

## Band Director Selected New TMEA Leader

Bryce Taylor, who was named band director at Wm. Adams High School this year, was honored by being elected new president of Texas Music Educators Association at a meeting held in Dallas.

More than 6,000 members are included in this organization, of which Taylor served as vice president last year. The long time member has held other offices in the TMEA.

He is a member of the American School Band Directors Association, Texas Band Masters Association, Texas State Teachers Association and Alpha Chi, in addition to TMEA.

Taylor is a past president of a county-wide TSTA group, past chairman of TMEA Region VII, and has been a member of the board of directors of the TMEA several years.

A member of the UIL Advisory Committee on Music Affairs, Taylor has been clinician and adjudicator of band contests in many parts of the state. His fellow members describe him as being aggressive, yet considerate worker.

Taylor received his early education in various Texas Public Schools. He studied in the United States Marine School of Music, and later received his B.M. and M.S. Degrees from Texas A&I.

He started his teaching career 11 years ago at Three Rivers, coming to Alice from there last August. During his years at Three Rivers, his bands won top ratings in competition continuously.

His bands are widely recognized for their excellent performance and are in demand from concerts and appearances over a wide area.

The WAHS band has won recognition and numerous awards have been won by members since Taylor's arrival last September.



Bryce Taylor

February, 1972

Bryce spends many hours at his job as Band Director in Alice. He finds time, however, to be president of various organizations, do inservice sessions and be chairperson for his campus for Association of Texas Professional Educators all in one year. One of his coworkers said that he never says that he's too busy to participate.



# PHI BETA MU

NATIONAL BANDMASTERS FRATERNITY

The SCHOOL MUSICIAN DIRECTOR and TEACHER is the official Organ of Phi Beta Mu



**PHI BETA MU BAND OF THE MONTH . . .** The Alice (Texas) High School Band has been selected as the Phi Beta Mu "Band of the Month." Under the direction of Brother Bryce Taylor, this outstanding band has captured eleven consecutive sweepstake awards in Texas UIL competition. They have also been named the "Outstanding Band" in Class 4A at both the Six Flags Over Texas and Buccaneer music festivals. On several occasions, they have had the honor of placing the most students from any one high school in the All-State Band, twice having earned the most "first chairs." Brother Taylor, an active member of Alpha Chapter, Phi Beta Mu, is currently serving as supervisor of music for the Alice School District as well as high school band director. He is also a past president of the Texas Music Educators Association (two terms) and has served as chairman of the band division. In addition to his numerous school and professional obligations, Brother Taylor finds time to be active as clinician and adjudicator throughout the southeast. Congratulations to Director Taylor and the Alice High School Band.

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The SCHOOL MUSICIAN DIRECTOR and TEACH

The School Musician Director and Teacher Magazine is the official organ of American School Band Directors Association; and Phi Beta Mu, National Band Masters Fraternity. Bryce's band was recognized in the April, 1973 issue as "Band of the Month."

# Alice school band

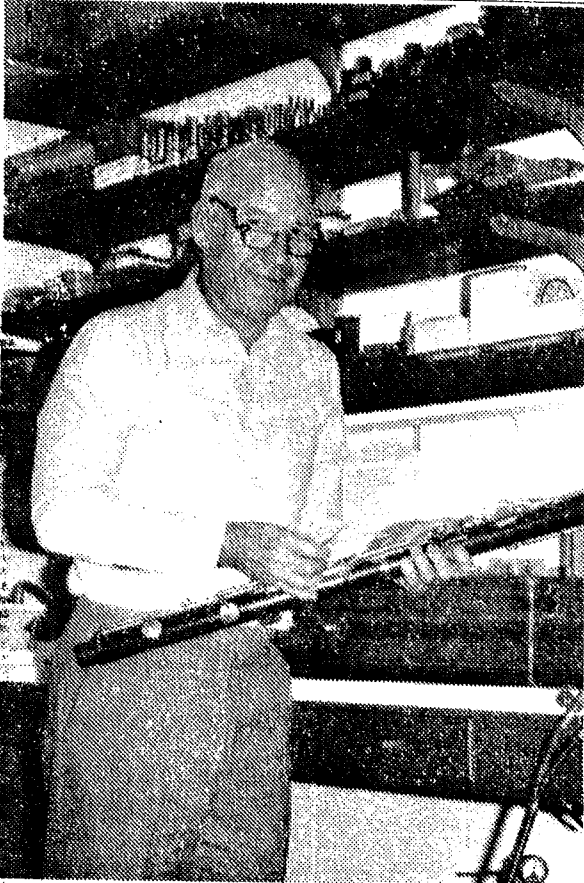


Photo by Spencer Pearson

Taylor hasn't counted the sweepstakes

ALICE — The Coyote football team is not the only thing the people of Alice have to brag about.

They have one of the best high school bands around, and it has been one of the best for years.

Somebody said the band has won sweepstakes awards in state competition for the past 21 years. Well, maybe 19 or 20, says Band Director Bryce Taylor. He hasn't counted them.

More important to him is: "Yesterday's rehearsal was better than today's."

What he means is: "Let's not rest on our laurels. Let's try to do better tomorrow."

Perhaps that's why the Alice band continues to be rated one of the best. Taylor and his staff work toward excellence, the students work at it, and they have the community and school administration behind them.

Taylor is in his 22nd year as high school band director. He also is supervisor of music for the entire school district, and the music program begins in the first grade. The program was developed over the years by Taylor and his staff. They often get together in the evening to discuss ways to improve the program.


It starts in the first grade. All pupils in the first five grades are exposed to a general music program taught by a members of Taylor's staff.

Music becomes elective in the sixth grade, and there the youngsters may start learning to play an instrument.

To give the sixth-grade youngsters a little boost, Taylor and his staff hold an eight-week summer session for those who want to play in the band.

The students furnish their own instruments —

## worth bragging about



Spencer Pearson

except the expensive ones. If a youngster's parents can't afford to buy one, that's okay. Taylor has a few just for that purpose. Everyone gets a chance to play.

As they progress through middle school and junior high school, they get better and become more competitive.

By the time they reach high school they have a thorough background and opportunities to play in different types of bands. The high school has a half dozen bands for the 212 students in the program. Three of what Taylor calls "inside" groups are the concert, symphonic and honors bands. They play generally the same type of music ranging from pop tunes to serious music. The honors band is for the more experienced musician who is a self-starter, Taylor said.

Two stage bands play Latin music, big band stuff, most of the up-to-date jazz and a little rock.

Then, there is the marching band, the one seen — and heard — most by the public.

Some people think of "The Stars and Stripes Forever" or "Washington Post" or John Philip Sousa when they think of a marching band, but as far as high schools are concerned, they are a thing of the

past.

Few high schools play Sousa marches, and some high school students wouldn't know one if they heard it.

"Corps-style" music came into the picture and pushed the marches aside. That comes from the drum corps, which has graduated from a base drum and a few snares to a whole platoon with a beat that sometimes drowns everything else out. The drum corps has its own production which it works on all year.

Taylor has no trouble remembering the Sousa marches. He got his real start in band music the same place Sousa did — in the U.S. Marine Corps:

He had played trumpet in high school at Edinburg, and when he joined the Marine Corps during World War II he found himself assigned to the base band at San Diego. He was surrounded by competent musicians and got interested in music. He attended the Marine Corps School of Music and played in the Marine band at Pearl Harbor for two years.

This was better than farming the old homestead outside Edinburg. So, he majored in music at Edinburg Junior College (now Pan American) and at A&I where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees.

He directed the band at Three Rivers High School for 10 years and came to Alice in 1961.

He and his wife, an Alice school counselor, have four children, all of whom played in the school band. Two are now high school band directors, Scott at Richardson High School in Dallas and Kerry at Westlake in Austin.

# Volunteerism enhances fine Wind Symphony showin<sup>1991</sup>

By Ron George

STAFF WRITER

The Corpus Christi Wind Symphony played well Tuesday night for an audience that should have been four or five times its size, but could not have been more appreciative.

More's the pleasure that this is a group of folk who defy the press of primary careers to keep their technique and musicianship alive. Volunteers all, some of whom travel hours from the Rio Grande Valley to rehearse in Corpus Christi, and then hours home, all on their own time.

More's the pity that symphonic and programs can't be made more interesting, which is no fault

## Well-balanced performance marred only by small turnout

of the performers, but of the usual methods by which music is scored for this type of ensemble.

The strength of this group is its restraint, of the sort that renders "The Star Spangled Banner" as a hymn of dignity in forbearance of lesser performances under Friday night lights or on television.

Yes, its origin was of early 19th century American pubs, but it has come, or should have come, as the Wind Symphony played it - almost quietly - to say more, by far, than Whitney Houston ever will about patriotism and its costs.

This is a fine choir of instruments, well-balanced and techni-

cally efficient. What shows is that many of them are teachers, and that they practice what they teach.

Students of these musicians should come and hear, because even when they miss a note, or split a tone, or rush a tempo, there is an accomplishment of purpose, and no enduring impression of error.

Now, about that program.

More interesting by far than the usual, obligatory pastiche of show tune medleys from "Man of La Mancha" and "The Sound of Music" was William F. Bunch's "Passacaglia for Band," composed not as a truncated, undeveloped paraphrase, but as a whole work.

Bunch is the helpful, gentle man in the Del Mar College music library who will spare no energy until he's found what there is to be found in that collection, even for the most occasional of visitors.

He exploited the color of the ensemble's woodwinds, contrasting them with the low brass to state and then pass the theme hither and thither. Not until the end did the piece give voice to that homogeneous sound that stalks large wind ensembles like the plague.

Like Bunch's "Passacaglia," James Curnow's "Welsh Variants" demonstrated that music composed with a band in mind, not imitatively transcribed

from orchestral works or watered down from a Broadway score, is as superior by comparison as a Beethoven symphony is to an advertising jingle.

There were just a few performance glitches Tuesday night - some ragged tempos among the lower brass, a percussion section given to racing the tempo a bit; but there were also memorable highlights - good clarinet work and a nice oboe solo in the transcription of Rossini's "La Gazza Ladra," fine saxophonizing in Bunch's "Passacaglia," and admirable trumpet in the Curnow.

But let's face it, it was "Stars and Stripes Forever" - ever so slightly overblown on the trombone line - that finally suited the audience to a "T," and left it wanting more.



Trumpeter Darrell Burditt of Corpus Christi Wind Symphon

PHILIP G. BAKER, PRESIDENT  
BOX 176  
KATY, TEXAS

*"For Better Music Education in Texas"*

D. O. WILEY, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
P.O. BOX 3038 ELLWOOD STATION  
LUBBOCK, TEXAS

# TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

JOSEPH L. FRANK  
~~1202 HIGH STREET~~  
1202 HIGH STREET  
HARLINGEN, TEXAS

Feb. 15, 1960

DALE A. BRUBAKER  
ORCHESTRA CHAIRMAN  
2174 AVENUE J  
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

Bryce Taylor & Three Rivers Band Members  
High School  
Three Rivers, Texas

HERBERT TEAT  
VOCAL CHAIRMAN  
516 LEDTA  
LONGVIEW, TEXAS

Dear Bryce & Band Members:

I wanted to drop you a line to thank for the fine performance which you gave on your concert in Austin.

SYLVIA OSTROW  
ELEMENTARY CHAIRMAN  
612 PATTERSON  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Even though you had many problems with sickness while preparing your concert and even while on the trip, this was not at all apparent in your performance which was wonderfully presented.

DONALD W. MORTON  
COLLEGE DIVISION CHM.  
TARLETON STATE COLLEGE  
STEPHENVILLE, TEXAS

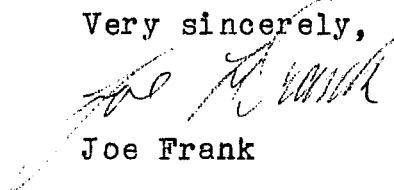
I would like to commend you on your high standards both in selection of literature and its performance. The class A Bands of the state really have a goal to shoot for and I know that because of your performance the standards of excellence throughout the state will be raised.

N. G. PATRICK  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT  
3103 OAKMONT  
AUSTIN, TEXAS

Again, many thanks on behalf of TMEA and myself for the wonderful job. Please continue to set the musical pace for the whole state.

ROBERT E. FIELDER  
MANAGER OF EXHIBITS  
1419 MINTER LANE  
ABILENE, TEXAS

Very sincerely,

  
Joe Frank



KERMIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

P. O. DRAWER 797

KERMIT, TEXAS

February 9, 1960

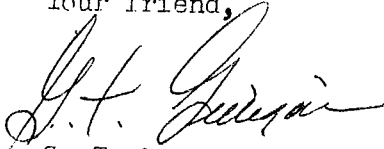
Mr. Bryce Taylor  
Band Director High School  
Three Rivers, Texas

Dear Bryce,

Bryce I certainly enjoyed your band very much at TMEA. Your work is a credit to any school of any size.

Please express thanks to your group. They were great.

Your friend,



G. T. Gilligan

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

DIVISION OF EXTENSION

AUSTIN 12

OFFICE OF  
BUREAU OF PUBLIC SCHOOL SERVICE

July 29, 1959

Mr. Bryce Taylor  
Three Rivers High School  
Three Rivers, Texas

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Copy for the 1959-60 revision of the Prescribed Music Bulletin has been edited and sent to the press. With luck the bulletin should be ready for distribution about September 10. In my opinion, it will be the most complete and most adequate bulletin which we have ever published.

Speaking for the nine hundred public junior and senior high school music teachers who will use this bulletin to prepare their groups for contests and the thousands of students who will use it to select solo and small ensemble material, may I thank you for the hours and hours you devoted in making the revision. I trust that you personally have received some satisfaction from the association with other educators as they engaged enthusiastically in the task. I personally enjoyed every minute of my association with you and the others as we worked together constructively.

Frankly speaking, these meetings restore my faith in the calibre of teachers in the music departments of the public schools. Perhaps we should have them more often!

We shall send you a complimentary copy of the bulletin as soon as it is available. If I can be of further service to you in any way, please call on me.

Very sincerely,



F. W. Savage  
Director of Music Activities

cc: Mr. Drew H. Reese  
Superintendent of Schools  
Three Rivers, Texas

P.S.- Say! Assist me in patching my own backyard fence! If you think the week-long Music Selection Committee sessions are worth the money (\$750 for the League plus ? for your extras, etc.), drop a line to Mr. R. J. Kidd, Director, The University Interscholastic League, Box 8028 University Station, Austin 12 and tell him so. Please try to make your letter appear "unsolicited." These tactics will perhaps assist us next time we want a series of meetings.

F.W.S.

# TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

AUSTIN, TEXAS



- STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
- STATE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION
- STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Telephone

Greenwood 6-9181

March 1, 1960

Mr. Bryce Taylor  
Band Director  
Three Rivers High School  
Box 224  
Three Rivers, Texas

Dear Bryce:

This note is to extend my congratulations to you upon your election to the Band Chairmanship of the Texas Music Educators Association. This election further convinces me that our TMEA members know a good man when they see one. Through your leadership I am certain that our band program can look forward to another highly successful year. If I can be of assistance to you in any way please let me know.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "V. J. Kennedy".

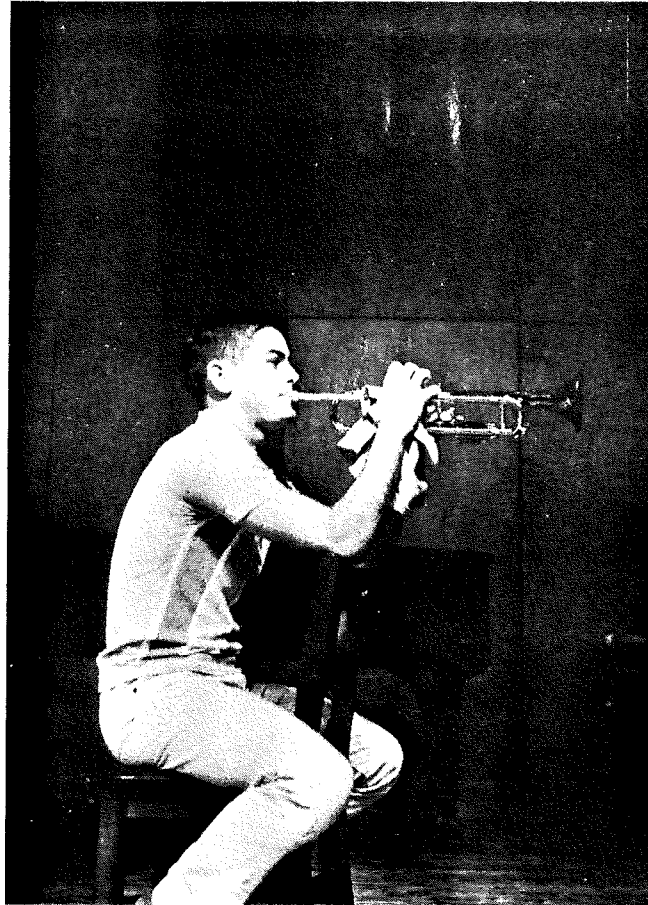
V. J. Kennedy, Director  
Division of Curriculum Development

VJK:b



FROM FESTIVAL BROCHURE

YOU WON'T BE ALONE . . .



SCOTT TAYLOR

at the  
**BUCCANEER MUSIC FESTIVAL**

Come to Corpus Christi  
May 1-2, 1970

R.S.V.P.

COVER OF THE  
HONOR BAND  
CONCERT PROGRAM

TEXAS  
MUSIC EDUCATORS  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1960

AUSTIN, TEXAS

February 4, 5, 6



Concert Program  
Three Rivers Band

February 5 — 7:30 P. M.

Civic Auditorium

Bryce B. Taylor, Director

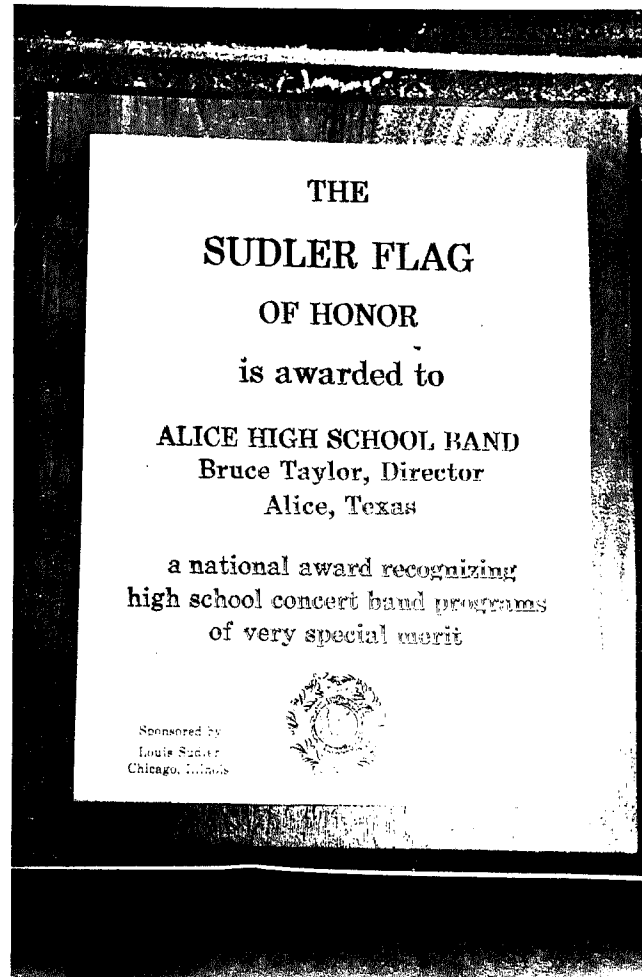


**BRYCE TAYLOR** (left) is recipient of a \$250 award and certificate for being selected runner-up in the Texas Teacher of the Year competition held earlier this month in Austin. Presenting the award is M.C. Hamilton. Taylor is head of the Alice ISD Music Department and is director of music at Alice High School.



UPPER PHOTO

UIL JUDGING WORKSHOP  
AT TEXAS A&I - CIRCA 1975  
N.G. PATRICK - PRESIDING  
BRUCE TAYLOR - MODERATOR



LOWER PHOTO

AWARDED IN FIRST  
GROUP OF HS BANDS  
SELECTED BY SOUSA  
FOUNDATION THROUGH  
NATIONAL AUDITIONS







ING  
ANTHEM  
DOME  
VICTORIA  
B. TAYLOR  
IN







## The State of Texas House of Representatives

H.R. No. 800

### R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Bryce B. Taylor will retire this year from his position as music supervisor with the Alice Independent School District, drawing to a close a distinguished career in music education that has spanned four decades; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Taylor was graduated from Edinburg High School in 1942 and ably served his country as a member of the United States Marine Corps during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Following his military service, Mr. Taylor pursued his education, earning both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in music from Texas A&I University in Kingsville; and

WHEREAS, This outstanding educator began his teaching career in Three Rivers in 1951 and served as a band director there for 10 years before moving to Alice to accept a position with the district as band director and music supervisor in 1961; and

WHEREAS, A valued teacher with the district for the past three decades, Mr. Taylor has led the Alice High School band to achieve great success during his exemplary tenure with the school; the band was named Grand Champion at the Contest of Champions at Disneyworld in Florida on two occasions, earned "Best in Class" honors at the Six Flags Over Texas Festival on eight occasions, and has been named "Best in Class" at the Buccaneer Music Festival seven times; and

WHEREAS, A former president of the Texas Music Educators Association, Mr. Taylor has served as vice-president of the Texas Music Adjudicators Association and as an active member of numerous professional organizations, including the Texas Bandmasters Association, the American Bandmasters Association, and the Texas Association of Professional Educators; and

WHEREAS, A recognized authority in the field of music education in Texas, he has shared his knowledge and expertise as a member of several committees dealing with the development of music curriculum at the state level; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Taylor has been honored on numerous occasions for his exemplary service, and his achievements include having been named one of the first recipients of the Sudler Award of Honor by the National Sousa Foundation, Texas Bandmaster of the Year in 1983, first runner-up for Texas State Teacher of the Year in 1982,



and Alice Independent School District Teacher of the Year for 1981-1982; in 1990, he was named the recipient of an award given "in recognition and appreciation for guidance and inspiration from music students and educators of South Texas" by Texas A&I University; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his outstanding service at Alice High School, Mr. Taylor also has distinguished himself through his service as the Corpus Christi Wind Symphony director, as the director of numerous regional bands throughout the state, and as a judge for many state contests; and

WHEREAS, Widely respected by his colleagues and students alike, Mr. Taylor has served as an inspiration to many students over the course of his exceptional career, more than 30 of whom have gone on to become music teachers themselves; he is indeed deserving of special legislative recognition on the occasion of his retirement; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 72nd Texas Legislature hereby honor Bryce B. Taylor on his outstanding contributions to the field of music education in Texas and extend to him best wishes for a happy and rewarding retirement; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Taylor as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.

Glossbrenner



H.R. No. 800

*Gib Lewis*  
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 800 was adopted by the House on May 17, 1991, by a non-record vote.



*Betty Murray*  
Chief Clerk of the House