

Concert bands steal the show with superior ratings

Music makers

By: Rachel Hochgesang and Shay Mesiner

BEING A MEMBER OF THE BAND required a lot of effort and hard work. The Sycamore Winds, and Wind Symphony were two of the most elite bands. An audition was held to determine which band one would play in. **Mr. David Swift** was the director of the Sycamore Winds and **Mr. Lonnie Stover** and **Mr. Gary Langhorst** were the directors of the Wind Symphony.

The Sycamore Winds and Wind Symphony were separate concert bands but during the fall quarter the bands were combined to form the marching band. The marching band played at the football games

as well as competitions.

"All competitions are my favorites--the adrenaline, the challenge to be my best. That's the same whether we're baking at Universal Studios or getting our keys frozen shut in Canton," said **Laura Moster, 11**, on the topic of marching band.

The Winds and Wind Symphony performed at a winter concert in January and at Pancake Day. At Pancake Day the Wind Symphony played songs such as *Air*, and *Suite from Bohemia*, while The Winds played *Toccata*, *Army of the Nile*, and *Symphonic Dance, No. 3*. The annual Pancake Day, on March 13 was an opportunity for the bands to show off their skills and

raise money for the band and orchestra program. The booster parents prepared all you can eat pancakes for the audience to enjoy for a price of five dollars. All the money raised went to new instruments and uniform cleaning.

"Playing in front of an audience is fun," said **Cathryn Niehaus, 9**.

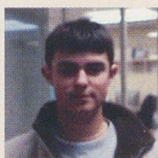
The Winds received a *superior* rating at the OMEA Large Group Contest. To top off an extensive year, the bands played a final spring concert. To finish the spring concert properly, *Stars and Stripes* was played by all the seniors.

DEDICATION.

Hours of practice and hard work went into preparing for the Pancake Day concert. But after practicing everyday during fifth bell, the trumpet section was finally ready to show their hard work. **Zack Goldman, 9**, **Emanuel Rezene, 10**, **Tim Maxon, 11**, **Corey Gross, 9**, **Jonathan Schepers, 10**, **Mark Macanich, 9**, and **Jason Blatt, 9**, play a passage from *Suite from Bohemia*.



What do you enjoy most about band?



"I like the fact that everyone is continually getting better at playing and all the practices help."

> **Chris DeMuth, 11**



"I like to play and create music. Band gives me the opportunity to learn more about music and playing unique styles."

> **Sara Imhoff, 11**



"I'm continually challenged to improve and it gives me a strong goal to strive towards."

> **Julie Mueller, 11**

