



GOING TO PARADE - These kindergarten students from Bethware School are ready to go to the Halloween parade in Shelby. Left to right, Jered Chapman, Jason Jarvis, Miranda Dixon, Nikki Smith, Michael Joe Moss and Alan Gibson. Back, teacher, Brenda Wright and assistant, Maxine Williams.

Self-Discipline Important

Student behavior is always a topic of interest for people who follow school news. Recent weeks have seen an increased number of stories concerning violent situations in school systems not far from here. It is alarming to read about weapons in schools, a rape on a middle school campus, and the death of a student.

Our main goal in regards to student behavior ought to always be that the students will exercise enough self-discipline to eliminate behavior problems. That, in fact, is exactly what happens with the large majority of our youngsters. It is clear that the parents or guardians of these students have done a wonderful job of teaching them respect for the rights of others and for their own rights.

Unfortunately, we do have to deal with discipline problems. Hopefully, each incident of misbehavior can be used as a learning situation in an effort to prevent similar problems from arising in the future.

The options used for disciplining a student are varied. We are trying to move away from corporal punishment as much as possible. Some parents still request that we spank their children as a means of discipline. I believe more and more each day that we should resist such action if at all possible. I want our schools to be places of concern and caring for children, not places of harshness.

Punishment is sometimes needed. I hope our pledge to parents will be that any punishment we administer will be done with an overriding concern for the long range welfare of the child. An example is our In-School Suspension program in grades 6-12 which allows us to keep children in school during the time of punishment. We will continue to explore ways to discipline children which teach them a lesson without abusing their rights.

We will take a firm stand on weapons in schools. Students who bring weapons to school run the risk of suspension for the remainder of the school year as well as criminal charges being filed against them. It would be easy to say that a student really meant no harm in bringing a dangerous weapon to school. Recent events tell us that is a very risky position. We cannot allow the lives of our kids to be put at risk by such happenings. I believe you would agree.

Controlling pupil behavior is not a job just for our teachers and administrators. The entire community needs to assume this burden. Parents, you must spend time teaching your children proper conduct. Our schools need your support when misbehaviors occur. It is never pleasant to see your own child disciplined, but it may be a very valuable experience.

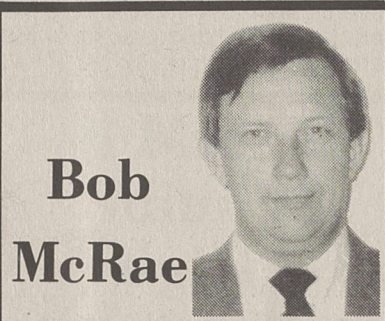
A community sets expectations for behavior by its citizens. I think Kings Mountain expects good behavior. I hope the town will continue to have high expectations.

Bolin In Band At L-R

HICKORY - Charles Tracy Bolin, son of Charles and Elizabeth Bolin of Kings Mountain, is a member of the 1988-89 Lenoir-Rhyne College Marching Band.

Bolin is a senior at Lenoir-Rhyne, majoring in secondary education and music.

The 80-member marching band performs at all home football games, as well as the annual homecoming parade. The band is directed by Robert T. Fleming, assistant professor of music and director of instrumental programs.



Bob McRae

tations, and that we will all stand behind our local officials in these efforts. Good behavior, just like bad behavior, is catching.

Our children should go to school to learn. When a child misbehaves, not only is the learning of that child interrupted but so is the learning of the other students who are around. I do not

want the learning of my own children interrupted by such and believe you would feel the same in regards to your own.

We all need to work together on this. Set high standards, teach those standards, and discipline in a constructive way those who abuse the standards. We in the schools are no better off in dealing with student misbehavior than the level of support we get from the homes of our kids. Be one of our strongest supporters, won't you?

Our special thank you this week goes to everyone who voted in the November 8 election. Our schools are significantly influenced by the results of election day, and it is important to us that our citizens exercise their right to vote. Thank you for taking the time to go to the polls.

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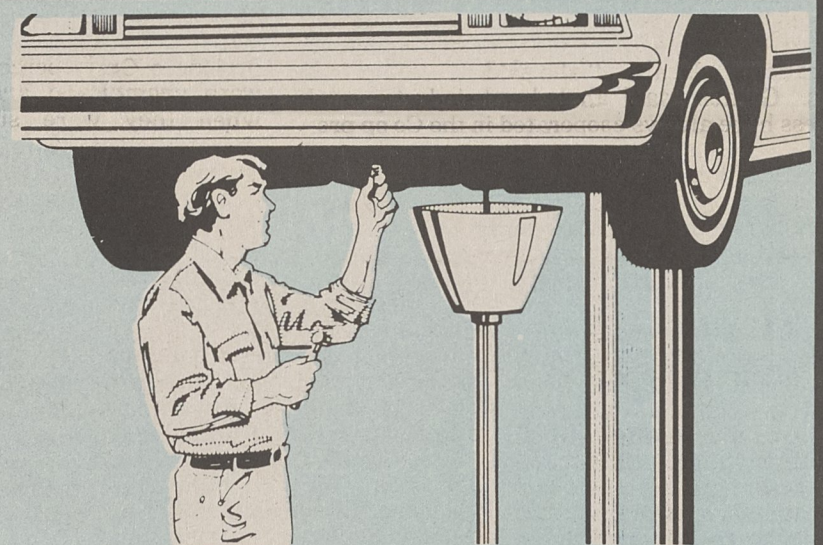
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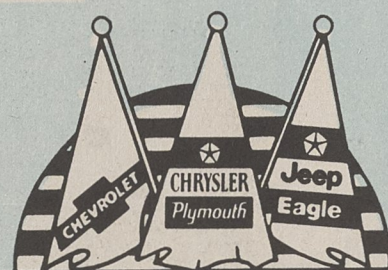


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