



### Season 3 | Bonus | TTU in NYC

(Jazzy Christmas Music)

THEY SAY NEW YORK CITY DURING THE HOLIDAYS IS A SIGHT TO BEHOLD. THE COLORS OF FALL HIT DIFFERENT HERE- EXPLOSIONS OF CHANGING LEAVES IGNITE THE CITY AND REFLECT OFF THE SMOOTH, STILL WATER... A STROLL THROUGH CENTRAL PARK... STEAM ISSUES FROM A PAPER CUP FILLED WITH HOT COFFEE WARMING CHILLED HANDS. IT'S CRISP BUT NOT TOO COLD. A PERFECT FALL MORNING. IT'S A VISION.

(Jazzy Music Continues)

(Cars Honking, Business)

MEANWHILE, LESS THAN A MILE AWAY, THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ARE ON THE MOVE. TIMES SQUARE IS ALIVE AND TEEMING WITH TOURISTS... THE STREETS OF NEW YORK CITY ARE CHAOTIC.

(Cars Honking and Traffic)

STORE FRONTS DECORATED WITH ILLUMINATED CHRISTMAS TREES AND NEATLY WRAPPED BOWS ON GIFTS PERCHED UNDERNEATH. ADVERTISEMENTS FEATURING SMILING FAMILIES IN BRIGHT-COLORED SCARVES AND CABLE KNIT SWEATERS AND PUFFY JACKETS AND VESTS. BUSTLING BODIES MOVE SWIFTLY, ON A MISSION AS THEY MARCH ACROSS THE WHITE-STRIPED CROSSWALK UNDER GLOWING AND FLASHING STREET SIGNS. TWO VERY DIFFERENT IMAGES CROCHETED TOGETHER- THE STILLNESS AND PEACE OF A STROLL THROUGH THE PARK. MAYBE A RIDE IN A HORSEDRAWN CARRIAGE ON A GUIDED TOUR. A PICTURE-PERFECT DISPLAY OF TRANQUILITY... AND THE HECTIC MOMENTUM OF A CITY THAT NEVER SLEEPS...

(Jazz Music Continues)

(Busy Home)

DISCLAIMER, I'M NOT WALKING THROUGH THE STREETS OF NEW YORK RIGHT NOW... I'M AT MY IN-LAWS HOUSE IN SOUTH LUBBOCK AND ITS THANKSGIVING DAY. I JUST FINISHED WATCHING THE MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE ON NBC. IT'S A YEARLY TRADITION THAT SEEMS TO FEEL BIGGER AND MORE SPECIAL THIS YEAR. I'M SURE YOU CAN GUESS WHY...

Hoda Kotb, NBC Today Show Host: Led by Joel Pagan and Eric Allen, in honor of Texas Tech's Centennial this year- the Goin' Band from Raiderland with Wreck Em' Fanfare.

I, LIKE MILLIONS OF OTHERS, WATCHED FROM THE COMFORT OF HOME AS THE BLACK AND WHITE UNIFORMS OF THE TEXAS TECH GOIN' BAND FILLED MY SCREEN. I'M PROUD OF THIS UNIVERSITY. AND IF YOU'RE LISTENING TO THIS PODCAST, IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE TEXAS TECH MAKES YOU PROUD, TOO. I CAN IMAGINE RED RAIDER FAMILIES WATCHING THIS EVENT TOGETHER ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND TALKING ABOUT WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY THIS IS FOR THE UNIVERSITY, THIS STUDENT ORGANIZATION THAT REPRESENTS US SO WELL. THIS EPISODE IS ALL THINGS NYC. AND ALL THINGS MACY'S PARADE, THE BIGGEST SHOW AROUND. AND HOW WE FOUND OURSELVES FRONT AND CENTER.

(Jazzy Music Closes)

(Busy Room, Joel Pagan's voice on a microphone)

IT'S AUGUST 2022... FAR AWAY FROM THE SOUNDS OF THE BIG CITY. IT'S 96 DEGREES OUTSIDE ON THIS AFTERNOON, BUT GOIN' BAND DIRECTOR JOEL PAGAN HAS FALL WEATHER ON THE BRAIN.

SPECIFICALLY, EAST COAST, BIG CITY, BRIGHT LIGHTS. IT'S STILL A SURPRISE FROM THE GOIN' BAND FOR NOW, BUT NOT FOR MUCH LONGER. THE MEMBERS ARE PACKED INTO SEATS IN THE OLD HEMMLE HALL...BEFORE RENOVATIONS BEGAN. SO, A LONG TIME AGO... ANYWAY, THEY'RE ALL SITTING THERE LISTENING TO JOEL GIVE SOME REMARKS AND UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS. THEN HE TURNS THE MIC OVER TO CENTENNIAL COORDINATOR BLAYNE BEAL...

Blayne Beal, Centennial Coordinator: "If you look around the room today, you see cameras and you can see some other folks from our centennial planning committee here today to help us jump start our centennial celebration... You see over here Dr. Schovanec. (Cheering) You. Know it's a big deal when the president comes to see you. We rely on you to do a lot of things and be the face of the university and we really appreciate you very much... So, I'm going to take this opportunity to introduce a big fan of the Goin' Band..."

BLAYNE GIVES A SHORT MESSAGE, INCLUDING A SHOUT OUT TO BAND 1- HE'S A FORMER MEMBER HIMSELF... THE STUDENTS ARE POLITE AND ATTENTIVE, ALBEIT A BIT CONFUSED. WHAT ARE WE ALL DOING HERE? WHAT IS THE BIG DEAL? BLAYNE THEN TURNS EVERYONE'S ATTENTION IN THE ROOM TO A MAN THAT NONE OF US HAVE NEVER MET. HIS NAME IS WESLEY WADLEY, HE'S THE CREATIVE PRODUCER FOR THE MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE. BY THE WAY... YOU CAN HEAR THE ENERGY STARTING TO PICK UP AS HE SPEAKS AND IT GETS KIND OF LOUD AT TIMES... BUT HERE'S WESLEY-

Wesley Wadley, Creative Director for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade: "It has been a good afternoon, it's about to be a great afternoon... for the Goin' Band from Raiderland. I come today to give some news. Some very special news... you're about to hear words never before heard in this program... Do you want to hear it? (Cheering) I'm not sure they want to hear it. (Cheering) Okay, we'll get ther. It's my job to look across the US and find the most entertaining, the most fantastic, the highest energy marching bands in the U.S., high school and college and give them a national stage. And that's why I'm here today, are you deserving? (Cheering) Am I in the right place? (Cheering) It gives me great pride and it gives me grat pleasure as I announce today that for the first time that the Goin' Band from Raiderland has been selected to represent Texas Tech University and the great state of Texas and perform next year in New York City at the 2023 Macy's Thanksgiving Parade."

(Cheering)

SO, THERE WE HAVE IT. THE CAT IS NOW OFFICIALLY OUT OF THE BAG. IT'S A SECRET THAT BLAYNE AND OTHERS KEPT FOR MONTHS AS THEY WORKED WITH PEOPLE LIKE WESLEY TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THIS WOULD LOOK LIKE. CAN YOU IMAGINE THE COORDINATION? I MEAN HONESTLY... 418 BAND MEMBERS, 30 BAND STAFF, HUNDREDS OF GUESTS, COUNTLESS HOURS OF PHONE CALLS, ZOOM CALLS, IN PERSON MEETINGS AND ENDLESS EMAIL THREADS TO ENSURE THAT THIS WEEK IS EVEN POSSIBLE. AND IT WAS. IT WOULD END UP BEING MORE THAN JUST AN APPEARANCE IN A PARADE- IT WOULD LAUNCH TEXAS TECH INTO THE NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION. A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY THAT WAS TRULY UNFORGETTABLE.

(Music)

BLAYNE TELLS THIS STORY OF WHEN HE PRESENTED THE IDEA TO THE PRESIDENT YEARS AGO--- IN THE EARLY STAGES OF CENTENNIAL PLANNING. IT WENT SOMETHING LIKE THIS- BLAYNE'S LIKE 'PRESIDENT, I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF SEEING THE GOIN' BAND DO SOMETHING AS BIG

AS THE MACY'S PARADE... I THINK THIS IS THE NATIONAL SPLASH WE'RE LOOKING FOR. AND I THINK THAT WE COULD ACTUALLY DO THIS.' BLAYNE TELLS HIM...

Beal: If we could make this happen, this would be my number one wish for our centennial. And he looked me straight on and said 'Blayne, if you can get us into the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, we will do it.'

(Students Checking In at Student Union Building)

AND SO HERE WE ARE- BRIGHT AND EARLY FOR THE GOIN BAND MEMBERS ON MONDAY MORNING- NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>. CALL TIME FOR CHECK IN AT THE SUB IS 6:30... AND IF THEY AREN'T USED TO IT BY NOW, THE GOIN' BAND IS ABOUT TO GET VERY FAMILIAR WITH EARLY MORNINGS OVER THE NEXT WEEK. AND ACTUALLY, IT'S MORE LIKE MIDDLE-OF THE NIGHT WAKEUP CALLS IN SOME CASES. THE BAND BUSES ARE LOADED UP AND HEADED TO THE LUBBOCK AIRPORT AT 8:20 SHARP. THEY'RE TAKEN STRAIGHT OUT TO THE TARMAC WHERE A DOUBLE DECKER PLANE IS WAITING.

Student: Wooooo! New York City! Yeah! Wreck Em!

(Flight Attendant Directing People to Seats)

(Music)

THREE FLIGHTS IN FOUR HOURS WOULD DEPART LUBBOCK HEADED FOR NEW YORK. ALL OF THEM FILLED WITH RED RAIDERS.

Flight Attendant: Now boarding group B 1-30.

Paul Tubbs: Thank you so much... And here we go!

THAT'S PAUL YOU HEAR THERE- HE'S A WRITER AND VIDEO PRODUCER IN MY OFFICE. HE'S BOARDING THE SECOND CHARTER WITH HIS SON JAKE AND WIFE, LINDSEY. PAUL'S DAUGHTER TAYLOR IS A TWIRLER IN THE GOIN' BAND AND HIS FAMILY IS TRAVELING TO BE PART OF THIS EXPERIENCE WITH HER. THERE ARE DOZENS OF FAMILIES WHO ARE BOARDING THIS SAME FLIGHT, OR THE THIRD CHARTER LEAVING LUBBOCK, BIG APPLE BOUND. BY THE TIME PAUL'S PLANE TAKES OFF, THE GOIN' BAND IS WELL ON ITS WAY AND WILL SOON LAND IN NEWARK AIRPORT IN NEW JERSEY.

Lucas Taylor: I'm excited to see what we get to do here, the whole experience. Definitely very different than anywhere I've been before. We're going to Yankee's stadium tomorrow morning, then afternoon is up in the air for me but tomorrow night, I'm meeting with my girlfriend and Trey and Shelby to watch the taping of the Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon.

Lawrence Schovanec, President, Texas Tech University: "These really are the best kids in the world, they are so polite and well behaved. It's going to be a great experience for them. And for all Red Raiders!"

THAT'S PRESIDENT LAWRENCE SCHOVANECE. HE'S SMILING FROM EAR TO EAR. HE'S AS EXCITED ABOUT THIS TRIP AS ANYONE. KATE CLABURN IS ENJOYING HERSELF TOO. THIS IS HER SECOND YEAR AS A MEMBER OF THE GOIN BAND. SHE PLAYS CLARINET.

Kate Claburn, Goin' Band Member: Hey, it's Kate.

Natalie: And Natalie.

Claburn: We just got on the bus... ooh Canadian Geese. There's a bunch of geese back there on the side of the road. It's pretty here, we're in New Jersey right now, driving to New York. Natalie, what besides marching in the parade are you most excited about this week?

Natalie: I'm excited to eat pizza and pretend I'm in a rom-com.

Claburn: That is so real. I think I'm most excited about getting to walk around central park and get a really good bagel. So, We'll check back in...

KATE IS A LEGACY- HER MOM GRADUATED FROM TECH IN THE 90'S. SHE'S A THEATRE MAJOR WITH A MINOR IN MUSIC... SHE GREW UP IN MANSFIELD, NEAR DALLAS. SHE DIDN'T JOIN THE GOIN' BAND UNTIL HER SECOND YEAR ON CAMPUS... AND NOW SHE COULDN'T IMAGINE HER LIFE OUTSIDE OF IT.

(Street Sounds)

Claburn: Hey guys! So, we are in the lobby of the Marriott... look how high the ceiling is... There are what, 55 floors? So, we have all of our Rockette's tickets and we're about to walk over as a group, we're super excited. What number is everyone most excited for? I'm most excited for the Toy Soldier Falls. I think it's our first time all seeing the Rockette's so super exciting time. We'll check back in after.

(Music)

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL HAS BECOME ONE OF THE ICONIC STOPS FOR TOURISTS VISITING THE BIG CITY. SINCE OPENING FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 1932, IT HAS BEEN A MUSIC VENUE, A MOVIE HOUSE, A PLACE OF WORSHIP... IT CLOSED IN THE LATE 70'S BUT REOPENED A YEAR LATER. TODAY, IT IS USED FOR A LOT OF DIFFERENT ACTS OF ENTERTAINMENT... BUT IT'S A SPECTACLE AT CHRISTMAS THANKS TO THE RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR FEATURING THE FAMOUS DANCE TEAM THE ROCKETTES.

Claburn: Hey guys, we just got into our seats at Radio City Music Hall, it's absolutely gorgeous in here. We are up in the third mezzanine, and we have awesome seats. Meredith and Lindy, any comments?

Lindy Berger: Wow. This is cool.

Yeah! We're going to check back in after the show. We're so excited!

(Music)

Claburn: Okay guys... so we just got dinner at Little Italy and I got a white spinach pizza and it was delicious, I would give it like an 8 out of 10.

I got the chicken, bacon, ranch pizza and I would give it a 9 out of 10.

I got that bacon and pepperoni and Lord have mercy! I about pee pee'd my pants. A 9 and a half out of 10!

I also got the chicken bacon ranch pizza, and it was marvelous! I'm just happy they had Dr. Pepper to wash it down with. 7.5 out of 10.

A solid 8 out of... oh what did I get? What did I get? I got the pepperoni bacon one that had tomato sauce on it, and it was on a pizza and it was pretty good.

What would you rate it?

Um pretty good.

Claburn: Okay, so we're going around rating our pizza... what did you get and how would you rate it?

I got the chicken BBQ pizza, there were 3 of us that got it and I would rate it like a 12 out of 10. I was really hungry, and it was perfect. Thank you.

We are finishing up the night, it's like 11:30 right now and we're having a great time. The Rockettes was awesome, and we are really excited to get up tomorrow and keep going!

(Music)

IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR NATALIE TO GET THAT NEW YORK PIZZA EXPERIENCE SHE HAD BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO. AS FAR AS THE WHOLE PRETENDING TO BE IN A ROM-COM THING... I'M SURE SHE WORKED THAT OUT FOR HERSELF TOO. TOMORROW, THE AGENDA IS LIGHT. AND FOR GOOD REASON. WHEN IN NEW YORK, STOP TO ENJOY THE MOMENT AND THAT'S WHAT DAY TWO IS ALL ABOUT... A FREE DAY TO EXPLORE THE CITY- LIKE A BUNCH OF KIDS IN A CANDY STORE, BAND MEMEBERS, GUESTS, FAMILIES WILL BE SPREAD OUT ACROSS THE WHOLE CITY ENJOYING ALL THE THINGS IT HAS TO OFFER.

Ferry Announcement: For those traveling with groups of children, the National Parks Service requires that there be one chaperone for every 10 children and that the group remain together at all times...

A SMATTERING OF PEOPLE STAND ALONG THE EDGE OF THE FERRY AS IT SOFTLY SWAYS ACROSS THE CHOPPY BLUE-GRAY WATER. TO THE RIGHT, A MAN IS TIGHTLY GRIPPING HIS BLACK GLOVES IN HIS LEFT HAND WHILE HE HOLDS HIS PHONE TO SNAP A PHOTO OF THE NEW YORK CITY SKYLINE.

(Music)

THE FERRY TUTTERS SLOWLY AWAY FROM LAND AS IT MAKES ITS WAY TO THE STATUE OF LIBERTY. HE CHECKS THAT THE PHOTO IS SUFFICIENT, TUCKS HIS PHONE BACK INTO HIS POCKET AND RETURNS HIS FLEECE GLOVES TO HIS CHAPPED AND COLD HANDS. THE CHILLED WIND NIPS AT RED CHEEKS AND NOSES OF THE PASSENGERS AS THEY HUDDLE TOGETHER UNDER THE OVERCAST GRAY SKY AS IT SPITS MIST AND DRIZZLE. THROUGH THE DOORS, THE REST OF THE RIDERS ARE TAKING REFUGE FROM THE WINDY MID-DAY... CHATTING AWAY OR SILENTLY SCROLLING THROUGH PHONES. AMONG THEM ARE SEVERAL FAMILIAR FACES.

Isabel Luck: Yeah, we went and saw the Rockettes last night... walked around Times Square, got to see all the big billboards, everything is just in your face.

THAT'S ISABEL, SHE'S A TRUMPET PLAYER. AROUND HER NECK, THERE'S A RED AND BLACK SCARF PRINTED WITH THE CENTENNIAL LOGO. SHE'S SANDWICHED IN THE TIGHT CORNER BETWEEN ANOTHER FERRY RIDER ON HER LEFT AND HER ENTIRE FAMILY ON HER RIGHT. HER MOM AND DAD ARE BOTH PROUD GRADUATES OF TEXAS TECH.

Isabel's Mom: To watch her march and support the band... her dad marched in the band too.

Isabel's Dad: And you're never going to get a chance to come to New York and watch a family member in the parade and watch the Tech band in the parade...

THEY'RE ALL BUNDLED UP IN BLACK COATS AND GLOVES, HER DAD'S BLACK BEANIE DONNS A DOUBLE T PATCH FRONT AND CENTER. THEY'RE TALKING TO JEFF, BY THE WAY... HE'S ANOTHER VIDEO PRODUCER FOR OUR OFFICE. YOU'LL HEAR HIS VOICE MORE AS HE CHATS WITH BAND MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES AS THEY DO ALL THE TOURISTY THINGS PEOPLE DO WHEN THEY GO TO NEW YORK.

Jeff Ramazani: Where are you going?

Kate Slyker: The Statue of Liberty.

Ramazani: What are you going to do there?

Slyker: I'm going to look at it...

Ramazani: Why do you want to look at it?

Slyker: Because it's cool. And it's big.

WELL SAID KATE- A DIFFERENT KATE THAN BFORE... SHE'S A TRUMPET PLAYER LIKE ISABEL. HER MOM KARIN ALSO WORKS IN MY OFFICE- SHE, LIKE PAUL, TOOK HER FAMILY TO DO THIS NEW YORK TRIP WITH KATE. THEIR SON WAS ON THE DRUMLINE WHEN HE WAS A STUDENT AT TECH, HE GRADUATED LAST MAY. KARIN SAYS SHE WOULD HAVE NEVER MISSED BEING PART OF THIS TRIP. IT WAS WORTH EVERY PENNY.

(Music)

KATE RECORDS ON HER PHONE AS THE FERRY APPROACHES THE GREEN AND GOLD BEACON EVERYONE IS HERE TO SEE. WHEN THEY MAKE LAND, JEFF FINDS ISABEL AND HER FAMILY AS THEY FIGHT THE WIND AND DRIZZLE TO SNAP A PHOTO THAT INCLUDES ALL 5 OF THEM AND LADY LIBERTY HERSELF.

(Laughing)

THEY SPEND ABOUT AN HOUR WALKING THROUGH THE SHOP AND MUSEUM INSIDE BEFORE RETURNING BACK TO THE FERRY AND THE CITY WHERE THE REST OF THE RED RAIDER CREW IS DOING SOME EXPLORING OF THEIR OWN.

Jacob Moore, Goin' Band Member: My name is Jacob Moore, I'm a junior and I play trombone.

Preston Jordan: What is the coolest thing you've done in the city so far.

THAT'S PRESTON- HE RUNS THE SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS FOR THE UNIVERSITY.

Moore: Riding the subway and going to the 911 memorial.

Jordan: What are you looking forward to most?

Moore: Definitely the parade, the whole reason we're here.

Jordan: What's the best thing you've eaten?

Moore: I had a great Greek food last night and I'm about to try some Holal for the first time.

Jordan: What does it mean for you to be here in the parade in New York and to represent Texas Tech?

Moore: Something that Blayne said a few days ago, about the last 100 years the band being an association on campus and so this is just so much bigger than us right now. It's everyone before us and getting to represent something bigger than us.

Ramazani: So how was the Empire State Building?

Family: Tall. Really tall! And really cold.

Ramazani: Did you lean over?

Family: We did. Lots of pictures. Cold and windy like West Texas.

(Music)

BY 5 P.M. THE SKY IS COMPLETELY DARK. WHAT WAS A DREARY DAY BECOMES COLD, WET, DARK EVENING AS THE PERSISTENT RAIN PICKS UP... CONTINUING TO CLOAK THE CITY AND ITS PEOPLE.

A FEW STUDENTS WAIT IN LINE TO RENT THEIR ICE SKATES IN ROCKERFELLER PLAZA... BECAUSE EVEN THOUGH IT'S NOT IDEAL WEATHER FOR A CASUAL SPIN AROUND THE RINK, WHEN IN ROME...

(Rain Drops)

A SHALLOW LAYER OF WATER SETTLES ON THE SURFACE OF THE ICE, CREATING LITTLE WAKES AS SKATERS PASS BY.

Ramazani: What did you say again?

Lucas Taylor: Don't fall.

Ramazani: Why not?

Taylor: Because it hurts and we have two major performances that a broken arm would not be fun for.

Carter Salle: You could still march it...

Taylor: I could. (laughter)

Salle: As I try to hit a high 90 in an ice skate.

Taylor: As long as it's not an elbow... You could break a wrist.

THEIR HAIR IS DRIPPING, THEIR CLOTHES DRENCHED AND COATS GLOSSY WITH FRESH RAINDROPS... THEY RETURN THEIR ICE SKATES AND HEAD BACK TO THE HOTEL COLD AND WET BUT GLORIOUSLY UNHARMED. THANKFULLY.

Claburn: Alright guys, we are winding down our night right now, it's about 11:30. I'm here with Kendra. We hung out most of the day... It was super great today, Tuesday our free day... We had breakfast at Ellen's Diner, we walked through Central Park, we went to the MET and had a really good lunch. They went to the M&M store and I went to a Broadway show. Kendra, what was your favorite part of your free day?

Kendra Lawrence: I would say that my favorite part of free day was walking through Central Park because I actually got to experience the season of Fall, where there's leaves on the ground and we got to play on the playground and climb on the rocks and it was super cool. It was super fun and it felt great outside, it was so pretty and we got cool pics for the gram.

Claburn: I agree, it was cool climbing that rock with you and getting those pictures with the whole New York skyline in the background, it was just so awesome. I also think that one of my favorite parts of the day was getting to experience so many things I've never gotten to experience before. I've only been to New York once time before and I didn't get the freedom that we get now so it has been so cool just get to experience so many things with some of my closest friends. Also, just going to a Broadway show was fantastic!

KATE SAW TWO SHOWS ON THIS TRIP- SOME LIKE IT HOT AND MOULIN ROUGE. SINCE SHE WAS A GIRL, HER DREAM HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO BE A PERFORMER- ON A STAGE OR IN FILM. SHE HAS ALWAYS FELT THE TRUEST VERSION OF HERSELF WHEN SHE'S PLAYING A ROLE, PRETENDING TO BE SOMEONE ELSE. SHE SAYS THIS WEEK, SEEING THOSE BROADWAY SHOWS, GETTING THIS BIG CITY EXPERIENCE CONFIRMED THINGS SHE HAS ALWAYS KNOWN ABOUT HERSELF- THAT SHE BELONGS UNDER THE BRIGHT LIGHTS.

(Busy Hotel Lobby)

Ramazani: Are you nervous?

Goin' Band Member 1: No, I was built for this.

Goin' Band Member 2: I'm too tired to be nervous. 4 a.m. gang... ahhhh!

THE CLOCK READS 5:15 A.M. AS GOIN' BAND MEMBERS STEP OUT UNDER THE COVERED AWNING AND SLIDE CLEAR PLASTIC RAIN SLICKERS OVER THEIR MATCHING UNIFORMS BEFORE BEGINNING THEIR SHORT WALK. THE DESTINATION IS ROCKERFELLER PLAZA, HOME OF NBC'S TODAY SHOW, WHERE THEY'RE SET TO MAKE THEIR FIRST TV APPEARANCE OF THE TRIP IN A FEW SHORT HOURS.

Laney Whitfield: My name is Laney, I'm a Texas Tech twirler and my favorite Today show cast member is Hoda and Jenna.. I couldn't choose just one. I've watched Hoda since I was little and Jenna is in the Tech Twirler family through Lee Bobbit, who we are super grateful for and are inspired by every day.

NBC Producer: Remember that we are live on the air before we come to you, so we all have to be very quiet. Once the music starts we will be okay.

NBC Producer: 5 seconds... 4, 3, ...

Kotb: All the way from Lubbock, Texas the Goin' Band from Raiderland!

A SMALL GROUP OF MEMBERS MARCHES ONTO THE SET AND BEGINS PLAYING THE TUNE WE ALL KNOW WELL. THE HOSTS LAUGH AND DANCE AND PUT THEIR FISTS IN THE AIR LIKE THEY'RE MARCHING ALONG WITH THE MEMBERS.

AND OUTSIDE IN THE COURTYARD, OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GOIN BAND ARE GETTING INTO POSITION. READY FOR THE NEXT FEW HITS THAT ARE SCHEDULED OVER THE COURSE OF THE MORNING.

(Goin' Band Playing)

SOME RED RAIDER FAMILIES HAVE GATHERED AROUND TO WATCH THIS TODAY SHOW APPEARANCE IN PERSON... TO SNAP SOME SELFIES WITH AL AND HODA AND SAVANNAH... BUT JUST DOWN THE STREET IN TIME SQUARE, RED AND BLACK CLAD TEXAS TECH FAMILIES AND FANS ARE GATHERING BY THE THOUSANDS... WAITING FOR THE GOIN BAND TO MAKE THEIR NEXT APPEARANCE AT A PEP RALLY AS BIG AS NYC ITSELF. THAT'S AFTER THE BREAK.

(Music)

Noemi Martinez: Hi there—My name is Noemi Martínez...I'm an Associate Director of Web at the Office of Communications & Marketing. For over a year, our web team has worked to build a completely new site to share the stories we tell. We've set out to create something visually engaging but also functional—for everyone. We're really proud of our launch and look forward to showcasing all the awesome storytelling our writers, photographers, and videographers create. Check it out at: [ttu.edu/now](http://ttu.edu/now).

(Wreck Em' Fanfare)

Beal: I'm going to try not to get emotional here. That was one of two moments for me. The times square pep rally came to me pretty early and I thought it would be great if we could try to achieve this. And we did.

BLAYNE HAS SPENT YEARS, LITERALLY, PLANNING EVERY DETAIL AND MOMENT OF THIS NEW YORK CITY TRIP. HE HAD IT ALL LAID OUT, IRONED OUT, PLANNED OUT BY THE MINUTE... SO HE WASN'T EXACTLY EXPECTING TO BE SURPRISED. BUT WHEN HE WALKED OUT INTO TIMES

SQUARE AND WAS GREETED WITH THE SEA OF RED RAIDER FAITHFUL, IT WAS A SWEETER SURPRISE THAN HE COULD HAVE EXPECTED.

Beal: I stood on that stage and looked out over the audience and just the amount of people that had gathered was... it was just surreal. If you look to the top of those bleachers, we had someone at the top of the bleachers with a Tech flag and I thought... we couldn't have scripted a better moment. We talk about bearing our banners far and wide and this was it.

Beal at pep Rally: Let's give a round of applause for the 17<sup>th</sup> president of Texas Tech University, Lawrence Schovanec.

Schovanec: Red Raiders, you are amazing! (Cheering) Is this not cool? What a wonderful experience for all of us but especially these students, I couldn't be more proud of the Goin' Band, cheer and pom, the Masked Rider, Raider Red. We are so grateful for the way you are representing us to this nation.

THE SHEER VOLUME OF PEOPLE IS ALMOST OVERWHELMING...IT'S HARD TO DETERMINE FOR SURE HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE SHOWN UP, BUT YOU CAN HEAR IT IN THE RAIDER POWER CRY THAT TOOK OVER TIMESQUARE THAT MORNING.

(Raider Power)

(Strive for honor evermore. Long live the Matador)

THIS GROUP IS RUNNING ON PURE ADRENALINE IT SEEMS... AS THE PEP RALLY COMES TO A CLOSE, THIS GROUP JUST HAS ONE THING LEFT ON THE AGENDA- A QUICK TRIP OVER TO NEW JERSEY FOR A PARADE PERFORMANCE RUNTHROUGH.

Claburn: Alright, we just got done with our rehearsal at the armory. How is everyone feeling?  
I'm feeling great, excited for tomorrow.  
Yes, I'm really excited to perform in the next few hours.  
I'm a little sleepy but I'm getting really excited.

Claburn: It's becoming real now. We're all really excited, gonna go to sleep hopefully early so we can get up for our 4 a.m. rehearsal that we have to get up at 2 for. Woo!

(Music)

Kristen Hickok: It's currently 3:46 in the morning and I'm already out of breath. It's Macy's time. Let's go!

Chris Herrera: I'm feeling nervous and excited. I've never been to New York before, I'm from a small town. I'm from Brownfield. Brownfield, Texas. Go Cubs.

Nellie Robledo: We're live on 34<sup>th</sup> and it's 4:07 in the morning, my name is Nellie.

Reilly Ledbetter: And my name is Reilly, we're here to give you the weather. It's about 50 degrees right now, feels like a good 47. We've got a northwest wind of about 8 miles per hour. It's pretty chilly but we've got our hot hands, we just finished rehearsal. We are pretty warm and ready to go! Yay!

PAUL'S ALARM CLOCK GOES OFF AT 3:30 HE AND HIS WIFE GET OUT OF BED, SHAKE THIER TEENAGE SON OUT OF HIS SLUMBER AND DRAW OPEN THE CURTAIN TO THE STILL DARK MORNING.  
AS THEY YAWN AND STRECH THE SLEEP AWAY AND START TO GET DRESSED, THE GOIN' BAND IS ALREADY WELL ON THEIR WAY TO THE STAGING AREA WHERE THEY'LL HAVE ONE FINAL REHEARSAL BEFORE THE BIG MOMENT.

Trey Pile: We're waiting in line now getting ready to go on for the Macy's parade.

Ramazani: How you feelin about that?

Pile: I'm cold but it's okay.

Slyker: We're walking across the street and a bunch of cops stopped us and Jimmy Fallon walked right past us... what? I was starstruck, I didn't know what to do.

(Motorcycle Sirens)

Tubbs: That was NYPD on motorcycles coming by... pretty cool.

(Red Raiders! There you go! Wreck Em'!)

Lindsay Tubbs: Oh, it's Miss America! There she is.

LISTENING TO PAUL'S WIFE LINDSAY WATCH THE PARADE IS ALMOST AS ENJOYABLE AS WATCHING IT FOR YOURSELF. SHE'S HAVING THE TIME OF HER LIFE HERE. THEY ALL ARE— EVEN THE RETIRED WOMAN WITH HER FAMILY THAT SAT RIGHT NEXT TO PAUL.

Lindsay Tubbs: Oh wow look at smoky the bear! Oh my god.

(Go Tech Go)

FINALLY, THEY GET INTO POSITION AND BEGIN THE WALK TOWARD THAT MACY'S STAR WHERE NATIONAL TV AWAITS. WHERE THEIR FAMILIES AND THE HUNDREDS OF RED RAIDER FAITHFUL IS ALSO WAITING.

Tubbs: Wooo! Go baby! Hi Taylor! We love you!!! She's the front one on the right.

Al Roker: What's football without a band? Well, this group was the first band to travel to an away game. Directed by Joel Pagan and Eric Allen, in honor of their centennial here's the Goin' Band from Raiderland with Wreck Em' Fanfare.

FOR 3 AND A HALF MINUTES THEY WAVED AND CHEERED AND SCREAMED THEIR HEADS OFF. THEY SMILED AND WATCHED THEIR KIDS DO THIS AMAZING THING. AND PAUL PRETTY MUCH SUMMED IT UP THERE AT THE END- IT IS AWESOME. WHETHER YOU'RE WATCHING FROM 20 FEET OR 27 HOURS AWAY.

Alex Hernandez: Awesome... absolutely awesome.

Ramazani: Would you do it again?

Hernandez: Absolutely.

Ramazani: Would you do it again tomorrow?

Hernandez: Ehhhh... give me a day or two.

Kaitin Werner: I got to be in a city that I love (cut) with my closest friends. It's something that I will remember for years and years... You can sleep later... you can sleep on the plane.

(Music Open)

Claburn: Hey guys, we just got done marching in the Macy's parade. How are you feeling?

Goin Band Member 1: That was really cool.

Goin Band Member 2: How are you feeling?

Goin Band Member 3: I feel really pumped. That was really cool, man, really exciting.

Claburn: How do you feel?

Goin Band Member 4: That was so cool. So exciting.

Claburn: I think that was the coolest thing I've done in my life and I'm going to brag about it forever.

KATE SAID THAT SHE'LL NEVER FORGET THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO MADE A CITY LIKE NEW YORK FEEL LIKE HOME- THERE WASN'T A MOMENT ON THE ENTIRE PARADE ROUTE THEY DIDN'T SEE A GUNS UP OR HEAR A RAIDER POWER. IT SHOWS HOW MUCH THIS COMMUNITY CAN TRAVEL.

(Music)

Beal: When we made the turn from Central Park south onto 6<sup>th</sup> avenue and you could see all the ways down, the balloons are in front of you and truly our next stop is Macy's and the band cued up Fight Raiders Fight. It just shot down that street. And I thought wow. How special this moment is. I'm not going to lie. I cried right there. I looked over at the band directors and they were crying. When you look down the street and you see the double t's in the air, people going crazy for us, including non-Texas Tech people. The band has such a huge sound, you knew we were coming. They were anticipating us. It was really special.

Taylor Peters: Is it your love and appreciation for Texas Tech what makes you emotional?

Beal: Oh, for sure. I come from a family of Red Raiders so my birth announcement said I was going to be a Red Raider so I couldn't fail in that. This is going to sound cheesy, but I truly thought back to 100 years ago when there were 900 people on this campus and 3000 people in this city to think gosh, look where we've come in 100 years. They told us to think big and we did... that was pretty gratifying.

(Music)

WHEN THE BAND STEPPED ONTO THAT ICONIC MACY'S STAR- THE GRANDEST STAGE... THEY CARRIED MORE THAN THEIR INSTRUMENTS... MORE THAN THE DOUBLE T'S STITCHED ON THE SHOULDERS OF THEIR UNIFORMS. AND AS THEY MARCHED IN PERFECT SYNC, GENERATIONS OF GOIN' BAND MEMBERS FELL INTO STEP BESIDE THEM. THE SYMPHONY OF THOSE CLASSIC TEXAS TECH TUNES THAT RESOUNDED IN THE CITY STREETS REVERBERATED IN THEIR OWN HEARTS. FIGHT RAIDERS FIGHT... THAT IS LEGACY.

(Music)

HEY GUYS IT'S TAYLOR- IF YOU WANT TO SEE MORE FROM THE BAND'S TIME IN NEW YORK CITY, GO TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL. JUST SEARCH TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY ON YOUTUBE. AND DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA. THANKS FOR TUNING INTO SEASON THREE OF FEARLESS- DON'T FORGET TO LIKE, REVIEW AND SUBSCRIBE.