



Bill Conger photo

Drum major Axel Rico joins fellow members of the DeKalb County Marching Band in displaying their fourth place trophy won during competition in Crossville this past week.

## DCHS band has strong showing

**BILL CONGER**  
Smithville Review  
Smithville, Tennessee

The DeKalb County High School Marching Band took 4th place overall out of 14 bands at a band contest in Crossville Sept. 15. Cumberland County High School hosted bands around the region at the 36th Annual Upper Cumberland Marching Band Festival.

"All I ask is that they improve every week," says Band Director Tracy Luna. "Thus far, they've improved every week that they've been there and then some. They've exceeded my expectations."

"The awards go 1,2,3,4 with one being the top. Ultimately, we want to get a 1, but if we get 2s, we're satisfied because that means we're an excellent band, and we're im-

proving and moving in the right direction."

Judges award 1s for Superior, 2s for Excellent, 3s for Good and 4s for Fair.

"We want to stay away from the 3s and 4s, but if we get 1s we'll be super happy," says Luna. "I think our marching and playing deserved 1s, but ... I'm a little bias."

The band received 1s in Visual Performance and Drum Major (Axel Rico scored 3rd Place out of 14) and 2s in Musical Performance, Percussion, and Color Guard.

"The judges look for overall visual continuity of forms on the field," Luna explained. "Do the pictures look right? How are their marching intervals between person to person? Are they in step left versus right foot? Also, there's a music judge that judges musical

quality--- intonations and articulations and in-tune. Is the band in tune?"

Judges also evaluate the performances of percussion, color guard and drum major.

Next, the band performs the Andrew Lloyd Weber "Phantom of the Opera" music at Friday night's football game in Cannon County. The ensemble's next competition is scheduled for September 29 in Trousdale County.

Working with the band besides Tracy Luna, is Assistant Band Director Jonathan Holland, Katie Graham-Color Guard, and Caleb Rowland-Woodwinds and Drum Major.

Luna says a special thank you to all of the band boosters who make our job easier and a great experience for the students.

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Continued from 1A high.

That is why drug addiction is considered a disease. Most drugs affect the brain's reward circuit by flooding it with the chemical messenger dopamine.

Surges of dopamine in the reward circuit cause the reinforcement of pleasurable but unhealthy activities, leading people to repeat the behavior again and again. Over time the brain adjusts to the excess dopamine, which reduces what the person feels compared to the high they felt when first taking the drug. They might take more of the drug and try to achieve the same dopamine

The temporary high eventually goes away and causes the individual to get depressed. "One night I rented a hotel room. I had some drugs and vodka. I was at a low point and did not want to live anymore," said Thomas Gabriel, former drug user and Johnny Cash's grandson who performed at the event last week.

Gabriel started using drugs at a young age because it was available everywhere. Eventually he got addicted and developed serious health problems because of the abuse. Later he checked into Sober Living Service Omega House in Smithville and got clean.

## OBITUARIES

### Jennifer Elane Davenport Langford, 39

Jennifer Elane Davenport Langford, 39, of Lebanon died Sept. 2.

Jennifer was a graduate of Celina High School, where she excelled in basketball and earned a scholarship to Vol State. She earned her MS degree from Cumberland University. Jennifer was a member of Joy Church. She was a homemaker and home-schooler of her three children, a board member of Eagle Academy in Mt. Juliet and a former employee of NBC Bank/Suntrust, Wilson County Farm Bureau and the Alumni Center at Cumberland University.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Ralph and Jo Bradford and Glen and Lucille Davenport. Jennifer was also preceded in death by her uncle, Alan Bradford.

She is survived by husband of 19 years, Rodney Langford of Lebanon; parents, Hugh and Teri Davenport of Celina; children, Nolan Clay Langford, Emmy Bryce Langford and Rellan Cole Langford; brothers, Brad (Beth) Davenport of Manchester and Matt (Brittany) Davenport of Cookeville; father and mother-in-law, Jackie and Tina Langford of Rickman; sisters-in-law, Chasity (Jonathan) Williamson and Danielle (Robbie) Jordan, both of Rickman. Jennifer was loved by many nieces and nephews.

Funeral service was conducted Saturday, Sept. 8 at Bond Memorial Chapel with Pastor Dave Goldner and Pastor Eddie Turner officiating. Interment followed at Puckett Cemetery in Smithville. Active pallbearers were Curtis Stone, Josh Pruno, Gary Tinsley, Jon Williamson, Lance Roach and Greg Bradford. Honorary pallbearers will be Brad Davenport, Matt Davenport, Robbie Jordan, Eric Cherry and Jim Moore.

Bond Memorial Chapel of Mt. Juliet was in charge of arrangements.

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