

Remarks by Katie Rogers
Redcoat Practice Field Dedication
November 5, 2009

Having a practice field of our own has been a completely different experience this year. It has brought rehearsal consistency to the Redcoat Band, resulting in more efficient rehearsals and ultimately higher quality performances. Never before have I received so many remarks about how good the band looks and sounds this year – in combination with our excellent directors and amazing members, the additional practice time has helped the Redcoat Band improve so much already. I can only imagine what the band will be like 3 or 4 years down the road, when they are settled in to this new complex and have consistent, adequate rehearsal time. Phase II of the practice field will aid in the success and progression of the Redcoat Band. Available seating will encourage spectators to watch, thus further promoting the band and attracting future members; having a full-service complex complete with storage areas will add ease to practice and other Redcoat functions.

Yet it is important to note that all of these benefits would not be obtainable if all of you were not here. Without your many contributions to and fervent interest in our organization, we would all be in sectionals right now, waiting for the football team to finish practicing so that we might get one run-through of the show before it is time to go home. It is encouraging for us to know that our University President, directors within the School of Music, and many alumni are so supportive and actively involved in furthering our success. It is steps like these being taken right now that will enable the Redcoat Band to keep its traditions of pride and excellence alive, truly allowing it to be the “Finest Band in the Land.”