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Decorated bicycles were part of the Clarencville bicentennial parade Monday at the school district's athletic field. (Staff photo)

# C'ville parade makes a big hit

Clarencville may not be on any state highway department map, but an estimated 1,500 persons proved Monday that the community isn't suffering any identity crisis. The crowd jammed the Clarencville

School district athletic field bleachers under the threat of rain to watch the bicentennial parade and ceremony.

It was the first Memorial Day program in 18 years when the Clarencville school and church groups began taking part in either Livonia or Farmington holiday events.

Parade planners said the Monday event was designed to restore the sense of community feeling among the people and groups who live in the school district which includes parts of Livonia, Farmington Hills and Redford Township in the Eight Mile-Grand River-Middle Belt area.

The spirit of the holidays and ceremony got to one woman, a Detroit, who happened to hear the music while driving to a friend who lives near Livonia Mall. She cheered the Memorial Day speech and joined the Clarencville high majorettes in marching off the field.

THERE WERE two dozen groups taking part in the parade with about 30 persons on the reviewing stand.

The patriotic music was provided by the combined Clarencville bands and the combined choirs, directed by John Nettek and Carol Hamann, respectively.

The marching units were from the Bedford Browne Troops 308 and 882, Bedford Girl Scout Troops 83, 267, and 1733, Bedford PTA, Bedford Garden Club which passed out packages of seeds, St. Paul Lutheran Church, St. Francis Catholic Church, Galilean Baptist Church, Clarencville Methodist Church, Boy Scout Troop 388, Cub Scout Pack 314, Grandview Elementary School, Edgewood Browne and Girl Scout troops, Clarencville National Honor society, Transportation department, Grandview Cub Scout Pack 279, and antique cars driven by Salvatore Tabacco, Richard Rock, Jeff Humble and Harold Humble.

The Memorial Day address was given by Dr. Sam Pitlik, school board president, who said that the holiday is a day "not aside to honor people—not to commemorate battles."

"THOUGH WE may not be in agreement with this nation's involvement in a particular struggle or the philosophy and purpose inherent in that involvement, we must honor with equal magnitude every American in every war who, when called upon, gave up their last full measure."

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