

Police said Valdez, who was heading north on 29th belt at the time of the accident, it added.

Ann Richards. Ms. Cohen is with See APPEAL, page 6

Former high school band director Ralph Burford dies

Special to The Review

Well known high school band director, Ralph E. Burford, died early Monday morning at his Edinburg residence after being in ill health for several years. He was 77.

Mr. Burford was born at Milton, Kansas on April 30, 1915.

He is survived by his wife, Alice of Edinburg; two sons, Edward Burford of Dallas and Bobby



Burford of Irving; three brothers, Lewis Burford, Glen Burford and Harold Burford, all of Milton; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Mr. Burford had won numerous honors as a band director.

His degree in music was awarded at the University of Wichita, Kansas, in 1938, and later received his Master's Degree from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. He began work teaching at Clearwater High School (Kansas). After three years he accepted a position at Indianapolis as supervisor of 17 high and junior school orchestras.

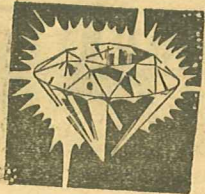
In World War II, he was called as a second lieutenant and served in the Pacific Theater where he

won the Bronze Star. He retired as a major and became band and choir director at Mexia, TX. The Jaycees there presented Burford their Man of the Year Award for outstanding service in music education.

Coming to Edinburg in 1948, Mr. Burford developed an instrumental music program for band and orchestra. The Edinburg High School band under Burford's leadership, was named the outstanding band in the state's highest classification. That group played before the Texas Music Educators Assn., at Galveston. During Burford's tenure at EHS, the band received First Division ratings, the highest, for 17 consecutive years. In 1959

See BURFORD, page 6

diamond jubilee



sparkles!

by r.h.c.

Millerton postoffice closed in January, 1912. The Star of that date states that Postmaster J J Booth had been notified of the action and instructed to take charge of all the supplies of that office. It further commented that Conway Springs is something of a cemetery for discontinued postoffices. Since it was established it had taken over defunct postoffices from Glen Valley, Cisne, Sunny Slope, Northfield, Swedona, Ewell, and Millerton.

When the town moved from Northfield to Conway Springs, nearer the railroad in 1884, C W Davis reportedly took a franchise from the city to run a street car line from Northfield to the depot, but it was never built. Several here do still remember when horse drawn hack service from the Chan...

Former Milton boy among top ten school band directors in United States

Ralph Burford, son of Mr and Mrs Ed Burford, and a graduate of Milton high school has received a very signal honor as told in the following story from the Edinburg, Texas newspaper:

"Ralph Burford, Edinburg band director, Saturday was notified he had been named one of the ten outstanding band directors in the United States and would be saluted in a special section of "The School Musician," a 30-year-old trade magazine.

Burford, who came to Edinburg 11 years ago when the band

had 75 to 80 members and hadn't marched on a football game for three years because there were no uniforms, has transformed it into one of the state's leading high school musical organizations. There are now 105 musicians in the senior band, 85 more in the junior high band and 65 in the intermediate band.

Students can begin their band training in the sixth grade now and they also can play in an orchestra which has 40 members.

The first year Burford was

director here, the band didn't enter a contest. But from then on it began to make its mark. In that first contest it began to win I ratings and has continued to win them every year since.

The band won the sweepstakes award in 1952 at the Tri-State Music Festival at Enid, Okla.

Beginning in 1956 and for the next three years the Edinburg Bobcat band won the marching contest and scored high in concert playing and sight reading at Buc-caneer Days at Corpus Christi.

Last year the band was chosen to represent all three AAAA high school bands in Texas to play at a concert in Galveston for the State Music Educator's convention.

Burford, 44, has been directing bands since 1938. He was an infantry major during World War II and carries over some of the military training tactics into band training. While he was

band director at Mexia, shortly before coming to Edinburg, he was awarded the Junior Chamber of Commerce trophy as the outstanding man in the com-

munity.

He attended the University of Wichita where he got a bachelor of arts with a major in public school music, and Northwestern University where he got a master of arts in music. While at the University of Wichita he ran the mile for the track team, holding the record for 11 years at the Kansas and Oklahoma relays.

During the 21 years he has been a band director he has influenced 55 of his students to go into music as a professional career."

In our seventy-fifth year of service to this community

Conway Springs Star.

An Independent Local Newspaper for Conway Springs and Vicinity

Established in 1884

Conway Springs, Sumner County, Kansas; Thursday, August 20, 1959.

Vol. 75 — No. 46

Organ recital set for Sunday

at Pres...

Jubilee to name prince - princess

(by Neva Orr)

A most important meeting of

Peewees win title

Conway Springs Pee Wee originally scheduled to play baseball team for the

they arrested Gonzalez and filed charge against him.

morning. It originally ed for today.

the house.

Bobcat Band Places In First Division

December 1959

For the 11th consecutive year the Edinburg Bobcat Band has placed in the first division at the Interscholastic League contest, Director Ralph Burford said today and judges made complimentary remarks about the band.

In the twirling, the ensemble of five girls rated I. Rose Gilliam, who twirled individually got a I rating. Ensemble members were Vivian Cole, Doris Pickens, Ruth Sterling, Mary Trautner and Edith Hurst. The individual ratings were Vivian, Doris and Virginia Hunter II and Edith I.

The Band also rated I in the inspection by an officer from Harlingen Air Force Base.

Comments by the judges were complimentary. Weldon Covington, director of music for the Austin public schools rated the Edinburg band I plus, even though the instruction sheet asked no pluses or minuses be used. He said: "Very finely performed fanfare! The band exhibited fine tonal balance on this fanfare and also on the opening march of this performance. You have a real solid sound, yet a very nice tonal quality throughout the band."

"The march, step and alignment of the band is excellent."

"This is a very professional look-

ing and sounding band. "Special maneuvers are performed very effectively.

"I enjoyed this performance immensely. It was a very superior one."

Frank Preizner, Kerrville High School band director, said: "Very beautiful sound on opening fanfare. Band presents a sharp appearance. The band plays with good taste, character and precision. Balance constantly remains good. Band continues to march with precision and spirit. Very splendid job in playing and in marching."

"Diamond formation very beautiful to watch. Stop time very effective and well executed. The entire appearance of the band is very impressive. The boys and girls manner of playing and marching reflects the type of organization you have and the leadership you have in your organization."

"Very, very outstanding show from the beginning to end. Certainly a school that your community can be proud of, and its outstanding director."

"Congratulations."

A. F. Fassino, Vanderbilt High School band director, wrote: "Beautiful full sonorous sound on fanfare. Company front well done."

This band playing with good balance and blend. Lower and middle voices coming out, as it should be. Keep up the good work. Company fronts well executed. Well done.

"So far I am enjoying watching this band march and listening to them play. "National Emblem" well done. Band doing a good job of "Grand Entry Swing March" and very effective on second strain with the little dance step.

"Let me congratulate each and every one of you girls and boys and your fine director. This certainly was an outstanding performance that I saw and heard tonight. You have every reason to be proud of this fine band. Just keep up the good work. Enjoyed it."

Bands rating I besides Edinburg were Harlingen, Brownsville, McAllen, Mission, Weslaco, Edcouch-Elsa, La Feria, Los Fresnos, Raymondville, Gay Junior High from Harlingen and Weslaco Junior High.

Those rating II were Pharr-San Juan-Alamo, San Benito, Lyford, Mercedes, La Jova, San Isidro, Lamar Junior High of McAllen.

Those rating III were Donna, Santa Rosa and Travis Junior High of McAllen and Moye Junior High of Donna.

Rating IV was Rio Hondo.

entitrust said they eign imp fabricator petitive a trol the n inforing known as Steel

make thes of smooth smooth b processing directly to ing on the

The suit ricators in refuse to contractors stock throu ccessing fir

Spokesme where re said they had they had thoroughly.

For as about in also about thians II

Clear v this aftern Temperatu 70, Mid V Grande C ate to fre afternoon moderate day.



and cloudy elsewhere. Early morning temperatures ranged from 40 degrees at Dalhart to 66 at Galveston.

EDINBURG

Noon temperature 68. Low 60. High Monday 65. Rainfall in last 24 hours .16 inches.

Edinburg Band Rates I For 12th Straight Year

The Edinburg Bobcat Band, for the 12th consecutive year, won a top rating, a I, at the Pigskin Jubilee, part of the Weslaco Birthday Party Celebration over the weekend.

All four of the Valley's AAAA high schools were rated I.

About 1,500 bandmen of 21 schools from this Interscholastic League area participated in the marching and playing contests. Ratings were made against the standard and bands did not compete against each other.

In the AAA division Weslaco took a I. San Benito, Mission, Mercedes and PSJA got II, which is excellent compared to the I which is superior. Rio Grande City got a III.

In AA La Feria and Edcouch-Elsa both rated I with Lyford, Raymondville, Donna and Los

Fresnos getting IIs.

In Class A San Isidro got I and Santa Rosa was II.

Ralph E. Burford is director of the Edinburg band.

"I was quite well pleased with our band this year in making the top rating, in as much as we have 44 first year band students in the senior band," Burford said.

Edinburg twirlers also rated high, Edith Hurst and Sandra Clay both making Is. Gae Jasmann a II and Pat Sibley a III. An ensemble composed of Pat, Gae, Sandra, Edith and Doris Pickens rated a I.

Band officers are Bernard Brady, captain; Larry Roe, Edward Skow, Tommy Trautner and Freddy Martin, lieutenants. Clyde Reynolds is the assistant director.

Judges for the contest were all from high schools upstate.

Nov-22-1960

Orchestra, Band Win Top Honors

The entire instrumental department of Edinburg High School came back from the Interscholastic League contests at Brownsville with honors, director Ralph Burford said.

The orchestra and senior band made a I division rating in concert and sight reading. This gives the band a sweepstakes award for the year because it won I divisions in marching, concert playing and sight reading.

The junior band played Monday and made a I division in concert and a II in sight reading.

Ralph Burford and Clyde Reynolds direct the senior band and Vernon Denman the juniors. Carl Seale directs the orchestra.

"I am very pleased at the fine record," Burford said, "made by the entire instrumental department. This fine record, in part is due to the fine support and cooperation given by the administrative staff and the board of education.

Seale said the orchestra played the best it has played this year and he was proud of the fine job. Judge Weldon Covington, Austin band supervisor, said, "In general this is a good sounding group with a lot of big, pretty sounds."

Maurice McAdow, North Texas State band director, said of the orchestra, "There are some excellent effects in your playing. The ensemble seems well rehearsed as to style, phrasing and interpretation."

Gene Braught, another judge and Del Mar Band director, said of the band, "This was a good reading by a welltrained group. You received good instruction and you followed this instruction well. I enjoyed very much hearing this fine group. Attention was given to musical interpretation and dynamic markings. Congratulations to the director and the band."

April 19-1961

slight wound in another action.

Bandman Brings Home New Ideas

Ralph Burford, supervisor of music in Edinburg's schools, was bursting with energy and new ideas today. He has just returned from the Texas Bandmaster's Assn. 16th annual marching band clinic.

Burford, who has been in Edinburg 15 years, was elected first vice president of the association during the meeting. In this position, he already is helping the association prepare for next year's clinic. Officials will be aiming to top this year's affair.

That will be a tall order. This was the biggest clinic ever with 552 bandmasters registered. Burford said 350 brought their wives to the big show.

One of the big reasons for the clinic is to introduce bandmasters to the new music made available for bands. These ranged from a selection called "Pizza-Party" to Bach's Prelude and Fugue in F Minor.

Then there were marching band and stage band clinics, business sessions and visits to the displays of the many exhibitors. These also were interesting for their variety. Most would expect that instruments would be demonstrated. They were. But so was candy. Burford explained candy manufacturers have found a good business in supplying an incentive to fund-raising campaigns for school bands.

Highlight of the three-day clinic was a public performance by the U.S. Air Force Band and the Singing Sergeants. Burford said 4,000 people heard the free, public performance. The program was selected to show the bandmasters



Ralph Burford
... Bandmaster official

the variety of music available for bands and Burford said it also greatly pleased the general public.

MANY NIGERIANS STUDY IN BRITAIN

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—British High Commission figures show 781 scholarships have been awarded to Nigerian students by the British government for study in the United Kingdom since this country became independent in 1960.

Hundreds of additional scholarships have been awarded through British industries operating in Nigeria.

The high commission estimated that more than 8,000 Nigerians are presently studying in Britain.

Band, Orchestra Both Get 1's At ISL Contest

The Edinburg High School Senior band and orchestra came back from Brownsville over the weekend with division I ratings in concert playing in the Interscholastic League Contests.

The band also won a I rating in sight reading and the orchestra a III.

The band, orchestra and all 200 choir members will join Thursday at 8 p.m. for a concert in the gym, Director Ralph Burford said. Tickets will be 50 and 25 cents.

The public concert will be on the same order as the All State concerts, Burford said. All three organizations will be seated in the gym and each group will play about 20 minutes of their finest numbers, the director said.

At the end the combined bands, choirs and orchestra will present a festival finale, "God Of Our Fathers," by Dr. Joseph E. Moddy, director of the Interlochen Music Camp at Ann Arbor, Mich. Burford said Mrs. B. McIntosh Summers would use all the choir personnel from all groups, numbering about 200.

At Brownsville in sight reading, as is usual, the director and students are given a musical selection with neither has ever seen. They are allowed to study it five minutes, then they start reading.

Compliments for the band from the judges were high.

James Murphy of the University of Minnesota, Duluth Branch, said, "This is your finest band which I have heard (speaking of all in the contest). Your band has style and musicianship which I have never before heard in your groups, a dramatic display of virtuosity, well balanced and in tune, a beautiful ensemble and a magnificent performance."

Joe Bellamah, director of bands at A&I College, said: "Congratulations on an outstanding technical performance, like the en-

Press Book Wins Prize For Pan Am

The 22-page basketball press guide published by Pan American College has won honorable mention in competition with over 400 colleges in the United States.

The green and white brochure earned the honorable mention in the printed category in a contest conducted by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics in Kansas City, Mo., according to Tom Reno, public relations director for NAIA.

Placing first in the printed category was East Texas State College of Commerce, Texas, replacing Fort Hays State of Kansas which took second this year. Also placing in the top five were Adolphi College of New York, third; Southeastern Louisiana, fourth; and, New Mexico Highlands, fifth.

Joining Pan Am in the honorable mention category was Carson Newman of Tennessee. Editor of the Pan American College brochure was Vernon L. Davis, director of public information.

Judging the brochures was Bill Girsby, veteran sports announcer for the Kansas City Athletics and Big Eight Conference.

The 1961-62 PAC basketball press guide placed fifth in national competition.

semble sonority that this band gets.'

Mark Hindley, director of bands at the University of Illinois, was more critical. He gave the band a II at the Buccaneer Days contest at Corpus Christi and at Brownsville. He was very much opposed to one number and called it a hodge-podge of notes which would make a good band sound bad. Burford explained that in Texas bans have to play numbers on the approved contest list and this was on the list.

Murphy said of the orchestra, "You people have come along way and should be congratulated."

Hindley said, "You certainly have an orchestral sound and manner that does you much credit. More power to you!"

Bellamah said: "An excellent performance, very well done. A very musical rendition."

The sight reading judge was Robert Montgomery, director of bands from Snyder.

New Syrian Government Has New Head

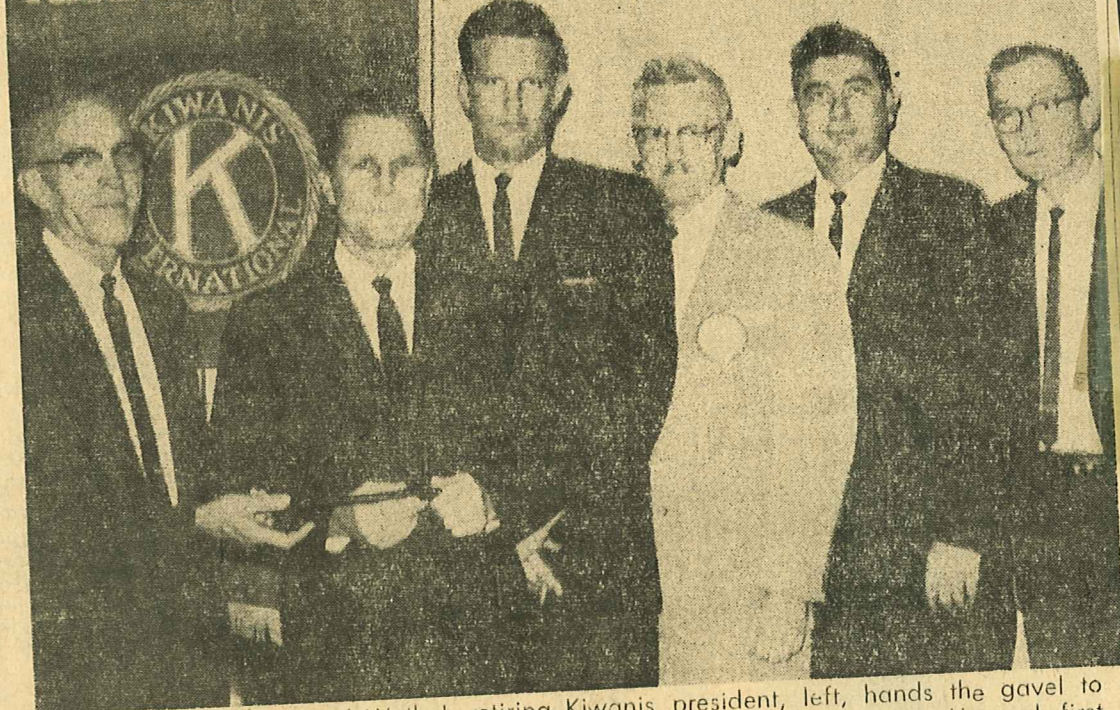
DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — The revolutionary government of Syria changed leadership Saturday. The switch appeared aimed at solving a crisis brought on by a week of pro-Nasser rioting, but whether it would do so remained a question.

The National Revolutionary Council accepted the resignation of Prime Minister Salah Bitar, a Ba'ath Socialist who took over after a bloodless coup March 8. The council then asked Dr. Sami Jun-di to replace him and attempt to form a new government.

August 10-1963

KIWANIS CLUB

Jan 1963



GAVEL PASSES — Carl Waibel, retiring Kiwanis president, left, hands the gavel to Ralph Burford, new president. With him are other officers, l to r, Carter Howard, first vice president; J. Lell Elliott, second vice president; Adalberto Garza, treasurer; and Corwin Connell, secretary.

**Burford
Kiwanis
President**

Ralph Burford, Edinburg public school music director, Monday night was installed as president of the Kiwanis Club for the year with a new slate of officers. The others are Carter Howard, first vice president; J. Lell Elliott, second vice president Adalberto Garza, treasurer; and Corwin Connell, secretary. Directors installed were Bill Crist, B. L. Garza, John Moore, Charles Nix, Dean Patten, Bob Rogers, B. L. Stewart and Waibel. Nix entertained with folk songs, accompanying himself with a guitar. Lt. Gov. H. Raymond Miller of

**Edwards To Head
Roadway Division**

"Mr. Edwards was ill this morning and that's why Mr. Banker is here," County Judge Milton Richardson told his commissioner's court this morning and this apparently constituted the official announcement that Cordell Edwards, Richardson's associate in the insurance business in Monte Alto, was the new right of way agent for the county. Edwards apparently steps into Phil Jordan's \$7,200 a year job which he vacated last November. Today's lengthy session was a money-spending one with a new car, a new "automatic writing" machine, a new typewriter and assorted office supplies purchased

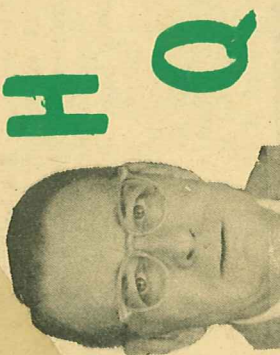
Chevrolet, McAllen, \$2,325.95; Knapp Motor Co., Weslaco, \$2,485.53; Boggus Motor Sales, McAllen, \$2,244.85 and Spikes Motor Co. Mission, \$2,168.95. The writing machine was purchased for Auditor Bob McLea from Friden, Inc., of Rochester, N. Y., for \$4,665. It was the sole bid. The typewriter, for the Child Welfare department, was bought from IBM for \$445.50. Walraven of Dallas was successful in securing the county clerk's loose leaf binder business. The company bid \$23 per binder, higher than the Mission Time, \$21.61, but the court decided to take Walraven's merchandise bid

W R M



New Kiwanis President

Carter Howard, left, accepts the gavel from Ralph Burford, retiring Kiwanis president; and an installation banquet at the Echo Motor Hotel Tuesday night. Lt. Gov. T. Marshall Weaver also installed Milton Stallings as first vice president and B.L. Garza as second, plus other officers and directors.



By HARRY QUIN

The current issue of Life magazine has a double page spread, pages 24 and 25, on President Lyndon B. Johnson and Lady Bird at a barbecue on their ranch. It's a big picture and in the background, standing with his hand on a car door is James M. Flinchum, now editor of the Cheyenne, Wyo., newspaper. Jim spent some time in the Valley right after World War II when he opened the first wire service bureau in this area--in The Daily Review office. He then was with United Press and lived at McAllen with the John Peaveys.

We're having lots of trouble getting home from the office lately. The stop sign at the corner of Ebony Lane and 13 Ave. is giving us trouble. In the last

week.

Students will also be discussed. Such a team, accord-

Burford Elected State Band Head

Ralph Burford, who has been band director for Edinburg schools since 1948 and whose bands have won 43 out of a possible 45 I ratings, today is president of the Texas Band Masters Assn.

He was named at the 17th annual meeting of the group at San Antonio which was a new music and marching clinic, lasting nearly a week and drawing some of the top men in band music in the United States. The convention is at San Antonio each year.

The principal purpose of the meeting was to review new music for the coming year, talk of marching formations and new ideas for shows at football games during the fall.

This year the largest attendance ever at the convention was recorded when 598 band masters and their families came to the convention.

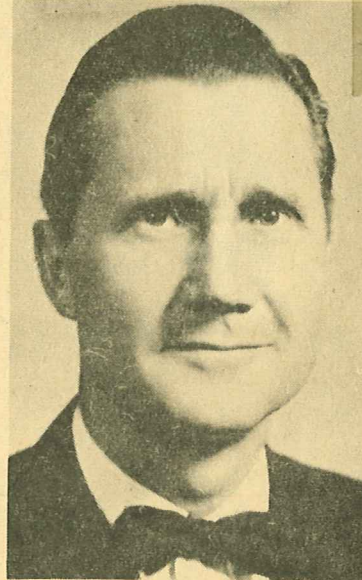
One of the principal events was a concert by the NORAD service band composed of U. S. and Canadian service musicians. NORAD is the northern radar outpost service. Burford said 4,000 persons heard the concert at the San Antonio Municipal Auditorium. Conductor was Lt Col. Mark Azzolina.

At the meetings there were clinics for various instruments, junior high music, state bands, marching bands and selection of new music.

Burford came to Edinburg in

1948 from Mexia. The first year his band did not enter University interscholastic League events. But they started the next year. In the 16 years since then, the organizations have been rated excellent in marching, concert and sight reading nearly every time. In 1951 and in 1956 the band slipped to a rating of good (II) in concert playing but held to the I division rating in marching and sight reading.

Burford's term as head of the Texas-wide organization of about 800 bandmasters will last for a year.



RALPH BURFORD

July 30-1964

began arriving in town.

Bobcat And Junior Band Both Get Is

The Edinburg High School Bobcat Band and the junior high band were back at school today after having won I ratings at the annual Pigskin Jubilee at Weslaco Saturday night.

This was the 16th consecutive year the senior band had scored the highest possible rank.

Director is Ralph Burford, assisted by Adan Salazar and Larry Branson.

This is the second year in a row the junior band, directed by Larry Garcia, has rated a I. It had not previously been entering the contest.

Judges were Weldon Covington, Austin school music supervisor; Joe Rogers, band director at Kingsville high; and Fred Junkin, Victoria band director.

Judging is 60 per cent on south of the music and 40 per cent on marching.

blems
rogram

including the one that it would never be tried.

But now it almost has been!

Halftime Show Here Is Flashy

Brownsville and Edinburg are prime rivals not only on during the 48-minutes of football play but at the half when the bands and pep squads take the field—and Friday night was anything but an exception.

The show put on by the Bobcats was elaborate and the Eagles presented their share of flashiness too.

Brownsville's band is one of the top in the state, well disciplined in marching and playing and beautifully uniformed. In addition to the marching and music, the Eagle halftime show included a rope twirling expert and eight pep squad girls in appropriate costumes doing the Mexican hat dance.

The Edinburg band used a political theme, plus fireworks. With appropriate music and formations, the Bobcat band saluted both presidential candidates. Then came a donkey for the Democrats and later an elephant—a real, live one—for the Republicans.

The conclusion, with fireworks, came when the band and Sergeanettes formed an outline of the United States and with the lights out held sparklers.

TODAY

Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing.

JUNE 28

1965
y R

y Newspaper

on except Saturday and on Sunday morning by The



RALPH E. BURFORD

Burford Going To Pasadena

Ralph E. Burford, Edinburg Bobcat Band director for the last 17 years and a perennial favorite of music students in Edinburg schools, said Saturday he had resigned and would go to Pasadena, a Houston-surrounded suburb to be supervisor of music.

Supt. Thomas S. Pickens said he hated to lose Burford and added his services had been superior.

During each of the years he has been here, Burford's band has won the top rating in sight reading and marching and, except for a couple of years, has won the same high award in concert playing.

"I have enjoyed working with the young people these 17 years," Burford said. We (he and Mrs. Burford, who is a high school English teacher) would like to express our thanks to the school and the community for the splendid support of the music program in the schools. Alice and I feel our association with the schools and community has been most rewarding."

Burford currently is president of the Texas Band Masters Assn. a state-wide group of band directors. He is a past president of Edinburg Kiwanis Club. He directed the choir at the Presbyterian Church and directed the one at Moore Field when that was a military installation. He is a veteran of World War II.

The Burfords came here in 1948 and he said his leaving was no jumped-up idea, that he had given it a great deal of thought.

In his new work he will coordinate the music programs of the band, orchestra and choir and will have no production work.

"I've had to draw a lot of Xs on charts," he said in regard to the Friday night football shows which he produced with the band and Sergeanettes, girls' pep squad. This work begins the Saturday after the game in charting and goes through to time for the next game and Burford said it was strenuous.

Pasadena is a city of about 3,000 persons, has four high schools, six junior highs and 21 elementary schools. The music program in all these will be in Burford's charge.

The Burfords have two sons, Eddie, who is married; and Bobby, who is a student at Pan American College. Both are graduates of Edinburg High School.

the battle ground, they will know that we are behind them, 100 per cent!

supplies. Parking permits, what a waste of money!

It's Pretty Hard To Find Elephant

By MARO QUEEN

Do you know how hard it is to find an elephant?

Mr. Ralph Burford, band director, found out when he tried to find one for the half time show last week.

The show was one of the most spectacular ever performed on the Edinburg field. Every Sergeanette, band member, twirler, drum major and student worked together to present it. The details and work that went into the show are unbelievable

Mr. Burford easily found a donkey for the Young Democrat's part in the show with the help of Steven Brown and the 4-H Club but he had to call Laredo, Corpus Christi, and Falfurrias looking for an elephant.

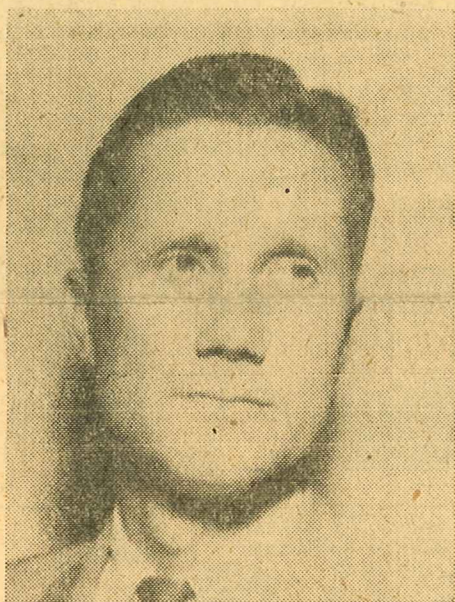
He finally heard of one in Donna and contacted Mr. Bob Sells of the Sells Bros. Circus. They are in winter quarters in

Donna and tour the U.S. and Canada during their season. On Thursday night they finally settled plans to use Frieda, their elephant, began negotiations for the insurance. By late Friday morning all the plans were settled.

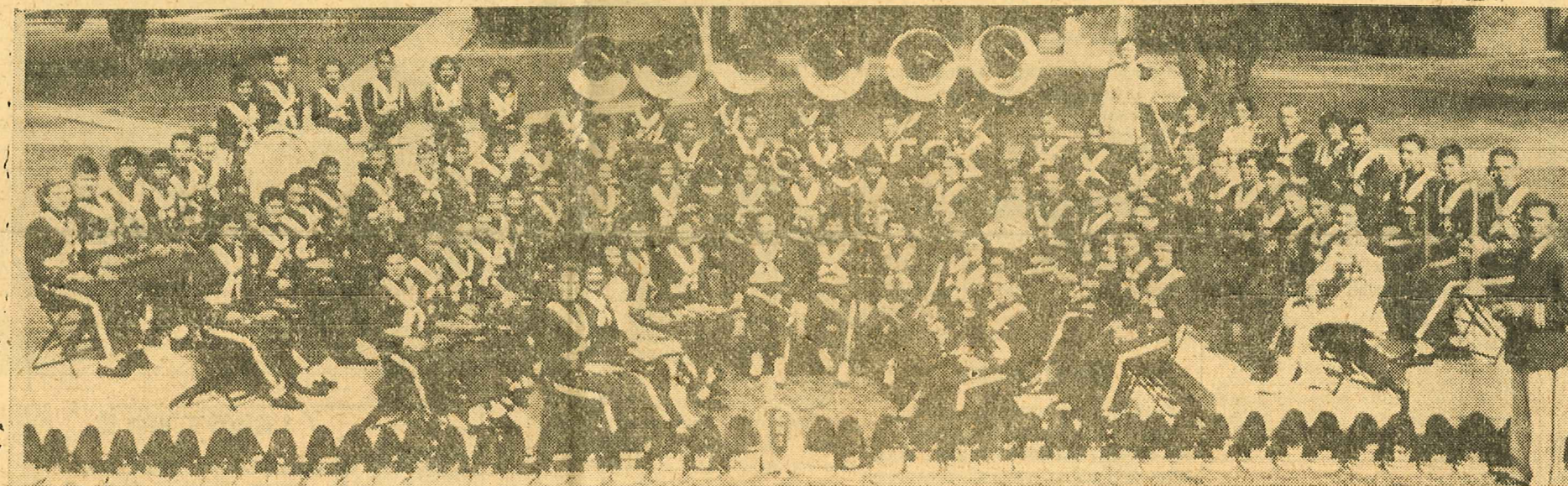
But the details of an elaborate fireworks show can be just as difficult as getting an elephant. The Sergeanettes held sparklers. Two were wired together so they would last through the entire number. Then each sparkler had to punt in a bucket of sand so the football players wouldn't injure themselves on the wires. The twirlers fire batons had to be taken care of. Then the elephant had to be safe in the truck so that the fireworks could begin.

Next time you see a show put on by the Bobcat band and the Red and Blue Sergeanettes remember the work that goes into it!

Congratulations to the Sweepstakes-Winning EDINBURG BOBCAT BAND We're Proud Of You!



Director Ralph E. Burford



Official 1952 Photo of Edinburg Bobcat Band

Edinburg is truly proud of the BOBCAT BAND, its members and its talented, hard-working director...for the high honors won for the school and the town in the Band competition in Enid last week-end. Here's wishing the entire organization, and its director, continued success.

EQUIPMENT SPECIALTIES CO., INC.
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ARTISTIC BEAUTY SHOPPE
216 E. Cano Phone 565

AUTO PORT
224 S. 12th Phone 9574

BARTON-MAUERMANN MOTOR CO.
422 S. Closner Phone 950

BAXTER FURNITURE EXCHANGE
1106 E. Harriman Phone 1026

BELL LOAN COMPANY
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BETO'S GROCERY & MARKET
523 E. Loeb Phone 9641

CORNER REXALL DRUG STORE
124 1/2 S. 12th Phone 68

CRUMP'S TRUCK STOP
3/4 Miles S. State Hiway Phone 990

EDINBURG HARDWARE & SUPPLY
215 E. Cano Phone 807

HOTEL EDINBURG
203 S. Closner Phone 476

EDINBURG RADIATOR SHOP
E. Kuhn Phone 687

WRIGHT'S GARAGE
120 E. Loeb Phone 9589

FARMER'S GARAGE
105 N. 18th Phone 698

ALAMO EXPRESS

YODER PONTIAC CO.
223 W. Harriman Phone 1424

YODER MOTOR SALES
502 S. Closner Phone 142

WARD & WEBER MOTOR CO.
500 N. Closner Phone 161

WALLACE FRUIT & VEGETABLE CO.
1/4 Mile N. State Highway Phone 407

THE VALLEY STORE
620 E. Harriman Phone 22

VALLEY AUTO SUPPLY
205 E. McIntyre Phone 332

TASTEE CHIP CO.
109 S. 16th Phone 19

STANDARD CHEVROLET CO.

GUERRA'S PRESCRIPTION PHARMACY
205 S. 12th Phone 33

GULF OIL CORPORATION
Cecil Stephens Phone 177

HANSHAW'S STORE
110 E. Cano Phone 481

HEATON IMPLEMENT CO.
716 W. Harriman Phone 77

HELP YOURSELF LAUNDRY
W. C. Downing Owner 324 E. Cano

M D PHARMACY
108 W. Cano Phone 1691

JAKE'S GARAGE
601 S. 10th Phone 9604

stood on the corner.—(Acme Telephoto)

This Is Music Year For Local Students

It's going to be a good year for the music loving students of Edinburg High School and for the members of the Bobcat Band.

"Students in the senior high school who have any tendency to like music and to student music will be able to get a good deal of assistance this year," Supt. R. P. Ward said.

There's a new band director named Ralph E. Buford. He already had a bachelor of music degree from Wichita University. And he received his master of music degree from Northwestern University in August.

Buford will replace Max Murphy who directed the band last year and who has gone to East Texas to teach music this term.

Buford was a band director in Kansas schools three years and supervised the junior high orchestras in all the Indianapolis, Ind., schools for a year. Then he took a four-year vacation with the army and came out an infantry captain.

All of which might mean, and probably will, that the Bobcat band will be one of the best drilled organizations in the section this fall.

For the last two years Buford directed the choral clubs and the

White Hat Band at Mexia. That band received state-wide publicity for the work it did.

And coming here this term to direct the school's choral music in the high school is Mrs. Roberta W. Taylor. She has a bachelor of philosophy degree from Denison University and studied in Oberlin Conservatory. For a year she attended the Musical Art Institute at Chicago, then directed choral music at Classen High School, Oklahoma City's largest school. She later supervised music for all the Oklahoma City schools.

Refugees to Enter US Next Month

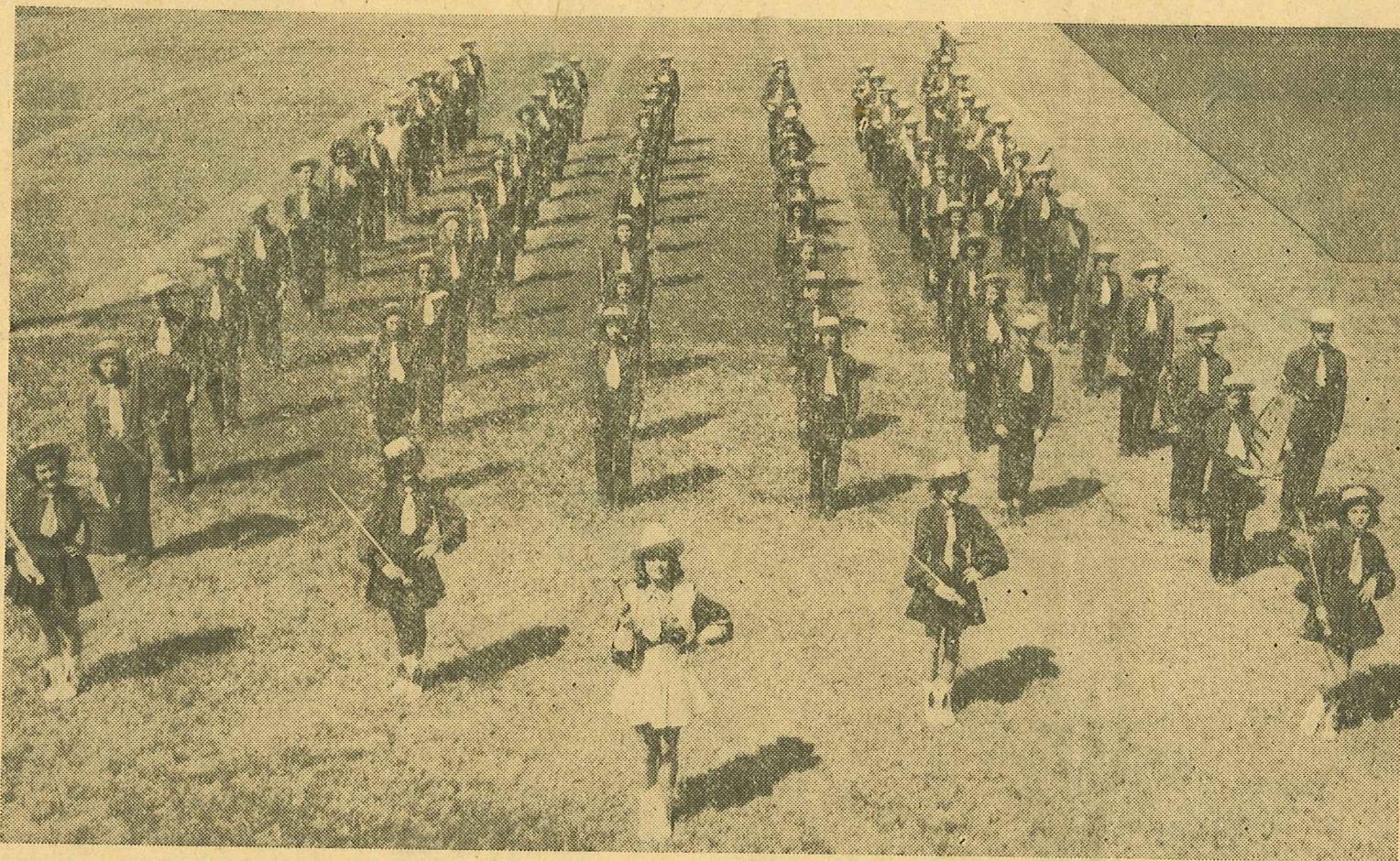
WASHINGTON — (UP) — The first of 205,000 European refugees to be admitted to the United States within the next two years under the new displaced persons law will arrive here in October, it was announced Tuesday.

Ugo Carusi, chairman of the DP commission, said that between 2,500 and 3,000 refugees will enter the country during October. Later, he said, the flow will increase to more than 10,000 a month.

EDINBURG DAILY

No. 188

EDINBURG, TEXAS, SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 17, 1948



BOBCAT BAND—Bedecked in their attractive cowboy outfits consisting of blue jeans, red flannel shirts and white cowboy hats, the Edinburg band made its first appearance Friday night at the Harlingen football game. It was their first game performance this year under the direction of their new leader, Ralph Burford. Their principal stunt was the formation of the Lone Star of Texas in the center of the field at the half. Then

they doffed their white hats, put them on the ground to form the star and marched off to play the Eyes of Texas. The original play was to play the song in the dark with each band member holding a flash light, but Harlingen ruled against turning off the lights and they substituted the hats for the lights. (REVIEW PHOTO)

Lions Faculty Club

All Valley Morning

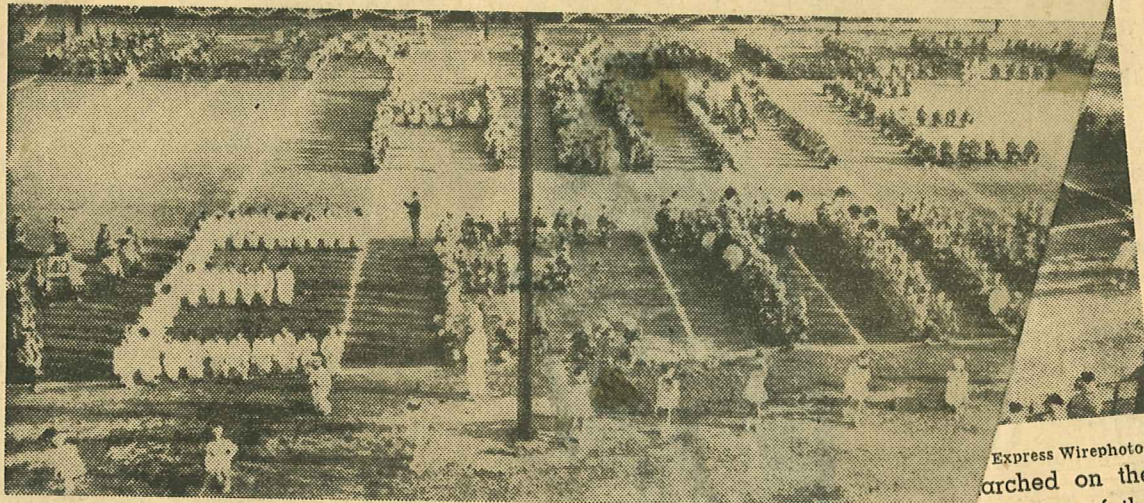
Published by the Express Press

THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY'S MOST C

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1949

PAGE 1 C

RIO GRA



Express Wirephoto
marched on the
as part of the
part in the mass

HIGH SCHOOL BANDS FORM WORDS—Bands from 15 Valley high schools are seen marching on the football field of San Benito High School stadium and formed the words, "Our Valley Home—Greetings" as part of the seventh annual Pigskin Music Jubilee staged at San Benito Thursday night. About 1,200 students took part in the mass parade. The bands also marched and played individually later.

Students Stage Pigskin Jubilee

About 1,200 Students and 15 Bands Take Part in Event

SAN BENITO, Dec. 8.—A large crowd, representing almost every city in the Valley, jammed the grandstands at San Benito High School's football field here Thursday night to view the seventh annual pigskin music jubilee. About 1,200 students took part in the mass spectacle.

Bands from 15 high schools marched on the football field in a mass entry as one band and formed the words, "Amigos del Rio Grande." Next they formed the words "Our Valley Home—Greetings."

The bands also executed marching maneuvers and then marched and played individually for ratings.

In keeping with a Valley theme, the students also formed

three large grapefruits—students wearing gold and green uniforms making up the grapefruit and leaves.

Football awards also were made with recognition of football players who made all-district teams.

E. L. Pritchett, superintendent of San Benito schools, was general chairman of this year's jubilee.

DAILY REVIEW

FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 10, 1949

United Nations Jerusalem Rule

City Band, Director Earn Jubilee Honors

Two signal honors went to the Edinburg high school band and its conductor, Ralph Burford, at Thursday night's Pigskin Jubilee in San Benito.

The band jumped from third division rating last year to first this year, sharing that rating with San Benito and Harlingen in the AA class. Two mass numbers, with 900 bandsmen from over the Valley, were led by Burford—one choral and one instrumental.

Crowds thrilled as the mass entry was made by the students wearing the uniform of their school. Immediately following the entrance, the 900 marching bandsmen used the entire field to form "1949—AMIGOS DEL RIO GRANDE" with a large sombrero in the center.

"Chiapanecas" (The Clapping Song) was then played under the direction of the Edinburg conductor, after which "OUR VALLEY HOME — GREETINGS" was spelled out with a large cluster of grapefruit, complete with leaves and color effect, at one end of the field. The song "Our Valley Home" was then sung by the entire group.

Judged on the basis of alignment and execution together with specified movements, on their music, and on the neatness and uniformity of dress, the Bobcat band rated their first No. 1 rating in many years.

The biggest crowd yet assembled for a Pigskin Jubilee, an estimated 4,500 persons, watched the 15 Valley bands perform. Sole entry in the AA-1 class was Brownsville who was awarded a first division rating.

In the AA group, McAllen was rated 2 and Donna 2.

DEDICATED TO PEARL HARBOR

Edinburg's Pigskin Jubilee To Attract 15 Valley Bands

Caller-Times News Service

officials of different schools and Interscholastic League Region 9 which encompasses the Rio

EDINBURG—Fifteen Rio Grande Valley high school bands will march through a series of patriotic tableaux to the tune of martial music in the annual Pigskin Jubilee here Dec. 7.

The gathering of 1,000 high school musicians is dedicated to Pearl Harbor which was the scene of the United States first combat in World War II a decade ago.

Ralph Burford, director of Edinburg High School band, is to be host to the 15 Valley units which have entered the marching contest. Ratings will be given in the marching phase of Interscholastic League band contests.

Four branches of the armed services—the Army, Navy, U. S. Marine Corps and U. S. Air Force—will be featured in mass formation to the accompaniment to their fight songs.

All bands will participate in the grand entry. Already scheduled to participate are units from Edinburg, Edcouch-Elsa, Harlingen, La Feria, La Joya, Donna, McAllen, Mercedes, Weslaco, Pharr-San Juan Alamo, Raymondville, Rio Grande City, Rio Hondo and San Benito.

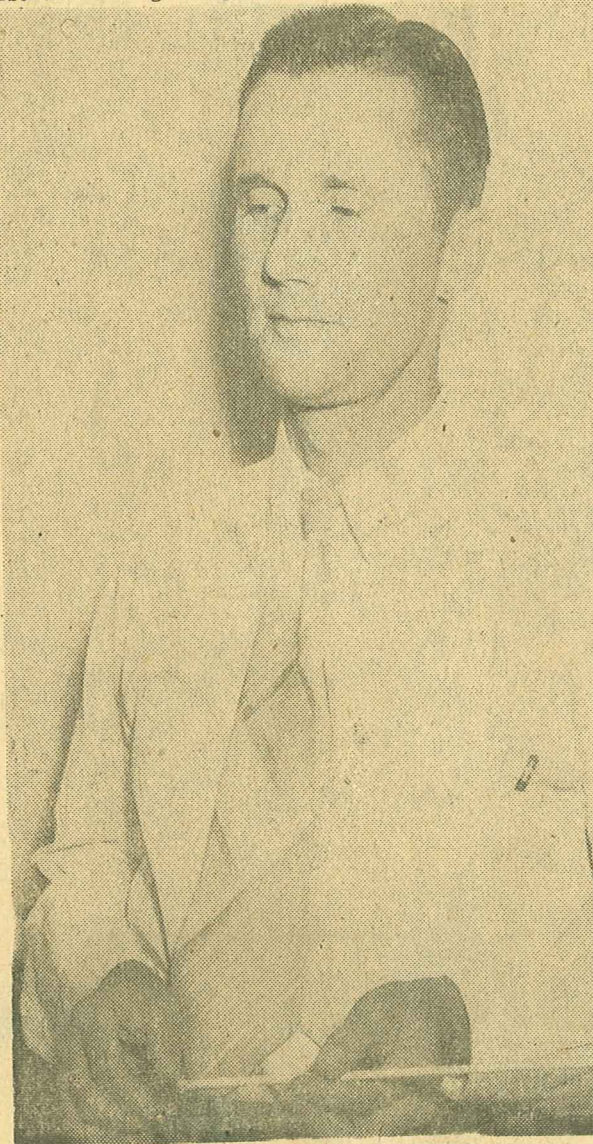
The noted Brownsville High Eagle Band will not participate because of last-minute rehearsals for the Chicago clinic in which it will be featured a week later.

Words to be formed during the Pigskin Jubilee show are "Defend America," "Freedom for All," "Pearl Harbor," dates and the names of four branches of the armed services.

The 10th annual Pigskin Jubilee with "A Decade of Music in the Valley" as its theme will be in charge of Burford.

Superintendent R. P. Ward, Edinburg, is general chairman for the Region 9 event. Ed Hold, Pharr, is president of the Interscholastic League in Region 9.

In connection with the 10th annual affair a booklet and program is to be published. The program will include pictures of all participating bands, photographs of directors and



RALPH BURFORD
... host to 15 Valley Units

Edinburg Band Director Named In 10 Best Of U.S.

Ralph Burford, Edinburg band director, Saturday was notified he had been named one of the 10 outstanding band directors in the United States and would be saluted in a special section of "The School Musician," a 30-year-old trade magazine.

Burford, who came to Edinburg 11 years ago when the band had 75 to 80 members and hadn't marched at a football game for three years because there were no uniforms, has transformed it into one of the state's leading high school musical organizations. There are now 105 musicians in the senior band, 85 more in the junior high band and 65 in the intermediate band.

Students can begin their band training in the sixth grade now and they also can play in an orchestra which has 40 members.

The first year Burford was director here, the band didn't enter a contest. But from then on it began to make its mark. In that first contest it began to win I ratings and has continued to win them every year since then.

The band won the sweepstakes award in 1952 at the Tri-State

Music Festival at Enid, Okla.

Beginning in 1956 and for the next three years the Edinburg Bobcat band won the marching contest and scored high in concert playing and sight reading at Buc caneer Days at Corpus Christi.

Last year the band was chosen to represent all three AAAA high school bands in Texas to play at a concert in Galveston for the State Music Educator's convention.

Burford, 44, has been directing bands since 1938. He was an infantry major during World War II and carries over some of the military training tactics into band training. While he was band direc-

tor at Mexia, shortly before coming to Edinburg, he was awarded the Junior Chamber of Commerce trophy as the outstanding man in the community.

He attended the University of Wichita where he got a bachelor of arts with a major in public school music, and Northwestern University where he got a master of arts in music. While at the University of Wichita he ran the mile for the track team, holding the record for 11 years at the Kansas and Oklahoma relays.

During the 21 years he has been a band director he has influenced 55 of his students to into music as a professional career.

Abolishment Of Studied By Edin

A plan whereby the property tax Edinburg would be done away with by the city and under which the city would finance itself on fees and service charges is being mulled over by City Manager Jack Reynolds.

The manager has been working on the budget for several weeks and constantly is running into problems like the one about the fire department's need for a new high pressure pumper truck.

Actually the city hasn't the money to pay \$12,500 for such a truck but when the public clamors for one, the clamor has to be heard and considered. Much money a city spends goes for things the public can't see right off and doesn't stop to think about. Water plant expansions, the addition of new water mains, salaries for workers, raises for policemen, a new pickup for the park and recreation department don't get the public attention something like a fire truck does.

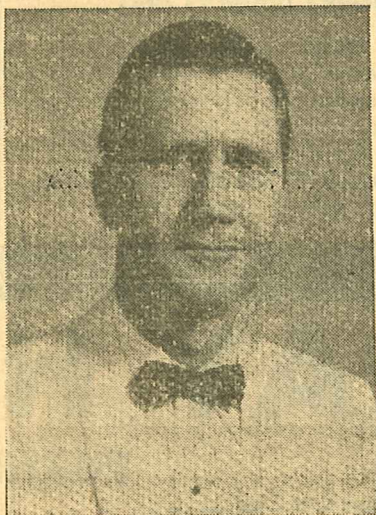
"Our trouble is that the property

values are so low," Reynolds said. Then he took out a pamphlet which had some comparative figures. Edinburg's population is about 18,500 persons and property values are at \$12 million. McAllen, which has a population of about 35,000 persons has, figured on a basis identical to Edinburg's, would have a property valuation of \$49½ million. Harlingen, with a population of 40,000 persons, has, on the Edinburg basis, a valuation of \$55 million.

Reynolds pointed out those two towns are approximately twice as large as Edinburg and have valuations of more than four times as much.

Then he looked at San Benito, which is smaller than Edinburg but has a property valuation of \$18½ million for its 16,000 population—\$1½ million more than Edinburg.

"So it's easy to see where our problem is. We just don't have the valuation," the city manager said. Since the valuations are low,



Ralph Burford

1959 Sept

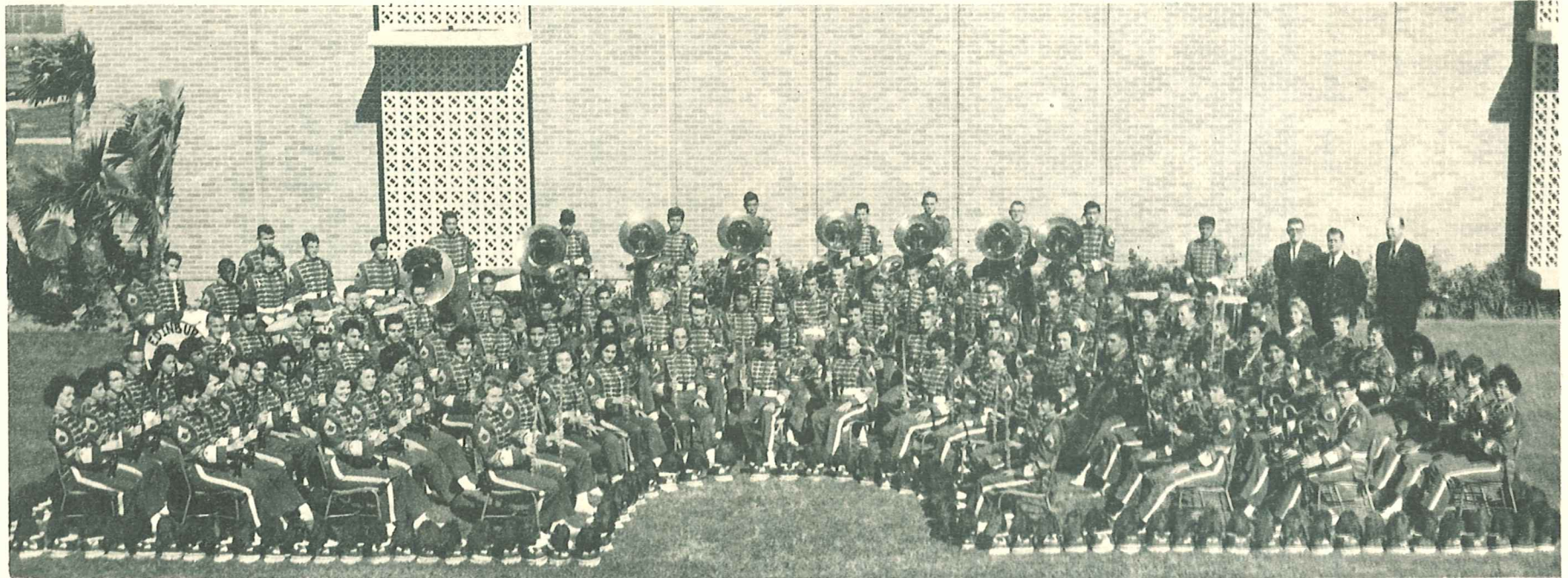
EDINBURG SENIOR BAND

IN

CONCERT

RALPH E. BURFORD
Conductor

CHARLES HART
Asst. Conductor



TUESDAY, April 9, 1963

8:00 P.M.

**PAN AMERICAN COLLEGE AUDITORIUM
EDINBURG, TEXAS**

The citizens and students of Edinburg, Texas are justly proud of the Bobcat Band. These 115 members always display spirit, a snappy cadence, and a flare for showmanship. The band has entered interscholastic league competition 45 times and has been awarded 43 first divisions (a rating of 95 to 100%) in the past 15 years. The band has been under the direction of Ralph E. Burford since 1948. In 1965 he went to Pasadena, Texas as director of Music.





the cycle. "We are now in our second year and, consistent with their procedures, the Agency will send a team to verify that this district is meeting minimum

update earlier needs assessments and to determine what the educational priorities of the district should be and what areas needed additional emphasis. As a result of those surveys, A Five-Year Plan for the

long-term planning. Monitoring will repeat every five years so that the goals of the district may be adjusted at frequent intervals to meet changing needs and priorities.

District flag seen by thousands nationwide

Stitch together 262 yards of red and white sports poplin, alternately, in rows 75 feet long; cut 50 white stars approximately three feet in diameter from point to point and baste them to a field of blue made from 77 yards of material spread out across the entire floor of the Queens Intermediate gymnasium...and you will have accomplished what Mrs. Roberta Bondy did in 1971 when she made one of the largest American

Flags in existence for the Pasadena Independent School District.

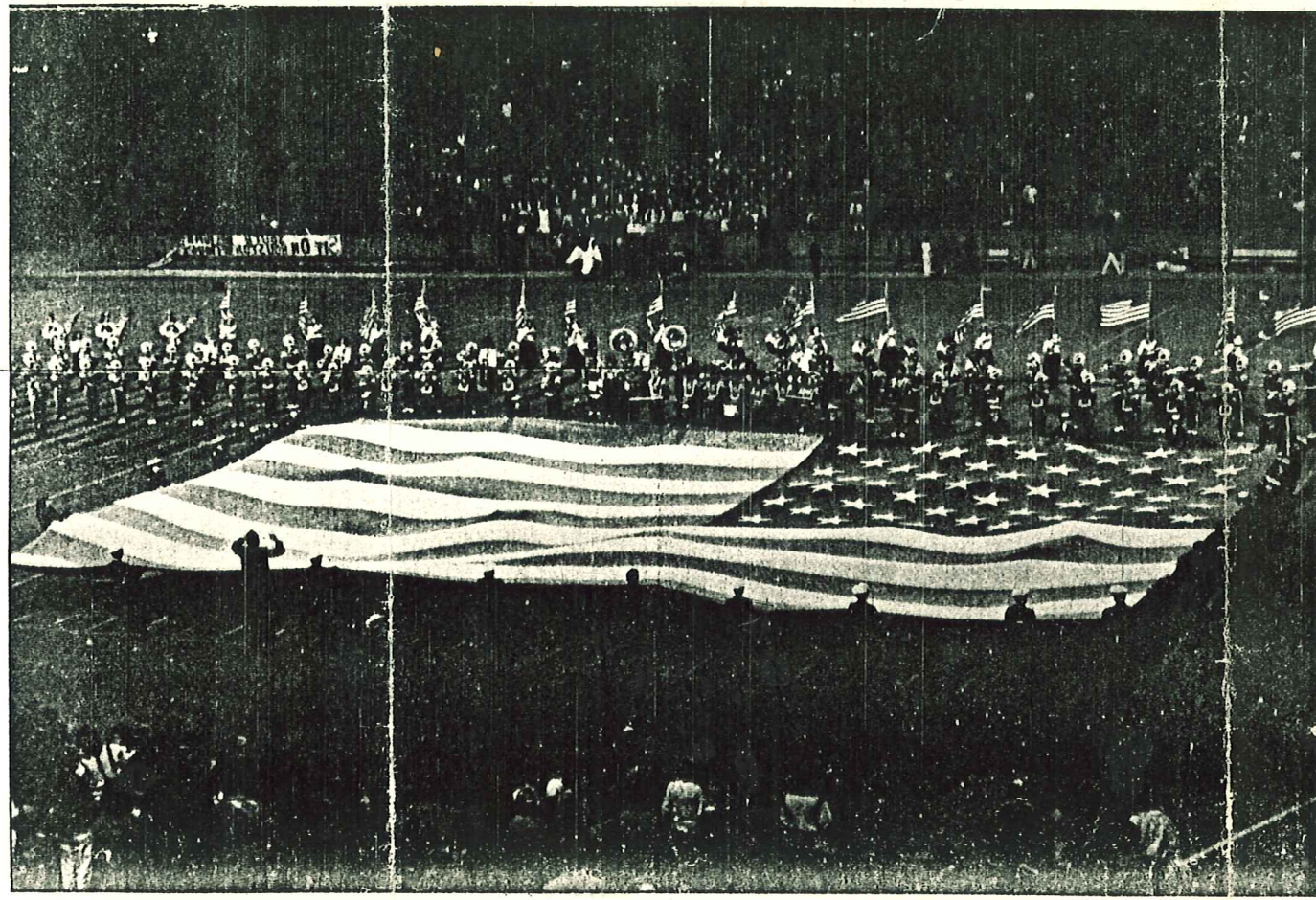
"It all began," reflected Elmer Bondy, assistant superintendent of secondary schools, "due to the response of the patrons of the Pasadena Schools to the American flag. Our constituents have always taken pride in the flag and respond well to its use. Because

of this, Ralph Burford (former Director of Music) approached mother with the idea of making the large flag to be used by the Pasadena high schools' bands at various half-time shows and performances." Bondy's mother was a seamstress doing occasional jobs for the district and agreed to the project.

And some project it turned out to be. She worked at Queens intermediate, completely covering the school's gym floor with her material. It took several members of the Bondy family to move the pieces around and to position the stars. After many weeks work, when the flag was finally completed, it measured 75 feet in length and 46.5 feet in width. Each stripe is nearly four feet wide, and altogether some 367 yards of material were used. A special crate had to be built to store the flag at the district's Central Warehouse, and when it comes out of storage it requires 40 to 50 people to unfurl the flag to its one-fourth-of-a-football-field size.

The flag is used quite often reports Director of Music, Dr. Jay Dunnahoo, not only by the Pasadena Schools but by high schools and universities across the nation. "Generally the flag is used a couple of times each season at football games by our high school bands," stated Dunnahoo, "and many times it is used by other school districts and groups all over the U.S." It was featured at the nationally televised Purdue vs. Stanford game this year and it appeared in Tennessee in October for the East Tennessee State University vs. Citadel game. The flag is frequently used at the opening game of the season of the Houston Astros, and besides these Astrodome appearances, it has been used at the Cotton Bowl and the Superdome in New Orleans. Area high schools frequently use the flag. Aldine, Victoria, Galena Park, Spring Wood, Rockport, Paris, and Refugio have all used it in the past few years.

Despite its many appearances, both locally and on national television, Roberta Bondy never saw her flag being used. She suffered a fatal heart attack on her way to the stadium to watch the half-time premier presentation of her handiwork.



*← This story is all about the flag I had made when I was director of music at Pasadena Schools. It has been used all over the United States for half-time football shows. It was used in the 1st half-time show in the big Dome in New Orleans, La. When it opened - I'm sure Peggy or Glen can tell you all about it.
Love
Ralph -*



regarding engine modification
and maintenance operations.

BURFORD

(Continued from page 1)

he was honored by High School Musician, a national music magazine, as one of the top high school band directors in the nation.

Burford was a member of the Edinburg Kiwanis Club, served as president in 1963 and later as lieutenant governor, a district wide office.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Edinburg where he served as an elder and choir director.

In 1965 the Burfords moved to Pasadena and he became director of music education, leading a faculty of 81 music teachers.

Mr. Burford retired in Pasadena in 1979 and returned to Edinburg where they built a new home.

Visitation and viewing will begin from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday at Skinner Funeral Home Chapel in Edinburg.

A memorial service will be held Wednesday at 3 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Edinburg with Rev. Blair Cash officiating. His body will be shipped to the Ebersole Mortuary, 219 Spring, Conway Springs, Kansas, for services and burial.

The family asked that memorials be made to the First Presbyterian Church, 300 West Cano, Edinburg, Texas 78539, or to the Edinburg Kiwanis Club, P.O. Box 805, Edinburg, Texas 78540.

Skinner Funeral Home of Edinburg is in charge of local arrangements.



Parade Starts Celebration Of Band Anniversary Today

By MARGARET BISHOP

The celebration of the 50th anniversary of the first band in Edinburg gets off to a preliminary start today with a parade which will include the Bobcat Band, all the old players who can be rounded up and the drum majors available.

The parade will go through the downtown area, starting at 4 p.m. from the school Administration Building on W Harriman.

Friday is the big day for the band. There will be a reception for former players and the concert at 8 p.m. at the Pan American College auditorium.

Currently four men influence Edinburg's bands and they have had a variety of experience.

Heading the list is Ralph E. Burford, director of Edinburg High School Band. Burford received his bachelor of public school music degree from the University of Wichita, Kan. in 1938. He received his master of music education degree from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. He has studied voice under Eugene Dressler and trombone under Jaroslav Cimerka at Northwestern University.

As far as teaching experience goes, Burford has taught both instrumental and vocal music in high school at Clearwater High School. He was music supervisor in Indianapolis, Ind. schools and had charge of 17 junior high orchestras. He has also taught instrumental music and vocal music in Mexia.

In 1948 Burford came to Edinburg to become director of instrumental music at Edinburg High. The band has made an outstanding record the last 12 of those years. In 1958, the band was selected as one of the two "top" bands in the state and played a concert at the Texas State Music Educators Conference in Galveston.

The band has entered 51 music contest events in the last 12 years. Six events were entered at Tri-State at Enid, Okla., in 1952-53 and 12 contest events at Buccaneer Music Festival at Corpus Christi over a period of five years.

The band has placed in first division 49 times out of the 51 entries. During the time Burford has been here the band won 16 straight first division marching



Junior Trophy

Larry Branson, assistant director and Larry Garcia, director of the junior high band, display the Outstanding Class C Trophy which the junior high band won at Buccaneer Days in Corpus Christi last year. To add more force to a contest number, the seventh and eighth grade bands are combined.

during 1959 and 1960. At present, he is directing the adult choir at the First Presbyterian Church.

Adan Salazar, assistant director, came to Edinburg two years ago from Falfurrias where he served as band director for two years. His work is primarily with the woodwind instruments.

The assistant director was graduated from Gonzales High School and served as a member

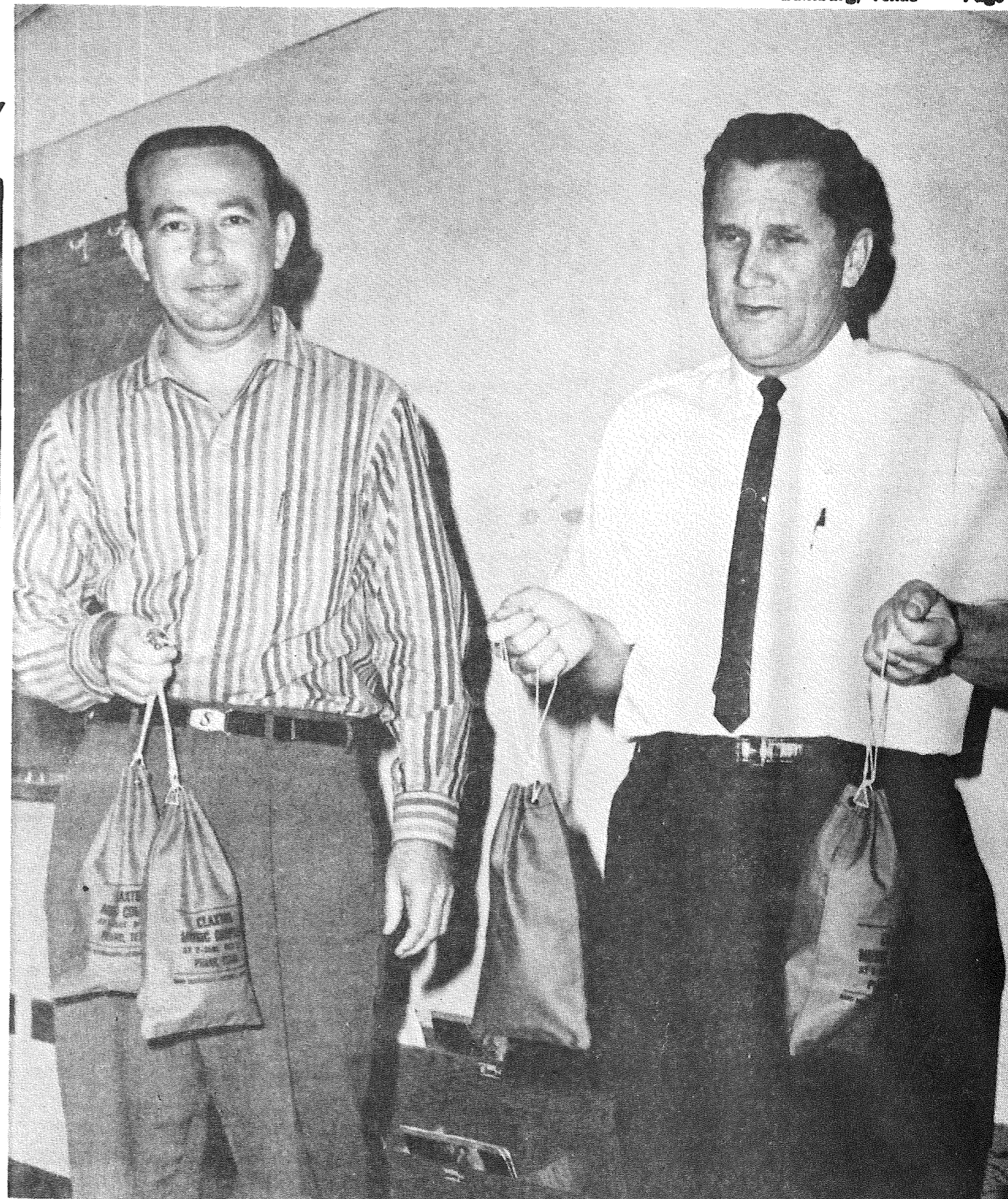
in 1963 from Weslaco. He attended school in Southwest Texas State Teachers College in San Marcos where he majored in music education and minored in history. He will be completing his master's degree work in education this summer. His special instruments are brass and trombone.

Following his graduation from Port Lavaca High School in 1955,

students have an orientation day in the spring.

Sixth graders in band may go ahead with instrumental music. Children are either transported to the junior high band hall or the band director goes to the individual elementary school.

Intermediate band includes seventh grade. It now has 55 members. The Junior High band is made up of eighth grade stu-



Bags Of Medals

Adan Salazar, assistant high school band director and Ralph Burford, director, display the "four bags full" of medals which the senior band won at the recent interscholastic League band

contest held in Edinburg. There were 109 medals won by solos and ensemble units. This is the most medals any band in the Valley has won over a period of 15 years.

ing in marching during the Pig- of the band students are on the home Junior College, Del Mar, 5-55

Band Has Come Long Way

By MARGARET BISHOP

In working up the history of the Bobcat Band, many people in Edinburg who have participated in the growth of the band activities say that the period from the time the first Red Shirt Band was organized to 1948 when Ralph Burford took over as band director is very hazy in the minds of many.

Red Shirt Band

Colonel Hurt organized the famed Red Shirt Band in 1928. During the years that followed through 1937, the band won many outstanding honors. Among these honors were being state championship band for several successive years. The uniforms were blue trousers with red stripes down the side and red shirts.

Reorganized Band

A Mr. Parks became band director in 1938 and everyone who participated in the band either owned his own instrument or borrowed one. These were the years when the band met in what is now the industrial education department of the junior high school.

Miss Virginia Clark who is now Mrs. David Smith was drum major and twirlers were Ruthie Stevens and Helen Ramsour. The twirlers wore white trousers and red shirts.

New Uniforms

Bert Newman came to Edinburg in 1939 and the school purchased new uniforms and some new instruments. Included in the uniform were red trousers, red double breasted coat and red hat.

Mrs. Smith led the band in its debut with new uniforms. Twirlers were Helen Draper, who is now Mrs. Paul Fagg, and Mary and Martha Espensen.

1940 Majorettes

Mrs. Fagg and Helen Ramsour were twirlers in 1940 with Mrs. David Smith again leading the band. Uniforms for the twirlers were blue and white.

Flag Swinging

New techniques of flag swinging, added to the band majorettes by Lee Kohlenberg, were a feature of the band in 1941. At this time the band purchased a drum major's hat of rabbit fur with EHS in blue and red on the side of the hat. Mrs. Fagg was the drum major and wore a white satin uniform while the majorettes wore short two piece uniforms of blue satin. The double-breasted bodice had puffed sleeves. The girls wore gauntlets at the wrists. Mrs. Fagg twirled twin batons during halftime activities.

Twirlers included Susie Johnson, Marilyn Potter and Marjorie Raders who is Mrs. D. Neal

Stites of Edcouch. Flag swingers included Betty Ackerson, Billy Lawrence who is Mrs. Milam Gray, Elva Barrera, Wanda Gill and Mildred Payne. Flags in blue and red were twirled with precision marching.

Twin Drum Majors

Trying something different, the band in 1943, under the direction of James H. Barrett, had twin drum majors. These were Billy Lawrence (Mrs. Cray) and Betty Ackerson. Susie Johnson, Mrs. Stites, Beverly Anderson, Beverly Kirkland and Naomi Trad were twirlers. Flag swingers included Marilyn Dalton, Helen Combs, who is Mrs. Bill Yancy, and Helen Dusk. These girls added much to the color of the red and blue band during halftime activities.

Mrs. D. Neal Stites of Edcouch was drum major of the band for two years in 1944. James H. Barrett was band director. Mrs. Stites wore a white satin uniform with slit skirt trimmed with red sequins. Short skirted majorettes included Beverly Anderson, Beverly Kirkland, Mary Virginia Harker, Naomi Trad and Flag swingers were Mrs. Yancy and Marilyn Dalton.

New Music Course

Max Murphy succeeded Barrett as director in 1946. The band moved into its new quarters located at the southwest edge of the old football field. It was a barracks building which had been moved in.

To further the cause of music, a class in music orientation was started. To receive credit for band, one had to complete this course. During the process of learning, a new instrument aside from the one generally played was learned. If a reed instrument was played in senior band, then a percussion or brass instrument was learned in the class.

Strutting out in front of the band this year was Miss Beverly Kirkland. She wore a white princess style uniform with red and blue braid. Gold epaulets decorated the shoulders. Assisting her in front line twirling were Mary Virginia Harker, Margaret Falk, who is now Mrs. W. C. Bishop, and Dorothy Raders, who is Mrs. Dwight Schroeder. Barbara Lyon and Mrs. Yancy twirled red satin flags.

New Blue Uniforms

In 1947 new uniforms were received for the band in time for the bi-district football game with Thomas Jefferson in San Antonio. The uniforms were blue, single-breasted coat with gold buttons and white trousers. Also added this year were the

two flashy red satin uniforms of the two captains, Mrs. Bishop and Jeanette Horn, who is Mrs. Jack Marshall.

The twirlers, Jo Anne Ourth, Mary Lee Fudge, Betty Jane Lerz and Margaret Ross, wore white satin two piece uniforms with silver buttons.

Mrs. Schroeder served as drum major in 1948 with Mrs. Marshall and Peggy McDonald, now Mrs. Robert Flesher, as captains. They wore white uniforms with blue braid and blue sequined epaulets. Mrs. Schroeder wore a white satin uniform with slit skirt and trimmed in red sequins. Red sequined epaulets adorned her shoulders.

Twirlers for this year were Anita Kooker, Margaret Ross, now Mrs. Bill Adcock, Nancy Shindler, now Mrs. Jack Fryer, Mary Lee Fudge, Barbara McClelland, now Mrs. Bill Baxter, and Bennie Louise Floyd, now Mrs. Ed Walker of Edcouch. They wore blue, two piece uniforms with white braid and gold buttons.

First Band Sweetheart

As a special feature to the last football game halftime activities, the band honored Mrs. Walker as the first band sweetheart. These were times when the band performed for two minutes and the Red and Blue Sergeanettes performed two minutes.

Also, a first was begun this year when a band council was organized. Its members consisted of president, vice president, public relations officer, drum major, accountant and librarian. Up to this year sweaters had been ordered by members of the band. This year, however, band jackets were ordered and were of blue and white gabardine.

To help the band better itself in preparation for concerts and ensembles, a tape recorder was purchased from monies received from concerts, dances and parades fees.

Records Lost

Following this year, many of the records and music were lost in the shuffle when a new band director Ralph Burford came. At this time a more organized system was put into effect and the band has grown and become one of the outstanding bands in the state. Pictures of the bands from 1949 to the present time hang on the walls of the music Building.

More Changes

One of the first changes which Burford made in band activities was to add an hour for practice and marching. One hour is spent on concert work and one hour on marching.

The Most
Colorful Newspaper
In The Most
Colorful State

The ^{new} Daily

49TH YEAR — NO. 68

Edinburg, Texas, Tue



H Q

By **HARRY QUIN**

Most of the speakers at the Sunday PASSO meeting here seemed sincerely trying to do nothing more than get out the vote of the Latin American and provide them with informat on which would help them pick the best candidate.

We weren't so convinced by Alberto Fuentes, state executive secretary of PASSO. He was about the only one who didn't say that if PASSO had anything to do with Crystal City's violent rejection of all Anglos in a city election that it shouldn't have.

Don Yarborough, Judge Roberto Benavides of Laredo and Renato Cuellar of Weslaco were pretty plain in pointing out that PASSO is not to mix in city elections.

And Cuellar denied there was any activity on the part of the group at Weslaco as had been hinted in some news stories, not in The Review.

Officials of the organization said there were only two or three members of PASSO in Edinburg, and they didn't name them.

The best democracy is the one in which the most informed persons participate. PASSO's aims are fine. We hope they stick to the stated ones.



Award For Musical Work

Mrs. B. McIntosh Summers and Ralph Burford, right, of the Edinburg public school music department were honored for their contributions to Edinburg at a Rotary meeting. Dr. Charles Queen, president, awarded them a plaque, reading: "Awarded to Ruth Summers and Ralph Burford for their continued interested in forwarding the progress of Music in Edinburg."

Proclamation names today Burford Day

PASADENA - Congratulations, Ralph Burford, on your day in Pasadena.

Mayor Clyde Doyal has named today, Friday, November 5, as Ralph Burford Day for the city, and calls upon citizens to recognize Burford's accomplishments and contributions toward the growth and well being of our city.

Burford is Director of Music for the Pasadena School District, and has been named Band Master of the Year 1971-1972 by the Texas Band Masters Association.

Tonight at the J. Frank Dobie - Sam Rayburn game, Burford will direct the combined bands of the schools in a patriotic half-time show. Shake the hands of man, Ralph Burford.



Mayor congratulates Burford

Pasadena Mayor Clyde Doyal, left, congratulates Ralph Burford for his selection as Band Master of the Year by the Texas Band Masters Association, and honors him with the proclamation naming today as Ralph Burford Day in Pasadena.

Nov 5 - 1971



FORMER EDINBURG BAND DIRECTOR HONORED - Ralph Burford, who was Edinburg High School band director from 1948-1965, and is presently Director of Music Education for the Pasadena Independent School District in Pasadena, Texas, has been named Band Master of the Year for 1971-72 by the Texas Band Masters Association. Above, Superintendent of Pasadena

Schools, George Thompson, second from left, congratulates Mr. Burford, and presents him with a plaque. Mrs. Burford is standing behind Mr. Burford. Mayor Clyde Doyal named Friday, Nov. 5 as Ralph Burford Day for the city and called upon citizens to recognize Burford's accomplishments and contributions toward the growth and well being of the city of Pasadena.

All of Ralph Burford's ex-band students and friends in Edinburg will join in with Pasadena, Texas, where Ralph has been Director of Music Education for the Pasadena Independent School District, in saluting the former Edinburg High School Band Director, for his recent honor.

Ralph has been named, Band Director of the Year 1971-1972 by the Texas Band Master's Association. Nov. 5 was proclaimed Burford day by the mayor of Pasadena, and Ralph received a plaque at the High School football game during half time activities.

He served as band director in Edinburg from 1948 until 1965 when he moved to Pasadena. He began his band career in 1927 when he took his first trombone lesson in Milton, Kansas. He received his music degree from the University of Wichita, Kansas in 1938, leaving to teach in Clearwater High School in Kansas. In 1941, he went to Indianapolis, Ind, as supervisor of 17 high school and junior high orchestras.

Serving in the Pacific Theatre during World War II he received a Bronze Star, being separated from the service as

a major. Next on his agenda was Mexia High School where he was band and choir director. While there the Junior Chamber of Commerce chose him "Outstanding Man of the Year" in 1947-48.

During his 17 year stay in Edinburg, he developed an outstanding instrumental music program in both band and orchestra. In 1958, the band was selected as the outstanding 4-A band in the State of Texas and played before the Texas Music Educators Assoc. in Galveston. His music groups compiled a record seldom equaled in contest competition in University Interscholastic League, Buccaneer Music Contest in Corpus Christi, Texas and Enid, Okla. Music contest. From sixty entries in these events, 57 placed in First Division. His Edinburg marching bands received First Division ratings for 17 consecutive years.

In 1959, he was honored by the "High School Musician" a national music magazine and issued a certificate as one of the top ten high school band directors in the United States. While in Edinburg he served as president of the Kiwanis Club and is on the Board of Direc-

tors with the Pasadena Kiwanis Club. He served as president of the Texas Bandmasters Assoc. in 1964-65.

In Pasadena, he supervises the curriculum for 36,000 children, of which some 8,400 are band, orchestra and choir students in the secondary schools.

Mrs. Ralph Burford, is the former Alice Gowin and is the daughter of Mrs. T. B. Gowin of Edinburg.

Holiday visitors in Pharr were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Van Dressar and children, Robbie and Todd of Houston.

They were the houseguests of Mr. Van Dressar's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Van Dressar.

It will be the first visit home in ten months for Mrs. Sharon Edge of White Horse, Pa. She will arrive in Edinburg the first of December to spend a week visiting with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Don Borah of Edinburg.

From snow to sun, for Sharon, a contrast not many Valleyites have a chance to see.

About People

By PATSY JACKSON

Edinburg Paper - Nov 28 - 1971



Galveston, Tex. From 1948 through the 1965 school year, Mr. Burford's group compiled a record seldom equalled in a contest competition in University Interscholastic League, Buccaneer Music contest in Corpus Christi, Tex., and Enid, Okla. Music Contest. From 60 entries in these events, 57 placed in first division. His marching bands received first division ratings for 17 consecutive years.

In 1959, Burford was honored by the "High School Musician", a national music magazine, and issued a certificate as one of the top 10 band directors in the United States.

Burford has found time for community service, having been a active member of the Kiwanis club for 16 years. In 1962-'63, he was president of the Edinburg Kiwanis club. He is presently active on the board of directors with the Pasadena Kiwanis club. He is a member, also, of the First United Methodist church of Pasadena.

In 1964-'65, Burford was elected president of the Texas Bandmasters association, which has grown to be one of the strongest band associations in the nation.

In 1965, Burford accepted the position of director of music education for the Pasadena Independent school district, in Pasenda, Tex. Under his direction, the music department, with its faculty of 81 teachers, has developed an outstanding band, orchestra, and choir program. As director of music education, Burford supervises the curriculum for some 36,000 children, of which some 8400 are band, orchestra, and choir students in the secondary schools.

Ralph began his band career in 1927, when he took his first trombone lesson from H. C. Patton in Milton. The lesson was the B-flat scale drawn out on the back of a penny postcard, and his teacher told him to go to

*Conway Springs Star
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Ralph Burford honored as Texas Bandmaster of Year

Milton — Ralph Burford was honored recently in being elected for the 1971-'72 school year, "Bandmaster of the Year" for the State of Texas. On November 2, Clyde Doyal, mayor of Pasadena, Tex., proclaimed November 5 as Ralph Burford day. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Burford, Milton.

In 1948, Burford accepted the high school band position at Edinburg, Tex., where he developed an outstanding instrumental music program in both band and orchestra. In 1958, the band was selected as the outstanding 4-A band in the State of Texas, and played before the Texas Music Educators association in

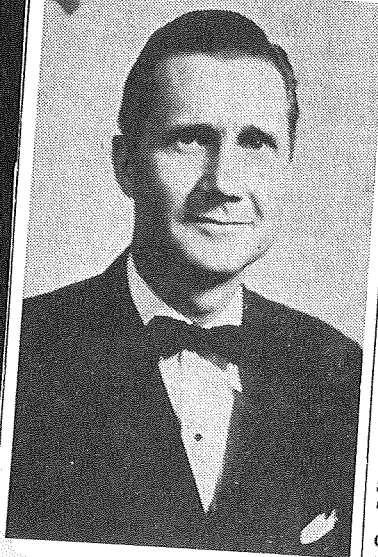
work on that scale and not to return until he could play it. He played in both the Milton high school band and the Conway Springs Municipal band.

He received his bachelor of music degree from the University of Wichita in 1938. That same year, he accepted his first teaching position at Clearwater high school, in Clearwater, where he taught three years. In the fall of 1941, he accepted a music position with the public schools in Indianapolis, Ind., as supervisor of 17 high school and junior high school orchestras.

On December 8, 1941, he was called into the service as a 2nd Lt. He served in the Pacific Theatre, and was the recipient of the Bronze Star. In 1946, he was separated from the service with the rank of Major. He returned to the teaching field as band and choir director at Mexia high school in Mexia, Tex.

In 1947-'48 the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Mexia presented to him the "Outstanding Man of the Year Award" for his outstanding service in music education to the students of that community.

Ralph, his wife, Alice and son, Robert live in Pasadena, Tex., where Robert attends college. A son, Edward, lives in Dallas, Tex.



Ralph Burford