



Gavin Garrett, 20

Who is Gavin Garrett?

- **Born:** March 2, 1993
- **Status:** Tuba Player in the University of Wisconsin-Madison Marching Band
- **Education:** Graduated from Brodhead High School in 2011, currently in his second year at UW-Madison
- **Major:** Music Education
- **Musical History:** Began trumpet lessons and joined the band at his elementary school in 5th grade, switched to the tuba in 8th grade
- **Favorite Song Played by the UW Marching Band:** "You've Said it All!"
- **Future Plans:** earn a degree in instrumental music education, possibly teach music at a Wisconsin high school and lead a college marching



The UW Marching Band Tuba Section performs at a football game at Camp Randall
Photo Courtesy of: University Communications

Game Day: Not Just for the Athletes

Tuba Player Talks about Band's Role on Football Game Days

By: Lauren Tubbs

They spend hours a day training for this moment. They wake up early on game day to practice and mentally prepare. They put on their uniforms and head to the football stadium. And when they march onto the turf, the fans rise to their feet. They may not be the University of Wisconsin Football Team, but this is their game day as well; they are the University of Wisconsin Marching Band.

To Gavin Garrett, a University of Wisconsin sophomore and tuba player in the UW Marching Band, game days at Camp Randall, the home arena for the Wisconsin football team, are some of the best times for the band.

"I remember the first time I marched at Camp Randall and I just stepped out...and saw that it was just full with all these people," Garrett said. "It was just so crazy. I just sat there for a moment thinking 'that's pretty cool.'"

According to Garrett, football games can

be the most tiring. After attending an early morning rehearsal to run through the music for the day, band members must clean their game horns and put on their uniforms, a process that takes about 45 minutes. The tuba section then marches around campus and stadium venues, playing some of the band's favored songs at tailgates and local bars. Garrett said hot

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game days and these pre-game shows tire him out, but the show must go on. Garrett said the next event on the game day schedule is a band concert at Union South, where fans can get a taste of the music the band will play at halftime of the game. From there, the band marches into Camp Randall. Once inside, they have —

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