



**Cheshire High School Band
Parents' Association, Inc.**

NEWS RELEASE

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CHESHIRE – The Cheshire High School Marching Ram Band will be ringing in the New Year in Florida with 17 other top high school marching bands that will perform at the Outback Bowl and related festivities.

The band's 110 musicians and color guard members will leave Friday morning (Dec. 29) from Bradley International Airport to travel to Tampa, Fla. and will return on Tuesday (Jan. 2). The bowl game is being played on Monday and features Penn State University facing the University of Tennessee.

Band Director John Kuhner said the event gives his students the opportunity to meet and compete against top high school musicians from around the country.

The high school bands will compete on Saturday. The winner of the competition earns a solo performance as part of the Outback Bowl pre-game, Kuhner said. All of the high schools will participate in Sunday's Outback Bowl Parade and take part in a massive half time performance.

Marching bands from high schools in Alabama, Georgia, Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin will be joining Cheshire at the event.

The Ram Band has been part of a number of high profile events over the past 10 years, including the 1996 Presidential Inauguration as well as the 1999 Tournament of Roses Parade and the 2000 Macy's Thanksgiving Parade.

Band members say they are excited that Cheshire was selected to participate in such a high profile event.

"We accomplished a lot this season and I want to see how we do against them (the other bands from other states)," said Peter Johnson, a senior mellophone player. "It's going to be a really good time. I can't wait."