

**DEDICATED  
TO  
MR. HAL SPENCER**

For seventeen years Mr. Spencer has given unceasingly of his time and talent to instill the love of music into the hearts and minds of his students. His bands have brought much favorable recognition to our school and to Marlin.

While teaching music, Mr. Spencer does not neglect teaching other valuable lessons which will make better men and women of all who are privileged to have him as a teacher.

It is with pleasure that the members of the Viesca Staff dedicate this yearbook to our band director, Mr. Hal Spencer.

# **Baylor** *University* **Bands**

**GENE C. SMITH**  
**DIRECTOR OF BANDS**

November 24, 1970

Marlin High School Marching Band  
c/o Mr. Hall Spencer, Director  
Marlin High School  
Marlin, Texas

Dear Marlin Band Members:

I apologize for not writing you sooner and the lateness of this letter to you certainly in no way takes away from our great appreciation for your participation at the Baylor-Texas Tech football game.

Your halftime performance was excellent and you should be extremely proud of that performance. You sounded fine and looked great.

Thank you again for your hard work in preparation for that occasion and it was truly a pleasure for us to have been able to have you here. Best wishes to all of you for a very happy holiday season and good luck to you on all of your future endeavors the remainder of this school year.

Cordially,

Gene C. Smith  
Director of Bands

GCS:1hb



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN  
LONGHORN BAND  
300 East 23rd Street  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78705

October 15, 1968

Mr. Hal Spencer  
Band Director  
Marlin High School  
Marlin, Texas

Dear Hal and members of the Marlin High School Band,

Our very warmest congratulations to you all upon your magnificent performance here on our campus in the marching contest on Band Day. We have always expected and always received truly top-flight performance from the Marlin Band in the many years that Mr. Spencer has been your director, but in my opinion this performance with its fresh ideas and excellent musicality was really a high spot in the entire day's musical festivities.

I know that you will keep up the fine work that you have always done in Marlin and I wanted you to know of our warm admiration here on this campus for Hal Spencer and all of the Marlin High School Bands, but especially the 1968-1969 one.

Sincerely,

Vincent R. DiNino  
Director

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The extraordinary Marlin High School Band won first division honors in the regional contest at Baylor University on May 2, 1959; and

WHEREAS, Hal Spencer is the talented and efficient band director; and

WHEREAS, The able members of this one hundred piece band should be recognized for their performance and capability; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the Fifty-sixth Legislature congratulates the members of the Marlin High Band and their director and wishes them continued success in all endeavors.

Cannon

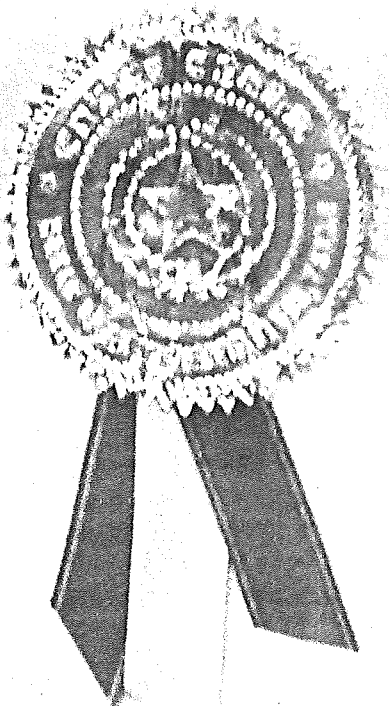
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Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that  
H. S. R. No. 586 was adopted by  
the House on May 8, 1959.

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Chief Clerk of the House



## Information on Hal Spencer

Forest H. (Hal) Spencer was born in Itasca but later moved to Marlin where he received his grade school training. While in school as a band member he specialized in the playing of the B<sup>b</sup> Clarinet.

Following graduation from Marlin High School he attended Southwest State Teachers College. Later he transferred to Sam Houston State Teachers College in Huntsville where he received his Bachelor of Science degree with a major in instrumental music.

During his senior year in college he was elected to the honorary fraternity Kappa Delta Phi. Also as a senior he organized and conducted the Huntsville Junior High School Band to a first division rating.

In 1940 he began teaching band in the class A school of Arp, Texas. The following year Spencer moved to the Class AA school at Center where he taught arithmetic, high school

chair and band.

In 1942 Hal joined the United States Air Force + became acting band director of the 636<sup>th</sup> Air Force Band. When Spence was discharged from the service in 1945 he came to Marlin as band director. During summers he attended Sam Houston State teachers college and received his Master of Arts degree with a double major in Administration and music.

During his tenure of 29 years of teaching in the Marlin school he received consistent 1<sup>st</sup> division ratings in concert playing. He was known to have one of the finest concert bands in the Central Texas area. Twenty years of service brought him "Teacher of the year in Marlin". Hal Spence's bands at Marlin took part many times in the State Fair Band Show in the Cotton Bowl. In 1959 the band was invited to perform in the pre-game + half-time show at the New Year's Day Cotton Bowl football game.

Spencer has been band chairman, region chairman, and served on the State Board of Directors of the Texas Music Educators Association. He also served many times as contests chairman for UIL League contests and activities.

Spencer served with Wilton Rowington to revise the Constitution of the Texas Music Educators Association. Hal spent many years as a music adjudicator in contests throughout the state of Texas.

In 1958 Hal Spencer was selected to become a member of Phi Beta Mu. He served many times as ritual installation chairman of the fraternity and served a two year term as president in 1972.

Spencer has served as a <sup>Elder</sup> Deacon in the First Presbyterian Church in Marlin. His hobbies are fishing and golf.

Hal Spencer has much pride in watching many of his former students. One of his ex-students is Col. Ray Joken who retired recently and Chief of the Air Force Bands. Col Joken is presently serving as Band Director of the Texas A+M University Band.

Another student, Mrs Ann Price, is presently in Hal's old job as Director of the Marlin High School Band.

Hal Spencer retired in 1974, but spends time at the Marlin Band Hal as a clinician and as a substitute teacher when needed,

When ask what the highlight of his long career was - Spencer said - "Seeing the students and organization accomplish outstanding goals that were set for the band each school year".

Many of us remember the standards that were set for the Marlin H.S. Band



"It takes all of a man to be a musician"  
--Robert Shaw

SPRING CONCERT

Tuesday

April 14, 1970

Hal Spencer and Robert Meisch  
Conductors

"Junior High Band"

1. Nobel Men.....Fillmore
2. Beguine Festival.....Osser
3. Thendara Overture.....Whitney
4. The Calypso Man.....Cacavas
5. Prelude and Fughetta.....Osterling

"Music is the art of the prophets, the only art that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents that God has given us."--Martin Luther

"A habit cannot be tossed out the window; it must be coaxed down the stairs a step at a time." - - Mark Twain

"Senior Band"

1. Alpha and Omega.....Yoder  
An instrumental frolic with the beginning and endings of no less than seventeen widely known band works
2. Folk Song Suite.....Williams
3. The Golden Touch of Gus Kahn...Colfield
4. Toccata for Band.....Frescobaldi
5. The Blue and the Gray.....Grundman
6. Walt Disney Band Showcase Werle  
Chief arranger, U. S. Air Force Band
7. Marcia Latina.....Mallia

"Of all virtues, gratitude has the shortest memory"--Warpole

SPRING CONCERT  
THURSDAY  
APRIL 18, 1974  
HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM 8 P.M.  
HAL SPENCER AND ROBERT MEISCH  
Conductors

"Concert Band"

1. Salute to Victor Herbert .....Caneva  
Concert March
2. Alpine Holiday .....Barnes
3. South Pacific .....Rogers-Hamerstein-Lang
4. Aria and Fugue.....Handel-Osterling
5. Beguine Festival.....Osser

"Junior High Band"

1. \*March Juno.....Stewart  
A Contemporary Concert March
2. \*Trumpet Voluntary.....Pureell-Gradner
3. Orpheus In a Jam .....Buchtel
4. \*Fanfarenade.....Starer
5. The Music Man.....Wilson  
"Highlights from"  
\* Indicates Contest Music

"Symphonic Band"

1. Totem Pole.....Osterling  
Concert March
2. If Thou Be Near.....Bach-Moehlmann
3. Carly Simon .....Simon-Lowden
4. Folk Song Suite.....Williams
5. George Gershwin.....Chase  
" A Symohonic Portrait"

"Music is an important facet in the complete life of people. Possibly it is just as fundamental as reading and arithmetic. I am ready to stand here today and propose this: 'That which was fundamental in the history of the race may not be easily discarded merely because it was late in entering the school curriculum.'" "

"That person who has learned to appreciate good music and good singing -- who can listen to compositions of the great masters of music, and feel his soul thrill to its depths by the emotions which these composers have put into their work--has gained something in this life which no other power but music can give."

SPRING BAND CONCERT

April 24, 1952

8:00 P.M.

Elementary School Band

1. Junior Band March.....Taylor
  2. Choral.....Taylor
- Director, M. F. Cloys

Junior Band

1. Courage March.....Bennett
  2. Ambition Overture.....Bennett
  3. Little Bastus.....Bennett
  4. Activity March.....Bennett
- Director, Hal Spencer

INTERMISSION

Senior Band

1. PANIS ANGELICUS (O Lord Most Holy).....Franck
2. LI'L LIZA JANE.....Fred
3. TRAUERSINFONIE.....Wagner  
Eighteen years after the death in London of Carl von Weber, a patriotic movement in Germany resulted in the transference of his remains to his native land. In December of that year (1844) an impressive ceremony took place in Dresden, in which Wagner took a leading part. Besides reading the solemn oration, Wagner composed the march for the torchlight procession. This march, scored by Wagner for large wind band, was based on two themes from Weber's opera "Euryanthe", and thus represented a musical homage to the earlier composer.
4. HAND ME DOWN MY SWINGING CANE.....Hill  
A swing arrangement based on "Hand Me Down My Walking Cane".
5. MINUET, IN E FLAT from the Symphony in E Flat.....Mozart
6. BROADCAST FROM BRAZIL (Samba).....Bennett
7. LITTLE SUITE FOR BAND.....Erickson  
A composition in three movements based on the familiar melodies "Ruben and Rachel", "All Through the Night", and "Old McDonald Had a Farm".
8. EMBLEM OF UNITY (concert march).....Richards

"Music is never stationary; successive forms and styles are only like so many resting places--like tents pitched and taken down again on the road to the ideal."----Franz Liszt.

"Show me a city with a maximum of music and I will show you a city with a minimum of crime. " -----William J. Burns

MARLIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

CONCERT -- April 30, 1946

8:00 P M

Forest H. Spencer, Director  
Mrs. H. H. Robertson, Piano Accompanist

1. STAR SPANGLED BANNER -----Keys  
National Anthem
2. COMMANDING OFFICER (March) -----Frangkiser
3. CHAPEL SHRINE (Reverie) -----Leoni
4. "THREE OF A KIND" (Cornet Trio) -----Buchtel  
B. L. Davis, Frank Peacock, Billy Joe Meyer
5. "MY REGARDS" (Saxophone Solo) -----Llewellyn  
Thomas Peterson
6. "GAIETY POLKA" (Trombone Solo) -----Hartley  
Bill Stewart
7. THOU PRINCE OF LIFE, O CHRIST OUR LORD(Chorale) -----Bach
8. EROICA (Themes from BEETHOVENS "Third Symphony") -----Skornicka
9. PAN AMERICAN (Spanish Selection) -----De Lamater
10. MEMORIES OF STEPHEN FOSTER (Brass Sextet) -----Holmes  
Edward Glass, Frank Peacock, Lewis Williams, Wesley Glass,  
Charles Evans, Bob Peterson.
11. COAST GUARDS(March) -----K. L. King
12. MYSTIC LAND OF EGYPT (Characteristic Overture) -----Keterbey  

. . . A detachment of soldiers approach the village, then a melody . . .  
from a boat on the Nile is heard softly across the water. A  
short passage depicting an Arab playing his pipe leads to a repetition  
of the Nile Melody bringing the piece to a conclusion.
13. HALL OF FAME (Concert March) -----Olivadoti
14. ALMA MATER(School Song) -----Yoder

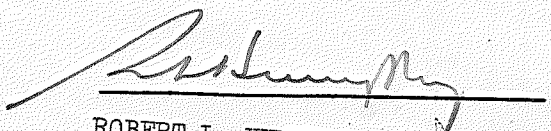
"If young men had music to interest them, to engage them and satisfy many of their impulses, they would not go to the low pleasures of the street; they would be too fastidious to do so, for they would have an alternative."---George B. Shaw

# FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

The Commanding General  
Army Air Forces  
extends the gratitude of the  
**UNITED STATES  
ARMY AIR FORCES**  
to

FOREST H. SPENCER

*Whose wholehearted and sincere services contributed to the successful prosecution of World War II against those who sought to subjugate the civilized world.*

  
ROBERT L. HUMPHREY  
Major, Air Corps

  
COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES



## SEPARATION QUALIFICATION RECORD

SAVE THIS FORM. IT WILL NOT BE REPLACED IF LOST

This record of job assignments and special training received in the Army is furnished to the soldier when he leaves the service. In its preparation, information is taken from available Army records and supplemented by personal interview. The information about civilian education and work experience is based on the individual's own statements. The veteran may present this document to former employers, prospective employers, representatives of schools or colleges, or use it in any other way that may prove beneficial to him.

1. LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE INITIAL <b>SPENCER FOREST H</b>				MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS		
2. ARMY SERIAL No. <b>18 148 421</b>		3. GRADE <b>S/Sgt</b>	4. SOCIAL SECURITY No. <b>Unknown</b>	10. MONTHS <b>1</b>	11. GRADE <b>Pvt</b>	12. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY <b>Basic Training-521</b>
5. PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS (Street, City, County, State) <b>Box 183 Falls County Marlin, Texas</b>				<b>38</b>	<b>S/Sgt</b>	<b>Bandsman, Sax.-439</b>
6. DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE <b>12 Jun 42</b>		7. DATE OF SEPARATION <b>9 Oct 45</b>	8. DATE OF BIRTH <b>1 Nov 15</b>			
9. PLACE OF SEPARATION <b>AAF SEPARATION BASE RANDOLPH FIELD TEXAS</b>						

### SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATIONS

13. TITLE—DESCRIPTION—RELATED CIVILIAN OCCUPATION  
BANDS MAN, SAXAPHONE Acted as 1st sergeant of band. Was member of both orchestra and military band. In orchestra played for various dances and entertainment functions. In band played for port reviews and retreat and all other military ceremonies. In band performed duty of director also

MILITARY EDUCATION

14. NAME OR TYPE OF SCHOOL—COURSE OR CURRICULUM—DURATION—DESCRIPTION

None

CIVILIAN EDUCATION

15. HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED 4 yrs College	16. DEGREES OR DIPLOMAS B. S. Degree	17. YEAR LEFT SCHOOL 1940	OTHER TRAINING OR SCHOOLING	
18. NAME AND ADDRESS OF LAST SCHOOL ATTENDED Sam Houston Teachers College, Huntsville, Texas			20. COURSE—NAME AND ADDRESS OF SCHOOL—DATE None	21. DURATION
19. MAJOR COURSES OF STUDY Music				

CIVILIAN OCCUPATIONS

22. TITLE—NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER—INCLUSIVE DATES—DESCRIPTION

TEACHER Public School of Center, Texas (1939-42) Taught high school and elementary school instrumental music. Served as band director in both schools, and in high taught mixed choir.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

23. REMARKS

None

24. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING SEPARATED

*Forest H. Spencer*

25. SIGNATURE OF SEPARATION CLASSIFICATION OFFICER

*Jack H. Cooper*

26. NAME OF OFFICER (Typed or Stamped)

JACK H. COOPER  
1st LT A C



*Certificate of Recognition*

The  
**SADDLE TRAMPS**

WISH TO RECOGNIZE

MARLIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND

FOR A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO  
THE SPIRIT AND LIFE OF TEXAS TECH

*Randy Bullock*  
PRESIDENT

*November 17, 1970*  
DATE

*Larry Keator*  
SECRETARY





# SADDLE TRAMPS

Texas Tech University  
Lubbock, Texas

Marlin High School Band  
Marlin High School  
Marlin, Texas

To the Marlin High Band:

This is to extend to each of you the highest appreciation for your performance in support of the Texas Tech Red Raiders last Saturday afternoon in Waco. The Saddle Tramps Spirit organization and the students of Texas Tech believe that our victory was, to an important degree, due to your superb music and unending spirit.

We encourage each of you, in considering your future college career, to view the excitement--on the football field as well as the classroom--at Texas Tech. Let us know when the Saddle Tramps can be of assistance in helping you make your decision.

Again, we send our heartfelt thanks for a job well done. Best wishes for a continued successful year at Marlin High School.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Brillhart".

Randy Brillhart, President  
Saddle Tramps

Mr. Spencer plays the chimes given in memory of David Bartlett, a former member of the Marlin High Band.





Hal Spencer

## Teacher Of Year Is Band Director

Hal Spencer, Band Director at Marlin High School, was named by the MHS Future Teachers of America as their outstanding Teacher of the Year.

Honored Monday night at the Future Teachers Annual Tea at 7:30, this marked the first year Spencer has received the award in his 20 years at MHS as band director.

Spencer is married and has one son, David, currently serving in the U. S. Navy in San Diego. Spencer and his wife live at 711 Carter Street in Marlin.

The Teacher of the Year is an annual award given to the teacher who best exemplifies the ideal qualities of a teacher.

The Future Teachers of America select the recipient by secret ballot from among their student members.

At the same tea, A. M. Tate was presented with a gift in recognition of his service to the school.

Earlier Monday, the FTA met at the activity period at MHS and elected the Teacher of the Year. This was the first meeting at which their new officers presided. The FTA has also issued an invitation to interested parties to attend their next meeting.

29 Years Dedicated To Music

# Hal Spencer Retiring As MHS Band Director

When Marlin's schools re-open for a new term in August after summer vacation, there will be one familiar face missing and when the band performs on the football field at half-time, one man's presence will be absent.

Hal Spencer has announced his retirement as director of the Marlin High School band after 29 years of strong leadership.

In appreciation of Spencer's achievement and dedication over the years, the Band Parent's Association will have a barbecue Thursday, May 9 at the Empty Saddle Club at 7:30 p.m. honoring Spencer and the Marlin School band members.

Known as a strict but fair disciplinarian, Spencer has consistently turned out fine bands taking untrained youngsters and molding them into talented musicians.

Throughout those 29 years he has been admired and respected by his many pupils. Many have continued to enjoy their music into adult life because of their tutoring instruc-

tions in school.

Forest H. (Hal) Spencer was born in Itasca, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. T.C. Spencer. They later moved to Marlin where Spencer received his grade school training.

While in school, Spencer was a band student specializing in the playing of a clarinet. He received music instruction from band directors J.E. King, Walter Hunnicutt and Wilson Betts.

Following graduation from Marlin High School, Spencer attended Southwest State Teachers College for a year where he was the college dance band leader. He transferred to Sam Houston State Teachers College in Huntsville where he received his Bachelor of Science degree with a major in instrumental music.

During his senior year in college, he was elected to the honorary fraternity Kappa Delta Phi. Spencer also organized and conducted the Huntsville Junior High School band to a first division winner.

In the fall of 1940, he began

teaching band in the Class A school of Arp. The following year Spencer moved to the Class AA school at Center where he taught arithmetic, high school choir and band.

In 1942, Spencer volunteered for the United States Air Force and became acting band director of the 636th Air Force Band.

When he was discharged from the service in 1945, Spencer came to Marlin as band director.

During summers he attended Sam Houston State Teachers College and received his Master of Arts degree with a double major in Administration and Music.

During his tenure of 29 years of teaching in the Marlin schools, the high school bands under his direction received 23 first division, four second divisions and two third divisions ratings while participating in University Interscholastic League band contests.

Many of Spencer's students have been selected to the district, regional and all-state bands through music playing examinations.

Spencer's bands have performed many times in the Texas Music Educators State Fair shows in the Cotton Bowl in Dallas. The Marlin bands attended the Texas University Band Day each year from its beginning until the event was halted. Spencer's band won this event, in its classification, seven times.

In 1957, the band was invited and performed in the pre-game and half-time shows at the Cotton Bowl on New Years Day.

Spencer has been band chairman, regional chairman and served on the State Board of Directors of the Texas Music Educators Association. He has served in the capacity of organized director of music activities and band contests for the Texas Music Educators League contests in this area on numerous occasions.

Spencer served as co-chairman with Weldon Covington, music supervisor of the Austin public schools, to revise the Constitution of the Texas Music Educators Association. He has served as music adjudicator in many band contests throughout the state of Texas.



Concert in front of Hall of State, Dallas Fair Grounds