

- 2007 -

ANOTHER YEAR IN THE LIFE OF THE HARDEST WORKING BAND IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE



2007 was another record-breaking year for the Hardest Working Marching Band in the History of the Universe. This year's theme was probably "the road" as the band traveled **47,677 miles** (or the equivalent of nearly two times around the world) on the way to gigs and USC Athletic events. To understand how the Trojan Marching Band fits all the traveling, performing, and practicing in a single year, here is a road trip through 2007.

ANY USC CONTEST, ANYWHERE

USC Athletics is the TMB's top priority and band members will travel anywhere to support the Trojan teams. In 2007, the band attended **92 USC Athletic events** supporting **15 sports**, including track & field, water polo, and crew. Band members traveled **25,797 miles** in the process while logging **1,035 hours** (or more than **43 days**) at the games or in transit.

Of course, football comes first and the TMB's streak of consecutive games attended – home or away – passed 250 this year at the Coliseum versus Stanford. Currently, after the 2008 Rose Bowl, the band's remarkable run – which started in 1987 – rests at **259**.



During the 2007 season, the band logged **13,083 miles** following the football team to Nebraska, Washington, Indiana, Arizona, and up north to Berkeley for the Weekender. Among The Spirit of Troy's other destinations this year for sports were **Spokane, Washington** and **East Rutherford, New Jersey** with the men's basketball team for the NCAA tournament and **College Station, Texas** for the women's soccer team's national championship victory in the College Cup. The TMB also traveled to the men's NCAA Water Polo Championship and women's Volleyball Championship, both in Northern California.

ALWAYS ANOTHER GIG

When not at a game, the TMB can usually be found on its way to a gig. "Gigs" are any band performance that's not for a USC athletic event, whether it's a wedding, a university event, a birthday party, a media appearance, or a corporate meeting. The band performed **360 gigs** in 2007 or nearly one per day while traveling **21,880 miles** and spending **1,412 ¾ hours** (or nearly **59 days**) on the road or at gigs. Most of the band's events each year are performed by the small "10-Piece Band." Of the band's 360 gigs, the 10-Piece performed 280 of them.

Some of the band's more interesting gigs this year included the opening of **Star Wars Celebration IV** at the Los Angeles Convention Center, a pre-NFL draft party for USC Wide Receiver Dwayne Jarrett at a Hollywood nightclub, a photo shoot for a portable audio recorder print ad, and a playoffs rally for the **Los Angeles Angels** at Anaheim Stadium.

In 2007, the band appeared at **48 weddings** (plus 1 engagement party, 1 wedding shower, and 2 wedding anniversaries), **34 birthday parties**, **12 graduation parties**, **8 golf tournaments**, **6 retirement parties**, and **4 bar mitzvahs**. The TMB also performed at **7 corporate events** in 2007 for clients like the Walt Disney Company, Russell Athletic, and Neiman Marcus. Non-profit organizations were very important too as the band attended **30 charity events** for such causes as the Special Olympics, March of Dimes, and the Junior Blind of America, to name a few.

HOLLYWOOD'S BAND

The TMB is not called "Hollywood's Band" just because the big studios are right down the street. No, the band earns this title every year with all the work it does in front of the camera. In 2007 alone, the band participated in **13 major media events** including **Jeopardy!**, **The 2007 ESPY Awards**, **'til Death**, **Mad Money w/ Jim Cramer**, and **Last Comic Standing**. In July, the band was flown back to the ESPN Campus in Bristol, Connecticut to perform for the debut of **ESPN's College Football Live**. The band was also asked to appear on 3 local morning news shows in 2007, only 1 of which was in Los Angeles. The other two were KHQ in Spokane, Washington and CW31 in Sacramento, California.



A TYPICALLY BUSY FALL WEEKEND

Fall weekends are the busiest for The Spirit of Troy because its many different commitments all come together at once. For example, during the weekend of the USC vs. Oregon game in Eugene, the band performed **16 gigs** from Thursday through Sunday with numerous segments of the band out on Saturday (whether back home in Los Angeles or in Eugene). The sophomore class got to the game on the road, leaving after practice on Thursday night and enduring **1,768 miles** and **24 hours** on a bus. Earlier that day, a 10-Piece band traveled up north with an alumni group on the train and played at **6 stops** on the way to Portland. Meanwhile, after the game on Saturday, the band back home broke into a 10-Piece band that did two gigs, a 40-Piece band for the **KIIS-FM Homecoming Concert** in Anaheim, and a 30-Piece for a women's volleyball game at the Galen Center, making **five different segments** of the band out at once. After three more 10-Pieces on Sunday and including the USC Athletics events, the band had tallied **19 engagements** over four days along with **7 hours of practice**.

2007	
BY-THE-NUMBERS	
Total engagements for the band <i>(Gigs & USC Athletic events)</i>	452
Total distance traveled by the band	47,677 miles <i>or about 10 roundtrips between LA & New York</i>
Scheduled practices, sectionals and meetings	210
Time spent by band members at practices, sectionals, and meetings	422 ¼ hours
Total time spent by band members at gigs, practices, & athletic events	2,870 hours <i>or nearly 120 days</i>
Length of band camp in August	10 days
Practice time during band camp	67 hours
Most gigs performed in a week	23 <i>the week of USC's graduation</i>
Overnight trips taken	21
States visited	11
Farthest traveled	Bristol, Connecticut
Requests for the band to appear at events	636
Events in 2008 requested in 2007	74

