be more competitive.

"I see this change to the Hoosier Legends Conference as an opportunity to compete competitively throughout all of our sports," Mr. Gasaway said. "We think the Hoosier Legends Conference fits our students perfectly. The difference with the Mid-State conference was that the other schools had much more depth and students to choose from.

With our enrollment numbers not increasing, we thought that the Hoosier Legends Conference was best for us."

One reason for switching conferences was to allow GHS to be more prepared for Sectionals.

"I believe that the Hoosier Legends Conference will give us the best chance to prepare for Sectional competition. The change in level of competition should help our athletes maintain confidence and a positive mindset going into tournaments," Mr. Gasaway said.

Although there are many benefits to the HLC, the location of the other schools was initially a concern.

"One of the main concerns when making the decision to move to the HLC was the location of our opposing schools. The other schools

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