

Wawasee band wows 'em at Atlanta football game

What you saw disembarking from three Indiana Motorbus Co. busses at Wawasee High School Tuesday morning were 124 high school band students and their 14 chaperones, all happy, smiling, but very tired.

They had just arrived home from a motor trip to Atlanta, Ga., where they proudly performed in the famous Field Show Festival, the equally famous Peach Bowl Parade, and the New Year's Eve televised football game between the University of Virginia Cavaliers and the Purdue Boilermakers. Their pre-game performance was seen by millions who were at home on New Year's Eve to enjoy afternoon football.

It proved to be a successful trip for the Marching Warriors who captured a 2nd division rating in their Sunday Field Show performance and a 1st division rating in their parade performance on Monday.

"We were particularly pleased with our parade rating," said band director David S. Blackwell. "We were rated on a national scale and received the highest rating possible."

"We had a great time. It was a very successful trip," Blackwell added. "As long as we have the support of the corporation and the communities, I would like to do this kind of trip again. It was a good chance for the kids to see a different part of the world."

Tired they might have been when they arrived home, but this wasn't the case when they left their southern trip. They were in a real gala holiday mood at the high school Friday afternoon, with their parents and friends, all in euphoric anticipation of their trip to Atlanta.

The band had been chosen to participate in Atlanta by the All-American Festivals of Salt Lake City, an organization that puts together such affairs.

Dinner First

There was a band practice session at the high school under director Dave Blackwell, then a dinner, all this from 3 to 6 p.m.

Dress: Full band uniform.

The colorful — and memorable — Peach Bowl Parade stepped off promptly at 11 a.m. New Year's Eve with the Wawasee band participating, ending at the Atlanta Fulton County Stadium for the band pre-game extravaganza. It was every man for himself at lunch.

Then for the big game, starting at 3 p.m. After the game, it was to be boarding the busses and heading up Interstate 75 for Indiana — and home.

It was a big occasion for the young musicians. One they'll long remember. They arrived home at 9 a.m. January 1.

If parents of the band members had any misgivings, they needn't have. The young musicians were well chaperoned. Making the trip with them were band director David Blackwell and his son David, Jack and Karen Parr, John and Carol Hurd, Richard and Dot Wysong, Richard and Helene Taylor, Judy Finan, Bess Stetler and William and Ann Troup, Lois Welty and Judy Miller.

Prepare your car for winter

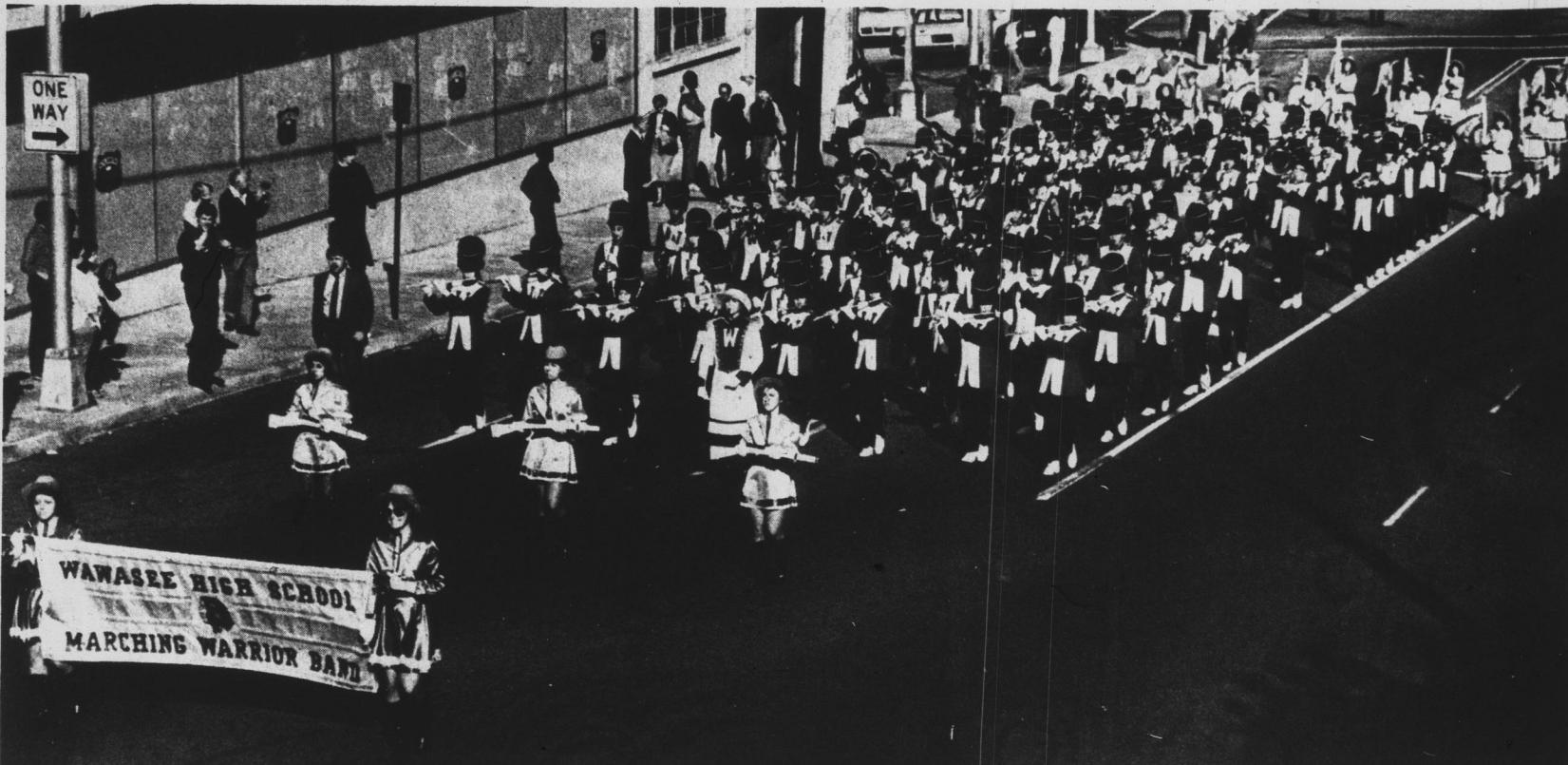
Your car owner's manual is the first item to check when preparing the vehicle for another rough winter, according to the AAA-Chicago Motor Club.

A thorough re-reading of the manual will remind you of the recommended schedule for maintenance — which you should be following. It will also give important information such as the location of dipsticks and the proper way to check windshield washer solvent.

Complete winterization is a combination of minor tasks you can accomplish yourself and major maintenance which should be performed by a competent technician.

Big Game New Year's Eve

Following breakfast at their hotel on New Year's Eve, it was busses loaded and they were off for the big parade staging area.



WARRIOR BAND MARCHES IN PEACH BOWL PARADE

Elkhart County Sheriff's Department honored

The Elkhart County Sheriff's Department became the first sheriff's department in the United States to receive accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies in a public ceremony on Friday.

Indiana Attorney General Linley Pearson, Elkhart County Commissioners Thomas Romberger, Hal Doriot and John Bentley and Accreditation Commission member Sheriff Richard Elrod were among the dignitaries in attendance. Elkhart County Sheriff Dick Bowman accepted the award on behalf of the department.

Romberger noted that at this time the accreditation process is entirely voluntary. He said the department applied for accreditation in 1983, was inspected by a team from the national commission in September of this year, and received notice of its qualification in November.

Each agency that applies for accreditation is evaluated on 544 mandatory standards and 221 optional standards. In its first inspection, the department met all the mandatory and 198 of the optional requirements. At this point, only four other law enforcement agencies in the country have been awarded accreditation.

The status will be good for a five-year period. If at that time the department wishes to maintain its accreditation, it will have to re-apply to the commission.

Praise Bowman

Both Pearson and Romberger praised the work of the department and Sheriff Bowman in obtaining this status.

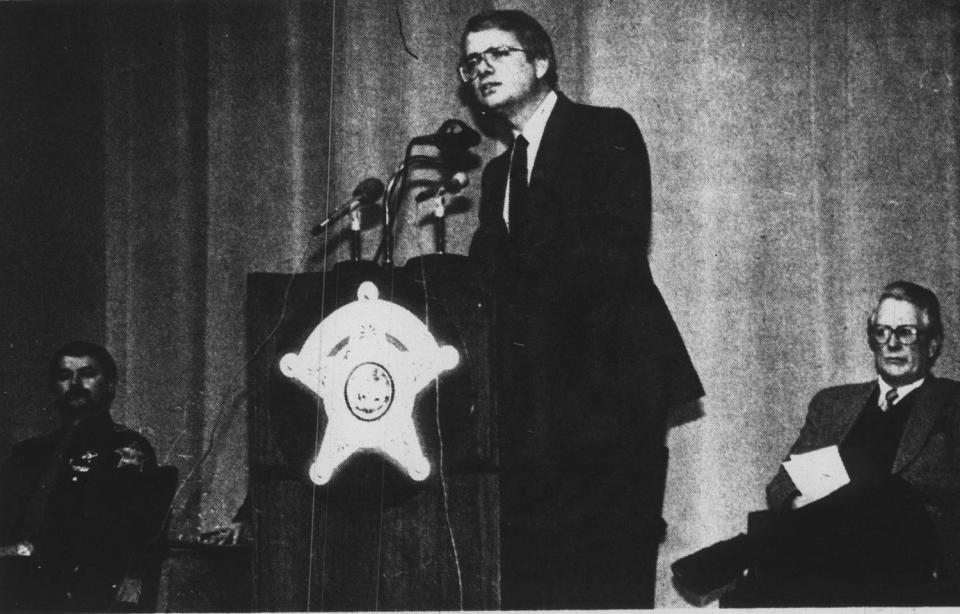
Pearson, who was recently elected to a second term as Indiana Attorney General, called this an historical day in Elkhart County.

"This department is a pioneer," he noted. "It is a department that will serve as a model for the 21st century. Law enforcement, to be good, has to be respected. This honor is a sign that Elkhart County is receiving first class law enforcement service."

Romberger commented that the accreditation process was set up to increase four aspects of law enforcement: agencies' capabilities to control crime, delivery of services, cooperation between agencies and citizen and employee confidence in agencies.

Bowman and his department have set a standard that will be kept up in the county for a long time to come, Romberger said. "This is a lasting contribution to law enforcement in this county."

Bowman, who has been in of-



GUEST SPEAKER — Indiana Attorney General Linley Pearson delivers a short address at the accreditation ceremony on Thursday at the Concord Performing Arts Center. Pearson was re-elected to a second term in November. Pictured at right is Elkhart County Commissioner Thomas Romberger.

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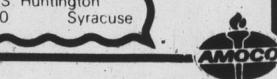


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Travel Talk

Diane Bryant
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR —
Mark Weinstein, 25, Warsaw, has
been named Associate Sports
Editor of the Mail-Journal, effective
Wednesday, Jan. 2. The
announcement was made by Arch
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Weinstein joined the Mail-Journal staff November 14, 1983 as a reporter. He graduated from Grace College in 1982 with a BS degree in Speech Communication and Journalism.

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