

Freshmen march to beat of new school year!

Classes have yet to begin at Apex High School for the 2005-2006 school year, but incoming freshmen marching band members hit the high school sports field Aug. 1 to begin practice.

Freshmen and upper classmen band members got a head start on preparing for this year's show, highlighting music and themes from James Bond movies.

With more than 40 incoming freshmen and first year members, the number of students expected to march will reach nearly 160. The increased number of players adds depth and volume to their performances. Keeping them in uniforms, however, is a challenge, according to Roberta Benton, 2nd Vice President of the Apex Band Boosters.

"We only had 100 green uniforms, and that isn't nearly enough," she said. "For the last two years we've been buying interim pieces for the pit crew and percussion. This year we're having to rent."

New uniforms are expected for the 2006-2007 season, but the order must be placed by January to arrive in time next year, said Mrs. Benton. Band members are already involved in fundraising events including an evening at the Original Italian Pie restaurant, located at 800 West Williams St., in Peakway Plaza, corner of NC Highway 55 and the Apex Peakway. On August 17 from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., band members will trade their instruments for water pitchers and help the wait staff serve the restaurant's patrons.

"The band members will wear their band shirts and work with the waiters and waitresses to serve the customers," said Mrs. Benton. "In return, the restaurant will donate a portion of the proceeds for that evening to the band's uniform program. We want people to come out and enjoy great food and support the band."

More information on this event and the Apex Band program, is available on the Apex Band web site at apexhighband.org.

