



A Year At The Top

"A year at the top" is the statement that best fits the senior high band. This year has been one of hard work but also one of rewards.

The work started in early August at band camp, getting the annual show ready. At the end of the week they made their second appearance at Cedar Point, entertaining the crowd. Spending the night in Ohio and swimming the next morning was a first-time treat.

When school began, they practiced every day during band class and after school. They performed at each home game, helping the cheerleaders boost crowd spirit.

In addition, this year the band had a chance to do something that it hasn't done in at least 15 years: They competed with other bands for trophies and points at a marching band invitational. The band traveled to Dansville, full of hopes and a lot of "Bear Band" pride. They really worked together and showed what they could do, even showing a bit of talent in marching to a new off field cadence. "Axil'F." Even with all the applause the band was still nervous waiting for the presentation of the trophies. When the announcement came they had won awards for

best marching and maneuvering, crowd appeal, and best class D band, missing best overall by one point. They came back full of pride and energy.

Of course, as always, the band performed at the Christmas Concert and helped the junior high band with their special piece. With half the year over, the band set its goal on District festival. They played on a very snowy winter day in March at Ovid-Elsie High School, receiving straight I's, and making it possible to go to State Festival. Four weeks later they played at Perry and received straight II's.

The high school band performed at Bannister, also, marching with Ovid-Elsie bands for one of the Sesquicentennial celebrations. When Spring Concert time came around, the band gave one of its finest performances. Seniors Deann Gross, Theresa Fabus, and Missy Chapman showed their musical abilities by mastering new instruments such as their hair dryer, blender, and vacuum cleaner.

A year at the top . . . what more can you say about a band that truly "turned up" the spirit at Ashley?



(First row) Missy Chapman, Dana Payne, Stephanie Melvin, Amy Lytle, Ann Fabus, Lisa Lacker, Deann Gross. (Second row) Jenny Murphy, Angel Pingel, Traci Andersen, Cheyrl Howe, Char Evans, Dianna Garcia, Amy Andersen, Willie Bywater, Renee Kirkpatrick (Third row) Brian Gavenda, Kim Morris, Amy Burk, Amy Fabus, Jodi Felton, Sheila Keck, Lynna Tupica (Fourth row) Jamie Plesko, Tommy Fabus, Chris Shaw, Sherry Kral, Chaunda Shaw, Karin Burlingame, Angie Felton, Theresa Fabus, Jimmy Stelik (Fifth row) Julie Kremer, Erin Malek, Andy Denman, Matt Miller, Wes Burk, Rob Kral, Matt Chavojka, Kevin Palmatier (Top) Mr. Wager. Missing: Tracy Coon and Cara Burk.



One of the requirements for high school marching band is to play until half time at all home boys' basketball games. One song sure to be heard is "Tusk" because of the vocals that can be added.