

## Northmont Marching Band wins two contests

The Northmont Marching Band “broke loose” from its Dayton area “attachment” this past Saturday and made a trip to the Cincinnati area for 2 local band contests.

The day turned out to be “awarding” for the band as it was named Grand Champion at both contests and won all the caption awards as it presented its 2008 show “No Strings Attached.”

The band first performed at the Roger Bacon Band Invitational in the afternoon. Northmont competed in class AAAA, the largest at the contest. Competing with Northmont in class AAAA were Parkersburg, WV and Cincinnati Anderson.

Northmont won the following awards at Roger Bacon: Outstanding Musical Performance, Outstanding Visual Performance, Outstanding General Effect, Best Auxiliary Performance, and Best Percussion. The band won the first place trophy and was named Grand Champion of the large divisions. Anderson placed 2nd and Parkersburg was 3rd.

The band then loaded up and made a short trip up I-71 to Loveland High School near Kings Island for the evening competition. Northmont was also in class AAAA at the Loveland band competition along with Cincinnati Colerain.

The band won the following awards at the Loveland competition in class AAAA: Best Auxiliary, Best Percussion, and 1st Place. Then the overall awards for classes A, AA, AAA & AAAA were announced. Northmont took all the awards regardless of class as follows: Best Music, Best Visual, Best General Effect, Best Auxiliary, Best Percussion and Grand Champion.

Colerain came in 2nd in class AAAA.

The Loveland contest had a fireworks display at the conclusion of the awards and it was definitely a fitting conclusion to the day for Northmont. The band continued the celebration as it marched back to the loading area. The drum line sounded a cadence along the way and parents gathered in the loading area to congratulate their kids and the staff.

Band Director Dave Armbruster was very pleased with the band’s performances. He and assistants Joni Graham and Brian Wissman and the staff will now turn their and the band’s attention to a Bands of America Regional contest in Ypsilanti, Michigan coming up on Saturday, Oct. 11. The band will first compete in a preliminary round with a performance time of 3 p.m.