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## Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by bdhcougar - 2007/12/07 10:06

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Has anyone else been listening to 1280 the zone today?

Hans Olsen came out and said he is not a fan of the band. Basically he said we as fans look stupid during popcorn popping (which I agree with) and the death march. He believes that these types of things make us look dorky rather than intimidating.

Hans Olsen also said that while he was playing for BYU he and all the other players rolled their eyes as they played cheesy songs and the fans made the death march motions. Basically he hates the band. He hates how they feel like they are as much a part of the team when they put those flutes to their mouth as he is when he puts on his helmets and smacks guys around.... etc... It was quite an amusing show as he mentioned that if his kid tried to play the flute he would shove it up his nose.

He also mentioned that he doesn't like guy cheerleaders and cheerleaders in general holding up signs for noise at the wrong times and doing flips in your line of site while you are trying to watch the freaking game.

I must say I have to agree about parts of this. The cheerleaders will annoy me at least one time every single game. 3rd down and 5??? Time to do some flying flip so I can't see the stupid pass.

I do like parts of the band... the fight song... but mainly I enjoy the music pumped into the stands more than anything. Hmm... another wonderful rendition of Jimmy Eat World's "Middle" or "Will you be my girl.. ugh" by the band or "Thunder" pumping through the speakers...

So what are the cougarbluers' take on the band? I think it definitely separates College football from the NFL and adds something with the fight song etc... but I do agree that playing music at the wrong times and hearing cheesy band music drives me nuts. Adding a little more rock and a little less swing would definitely make the stadium more intimidating.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by snoscythe - 2007/12/07 10:12

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I vote to get rid of the band. Let them come in and march at halftime, but send them right back out. That's a few hundred extra seats to sell.

If they do keep the band, park them in the South endzone so fewer people have to rubberneck to see the replays.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by treck - 2007/12/07 10:14

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Why were you listening to him? Is your radio broken?

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by treck - 2007/12/07 10:16

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Why were you listening to him? Is your radio broken?

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by bdhcougar - 2007/12/07 10:27

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You can hate on Hans all you want but that was one of the funniest shows I've heard on the radio in a long time. I switch back and forth to whoever is not on commercial.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by bennyhaha - 2007/12/07 10:28

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The only part of the band that I love, is hearing them practice in the middle of August, because it is one of the first signs that football season is almost here. And the playing of the fight song. Other than that, get rid of them, pump in the fight song on the speakers. They play stupid songs, and i dont see the purpose.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by UliUli79 - 2007/12/07 10:34

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If there is one thing that Hans is, it's stupid. There are going to be many who will agree because football is a man sport and band is for geaks and cheerleading is for blondes and guys who can't get a date, but let me share a story:

I played football at a football school. If you were on the team then you were looked up to by many and a lot of people would randomly call your name in the hall to say something about the game or to wish you luck for the next game. Most of us just thought it was cool that so many people thought we were cool. I took it for granted that there was always goodies and posters on my locker, car, and front lawn. I didn't think anything about all of the preparation that went into the things that the cheerleaders, band, and pep-squad did for us. Then, a few years after I graduated I was at a Wal-mart (go figure). This little chubby gal kept looking at me and smiling. I just figured it was due to my rugged good looks and tried to ignore her. Then she walks over and says my name (she knew my first and last). She tells me that her and other band and pep people always enjoyed doing stuff for the football players and she always tried to make sure she got to do my stuff. The reason being is that I was one of the only ones that would actually say "hi" to her in the halls. We talked for a minute and she left with a big smile. You want to know that crappy thing. I never knew her name. I was just too much of a big shot football player to pay attention.

The point is, if the band stops coming and the cheerleaders stop cheering why not get rid of all of it. It doesn't matter how cool you are as a football player, if nobodies watching... you're not anything special. Hans is an a-- for saying anything.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by swingcat - 2007/12/07 10:35

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HaHa! My radio actually broken. All I can get on am radio is 1280. I heard Hans this morning too and I kind of agree with him. For the most part I am ok with the band, but nothing annoys me more then when they play right over the referee when he gives a penalty. I appreciate their excitement, but I payed to see a football game, not a marching band.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by suuwr - 2007/12/07 10:37

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treck wrote:

Why were you listening to him? Is your radio broken?

Nice call!!

I can't believe any cougar fan would listen to that idiot. I vowed not to listen to him after he ripped Collie for mentioning his injury after the Tulsa game. Then, because of my own lack of judgement, I turned it on only to hear him say he would give the coach of the year to Kwhitt?!?!?! I've never know another person to have such a man-crush for someone like Olsen does for Kwhitt. Don't be suprised to hear in 3 months that Olsen and Kwhitt have ran to Massachusetts to finally remove all doubt for thier man love.

As far as the band, who gives a rat's backside. Like a couple people complaining about it will overrule 100 years of tradition.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by bdhcougar - 2007/12/07 10:39

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I agree that his comments can be less than serious sometimes, but I have to admit the guy makes me laugh from time to time. I have to switch between 1320 1280 and 101.9 (Chunga is hilarious:laugh: )

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by Uncle Iroh - 2007/12/07 10:47

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bdhcougar wrote:

I agree that his comments can be less than serious sometimes, but I have to admit the guy makes me laugh from time to time. I have to switch between 1320 1280 and 101.9 (Chunga is hilarious:laugh: )

I'll agree with you that sometimes Hans can be funny to listen too. But I listen to the Cougars on the radio. (Hans and Alema), and sometimes, the things they say make me cringe. I think, "Can you guys honestly be that stupid." The only redeeming thing is that then Ben Bagley usually starts to talk, and he is such a Yewt homer and has a harder time with verbal communication than "W", that it steers the attention away from what Alema just said. As for Hans, well, what do you expect from a guy who says the only reason he put Lavell up on his shoulders was so he could have some face time.

Part of me wonders how much of it is radio schtick.

About the band. They are a band, what do you expect? Besides the obvious (insert your own band geek slam here).

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by BoiseBYU - 2007/12/07 11:19

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UliUli79 wrote:

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I played football at a football school. If you were on the team then you were looked up to by many and a lot of people would randomly call your name in the hall to say something about the game or to wish you luck for the next game. Most of us just thought it was cool that so many people thought we were cool. I took it for granted that there was always goodies and posters on my locker, car, and front lawn. I didn't think anything about all of the preparation that went into the things that the cheerleaders, band, and pep-squad did for us. Then, a few years after I graduated I was at a Wal-mart (go figure). This little chubby gal kept looking at me and smiling. I just figured it was do to my rugged good looks and tried to ignore her. Then she walks over and says my name (she knew my first and last). She tells me that her and other band and pep people always enjoyed doing stuff for the football players and she always tried to make sure she got to do my stuff. The reason being is that I was one of the only ones that would actually say "hi" to her in the halls. We talked for a minute and she left with a big smile. You want to know that crappy thing. I never knew her name. I was just too much of a big shot football player to pay attention.

The point is, if the band stops coming and the cheerleaders stop cheering why not get rid of all of it. It doesn't matter how cool you are as a football player, if nobodies watching... you're not anything special. Hans is an a-- for saying anything.

Thanks for a great post! I have had children play both varsity sports and be in the band in high school....Both worked hard and who are we to bash the one over the other? All I will say, to paraphrase a song I once knew, is that "all God's creatures got a place in the choir."

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by bluesista - 2007/12/07 11:36

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BoiseBYU wrote:

UliUli79 wrote:

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I agree with both of you. I have friends in the band who play because they love it. Their scholarships really aren't much at all, and the time they spend doing it could be better put to use studying or working. They love playing their instruments, and they love to support their team and school.

So you don't like any of the songs they play? Why don't you go watch it at home and let someone else who wouldn't mind the band take your ticket? If you don't want to wave your arms around during the Imperial March or Jaws, no one's making you.

They just play when they're told to. It's not their fault. The band director's got his back to the field, and any good musician knows to always follow the conductor.

Don't be hatin'.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by OremMan - 2007/12/07 11:42

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UliUli79 wrote:

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The point is, if the band stops coming and the cheerleaders stop cheering why not get rid of all of it. It doesn't matter how cool you are as a football player, if nobodies watching... you're not anything special. Hans is an a-- for saying anything.

Great post. I was one of those band geeks in high school and I enjoyed playing our fight song and doing a few goofy songs throughout the game. For BYU, I personally like the death march and don't mind popcorn. If nobody popped in the stands, they would stop. But I think the fact that they do pop indicates that some fans enjoy it. I say keep the band, just

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make sure the director and the football powers are on the same page so that the band is less of a distraction for the die-hards.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by frdbtr - 2007/12/07 11:57

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UliUli79 wrote:

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The point is, if the band stops coming and the cheerleaders stop cheering why not get rid of all of it. It doesn't matter how cool you are as a football player, if nobodies watching... you're not anything special. Hans is an a-- for saying anything.

Very good story. Good job on being a nice guy. Most of the football players in my highschool would have rolled their eyes if a chubby girl tried to say hi to them, and would have made her feel stupid. I agree that Hans should be more respectful of people who like to enjoy the games in a different way than he does.

Having said that, I do agree that the Cheerleaders need to not be a distraction to the fans, the band shouldn't play over the top of the ref and the cheerleaders should know when and when not to get the crowd yelling.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by bdhcougar - 2007/12/07 11:58

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No one is hating... except for Hans. The only thing I have a problem with is when the band plays at the wrong time (during a series) and when the Cheerleaders are doing flips right in front of me or telling the crowd to cheer while we have the ball. Sorry but that stuff drives me nuts.

As far as the band itself is concerned I never said it was their fault. I'm glad they are there. I don't like all the songs they play, but I myself enjoy the death march and the fight song. There were some fans in the stands that would start it without the band a few times which I found pretty comical. You know who you are Kill Kill Kill people...

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by ammoncougar1 - 2007/12/07 12:25

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Here are my thoughts on bands and cheerleaders. Keep the band. They are part of tradition. They do cool formations and play well-practiced songs at half-time and during the game. Do fans look funny doing the death march or popcorn popping? Heck yes. But that is what ticks off our opponents' fans. The Utah fans I know, for example, hate us more than anything because (IN GENERAL) we are obnoxious and stupid without being terribly personal or profane. So keep the band but maybe put a game monitor in front of the conductor in the stands so 1) He won't miss the action and 2) He'll know what to 'strike it up'.

As for the cheerleaders...lose 'em! As a teacher (formerly HS now JrHS) I see cheerleaders as just what they were when I was in school...mostly self-centered eye-candy. Rarely do the fans follow them. And when we do (at BYU) it is usually to

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chant "B" "Y" "U" "Cougars" (I'm pretty sure, like the wave, that as fans we can get that going without their help). I think they were a small town tradition that has worn out its welcome. I think on ALL levels cheerleaders need to be disbanded.

Go Cougs!!!

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by gingi - 2007/12/07 13:02

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I agree that the band and cheerleaders can be an annoyance when they distract. I am usually glad when they're there, though.

Does anyone know the name or email address of the band director? I received a reply last week from Brian Santiago regarding the Allstate endzone net so maybe the band director and cheerleader-leader would respond positively to suggestions that would help them even better help the team and fans.

Maybe I'm dreaming. I know that it didn't work a few years ago when I was a student and tried but I think that I see a different, more committed attitude now. It still isn't hard for me to get the fans around me to start a good cheer and the rest of the stadium usually responds. I might have to be satisfied with that.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by dYrtbYkerYder - 2007/12/07 13:07

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I just have one question.

Is it that hard to learn to play a new song?

It seems like outside of the cheesy LDS stuff, the band plays a lot of pop songs from 1994 that nobody outside of BYU's stadiums ever listen to.

Oh, and why can't they play stuff from the Rudy and Remember the Titans soundtracks? THAT would be awesome.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by CAFB\_04-12 - 2007/12/07 13:14

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gingi wrote:

I agree that the band and cheerleaders can be an annoyance when they distract. I am usually glad when they're there, though.

Does anyone know the name or email address of the band director? I received a reply last week from Brian Santiago regarding the Allstate endzone net so maybe the band director and cheerleader-leader would respond positively to suggestions that would help them even better help the team and fans.

Maybe I'm dreaming. I know that it didn't work a few years ago when I was a student and tried but I think that I see a different, more committed attitude now. It still isn't hard for me to get the fans around me to start a good cheer and the rest of the stadium usually responds. I might have to be satisfied with that.

The band is currently in-between directors after the retirement of long-time director Don Peterson last year. Click [HERE](#) for the band staff page. Fred McInnis is the interim director. I'm sure he'd appreciate any positive criticism of the band.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by CAFB\_04-12 - 2007/12/07 13:16

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dYrtbYkerYder wrote:

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I just have one question.

Is it that hard to learn to play a new song?

Of course not. It's hard to get enough money to buy new music every year though. The music the band plays isn't free, you know. They have to buy rights to large quantities of music and unfortunately not there's not always a 225 piece rendition of Thunderstruck for marching band. A lot of money is spent on halftime selections (which are new nearly every halftime show) every year, not leaving much to the "pep music" in the stands. I have heard the theme from Zelda this year though. That one is new. I'm sure the band directors would take requests, I'll admit the selection of tunes is a little dated. Or you could offer to donate the \$3,000/song (that's just a guess) it costs to purchase an arrangement of your liking.

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### Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by Fully\_Invested\_Fan - 2007/12/07 13:25

I don't like the band either, especially if you are right by the band. Before each game, for some reason, the band plays Navy's fight song instead of ours? The only time I like the band is when the players come out of the tunnel because it gets you pumped up and excited and nervous at the same time. The band should get some better songs, or they should just shut up.

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### Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by tx\_cougar - 2007/12/07 13:25

CAFB\_04-12 wrote:

dYrtbYkerYder wrote:

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This is right on. Learning new music isn't hard, but getting your hands on it is no picnic. It's not just a matter of finding one online and then making 300 photocopies.

I don't think you can get rid of the cheerleaders or the band. They are as much a part of college football as anything else. Also, they have traditions just like the football team does (playing certain songs, or the things they do in the stands). Let them have fun doing what they do best.

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### Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by CAFB\_04-12 - 2007/12/07 13:29

bluesista wrote:

They just play when they're told to. It's not their fault. The band director's got his back to the field, and any good musician knows to always follow the conductor.

Don't be hatin'.

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I've mentioned this before, but the director is on headset with the stadium PA and is given specific times to play. Certain time outs go to PA announcements (commercials, growls, AC/DC or whatever), some time outs go to the cheerleaders, and other time outs are given to the band. Somebody in BYU PA is making that decision. After first downs and touchdowns the band always plays the Cougar Short and after the extra point they always play the Cougar Song. The band director is watching the game, usually facing the field and conducting behind his own back so as to avoid playing during a play (which can be penalized, to my understanding). Playing over a ref call is a bit tricky so sometimes the band will play really quiet (if they know a ref is speaking) and go back to full volume afterward. Of course they don't always get it right. But yelling at the band is a bit like yelling at the guy in front of you that won't sit down (or stand up and cheer).

I will say this: a lot of the people in the band know as much about college football and BYU football as any of us. Some couldn't care less about the game and some hardly play because they can't stop watching. They put in a lot of practice is 95 degree summer heat and 20 degree winter evenings because they enjoy playing. Besides, it's a rush taking that field, walking on that grass, and looking UP at the fans. I always felt appreciated by the team and the coach, though I'm sure not all players give two cents for the band. Brandon Doman and Coach Edwards were the most classy.

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by gingi - 2007/12/07 13:32

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Thanks, for the address, CAFB. I feel a little silly for not having looked it up myself. I didn't even know about the interim director so I'm glad you said something.

-gingi

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by biltong - 2007/12/07 13:35

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Come on, having a great band gets you invited to play better non-conference games! It worked for Grambling...

Maybe if we donated money to improve the band, we could schedule the likes of USC, Florida, Michigan, and Ohio State every year.

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by CAFB\_04-12 - 2007/12/07 13:41

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Fully\_Invested\_Fan wrote:

Before each game, for some reason, the band plays Navy's fight song instead of ours? Are you talking about during the pregame show on the field? There is a song there (I think when the band has spelled BYU and before spelling COUGARS) that they play a song called "College Song." I've never heard the Navy fight song, but maybe it's a similar rendition. On THIS PAGE there are words to a BYU song called "The College Song - Brigham Young University." This might be what you're talking about. The band has been playing that same pregame sequence for as long as I can remember watching BYU football.

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by CAFB\_04-12 - 2007/12/07 13:43

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biltong wrote:

Come on, having a great band gets you invited to play better non-conference games! It worked for Grambling...

Maybe if we donated money to improve the band, we could schedule the likes of USC, Florida, Michigan, and Ohio State every year.

Speaking of Ohio State, I think their pregame show oozes college game day just as much as tailgating and the national anthem. The tuba player dotting the "i" in Ohio (highstepping with a 30 pound, \$3,000 tuba!) is a scene that is always on

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ABC, CBS, NBC, or ESPN.

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by UliUli79 - 2007/12/07 15:00

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frdbtr wrote:

Very good story. Good job on being a nice guy. Most of the football players in my highschool would have rolled their eyes if a chubby girl tried to say hi to them, and would have made her feel stupid. I agree that Hans should be more respectful of people who like the enjoy the games in a different way then he does.

Having said that, I do agree that the Cheerleaders need to not be a distraction to the fans, the band shouldn't play over the top of the ref and the cheerleaders should know when and when not to get the crowd yelling.

I've never really fealt like the nice guy. I may have been nicer than some of the other guys I played with, but that doesn't count for much. Kinda like being the guy who only threw ONE rock at the new geeky kid.

I do agree that you have to be ontop of what's going on in the game. When our O has got the ball it's time to be quite while Hall is under center. That's just common fan sense. This is a pretty interesting thread.

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by ABYUFAN - 2007/12/07 15:09

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For what it is worth, I say it ain't college football without a band!

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by jaga97 - 2007/12/07 15:25

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The band and Cheerleaders are part of college football and Hans is an idiot. Hans telling the band what to do, is like the band telling Hans how to play football. While some of you are to cool and sophisticated to enjoy popcorn popping, the kids in the stands that are the future of Cougar football love it. My 5 year old still does the death march when we watch the games on TV.

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by Hipsdamann - 2007/12/07 15:26

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I totally agree. In my own opinion bands and football don't mix! I think the only song they should play is the fight song, and thats it. I hate it when they start playing a song when the Ref is trying to call an offical review or something like that. It is completely ridiculous! I don't enjoy it even during half time. So what if you can walk in a formation and play a pipe, it is just plain annoying. I would rather have no one on the field than them And as for the cheerleaders. I guess when we do the "B" "Y" "U" "COUGARS!" cheer its pretty cool but other than that, its just dumb to start jumping around like little faries. I think its pretty dumb that people think we need people to tell us when to cheer.

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by Npliam - 2007/12/07 15:26

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I like the band and the Cheerleaders. I don't really like popcorn that much but I don't really care one way or the other. Could the ban do better? Yes. Do I wnat to get rid of the bad? No freakin way!

FWIW I think Hans is a typical stupid jock that doesn't realize that most of what he has in life has nothing to do with his

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accomplishments. He was born big and strong and looks down on people because of it.

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by Island Pipeline - 2007/12/07 15:42

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The last time Hawaii played in Provo I was able to make the trip and although I'm not a BYU fan I gotta say that I enjoyed the whole BYU atmosphere.(band, cheerleaders etc) I also enjoyed the "POPCORN POPPING" song infact I found myself joining in with the fans. I especially enjoyed the theme from "THR EMPIRE STRIKES BACK.":laugh: :laugh:

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by tubatrainer - 2007/12/07 15:48

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As one of the tubas that originated the playing of popcorn...it was for a few reasons, one of them being to mock the AFA band's tuba section for roaming the stadium to play a tune. What we really wanted to play was the Budweiser them song, but it seemed too taboo.

That being said, it is time for some new music. Twenty years of the same songs is too long. The selection can be a difficult situation too. We wanted to play "Iron Man" one year after hearing the UCLA band play it. Some of us were able to learn it by ear without the music. Next game, we played it. The next week, the administration squelched it because of who the original artist is. Funny, considering we played "School's Out For Summer" the very next year at the request of...shall I say it...actual football players that appreciated the band.

Hans is a dork, but then again, anyone would know that just listening to some of the bets he makes and what he agrees to do to himself if he loses.

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by redhdqtnlv - 2007/12/07 16:10

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So Hans Olsen doesn't like the band?

Hum, Well, really anyone who's favorite singer is NEIL DIAMOND???:ohmy: should...KEEP HIS MOUTH SHUT. I mean really. You don't like the Star Wars theme, but you drive around singing Devil in Blue Jeans.(And badley I might add.)at the top of your lungs. Jessh.:dry:

Hey Hans take a little advise from Austin Collie, and GET A LIFE!

BTW this information came courtesy of " A day in the life." on the MTN.

Like we cared about a day in this Jerks life anyway.:dry:

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by Cornellcoug - 2007/12/07 16:16

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I may be in the minority here, but Hans does not bother me that much. He is definately a BYU guy, even though he tries to be impartial and by so doing, says some things that come across as derogatory. He says some pretty dang funny things as well.

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**Re:Hans not a fan of the band.**

Posted by HoosierCougar - 2007/12/07 16:44

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Is the band a little corny? Yep, but let's face it, it is part of college football. Further, in the LDS culture, we celebrate mediocrity and especially kitch. Fact is, that if you want a standing ovation, perform something at BYU (where the blue hairs will stand up with the students, even though they won't at LES or the MC).

We (Mormons) are convinced that we have the best talent anywhere (not just sports, but also piano, theater, vocal performance and many other arts). And by sharing our talents, we bless everyone. So the next time "Sister Jones" sings the Josheph Smith story to the tune of "Tumblin' Tumbleweed" in the Ward talent show, and everyone jumps to their feet to applaud, remember that is what brings us to "Popcorn Poppin'" in LES.

...and if you want to jump all over me and say that in your very cool, understated Ward this would never happen, I'll tell you that I've seen this kind of thing (not the same song, that was a one-and-done) in 4 time zones, 10 Stakes and 2 continents. It's just a part of our culture.

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## Re:Hans not a fan of the band.

Posted by jwilliamporter - 2007/12/07 20:59

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I gotta go with the college football is all about the atmosphere camp on this. To anyone who doesn't want the band or the cheerleaders to interfere with their football experience on Saturday, all you have to do is wait 24 hours. It's called the NFL.

To Sno, and anyone else suggesting moving the band to the south end zone, I think having the band sit next to the visitors section and using the brass and percussion to drown out certain fans is worth the trade off.

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