

A Band United

August 1, the first day of band camp, was the day it all started. At that time the bonds between the band members were renewed and a rebirth of band spirit occurred. As Sophomore Kristin Gwin stated, "It was a time of sweat and tears, and the only way we could get through it was by working together."

As the band began to feel as though it was one big family, the feeling was maintained and intensified namely by the senior leadership and the freshman enthusiasm, both of which helped many band members renew their commitment to Big Blue. Demonstrating the importance of the upperclassmen's leader-

The Spirit Can Not Be Broken

ship was freshman Donna Bennett: "Although I was really excited about being in the band, I felt scared and discouraged during the first few practices. Then I became more comfortable and confident as the seniors and the other upperclassmen encouraged me and told me that it was all right to make mistakes as long as I tried to do better the next time."

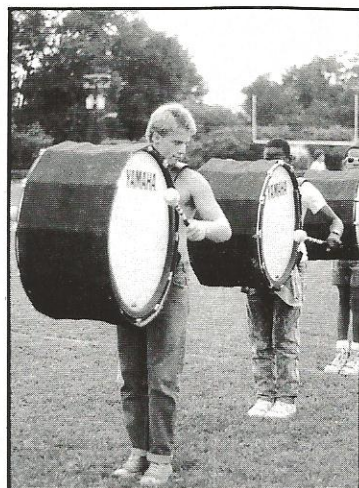
The spirit of the band was

one which could not be broken. Although the band members were sometimes denied well-deserved titles, they suffered no loss as long as they knew that they had done their best. Because she felt that whoever won the trophy is but a matter of technicalities, junior Sonta Smalls said, "Whenever we have contests, we try to give it our all. As long as the parents and our director and his

assistants could see that we did our best, we are winners and the judges' comments do not really matter."

Of course, everyone realized that championship basketball teams and world-class cheerleading squads did not thrive on spirit alone. The same was true of Big Blue. Although hard work and determination were what pulled the winning performances together, it was the band spirit and unity that kept the dream of winning alive.

By Jill Dowdy



Seniors Travis Mosley and Keith Kinsey and junior Anthony Constantine are really drumming it up during a half-time performance.

Marching to the beat of the drum, senior Michael Artlip and fellow band member Dwayne Gethers practiced long and hard for the state competition.