The return of the football season meant it was time to bring back pre-pandemic traditions at Hard Rock. The new school year and performance season brought an end to wearing masks, travel limitations, and pre-recorded performances for the band.

Traveling to games with the football team and performing on the field are both things the pandemic has affected. Tyler Jacquays, who is a third-year member of the band, was ecstatic to have the full experience as a band member without restrictions for the first time.

“This year is an exciting year for us because we are returning to all the pre-pandemic traditions and traveling to every single football game. We’re bringing back fan zone at games and tailgate performances, as well as performing for students at the Rathskeller,” Jacquays said.

The team dynamic and personal bonds formed for the members help build their chemistry for performing on the field. Jacquays gives insight into the relationships and the team dynamic with new members.

“Band Camp, which we do in the summer every year, helps to prepare for the season. It was a great chance to become close with our new members and learn to work together. We have a lot of social events outside of practice and we’ve all become close friends, and it’s reflected in our performances,” he said.

 Tradition and celebration are back, as the musically talented showcase their abilities without restriction

FOLLOW MY LEAD
Junior Drum Major Shelby Decore leads the band during the Homecoming football game against Florida State University. The Canes would eventually lose at home in a blowout score of 45-3.
Photo by Char Jones

GAME FACE ON
Junior Ava Moffitt focuses on her choreography during Frost Band of the Hour’s halftime performance at the Canes football loss against Duke.
Photo by Char Jones

SPOTLIGHT
Senior Chris Ricardo performs his special trumpet solo during the Frost Band of the Hour’s halftime performance at the football game loss versus UNC.
Photo by Char Jones

FALL TOGETHER NOW
The Frost Band of the Hour’s horn section stays strictly in line and march together during their halftime musical performance at Hard Rock Stadium. This section includes instruments like saxophones, trumpets and trombones. The football game against Duke would end in an eventual loss at Hard Rock Stadium, the fourth loss of the season for the Hurricanes.
Photo by Char Jones

PINK FOR AWARENESS
Junior Ryan Hires, member of the Colorguard, performs during halftime at the football game against UNC. He sports a pink ribbon in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
Photo by Char Jones

LOUD MUSIC