

# Local

Gannett Westchester Newspapers/Thursday, October 21, 1982 PC

3 Sect

## Village high school band sets sights on Canada

By Georgette Gouveia  
Staff Writer

Goodbye, Atlanta. Hello, Quebec City.

The Port Chester High School Marching Band will not play in the Peach Bowl in Atlanta over the New Year's holiday, as was planned. Instead the band will perform in the International Festival of Music in Quebec City, Canada, March 26 through 31.

Until recently, the band intended to take part in the Peach Bowl's musical events and the World Music Conference from Dec. 27 to Jan. 2. Then Joseph Telesco, director of bands at Port Chester High, learned through the music industry's grapevine that National International Music Festivals Inc., sponsor of the Peach Bowl's musical events and the conference, had folded.

Telesco said he has been unable to reach the company. He called the Peach Bowl and confirmed that the conference and other musical activities have been called off.

The band has been invited to take part in the Peach Bowl parade, which is set for Dec. 30.

"But I can't see spending \$25,000 for one day," Telesco said.

The band raised more than \$20,000 for the Peach Bowl trip. Some of this money will be used for the Quebec trip, he said. The rest will be saved for future band activities.

Telesco described band members as "a little disappointed, because of the whole idea of going and doing a bowl and a parade." He, however, is taking the philosophical approach.

"It's almost for the better," he said.

Not that band members will have any time to cry in their tubas with the busy schedule they have mapped out for themselves.

On Sunday, the band is scheduled to compete at Passaic Valley High School in Little Falls, N.J., with 15 other bands from the metropolitan area.

On Oct. 31 from noon to 4:30 p.m., the band will host a marching band competition at Port Chester High. Twelve bands from New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Connecticut are expected to participate.



Port Chester High School marching band

Gannett/Robert F. F

Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for senior citizens and children under 12. Further information can be obtained by calling the high school's main office at 939-7300.

Then on Nov. 13 the band plans to take part in the Eastern Marching Band Association Championship in Elizabeth, N.J., along with approximately 60 other bands.

Two years ago in this competition the band took second place among for bands with less than 66 musicians.

Bands are judged on choice of music, execution, marching technique and overall performance.

"Without exaggeration, the band is 300 times better than it was two years ago," Telesco said. "The kids practice a lot. They're very proficient."

The band also has increased in the past two years from 52 to 63 musicians due to greater student interest, he said. There are no auditions for the band. Any student who is interested may join. Students receive one credit for taking band.

Last Sunday, the band took first prize in its division and second prize overall in a competition sponsored by Bunnell High School in Stratford, Conn. Twelve bands competed.