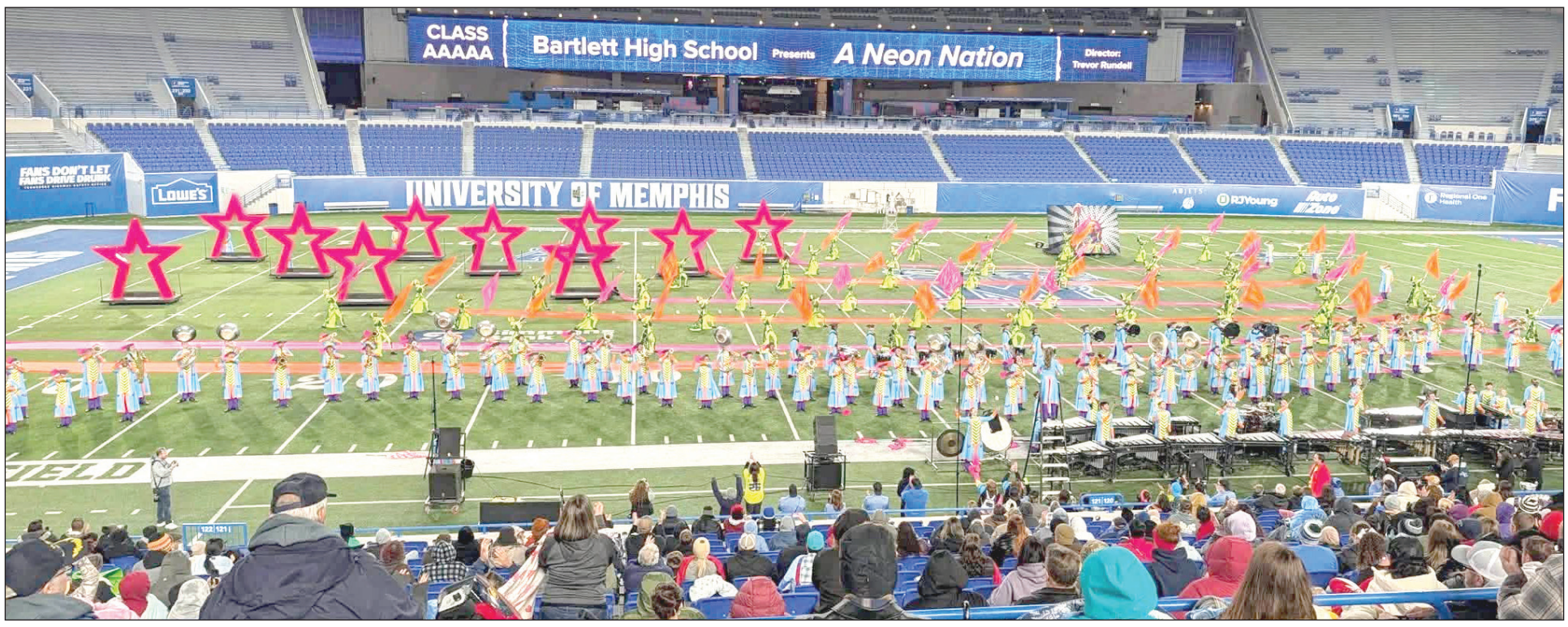


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Bartlett High School's Neon Nation celebrates its third consecutive Bandmasters Championship on Saturday, Nov. 7, after earning a score of 94.788 and sweeping all five caption awards at the annual competition hosted by the University of Memphis Band Alumni..

Photos: Bartlett High School

BARTLETT MARCHING BAND CAPTURES THIRD CONSECUTIVE BANDMASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP

Staff Report

BARTLETT, Tenn. — Bartlett High School's marching band, known as Neon Nation, captured its third consecutive Bandmasters Championship on Saturday, Nov. 7, earning an impressive score of 94.788 and claiming the Grand Champion title.

Hosted annually by the University of Memphis Band Alumni, the Bandmasters Championship recognizes and honors some of the region's most outstanding high school marching bands.

Despite a chilly 40-degree evening and a steady breeze, Bartlett's students delivered an award-winning performance, sweeping all five caption awards: Outstanding Music, Outstanding Visual, Outstanding Percussion, Outstanding Guard and Outstanding General Effect.

The victory marks another milestone for the Bartlett marching band program, which has now claimed the championship three years in a row.

With just seven days remaining in the season, Neon Nation will turn its attention to the Grand National Championship in Indianapolis, where the students will have another opportunity to showcase their talent on a national stage.

'AMERICAN IDOL' WINNER HANNAH HARPER BRINGS NATIONAL TOUR TO BPACC SATURDAY

Rising country artist to perform two shows in Bartlett following breakout television victory

Staff Report

BARTLETT, Tenn. — Fresh off her landmark victory on television's "American Idol," country singer-songwriter Hannah Harper is set to perform two concerts at the Bartlett Performing Arts & Conference Center on Saturday, Nov. 14.

Harper, who won the 24th season of "American Idol" in May, will take the BPACC stage for a matinee performance at 2 p.m. and an evening show at 7:30 p.m. Her victory marked a historic milestone for the competition show, making her the first female country-influenced singer to win the title since Carrie Underwood.

Harper's musical journey began long before her national television audition last February. Raised in Southeast Missouri, she started performing at age 9 alongside her family band, The Harper Family. Steeped in generations of bluegrass gospel traditions, those



early years of touring shaped her musical foundation and fueled her passion for songwriting.

Now balancing the demands of a rising musical career with raising a young family, Harper focuses her music on personal reflection and life experiences. Her song "String Cheese," a heartfelt tribute to motherhood, gained significant traction online and resonated with audiences nationwide during her run on the show.

Since winning the title in May, Harper has maintained a rigorous nationwide touring schedule, making appearances at prominent venues including the Grand Ole Opry, the Ryman Auditorium, Dollywood, and the Cavern Sessions.

"I am so pleased that BPACC is one of the first theatres to present Hannah," said Michael Bollinger, artistic director at the Bartlett Performing Arts & Conference Center. "I predict Hannah Harper will have an exceptional career!"

