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‘Not for the weak’

How the OSU band earns its nickname TBDBITL

Jordan Laird Columbus Dispatch | USA TODAY NETWORK

Like many Ohio State University Marching Band hopefuls, Abbey Zunic spent dozens of summer evenings ahead of her freshman year sweating on a practice field, learning how to chair step and play the school’s two fight songs from memory. • And like many candidates, Zunic did not make the band the first time she tried out in 2022. • Zunic, a trumpet player and music education major from Lewis Center, didn’t let it stop her. She had strong musical skills but needed to get in better shape and work on her marching. So, Zunic started running on the treadmill while listening to music recordings of the marching band, like “Buckeye Battle Cry.” She also practiced marching with friends. See **BAND**, Page 4A



ABOVE: Musicians participate in summer camp for the Ohio State Marching Band at Lincoln Tower Field behind Ohio Stadium. PHOTOS BY ADAM CAIRNS/COLUMBUS DISPATCH

TOP: Joey Speidel marches with the drum kit during summer practice for the Ohio State Marching Band at Lincoln Tower Field behind Ohio Stadium on Aug. 13. Nearly 400 candidates try out for 228 spots in the band.

Property tax issues top priority for Ohio lawmakers

Haley BeMiller
State Bureau
USA TODAY NETWORK

As Ohio lawmakers return to work from summer break, there’s a major issue that remains unresolved: property tax relief. The two-year budget passed in June included policies that aim to fix a years-long source of frustration and anxiety for homeowners. But Gov. Mike DeWine threw the Legislature a curveball and vetoed their ideas, saying too many changes at once would hurt schools. Months later, DeWine and his fellow Republicans still aren’t on the same page – and it’s likely too late to make a difference for January tax bills. Lawmakers also can’t seem to quell

See **PROPERTY TAX**, Page 2A

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